

Residents angry over giant turbines

# Wind farm blows up storm of protest



**An application to increase the height of the wind turbines earlier approved for Lal Lal and Elaine has local residents worried and angry.**

“This is like the Planning Minister approving 40-storey buildings and then seriously considering increasing them to 53-storey buildings. Amazingly, no nearby residents have yet been formally told of this proposal,” said John McMahon, President of the Lal Lal Environment Protection Association.

The current permit, recently extended to April 2020, allows 64 turbines, each 130m high. The recent application is for the height to be increased to 161m.

“If the same proportions hold, blade sweep area would increase by 76%, which is an enormous increase. Blade sweep area is a critical measurement as it is proportional to noise emitted.

It is imperative that comprehensive noise assessments are carried out on these new dimensions before this application is considered. Size matters,” John McMahon said.

“Most worryingly, there is still no independent policing of wind turbine noise in Victoria, despite many calls over a long period for this to occur. If there are meant to be no noise problems then, in this heavily-policed state we live in, why are there no turbine noise police?”

### Complaints

He said that this also leaves neighbours experiencing noise problems with no effective avenue of complaint other than to appeal to the good nature of the large companies running industrial wind facilities.

“We are putting the health, lifestyle and property values of thousands of local residents at great risk. More than 2000 people live within 5kms of this planned project’s turbines alone. Many of these people live less than 1km from them,” he said.

The proposed increase in blade sweep area per turbine would mean that it was

nearly double the area of those at Mt Mercer.”

Other nearby planned projects are the Moorabool and Yaloak South wind facilities, with 121 turbines between them.

*Above: Residents of Yendon and Lal Lal gather to register their protest against giant wind turbines*

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# Film festival a screening success



**The 2015 Buninyong Film Festival was again a great success with enthusiastic audiences, great behind-the-scenes organisation, generous sponsors and super-talented film makers all playing important roles.**

The Festival had many highlights built around an excellent choice of films ranging from the revealing *Charlie's Country*, the intense *Arrendt*, to the light-hearted *Living is Easy*.

**Phil Cockerill** provided brilliant musical accompaniment and sound effects for the silent movies, and catering by the Pig & Goose Restaurant (Festival Dinner) and by the Steiner School was excellent.

At the Dinner, two dressed up characters (Dame Edna and a Pirate

King – or perhaps it was a retired admiral, or member of some obscure European royal family) joined the well-dressed crowd for the Dinner and a riotous night at the Opera.

On the opening night, after the screening of *Charlie's Country*, cinematographer **Ian Jones** and Assistant Director **Karen Mahood**, discussed the film in a Q & A exchange with the audience.

The lovely autumn weather contributed to a record turn-out for **Anne Beggs-Sunter's** historical walk to the Old Cemetery during the afternoon break.

Winning entries in the Student Film-Making Competition were screened on Friday. **Amy Tsilimanis** discussed each one with the young film-makers

and provided insightful commentary from the judges.

Congratulations go to **Max Healey, Finn Watson** and **William Mumford** from Emmaus Primary School, to **Daniel Barham** (Ballarat Grammar), and to **Mary Shea, Talitha Renason** and **Tahlia Stanton** (Ballarat & Clarendon College).

Visitors to the Festival commented on the friendly community atmosphere, the beautiful historic Town Hall, and even Buninyong's warm autumn weather.

Keep an eye on the website [www.buninyong.vic.au/filmfestival](http://www.buninyong.vic.au/filmfestival) for photos and news of the 2016 Festival scheduled for 27-28 May.

*Liz Lumsdon*

## Our story of the stuff cutter and war hero Remembering 'Uncle Harry'

**The story in the April edition of *Community News* about Harry Luke, the Buninyong stuff-cutter who became a World War I hero, being awarded one of France's highest awards for valour, has had an excited response from some remaining members of his family.**

**Harry's niece, Hazel Luke**, 84, of Wendouree is a member of the Buninyong Senior Citizens Club, and has told of how another relative spotted the story and read it word-for-word to her over the telephone. Hazel has very clear memories of 'Uncle Harry' – her father's brother.

She said that after Harry Luke returned from the war, he initially went back to work in the shoe trade, working in Graham's shoe factory in Ballarat.

In 1924 he married **Ruth Bruce** whom he met in a shop where she worked at the corner of Dana and Dawson Streets, just up from his home at 223 Dawson Street. They had no children.

Harry later studied to become a Minister in the Pentecostal church. In those days this church held street corner meetings in Ballarat where, at this time, Harry Luke had to protect himself not from German artillery, but from the 'bible basher' remarks of passers-by.



The church then posted Harry and Ruth to Sydney, and later to Oakleigh where they lived for many years

He died in 1990 at the age of 91 years and is buried in Melbourne's Springvale cemetery

**At her home in Wendouree, Hazel Luke looks at a photograph of the wedding of 'Uncle Harry' in 1924**

# Catherine King MP visits Getting a feel for Buninyong

A wintry, rainy morning greeted Federal Member for Ballarat Catherine King when she visited Buninyong for a 'familiarisation' visit in late May. The visit, initiated by her office, was to enable her to get a better understanding of the Buninyong community and what is happening here.

Her first stop was at the Old Library in Warrenheip Street where she was met by BDCA's Ian Salathiel and Barry Fitzgerald who gave her an outline of various community projects which had recently been completed or which were in progress, and of general issues of interest to the community.

While many of the local projects (such as the community newsletter, village market, street improvements, youth facilities, graffiti removal, Town Hall precinct project) had been funded or supported by State or local governments, two projects having direct Commonwealth interest were also discussed with Ms King in some detail.

## Two projects

These were the RSL's Avenue of Honour Restoration project, and also the local concerns about the impact of traffic flows through Buninyong certain to follow the completion of the Western Link Road and its carrying considerable extra traffic from the Ballarat West Employment Zone.

While a strong supporter of the BWEZ, Ms King said she had not realised the likely impact of the new link road on traffic passing through Buninyong along the Midland Highway from the bridge at Magpie.

The need for planning to start for a possible future by-pass of the village centre was discussed.

Ms King also took the opportunity to visit the very successful Buninyong Community Bank, meeting the staff on duty and then was shown the 'community house' being developed by the bank.

Along with Bank Board members Ron Delaland and John Emery, Bank Board Chairman Stephen Falconer



showed her through the partially-renovated 'Community House' which will provide office space and meeting facilities for community groups.

## New businesses

She was also interested to visit some of the newly-opened businesses in the township, stopping to meet with owners and customers at Unique Garden Décor, the Fig Leaf Café, Chocalatto and Lana Rose during a brief 'street walk'.

In the early afternoon, Ms King visited the Buninyong Town Hall, where she attended the 40<sup>th</sup> birthday party of the Buninyong Senior Citizens. Club President Louise Honey and Secretary Jo Clayson welcomed her.

Some 50 of Buninyong and district's senior residents attended the celebrations. Ms King said that she was really pleased to meet so many of the district's senior residents on a very special occasion.

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## Car Yard

THEY are back again – the weekend line up of cars for sale on the embankment outside of RSL Park. Looks untidy and cheapens this gateway to the village. After some got pinged there a while back, it quietened down for a while. Over to you Council to book them for trading without a licence, or illegal parking, or even littering!!

## Speed Zone

LOCALS are still trying to work out the logic of VicRoad's bringing the 80 kph speed zone further into Buninyong along Learmonth Street West. Doesn't make any sense from a noise, danger, traffic flow or any other point of view.

## No Sense

TALKING of VicRoads and things not making sense, why on earth do they need two 60kph signs within about 20 metres of each other on Learmonth Street just opposite the old Post Office? Maybe they had one left over when they extended the 80 kph strip into Buninyong.



## Deal Done

Amongst the group of new shop owners, one has been so pleased with the way her business is growing that, like the man in the old ad for Remington shavers, she and her husband have bought the iconic shop. Now there's a clue! She says she "just loves coming to work each day in Buninyong."

## Smile for the Camera

Dumb! The person who pinched the three wine barrels at the rear of the Town Hall recently may not have noticed that the fence at the back of the area is that of the police station. Investigations proceeding! Might be smart to drop them back!

# Town talks on street crossing

**Prior to the 2014 State election, local MP Geoff Howard gave a commitment to seek funding for a pedestrian crossing to be installed in the northern section of Warrenheip Street.**

Recently it was announced that funding had been allocated for this project which is designed to help elderly and disabled residents to cross this street in safety.

Following concern that work might proceed without any direct consultation with the community and local business owners, a meeting of all parties with an interest in the project was convened at the Community Bank's new 'community centre' on 2 June. The meeting was chaired by BDCA's **Barry Fitzgerald**.

## All Views

He said that the main purpose of the meeting was to ensure that views of all interested parties were known, and also that any works on the pedestrian crossing "were integrated into the proposed 'North End Walk' project presently with Council."

The proposal includes an upgrade to pavement, landscaping and other works in the Forest to Eyre Street block along Warrenheip Street. It also suggests that consideration be given to relocating the bus stop to provide additional on-street parking for this increasingly busy shopping and life-style strip.

Present at the meeting was a wide cross-section of the community

including **Geoff Howard** MLA, **Cr Peter Innes**, **Stephen Falconer** (Community Bank), local business operators **Lisa Cressey**, **Nikki Sing**, and **Adam Hook**, **Neil McCracken** (Old Library Trust), VicRoads' representatives, **Chris Dunlop** and **Ben Anderson** and BDCA members **Ian Salathiel** and **Barry Fitzgerald**

The main point discussed was the location of the crossing. **Ben Anderson** said that there were basically three choices for the location of the crossing – near Forest Street, near the Community Bank or near the post office. After discussion between those present it was generally agreed that the preferred location for the crossing was near the Community Bank where it would not impact on parking and could also have a *slow-down* effect on traffic.

**Cr Peter Innes** said that he would ensure that there was discussion and co-ordination between the project's engineers, and council officers working on concept plans for the 'North End Walk' project to ensure that crossing works and future Council works in the area were in harmony.

Various points of view were expressed about the need for stop lights at the crossing, with some concern that these might intrude on the heritage character of the village.

**Lyn Lea**, former convenor of the BDCA's Road Safety Committee, who lobbied hard for the crossing, said the outcome had been worth all of the effort. She thanked Mr Howard for his work in getting funding for the crossing.



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# Buninyong projects funding Good so far – but what’s ahead?

Over the past two years, the Council of the City of Ballarat took a giant step forward in involving the community in determining priorities for projects seen to be of local importance.

Through its ‘Community Engagement’ section it had developed a program where an allocation of \$100,000 grants for each of the two years was made for use on community projects in the townships of Buninyong, Learmonth and Miners Rest.

Broadly-based committees from each of these communities, chaired by a Councillor and involving other Council staff, considered ‘pitches’ for projects proposed by local groups and allocated funding as considered appropriate.

The *Engaging Communities* program was a spectacular success on several fronts.

- It provided funding for local projects that may not have even been considered in the larger picture of Council budget allocations
- It facilitated decision-making at the grass roots level
- It encouraged local groups to research, document, and prove a need for a project
- It balanced local Council expenditure across a wide range of groups and activities
- Council staff were frequently seen out and about in these townships discussing and facilitating projects

Over the past two years the following are some local projects which were funded or supported from the program:

- completion of the Men’s Shed
- development of a BMX ‘pump’ track
- the skate and play space
- construction of a graffiti removal trailer
- restoration of the Buninyong Avenue of Honour
- improved village information/way-finding signage
- a major sculpture project
- construction of the Lions Club BBQ
- re-start of the *Buninyong & District Community News*
- various memorial and other works on Mt Innes
- development and mapping of Buninyong and district walks
- ‘light up the Town Hall’ project

Now, Council has decided that the Community Engagement funding for the three outlying communities will not be continued for this year.

The savings in terms of Council staff’s administrative time will have been huge. Goodwill has been significant.

*A simple solution seems to be for Council to make an annual allocation (say of \$400,000-\$500,000) to the City’s township communities for them to consider, research, develop and manage modest local projects such as those listed above. That would have made but a small dent in this year’s \$4.5 million Priority Projects Fund.*

**This community newsletter would not be back on the streets without funding assistance from the Community Engagement Grants scheme.**



This publication is a community project of the Buninyong & District Community Association (BDCA) supported by the City of Ballarat and the Buninyong Community Bank.

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**Editorial Advisory Committee:** Gayle Adams, Michelle Corcoran, Deb Ellis, John Emery, Greg Veal.

**Acting Co-ordinators:** Barry Fitzgerald, Gayle Adams

All contributions (copy, letters or advertising) must be submitted **before the twelfth of each month** to [buninyongnews@gmail.com](mailto:buninyongnews@gmail.com). Enquiries to 5341 2844.

Copy should not exceed 400 words and a maximum of two photographs per item may be submitted (but not necessarily published). Material may be edited because of space, style, or clarity, or for legal reasons.

The name and address of the person submitting any material must be provided (not for publication).

The Editorial Advisory Committee reserves the right *not* to publish material considered to be offensive or inappropriate or not deemed to have community interest or relevance.

The views expressed or information provided in this publication are not necessarily those of the Buninyong and District Community Association, the City of Ballarat or of the Buninyong Community Bank, including any officers, members, agents or contractors.

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Newsletter available on line at [www.buninyong.vic.au/newsletter.htm](http://www.buninyong.vic.au/newsletter.htm)





## Special day for Buninyong pupils

Hundreds of visitors turned up at both the Buninyong and Scotsburn school campuses on 25 May for the annual Grandparents and Special Friends Day.

They spent the morning catching up with children at work and at play at the two school sites.

Many had travelled long distances to share this special day with the children

Shown above are pupils **Amelia Hannan** and **Mia Reynolds** with Amelia's grandmother **Debbie Hannan** looking closely at their projects.

## Around the Churches

Schedules of the services and happenings at local churches

### ST PETER & PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fisken Street, Buninyong  
Contact **Margaret McCarty** 5341 3243  
Mass times  
1st, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 10.30am.  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 9.00am

### UNITING CHURCH

Learmonth Street Buninyong.  
**Rev Lindell Gibson** 5341 3200  
Services:  
*Buninyong* Sunday 9.30am.  
*Meredith* 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 11.00am.  
*Sebastopol* 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays 11.00am

### HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH

Warrenheip Street, Buninyong.  
**Rev Mark Schnerring** 5341 3281  
[www.buninyonganglican.org.au](http://www.buninyonganglican.org.au)  
Sunday Services 8.30am and 10.00am

### BAPTIST CHURCH

**Pastor Tom Buscombe** 5330 2657  
Service held in Buninyong Town Hall,  
Sundays 10.00am

### SCOTSBURN CHURCH

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# FROM COUNTRY COP TO COMMISSIONER

After six years in charge of the police station at Buninyong, local resident Greg Davies has certainly made his mark in the areas of law and order, and on the impact of crime on the community.



He was stationed at the Buninyong Police Station between 1994 and 2000, after stints at five Melbourne stations and four years at Ballarat where he worked as a Sergeant and at D24.

Joining the police force in 1977, Greg Davies, 56, was destined to be a police officer with both his father who retired as a Detective Sergeant and his grandfather who reached the rank of Senior Sergeant each being long serving police officers.

## Police Association

He came to general public attention in Victoria in 2008 when he became the head and public face of the Police Association, replacing the controversial Paul Mullett who resigned then as Secretary. Greg Davies had previously been the Association's Legal Manager.

He very ably filled that role for six years, greatly improving relations between the "police union" and the office of the Chief Police Commissioner and with State politicians and the media.

With his calm, confident and dignified style, but with a hint of steely toughness always there, Greg was able to represent his members with strength and common-sense. In May 2013, he announced that he would step down from the role of Police Association Secretary the following year, saying that he wanted to finish before he

reached his "best-by date". He retired in April 2014.

But by October of that year, the State Government, mindful of Greg's talent, skills and experience in the areas of crime and justice, came knocking on his door with an invitation to become the State's first Victims of Crime Commissioner, a role independent of the Government.

## Victims' Rights

Attorney-General at the time, Robert Clark, said that the new role would see Mr Davies "representing victims' rights, and ensuring that they are respected and recognised in the justice system."

Father of three children, Greg Davies is back residing in Buninyong with wife Helen. One of these children, Brendan, is also a police officer stationed at Ballarat, and Brendan's wife Lisa is a Senior Constable located at Buninyong.

In addition to these links to Buninyong, Greg was President of the Buninyong Primary School Council for eleven years, and President of the Cricket Club and the Mt Clear Junior Football Club for several years.



*Buninyong Police Sergeant Peter Anderson welcomes Greg Davies back to the Buninyong Police Station in Scott Street. Peter took over from Greg, as officer-in-charge, in 2000.*



## POLICE BEAT

**A 21 YEAR OLD** Ballarat North female was arrested and later remanded into custody in relation to the theft of \$70 of alcohol from Buninyong Foodworks on 17 May 2015. Her 17 year old co-accused was released pending summons.

**THE BUNINYONG BP** Service Station was broken into on 29 May 2015. Approximately \$1000 damage was caused by the offenders during attempts to access the building. The offenders stole an amount of cigarettes before leaving on foot. Any information in relation to the burglary can be forwarded anonymously to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

**TWO YOUTHS** were arrested in Learmonth Street, Buninyong on 13 May 2015 after a police pursuit involving a stolen vehicle from Geelong. One of the males was remanded into custody and both males will face the Children's Court at a later date.

**A LOCAL FARMER** made a grizzly discovery on his Lloyds Lane property on 14 May 2015, when he located twelve of his sheep which had been attacked and killed by a wandering dog or dogs. Victoria Police remind all dog owners, that they will be held legally responsible for their pets' behaviour and need to ensure they are contained when not being "actively" supervised. Any information in relation to this incident can be forwarded to the Buninyong Police Station 5341 3431.

**A RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY** in Eyre Street was committed between 24 and 25 May 2015. Unknown offenders gained access to two sheds on private property, stealing a trailer and other items. Any suspicious persons, vehicles or activity can be reported to police 24 hours a day by calling '000'.

## Wendy's old, new and unique goods

# CREATIVE AND HAPPY



Wendy Lynne pictured with one of her original designs on display in her shop, Divine Vintage, located on Warrenheip Street, Buninyong

**For Wendy Lynne of Divine Vintage, creating unique pieces from old items makes her happy.**

After an injury incapacitated her for seven months, Wendy turned from her work as a clinical dietitian to a more creative lifestyle.

She became a textile designer in the 1990s, exhibiting in Melbourne galleries and selling her knitted work at specialist boutiques. At this time she also devised and taught the Design Program for the Handknitters Guild of Victoria. In the late 1990s she studied Interior Design at Holmesglen TAFE.

Over the next few years she established a vintage shop in Melbourne, which she subsequently sold to establish another in Beechworth.

But in 2013 she fell in love with Ballarat and Buninyong. "The eight months without a business nearly killed me," Wendy said, so she opened Divine Vintage, near the Buninyong Post Office.

Recently she has returned to her old love of creating – this time making new and unique items using old materials.

You can often see her in the shop making mixed media art, clothing and jewellery, and adapting old furniture to create unique pieces. She particularly loves using retro radio valves for her stylish jewellery.

Wendy recommends getting involved with your artistic nature. "Being creative makes me happy," she said.

*Merle Hathaway*

## VicRoads issues on the table

Two senior staff members from Traffic Safety and Engineering section of VicRoads came to Buninyong recently to discuss a range of road-related issues with the Community Association.

Issues discussed with them included

- the integration of the pedestrian crossing with the proposed North End walk project in Warrenheip Street
- the proposed new entrance to the Learmonth Street shopping precinct and a proposed exit from the service road adjacent to RSL Park
- the need for planning for a Midland Highway by-pass for Buninyong given the projected increased traffic flows from the Western Link Road
- traffic issues at the entrance to the Buninyong Cemetery, at the Winter Street corner and the junction of Mt Buninyong Road and the Midland Highway
- problems associated with the extension of the 80kph zone much closer into central Buninyong
- the operation of the pedestrian refuges, and the 40 kph zone near the school crossing

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# Town signage finally near

Almost three years after the Buninyong and District Community Association (BDCA) first submitted a detailed proposal to the City of Ballarat, works should soon commence on new way-finding and informational signage for the Buninyong village.

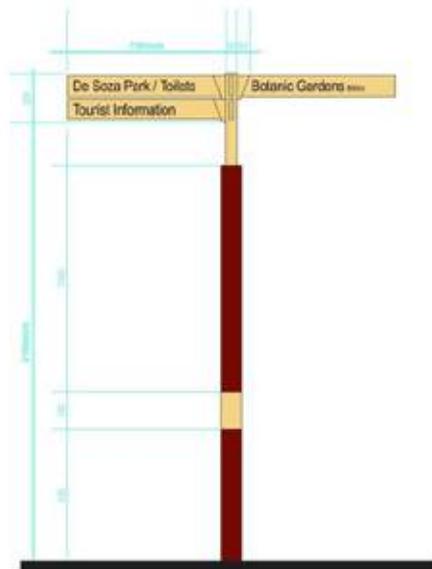
Finger post signage will be erected at nine locations around Buninyong.

These will follow the style of new directional signage placed around Ballarat some five years ago.

However, unlike some in Ballarat CBD where lime green and purple signage has been used, the Buninyong signs will use heritage colours of burgundy and cream.

The signs will point to places of interest, tourist-related sites, recreation areas and the like, with some including distances to facilities such as toilets or visitor information.

Also, five “interpretative” signs, including historical information and photographs will be placed later at five sites such as Tannery Flat, the lower



**Buninyong Township Signage**  
DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE [EXAMPLE]

section of the Old Burial Ground, and at Royal Park

The \$25,000 project will be funded by a grant of \$20,000 from the Council’s Buninyong *Engaging Communities Program* and from other Council sources.

A working group of four BDCA members has worked on this project co-ordinated by former BDCA Vice President, **Barry Fitzgerald**. City of Ballarat architect **Tim Grace** prepared the specifications and planner, **Mukul Hatwal**, is now the Council liaison person for the project.

# Council workers help locals with Cathcart Street Reserve clean up

Garden maintenance staff members from the City of Ballarat (**Luke Hall** and **Phil Rethus**) were on hand to help remove piles of fallen debris after a residents’ working bee in Cathcart Street Reserve.

Eleven volunteer locals helped with the clean-up and dug out furze and other noxious weeds from the Reserve.



# ASK



**Councillor Peter Innes**

The monthly column where you can ask your questions about Council matters. Email your question to [buninyongnews@gmail.com](mailto:buninyongnews@gmail.com)

*Last year I saw a Council planning document that showed a proposed bus link between Buninyong/Fed University and Sebastopol, I think along Whitehorse Road. That would be great for local residents and students.* Jacinta, Fed Uni

Thanks Jacinta for reminding me of this possible bus route. The present draft strategy plan hasn’t included all possible routes, but your idea for a bus along Whitehorse Rd sounds like a terrific one which we will pass on to Public Transport Victoria.

*Now that VicRoads have brought the 80kph zone much further into central Buninyong on the Midland Highway, the problems and dangers with vehicles turning into or out of Winter Street has increased greatly. It needs a slip lane there.* Joe, Hedrick Street

Both the Council and VicRoads take road safety seriously. Along with local community group members, we have met twice with VicRoads staff in recent weeks. In addition to other traffic management works for Buninyong, we have raised the problems at Winter Street and also at the intersection of Mt Buninyong Road with the highway.

*I have heard that there’s lots of housing being planned for the farmland areas between Emmaus school and Greenhill Road. Do you support the need to keep these ‘green wedges’ to stop our village becoming just another part of Ballarat suburbia?*

Kevin, Elizabeth St

The green wedge area you refer to was part of the original Canadian Valley ODP to which I am committed. This particular land is privately owned. If developed it would provide a chance to connect the off-road cycle path connecting the CBD with Mt Helen and the University. Council consideration of the Master Plan is continuing with the community’s views on housing in this area being heard.

## Arguably the best qualified in Australia Richard's a master of junk mail



He is **Richard Eldridge**, 28, of Buninyong, and formerly of Durham Lead who attended the local secondary school Mt Clear College.

**'In rain, heat or wind, he'll turn up each week with a neat roll of junk mail'**

**There seems to be no middle ground in people's attitudes to junk mail – some love to get it to look over the bargains, others see the stuff as wasteful, and environmentally damaging litter.**

Junk mail is usually delivered by a motley crew of people – older people pushing shopping carts, younger ones with bags on bicycles, or people in cars. Some put the material into letter boxes, some seem to drop more on the street than in the boxes, some toss the stuff away.

But there's one young bloke, who drives a little royal blue Mazda 121, who has been on the job delivering junk mail to the western part of Buninyong for four years.

Rain, heat, wind...he'll turn up each week, with the neat roll of junk mail in a rubber band that appears in Buninyong letter boxes.

But the story gets more intriguing from there. Richard, a tall shy lad, completed a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) from Federation University, and in March of this year completed requirements for his Masters of Arts degree from that University. His area of academic interest is even more intriguing – he studied the *Cultural Interaction of Aboriginal People with Whales and Whaling in Western Victoria*.

Presently, he's hunting for a job – either in IT, administration or in an academic post. Meanwhile, you'll see him stop by weekly in that little Mazda and carefully stuff your letter box with junk mail.

If you have a job that might suit him, or you are interested in whales or royal blue cars, say hello to him.

**Caption: Richard Eldridge resting on his trusty royal blue Mazda getting ready for another delivery in Buninyong**

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Lions start on BBQ

# Then off to a 'pie' night

After a long delay in obtaining Council approval for the project, the Buninyong-Mt Helen Lions Club finally made a start in late May of the new BBQ facility to be erected in the area between the Youth Space and the Men's Shed.

Lions member **Russell Williams**, who is co-ordinating the project, said that he was pleased that work could now start with a completion target date of late July. He said that the location of the BBQ would mean that it could be used by many groups using the youth and other recreational facilities in the area off Forest Street.

To mark the commencement of the project, about 25 members of the Lions club met in their clubrooms for a "pie" night.

In addition for funds from the club, the BBQ project was assisted by a major grant of \$10,000 from the Buninyong Engaging Communities fund.

Lions Club President, **Simon Jess** said the project had been greatly helped by funds from the club's second-hand bookstore which previously was located in the old cake shop in Learmonth Street, but which now operated from Bath's Cottage opposite the Post Office .



Attacking some of the pies are (rear) Russell Williams and Simon Jess and seated are Carolyn Williams and Joy Jones

## Community Bank: Helping to equip your business

**Financing of business equipment has changed over the years, particularly since the introduction of GST. This has affected the cost-effectiveness of traditional equipment finance for many businesses.**

As a business grows, so do the number of decisions that have to be made regarding the finance of motor vehicles, plant and equipment.

The decision to either purchase goods from available cash flow, or to finance them, may have both cash-flow and taxation implications for a business. What's best for your business will depend on circumstances at the time. Buninyong's local community bank can

offer finance for a wide range of business equipment including:

- cars, utilities and light commercial vehicles trucks and buses
- forklifts, cranes and earthmoving equipment
- computing and office equipment
- printing, medical and manufacturing equipment
- industrial plant equipment

### Finance Options

If you're looking to finance equipment for your business, you should also be aware that some finance products will have characteristics that are more beneficial than others. Some options to

consider are outright purchase, which may have a negative impact on your business cash flow, or you could consider a credit option such as

- asset purchase or commercial hire purchase
- finance lease
- equipment loan

To discuss options and to gain a quote for finance in your business, drop into the branch at 401a Warrenheip Street, Buninyong or call us on 5341 8066 to make an appointment.

*NOTE: As the taxation and accounting treatments of finance products may vary, we recommend you seek independent expert advice before choosing an option.*

### Contributions & Advertising

for the Buninyong & District Community News

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## Illegal U-Turns on Warrenheip Street

# DANGER FROM LAW BREAKERS

About twelve months ago pedestrian safety refuge markings were painted along Warrenheip Street.

At the time both the local police and the Buninyong and District Community Association provided advice as to what the laws and regulations were in relation to these.

Many motorists continue to do U-turns across the marked areas and, recently, there have been reports of some near misses for both pedestrians and vehicles caused by this illegal manoeuvre.

### Regulations

To again clarify the situation for motorists, the following are extracts and illustrations from the *VicRoads Manual and Regulations* as they apply to the *painted islands with surrounding single continuous lines*.

In the illustration (right), it is indicated that “drivers may drive up to 50 m on the painted island after entering or before leaving the road”.

The relevant road rule is Rule 138 (2) which states that

*“A driver may drive on or over a single continuous line along the side of or surrounding a painted island for up to 50m*

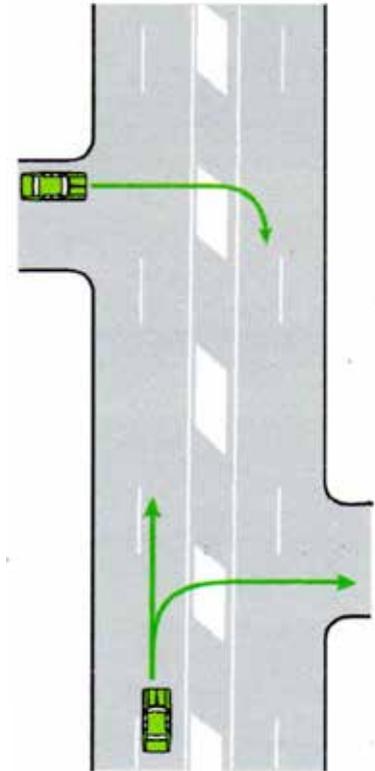
*(a) to enter or leave the road, or*

*(b) to enter a turning lane that begins immediately after the painted island”*

**Sgt Peter Anderson** of Buninyong Police said that his interpretation of the rule “*is that it is acceptable to do a right hand turn across the island to enter a road, private driveway or business.*”

But, Sgt Anderson said that it is clear that it is not permitted to do a U-turn across the painted islands, and that motorists who do so may be reported and/or booked.

**Island surrounded by single continuous line. Drivers may drive up to 50 m on the painted island after entering or before leaving the road.**



## Green Army at the Gong



The Green Army was in action recently at the upper areas of the Gong Reserve when a group of five workers and supervisor **Simon Jess** were busy mulching trees, repairing paths and planting grass to areas just down the hill from the Catholic Church.

Sponsored by the City of Ballarat, this activity was part of the work being done by the group on the Yarrowee Creek project.

The Green Army, a group of young people aged between 17 and 24 years,



**LIONS BOOKSHOP**  
**406 Warrenheip St, Buninyong**  
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**NOW OPEN**

Saturday	10.00am – 5.00 pm
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Wednesday	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm

A project of the  
 Buninyong Mt Helen Lions Club

operates under the auspices of Conservation Volunteers Australia.

This federally-funded program aims to give young people experience in conservation activities, including revegetation, handling chemicals, dealing with soil erosion and the like to improve career prospects while helping with local environmental projects

**Caption: The Green Army team gets ready to do planting, mulching and path repair work at the Gong. L to R: Kevin, Adrian, Josh, Luke and Jessie**

# Seniors turn forty

A few weeks ago the Buninyong Senior Citizens Club celebrated the fortieth anniversary of its being established in 1975. About fifty seniors enjoyed a birthday celebration at the Buninyong Town Hall.

Federal member for Ballarat Catherine King dropped in to meet the senior citizens during her tour of Buninyong.

“It was a special treat for me to be able to spend a little time with many members of the community who had contributed so much over the years,” Ms King said.

*Top: Betty Bunting of Buninyong tends the table of special prizes.*

*Centre: View of those at the party taken from the Buninyong Town Hall stage.*

*Lower: The special decorated cake shared by the attendees*



## COMING EVENTS

**22 JUNE**

**AGM, Friends of Botanic Gardens**  
7.30 pm Buninyong Town Hall

**28 JUNE**

**Village Market (It's Snow Fun)**  
Downtown Buninyong  
9.00 am-1.00 pm

**Old Court House Open**

Buninyong & District Historical Society  
9.30 am – 1.30 pm

**26 JULY**

**Village Market (Christmas in July)**  
Downtown Buninyong  
9.00 am-1.00 pm

**Launch – Graffiti Removal Unit**

Town Hall Precinct 10.00 am

**Leigh Catchment Group**

National Tree Day - Plant out  
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**Friends of the Buninyong Botanic Gardens**

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Buninyong Town Hall  
Monday, 22 June 2015 at 7:30pm

**Guest Speaker: Dr Anne Beggs-Sunter**

Recreating Bristol in Buninyong: The Gestation of Clifton Villa

Supper will follow the meeting All Welcome

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AUTHORISED BY CATHERINE KING, 5 LYDIARD ST NTH BALLARAT 3350

# Fortunate gets just a little lucky



**Kampala, Uganda is not usually included in the travel plans of Buninyong residents. But a visit there by local couple, Richard and Lyn Lea in 2011, set off a chain of events that has seen some links established that have significantly assisted a nine year old girl from there afflicted with cerebral palsy.**

The Leas visited Kampala with friends

who run a program there for 'street' children. They found that their local driver, **Ellady Muyambi**, who was taking the group to various locations, had a daughter seriously afflicted with cerebral palsy.

The girl, curiously named *Fortunate*, was not able to sit up, walk, talk or move herself. The Leas decided to help her as best they could.

The (Melbourne) Cerebral Palsy Association was asked to review some videos of *Fortunate* to assess her most urgent needs. They concluded that of prime importance was a new supportive wheelchair with a supportive headrest, and arm and leg supports.

Over the past two years, the Leas have set up a program (Art 4 Africa) to assist *Fortunate* through the sale of paintings by Richard and Lyn, with the funds going to assist with *Fortunate's* medical and other needs including physiotherapy and special liquid foods.

Significant assistance also came through the donation of two paintings by well-known Ballarat artist **Robyn Kittlety-Redman**, who was then tutoring the Leas in art classes. Funds raised by raffling these went towards the recent purchase by *Fortunate's* family of the special wheelchair (see picture). Thanks to Buninyong residents who have supported *Fortunate*.

**Above left: Fortunate trying out her new wheelchair outside her home in Kampala**



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Buns and books to beauty

# Makeover for old cake shop



Apart from a couple of years recently, when it was used as the Lions Club charity book store, the historic old Adams Store building, next to the former National Bank on Learmonth Street had stood empty and neglected for many years.

Built around 1852 by John Adams, the building was originally a store, bakery and post office. Between 1930 and the 1970s, the building was operated as a store and bakery by the Eames family. In 2014, Russell and Gabrielle Coxall

purchased the building and commenced the major task of repairing it, turning one part into a beauty studio, *Yellow Rose*, (operated by daughter Bonnie Coxall, 21), and another section into a graphic design studio from which another daughter Lucy, 24, operates her business, *Roar Strategy and Design*.

Prior to opening up her beauty studio, Bonnie had completed a beautician course through Federation University's TAFE section. Lucy had completed a course in media and communication at

Deakin University, followed by further studies in graphic design at Shillington University, Brisbane.

Russell Coxall said the building was in an advanced stage of disrepair, with much of the back open to the elements, the electrical wiring dangerous, and the ceiling space a home to possums and vermin.

Bonnie said that the shop's location and intrigue for many passers-by was excellent for her beauty business. The front façade, strictly covered by heritage provisions, is still a matter of interest for many locals and visitors.

A fascinating historic remnant is to be found ten metres or so out the rear of the shop where the original brick baker's oven is still standing in fair condition. Russell Coxall has commenced repairing it, and even has plans to install a reproduction of the original door to the bakery, which is now in place in a building at Sovereign Hill.

"When we get the oven finished, we'll maybe fire it up for special occasions and events," he said

**PRD nationwide**

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Feel free to call or drop into our office with any queries regarding our local real estate market, whether buying or selling. We look forward to being of service to you.



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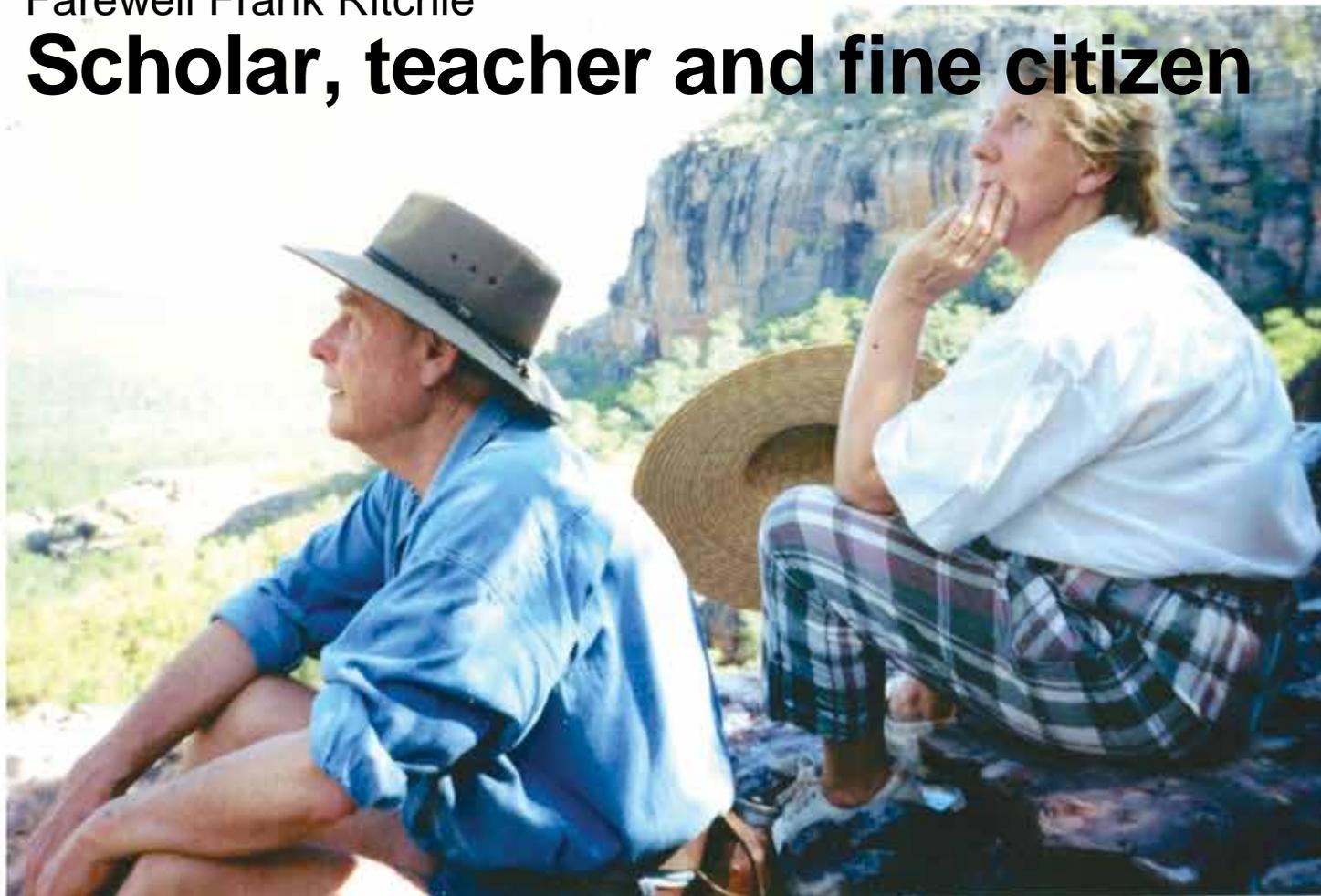
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Farewell Frank Ritchie

# Scholar, teacher and fine citizen



**On 7 May last, Buninyong lost a resident of over 60 years. Frank Ritchie, who with his wife Beth, had lived in Mt Buninyong Road in a house Beth's father built for them in 1954.**

At the time of his death, he was nearing 89. Frank and **Beth** were a great partnership: its measure seen not only in their three impressive sons but also in the way they involved themselves in community affairs in Buninyong and the cultural life of Ballarat.

They worked on the Buninyong Botanic Gardens Restoration Committee in the days when that required physical work. Similarly, they worked with the late **Derick Leather** on Buninyong's street plantings - and the alternating pin-oaks and cedars lining Scott Street are testimony to this.

## Councillor

Like Derick, Frank served on the Shire Council in its final years prior to amalgamation. **Bill Pryor** was both a friend and a fellow Councillor at that time. We can thank them and the senior officers that the Council assets

that we enjoy today – the Town Hall, the former Court House and the Old Library - were left in such good shape at the time of amalgamation.

A student at Ballarat College, Frank had enlisted in the Royal Australian Navy in 1944 and served overseas on HMAS Cowra and HMAS Echuca. They were mine-sweepers which meant he was not demobilized until 1947.

## Service to Scholarship

He matriculated in Ballarat and then enrolled at Melbourne University and graduated with a degree in Fine Arts which he combined with literature. He followed that quickly with a Dip Ed. He taught for a year at Ballarat Technical School and then taught English at Ballarat High School where he coached the winning team in the Head of the Lake. It was High School's first in a succession to follow.

Frank's teaching career included a year at Geelong and then some years at both Ballarat College and later at the Aquinas campus of the Australian Catholic University.

Frank Ritchie's love of literature readily surfaced in conversation. As a student he had enjoyed acting and later he was to throw himself into productions of the Ballarat National Theatre and the Ballarat Light Opera. He inherited some good genes in music and was a founding member of St Cecilia singers.

Just last February I walked up through our paddocks to have a chat. Frank was sitting under the shade of an elm in the delightful garden he and Beth had created. I quietly pulled up a chair thinking he may be asleep. Not a bar of it. He looked up and gave me a detailed account of what he had been reading. We then got onto the more prosaic topic of rabbits and blackberries – a shared curse of gardeners in this rocky volcanic soil.

In later years, Frank's deafness demanded a bit of shouting but Frank always shouted eloquently! He was a true upholder of the values that make for a civil society. We need more of his like.

*Peter Hiscock*