

established 1895

Numurkah LEADER

PROUDLY INDEPENDENT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

\$2.00

INSIDE



Single lane pain

See story page 3



See story page 3

Every day is RUOK? Day at Stanyer Engineering, but on the second Thursday in September it comes with coffee and donuts. See story page 4.

KATUNGA
03 5864 6227



Worksafe investigating death at Koonoomoo orchard

WORKSAFE is investigating the death of a worker during an irrigation installation at an orchard at Koonoomoo last Thursday.

WorkSafe said it is believed the 49-year-old man, who was working alone, was handling a 6.5 metre length of aluminium pole when electricity from an overhead powerline passed through it, causing electrocution.

He was found deceased by a colleague about 2pm on Friday after being reported missing.

The death is the 36th confirmed workplace fatality for 2025.

There were 38 work-related deaths at the same time last year.



Walking tall... John Attwood and his walking buddy Borg are well on their way to walking 72km this month to raise awareness for prostate cancer.

Nathalia local takes on The Long Run after prostate cancer diagnosis

NATHALIA resident John Attwood is taking on The Long Run this September, committing to walking 72km to help raise awareness and funds for men affected by prostate cancer.

The event, led by Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia (PCFA), encourages Australians to cover at least 72km throughout Prostate Cancer Awareness Month – a symbolic distance honouring the 72 men diagnosed with the disease each day.

Mr Attwood said joining The Long Run was a personal decision to make a difference after his own experience with the disease.

“I was diagnosed with prostate cancer three years ago and specialists have been keeping an eye on my PSA levels since then,” he said.

“My PSA levels have risen steeply recently, so I have started hormone treatment first followed by a course of radiation.

“There’s still a long journey ahead, and it’s been a bit of a shock on my wife and four children, but they are very supportive.”

Mr Attwood said he’s looking forward to tak-

ing part to help raise awareness and vital funds for research.

“Awareness of prostate cancer and early detection is very important. My two sons now have a higher risk of developing the disease, as family history can be a risk factor, so I’m always encouraging them to get tested.

“Through early detection, you have a much better chance of a cure.”

Mr Attwood encouraged locals to join him in the fight against prostate cancer by getting involved in The Long Run.

“It’s a small sacrifice to make during September, but will make a big difference to those impacted by this disease,” he said.

More than 26,000 Australian men are diagnosed with prostate cancer each year. PCFA is on a mission to reach zero deaths from the disease by investing in research, awareness, and vital support services for men and their families.

PCFA CEO Anne Savage encouraged the community to get on board.

“Prostate cancer is the most commonly diag-

nosed cancer in Australia,” Ms Savage said.

“While survival rates are drastically improving, around 4,000 men are still dying from the disease each year.

“It’s our goal to invest in lifesaving research and clinical trials that will help save their lives, and in addition, provide access to vital support services to help them navigate this devastating disease.”

Ms Savage said that taking part in The Long Run was a practical way for everyday Australians to help join the fight to save more lives.

“We’re on a mission to defeat this disease, but we can’t do it alone,” she said.

“Every Australian has the power to play a part in this fight – whether you raise funds or raise awareness about the disease this September, it all makes a difference.”

Those who sign up and raise \$50 or more by September 1 will also receive a free event T-shirt. Visit www.thelongrun.org.au today to get involved.

For more information about prostate cancer

and to find a local support group, call 1800 22 00 99 or visit www.prostate.org.au.

PCFA is Australia’s leading community-based organisation for prostate cancer research, awareness, and support. Our goal is zero deaths in our lifetime.

Statistics

- Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Australia, accounting for 16% of all cancers diagnosed and for nearly 1 in 3 of all cancers diagnosed among men.

- Each year, more than 26,000 Australian men are diagnosed, and nearly 4,000 Australian men will die from the disease.

- 1 in 5 Australian men are likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime.

- Over 275,000 Australian men are alive today after a diagnosis of prostate cancer in the past 40 years.

- Regional men in Australia have a 24% higher risk of death compared to their urban counterparts.

Levee works impact Melville Street

CONSTRUCTION of Stage One of the Numurkah Flood Mitigation Implementation Project has reached Melville Street, with temporary traffic measures in place to maintain single lane access while works, which continue for some weeks, take place.

Works along Melville and Brenion Streets include:

- Construction of the flood wall and drop-in barrier system across Melville Street.
- Installation of a Wombat crossing to improve pedestrian safety.
- Associated drainage upgrades.
- Reshaping of the adjacent parkland to support cross-land water flow during flood events.

These works are expected to continue through October, after which Melville Street will be reopened to two-way traffic to support community access and upcoming events.

While some works on the eastern side of the levee may still be underway at that time, Moira Shire Council has worked closely with

relevant user groups to implement measures that minimise disruption. This includes coordination around key community events such as Show Us Ya Wheels in October and the Numurkah Fishing Club’s junior fishing competition in November.

Moira Shire Council told the *Leader* that the redesign of the parkland was a considered decision, developed in consultation with the project’s steering committee and the broader community.

“It enables the retention of water in the creek year-round for aesthetic purposes by maintaining the drop bars under the bridge—without compromising the flood resilience of the area,” a Moira Shire representative said.

“Council acknowledges the impact these works may have on the community and is actively working to minimise disruptions while ensuring the delivery of this critically needed high-quality, long-lasting infrastructure which will ultimately protect hundreds of houses and businesses in the town.”



Slow going... Traffic across the Melville/Brennion Street creek crossing has been detoured and reduced to one lane while work on the flood mitigation implementation project takes place.

TELEGRAPH

Hotel

Specials Menu

Eat in or Take-away

Mains

Veg Curry \$28.00

Satay Prawn Dumpling \$30.00

Pork Cutlet \$33.00

Duck Risotto \$29.00

Dessert

Fruit custard with Rose water balls

\$10.00

Thurs Sept 18 - Wed Sept 24

Melville Street, Numurkah Ph. 5862 1051



We're OK... Liana Stanyer (far right) pictured with Katunga locals, holds an event every year on RUOK Day to encourage everyone to make conversations about mental health a priority.

LET'S KEEP GOING

2025

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Starting conversations to save lives at Katunga on RUOK Day

“BE kind for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle.”

It’s a well known quote that speaks to the fact that being human is complicated, and, as well as we might know someone, we might not know how hard they’re struggling.

That’s something that Liana Stanyer from Stanyer Engineering in Katunga never forgets, and every year on the second Thursday in September, RUOK Day, she holds an event to remind locals to check in with each other.

She told the *Leader* she felt it was the least she could do.

“Mental health is so important, but it’s something that we, as a society, aren’t open enough about,” she said.

“I really just want to encourage everyone to ask the question to those around them. Are you OK? And then just listen without judgement. It’s really that simple, but it can make a huge difference to someone who is struggling, to know that someone cares and is prepared to listen.”

Liana said that the RUOK Day theme “Ask R

U OK? Any Day because life happens every day” is spot on.

“We should ask the question every day, because someone is struggling every day, and that’s why we wanted to do something public, just to get it out there in the open.”

Liana said that, because she is open about the issue, she has people in her circle who know they can come to her and she’ll be a listening ear.

“You see it a lot in the industries we work with, tradies and farmers. It’s that stoic kind of stiff upper lip attitude where you just get on with things and don’t complain or burden those around you. That’s really not a helpful attitude though; it leaves people isolated and struggling on their own.”

“All a lot of people need is a listening ear, but they don’t know how to ask for one.”

This year was the fourth year that Stanyer Engineering held their RUOK Day event, providing free coffee and sweet treats to entice people to stop and have a chat.

“This year has been our biggest turn out yet.

We had over 100 people here before midday,” she said.

“We’ve had a couple of local businesses bring all their employees down here, which is really great to see. If we can get rid of the stigma that comes from talking about mental health, and encourage people to ask each other, and open up to each other, then we can save lives, or just make life easier for people.

“Just the knowledge that there’s someone there to listen and it’s OK, that can take the shame out of it. Because, struggling with mental health is nothing to be ashamed of, it’s just part of being human. There’s no reason to hide it if you’re struggling, and that’s what we want people to know. But a lot of people don’t know how to start a conversation, they don’t want to be a burden, so having someone ask that simple question - are you okay - gives them an opportunity to open up.

“It’s a small thing, but it’s really powerful.”

For tips on how to have the conversation, visit ruok.org.au.

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.moiravic.gov.au

Nominations must be submitted via the smarty grants portal.

Dementia now leading cause of death for Australians

DEMENTIA is now the leading cause of death for Australians, according to the latest update of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare’s (AIHW) Dementia in Australia report.

The update, which was released last week, also found that without a significant intervention, the number of Australians living with dementia will exceed one million by 2065.

Dementia Australia CEO Professor Tanya Buchanan said the report, released in the lead-up to Dementia Action Week (September 15-21), reveals the enormous impact dementia has on Australian families.

“These figures highlight just how many families are impacted by dementia across Australia. Most of us know someone who is or has been impacted by dementia,” Professor Buchanan said.

“People affected by dementia often tell us that friends and family drift away after a diagnosis, because they are unsure of how to interact.

“That’s why the theme for this year’s Dementia Action Week – which starts on Monday 15 September - is ‘Nobody can do it alone’. We are challenging Australians to reconnect with someone impacted by dementia to help combat the high levels of social isolation many experience.”

Dementia Australia Dementia Advocate Lil Mirtl, who lives with dementia, said the report highlighted how important it was to act now to provide the support and services for people living with dementia.

“We don’t have time to feel uncomfortable or awkward about these conversations about dementia – we need to have them now.”

“We have to pull together as a community to do this. We can’t do it alone as individuals, the government can’t do it alone, we need to all act together.”

The update to the Dementia in Australia report also revealed that 43 per cent of the dementia burden in Australia can be attributed to six modifiable risk factors: being overweight or obese, physical inactivity, high blood sugar, high blood pressure in midlife, smoking and impaired kidney function.

“With dementia now the leading cause of death for Australians it is more pressing than ever that the federal government commit to funding a national conversation on dementia to raise awareness and promote brain health at all ages,” Professor Buchanan said.

“By taking a comprehensive approach to addressing dementia, we can reduce the impact of dementia into the future. With aged care across the country already under pressure, and the number of people living with dementia expected to exceed 1 million by 2065, we simply cannot afford to wait. We call on the government to take decisive action. People living with dementia, their families and carers are depending on us to do this right, and to do it now.”

Visit dementia.org.au/dementiaactionweek to access a range of resources and information to support Australians to reconnect with someone impacted by dementia.

Numurkah Primary students shine at Victorian State School Spectacular

LAST Thursday through to Saturday, 21 students from Numurkah Primary School travelled to Melbourne to take part in the Victorian State School Spectacular. The students joined a mass choir of around 1,000 school children from across the state, performing together in this celebrated event.

The group participated in rehearsals on Thursday and Friday, preparing for two exciting performances held on Saturday. The students proudly represented their school and community, showcasing their talents on a grand stage in front of a large audience.

This memorable experience provided the Numurkah Primary students with an opportunity to be part of a spectacular celebration of music, teamwork, and school spirit.



Spectacular... Numurkah Primary School students and staff had a ball being part of the Victorian State School Spectacular 2025, "On Air".



Fun for everyone... The whole of Katunga Primary School had a great day out at Anne The Musical in Melbourne last week.

Katunga Primary School excursion a memorable day in Melbourne

LAST Wednesday, September 10, Katunga Primary School embarked on a thrilling whole-school excursion to experience Annie, the famous musical, at the iconic Princess Theatre in Melbourne.

The day began bright and early at 8am, when students and staff boarded a bus for the exciting trip to the city. After a scenic drive, the group made their way to Yarra Primary School for lunch. This visit gave the Katunga students

a unique opportunity to experience the atmosphere of a larger city school, broadening their horizons before the main event.

The afternoon saw the group take their seats at the Princess Theatre, where they were treated to a spectacular performance of Annie. The children were captivated by the lively cast, vibrant costumes, and catchy songs that make the show a timeless favourite.

After the performance, the excitement contin-

ued with a special Q&A session with several of the show's cast members. One of the highlights of the session was a series of student questions, with many curious minds eager to learn more about the character of Sandy, the lovable dog in the production. The students' questions demonstrated a deep appreciation for the show and its characters, especially the canine star.

To mark the special occasion, the school gathered for a memorable group photo outside the

theatre. To the delight of the students, the actor who played Annie graciously joined the photo, making the moment even more unforgettable.

The excursion was made possible with the generous support of the Katunga Primary School Parents' Club, whose sponsorship ensured that every student had the opportunity to attend. The staff and students extend their heartfelt thanks to the Parents' Club for making the day a reality.

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Classifieds

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PUBLIC NOTICES



NUMURKAH COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTRE

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

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A NEW LICENCE TO TAKE AND USE GROUNDWATER

GMW Reference No: BGW0272-25

We Peter and Catherine Schwarz Of 1123 Loofs Road NARING VIC 3636 Refer to Vic Roads Map 33 A2.

This our notice for an application of a new Licence to Take and Use Groundwater and we intend to apply to transfer 100.0ML of licensed entitlement from an existing licensee on a permanent basis.

The volume sought in this application is of 100.0ML/Year.

We intend to extract groundwater from an existing bore.

The water will be used for the purpose of: Irrigation.

To be used on land described as:

Volume 12338 Folio 407 Lot No. 1 Plan No. 838288B Plan Type PS..

Any person able to demonstrate that their interests will be affected by the issue of this Licence including any intended Groundwater use, is invited to make a formal submission setting out the nature of the impact within **14 days** of receipt of this written notification.

To make a submission please read the information available to download from [Make a submission about a licence application - Goulburn Murray Water \(g-mwater.com.au\)](#) refer to the Groundwater section or contact GMW to arrange a copy to be posted to you.

Submissions must be lodged using the GMW template available by either mail or email to licensingadmin@gmwater.com.au or PO Box 165, TATURA VIC 3616.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

School holiday activities @ Numurkah Library

Tuesday September 23
@ 11.00am – Beaded worm puppets

Wednesday October 1
@ 2.00pm – Wriggly wrapped spiders..



MEN'S SHED NUMURKAH

Come along & Celebrate Men's Shed in Numurkah. Sausage sizzle and morning tea/coffee

50 Knox Street
11.30am
Friday
September 19, 2025

Gold coin donation
Ph. Bob
0427 040 947



NUMURKAH GOLF AND BOWLS CLUB BOWLERS!

Seeking experienced or new bowlers to play Saturday pennant.

Contact Jack
0409 049 592 or Geoff
0407 411 159
for more information.

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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 editorial@leader.net.au
Phone 5862 1034 or 0437 849 280

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THANKS

Thank you

Editors Lorna, Tony Morris, Bev Hutchins and Dominique Cosgriff, I learned so much from you all. My recent work mates especially James Sutton and Mel Scott & Terry Morris for techno advice and discussions with the old lady. The many Journos that added spice and sport especially Jack Dell, Karen Harper & Harrison Reid. To the local businesses I pestered to advertise. Thanks for your humour and kind responses. Happy trading. To the Footy Tipsters I nagged, thank you for the fun. Customers with happy and sad notices it was special to share. The readers that made suggestions on "their" local paper and what it should reflect as they shared their stories. Thanks.

On my soap box Support the unique independent Numurkah Leader. There has always been a passion and quest to verify and print accurate news, not just opinion. Without the Numurkah Leader who will tell your stories and sporting achievements?

Heather Kelly, Sales now retired.

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DEATHS

DRYSDALE (née Shepherd) June Mary
20/05/1930 - 15/09/2025.

Late of Breadalbane Numurkah.
Passed away at GV health.

Loved wife of Doug (Dec) and loved
mum of Sandra (Dec), Jan, Heather
and Geoff. Grandmother to Rebecca,
Paul, Marc, Adrian and Chris.
Great grandmother of 6.

Many thanks to GV Health, U2 and
Pioneer Lodge Numurkah for their
kindness shown to Mum.

ORR

(nee Burkitt) Elizabeth Ann (Beth)

Passed away peacefully on Monday
September 15, 2025 Aged 92 at
Baptcare Coasthaven Community,
Norlane, Geelong.

Dearly loved Wife of Colin (dec)

Much loved Mother, Mother in Law
and friend of Rick and Susan and
Lynette (Lyn) and Pieter Egberts.

Cherished Granny to Blake and
Fiona, Felicity and Kelsey, Nicole and
Nicholas and Darren.

Adored Great Gran to Lucas and Liam,
Georgia and Heidi

Forever in our hearts,

Reunited with Dad

Mum, You were such an inspiration
to us with your calm nature, clever
humour and unconditional love. You
gave so much to help others in your
Nursing and Infant Welfare careers
and you showed us how to enjoy life,
whether at home, work
or playing sport.

While our hearts are breaking, we
know you lived a great and meaningful
life and you can now rest in peace.

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DEATHS

PEARCE, Sidney James 'Sid'

21.10.1923 - 8.9.2025
In his 102nd year

Late of Invergordon, Numurkah (formerly of Tallandoon).
Passed away on September 8, 2025, at Maroondah Hospital.

Dearly loved Husband of Bernice (dec.), and in later life,
cherished friend of Betty (dec.).

A loving Dad to Robyn and Doug, Alan (dec.), Keith and
Glenda, Doug and Debbie, and Jen and Richard.

Adored Poppy to Kellie, David and Jolene, Emmie and Paul
(dec.), Jason and Natalie, Craig and Jamie, Jacinta, Robbie,
Jacinda, Clay and Shernay, Glen and Ange.

Proud Big Pop of Griffin and Lola, James, Sebastian, Parker,
Elphin and Binx, Hannah, Byron, Aylee, Ella,
Hunter and Fraya, Angus and Otto.

A life well lived and deeply loved. Dad's (Poppy and Big
Pop's) warmth, humour, and kindness touched all who had
the privilege of knowing him. He leaves us with treasured
memories, a legacy of strength and resilience, and an
enduring example of generosity, love, and devotion to family.
Our memories will live on in the hearts of all who loved him.
Vale Dad (Poppy and Big Pop).
- Love Robyn and Doug, Kellie, David and Jolene,
Griffin and Lola.

Though we are heartbroken by his passing, we are so
grateful for the many years we were blessed to share with
him. As we say goodbye, we take comfort in knowing that his
legacy lives on in all of us, every laugh, every memory, every
life he helped shape. Rest peacefully dad (Poppy), you were
deeply loved and will be forever missed.
"Still loved, still missed, and forever dear."
-Love Keith and Glenda, Emmie and Paul (dec.), Jacinta,
Jason and Nat, Craig & Jamie and the great-grandchildren.

You were the centre of our family gatherings, our lives
revolved around you and now you're gone.
You will be forever missed and our love will never forget you.
Rest in Peace Dad,
- Love Doug and Deb.

Not everyone had the privilege of having a dad like you. Love
you always and we will miss you greatly.
- Love Jen and Richard.

A Private Burial Service will be held.

A Memorial Celebration will follow in Numurkah
at a later date (details to be advised).

Peter Cox & Sons
03 5862 3047

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DEATHS

RODGERS – Peter Richard "Chick"

16. 09. 1961 – 08. 09. 2025
Aged 63

Late of Strathmerton, passed away
peacefully in the early hours of
Monday 8th September,
at NCN Health Cobram.

Loving Partner of Pauline of 30 years,
Step-Father to Alexander and Cat,
Anita, Chantelle and Michael. Poppy
to Tia, Ford, Xavier and Lexie, Kaitlyn,
Braidyn and Declan. Great Pop to Ted
and Kaleb.

Dearly loved son of Chick (dec) and
Sylvia. Much loved Brother and Brother-
in-law of John and Elise, Carolyn and
Wayne. Loved Father and Father-in-
law of Belinda and Pete, Timothy, Kelly
and Aaron. Loved Uncle of Madison
and Eden, Jarryd and Dylan. Cherished
Poppy of Lillian and Lila, Aivaah and
Evelyn.

You tried so hard to stay with us
But your fight was all in vain,
Sweet is the sleep that ends all pain,
I would not wake you to suffer again,
In our hearts you rest with love.
From your loving family.

*Loving Memories, Forever Cherished,
Now Resting Peacefully.*

A special thank you to Dr. Ayesha
Saqib for your care and support over
the last 9 years. Also a special thank
you to Jacinda Lawrence and staff at
NCN Health Cobram for their care of
Peter the last few weeks.

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FUNERAL NOTICES

RODGERS — A
Graveside Service
to Celebrate the
life of the late
Mr. Peter Richard
"Chick" Rodgers
will be held at the
Numurkah Lawn
Cemetery, Corke
Street, Numurkah,
on FRIDAY
September 19,
2025, commencing
at 1pm.

Family and Friends
who are unable
to attend are
welcome to view
Peter's Service on
this link [https://
petercoxfunerals.
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streaming/](https://petercoxfunerals.com.au/live-streaming/)


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Purps blast through to big dance

NATHALIA'S A Grade netballers have broken an 18 year grand final drought with a convincing preliminary final win over experienced 2023 premiers Tongala on the weekend.

Despite good wins against them earlier in the season, Nathalia knew a preliminary final was a different challenge.

The Purps started strong, leading by four at quarter time and stretching it to seven by half. From there, they maintained high intensity, with every player stepping up, from their goalers through the mid court to the defensive end.

No bests were named, but special mentions go to Helen Williams, Laura Cole and Tegan Sutton. Every player was outstanding, and the Purple army hopes to see this standard of netball again when they face Rumbalara in the grand final at Moama this Saturday.

Nathalia 52 defeated Tongala 36.

After shaking off a few early nerves, Nathalia's C Reserve netball team notched up another solid win in their 2025 finals campaign when they came up against Rumbalara on the weekend.

In their last match up, Nathalia managed just a two goal win in a nail-biting clash for the final round of the home and away season. Determined to show that they deserved their spot in the preliminary final, the Purples drew on their sound knowledge of each other's strengths and played complimentary to their abilities, with a strong focus on controlling the play, and exercising perfect patience, knowing opportunities would arise as required.

Nathalia took a close three goal lead into the quarter time break, but from that point forward the game was played on their terms and the margin blew out at each change of ends. The Purples displayed tight defence all over the court, picking up loose balls and creating many turnovers, which were fed well to their eagerly awaiting goalers.

Nathalia will go in as underdogs against an undefeated Tongala in what is set to be a cracking Grand Final at Moama next Saturday.

Nathalia 56 defeated Rumbalara 34.



Sheer guts and determination... Tegan Sutton denies Tongala an easy shot on goal during Nathalia's preliminary final win.

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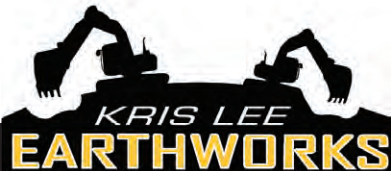
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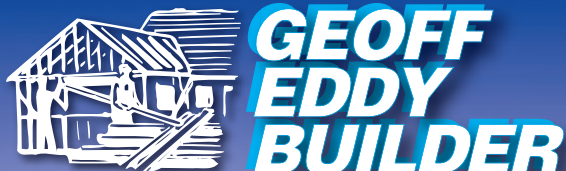
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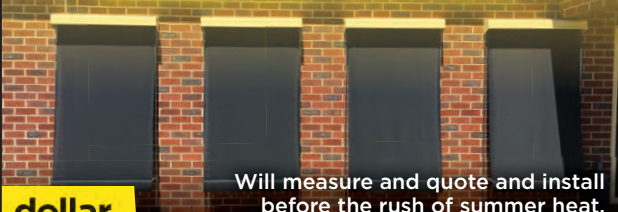
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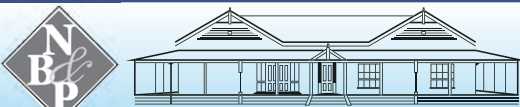


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Stone the crows

By PG
SIXTY-ONE players, the biggest field for a while, ventured out in Thursday's Bear challenge at Numurkah golf.

On a day when the scoring in B Grade was red hot, but not so much in A Grade, two regular golfing partners, Colin Stone and Graham "The Fanatical Crows Supporter" Ashton, slugged it out for the honour of score of the day, and ultimately the B Grade winner's voucher, which Col collected courtesy of the countback system when both players posted terrific scores of 42 each.

As mentioned, the scoring in B Grade was red hot, with Graham collecting the runners up prize with only one shot to spare from the unlucky Doug Kennedy. Doug's score of 41 - a score that on most occasions would see him in the winner's jacket - saw him relegated to the ball winners chart, with four balls being his reward. A further shot behind Doug was another B Grader who also suffered a similar fate to him, Jack "Chainsaw" Hepworth. Jack, who posted a very neat 40 points, received three balls along with a consolation ball for the Geoff Partington sponsored OBE on the day. Still in B Grade, next in line with 39s, collecting two balls each, were Alan Cordell and "Recycle" Rick Orr, on 38 for a single ball were Bernard

OHare, Ronald Ameer and William Caine.

This is where the A Graders entered the list, with the major beneficiary Alan "Weasel" Dalton collecting the winner's voucher on 38 with a one shot voucher over the resident club champ Mitch "The Guru" Grandell whose 37 points equated to a couple under off the stick, seeing as Mitch loses a shot being on minus one handicap.

The good scoring continued down the ball chart with three players returning 37 for a ball - Alan Rogers, Glen Langlands and Denis Prosser. Les Summerville, Mark Hegarty and Adam Farrell had handicap equalling 36s, a visitor from Broadford, Aaron Culpin, Nick Ludington and Phillip Dally from Eildon had 35, Marty Daniels, Geoff Stone, Hugh Gunn, Ted Schmedge, Dav Scanlan and Frank Houlihan 34, with the last two balls going to the lucky 33s on the day, another Eildon visitor Wayne Kupke, and Paul Arnel. Another visitor from Eildon, Shane Culpin, didn't fair quite as well as his travelling partners, although he didn't leave empty handed albeit with the tin of lollies in his possession.

Shot of the day prizes were collected by John Smith on Nifty Smith's second, Marty Daniels on the GMCU fourth, Adam Kupke was seen enjoying the club's hospitality after securing

the players cash on the seventh, Mitch Grandell collected a ball on Roy and Dennis's 14th, Ian Dodd hit the tricky Doggie Sprunt 15th, and Alan Cordell collected another ball for the travellers on Bazza Pruden's 18th.

In an unusual turn of events, the usual presenter of the ears saw himself having to don a pair after having first presented a pair to Bruce "Bomber" Collins, who, after being asked why he was all of a sudden hitting a three wood off the tee, confessed that, in removing his jacket and putting it on his buggy, he somehow became entangled, with the end result being the buggy stopping and Bruce continuing which resulted in a headless driver. This is where Anthony "Bear" Sanders entered the discussion when he was questioned about a little recent incident at a Pro Am he attended, that, after a very lengthy description, was summarized with "Yes, I ended up with two drivers in my bag resulting with a disqualification" and this was the moment a number of people sensed retribution, which, as you guessed, saw Bear wearing a set of ears along with Bruce.

With the course in terrific condition and the greens returning terrifically after a renovation, now is a good time to get out and join the challenge which is on every Thursday with a 9.30am assembly for a 10 o'clock start.

Hot scoring in the spring air

By Go Cats
IT seems that spring has brought on a flurry of good golf, with six of the 59 men playing in Saturday's Stableford event scoring 40 points or better, and a total of 20 players making at least 36 points.

In what can only be a positive sign for Friday night's AFL preliminary final, fellow Geelong supporter and chief Tuesday morning working bee organiser, Neil "Bugs" Hutchins, proved he is not only a wizard on a tractor, but can also produce magic with a golf club in hand, returning an incredible 43 points to be the best score on the day and take the B Grade prize of \$50. Next best on B Grade was Broadford Golf Club visitor Aaron Altham, who collected \$25 for his 41 points, on a countback from Grant "The Numbers Man" Duffy, who we don't see out playing all that often, but who proved he is good first up from a spell, to also record 41 points and earn four balls for his efforts.

In A Grade, early starter Ricky Clark also

joined the 40+ club with a fine 41 points to take the \$50, ahead of Michael Rossborough on 37 points, earning him \$25.

Jack "Happy Magpie" Dell scored three balls for 40 points on a countback from "Recycle" Rick Orr, who picked up two balls for his 40 points. The following players collected a ball each, with Ian "Speed" Hannaford recording a great 39 points, while Colin "Trout Whisper" Stone and Graham "The Eagle" Ashton, proved their Thursday form was no fluke, with 38 points each. They were followed by Geofrey "Latte" Stone, Tim McPherson, "\$5" Phil Spencer, Ian Dodd, Graeme "Doggie" Sprunt and Anthony "Bear" Sanders on 36 points, with Tyson "Tiger" Woods and Bernard "Chook" O'Hare collecting the last balls on 35 points. Encouraging to see newer members Tim Mc and Ben Jalkanen enjoying their golf so much, that they went and played another nine holes after completing their 18 hole round.

The NTP balls were won by "The Eagle" on

the fourth hole, Micheal Rossborough on the seventh, Hugh "Noo" Gunn on the hard to reach 15th, and Robert "Santa" McDonald on the 18th.

On Sunday, 19 fine warriors had an early morning start and headed over to Royal Chiltern to take on 17 of our northern neighbours' finest in their annual tournament. As has been the case of recent years, despite what would have been an inspirational bus trip over, with Dave "The DJ" Ludington and his trusty sidekick "Stackz" in fine form, we could not match the locals on their home deck and their average nett score of 75.82 was too good for our 81.57. Of course, we do get a chance to restore our clubs' pride, when the Chiltern boys front up for the return match at our annual tournament, and hopefully this will be the case.

Next Saturday's event is the Brad Tweed Painting and Maintenance September Monthly Medal Stroke, with the jackpot on the 15th hole.

Happy Hitting.

Super Stableford Scores on Saturday

By From The Rough
A GREAT field of 22 players enjoyed a beautiful spring day on the course at Numurkah on Saturday, and super scores were the order of the day.

If you can record 30 points or more for 18 holes of Stableford you can consider yourself "a golfer". On Saturday, 16 of the 22 players achieved this with four players bettering their handicap. Leading the charge was M'liss McCarty, who took it to another level, coming in with 42 points to win the day and a credit of \$30. Close behind were Jenny Luddington and Jeanette Adams, both on 41. Jenny won the countback to be awarded second place and a \$15 credit. Jeanette received a \$10 credit.

Balls were then credited down the line to Jan Stevens on 37, Bev McIntosh, Bernadette Bogacki, (a regular visitor from Barwon Valley) and Pauline Davies all playing to their handicaps and recording 36 points. Five players came in on 35, three on 34 and Doreen Button on 33 to complete the 30 and above list. Three of

the nearest-the-pin balls were claimed; Lauris Ashton won the fourth, Pauline Davies won the seventh and Bev Hutchins hit the 18th green. Despite the good scores, only two birdies were recorded on the day. Karen Harper scored a four on the par five 13th, and Bernadette Bogacki on the par three 18th. Unlucky for Bernadette to birdie the hole but not win the nearest the pin.

The good field on Saturday followed a good turn up on Wednesday of 14 players. An excellent field as 11 of the regular Wednesday players were away playing in the Victorian Senior Amateur Tournament at Barwon Heads/13th Beach.

Due to threatening weather, it was decided to combine the two Wednesday competitions and only play nine holes. The girls didn't get wet, but were pleased to return to the clubhouse after nine holes as the temperature plummeted. Continuing her really good form was Gayle Smith who recorded 19 points to win a \$20 voucher,

ahead of Merren Carr playing to her handicap to score 18 points and win \$15. Balls were won by Di Davies and Doreen Button on 16 points, and Lorraine Milner and Bernadette Bogacki with 15 points. Gayle Smith won the second shot to the second hole. The 11 girls who ventured to the Bellarine Peninsular enjoyed the experience but found the courses and conditions challenging. Julie Daniel and Margot McGrath played the best and made the cut for the third day. The event was convincingly won by Kim Morris from Shepparton Golf Club

Lists are on the notice boards for players to enter Summer 4BBB Pennant, the annual Numurkah three day tournament on October 10, 11 and 12, and the Veterans Golf Classic on October 16 and 17. Today we play Stableford, nine and 18 hole comp. And on Saturday it will be the Numurkah Leader Monthly Medal Stroke Round.

Golf is more enjoyable if you stay out of the rough.



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Steady start to croquet season

NUMURKAH croquet players had a steady start in the first two matches of the new season, winning comfortably first up against Euroa Wombats.

Graham Tyack was the standout, winning all four of his matches to lead the team to an eight game 73 hoops, to four game 62 hoops victory.

The lawns are still in the winter state (no growth and no colour) but are playing quite truly in most places. In the week just passed, Numurkah hosted Rich River Kangas and, in a tight contest, the visitors won the important points, coming home with a victory, even on hoops (65 each) but having the edge on games (seven to five). Harry Baker, in only his first game at pennant level, won both of his singles matches and teamed with Pauline Sloane to win a doubles.

Numurkah's normal Tuesday Club Competition has continued through the winter, but as the days warm up and produce more daylight this part of the club will become more active. Visitors and newcomers are always welcomed into the club, where there are experienced players ready and willing to impart some of their skills and knowledge of the game. If interested just roll up of a Tuesday at about 9am and say hi. There is also a very casual session from 1pm each Sunday, which may suit some newcomers. Last Tuesday's competition saw Ian Londey as the only three game winner on 3/21. Heather Brown scored a hoop in one, and there were jump shots aplenty, with Glenys Londey, Garry Mac, Pauline Sloane and Ian Londey all managing to be successful.

Happy Hooping everyone and good luck to our pennant team as they clash with Shepparton Kookaburras.

Get into bowls

NUMURKAH Golf & Bowls Club needs lawn bowlers for the upcoming pennant season.

Bowls secretary/manager, Jack Dell, said the club is struggling to fill its three sides in Saturday pennant, due to departures, illnesses and injuries. "We have been a very successful club over a long period of time, but none of us are getting younger," he said.

"With sides in Division 1, 2 and 5, we need 30 players each week, but at present we only have about 25 available. With the first round to be played on October 11, we are becoming concerned.

"Anyone interested in joining us will be made very welcome, regardless of experience or ability. We will provide coaching and bowls if necessary. If you are at all interested, please contact Jack on 0409 049 592 or Geoff on 0407 411 159 for more information."

Numurkah Golf has played finals in most years over many decades. The Saturday Division 1 team has played the past two grand finals, being runners-up both times and were losing preliminary finalists in the four seasons prior to that.

Division 2 made the finals last season after being Division 3 premiers the previous year.

Numurkah Small Bore Rifle Club results

THIS week's Numurkah Small Bore Rifle Club top scorers were Colin Saxton with 199.12 in 20m Benchrest, Glen Miles with 194.9 in 50m Prone, and Brad Sneddon with 196.9 in 20m Prone.

20m Benchrest: C Saxton 99.6 100.6 199.12; D Cook 100.1 98.1 198.2; S Keats 98.2 99.3 197.5; S Keats 97.1 99.4 196.5;; G Braybon 97.1 93.2 190.3.

50m Prone: G Miles 98.5 96.4 194.9.
20m Prone: B Sneddon 99.4 97.5 196.9; L Braybon 99.4 96.2 195.6; R Hill 96.4 96.4 192.8; H O'Brien 93.1 92.2 185.3; J Matys 89.1 89.1 178.2; J Matys 85.2 84.2 169.4.

There will be shooting as usual Thursday night in Numurkah.

Strathy honours its juniors

STRATHMERTON Football Netball Club has held its junior vote count, awarding its junior and netball players who have been the stars on court and field this season and shown that the club has a strong future ahead.



Great to have... (From left): Sophie Hughes and Ernie Laidlaw each received a Junior Club Person award.



Under 14s Football... (From left): Lenny Keane (Most Improved), Max Smith (Best First Year Player), Oliver Bramich (Best Team Player), Jack Kelly (Coaches Award), Ashtyn Speechly (Most Consistent and Goalkicking), Archer Wood (Most Determined), Jed Bayne (Best In Finals).



Under 17s Netball... (From left): Ella Spencer Wood (Most Versatile), Eva Laidlaw (Coaches Award), Ash Dyson (Best & Fairest).



Under 17s Football... (From left): Harry Ryan (Most Consistent), Tom Walker (Best in Finals), Blake Trist (Most Improved), Cooper Woodland (Runner Up Best & Fairest), Jai Stephens (Best & Fairest), Jayden Edgar (Goal Kicking), Ryder Duhring (Coaches Award), RJ Patmore (Most Determined).



Under 15s Netball... (From left): Alexia Iddles Winner Best and fairest , Alyssa Wilson Runners up, Ayla Sim (most determined) Claudia Ciconne (Most consistent)



Under 13s Netball... (From left): - Emma Bouchier (Best & Fairest and Best in Finals), Lily Humphreys Spaul (Runner up Best & Fairest), Millie Wood (Most Improved), Lara Maher (Coaches Award).

Katunga junior vote count wraps up a season of effort

KATUNGA Football Netball Club has held its junior vote count, honouring its players efforts for the 2025 season.

Jarred Bethell was awarded thirds Best and Fairest for 2025, capping off a season marked by consistency and leadership.

Aron Walkington earned the Runner-Up Best and Fairest, following a season defined by relentless effort and midfield dominance. Ryder Dezwart was recognised as the club's Most Promising Junior Player, showcasing talent and determination well beyond his years.

Tyson Simpson won Most Determined Player for 2025. He is the definition of determination, and fights for the footy from the first bounce to the final siren and has earned a reputation as a tackling machine. Toby Newbery was awarded the Coach's Award, praised for his relentless midfield efforts and fearless tackling.

Jobe Garner, a dependable tall defender who consistently shut down the opposition's best forwards, was named Best Team Man.

Jack Culton claimed the Most Improved Player award. Growing into his role as ruckman, Jack's dominant marking and late-season form—especially in the upset win over Berrigan—proved he's a rising star for the future.

Captain Seb Garner was awarded the Fourths Best and Fairest, following a season marked by elite ruckwork and unwavering commitment.

Vice-captain Jacob Heyan was named Runner-Up Best and Fairest, showcasing his fearless attack on the ball and versatility across the forward line and midfield. With 30 goals to his name, Jacob's consistent impact and team-first attitude made him a key figure throughout the season and saw him receive the Leading Goal-kicker award also.

The Fourths other award winners were: Most Improved – Toby Hansen; Coaches Trophy – Cooper Lowden; Best Team Man – Mitchell Altoft; Most Consistent – Ollie Culton; Best First Year Player – Axel Henderson.

In her final year as a junior, Ellie Carkeek took home the 17 & Under Best and Fairest award. Ellie led the team as captain and stepped up into A Grade, even featuring in finals. Known for her fearless play and versatility across the court, Ellie's grit and determination made her a standout. She leaves a lasting impression as she moves on from junior ranks.

Marli Salter, Co-Vice Captain received the 17 & Under Runners Up trophy, showing tremendous growth throughout the season. Playing predominantly at GA, she worked tirelessly to improve her movement, accuracy, and court awareness—always eager to learn and apply feedback.

Young gun Remi Storer impressed with her consistency, work rate, and team-first attitude and being awarded the Most Consistent award.

Ruby Frederickson was named 15 & Under Best and Fairest, playing a key role despite still being eligible for 13s. Emmy Gazzola, 15 & Under Runner-Up Best and Fairest, joined the club this year with limited experience but quickly impressed with her athleticism, determination, and rapid improvement.

Eve Boase received the Coach's Trophy for her outstanding growth and leadership as Co-Captain.

In the 13 & Under team, Eloise Delai claimed Best and Fairest with her speed, accuracy, and consistent effort—especially shining in goals. Eliza Culton received the Runner-Up Best and Fairest, standing out for her leadership, versatility, and determination, excelling in both attack and defence.

Peyton Lee earned the Coach's Award for her selfless attitude and unwavering commitment, even supporting the team while injured. Piper Matthews, named Most Improved, joined the club this year and quickly made her mark.

Lily Few, Toby Newbery and Cooper Weeks were all awarded the clubs Junior Club Persons of the Year. Whilst Lily doesn't play football or netball she looks forward to attending home games every week during the season with her family to help out in the canteen. Toby and Cooper are always on hand to help out Thursday nights and Saturdays, wherever and whenever required, without any fuss.



Topping off a great season with some silverware... (From left): Piper Matthews, Eliza Culton and Peyton Lee took out awards in the 13 & Unders.



Winners are grinners... Ruby Frederickson (left) and Eve Boase were award winners for the 15 & Under team.



17s award winners... (From left): Remi Storer, Ellie Carkeek and Marli Salter were happy to receive awards in the 17 & Under category.



The boys light up... (From left): Mitchell Altoft, Toby Hansen, Ollie Culton, Axel Henderson, Cooper Lowden and Jacob Heyen were the award winners for Katunga's fourths.



Little legend... Lily Few received a Junior Club Person of the Year for proving what happens off court is just as important as what happens on it.



Thirds Award Winners... Back: (from left) Aron Walkington, Jack Culton, Ryder Dezwart, Jobe Garner, and front, Toby Newbery, Tyson Simpson and Jarred Bethell were Katunga's thirds award winners.



Great helper... Cooper Weeks received a Junior Club Person of the Year award for his efforts around the club.



Tigers take control to end Bombers dream run

WAAIA'S hopes of a completely unbeaten 2025 season culminating in a fourth straight senior premiership flag were brutally dashed on Saturday with a 21 point loss to Katamatite.

The Tigers clinched their first senior grand final win since 2001, and just their fifth in the club's 134 year history, with a 14.6.90 to 10.9.69 win over the Bombers.

In the form spectators have come to expect from Waaia, the Bombers started strong, taking an eight point lead into the first break, courtesy of four straight goals right out of the blocks. Katamatite refused to be walked over however, responding with two goals late in the quarter, including a cracker from the boundary right on the siren.

Things looked like ultimately going Waaia's

way in the second quarter, with Katamatite repeatedly fumbling in front of the goals to slot three behinds, but the Tigers finally found their aim for a major to level the scores at the quarter's half way stage. An answering goal from Waaia, who had also wasted a number of opportunities in the quarter, put them back in front, and allowed them to take a seven point advantage into the main break.

However, they say whoever wins the third quarter wins the game, and so it proved at Deniliquin Memorial Park on Saturday.

Katamatite came out in the third quarter like a different team, all energy and determination, and it quickly showed on the scoreboard. Forward Mitch Coleman rapidly slotted three goals, each followed

by exuberant celebrations on and off the field, and when fellow forward Mark Mills responded with another two, it was a whole new ball game.

Finding themselves in an unfamiliar position - the back foot - Waaia's attempts to slow the Tigers' flow fell flat in the face of relentless pressure, and they managed just seven points for the quarter, paling in comparison to Katamatite's 31 which took them into the final break with a 17 point lead.

If the Bombers were hoping to wrest back control, and the lead, those hopes surely began to fade quickly when forward Connor Brown missed two seemingly easy goals in the opening minutes. What was left of those hopes must have evaporated entirely with three goals from the Ti-

gers Mitch Ward, two from Will Gorman, and a beauty from 50 metres out by Toby Kopa.

Responding goals from Waaia stalwarts Jesse Trower and Connor Brown were welcomed by the Waaia faithful, but it was too little too late to turn the tide away from the Tigers, and when the final siren sounded, Katamatite's victory was emphatic.

Waaia's effort and commitment were never in question, but it wasn't enough on the day in the face of a determined Katamatite side who held tightly to control of the game once they'd taken it, with the result a timely reminder that you can't win them all.

Waaia 5.2.32/6.5.41/7.6.48/10.9.69 defeated by Katamatite 4.0.24/5.4.34/10.5.65/4.6.90.

Numurkah**LEADER** **INSIDE SPORT**



Purps through to big dance

See story page 8



Strathy honours juniors

See story page 10



Katunga vote count

See story page 11