

established 1895

Numurkah LEADER

PROUDLY INDEPENDENT

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2025 \$2.00

INSIDE



See story page 4



Meet Finn

See story page 2



A TREE planted in Numurkah's Rotary Park by the Governor of Victoria lasted just nine days before being attacked by corellas. See story page 3.

Tree trauma

Cobram murder accused allegedly assaults female prison officer

A COBRAM man accused of murderer has allegedly assaulted a female prison officer at the Metropolitan Remand Centre, just a day after appearing in court on a separate matter.

Prem Kumar, 45, who was last week charged with murder after the body of a 32-year-old woman was found at an apartment building on Christie Ave, Cobram, around 5am on Tuesday, August 19, is ac-

cused of assaulting a female prison transport officer on Thursday afternoon.

Police confirmed Melton Crime Investigation Unit detectives are investigating an assault in Ravenhall on August 21. It is alleged a man in custody assaulted a female prison officer on Middle Road about 1.30pm. The officer was taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Sources have told media outlets the officer was allegedly punched before falling unconscious, while the accused reportedly began shouting as she lay on the ground.

Prison transport provider G4S confirmed the incident occurred and said support was being provided to the injured officer.

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F 5/9	G. Tyack	VOLUNTEER REQUIRED	J. Stanyer

Coordinator – MHA Care Phone 5742 1111

If you would like to join our volunteer group for even just 1 hour a month, please contact Laura – 57421111 we would love to have a few more community members or businesses on board.

A woman and a young girl are sitting in the back of a car, looking out the window. The girl is holding a teddy bear. The text "I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE HOMELESS." is overlaid on the image.

 Numurkah Leader is bound by the Standards of Practice of the Australian Press Council. If you believe the Standards may have been breached, you may approach the newspaper itself or contact the Council by email (info@presscouncil.org.au) or by phone (02 9261 1930). For further information see www.presscouncil.org.au.

A horizontal banner with a white background and a red border. On the left, the text 'Numurkah LEADER' is displayed in a large, bold, sans-serif font, with 'Numurkah' in black and 'LEADER' in red. Below this, the address '88 Melville Street, Numurkah VIC 3636', phone number 'Phone: 03 5862 1034', and website 'www.numurkahleader.net.au' are listed in a smaller black font. To the right of the text are three vertical columns, each featuring a headshot of a woman in a red-bordered box. The first column shows Dominique Cosgriff, with her name and title 'Editor & Senior Journalist' below. The second column shows Heather Kelly, with her name and title 'Sales' below. The third column shows Melinda Scott, with her name and title 'Admin' below. At the bottom of the banner, a red horizontal bar contains three email addresses in white text: 'printads@leader.net.au' and 'editorial@leader.net.au' under the first column, 'sales@leader.net.au' under the second, and 'printads@leader.net.au' under the third.

Fatal collision at Kaarimba

LOCAL CFA brigades have made six turnouts over the past week.

Last Tuesday, August 19, at 6.55pm, Strathmerton Fire Brigade was called to a fire in Patrick Street, Strathmerton, between First and Second Streets. The occupier was burning a heap of rubbish in the back yard. Police were in attendance.

Then, at 11.35pm, Kaarimba Fire Brigade, along with the SES and Police turned out to a motor vehicle accident at the corner of Sandilands Road and Shepparton/Barmah Road, Kaarimba. The driver of a utility had run off the road and hit a tree and the vehicle caught fire. The

driver was deceased.

On Saturday, at 7.10pm, Numurkah, Katunga and Wunghnu Fire Brigades, along with Shepparton's Platform Pumper, turned out to a reported house fire at the corner of Trengrove and Nelson Streets, Numurkah. The house was not on fire; this was a registered bonfire. Numurkah attended and the other fire brigades that were on the way were not required.

At 5.15 pm on Sunday, Wunghnu Fire Brigade was called to support Tallygaroopna at a grass fire at Grant Track, Shepparton North. A person camping in the bush had lit a tree stump for

warmth, but the fire burnt along the roots and set fire to the grass.

Then, at 7.10pm, Waaia Fire Brigade turned out to a fuse box on a power pole on fire, at the corner of Hawkers Road and Centre Road, Waaia. The fire brigade stood by until Powercor arrived and isolated the power.

On Monday, at 2.40pm Numurkah Fire Brigade was called to a tree stump fire at Station Street, Numurkah, on the north side of the creek beside the railway line. A dead tree had recently been cut down, presumably for firewood, and the stump was on fire. Police were first on scene.



Numurkah truckie fined for log book offences

A NUMURKAH truck driver who was caught speeding and recording incorrect logbook entries has been fined \$2,000 after pleading guilty to eight charges.

Mark Skidmore, 55, pleaded guilty in Shepparton Magistrates' Court last week to contravening the heavy vehicle speed limit, speeding, and making a false and misleading entry in a work record.

He also pleaded guilty to a substantial risk breach of taking less rest than the minimum required as a heavy vehicle driver, as well as four counts of a minor risk breach of working longer than the maximum hours allowed as a heavy vehicle driver.

Prosecutor Senior Constable Kerrie Thomson said Skidmore was driving a Kenworth prime mover at 107km/h in a 100km/h zone east on the Midland Hwy, Cosgrove on September 28, 2024.

Skidmore told police he didn't know he was speeding, but acknowledged the speedometer was set to 103km/h and the truck should be limited to 100km/h.

Police found eight dates and times incorrectly filled out in his national driver work diary, and that he'd worked for more than the maximum hours allowed on four occasions, and failed to take a rest break as a heavy vehicle driver.

Skidmore denied knowledge of the false logbook entries.

Defence solicitor Anthony Coote said his client pleaded guilty at the first opportunity and the offences were “down the lower end of the scale”. He said Skidmore struggled to complete the logbook because he had literacy issues.

Skidmore's employers, who provided a good reference letter for his court appearance, have since had electronic logbooks installed in the truck, which Mr Coote said was a "significant step forward".

Magistrate Victoria Campbell said, although Skidmore was a good driver, "the laws are tough, but for a very good reason," and she would have to sentence him to a heavy fine.

Meet Finn

THIS week's Dog of the week is Finn from Katunga.

Seven year-old Finn was adopted as a rescue at just a few months old. Beyond observing that “he’s got a bit of Staffy in him” the rescue was unable to tell Finn’s owner what breed he is, but given he has remained undersized for a Staffy, Finn’s

owner likes to think he's also part Whippet.

Finn is his owner's constant travel companion, loves being in the car, and also going for walks. Finn loves keeping the chooks and ducks in line, and, if left at home on his own he enjoys breaking out to go and visit the neighbours



Dominique
Cosgriff
**Editor & Senior
Journalist**



Heather
Kelly

Sales



Melinda
Scott

Admin

Got a news tip?
Phone us on
5862 1034
or email
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Corellas make short work of Governor's tree

A TREE planted in Numurkah's Rotary Park by the Governor of Victoria, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC, has been decimated by corellas less than a fortnight after it was planted.

The tree, a *Brachychiton acerifolius*, commonly known as an Illawarra Flame Tree, was planted by the Governor on August 13 in honour of Numurkah's 150th anniversary. By last Friday, August 22, the tree had been decimated by the destructive birds which are well known for attacking vegetation in the local area over the spring and summer months.

A plaque in front of the tree states "This tree was planted by Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC Governor of Victoria to commemorate the proclamation of the Numurkah township and in recognition of the town's rich history and enduring community spirit. 13 August 2025".

The damage to the tree is extensive, with one limb chewed off completely, and around a dozen others badly damaged. The tree, a sapling, was also surrounded by leaves that had been torn from the tree and dropped on the ground.

Numurkah Bowls Club greenkeeper Don Staggard, who has been battling against corella damage at the club for years, said the damage was indicative of the normal behaviour of the birds.

"This is what they do," he said.

"They are incredibly destructive, and no plants or grass are safe from them really. We live with it all the time, but I think a lot of people who don't just don't understand how destructive they are. Maybe this will open a few people's eyes to what they are really like and how quickly they can destroy something."

Illawarra Flame Trees are large Australian native trees known for their spectacular, bright red, bell-shaped flowers that appear in late spring and summer when the tree sheds its glossy green leaves. This deciduous tree grows to 10-40 meters tall in its natural habitat along the east coast of Australia and is a popular choice for feature plantings in parks and gardens. Indigenous Australians historically used its seeds for food and its bark for making nets and traps, though precautions are needed when handling the seeds due to irritating hairs.



Fresh prey for corellas... This tree was in place for a mere nine days before corellas had their way with it.



Prime suspects... Corellas by the Broken Creek just metres from the damaged tree last Friday.



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Driver goes overboard on a mission for freshness



HAVE you ever wondered how weekly meal delivery services keep their food fresh on delivery? Nathalia police members discovered one way to do it when they detected a van, loaded with Hello Fresh deliveries, driving at 161km/h along Centre Road, Waaia last week. The van, which had driven all the way from Albury, was shortly intercepted and impounded. The driver, an Albury man, will have to explain his actions not only to a magistrate, but the customers waiting for their “fresh” delivery, as the vehicle was immediately impounded for 30 days. The driver will be summonsed for Speed Dangerous and exceed 100kph. “Road policing and enforcement is one of our priorities,” a Nathalia police member said. “The driver was a significant risk on our roadways and dealt with appropriately. We urge every driver to be aware of your speed and the safety of all road users.”



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Community Update

Draft Tree Management Policy

Moira Shire Council has developed a comprehensive Draft Tree Management Policy to create greener, more vibrant towns that can better cope with changing weather patterns while enhancing the experience for our residents and visitors.

The policy recognises the vital role trees play in our communities – providing essential shade and cooling, cleaning our air, beautifying our streetscapes, and helping combat climate change. We’ve set an ambitious target to expand our urban tree canopy coverage to 15% by 2035.

We’re inviting the community to have their say and help shape the final policy. You can review the draft and share your feedback via the Moira Matters website, by emailing info@moira.vic.gov.au, or by calling (03) 5871 9222.

Submissions close **Tuesday 9 September 2025.**

Community Strengthening Grants

Moira Shire Council’s Community Strengthening Major Grants Round is now open.

These grants offer community groups and organisations the opportunity to apply for up to \$10,000 in funding across a range of categories including arts, culture, events, equipment, sustainability, health, tourism, and small capital projects.

Applications close on **Monday 15 September 2025.**

For guidelines and to apply, visit our website.

The future of Tungamah Courthouse

Have your say on the future of Tungamah Courthouse. Council proposes returning the vacant building to the State Government and seeks community feedback on this proposal.

Submissions close **Friday 29 August 2025.** Visit our website to have your say.

Festive Funding - Apply Now

Community organisations are encouraged to apply for the Moira Festive Fund grant, offering up to \$1,000 for small towns and \$2,000 for main towns to decorate or host festive events.

An additional \$1,000 is also available to celebrate a culturally significant day throughout the year. Only one application will be awarded per town.

What can be funded?

- Purchase and installation of decorations
- Signage banners, and flags
- Hire of equipment
- Purchase of goods and services to hold an event
- Entertainment, including music and lighting
- Promotions

Visit our website for more information and to apply.

Funding closes **Sunday 31 August 2025.**

Get Festive

Apply now for funding

Community organisations across Moira Shire are encouraged to apply for a grant from the Moira Festive Fund which will assist in decorating towns leading up to Christmas or even to hold an event to celebrate the festive season.

Up to \$1,000 will be made available to organisations in small towns and up to \$2,000 in the four main towns to decorate or run an event.

There will also be up to \$1,000 to celebrate a culturally significant day.

Only one application will be awarded per town.

Applications close 31 August 2025.

Go to our website for all the details and to apply.

(03) 5871 9222 info@moira.vic.gov.au www.moira.vic.gov.au



What can be funded?

- Purchase and installation of decorations
- Signage, banners and flags
- Hire of equipment
- Purchase of goods and services to hold an event
- Entertainment including music and lighting
- Promotions



Strong community support to see Numurkah show public holiday continue

FOLLOWING positive community feedback, Moira Shire Council will request the Minister for Small Business declare a substitute public holiday for the Numurkah Agricultural Show on Wednesday, October 22, 2025.

The substitute holiday would replace Melbourne Cup Day (November 4) specifically for the Numurkah district, continuing a tradition that supports the annual agricultural show.

In June, Council consulted with the Numurkah community to understand preferences for the proposed substituted holiday in 2025, following an ongoing arrangement which had been in place for the past 14 years.

Moira Shire Council Chair Administrator Dr Graeme Emonson PSM said the decision recognised the significance of the show for local families, schools and community groups.

“The community response was overwhelmingly positive, with 80% of the survey respondents using the public holiday to attend the show,” Dr Emonson said.

“The Numurkah Agricultural Show is a cornerstone community event that brings people together and celebrates our agricultural heritage.”

The survey revealed that 54 respondents prefer the Numurkah Show public holiday over the Melbourne Cup holiday, with many local businesses either closing for the day or remaining open to support the event.

Council has also authorised the CEO to make similar requests for the next three years, streamlining the process for the Numurkah Agricultural Society.

“This decision reflects our commitment to supporting local traditions and community events that strengthen social connections,” Dr Emonson said.

Of the 67 people who responded to the survey, 54 (80%) said they supported keeping Numurkah show day as a public holiday, 11 (17%) preferred having Melbourne Cup Day as a public holiday and two people (3%) responded “Other”.

Rural Australians short-changed as health funding gap widens

THE Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) says the growing \$8.35 billion health funding gap between rural and city Australians is unacceptable and requires urgent redress.

New figures from the National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA) reveal healthcare spending on rural, remote, and First Nations people has fallen further behind, with the shortfall growing by \$110 per person.

ACRRM President Dr Rod Martin says it's unacceptable that nearly a third of our nation's population – more than 7.3 million people – are now missing out on \$1,090.47 in healthcare.

“This inequity can't be ignored,” he said. “It's leading to higher rates of hospitalisations, chronic disease, and premature and preventable death.”

The College contends that investment in Rural Generalist (RG) training, recognition, and

support through the National Rural Generalist Pathway is a financially responsible step towards bridging the inequity in health outcomes.

“RGs are the backbone of rural, remote, and First Nations healthcare,” Dr Martin said.

“They provide comprehensive general practice, emergency care, and essential specialist services across community and hospital settings.

“Yet these services continue to be chronically underfunded and under-resourced,” Dr Martin adds.

“We have the solutions - what we need now is the support to progress.

“The gap is widening, and the longer it goes unaddressed, the harder it will be to close.

“If governments want healthier Australians and a stronger health system, investing in rural, remote, and First Nations healthcare is one of the smartest places to start.”

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Applications close Sunday 31 August 2025

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Each number in the grid signifies a letter of the alphabet. Can you crack the code?

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Specials Menu
Eat in or Take-away
Mains
Butter Chicken \$28.00
Rump Steak \$34.00
Roast Duck Leg \$32.00
Seafood Ravioli Pasta \$30.00

Dessert
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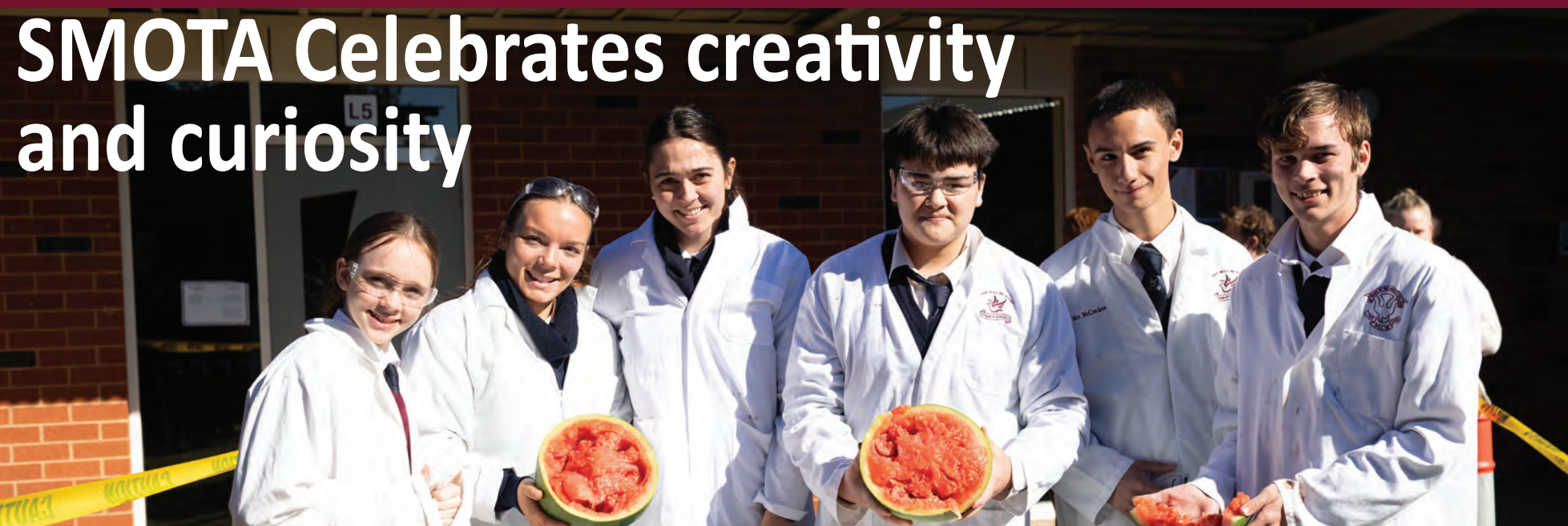
THY WILL BE DONE

St Mary of the Angels

Secondary College, Nathalia

Come and explore your opportunities

AUGUST 2025



St Mary of the Angels Secondary College has been buzzing with excitement as students recently celebrated a trio of themed weeks – Arts Week, Humanities Week and Science Week – showcasing their creativity, innovation, and problem-solving skills through a wide range of engaging activities.

The celebration kicked off with Humanities Week, where students were invited to think critically about the past, present, and future. The archaeological dig on the College oval gave budding historians a taste of discovery, while a mock

trial placed students in the shoes of legal professionals, learning to argue, persuade and apply justice. The week sparked curiosity about culture, law, and society, with students immersing themselves in the human story across time and place.

During Science Week, students stepped into the world of discovery through hands-on experiments and challenges. From the thrilling “Minute to Win It” competitions testing quick thinking and dexterity, to Cool Chemistry demonstrations that wowed audiences with colour, fizz, and flame,

science truly came to life. Students also embraced the challenge of dissections, exploring anatomy in real-time learning experiences.

Creativity and expression took centre stage during Arts Week. Students collaborated on a vibrant art mural, leaving a lasting mark on the College environment. A high-energy dance workshop encouraged students to explore movement and rhythm, while a songwriting workshop gave young musicians the chance to write and compose their own

pieces. The highlight of the week was the performance of these original songs at The G.R.A.I.N Store in Nathalia on Friday night.

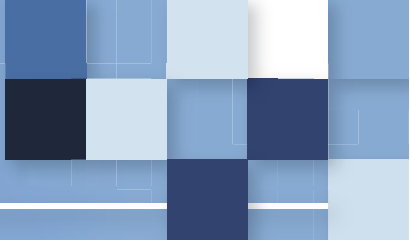
College staff praised students for their energy and enthusiasm across the three weeks of celebrations. “It’s incredible to see how engaged our students are – whether they’re piecing together an argument in the courtroom, conducting experiments, or creating music to perform for an audience,” said College Deputy Principal, Chris Dainton.



ARTS - HUMANITIES - SCIENCE - ARTS - HUMANITIES - SCIENCE - ARTS - HUMANITIES - SCIENCE



NumurkahLEADER Classifieds



PUBLIC NOTICES

From 16 to 65 as a mechanic Bussy Davies is retiring.

DAVIES GARAGE
is now closed after 35 years.
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No more gossiping men gathered at the garage fixing the world problems, the group of men have gone elsewhere.

NUMURKAH WUNGHNU CEMETERY TRUST Open Day WUNGHNU CEMETERY Sunday August 31st, 2025

Wunghnu Cemetery gazetted 1879
Celebrating new gates supported by Bendigo Bank Community Grant in conjunction with Wunghnu Township Sesquicentenary celebrations 1875-2025

VENUE:

Wunghnu Cemetery, Warnecke Street

TIME: 11am

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Coming @ Numurkah Library Numurkah Friends of the Library Antiques Appraisal Day Sunday

August 31, 2025
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Mick Bott**

The Botterill families would like to thank everyone for their support, phone calls, flowers, cards and food after the loss of Mick Bott.

DEATHS

LARKIN — Peter
It is with great sadness that our dear friend Peter has passed away on the 19th August 2025.
We will miss our many trips away, your laughter, and friendship

Our thoughts are with you Julie, Heidi, Mick and families.

Lynette and Ian,
Belinda, Jacinta and Renee



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DEATHS

BUHA, Josip 'Joe'

17. 03.1937 ~ 20. 08. 2025
In his 89th year

Late of Numurkah. Passed away peacefully at Pioneers Memorial Lodge, Numurkah.

Dearly loved Husband of Denise (dec.)
Our loving Dad and 'Joe', dearly loved by his children and their partners
Joey and Jodie; Maria; Michael and Julie and his grandchildren Jasmin and her partner Joey; Cheyenne, Kallem and John; Nathan, Kate and Luke; and his great grandson Jed.

Reunited With Mum

LARKIN

Peter Thomas

12.09.1950

Passed peacefully at home.
A warm, generous, cheeky, playful man.
He loved his family deeply.
He created memories together at home with his family.
He will be greatly missed.
His memory will live in our hearts forever.
- Julie, Heidi, Michael and Randall.

The graveside service for Peter will be held at the Wodonga Cemetery Sangters Rd, Wodonga at 1pm on Friday 29th August 2025.

Conway Funeral Home
Wodonga
Ph: (02) 6024 1093



DEATHS

MAPLETOFT

Jessie Christina
Passed away peacefully in her 96th year on Tuesday 26 August 2025.
She will be deeply missed by family and friends.

FUNERAL NOTICES

BUHA

A Graveside Service to celebrate the life of Mr. Josip 'Joe' Buha will be held at the Numurkah Lawn Cemetery, Corke St., Numurkah on FRIDAY August 29, 2025, commencing at 1 p.m.



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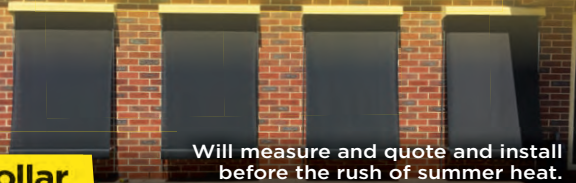
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FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD 2025

This scoreboard includes all information available at time of printing.



SENIORS					
Tongala.....	1.1,	3.4,	5.5,	8.7	(55)
Mulwala.....	4.7,	9.9,	11.18,	16.22	(118)
GOALS , Tongala: S. Cipriani 2, J. Sinclair 1, M. Heywood 1, T. Watson 1, M. Cowley 1, C. Ilett 1, N. Dear 1.					
Mulwala: B. Donovan 4, S. Fernandez 4, C. McKenna 3, C. Devereux 1, B. Seymour 1, T. Dow 1, J. Bland 1, W. Robinson 1.					
BEST , Tongala: J. Hammond, B. Waasdorp, M. Trigwell, C. Ilett, M. Fitzgerald, J. Sinclair.					
Mulwala: O. Conway, W. Robinson, H. Meade, T. Dow, Z. Scott, B. Donovan.					

Moama.....	3.4,	6.6,	7.6,	11.10	(76)
Numurkah.....	3.1,	7.5,	10.10,	11.11	(77)
GOALS , Moama: J. Warren 4, K. Stovell 3, A. Lonergan 1, J. Harland 1, M. Lake 1, D. Clarke 1.					
Nurmarkah: J. Holmes 2, B. Millen 2, B. Jones 2, C. Lester 2, K. Lukies 2, J. Daniels 1.					
BEST , Moama: J. Warren, D. Clarke, J. Harland, J. Cardilini, L. Simpson, T. Thoolen.					
Numurkah: B. Smyth, J. O'Dwyer, T. Hopkins, K. Odwyer, J. Daniels, B. Sutton.					

BEST , Moama: J. Warren, D. Clarke, J. Harland, J. Cardilini, L. Simpson, T. Thoolen.									
Nurmarkah: B. Smyth, J. O'Dwyer, T. Hopkins, K. Odwyer, J. Daniels, B. Sutton.									
Finley.....	6.4,	10.6,	11.6,	11.6	(72)				
Barooga.....	0.2,	2.6,	2.7,	2.7	(19)				

GOALS , Finley: P. Massingham 3, H. King 2, F. Hawkins 1, N. Burns 1, D. O'Bryan 1, J. Daniel 1, L. Webb 1, J. Sykes 1.									
Barooga: S. Macheda 1, J. Poole 1.									
BEST , Finley: L. Webb, P. Massingham, J. Sykes, L. Hawkins, C. Nash, C. Isedale.									
Barooga: W. Robinson, K. Bextream, J. Murphy, T. Parish, C. Bowden, C. Goesch.									

Echuca United.....	3.1,	6.5,	12.9,	14.13	(97)				
Deniliquin Rams.....	3.3,	3.7,	3.8,	7.10	(52)				
GOALS , Echuca United: A. McMahon 3, S. Beattie 3, J. Lewis 2, C. Parsons 2, O. Poole 1, R. Stobaus 1, M. Lias 1, S. Simpson 1.									
Deniliquin Rams: J. Anstee 2, H. Hillier 1, L. Todd 1, C. Hillier 1, L. Pitts 1, M. Barnett 1.									

BEST , Echuca United: O. Poole, M. Lias, R. Stobaus, C. Parsons, B. Simpson, J. Curmow.									
Deniliquin Rams: L. Todd, B. Townsend, D. Cullenward, C. Robinson, H. Hillier, T. Gallagher.									
Cobram.....	0.1,	5.4,	6.6,	10.9	(69)				
Congupna.....	3.6,	4.12,	8.14,	10.14	(74)				

GOALS , Cobram: J. Trengove 3, B. Ryan 2, L. Pinnuck 2, T. Baden 1, M. DeMaio 1, L. Roberts 1.									
Congupna: K. Mueller 5, D. Schaper 3, J. Norman 1, S. Buxton 1.									
BEST , Cobram: T. Baden, L. Pinnuck, K. Coates, T. Garlick, A. Ritchie, F. Pinnuck.									
Congupna: S. Slavich, B. Cooper, J. Gee, K. Mueller, C. Boyer, I. Jones.									

Buxton 1.
BEST, Cobram: T. Baden, L. Pinnuck, K. Coates, T. Garlick, A. Ritchie, F. Pinnuck.
 Congupna: S. Slavich, B. Cooper, J. Gee, K. Mueller, C. Roper, J. Jones.

BEST , Rumbalara: J. Zerbatto, K. Maroney, J. Saunders, G. Joyce, A. Atkinson, E. Bush.									
Nathalia: K. Lundberg, A. Hicks, B. Mann, J. Vallender, J. Dohnt, E. Congues.									
RESERVES									
Cobram.....	1.4,	2.6,	3.10,	4.10	(34)				
Congupna.....	2.1,	6.3,	6.4,	7.5	(47)				

GOALS , Cobram: K. Withers 2, C. Hardwidge 1, P. Degei 1.									
Congupna: D. Campbell 3, L. McMahon 1, K. Donovan 1, M. Beck 1, T. Trewin 1.									
BEST , Cobram: H. Bell, J. Allen, R. Mele, C. Johnston, S. De Cicco.									
Congupna: S. Drummond, D. Minutoli, B. Austin, L. McMahon, C. Di Bella, B. Gee.									

RESERVES					
Cobram.....	1.4,	2.6,	3.10,	4.10	(34)
Congupna.....	2.1,	6.3,	6.4,	7.5	(47)

BEST , Echuca United: J. Deighton, M. Wild, C. Garner, R. Sidebottom, T. Cole, C. Verhey.									
Deniliquin Rams: S. Todd, B. Macdonald, W. Michael, B. Nisbet, B. Poka, L. Cooke.									
RESERVES									
Cobram.....	1.4,	2.6,	3.10,	4.10	(34)				
Congupna.....	2.1,	6.3,	6.4,	7.5	(47)				

GOALS , Cobram: K. Withers 2, C. Hardwidge 1, P. Degei 1.									
Congupna: D. Campbell 3, L. McMahon 1, K. Donovan 1, M. Beck 1, T. Trewin 1.									
BEST , Cobram: H. Bell, J. Allen, R. Mele, C. Johnston, S. De Cicco.									
Congupna: S. Drummond, D. Minutoli, B. Austin, L. McMahon, C. Di Bella, B. Gee.									

Clancy 1, R. Sidebottom 1, B. Leslie 1, S. Chapman 1,
Deniliquin Rams: C. Paton 1, B. Nisbet 1, B. Macdonald 1.
BEST, Echuca United: J. Deighton, M. Wild, C. Garner, R.
Sidebottom, T. Cole, C. Verhey.
Deniliquin Rams: S. Todd, B. Macdonald, W. Michael, B.

BEST , Echuca United: J. Deighton, M. Wild, C. Garner, R. Sidebottom, T. Cole, C. Verhey.									
Deniliquin Rams: S. Todd, B. Macdonald, W. Michael, B. Nisbet, B. Poka, L. Cooke.									
RESERVES									
Cobram.....	1.4,	2.6,	3.10,	4.10	(34)				
Congupna.....	2.1,	6.3,	6.4,	7.5	(47)				

GOALS , Cobram: K. Withers 2, C. Hardwidge 1, P. Degei 1.									
Congupna: D. Campbell 3, L. McMahon 1, K. Donovan 1, M. Beck 1, T. Trewin 1.									
BEST , Cobram: H. Bell, J. Allen, R. Mele, C. Johnston, S. De Cicco.									
Congupna: S. Drummond, D. Minutoli, B. Austin, L. McMahon, C. Di Bella, B. Gee.									

A GRADE									
Tongala 43 lt Mulwala 56									
Finlev 53 def Barooda 33									

BEST , Echuca United: J. Deighton, M. Wild, C. Garner, R. Sidebottom, T. Cole, C. Verhey.									
Deniliquin Rams: S. Todd, B. Macdonald, W. Michael, B. Nisbet, B. Poka, L. Cooke.									
RESERVES									
Cobram.....	1.4,	2.6,	3.10,	4.10	(34)				
Congupna.....	2.1,	6.3,	6.4,	7.5	(47)				

GOALS , Cobram: K. Withers 2, C. Hardwidge 1, P. Degei 1.									
Congupna: D. Campbell 3, L. McMahon 1, K. Donovan 1, M. Beck 1, T. Trewin 1.									
BEST , Cobram: H. Bell, J. Allen, R. Mele, C. Johnston, S. De Cicco.									
Congupna: S. Drummond, D. Minutoli, B. Austin, L. McMahon, C. Di Bella, B. Gee.									

Longala	18	10	8	0	848	769
Deniliquin Rams	18	10	8	0	769	767
Nurmkah	18	9	8	1	766	758
Echuca United	18	6	11	1	695	730
Congupna	18	6	11	1	747	848

BEST , Echuca United: J. Deighton, M. Wild, C. Garner, R. Sidebottom, T. Cole, C. Verhey.									
Deniliquin Rams: S. Todd, B. Macdonald, W. Michael, B. Nisbet, B. Poka, L. Cooke.									
RESERVES									
Cobram.....	1.4,	2.6,	3.10,	4.10	(34)				
Congupna.....	2.1,	6.3,	6.4,	7.5	(47)				

GOALS , Cobram: K. Withers 2, C. Hardwidge 1, P. Degei 1.									
Congupna: D. Campbell 3, L. McMahon 1, K. Donovan 1, M. Beck 1, T. Trewin 1.									
BEST , Cobram: H. Bell, J. Allen, R. Mele, C. Johnston, S. De Cicco.									
Congupna: S. Drummond, D. Minutoli, B. Austin, L. McMahon, C. Di Bella, B. Gee.									

LADDER	P	W	L	D	F	A
Tongala	18	18	0	0	1036	530
Echuca United	18	16	2	0	816	547
Moama	18	14	4	0	914	655

BEST , Echu

2025 AFL

BUSINESS TIPPING COMPETITION

FINAL RESULTS

Weekly winner - MV Rural & Plumbing

1ST PLACE



Jess Zander

Total 153

1st

Numurkah Bottle-0

Winner, Numurkah Bottle-0, drawn from Murray Valley Rural & Plumbing

Round 24 7

John Beitzel
MV Rural & Plumbing

2nd

Round 24 8

Total 153



Roger Seiter
Num Furniture & Bedding

3rd

Round 24 7

Total 151



David Ludington
Tri Star Fencing

4th

Round 24 7

Total 150



Adam Hickey
Nu-Genes

5th

Round 24 7

Total 150



Peter Newby
Heritage Park Funerals

6th

Round 24 7

Total 144



Chris O'Dwyer
Shamrock Hotel

7th

Round 24 7

Total 142



Kevin Morland
Num Golf & Bowls Club

8th

Round 24 7

Total 141



Greg Thomson
Telegraph Hotel

9th

Round 24 7

Total 140



Danni Woolley
Ultimate Auto

10th

Round 24 6

Total 138



Bendigo Bank Crew
Bendigo Bank

11th

Round 24 8

Total 133



Dom Cosgriff
Numurkah Leader

12th

Round 24 4

Total 85



The winner was from a draw between Numurkah Bottle-0, Jess Zander and Murray Valley Rural & Plumbing, John Beitzel. Although there is to be one more deferred Round 1 match, to be played Wednesday August 27. The outcome would still have been decided by a draw.



NumurkahLEADER



MFNL FINALS DRAW

1st Elimination Final

FOOTBALL

SATURDAY 30TH AUGUST - DENILIQUN

2.10pm	Seniors	Moama	v	Numurkah
12.20pm	Reserves	Cobram	v	Tongala
10.45am	Under 17s	Mulwala	v	Echuca United
9.15am	Under 14s	Nathalia	v	Barooga

SUNDAY 31ST AUGUST - CONGUPNA

2.10pm	Seniors	Cobram	v	Nathalia
12.20pm	Reserves	Mulwala	v	Numurkah
10.45am	Under 17s	Deniliquin	v	Tongala
9.15am	Under 14s	Mulwala	v	Moama

NETBALL

SATURDAY 30TH AUGUST - DENILIQUN

1.30pm	A Grade	Mulwala	v	Deniliquin
12.00pm	B Grade	Moama	v	Numurkah
10.45am	C Grade	Mulwala	v	Cobram
12.00pm	C Reserve	Echuca United	v	Cobram
9.30am	17 & Under	Deniliquin	v	Finley
10.45am	15 & Under	Rumbalara	v	Nathalia
9.30am	13 & Under	Echuca United	v	Barooga

SUNDAY 31ST AUGUST - CONGUPNA

1.30pm	A Grade	Moama	v	Tongala
12.00pm	B Grade	Mulwala	v	Congupna
10.45am	C Grade	Echuca United	v	Moama
12.00pm	C Reserve	Nathalia	v	Congupna
9.30am	17 & Under	Cobram	v	Tongala
10.45am	15 & Under	Tongala	v	Echuca United
9.30am	13 & Under	Tongala	v	Cobram



FINALS DRAW

Preliminary Finals

FOOTBALL

SATURDAY 30TH AUGUST - JERILDERIE RECREATION RESERVE

2.05pm	Seniors	Berrigan	v	Deni Rovers
12.15pm	Reserves	Waaia	v	Katamatite
10.25am	Under 17s	Dookie United	v	Deni Rovers
9.15am	Under 14s	Dookie United	v	Deni Rovers

SUNDAY 31ST AUGUST - JUBILEE PARK (TUNGAMAH)

2.05pm	Seniors	Katandra	v	Tungamah
12.15pm	Reserves	Katandra	v	Strathmerton
10.25am	Under 17s	Strathmerton	v	Berrigan
9.15am	Under 14s	Tocumwal	v	Tungamah

NETBALL

SATURDAY 30TH AUGUST - MONASH PARK

1:30pm	A Grade	Tocumwal	v	Katamatite
11:50am	B Grade	Tocumwal	v	Katamatite
1:30pm	C Grade	Dookie United	v	Katamatite
11:50am	C Res	Picola United	v	Katunga
10:25am	U17's	Waaia	v	Tungamah
9:20am	U15's	Jerilderie	v	Dookie United
10:25am	U13's	Strathmerton	v	Blighty

SUNDAY 31ST AUGUST - JUBILEE PARK (TUNGAMAH)

1:30pm	A Grade	Katunga	v	Dookie United
11:50am	B Grade	Deni Rovers	v	Katandra
01:30pm	C Grade	Waaia	v	Jerilderie
11:50am	C Res	Tungamah	v	Tocumwal
10:25am	U17's	Jerilderie	v	Rennie
9:20am	U15's	Tocumwal	v	Mathoura
10:25am	U13's	Deni Rovers	v	Rennie



On the run... Jeremiah Attwell about to launch the ball down to the forwards in the Knights' Under 10s contest against All Saint's Swifts.

Numurkah Knights into semi-finals

NUMURKAH Knights Under 6s met with Guthrie St on Saturday morning for a match that they will be remember for a long time.

It was clear right from the start that both sides had turned up with a fire in their bellies, seeming like a tennis match, the ball was flying from end to end at speed for most of the first half.

Renato Santana-Roumpos and Sam Hazelman both scored nice goals early off the back of some excellent intercepts and intelligent positioning. The second half was much the same, some outstanding set pieces from Emerson Kerry helped set up Renato's second goal and relieve a lot of pressure for her team. Isabelle Malcolm and Nicoletta Santana-Roumpos held up the midfield with great communication, allowing Max Pettigrove to impressively handle almost every chance Guthrie St had.

Sam Burns impressed again with his leadership, showing why he makes such a great captain for his club. Our award winners took the spotlight this week; Zara Hazelman's ball-winning prowess and unwavering determination was truly on show, alongside Oliver Nugent, whose growing passion is turning him into an elite youth soccer player. A great day overall from both teams of young superstars.

The Knights Under 8s faced off against St Anne's in what promised to be a big test for the Knights. St Anne's had the upper hand in their last encounter, and the Knights were determined to flip the script this time around.

The opening half was a real arm-wrestle, with the ball zipping from end to end as both sides pushed hard for the first score. The Knights' defenders—Jersey Baldwin, Patrick Williams, and Jonathan Williams—stood tall early, cutting off attacks and throwing themselves into tackles like seasoned pros. Their efforts gave the forwards time to settle, and eventually it was Alby Dalton who broke through, calmly finding the net to give the Knights momentum.

With midfielders Connor Williams, Caleb Mason, Ethan Beverley and Bobbie Ash working tirelessly to win back possession and spark counter-attacks, Alby soon doubled the lead. By half-time, the Knights had earned themselves a well-deserved 2-0 advantage.

The second half brought fireworks. St Anne's pressed hard and had the ball deep in attack, but the Knights' midfield four again went to work, hustling and pressuring until the ball was turned over. Jonathan Williams then produced

a moment of magic, launching from the halfway line and catching the keeper off his line. The ball sailed past everyone and into the back of the net for Jonathan's first goal of the season—and what a cracker it was!

Up front, the attacking trio of Jhye Vander Gulik, Jettie Hastings, and Alby Dalton kept the pressure on. Jhye slotted home his first of the season after a clever cross from Alby, then pounced on a rebound to calmly bag his second. Meanwhile, Alby was everywhere—hitting the scoreboard again to complete his hat-trick and push the tally even further out of reach.

To their credit, St Anne's fought back and found the net three times in the second half, but with the Knights still running hard thanks to three substitutes on the bench, the difference in energy was clear. The defenders continued to throw themselves into challenges, the midfielders kept linking play with grit and determination, and the forwards never let up.

In the end, it was a complete team performance from back to front, with every Knight playing their role in an exciting 6-3 victory.

The sun was shining as a beacon of things to come for the Knights' Under 10s contest against All Saint's Swifts.

The opposition came out in force with excellent defence and positioning. The Knights counter-attacked with a goal by Ben Hubbard in the first two minutes of play. Taylor Mongan then made a solid attempt at goal at the 20 minute mark, which was foiled by a solid goalie. There was a great deal of back and forth, as a lot of passes were foiled, this meant changing tactics on the run and taking the ball as far as possible without being intercepted. The Swifts changed tactics in the second half of the game, in an attempt to score, keeping Caleb Campbell busier than the first half as goalie. The Knights maintained pressure throughout, with Ollie Mason making a solid goal attempt in the first two minutes of the second half, while Taylor Morgan scored at the six minute mark. Ben managed to push past the strong defence line to score another goal, before Ollie's across goal attempt in the final minute of play. Everyone worked really hard and did an amazing job reading play and changing things up to stay on top this week for a 3-0 win.

In the final round of the season before heading into finals, the result of this match against the All Saints Hawks would not affect the ladder, giving the Numurkah Under 12s a chance to showcase

some of the skills and tricks they have been working on throughout the year.

Numurkah got off to a strong start with an early goal from Jack Opie, setting the tone for the game. A brief moment of misfortune followed for our goalkeeper Raleigh Beverly, who did an amazing job all game. Raleigh stopped a difficult goal, but on the ricochet the ball bounced awkwardly and back spun into the net out of reach, and even the professionals could not have saved that. Soon afterwards, a well-placed corner from Daniel Te deflected off a defender for an own goal, restoring Numurkah's lead.

With the majority of possession for the rest of the match, Numurkah looked sharp in attack. Jack and Daniel combined well, creating multiple opportunities, with Daniel narrowly missing on several occasions. Jack's finishing was clinical, finding the back of the net four times in total. Persistence paid off for Daniel, who capped off his performance with a well-deserved goal of his own.

In defence, Ayden Watt stood out, not only for his strong positioning and leadership at the back but also for his ambitious long-range effort from his own half that only just missed the target. Logan Smith continued his excellent run of form at left back, showing relentless effort to chase down every ball and shutting down attacks with determination, even if his kicking wasn't quite as sharp as in previous games.

Overall, every player in the team did an absolute outstanding effort and deserve a pat on the back for an amazing game and 6-1 win. Lets hope this style of play and momentum continues into semi-finals next week, when they play the top ranking Shepp Blasters at 1.45pm

Encouragement and coaches award this week went to Jack Opie for his outstanding performance, another encouragement award to Logan Smith for his rock hard performance.

The Open Girls came up against Tatura in a friendly game this week. Through the season, they met twice with a win each way, so the girls were determined to add another notch our way.

From the first kick off, Numurkah dominated possession with steely determination and demonstrated they had shown up to battle.

Gabby Attwell, Brianna Boyden, Ruby Davis and Trinity Attwell had many promising break through plays heading toward the goal, but couldn't quite find the back of the net. The defensive line of Savannah Mison, Kaiah Boyden,

Pheobe Grace, Tillie Beverley and Lotte Attwell held firm, which gave Lilly Fiddock a quiet half in goals. The midfield of Grace Jones, Charlie Mison and Rosa Neylon were dynamic and relentless in their hunting of the ball and interrupting Tatura's flow.

In the second half, with the score still nil each way, Lotte bravely stepped up to play goals for the first time and didn't let a single goal through all half, leaving a clean sheet for Numurkah. Lilly played a dominant attacking game in the second half, aided by her strikers and Millie Beverley, also still hunting for the elusive goals.

Despite ending the game drawn nil all, the girls all showcased phenomenal sportsmanship and brilliant skills and teamwork that demonstrated how far this team has come during the season. Next week they will face their biggest battle in their semi-final against SheppartonUnited at 11.15am

Numurkah Small Bore Rifle Club results

THIS week was Numurkah Small Bore Rifle Club's Fritz Schmidt Handicap round, and the top scorers were Colin Saxton 197.4 in 20m Benchrest, Melissa Kennedy with 191.6 in 20m Prone, and Lindsay Braybon with 188.8 in 50m Prone.

20m Benchrest: C Saxton 99.2 98.2 197.4 (4) 198.4; D Cook 97.3 99.2 196.5 (2) 198.5; G Braybon 96.2 99.1 195.3 (8) 194.3; S Keats 95.0 90.1 185.1; S Keats 90.1 94.2 184.2 (5) 189.2.

20m Prone: M Kennedy 95.3 96.3 191.6 (10) 198.6; T Stewart 89.0 92.2 181.2 (14) 195.2.

50m Prone: L Braybon 93.2 95.6 188.8 (8) 196.8; B Sneddon 91.0 96.4 187.4 (13) 200.4; H O'Brien 92.3 92.0 184.3 (12) 196.3; L Sneddon 92.1 91.1 183.2 (10) 193.2; J Mattys 84.0 88.2 172.2 (20) 192.2.

There will be shooting as usual Thursday night in Numurkah.

Changing with the weather

By PG
HOW quick the scoring can change with some warm weather as we witnessed at Thursday's Bear challenge at Numurkah Golf.
After weeks of winning scores around the Par score of 36 points, with only one or two bettering the mark, we had eight players out of 42 equal or better the mark on Thursday, with one player, Stuart Clark, cruising through the 40 points barrier amassing a fantastic 42 points to head the field and claim the B Grade winners voucher on his way. Runner up to Stuart, in a return to form with the second best score, was Chris Hicks. Hicksy was a bit stiff as his score was three better than any of the A graders on the day. Next in line was probably the form golfer of the moment, Geoff "Latte" Stone. Geoff's 38 also eclipsed the A's, as did Daryl "Dasher" Sheridan's 37; their rewards being four balls

and three golf balls respectively.
This is where the A Graders entered the proceedings, with four players scoring 36s, with Ian Dodd and Ron "Always" Smith being the lucky two who were in A Grade claiming the winner's and runner up's vouchers. The remaining 36s belonged to Phil Spencer and Neil "Bugs" Hutchins, with Phil tipping out Neil on a countback for the last multiple ball prize of two balls.
Balls down the line from here were collected by Micheal Rossborough and Geoff Partington on 35, the wee Scotsman Colin McMinn had the only 34, Ronald Ameer and David Scanlan had 33, with the last two balls going to Will Mason on his return from holidays and Ted "The Good" Schmedje.
Col Booth, on one of his very rare trips into the doldrums, took home the boiled lollies and Geoff "Parto" Partington won his own

OBE ball.
Nearest pins were dominated by Micheal Keeley who bagged the GMCU fourth and the Nifty Smith second. The day's big winner Stuart Clark, adding to his haul, pocketed the cash on the money hole seventh, Colin Mc Minn hit it closest for two on Roy and Dennis' 14th, and Micheal Rossborough got "The Coach" Bazza Pruden's 18th.
The ears, like last week, became a bit of a back and forth affair, with many indiscretions coming to the table resulting in some confusion as to the authenticity of the said details. As a result, Jack Dell, Neville Smith and Peter Cowan were all found guilty of certain offences and presented with a set of ears each.
The challenge will return to normal time next Thursday with assembly at 9.30am for a 10o'clock start.

Merren wins stableford round

By Possum
LAST Wednesday, 11 ladies played a stroke round. Pauly Davies came in with a great 72 nett to win the day and received a \$15 credit to her account.
Bev McIntosh was runner up with a 74 nett and received a \$10 credit to her account.
Down the line place getters, each receiving a ball credit, were M'Liss McCarty with a 76 nett, Robyn Hodgkin on a count back with 77 nett, and the last of the ball winners was Tracey Clouston with a 77 nett.
Nearest the pin on the 18th was Helen Schmedje. Helen is off to the Shamrock for her win.
The nine hole competition numbers are still staying strong. Gayle Smith continues to play great golf, and, happy she is whittling her handicap down, came in with a fantastic 24 points. Gayle received two ball credits to her account.
Runner up was Mavis Birrell with 18 points, followed by Norma Cullum on 16 points. Each received a ball credit to their account.
Mavis Birrell won nearest the pin on the 18th hole and received a ball credit to her account.
Saturday was the deferred first round of the stableford trophy. The two days away at Yarrawonga last week certainly didn't wear out Merren Carr. Merren came in with a great 35 points to win the day, and received a \$60 credit into her account.
Bev McIntosh was runner up with 34 points on a countback. Bev received a \$15 credit into her account.
Down the line winners, each receiving a ball credit, were Julie Hannaford with 34 points and M'Liss McCarty with 32 points on a countback.
Julie and M'Liss were surprised to also receive a GMGA golf towel each from the men's captain.
Nearest the pins went to Helen Schmedje on the seventh, and Julie Hannaford on the 18th. Each received a ball credit.
Today is a stableford round with three clubs and a putter.
Saturday is a two-person ambrose.
Happy golfing.

Great weather, great scoring

By Go Cats
WITH a day just meant for golf, 58 keen men headed out for Saturday's Stableford event and scoring certainly reflected a marked improvement from previous weeks. The annual renovation of our greens, which has started on Thursday with scarifying, seemed to suit many, and 16 golfers managed to make 36 points or better.
Leading the way on the day, with a very impressive 42 points, was Tyson "Tiger" Woods, who cleaned up the B Grade \$50 prize ahead of Alan "The Little Champ" Dalton, "Recycle" Rick Orr and "Lucky" Pierre Klaessen, who all recorded 39 points. Alan took the \$25 runner-up prize on a countback, while Rick and Pierre picked up a ball along with a

bonus golf towel.
In A Grade, it was the inform Barry "The Coach" Pruden who greeted the judge with 40 points to have \$50 added to his prize portal, while Ian Dodd was runner-up with 39 points, scoring a \$25 increase to his prize portal.
Neil "Bugs" Hutchins, Darcy Edis and Geofrey "Latte" Stone were all on song with 38 points and headed the ball list with one each, from Andrew "Mud" Cline on 37 points, followed by Denis Prosser, Tim McPherson, William "Sugar" Caine, Graeme "Seagull" Cusack, Robert Burge and Hugh "Noo" Gunn on 36 points, and Ricky Clark and Nick "Stackz" Ludington on 35 points.
Ben Jalkanen took the NTP ball on the fourth,

with Scott "Scooter" Hutchins putting in the best shot on the seventh. Mitch "The Guru" Grandell producing a great shot on the 15th, and "Seagull" put a ball in his pocket to take home to Nagambie, for the NTP on the 18th.
In a bit of late news, the Stableford Trophy result saw Barry Pruden on 143 take the prize ahead of Alan Dalton on 140, with Sam Robertson third on a countback from Mark Hegarty and Pierre Klaeseen, with all three finishing in 138.
With the greens being cored this week, next Saturday's event has been changed to a two person Medley Ambrose, where pairings can be men, women or mixed.
Happy Hitting.

Senior Purps go hard against Rumba

NATHALIA'S A Grade netballers were eager for the challenge of taking on ladder leaders Rumbalara in their final away game of the 2025 season on Saturday. Having gone down by just three goals in their last meeting, the Purples were ready to test themselves again.
A slow start saw Nathalia trail 12-5 at the first break, leaving plenty of work to do. Despite lifting their intensity in the second quarter, errors proved costly and they remained seven down at half time. Their defenders worked tirelessly, winning back plenty of ball, and the attacking line applied strong defensive pressure of their own, but Rumbalara held firm.
While it wasn't the Purps day on the scoreboard, there were plenty of positives to take away and valuable lessons to carry into finals, where they'll face Rumbalara again in two weeks. With strong support from the club on the sidelines, it was a fantastic showcase of Murray League netball.
They now look forward to a rematch with Rumbalara in the second semi-final at Echuca on Saturday, September 6.
Nathalia 35 defeated by Rumbalara 47.
Awards: Tegan Sutton, Laura Cole, Ash Cann.
Nathalia came out firing in their B Grade match on Saturday against Rumbalara, winning 48-29. A first quarter seven goal lead set up the momentum for the match and the Purples built on that lead in each of the next three quarters.
Intensity and teamwork were excellent, and the girls finished off their final match for the season strongly. In a fantastic team effort, awards went to Bridie Wilson for her strength and accuracy in goals and Laura Harvey-Hawkins and Mia Bell for their impressive mid court efforts.
They now face Moama at Deniliquin this Saturday.
Nathalia 48 defeated Rumbalara 29.
Awards: Bridie Wilson, Laura Har-

vey-Hawkins, Cody Power.
Nathalia's C Grade netballers finished the season strong on Saturday, with a convincing win against Rumbalara.
The Purps came out firing from the first whistle, and maintained their intensity right through to the final siren, with excellent ball movement and teamwork. Lily Smith and Hannah Summerville were outstanding in goals and WA, while Zoe Best controlled the midcourt brilliantly in C and impressed with a short stint in WA. Plenty to take out of this performance and a great platform to build on heading into next year.
Nathalia 56 defeated Rumbalara 40.
Awards: Lily Smith, Hannah Summerville, Zoe Best.
Nathalia's C Reserve netballers finished their home and away season in style on Saturday, pipping a top-ranked side, this time second placed Rumbalara, for the second week in a row.
Last time the two sides met, the game played out in similar fashion, a neck and neck tussle from start to finish going Rumbalara's way by a goal. Not this time though; this time Nathalia led from the get go.
Nathalia channelled all the things they have worked on through the year, backing each other up, and backing each other in. It wasn't all Nathalia's way though, but a mature approach and strong belief saw the Purps sharpen their focus to playing their game - and playing it well.
It was a brilliant team effort, with great passages of play right across the court and second efforts, tight defence, accurate passing and shots on goal. They will now face Congupna in the first elimination final at Deniliquin this Sunday.
Nathalia 55 defeated Rumbalara 53.
Awards: Sarah Delwig, Bella Cavallaro, Abby Favaro.



Defensive efforts... Tegan Sutton and Ashlee Cann do their best to block an opponent in the Purples A Grade clash against Rumbalara on Saturday.



Cool as a cucumber... A composed Abby Commadeur lines up a shot on goal for the Blues.

Numurkah seniors out, but not down

A THRILLING finish was always likely for the round 18 A Grade clash between sixth placed Numurkah and fifth placed Moama, in a do or die game, with the winner locking in a finals opportunity.

The Blues managed to get off to a flying start,

finding opportunity early in the game to put the pressure on Moama, though, unfortunately, some costly errors resulted in only the slimmest of margins at the first break.

Moama came out firing in the second quarter, and used their physical presence to create head-

aches for the Blues, but they were never down and out. Resilient right until the end, eventually Numurkah went down by three goals, which spelled the end of their A Grade season. Whilst there is plenty of disappointment in the thought of what could have been, they look back on the

year as one of great growth and development, with positive steps taken towards reigniting this great club.

Moama 44 defeated Numurkah 41.

Swans keep finals campaigns alive

KATUNGA'S A Grade netballers had a warm day at their home court for their qualifying final against Katandra on Saturday.

In a tightly contested first half, the Swans showed glimpses of their better netball, but, unfortunately, Katandra's pressure on every ball saw Katunga turn the ball over or force errors.

They will now look to regroup before their semi-final against Dookie United at Tungamah on Sunday, September 7.

Katunga 26 defeated by Katandra 45.

The sun was shining, the atmosphere electric and a sea of red and white was in attendance for Katunga's B Grade match up against Deniliquin Rovers on Saturday.

Coming up against a strong Deni side meant Katunga needed to be at their best for 60 minutes, and they got off to a strong start, their smarts and second efforts on full display.

The second quarter was just as much of a grind as the first, but with a six goal lead, the Swans wanted to extend it at the main break, which they did, taking a well earned rest in the shade with a seven goal lead.

The Swans lifted their intensity and work rate in the third quarter, their conversion to goal was high, and the energy up, and they went into the last quarter with a handy lead.

To Deniliquin's credit, they came out firing in the last and reduced the margin to eight, but weren't able to take it any further against a determined Katunga side, who gained a preliminary final spot at the final whistle.

Chloe Smith, Kate Dunn, and Grace Hicks made life extremely difficult for the Deni attack end and created many turnovers with ruthless pressure, amazing teamwork and assisted with bringing the ball into the attacking third. The attackers rewarded the defensive efforts and made sure that any opportunity to score was taken. Jordyn Sutton, Billie Merritt, and Angel Cook were so strong at post with great movement and communication between all three of them. Carly Bell, Aleece Bethell, Dani Henderson and Tamika Mayes worked overtime through the mid court, with sensational feeds, gut running and defensive pressure.

The Swans now wait to see who they will face in the preliminary final on Sunday, Sep-

tember 7.

Katunga 48 defeated Deniliquin Rovers 40.

Katunga's C Grade netballers started their finals campaign with beautiful autumn weather in Katandra on Saturday.

After a close game against Dookie earlier in the season, they were looking forward to a competitive match. Right from the first whistle, Katunga's shooting was on target, and their patience working the ball around put them in a great position heading into the quarter-time break.

The Swans' defensive pressure all over the court made it hard for Dookie to transition smoothly from defence to attack, and created many turnovers, deflections, and rebounds. Katunga's intensity was consistent for the four quarters, with it being the best team game they have played nearly all season.

Through their consistency, Katunga were able to come away with a 50 to 29 goal win, putting them straight through to the preliminary final.

They now wait to see who they will face in the preliminary final on Saturday, September 6.

Katunga 50 defeated Dookie United 29.

Junior Purps fight to the end

NATHALIA'S Under 15s netballers played a consistent four quarters against opponents Rumbalara on Saturday, with great defensive pressure applied in the circle creating multiple turnovers. In attack, the Purps had strong drives and patience feeding into the ring.

Nathalia 17 defeated by Rumbalara 29.

Awards: Ivy Patone, Lily James, Belle Haberfield.

Nathalia's Under 13s had a very impressive last game in which they really brought their A-game, showing both grit and determination. It was a nail-biter right to the end, and they gave it everything they had, it wasn't quite enough to overcome a determined Rumbalara.

Nathalia 23 defeated by Rumbalara 26.

Awards: Caitlin Murray, Jordy Rudd, Isla Caldwell.

Nathalia's Under 11s appeared to save their best game 'til last, with connections down the court, and fantastic strength and defensive pressure from the first whistle to the last.

Awards: Chelsea Dealy, Georgie Ebejer, Elke Bource.

Bombers down but not out as finals campaign starts

Waaia's C Grade finals campaign kicked off against Deniliquin Rovers on Saturday, and both teams came out firing from the very first whistle, and it remained a hard fought contest right to the end.

The first three quarters were a back and forth tussle, with Deniliquin taking a small lead into the final quarter. Waaia soon clawed that lead back, trading goals in an intense goal-for-goal battle. With just three minutes left, Deni managed to get a run on and edge ahead, taking the win by three. Unfortunately, Waaia threw away too many passes which Deni capitalised on, and that ulti-

mately made the difference.

A massive well done to Zoe and Bern, who stood tall in defence all day and gave it their absolute all.

They'll now face Jerilderie in the semi-final at Tungamah this Saturday.

Waaia 33 defeated by Deniliquin 36.

Heading into Saturday's qualifying final, Waaia's C Reserve netballers knew they were up against a tough and experienced Tungamah side, full of finals knowledge and composure, but they weren't going to let that rattle them.

Right from the first whistle, Waaia's defensive

pressure was electric. Sannah was unstoppable, getting hands to everything, with tips, taps, and relentless hustle that kept Tungamah on the back foot.

In the goal ring, Lex, Danielle and Tearní stepped up in a big way. Their movement, accuracy and teamwork under pressure proved crucial in converting Waaia's opportunities.

It was a hard-fought, gritty win, and Waaia were no doubt thrilled to come away with the result. They'll be ready and hungry for the win against whoever they face in the preliminary final at Katamatite on Sunday, September 7.

Waaia 24 defeated Tungamah 21

After a week off, Waaia's Under 17s got off to a slow start and struggled to find their rhythm in their qualifying final against Deniliquin Rovers on Saturday. Deni came out hungry and firing, showing their intent from the first whistle. Despite the Bombers working tirelessly at both ends of the court, Deni's relentless pressure proved too strong, disrupting Waaia's connections and momentum throughout the game.

They will face Tungamah in the semi-final this Saturday.

Waaia 25 defeated by Deniliquin Rovers 59.

Bombers advance

WAAIA'S seniors have progressed to the next stage of finals with a strong win against Berrigan in the first qualifying final on Saturday.

Waaia scored early, and despite replies from Berrigan, kept the foot down to take a two goal lead into the first break. The Bombers showed no signs of slowing at any stage, progressively increasing their lead in each quarter to take an eight goal advantage into the final term. The last quarter saw them add three more majors to seal their future in the finals by a convincing margin.

Harvey Walker was among the best on ground with a consistent four-quarter effort for the Bombers, supported by strong performances from Brayden Coates, Sam Trower, AJ Brooks, Cal Leighton Daly, and Charlie Burrows.

The result sees Waaia advance further into the finals series with confidence and momentum.

Waaia 18.7.115 defeated Berrigan 9.10.64.

Goals: Charlie Burrows 5, Connor Brown 4, James Carpenter 3, Callum Leighton Daly 1, Will Trower 1, Sam Trower 1, Austin Tricarico 1, Harvey Walker 1, Jayden Clarke 1.

Best: Harvey Walker, Brayden Coates, Sam Trower, Adam Brooks, Callum Leighton Daly, Charlie Burrows.

On a cracking winter's day, Waaia's reserves fronted up for their first qualifying final against a red-hot Tungamah side.

The stakes were high, and the Bears came out firing. Waaia were slow out of the gates, missing the early jump and playing catch-up for most of the day.



Eyes on the prize... Harvey Walker heads towards goal during a consistent four-quarter effort for the Bombers against Berrigan on Saturday.

But finals footy has a funny way of turning — and in the third quarter, Waaia found a spark. Enter “The Wizard”, Sam “Richo” Richardson. With the breeze at Waaia's backs, Richo turned it on in a big way, slotting majors from every angle and breathing life back into his team's campaign. His magic was matched by Aaron Shelton, who threw himself into every contest, crashing packs and leading by example with trademark toughness. And then there was Mason Sprunt — not

just holding his own in the ruck but drifting back all day to help the defence under siege. Time and time again, he floated into dangerous space, cutting off entries and giving the backs much-needed support when the pressure was on.

The third term saw the Bombers hit the front and swing momentum their way — but with the wind turning in the final quarter, Tungamah surged. The Bears used the breeze to full effect, booting away late and snatching the win in a

tough, high-stakes finish. Despite the result, it was a gutsy performance full of fight. The Bombers left nothing in the tank, and will take that fire into next week. Next stop: Jerilderie.

Tungamah 12.8.80 defeated Waaia 9.4.58.

Goals: Samuel Richardson 5, Robert Bradbury 2, Fraser Jones 1, Matthew Foster 1.

Best: Samuel Richardson, Aaron Shelton, Brendan Harris, Mason Sprunt, Matthew Foster, Damian Hommes.



No slowing down... Liam Evans charges through the pack in a five goal performance for the Purples.

Close game sees Purps seniors through

IN the final home and away match for the year, Nathalia's seniors took on Rumbalara at Rumbalara in a perfect precursor for their final against Cobram next week.

Rumba got off to a flying start, kicking the first goal in under a minute - a clean clearance kicked to a leading forward which resulted in a goal. Again, they cleared the football with ease from the centre bounce with great pace around the stoppage and were able to kick the first two goals before Nathalia hit the scoreboard.

Fortunately, Nathalia fought back well through some great rebound play out of their back 50 to kick their first goal, and then garner some momentum to lead by eight points at the first break.

Having last week off freshened up Nathalia's young gun midfielder Kai Lundberg, as he pulled together a best on ground performance gathering plenty of football through the middle of the ground. Second game up for Alex Hicks was just as good as his return game, as he bagged four goals, controlling the forward line along with his counterpart Liam Evans who kicked five.

There had been a reversal of fortune throughout the second quarter, and, kicking with the wind in the third quarter, and trailing by nine points, meant Nathalia would need to kick a score to be in the game going into the last and, to the boys credit, they kicked seven goals to lead by 19 points at the final break.

Josh Vallender was fantastic and put in his best game of the year, kicking a goal and providing plenty of run through the wings and half forward. Rumbalara responded really well, kicking the first

three goals of the quarter before Nathalia hit the score board and reducing the Purps lead to three points. Fortunately, Nathalia were able to score a goal late in the quarter to close out the match. The Purples now look forward to taking on Cobram in the elimination final at Congupna on Sunday.

Nathalia 14.5.88 defeated Rumbalara 12.8.80.

Goals: L. Evans 5, A. Hicks 4, J. Dohnt 2, K. Lundberg, O. Sheehan, Jo. Vallender 1.

Awards: Kai Lundberg, Alex Hicks, Bryce Mann, Josh Vallender, Josh Dohnt, Ewan Congues.

Travelling to Rumbalara for the last game for the year, the Purples reserves boys were well placed after the past few weeks of good form.

The ball was often played between the halves, with both defensive units working hard to repel. It was a low scoring and close contest all day, with both sides having their chance to win it late. Unfortunately it didn't go the Purples way, going down by the narrowest of margins.

The Purples had many willing ball getters, with Josh Gemmill, Wade Hicks and Kaleb Kopsidas all finding plenty of the ball and using it to good effect.

Up forward, Sean Zammit and Charles Wright-Smith proved good aerial targets to have the forward half always looking dangerous, with Cooper Bloodworth feeding the ball in after solid attacks on the ball.

Nathalia 3.6.24 defeated by Rumbalara 3.7.25.

Goals: C. Wright-Smith 2, R. Freeman 1.

Awards: Josh Gemmill, Sean Zammit, Kaleb Kopsidas, Wade Hicks, Cooper Bloodworth, Charles Wright-Smith.

Junior Purps end season on a high

IN Nathalia Under 17s final hit out for the season, they came up against Rumbalara on their home deck. With no chance of finals, Nathalia still wanted to finish the year off with a solid performance.

The team was shuffled around to allow their top age players to be around the ball all day, and they started really well, going into the first change well in front. In the second term, things continued in Nathalia's favour, and they eventually ran out victors by 10 goals.

Gus Frostick and River Freeman had a shoot out up forward, kicking four and five goals respectively. Cam Liddell, Lachie Russell and Josh Burns were solid in defence, while Dylan Dohnt, Levi Lewer and Declan Begley were in control through the mid field.

Nathalia 12.12.84 defeated Rumbalara 4.4.28.

Goals: R. Freeman 5, G. Frostick 4, N. Summerville 2, D. Dohnt 1.

Awards: Brandon Hatton, Josh Burns, Cam McDonald, Cam Liddell, Mason Hatton, Dylan Dohnt.

Nathalia's fourths wrapped up the home and away season with a strong performance against Rumbalara.

From the first bounce, the Purples linked up beautifully, using the ball well and showing just how much they've developed as a team throughout the year.

The teamwork, pressure, and willingness to share the footy stood out and made it a great way to finish of the year. It's been a fantastic year with this group; every player has played their role and contributed to the way they've grown together. The boys now turn their attention to finals, and will face Barooga at Deniliquin this Saturday.

Nathalia 25.18.168 defeated Rumbalara 0.0.0.

Goals: H. Feltham 5, W. Feltham, L. Barton 4, C. Russell, D. Shaw, J. Bell, C. McDonald, Z. Ebejer, K. Rogers, X. Murray, A. Johns, S. Caldwell 1.

Awards: Xavier Murray, Paulie Sherer-Richards, Evan Ratcliffe, Dylan Dohnt, Liam Raleigh, Charlie McDonald.



Coming through... Zac Ebejer powers through the opposition to get the ball away for Nathalia's fourths.

NumurkahLEADER Sports



Numurkah overcome Moama in a thriller

AFTER three wins in a row, Numurkah travelled to face a well-drilled Moama side on Saturday. The game was a back and forth affair in the first half, with it being a real arm wrestle in which neither team were able to kick away.

Numurkah played one of their better quarters of footy in the third to kick away from Moama and take a four goal lead into the last term. Moama, kicking with the wind, dominated proceedings in a thrilling last quarter, but a determined Numurkah refused to go quietly, and the game went down to the wire.

Numurkah were able to hold on for a one point win, and set up a rematch in the elimination final against Moama next weekend.

Moama 11.10.76 defeated by Numurkah 11.11.77.

Goals: J. Holmes 2, B. Millen 2, B. Jones 2, C. Lester 2, K. Lukies 2, J. Daniels 1.

Best: B. Smyth, J. O'Dwyer, T. Hopkins, K. O'Dwyer, J. Daniels, B. Sutton.

It was a tough day for the Blues reserves playing ladder leaders Moama on Saturday.

Moama came out firing with a style of high-paced footy the Blues weren't used to after playing the bottom two sides in previous weeks. Numurkah started strong, desperate to get the ball, but simple skill errors let them down.

The second quarter saw Numurkah continue to struggle, getting seven goals kicked against them. They kept their heads up, and worked hard right to the final siren, but were left in the wake of the runaway train that was Moama on the day.

Patty Millen was best for the Blues with some of the most courageous football seen this year, Ashton Commadeur was impressive, playing a tough role at centre half back, and, once again, Joss Church Numurkah the best players.

Next week sees the boys take on Mulwala at Congupna for the first elimination final.

Moama 13.7.85 defeated Numurkah 2.6.18.

Goals: R. Dobson 1, D. Ebborn 1.

Best: P. Millen, J. Church, A. Commadeur, N. Hughes, F. Beitzel, M. Laidlaw.

Among the best for the Blues... Josh O'Dwyer works his way through traffic in a determined effort for Numurkah.

Junior Blues go out swinging

FOR their final game of the season, Numurkah's fourths came up against Moama on a perfect day for football.

The Blues played hard footy in the first quarter, keeping top side Moama to just 14 points. After the first break however, Moama put their foot down and the Blues couldn't catch them.

Numurkah's BOG for the day was John McCrae, who played a fantastic game for the team. He showed strong leads, tackled everyone who was near him and continued moving the ball forward when needed. Tyler Johns also had a strong game for the Blues. He started off a little bit nervous, but got into it after the first quarter throwing his body at the ball at any opportunity.

Moama 16.10.106 defeated Numurkah 1.0.6.

Goals: J. Macrae 1.

Best: Z. Rossborough, M. Friedrich, J. Macrae, J. Mison, Z. Frost, T. Johns.



Moving the ball forward... John McCrae gets a handball away in a best on ground performance for the Blues.

NumurkahLEADER

INSIDE SPORT

Knights into Semi-Finals

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Numurkah Seniors Out

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Seniors through to finals

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