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# Numurkah LEADER

PROUDLY INDEPENDENT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

\$2.00

INSIDE



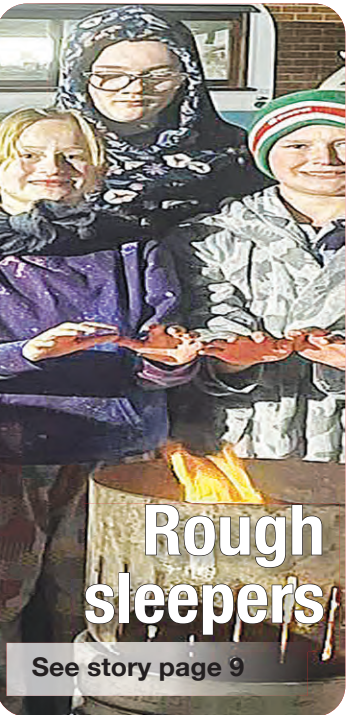
Local 3MT winner

See story page 8



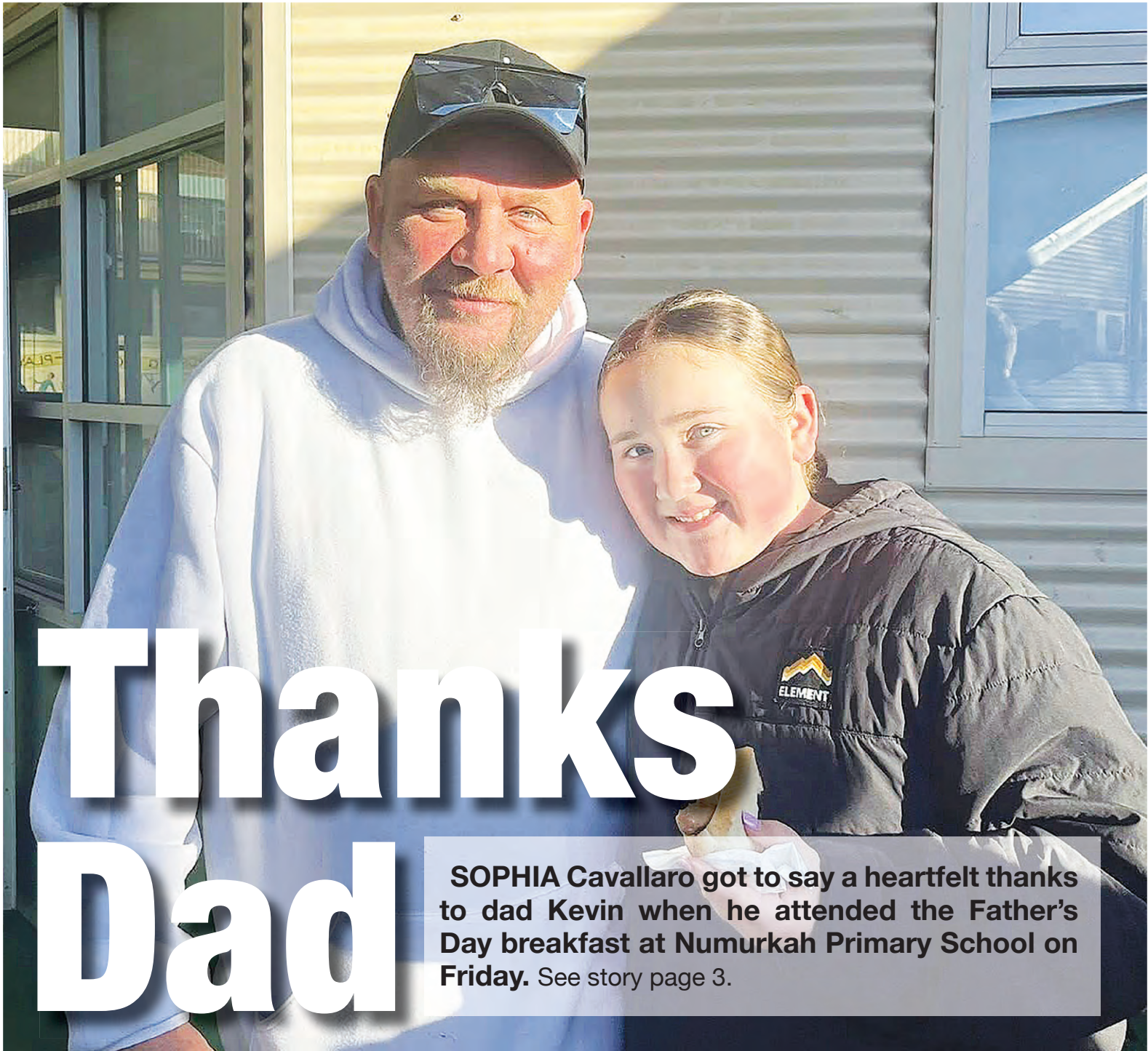
Meet Freddy

See story page 2



Rough sleepers

See story page 9



# Thanks Dad

SOPHIA Cavallaro got to say a heartfelt thanks to dad Kevin when he attended the Father's Day breakfast at Numurkah Primary School on Friday. See story page 3.

## Shepparton gets Victoria's first community-based distress support service

A NEW free community-based service to support Victorians experiencing psychological distress is coming to Shepparton.

Victorian Minister for Mental Health Ingrid Stitt and Federal Assistant Minister for Social Services and the Prevention of Family Violence Ged Kearney yesterday launched the Distress Brief Support program trial in Darebin and Shepparton.

A recommendation of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System and a key part of the Victorian Suicide Prevention and Response Strategy 2024-2034 – the two-year pilot is designed to help people manage distress early and connect them to the right local supports.

The program supports people experiencing distress to develop skills to manage their circumstances and access non-clinical, short-term support as an alternative to hospital-based care.

The Victorian trial is a jointly funded initiative, with the Federal Government contributing \$2.4 million and the Victorian Government contributing \$2.6 million.

It is specifically designed for people who are not in crisis and do not require emergency care – filling a critical gap in the system by offering earlier, community-based help.

The free service will be delivered by ermha365 in

Darebin in partnership with the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service and Switchboard Victoria, and by Mind Australia in Shepparton in partnership with Primary Care Connect.

This strong partnership model ensures the service is inclusive, trauma-informed and grounded in lived and living experience – with peer workers at its core.

Once referred to the service, people will be connected with non-clinical support including peer workers who will work with them and equip them with the tools and skills to manage their distress over a two-to-three week period.

*Continued page 2.*



[printads@leader.net.au](mailto:printads@leader.net.au)



# Dads celebrated at Numurkah Primary School

ON Friday morning, Numurkah Primary School hosted its annual Father's Day Breakfast. The event welcomed dads, carers, and family members to enjoy a simple but well-loved breakfast of bacon and egg sandwiches, with tea and coffee available.

The school courtyard was busy early, with students excited to share the morning with their dads. Staff cooked and served breakfast, creating a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Grade 5/6 teacher Rob Smith said it was a great morning for the dads.

"It's a good way to celebrate, and it's great to see new faces, as well as those who've been coming along for years," he said.

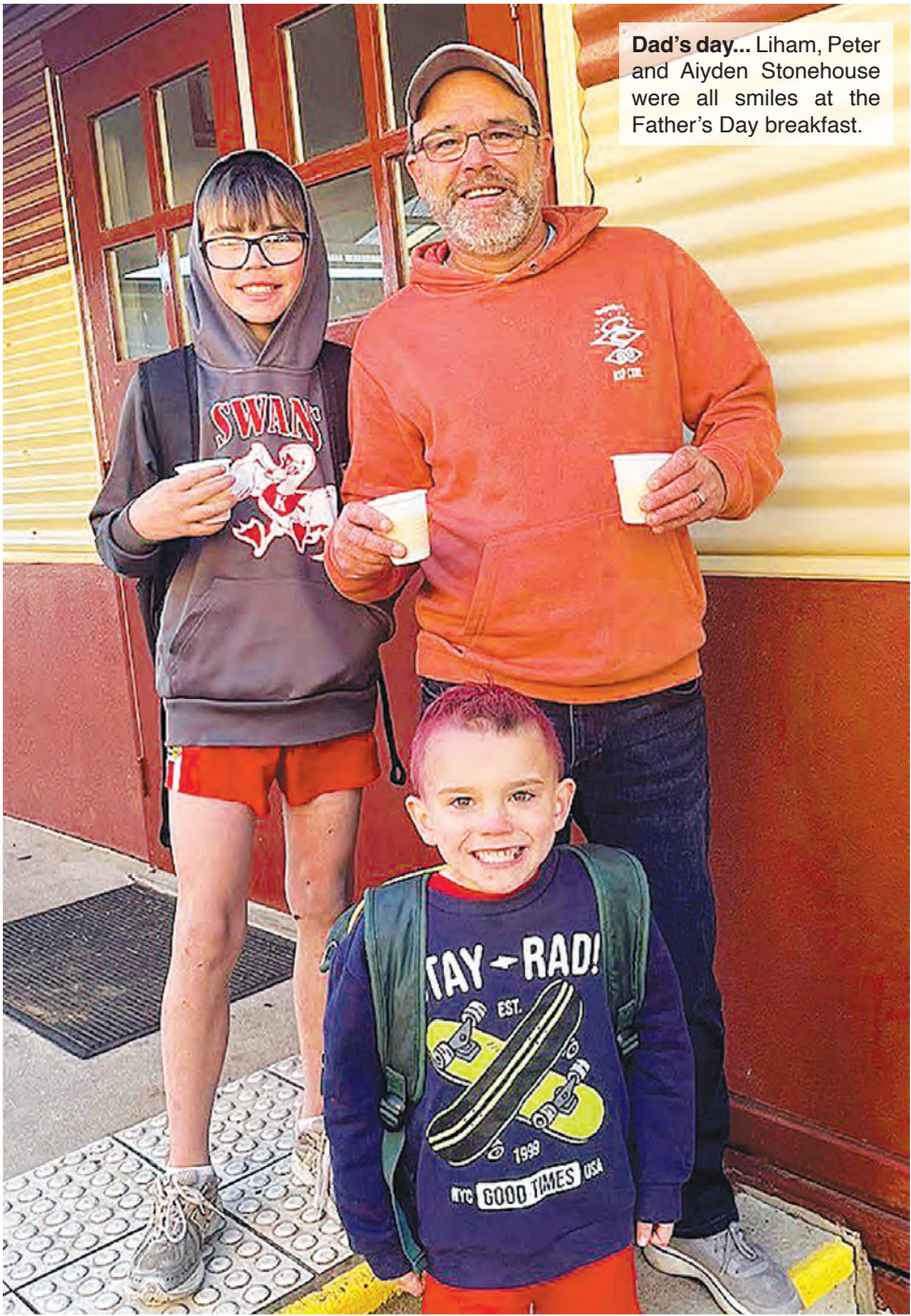
The school would like to thank everyone who attended and helped out on the day. It was a great way to bring the school community together and recognise the important role dads and carers play in students' lives.



A happy handful... Jamie Lourens attended the Father's Day breakfast with daughters Ella, Mikala, Sieanna and Indy.



Boys day out... Jack, Chris and Max Opie were pleased to spend a bit of extra time together in honour of Father's Day.



Dad's day... Liham, Peter and Aiyden Stonehouse were all smiles at the Father's Day breakfast.



Supportive dad... Kevin Cavallaro was happy to get an early start on Father's Day celebrations with daughter Sophia.



Thanks dad... Ashley, Rhys and Harmony Dowell had a great time at the Father's day breakfast.



Dedicated dad... Kaiden, Josh, Oliver, Harper and Bonnie Tetley never miss the Father's Day breakfast if they can help it.





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# Community Update

## Message from the Administrators

August proved to be another busy month for community events. It was wonderful to be part of the official opening of Cobram’s off-leash enclosed dog park, and later in the month we joined with Victoria Police to host the third Local Safety Forum in Nathalia. The final forum will be in Yarrawonga in November and we encourage people to register to attend or ask a question at the Forum via Moira Matters.

Later this month, we will celebrate and acknowledge young people across the Shire as part of Youth Fest 2025. The event in Cobram’s Federation Park has been designed by the Moira Youth Council in line with young people’s interests and we encourage people to support the event on Sunday 21 September. Youth Fest 2025 follows two youth music workshops in Yarrawonga earlier this year, with a skate event to follow in Numurkah in October.

It has also been a busy period of planning and preparing several future-focussed strategies across various areas of interest to the community. This includes a draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, which outlines how Council will support measures across the region, in partnership with other organisations, to enhance community wellbeing. Also released for consultation is a draft masterplan for the future of the Yarrawonga Aerodrome which outlines a 10-year strategic vision for the facility. We are also seeking feedback on future governance options for the aerodrome.

Following extensive community feedback over the past year, we have also developed a new draft Domestic Animal Management Plan and a draft Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan, both out for consultation this month. Council remains committed to improving road safety in Moira Shire, with the strategy outlining targeted infrastructure improvements and education through a set of actions and

options. Our Domestic Animal Management Plan identifies new initiatives to support responsible pet ownership, including management of nuisance animals, pet desexing options, and developing partnerships with adoption groups.

As our region continues to grow, it’s important we have the right support structures in place to help manage this sustainably. We have developed a Draft Numurkah, Katunga and Strathmerton Growth Corridor Plan, as well as a draft Cobram East Catchment Stormwater Management Strategy and a draft Cobram South Growth Area Drainage Strategy.

We encourage people to have their say on these strategies via our Moira Matters website as they open throughout September.

Community feedback is essential to ensure these documents – and others available this month – reflect a broad range of perspectives. We encourage everyone to have their say.

We look forward to keeping you informed.



Dr Graeme Emonson PSM  
Chair Administrator



Susan Benedyka  
Administrator

PHONE  
5871 9222

NRS  
133 677

EMAIL  
info@moira.vic.gov.au

MAIL  
PO Box 578  
Cobram VIC 3643

CUSTOMER SERVICE  
CENTRES  
44 Station Street,  
Cobram

100 Belmore Street,  
Yarrawonga

## Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund

Property owners across Victoria will see a new line item on their council rates notice: the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF).

This levy, introduced by the Victorian Government, replaces the former Fire Services Property Levy.

Councils are required to collect the ESVF on the State Government’s behalf, and it will appear on ratepayers’ notices from the 2025–26 financial year.

It’s important to note that while this levy will be collected by Council, we remind our community that this is not Council revenue - all funds are forwarded directly to State Government to support emergency services.

For more information on the ESVF, please visit [sro.vic.gov.au/esvf](http://sro.vic.gov.au/esvf) or call 1300 819 033.

## Healthy Future Starts Here

Moir Shire Council has released the **Draft Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025–2029** and is seeking community feedback.

The plan sets out priorities for creating a healthier, safer and more connected community.

Read the draft plan and complete the survey by **Thursday 18 September 2025** on the Moira Matters website.

## Domestic Animal Plan Review

Moir Shire Council invites feedback on the **Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025–2029**. The plan outlines how dogs and cats are managed in our community.

Public consultation is open until **Monday 22 September 2025**.

Visit [moiramatters.com.au](http://moiramatters.com.au) or call (03) 5871 9222 for more information.

## Australia Day Awards 2026

Nominations are now open to celebrate the outstanding people and groups who make our Moira Shire community exceptional.

These awards provide an opportunity to recognise the everyday heroes who contribute to our community. For more information and to nominate, visit our website. Nominations close **Friday 21 November 2025**.

## Youth Fest 2025 is coming!

Join young people across Moira Shire for an epic day of live music, art workshops, food trucks, and fun at Federation Park, Cobram on **Sunday 21 September** from 11am to 4pm

Developed by our Youth Council and supported by the Victorian Government’s Amplify program, this free event celebrates the energy and creativity of our 12-24 year old community.

Bring your friends and be part of something special!

Scan to  
visit Moira  
Matters



Scan to  
visit website





# Katamatite Primary goes big for inaugural fête

KATAMATITE Primary School is holding its inaugural fête this Saturday, and they've gone out of their way to make sure it's an absolute cracker.

School Parents and Friends (P&F) group president Jacquie Monk told the *Leader* the event, which is a collaboration between the P&F and school principal Jason Whitely, has been 18 months in the making.

"We wanted to do it like a real, traditional, old-style country fair, and we really wanted to get it right, so we've taken our time," Jacquie said.

With only 35 students, Katamatite Primary's school community is a small one, so they've enlisted the broader Katamatite community to help.

"We've got very dedicated families at the school, and they've been wonderful with donating their time and skills - one dad is an artist so he's volunteered to create caricatures on the day, and another dad made the dunk tank for us - but, as such a tiny school we still needed outside help," Jacquie said.

"The Katamatite community is wonderful and they've really stepped up.

"The local emergency services will be there all day with their vehicles showing people how everything works, we've got a former school family bringing their Clydesdale horses, and a lot of community members have volunteered to bake things for the cake stall.

"It's going to have a real community feel, and we're really proud of that."

Each grade at the school will be operating a side show alley style game, students have painted portraits, which will be available for purchase on the day, for an art exhibition, there will be a jumping castle, dunk tank, petting zoo, plant stall, market stalls, face painting, plaster painting, caricatures and live music throughout the day courtesy of Numurkah Ukulele Group, Numurkah Town Band and the school choir.

"We wanted to create a festival atmosphere, and its really shaping up to be just that," Jacquie said.

"We're really excited."

Proceeds from the fête will go towards creating an outdoor learning area at the school.



Artists in residence... Back (from left): students Sam Ryan, Emmett Smith, Anika Vandermeer, Violet Galland, and (front) Charlotte Powles, Wattle Patric and Emma Thomas proudly display the portraits they have created for exhibition and sale at Katamatite Primary School's inaugural fete.

Soroptomist International of Cobram Barooga  
supported by Moira Shire Council &  
NCN Health invites you to

## WOMEN'S GYNAECOLOGICAL HEALTH BRUNCH

Enjoy a delicious brunch with a light-hearted approach to  
women's Gynaecological Health issues

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

Kath Mazzella OAM & cancer survivor  
Anna Bruton Physiotherapist  
NCN staff

DATE: SUNDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER  
TIME: 10AM FOR 10:30 START  
PLACE: BAROOGA SPORTIES, BURKINSHAW ST  
PER PERSON: \$35.00

All proceeds go to Gynaecological Health research  
Bookings: [www.trybooking.com/DDYDP](http://www.trybooking.com/DDYDP)  
Or contact Jenny 0427 320 388  
Or Kay 0427 735 273





## Australia Day Awards 2026

### Nominations now open

**Award Categories**

- Citizen of the Year
- Junior Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the Year
- Community Organisation of the Year
- Arts, Culture and/or Environment Project of the Year.

**Nominations close Friday 21 November 2025**

To find out more or to submit a nomination please visit  
[www.moira.vic.gov.au](http://www.moira.vic.gov.au)

Nominations must be submitted via the smarty grants portal.





KATAMATITE  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL

11AM  
CLYDESDALE  
DISPLAY

11AM  
SCHOOL CHOIR  
PERFORMANCE

LIVE  
MUSIC  
BRASS BAND  
& UKELELE  
GROUP

FETE

14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025 | 10AM - 2PM

JUMPING CASTLE | FACE PAINTING | PETTING ZOO  
SHOWBAGS | CLASS SIDESHOW | MARKET STALLS  
CHARACTURES BY ARTIST JOHN SMITH | CAKE STALL  
BBQ | PLASTER PAINTING | DUNK TANK | GIANT  
PLANT STALL | LOCAL EMERGENCY SERVICES  
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# Numurkah says Happy Father's Day

NUMURKAH has proven once again that it's a community dedicated to sticking together and celebrating the simple, but important, things.

On Sunday, Numurkah's dads were made to feel extra special with a free community Father's Day barbecue. The event was a joint effort. It was organised by Cherish Brews & Bites owner Abi Sharma, outside whose cafe the event was held, members of the Rotary Club of Numurkah, staff from Numurkah Home Timber & Hardware and NAB, and volunteers from Show Us Ya Wheels manned the grill, and the meat was provided by Meat on Melville.

One family who took advantage of the initiative was the Willmott family - dad Jesse, mum Billie, and kids Sasha and Seth.

"We're out for Father's Day breakfast with the best dad ever!" Sasha said.

"We hope our dad has the best Father's Day," Seth said.



Happy Dad's Day... Proud dad Jess Willmott was out for breakfast with wife Billie and kids Sasha and Seth.



Thanks heaps... Stephen Visser gets a free Father's Day feed (from left) NAB Numurkah manager Megan Richardson, and Rotary members John Watson, Pam Smith and Russell Smith.

THIRSTY THURSDAYS

Pot & Parmi

\$22

Traditional Chicken Parma, chips & salad with a Pot

## THIS WEEK'S HOTEL SPECIALS

TELEGRAPH  
Hotel

Specials Menu

Eat in or Take-away

Mains

Slow Cooked Beef Curry \$28.00  
Chicken, Leek & Zucchini Pie \$27.00  
350g T-Bone Steak & Vegetables \$35.00  
Lamb Ragu Pasta \$28.00

Dessert

Cinnamon Churros with Ice-cream \$10.00

Thurs Sept 11 - Wed Sept 17

Melville Street, Numurkah Ph. 5862 1051



# Reading on parade at St Joe's

ST JOSEPH'S Primary School celebrated the joy of reading last week with the most colourful day on the school calendar - the annual book week parade.

Students and staff alike got into the spirit of the event, donning some magnificent and imaginative costumes depicting their favourite story characters, and paraded them proudly on a magnificent sunny day.

The theme for this year's Book Week was "Book an Adventure!" and there were certainly plenty of adventurous characters parading through St Joe's courtyard last Thursday. Whether store bought or home made, the thought that had gone into costumes, and the fun that was being had wearing them, was evident.

The parade capped off a week of activities with the aim of celebrating books and promoting reading for fun.



Hi ho, hi ho, it's off to work we go... Back (from left): Staff members Karlene Bethell, Jordyn Sutton, Trevor Mills, Adam Stirton, Dom Izzard, and (front) Jody Tilley, Caitlin Pendlebury and Same Carnie portrayed Snow White and the Seven Dwarves as they've never been seen before.



Classic villain... Tess McCracken made an excellent Ursula the sea witch from Hans Christian Andersen's fairytale classic The Little Mermaid.



Defenders of the forest... (Back) from left: Sophia McPherson, Hazel Alston, Phoebe Keane, and (front) Charlotte McPherson, Mavis Keane and Everly Smyth had a ball bringing Dr Suess' beloved The Lorax to life.



A couple of friendly spuds... St Joe's staff members Gayle Watters (left) and Donna Murfett brought Mr and Mrs Potatohead to life for book week.



# Angela is a three minute wonder

LOCAL Mundoona resident Angela Joy, who is undertaking a PhD remotely through the University of Newcastle, has taken out the University's Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition as part of its recent Higher Degree by Research (HDR) Fest event.

They say that, on average, it would take nine hours to present an 80,000 word thesis to an audience. Competitors in the 3MT competition have just three minutes. The winners were selected for their stellar communication showing off their research or bringing their thesis to life with captivating visuals.

Angela, who works as a teacher in the deaf facility at Shepparton's Guthrie Street Primary School, won the 3MT final, receiving \$5,000 towards research expenses. In three minutes, with only one slide, she delivered an engaging presentation about her investigation into how deaf role models influence the development and quality of life of deaf children born into hearing families.

"More than 90% of deaf children are born into hearing families, and my research, which takes the theoretical position of deafness being a social, linguistic and cultural identity rather than a disability, focusses on the influence deaf role models have on deaf children with hearing family members between the identification of deafness, which usually happens in infancy, and starting school," Angela said.

Angela told the *Leader* that she used the competition's guidelines to pare her research down to a three minute presentation.

"The guidelines talked about presenting it as telling a story, and how to word things in a way that your research could be understood by a lay-person, so that's what I did," she said.

"You are only allowed to use one visual with your presentation, it's not a slide show, and the feedback



Three minute wonder... Angela Joy presenting in the 3MTcompetition.

I got from the judges was that I interacted well with my image as part of my presentation, rather than just having it as a picture behind me."

Each school of the university was represented in the competition.

"There was a really wide range of topics, and they were all so interesting," Angela said.

"I'm honoured to have won among such a high

calibre of competitors."

Angela, who has published a number of peer-reviewed papers on her research topic, is currently about half way through her thesis, and plans to use the prize money on a trip to continue her research.

"The prize money will either get me to New Zealand to investigate a deaf role model pro-

gram, and hopefully bring back a whole lot of best practice ideas for Australia, or to a conference on family-centred early intervention for deaf children, to be held in Austria next year, where I can present my research," she said.

Angela will represent the University at the Asia-Pacific 3MT competition semi-final hosted by the University of Queensland.

## New industry codes seek to take on AI chatbots

AUSTRALIA'S eSafety Commissioner has registered new industry-drafted codes which aim to better protect children from a range of harmful and age-inappropriate content, including the clear and present danger posed by mostly unregulated AI-driven companion chatbots.

Many of these chatbots are capable of engaging in sexually explicit conversations with minors, and have been alleged to also encourage suicidal ideation, self-harm and disordered eating.

The six codes apply to a broad range of online services and platforms — including app stores, gaming services, pornography websites, generative AI services and AI companion chatbots, equipment manufacturers and suppliers.

They also apply to social media services, with one code covering 'core' features such as posting content on the service and another covering their messaging features.

Developed by industry, these new codes represent a significant lift of the industry's responsibilities under Australia's Online Safety Act. The registration of these six codes follows the Commissioner's earlier registration of three codes applying to search engines, hosting services, and internet service providers in June.

As laid out in the Act, for the Commissioner to register industry codes, she must be satisfied that each one creates "appropriate community safeguards".

These new Codes adopt some key good practice measures already being implemented by major platforms and uplift safety protections, by introducing new obligations that will require more sectors of the online industry to promote children's online safety.

The Head Terms of the Codes also enshrine principles which will sit alongside the safety measures for every layer of the technology stack, like the importance of protecting human rights online; the right to freedom of expression; and the requirement for all services to comply with Australian privacy laws.

eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant said that, together, the nine codes would protect children from exposure to a range of "lawful but awful," age-inappropriate content that has been occurring at increasingly young ages and would tackle the growing number of mostly unregulated AI chatbots.

"We've been concerned about these chatbots for a while now and have heard anecdotal reports of children — some as young as 10 years of age — spending up to five hours per day conversing, at times sexually, with AI companions," Ms Inman Grant said.

"We know there has been a recent proliferation of these apps online and that many of them are free, accessible to children, and advertised on mainstream services, so it's important these codes include measures to protect children from them.

"As with other forms of online pornography, there is a danger that excessive, sexualised engagement with AI companions could interfere with children's social and emotional development, setting up misguided or harmful beliefs and patterns that are damaging to individuals or relationships in real life.

"We've also seen recent reports of where AI chatbots have allegedly encouraged suicidal ideation and self-harm in conversations with kids with tragic consequences.

"I do not want Australian children and young people serving as casualties of powerful technologies thrust onto the market without guardrails and without regard for their safety and wellbeing."

Ms Inman Grant said the registering of the codes is a best practice example of how industry and the online safety regulator can work together to produce meaningful and enforceable industry codes that provide world-leading protections for children online.

"This shows how a co-regulatory approach can be successful and deliver meaningful safe-

ty protections. The industry associations have developed these codes and my office will be responsible for enforcing them to protect children from accidental exposure to content they are not cognitively ready to process and certainly cannot "unsee."

"We know this is already happening to kids from our own research, with one in three young people telling us that their first encounter with pornography was before the age of 13 and this exposure was 'frequent, accidental, unavoidable and unwelcome' with many describing this exposure as being disturbing and 'in your face'.

"We know that a high proportion of this accidental exposure happens through search engines, but other services such as app stores play an important role as 'gatekeepers' online, too, with parents often relying on the age ratings of apps to understand if they are suitable for their children.

"Under these new codes, app stores will have to make sure that apps are appropriately rated and that there are appropriate age assurance measures before permitting users to download or purchase apps rated as 18+.

"These codes enshrine good practice measures already in use by many major services, but importantly, they lift the bar for the entire online industry.

"By legislative design, these Codes are drafted by industry, for industry, to standardise and uplift their safety practices, so the public can be confident they represent what the technology industry itself considers to be proportionate and feasible measures to enhance online safety, especially for children.

Under the codes, pornography sites and other services whose purpose includes distributing pornography or other high-impact content will be required to implement appropriate age assurance technologies to prevent children from accessing harmful material.

The codes will provide complementary pro-

tections to the social media minimum age obligation, which will apply only to age-restricted social media platforms when it takes effect in December.

"While the codes will provide stronger protections and safer online spaces for children, they also require services to give all Australians information, tools, and options to limit their exposure to this sort of content," Ms Inman Grant said.

"And importantly, the codes contain privacy protections such as requiring providers not to use or disclose personal information of an Australian in a way that would be in breach of privacy law.

"And so, in determining appropriate age assurance measures to take under any code, services are also required to consider if those measures are compliant with privacy laws and whether the impact on user privacy is proportionate to the safety objectives."

The codes were developed through industry-led public consultation and extensive engagement between industry and eSafety following eSafety's July 2024 directive for the online industry to develop stronger protections for children.

These new codes will complement existing codes and standards already in force tackling the worst-of-the-worst online content including child sexual exploitation and abuse material as well as pro-terror content.

The codes and standards are legally enforceable and breach of a direction to comply may result in civil penalties of up to \$49.5 million.

On August 27, the Senate referred the implementation of the search engine code, as well as the forthcoming social media minimum age, to the Environment and Communications References Committee for inquiry and report by 31 October 2025.

eSafety looks forward to making a submission to help the Committee and the public understand these measures.



# Students sleep out for homelessness

ON the last Friday of winter, August 29, a group of brave Year 6 students from St Joseph's Primary School Numurkah slept "rough" as part of the Vinnies Winter Sleepout. For these courageous students the aim was to raise awareness and money for those in our community that don't have a safe and secure place to sleep. The challenge was simple: give up one night in a warm, comfortable bed and sleep on the cold floor of the school's Mary MacKillop centre, in the realisation that to sleep in the Mary MacKillop Centre was a luxury compared

to some of the places individuals have to sleep at night. Over the night students came together to learn about homelessness, hear stories of those that sleep rough and celebrate the work of dedicated volunteers. These volunteers use the money raised through nights like this to help feed, house and look after the most vulnerable in our community. In the end, the students raised \$2,757 and hopefully have a new found appreciation for all they have in their own lives, in particular their beds.

**School of hard knocks...** Year six students and staff got a small taste of how tough life without a safe place to sleep can be when they slept "rough" for Vinnies Winter Sleepout.



# Soroptimists raise awareness of rare but deadly cancer

THE Soroptimist International Club of Cobram Barooga Club is holding an event this month to raise awareness of a rare but deadly women's cancer - Vulvar cancer. The club's Women's Gynaecological Health Brunch, to be held at Barooga Sporties on Sunday, September 21, will take a light-hearted approach to the serious issue, with guest speakers Kath Mozzella OAM, a cancer survivor, physiotherapist Anna Bruton, and NCN Health staff. Soroptimist International Club of Cobram Ba-

rooga Club member Ros Rankin told the Leader that, despite the serious subject matter, the event promised to be fun. "Kath Mozzella is a very engaging and amusing speaker, so it's a great way to get this important subject out there," she said. "Anybody expecting it to be all doom and gloom will be pleasantly surprised." Vulvar cancer is a rare cancer of the external female genitals, most commonly starting as a squamous cell carcinoma. Symptoms include a

persistent lump, itching, skin changes, abnormal bleeding, or pain. Risk factors include HPV infection and chronic skin conditions. Treatment, which can include surgery, radiotherapy, or chemotherapy, has high survival rates, especially for early-stage cancers. Soroptimist International (SI), founded in 1921, is a global volunteer service for women with almost 66,000 members in 118 countries worldwide. Soroptimist International also offers associate membership and E-Clubs.

Soroptimist International has special consultative status at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at the United Nations, which gives it a voice on important discussion papers. It also allows them to attend the Commission of the Status of Women in New York each year where the Soroptimist International President leads a delegation. To book a seat at the brunch visit trybooking.com/DDYDP or call Jenny on 0427 320 388, or Kay on 0427 735 273.







# NumurkahLEADER Classifieds



PUBLIC NOTICES



**Volunteers Wanted – Numurkah Community Learning Centre**  
Numurkah Community Learning Centre is seeking volunteers to assist at Murray Avenue Community House, the Visitor Information Centre and the Craft Shop.

We are an approved Centrelink Voluntary Work Provider for people over 55, and welcome community members who would like to contribute their time, meet new people and be part of a supportive environment.

For further information, please contact Numurkah Community Learning Centre.

58622249 or [manager@nclcinc.vic.edu.au](mailto:manager@nclcinc.vic.edu.au)

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Friends of Karinya Father's Day Raffle winners**

Moya Reid  
Joan Wickham  
Mark Ashcroft

Thank you everyone for your support.

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SITUATIONS VACANT

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

**Want to join the team that knows about our community?**

Numurkah Leader is looking for a Sales Representative.

Permanent part time or negotiate a commission. Flexible hours around a Tuesday preprint deadline.

The work involves selling advertising, engaging with the community, assisting customers at the counter and over the phone, proof reading.

Promote and plan business promotion campaigns for various sized businesses.

Sales campaigns for festive times and special occasion marketing.

- Be energetic and enthusiastic
  - A self motivated team player
  - Basic computer skills
  - Working With Children's Check
  - Drivers licence
- Be part of a small team in a busy office, working closely with the Graphic Designer, Administration Officer and the Editor.
- Interested applicants should apply to:  
Dominique Cosgriff  
Manager/Editor  
Numurkah Leader  
88 Melville Street, Numurkah, 3636  
[Email.editor@leader.net.au](mailto:Email.editor@leader.net.au)  
Phone 5862 1034 or 0437 849 280

**NumurkahLEADER**

DEATHS

**ADAMS**  
William John "John"  
23.11.1941 - 6.9.2025  
Peacefully at Maculatta Place Shepparton surrounded by his loving family.  
Formally of Katunga and Numurkah.

Loving husband of Lois (dec.).  
Loving father and father-in-law of Jennifer and Darren, Russell and Jodie, Vaughan and Michelle.  
Adored Pop of Aiden, Olivia, Emily, Casey, Presley, Brodie and Tara.

*~Forever Remembered~*

**JORGENSEN**  
Gavin Talbot  
Of Waaia

Peacefully departed this life at Numurkah Pioneer Memorial Lodge to be reunited with his beloved Joanie on August 31, 2025, aged 96 years 9 months

Dearly loved father & father-in-law of Michael & Dianne, Chris & Gill, Glen & Vicki, Paul & Virginia. Cherished Pa and Great Pa to their families.

*We hold you in our hearts forever  
Good, better best,  
Pa, you have earned your eternal rest  
XXXXXXX*

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DEATHS

**SCHIER, Neil Andrew**  
30.03.1964 ~ 08.09.2025  
Aged 61 years

Late of Clifton Springs, formerly of Barmah East.  
Passed away peacefully after a short illness at Anam Cara House, Geelong, surrounded by his loving family.

Adored soul mate and best friend of Fiona, dearly loved father of Stefany (Bowes) and Jomar, Mate of son-in-law Dave, Best Poppie and hero to Levi and Layla.

My kind and gentle best friend,  
Words cannot say how much I am going to miss you,  
I will cherish every precious day we shared together,  
Love you so much – Fiona.

It's hard to believe you have left us so soon,  
You were our strength, our guide and greatest comfort,  
Your memory will live on in every story we share,  
Dave, Levi, Layla and I will carry your love with us always.  
Miss you beyond words and loved beyond measure.  
Love you so much Wad – Stefany.

Dad served as a loving husband and was a lead example for us kids, shaping our understanding of a father.  
Ruby the beagle and I will miss you – Jomar.

Our greatest gift,  
To have a husband, Dad and Poppie  
As wonderful as you,  
Your heart was so kind,  
You did so many things for us, and others.  
When we needed someone, we could always count on you.  
You will guide our thoughts and actions forever.

**SCHIER- Neil**  
Passed away 8th September.

Much loved Brother-in-law of Andrew and Barbara.  
Loved Uncle of Malinda, Nicole, Kelly and Jackie and families.

*Many happy memories.*

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FUNERAL NOTICES

**ADAMS**  
A service to celebrate the life of Mr. John Adams will be held at St. Georges, Anglican Church, Melville Street, Numurkah on FRIDAY, September, 12 2025, commencing at 1.00pm. Followed by interment at The Numurkah Lawn Cemetery.



**JORGENSEN —**  
A Service to celebrate the life of Mr. Gavin Talbot Jorgensen will be held at the Waaia Recreation Reserve, Cowan St., Waaia on Friday September 12, 2025, commencing at 11.30 a.m. followed by a Private Cremation.

CFA Members and Personnel and Masonic Brethren are respectfully invited to attend.

Family and Friends who are unable to attend are welcome to view Gavin's Service on this link <https://petercoxfunerals.com.au/live-streaming/>



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FUNERAL NOTICES

**SCHIER —** The Funeral for Mr. Neil Andrew Schier will be arriving at the Nathalia Lawn Cemetery, C e m e t e r y Road, Nathalia on MONDAY S e p t e m b e r 15, 2025, for a Graveside Service to celebrate his life commencing at 11 am.

In honour of Neil, family respectfully asks that a touch of Richmond (Black & Yellow) and/or Picola United (Blue and White) colours to be worn.

Family and Friends who are unable to attend are welcome to view Neil's Service on this link <https://petercoxfunerals.com.au/live-streaming/>



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FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD 2025

This scoreboard includes all information available at time of printing.

MFLPFL

SEMI FINALS	PRELIMINARY FINALS
<div>SENIORS</div> <div>Moama.....0.1, 3.3, 7.4, 10.8 (68)</div> <div>Cobram.....4.4, 6.9, 9.13, 11.13 (79)</div> <div>GOALS, Moama: J. Warren 3, K. Stovell 2, M. Lake 2, J. Harland 1, J. Whitehead 1, Z. Stovell 1.</div> <div>Cobram: B. Ryan 3, D. Pridham-Mc McCormack 2, B. Roberts 1, H. Hardwidge 1, T. Baden 1, J. Trengove 1, L. Roberts 1, F. Pinnuck 1.</div> <div>BEST, Moama: T. Thoolen, N. Osborne, J. Warren, T. Gray, M. Lake, L. Barrett.</div> <div>Cobram: L. Allen, M. Allen, J. Trengove, B. Roberts, T. Baden, D. Pridham-Mc McCormack.</div> <div>Congupna.....5.2, 11.7, 13.11, 15.16 (106)</div> <div>Mulwala.....1.2, 3.4, 3.5, 6.9 (45)</div> <div>GOALS, Congupna: K. Mueller 5, D. Schaper 3, J. Trewin 2, B. Squire 1, S. Poole 1, C. Mellington 1, J. Boyer 1, R. Damianopoulos 1.</div> <div>Mulwala: C. McKenna 2, V. Kreeck 1, O. Conway 1, B. Seymour 1, N. McNair 1.</div> <div>BEST, Congupna: D. Schaper, R. Damianopoulos, T. McCluskey, T. Mifka, S. Slavich, K. Mueller.</div> <div>Mulwala: V. Kreeck, B. Seymour, L. Rouel, L. Taylor, M. Hemphill, O. Elliott.</div>	<div>SENIORS</div> <div>Waaia.....1.5, 5.7, 5.12, 8.16 (64)</div> <div>Katandra.....3.3, 5.6, 5.7, 7.8 (50)</div> <div>GOALS, Waaia: Charlie Burrows 3, Callum Leighton Daly 1, Connor Brown 1, Harvey Walker 1, Jayden Clarke 1, James Carpenter 1.</div> <div>Katandra: Bailey Bell 3, Mitchell McGrath 1, Fletcher Paul 1, Joel Costa 1, Henry Wedding 1.</div> <div>BEST, Waaia: Callum Leighton Daly, Harvey Walker, Mitchell Cleeland, Austin Tricarico, Mark Bergamin, Shaun Greenway.</div> <div>Katandra: Jarrad Newman, Corey Percy, Harry Smith, Mitchell McGrath, Corey Hickford, Joel Costa.</div> <div>Katamatite.....1.2, 7.7, 9.11, 14.14 (98)</div> <div>Deni Rovers.....2.5, 3.5, 4.5, 4.5 (29)</div> <div>GOALS, Not Supplied.</div> <div>BEST, Not Supplied.</div>
<div>RESERVES</div> <div>Moama.....3.2, 3.7, 5.7, 5.11 (41)</div> <div>Congupna.....1.0, 3.0, 5.2, 8.2 (50)</div> <div>GOALS, Moama: J. Smith 4, J. Kilmartin 1.</div> <div>Congupna: D. Campbell 5, B. Gee 2, L. McMahon 1.</div> <div>BEST, Moama: J. Lia, A. Evans, K. Phipps, C. Wood, J. Smith, S. Hooppell.</div> <div>Congupna: L. McMahon, C. Di Bella, S. Drummond, K. Donovan, S. Gillespie, P. Hall.</div> <div>Cobram.....3.2, 6.3, 6.5, 6.7 (43)</div> <div>Numurkah.....1.0, 2.1, 2.2, 2.4 (16)</div> <div>GOALS, Cobram: D. Ellis 2, R. Verhoeven 2, S. Conheady 1, D. Clarke 1.</div> <div>Numurkah: D. Ebborn 1, M. John 1.</div> <div>BEST, Cobram: J. Jenkins, L. Hyde, L. Adams, D. Clarke, R. Mele, R. Verhoeven.</div> <div>Numurkah: M. Price, T. Grinter, R. Sanders, J. Church, H. McLeod - Moylan, A. Commadeur.</div>	<div>RESERVES</div> <div>Tungamah.....3.3, 6.5, 11.6, 15.10 (100)</div> <div>Katandra.....1.2, 1.2, 1.2, 2.2 (14)</div> <div>GOALS, Tungamah: Ashley Saunders 5, James Reilly 2, William Prescott 2, Tyler Greene 2, Travis Hayes 1, Tom Irvine 1, Matthew O'Kane 1, Josh Jones 1.</div> <div>Katandra: Finn Walters 1, Angus McCully 1.</div> <div>BEST, Tungamah: Benjamin Bell, Sam Kellock, Nick Gamble, Travis Hayes, Ashley Saunders.</div> <div>Katandra: Hayden Kruse, Raymond Ireland, Jaidyn Thorne, Nate Earl, Finn Walters, William Morrissey.</div> <div>Deni Rovers.....1.0, 1.2, 2.3, 7.7 (49)</div> <div>Waaia.....0.1, 0.2, 1.2, 1.2 (8)</div> <div>GOALS, Deni Rovers: Tristan Fitzsimmons 2, Tom Blake 2, Bailey Caruso 1, Jack Pekin 1, Logan Leiper 1.</div> <div>Waaia: Gregory Meyland 1.</div> <div>BEST, Deni Rovers: Kaiden Joss, Logan Leiper, Ben McCalman, Dylan Mills, Jordyn McCulloch, John Allitt.</div> <div>Waaia: Harry Hogan, Aiden Bryant, Steven Hixon, Hayden Hixon, Damian Hommes, Gregory Meyland.</div>
<div>UNDER 17s</div> <div>Strathmerton.....3.3, 4.3, 6.6, 9.7 (61)</div> <div>Tocumwal.....0.0, 3.2, 5.4, 9.6 (60)</div> <div>GOALS, Strathmerton: Jayden Edgar 5, Ethan Bovalina 2, Kyren Dawson 1, Ryder Duhring 1.</div> <div>Tocumwal: Liam Sutton 5, Heath Mansell 2, Pheonix Valente 1, Declan Cameron 1.</div> <div>BEST, Strathmerton: Jai Stephens, Tom Walker, Harry Ryan, Jayden Edgar, Ethan Bovalina, Robert Patmore.</div> <div>Tocumwal: Liam Sutton, Hunter Groutsch, Chace Brunskill, Declan Palmer, Harrison Wilson, Archer Chellew.</div> <div>Tungamah.....4.4, 9.8, 12.13, 16.18 (114)</div> <div>Deni Rovers.....2.0, 2.0, 5.2, 5.2 (32)</div> <div>GOALS, Tungamah: Lenny Lonergan 6, Brae Grant 4, Zeppelin Bramich 2, Brody Krywyn 1, Archie Doyle 1, Luke O'Brien 1.</div> <div>Deni Rovers: Stuart Bengier 1, Xander Strong 1, Ethan Connolly 1, Max Watson 1, Spencer Cowley 1.</div> <div>BEST, Tungamah: Lenny Lonergan, Luke O'Brien, Xavier Chessells, Brae Grant, Brody Krywyn.</div> <div>Deni Rovers: Brody Wills, Ethan Connolly, Spencer Cowley, Ben Hayes, Dannon Leetham, Lincoln Meharry.</div>	<div>UNDER 17s</div> <div>Picola United.....3.3, 4.3, 7.4, 8.4 (52)</div> <div>Tungamah.....0.0, 1.1, 1.1, 2.2 (14)</div> <div>GOALS, Picola United: Beau Griffiths 5, Blair Watson 1, Alby Dolling 1, Reeve Sellarrs 1.</div> <div>Tungamah: Billy Krywyn 1, Tague Saunders 1.</div> <div>BEST, Picola United: Raudan Bray, Lachlan Nagle, Beau Griffiths, Reeve Sellarrs, Maxwell Holyman.</div> <div>Tungamah: Chasey Jarjoura, Tague Saunders, Noah Lawless, Ryder Kelly, Jack Browning, Jacob Morritt.</div> <div>Berrigan.....3.2, 4.3, 8.5, 9.6 (60)</div> <div>Deni Rovers.....0.0, 2.0, 2.0, 3.3 (21)</div> <div>GOALS, Berrigan: Jordan Swann 4, Hudson Ware 3, William Batten 1, Jace Willemsen 1.</div> <div>Deni Rovers: Callan Leiper 1, Gerard O'Donnell 1, Ryan Bulmer 1.</div> <div>BEST, Berrigan: Jordan Swann, Tully Ryan, Nicholas Arnold, Jack Phillips, Hudson Ware.</div> <div>Deni Rovers: Not Supplied.</div>
<div>UNDER 14s</div> <div>Cobram.....1.0, 2.5, 5.7, 10.7 (67)</div> <div>Deniliquin Rams.....0.0, 0.1, 1.2, 1.4 (10)</div> <div>GOALS, Cobram: S. DeVincentis 3, H. Biggs 2, D. Muckenthaler 2, L. Baron 1, A. Peters 1, H. Pierce 1.</div> <div>Deniliquin Rams: A. Strongman 1.</div> <div>BEST, Cobram: A. Peters, S. DeVincentis, D. Muckenthaler, V. Grasso, H. Hefi Hafizi, S. Pate.</div> <div>Deniliquin Rams: R. Szejtjman, L. Elphick, B. Hardman, A. Henderson, A. Strongman.</div> <div>Nathalia.....0.0, 1.1, 2.1, 4.1 (25)</div> <div>Moama.....0.9, 3.9, 4.12, 5.12 (42)</div> <div>GOALS, Nathalia: C. Russell 2, L. Barton 1, X. Murray 1.</div> <div>Moama: T. Palmer 2, X. Eldridge 1, J. Ainslie 1, A. Clyne 1.</div> <div>BEST, Nathalia: S. Caldwell, C. Russell, P. Sherer-Richards, L. Barton, C. McDonald, K. Rogers.</div> <div>Moama: C. Groves, A. Clyne, M. Johns, T. Dohnt, R. Strahan, T. Palmer.</div>	<div>UNDER 14s</div> <div>Picola United.....3.3, 4.3, 7.4, 8.4 (52)</div> <div>Tungamah.....0.0, 1.1, 1.1, 2.2 (14)</div> <div>GOALS, Picola United: Beau Griffiths 5, Blair Watson 1, Alby Dolling 1, Reeve Sellarrs 1.</div> <div>Tungamah: Billy Krywyn 1, Tague Saunders 1.</div> <div>BEST, Picola United: Raudan Bray, Lachlan Nagle, Beau Griffiths, Reeve Sellarrs, Maxwell Holyman.</div> <div>Tungamah: Chasey Jarjoura, Tague Saunders, Noah Lawless, Ryder Kelly, Jack Browning, Jacob Morritt.</div> <div>Berrigan.....3.2, 4.3, 8.5, 9.6 (60)</div> <div>Deni Rovers.....0.0, 2.0, 2.0, 3.3 (21)</div> <div>GOALS, Berrigan: Jordan Swann 4, Hudson Ware 3, William Batten 1, Jace Willemsen 1.</div> <div>Deni Rovers: Callan Leiper 1, Gerard O'Donnell 1, Ryan Bulmer 1.</div> <div>BEST, Berrigan: Jordan Swann, Tully Ryan, Nicholas Arnold, Jack Phillips, Hudson Ware.</div> <div>Deni Rovers: Not Supplied.</div>

SEMI FINALS	PRELIMINARY FINALS
<div>A GRADE</div> <div>Rumbalara 41 def Nathalia 35</div> <div>Mulwala 37 lt Tongala 41</div>	<div>A GRADE</div> <div>Deni Rovers 39 def Dookie United 26</div> <div>Katandra 40 def Katamatite 30</div>
<div>B GRADE</div> <div>Tongala 44 def Echuca United 33</div> <div>Moama 53 def Mulwala 33</div>	<div>B GRADE</div> <div>Tungamah 34 lt Deni Rovers 35</div> <div>Katunga 30 lt Tocumwal 36</div>
<div>C GRADE</div> <div>Tongala 64 def Congupna 34</div> <div>Mulwala 27 lt Echuca United 40</div>	<div>C GRADE</div> <div>Katunga 49 def Waaia 37</div> <div>Deni Rovers 25 def Dookie United 19</div>
<div>C RESERVE</div> <div>Tongala 63 def Rumbalara 40</div> <div>Cobram 35 lt Nathalia 48</div>	<div>C RESERVE</div> <div>Deni Rovers 20 lt Tungamah 32</div> <div>Waaia 25 def Picola United 22</div>
<div>17 &amp; UNDER</div> <div>Echuca United 41 lt Moama 47</div> <div>Deniliquin Rams 47 def Tongala 49</div>	<div>17 &amp; UNDER</div> <div>Deni Rovers 48 def Jerilderie 32</div> <div>Berrigan 35 def Waaia 33</div>
<div>15 &amp; UNDER</div> <div>Moama 37 def Cobram 24</div> <div>Rumbalara 37 def Tongala 21</div>	<div>15 &amp; UNDER</div> <div>Deni Rovers 30 def Tocumwal 21</div> <div>Tungamah 39 lt Jerilderie 42</div>
<div>13 &amp; UNDER</div> <div>Moama 33 def Mulwala 29</div> <div>Echuca United 22 lt Tongala 23</div>	<div>13 &amp; UNDER</div> <div>Tocumwal 14 lt Deni Rovers 19</div> <div>Tungamah 23 lt Blighty 27</div>

MFNL FINALS DRAW

FOOTBALL

SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER - NATHALIA

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

NETBALL

SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER - NATHALIA

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

PDFNL

FINALS DRAW

Grand Final

FOOTBALL

SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER - DENILIQVIN

2.05pm	Seniors	Waaia	v	Katamatite
12.15pm	Reserves	Katandra	v	Deni Rovers
10.25am	Under 17s	Strathmerton	v	Tungamah
9.30am	Under 14s	Picola United	v	Berrigan

NETBALL

SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER - DENILIQVIN

1:30pm	A Grade	Deni Rovers	v	Katandra
11:40am	B Grade	Deni Rovers	v	Tocumwal
1:30pm	C Grade	Katunga	v	Deni Rovers
11:40am	C Res	Tungamah	v	Waaia
10:10am	U17's	Deni Rovers	v	Berrigan
8:50am	U15's	Deni Rovers	v	Berrigan
10:10am	U13's	Deni Rovers	v	Blighty



# The trophy stays up north

*By From the Rough*  
ELEVEN Numurkah ladies headed to Yarrawonga/Mulwala on Wednesday to attempt to win the Broken Murray Challenge.  
Alas, the opposition was far too strong on their home course and the trophy remains north of the border until at least next autumn when the Yarra/Mulwala girls visit Numurkah.  
Numurkah winner on the day was one of our newer golfers, Meagan Collard. Meagan had the best score of 34 points and was delighted to win a \$35 voucher to spend at the Pro Shop. Runner up was Merren Carr, who won a \$25 voucher for her 33 points, with M'liss McCarty receiving a ball for her 32 points. Our only other winner on the day was Julie Hannaford, who won the nearest the pin on both the second and the seventh holes - good shots, as the greens are surrounded by bunkers.  
While these players were enjoying the challenge of a beautiful course other than their own, seven girls played the regular nine hole event at Numurkah. The winner this week was Bunty Gundry with 17 points to win two balls, from Lorraine Milner with 15 points who scored one ball. Helen Commadeur also won a ball down the line. Lorraine Milner added to her ball tally by winning the NTP on the seventh green.  
On Saturday, a very small but quality field presented to play a par round. On a beautiful sunny spring afternoon, both Helen Schmedge and Margot McGrath came in with great scores of plus three. Helen won on a countback to win the \$15. Margot received one ball, as did Robyn Hodgkin who was in third place with a score of plus one. These three ladies all played better than their handicaps, and, as a consequence, have reduced their handicaps further. Julie Hannaford, Margot McGrath and Robyn Hodgkin all won a ball for their shots to the fourth, seventh, and 18th greens respectively.  
Today and Saturday will both be stableford rounds. The greens and surrounds are rapidly improving after their annual renovation so the challenge again will be to stay on the fairway and out of the rough.



We'll try again next year... Numurkah's Bev McIntosh (left) congratulates Yarrawonga/Mulwala Captain Julie Kirchen on retaining the Border Murray Challenge Trophy.

## It was a positive par Saturday

*By Go Cats*  
NORMALLY, a par event is met with mixed emotions, as it not everyone's "cup of tea", especially when you factor in that our greens are on the improve after the recent coring. However, that certainly didn't stop 22 of the 47 Men who ventured out from recording square or better results on the day.  
Ricky Clark was out early and set the A Grade pace with +4, and this held all day to take the \$40 prize. Next best in A Grade was Garry "The Captain" Hosie, who shot a very fine +3 to add \$20 to his prize portal.  
Best score on the day, and \$40 better off, was B Grade winner Bernard "Chook" O'Hare, with an excellent +5. Tim McPherson is benefiting from some regular games and returned a very good round of +4 to take the B Grade runner-up prize of \$20 on a countback from Denis Prosser, four balls, and John "Citizen" Smith, three balls, for their +4 results.  
Michael "Mr Elegant" Deacon headed the +3 results scoring three balls on a countback from Darcy Edis, two balls, and Jack "Chainsaw" Hepworth, one ball. Zachary Dentler, John Simm, Robert Burge and Stuart "Gunner" Clark all scored a ball for +2, while Ronald "Baker Boy" Ameer headed the +1 results and scored the last ball.  
Fresh from a trip over to WA, Ron "Sono" Grandell picked up the NTP ball on the fourth,

while Shawn "Bozzie" Boswell was best on the seventh, with Mark "Yak" Hegarty scoring on the 15th and Robert Burge winning ball on the 18th.  
We have a special mention for the Mickey Mouse ears, which is a feature of Thursday golf, but doesn't always get a mention in the Saturday report.  
Firstly, "\$5" Phil Spencer takes someone in his cart most weekends, and, for the third time in six weeks, Phil has managed to leave his cart companion behind at some stage during the round. This week it was on the 16th tee, when he takes off to the where his drive has landed, only to look back and see that he has forgotten to bring his passenger with him, again!  
And the second set goes to Neil "Bugs" Hutchins, who tees off on seven and can't see where his ball went after heading through the trees. "Bugs" turns to one of his playing partners, Jack Dell, seeking an update on where the ball finished up. Jack replying, "it is nearly in the hole" had Neil feeling good, until Jack said "the only problem is your ball is back on the sixth green not the seventh."  
Looks like at least 20 eager souls are heading over to Royal Chiltern next Sunday, and I'm sure they will do Numurkah proud. Remember, please be at the club by no later than 7am, as the bus is leaving by 7.15am sharp!  
Next Saturday's event is stableford.  
Happy Hitting.

## PA leads the way

*By PG*  
HOLIDAY mode is proving a winner for Paul "PA" Arnel, as he put together a very impressive 41 points at Thursday's Bear challenge at Numurkah golf.  
Paul's score was the best of the day by a couple of points, which secured him the A Grade \$50 voucher, and maybe, looking at the numbers, a trip into the elite single figure handicappers group. Runner up to Paul with the day's next best score, 39 points, was the man dubbed as "Mr Consistent" last week, Martin Daniels. Marty's name has been appearing near the top of the chart for a lengthy period now with another \$25 being added to his bulging prize portal.  
The B Graders lowered their colours to the A's this week, with the best they could muster being 38 points by recently returned traveller Alan "The Methodist" Rogers. Al obviously benefited from the warmer weather during his journeys to return in top form. B Grade runner up on countback was the lucky player of the day, Hugh "Noo" Gunn. Hughy's 36 points was surpassed by a couple of A graders in Alan "Weasel" Dalton and Graeme "Doggie" Sprunt. These boys were relegated to the ball pool prizes, with Alan getting three balls, and Graeme two, for 38 and 37 points respectively.  
Four other players, Denis Prosser, Adam Farrell, Jack Hepworth and Brett Wildes, had 36 points, the same as Hugh, but unfortunately they only received a ball each.  
Thirty-five was also a common score, with Micheal Deacon, John Smith, Rick Orr, Bruce Collins and John Simm getting a ball each.

Next down the line were the 34's: Laurie Casey, visiting from Valley View Golf Club, Stuart Clark, Chris Brooks, Ronnie Smith and Peter Malins, with the last ball going to the lucky 33 pointer of the field Geoff Stone.  
Geoff "Parto" Partington's OBE ball this week was won by Hugh Gunn, and the tin of lollies by Doug McCarty who has returned from a stint of work and will no doubt be better for the run.  
Nearest the pins proved to be a Brett Wildes bonanza when he picked up the GMCU ball on the fourth hole but, more importantly, he conquered the Doggie Sprunt 15th hole six ball jackpot. Alan Rogers hit it closest for two shots on "Nifty" Neville Smith's second, Ronnie Smith collected dollars off the 52 players on the seventh, Doggie Sprunt salvaged a ball back on Roy and Dennis' 14th, and our Valley View visitor Laurie Casey took "The Coach" Bazza Pruden's ball back over the Goulburn river.  
Ears today were quickly awarded to a self confessing Rick Orr who, after an excursion into a tree short of the ladies tee on the long par five 16th, proceeded to whack his ball into a further three trees before finally passing the tee, leaving Rick with nothing to show for his effort on the hole apart from an attractive set of ears for presentations.  
The challenge is on again next Thursday, and with the greens rapidly recovering from their renovation and the fairways starting to show a fresh green tinge, there is plenty to look forward to; assembly is at 9.30am for a 10 o'clock start.

## Numurkah Small Bore Rifle Club results

THIS week's Numurkah Small Bore Rifle Club top scorers were Shane Keats with 198.6 in 20m Benchrest, Glen Miles with 193.6 in 50m Prone and Rod Hill with 194.7 in 20m Prone.  
20m Benchrest: S Keats 99.3 99.3 198.6; D

Cook 99.3 99.0 198.3; C Saxton 98.4 98.2 196.6; S Keats 99.4 97.1 196.5, G Braybon 90.1 95.1 185.2.  
50m Prone: G Miles 96.3 97.3 193.6; L Braybon 93.0 96.4 189.4.

20m Prone: R Hill 96.4 98.3 194.7; H O'Brien 95.3 97.5 192.8; M Kennedy 93.3 97.4 190.6; T Stewart 90.2 89.1 179.3.  
There will be shooting as usual Thursday night in Numurkah.



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# Purps A Graders go down to Rumba, but still in the game

IT was a big task for Nathalia's A Grade netballers on the weekend, taking on the undefeated Rumbalara in the second week of finals, with the winner earning a direct ticket to the grand final.

The Purples came out on fire in the first quarter, stunning Rumbalara with an electric start and piling on 11 goals to Rumba's six. Nathalia's defence was solid

as a rock, forcing turnovers and sending the ball straight back into attack, while the mid-court movement was controlled, quick and precise.

As the game went on, the intensity lifted and neither team let up. Some clever rotations brought fresh legs and helped rebuild momentum, keeping the contest alive right to the end.

In the final quarter, Rumbalara found another gear and finished strongly to claim the win 41 to 35, but it's left Nathalia hungry and determined. The focus now shifts to next week's preliminary final at home against Tongala, with everything to play for and a grand final rematch with Rumbalara on the line.

Nathalia 35 defeated by Rumbalara 41.

## Just one more win needed for Bombers' C Reserves

ON a warm spring day, Waaia's C Grade netballers stepped onto the court for their preliminary final against a strong Katunga side on Saturday.

The Bombers started with composure and consistency, applying relentless defensive pressure across the court that forced Katunga, who took a while to settle and find their rhythm, to retreat and pass backwards, giving the Bombers plenty of opportunities to capitalise.

By half time, Waaia's early lead had slipped away, and scores were locked in a tense battle. With a grand final spot on the line, Katunga worked hard in the third quarter, showing great patience and defensive pressure which saw the scoreline change, with the Swans taking the lead by five at the end of the third quarter. No matter how hard the Bombers pushed in the second half, Katunga slowly gained ground, inch by inch, as the Bombers ran out of momentum and legs.

Through everyone's hard work and contribution, Katunga held strong and pushed hard until the final whistle, and were rewarded with a 12-goal win.

Katunga 49 defeated Waaia 37.

It was a classic day of wet-weather netball when Waaia's C Reserve netballers faced off against Picola on Sunday. But once again, Waaia rose to the challenge, grinding out a hard-fought 25-22 win to earn their spot in the grand final.

Tearni played a vital role in defence, the steady cog that kept Waaia's wheels turning; her ability to read the play and shut down opportunities for Picola was a game-changer. Up the other end, Lex and Danielle dug deep when it mattered most, making the most of every turnover and converting them into crucial goals on the scoreboard.

The Bombers midcourt was exceptional in the slippery conditions, staying cool, calm, and collected under pressure, work-

ing hard to provide the link between ends and keeping Waaia's structure strong all game.

Waaia now take on Tungamah in next week's grand final.

Waaia 25 defeated Picola 22.

Although Waaia's Under 17s didn't come away with the win, it was an incredible effort from the girls. The Bomber girls gave it absolutely everything, but Berrigan were just too strong on the day.

Waaia's defence worked tirelessly, applying immense pressure and forcing countless turnovers. In attack, they moved the ball down the court with ease and finished with some beautiful conversions.

Waaia 33 defeated by Berrigan 35.

Katunga's B Grade netballers ended their 2025 season with a six goal loss in their preliminary final against Tocumwal, but can be proud of their efforts, having pushed to the final whistle.

Katunga 30 defeated by Tocumwal 36.



Want that one... Tegan Sutton goes up high to get the ball out of Rumba's goal circle.



## Purps C Reserves keep the dream alive

A BUILDING four quarter effort against Cobram on Sunday sees the finals dream stay alive another week for the Nathalia C Reserve girls.

Mother Nature may have mixed up the memo about a calm and fine day, but the message was very clear for the Purps this week, back each other up and back each other in.

The girls stood strong in the wet adapting to the conditions and adjusting their usual style to suit.

Nathalia took a small margin into the first break, and continued to extend the lead at every change of ends. They outclassed their opposition with control and patience, picking up intercepts and loose balls. The Purp's big-

gest strength this week was the solid defence and pressure from one end of the court to the other, with lots of turnovers, particularly through the midcourt. The girls will hope to replicate their success when they match up against Rumbalara on their home deck in next week's preliminary final.

Nathalia 48 defeated Cobram 35.

Composed... Nathalia Centre Abby Favaro keeps her feet in the wet to move the ball down the court for her team.



# Numurkah's finals tilt trashed by Cobram

NUMURKAH'S reserves' finals campaign has come to an end after a tough day in tough conditions against Cobram on Sunday.

A three goal to one first quarter in favour of Cobram wasn't the ideal start to the game for the Blues. Kicking with a 3-4 goal wind in the second quarter, Numurkah were unable to reduce

the quarter time margin, seeing Cobram going into the half time break with a 26-point lead.

Despite giving it their all in the second half, the Blues couldn't capitalise on the scoreboard, going down by a final margin of 27 points.

If any consolation is to be had, it's that the group has improved remarkably over the season,

and if you said at the start of the year that they would have played two finals, they would have taken it every day of the week.

Numurkah's better players on the day were Matt Price, Ty Grinter, Riley Sanders, and Harry McLeod

Well done Mark O'Callaghan for coaching the

boys and to everyone else who assisted along the way

Cobram 6.7.43 defeated Numurkah 2.4.16.

Goals: D. Ebborn 1, M. John 1.

Best: M. Price, T. Grinter, R. Sanders, J. Church, H. McLeod - Moylan, A. Commadeur.



Determination in the face of a superior opponent... Ty Grinter gets his kick away despite a smothering attempt from his Cobram opponent.

## Young Purps give it their all but fall short

THE young Purples, Nathalia's fourths, lined up against Moama in the first semi-final on Sunday, knowing it was going to be a tough contest.

From the outset, Moama came ready to play and put the pressure on across all four quarters. Nathalia's boys battled hard, but struggled to find their rhythm early, and it wasn't until the last quarter that they really began to play the type of

footy they're capable of. The final term showed the fight, spirit, and determination of this group, finishing the game strongly and never giving up despite the scoreboard.

Full credit must go to Moama, who played a strong four-quarter game and deserved the win. They were switched on from the first bounce, ran hard both ways, and applied pressure right across the ground.

While the result didn't go their way, the Nathalia Football Netball Club couldn't be prouder of their Under 14s. This is a great group of boys who have represented the purple and gold jumper every single week with pride and commitment. They've shown growth, resilience, and teamwork all season long, and it's been fantastic to see the way they've supported one another and built a strong bond both on and off the

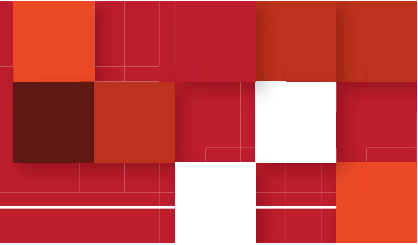
field. They've played their football the right way, with energy, teamwork, and a willingness to give their best for each other.

Nathalia 4.1.25 defeated by Moama 5.12.42.

Goals: C. Russell 2, X. Murray, L. Barton 1.

Best: Spencer Caldwell, Caleb Russell, Paulie Sherer-Richards, Lucas Barton, Charlie McDona-ld, Kade Rogers.





**Yeah, nah, come back here...** Connor Brown did his bit to keep Katandra from snatching victory, and a spot in the grand final, on the weekend.



# Waaia through to big dance

WAAIA'S senior side has booked its place in the grand final after a gritty 14-point win over Katandra in the preliminary final on the weekend. Katandra pushed hard and stayed in the contest right until the final siren, but Waaia's composure and work rate around the ground sealed the result. Cal Leighton Daly, Harvey Walker, Mitchell Cleeland, Austin Tricarico, Mark Ber-

gamin and Shaun Greenway battled strongly and were named among the best. Waaia now turns its attention to the decider, looking to carry their momentum into the grand final. Waaia 8.16.64 defeated Katandra 7.8.50. Goals: Charlie Burrows 3, Callum Leighton Daly 1, Connor Brown 1, Harvey Walker 1, Jayden Clarke 1, James Carpenter 1.

Best: Callum Leighton Daly, Harvey Walker, Mitchell Cleeland, Austin Tricarico, Mark Bergamin, Shaun Greenway. Waaia's reserves didn't fair as well in their preliminary final clash against Deniliquin Rovers, recording a 41 point loss. Taking on the Rovers was always going to be a tough task – and that's exactly how it played out

for the Bombers. From the first bounce, it just wasn't Waaia's day, with the opposition outplaying them in all facets of the game. Deni Rovers 7.7.49 defeated Waaia 1.2.8. Goals: Gregory Meyland 1. Best: Harry Hogan, Aiden Bryant, Steven Hixon, Hayden Hixon, Damian Hommes, Gregory Meyland.

NumurkahLEADER **INSIDE SPORT**



**Trophy stays up north**

See story page 13



**One more win needed**

See story page 14



**Finals tilt trashed**

See story page 15