

Monthly newsletter of the Clunes Tourist and
Development Association

# FEATURED THIS MONTH!

Advent Calendar 5

Dunolly Train Outing 6

Vale Bob McKinnon 8

Walk Against Violence 11



Photo Paul Fleckney

## HAPPY FESTIVE SEASON!

#### Paul Fleckney

As I write this on a cold, windy day, it's hard to believe that by the time you read it the Clunes Pool will be open (temperature & chemical levels permitting!) and the town will be gearing up for Feast on Fraser Street on Friday 3rd December when locals and visitors can get together to enjoy the festive spirit on our lovely main street among heritage buildings. Summer is coming!

The newsletter team will take a short break over January and return in February 2022. Stay safe over the festive season and we look forward to a bright and healthy 2022. Best wishes!



### MARKET UPDATE

Chris Culvenor



Photo supplied

The November market was held in very cold conditions with a small amount of rain. We had strong stall holder numbers and, despite the weather, a very good crowd attended.

The wood raffle was strongly supported yet again. Thank you to the Hepburn Shire wood recovery program who now supply the wood each month. Much thanks and appreciation to all the Clunes businesses who have sponsored the wood raffle since it began in 2018 and thanks too to Graeme Hardy and, recently, Mathew Van Berkle for supplying the wood. Jenny Fraser of Clunes was the lucky winner with number 8. Stallholder David Tattman of Spring Creek Organics drew the raffle.

The next market will be on 12th December, our last before Christmas. Thank you everyone for your support during a difficult Covid-19 affected year.

## CLUNES COMMUNITY NEWS

Submissions welcome. Please send articles to the email address below. Submit text as Word or Pages files only. Submit photos and ads as .jpg or .png files. **No PDFs.** 

All material to reach the CTDA by the **15th day of the month.** 

Editor: Paul Fleckney
Layout & design: Kim McClelland
Advertising: Jason Judd
Distribution: Megan Jones
Produced by Clunes Tourist and
Development Association.

Email: newsletter@clunes.org

Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the CTDA, its individual members, or its associates.

Display ads are available to community groups at half commercial rates. All advertising to be paid in advance of publication.

#### **MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES**

Size	B & W	Colour
Business Card	\$ 30	\$ 45
Quarter-Page	\$ 45	\$ 60
Half-Page	\$ 90	\$ 130
Full-Page	\$ 180	\$ 250

We acknowledge the Elders, families and forebears of the Dja Dja Wurrung and Wadawurrung peoples of the Kulin nation who are the traditional custodians of the land upon which this newsletter is created, and we recognise their continuing connection to the land and waterways.

## **CLUNES COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

#### What's on December 2021

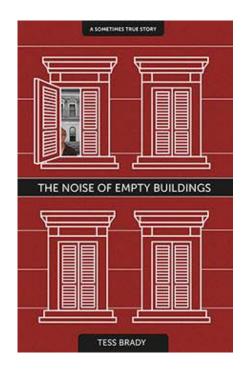
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28-November	29-November	30-November	1-Decembe	r 2	3	4
		Lily Mason Yoga, 7pm, Attitude	Men's Shed, 10am	Clunes Artist Group, 1pm	Feast on Fraser	Petanque, 2pm, Collins Place
		Ailliode	Clunes Pool opens		Street, 6pm	riace
					Lily Mason Chair Yoga, 11:30am, Attitude	
5	6	7	3	9	10	11
	Men's Shed, 10am	Open House Dinner	Men's Shed, 10am	Clunes Artist Group, 1pm	Community Gardening Group, 10am, CNH	Petanque, 2pm, Collins Place
	Clunes Gardening Club celebration, 6pm,	Lily Mason Yoga, 7pm, Attitude			Lily Mason Chair Yoga,	Creative Clunes
	Warehouse	Aimode			11:30am, Attitude	Community Open Day, 70 Service St
12	13	14	18	16	17	18
	Men's Shed, 10am	Open House Dinner	Men's Shed, 10am	Clunes Artist Group, 1pm	Community Gardening Group, 10am, CNH	Petanque, 2pm, Collins Place
CLUNES	Writers Group, 1pm, Attitude	Lily Mason Yoga, 7pm, Attitude			Lily Mason Chair Yoga,	ridce
MARKET		Practical Philosophy, 2:30pm, Attitude			11:30am, Attitude	
19	20	21	22	2 23	24	25
	Men's Shed, 10am	Open House Dinner	Men's Shed, 10am	Clunes Artist Group, 1pm	Community Gardening Group, 10am, CNH	
		Lily Mason Yoga, 7pm, Attitude			Lily Mason Chair Yoga, 11:30am, Attitude	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1-January <b>2022</b>

## SO MANY MEMORIES

What locals are saying about 'The Noise Of Empty Buildings: How Clunes became a Booktown', a book by Tess Brady.

- 'Couldn't put it down'
- 'It's our own story'
- 'Very funny'
- 'So many memories'
- 'Fascinating'

Get your copy while stocks last at BOOM or online. \$27.95. Attitude Publishing.





## **Advent Calendar**

As the anticipation of Christmas builds, there is something special about realising that even in a year that has been a bit 'ho-hum', we've still had much to celebrate.



### DUNOLLY TRAIN OUTING

Richard Gilbert

#### SATURDAY 19th FEBRUARY, 2022

The annual train outing to Dunolly is on again in February. This is a great day out on the Clunes social calendar and an opportunity to experience heritage railway travel in airconditioned carriages from the 1950's with the added delight of spending time in the Café Car or licensed Lounge Car. A diesel locomotive from the same era will haul the train to Dunolly, a historic gold mining town similar to Clunes, with buildings displaying all the charm of that era. 'Queen Victoria' usually makes an appearance in her fine Victorian era fashion, adding to the festival feel of the day.

Dunolly locals welcome this annual train visit to their town; the section of railway from Maryborough normally only sees goods trains. The community have street food vendors and sales of locally made jams, preserves etc. Visit the famous Dunolly Bakery or the Railway Hotel. A 'free' shuttle bus service operates between the station and the town.

Train departs Clunes at 12.05pm. Leaves Dunolly at 3.30pm, arriving Clunes 4.15pm.

Tickets are \$25 for Adults and \$10 for Children (4 to 16 years). Book via 'Trybooking' on the '707 Operations' website. Google '707 Operations' and click on 'mainline tours'. A booking form is provided with details for the 'Goldlander' to Ballarat and Dunolly. Or call me, Richard Gilbert, on 5345 3781 (leave a message) and I will assist you to book.



Photo supplied

### CLUNES GARDENING CLUB

Sue McVeigh

Hello Everyone. We will conclude our programme for the year by celebrating together at the Attitude hall on Fraser St at 6pm on Monday the 6th December.

We then kick off 2022 with our AGM and Meeting on Monday the 9th January at 10.15am at the Warehouse. Please note this is the 2nd Monday of the month, rather than our usual first Monday, to allow a reasonable return to normal following the festive season. We will be appointing office bearers so please consider if you would like to take on one of the positions: President, Secretary, Vice President and Treasurer. We look forward to a year of interesting outings and talks without COVID interruption.

We would like to wish all Clunes residents a very happy Christmas and New Year, with good health and happiness for 2022. And remember to keep that garden of yours well watered over our long, hot summer!! Cheerio!!!

## **WINNER AGENT** OF THE YEAR FOR **CLUNES**

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## Merry Christmas, always

Some things will be different this Christmas, but there is always something to be grateful for.

No matter what your Christmas looks like this year, make it merry.

From Jon Grant and the team at Community Bank Creswick & District and Clunes Agency.

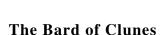
Community Bank · Clunes 5345 3223 · Creswick 5345 1233





## VALE BOB MCKINNON

Patsy Skinner



He left without warning
Unexpectedly with no goodbyes
His time came suddenly
He was called away too soon

In shocked disbelief
Sadness and grief
We know he has gone
Yet we still expect to see him in the street

Tall and straight he stood
Blue jeans and working boots
A bushman's beard
An easy smile and crinkly eyes

A wordsmith
He loved the power of words
His deep voice told stories
With his trusty guitar for company
He drew us vivid scenes

He built a bridge over the creek
Behind his gates strong and bold
His sculptures stand in the lane
Examples of his talent and his craft



His creativity, his music
His poetry expressed with honesty and soul
A man of many layers
Behind, he leaves a legacy
Of words and memories to hold

He will be missed by many
Most by those who loved and knew him well
With an outpouring of deep sorrow
Today, we say our last farewells

Rest easy Bob McKinnon.

Patsy Skinner Clunes Writers' Group Victoria October 19th 2021



Remembering Bob McKinnon, who passed away suddenly on 1st October 2021 - Photo supplied





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# WALK AGAINST GENDERED VIOLENCE

Hepburn Shire Council



Cr Tessa Halliday & CEO Bradley Thomas - Photo supplied

As part of the international campaign of 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence, Hepburn Shire Council invited community members to gather together and enjoy a short stroll in Clunes, Trentham, Daylesford and Creswick on Thursday 25 November - International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Council used the walks as an opportunity to raise awareness about the key role gender inequality plays in driving violence against women, and as a call for action to prevent it. "These walks were an opportunity for our community to come together and collectively say no to family violence," said Bradley Thomas, Council's CEO.

Council has also recommitted to the Women's Health Grampians Communities of Respect and Equality Commitment Charter. "We believe in a safe, equal and respectful society for everyone, and that's certainly the case at Council," said Mr Thomas. "We want a community where women and their children live free from violence and every person is valued, heard, respected and empowered."

## Why walk against gender-based violence?\*

- 1 in 4 women experience violence by a current or former partner.
- Victoria Police respond to a family violence incident every six minutes.
- Intimate partner violence is the greatest health risk factor for women.
- Family violence is the single largest cause of homelessness for women.
- 1 woman is killed every week by her current or former partner.
- 43% of women in crisis accommodation have no income.
- 39% of people in crisis accommodation are children under the age of 14.
- 68% of mothers who experienced violence said their children had seen or heard the violence.
- \*Source: https://safesteps.org.au/

The campaign of 16 Days of Activism runs until Friday 10 December – International Human Rights Day. Signs and orange ribbons are on display around the Shire recognising this important movement.

# CLUNES LANDCARE & WATERWAYS GROUP

Chris O'Donnell

Congratulations to June Johnstone, winner of the 2021 Urban Landcare Award.

The Landcare Awards celebrate the significant work undertaken by groups, networks and individuals who contribute their time and care to the conservation of Victoria's land, water and biodiversity.

The Victorian Government proudly supports and celebrates the efforts of those environmental volunteers who are working to protect our land, water and wildlife, and the communities who love and depend on them.

June has been involved with Landcare since the 2010 and 2011 floods. As the inaugural President of the Sub Committee, under the auspices of the Department of Sustainability and Environment, the group aimed to rehabilitate the Creek between the Government Bridge and ford crossing and introduce indigenous species. The group also focused on the platypus and frogs in the Creek and held information sessions for locals. Since then the group has forged working partnerships with other community groups such as the Angling Club, Primary School, Wesley College and Neighbourhood House.



June Johnstone - Photo supplied

June continues to lead the group and has risen to the challenge of liaising with various land managers and Government Departments over the years. The Creek walk is now popular with locals and provides a picturesque and functioning environment for walking, and seating for quiet contemplation.

Members have come and gone over the years but June has remained a constant driver of the group, a sharing communicator and a true Landcarer. She is indeed a worthy winner of the Award. The award was presented by Her Excellency the Hon. Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria, on November 26.



## FREE LENDING LIBRARY

Denise Fordham

#### **Brief Action Update**

Hi All! It's lovely to be able to bring you an update on the activities the committee has been up to in the past few weeks.

We held a stall at the Car Boot Sale which was a great success adding approx. \$450 to the kitty. Thank you kindly to those who donated goods for us to sell. A huge thank you also to Phil and Graeme who collected the goods, priced everything, and manned the stall through the cold and wet.

Our current fundraising efforts are directed towards restoring the building and breathing new life into its walls. The next step is a hazardous materials and fabric report which will help guide restoration work in the future. If you'd like to contribute, we have a 'gofundme' set up under the name of "Clunes Free Lending Library" or please read on for other ways to support and be involved.



Puzzle for sale - Photo supplied



#### Unique Christmas Gifts at May's Cafe

The committee has made a number of fundraising gifts including puzzles, keyrings and coasters featuring beautiful photographs of the building's façade and iconic places around town. Mays Cafe has kindly offered to stock and sell the gifts on our behalf. You'll currently find them out the back near the fire but soon they will be moved to the old lolly shop bookcases. These are perfect gifts for hard to buy family and friends! Shout out to Ellen Moroney from SquareShot Photography for the images.

#### Residency

Dr Thembi Soddell will continue to occupy the Free Library in December, which means the next committee meeting may be off site. Please check our Facebook page for updates.

#### A Call for Volunteers/ Get in Touch

If you're new to town, or have been watching from afar, there's no better time to come along to a committee meeting and see how you can get involved. You can be as active and involved as you like! We meet on the 4th Thursday of each month usually at the Free Library but check our Facebook page 'Clunes Former Free Lending Library' for updates or email at committee. CFFLL@gmail.com. You can also call me, Denise, on 0431 908 796.

# CLUNES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sonia Jardine



Photo supplied

The enticing smell of Mini Vegetable Rostis gently floats its way through the Main Building and into my office. The Year 1 /2H class is obviously excelling during their Kitchen Garden and Cooking session this morning! (I hope they share!)

It is absolutely wonderful that we now have almost all our regular programs and events back in operation. 'Long live' our home grown Kitchen Garden and Cooking program! Our Kitchen Garden and Cooking Program is usually solely funded by Fundraising, and I would like to thank the wider Clunes community for supporting our most recent Tomato Plant fundraiser.

So many of you donated a coin or two to receive a tomato plant, raised with tender loving care by school parent Kris and daughter Georgia. Included with the plant was a small Tomato Booklet, produced by school parents Christy and Luke, and son Tully. Thank you!

All students at Clunes Primary School have also had the option to take a free tomato plant home from school. Tomato plants are one of our numerous current Kitchen Garden plantings. There's nothing more delicious than eating your own produce!

Sincere thanks to our local Clunes Green Grocers, Megan and Greg, for kindly agreeing to support a Tomato Plant stall, and to all visitors to the stall at the Car Boot Sale. We raised close to \$500 over just two weekends, which sets us up for a very positive start to our 2022 Kitchen Garden and Cooking program.



Photo supplied



HAY GEAR

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Course in Coastal and water management-Gordon Tafe



# TAPPING INTO YOUTH GOALS

Clunes Neighbourhood House

In November, Clunes became the third location in Australia to host an innovative new program to improve education, employability and wellbeing for young people aged 15 – 25 years.

The free program, delivered in three 'double' sessions at BOOM Clunes prior to Christmas, involves the AFL leadership initiative Ladder Step Up, Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services, West@Work and Jobs Victoria.

The collaboration ensures that young people participating have direct access to wrap-around services that will help address barriers to engaging with education or securing employment. "We knew, even before COVID, that young people in our town face a whole host of obstacles that impact on their aspirations, education and career pathways," says Lana de Kort, Manager at Clunes Neighbourhood House. "Art Attack went a long way towards helping create fun, transformational opportunities for young people to connect. Now this initiative puts those aspirations in a work-ready context."

It's not too late to be involved. Contact 5345 4078 or email manager@clunesnh.org to find out how you can link in.





Photo supplied



### WE WON!

#### Clunes Neighbourhood House

On Friday 19 November, BOOM Clunes was crowned a category winner of the national Mainstreet Australia awards. The judges praised our retail and co-working space for its agile business model that has helped it ride out the challenges associated with opening a business in a pandemic.

"It was an exciting moment," says Peter
Chandler, Vice President of Clunes
Neighbourhood House. "Many of the other
initiatives being considered were part of wellfunded Council programs or large town
centres. To have BOOM Clunes recognised
acknowledges all the volunteer hours and
community backing that has helped BOOM
Clunes stand firmly on its feet."

"The national recognition is the really important part of this win," Peter says. "Hopefully it will introduce us to others who are doing similar things, or stakeholders who are interested in helping accelerate what we are doing."

A recent US study showed that small towns with good stakeholder and community engagement proved more resilient during the pandemic. Clunes has long understood and leveraged the importance of these connections, and BOOM exemplifies the impact this kind of 'working together' can have.

#### Doing Business the 'Clunes' Way

"To us, BOOM Clunes is just how we do business," says Lana de Kort, Manager. The business model is designed to be robust when the market is slow as well as giving back locally. The retail shop contributes to the activity in the main street and is open Thursday – Monday 9am til 3pm.

#### Delivering Returns Now and in the Future

"What people don't know," Lana says, "is that to date BOOM has generated nearly \$25,000 in sales for local suppliers. This is in addition to the profits returned to Clunes Neighbourhood House, which are reinvested into other community activities and programming locally. The first year has been hard, and much of this has gone into strengthening BOOM Clunes, but in future it'll help fund a host of local programs that contribute to the liveability of Clunes."

Nearly a year into our start up and our book and gift shop have become a regular destination for locals and tourists alike. BOOM Clunes also provides professionals with a space to work, think and network. Co-working spaces like this in country towns are rare, but the extra functionality they offer people is a huge boost. Income from Co-Worker passes and the serviced offices (still one available!) helps support BOOM's running costs but more importantly creates a culture of productivity and collaboration. Just as the shop provides returns to local people, this culture will likely do the same in the long term – and that's what the award recognises.





Authorised by Louise Staley MP, 177 High St, Maryborough. Funded from Parliamentary budget

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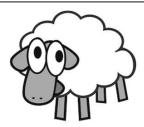
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## JARRED TALENT

John Collins, Community Bank

Dusty Taylor–Irwin has won this year's Jared Tallent Junior Sportsperson of the Year, announced on Thursday 4 November, receiving a \$500 bank account. Dusty joined the Creswick Bowling Club in 2019. She won the Ken Gullock Under 18 Junior Indoor Bowls Championship and was selected into the Victorian State team to play Tasmania (cancelled due to COVID). We look forward to hearing of Dusty's future achievements.

Runners-up Jayda Wright, Fraser Saunders & Oscar Wootton received a \$100 bank account. Jayda is an all-rounder in sport, most notably in women's cricket with a bowling average of 11.39. She also plays football and has represented the district at athletics. Fraser is a 17 year old race walker who has won a number of first place awards in various championships. Oscar commenced triathlons at the age of 7 years. He was recently selected into the Team VIC All Schools Squad.

Community Bank – Creswick & District wishes to congratulate all applicants and winners.



Dusty Taylor-Irwin, Jayda Wright, Fraser Saunders, Oscar Wootton & Marcus Walsh. Photo supplied.

## FREE FIREWOOD

Hepburn Shire Council

Council has begun distributing free firewood to community groups as part of the clean-up efforts following the extreme storm event earlier this year.



Ken Corney - Photo supplied

#### **Clunes Angling Club**

The Clunes Angling Club received about 9 m3 of free firewood from Council. The Angling Club was established in the 1950's and Ken Corney has held various offices and won a few trophies during his time with them. For many years Ken delivered raffled firewood in the back of his 1929 AA Ford truck, a striking blue machine with wooden wheels and a wooden tray. The club traditionally has used fundraising to restore their headquarters, the old School of Mines building. As that's now been completed, the club will either raffle the Council donated wood or, more likely, distribute it to local citizens.

Community groups interested in obtaining free firewood can contact Inga Hamilton on ihamilton@hepburn.vic.gov.au.

## **Community Groups**

**All Nations Masonic Lodge** Every first Tuesday except January. New members most welcome. Contact Secretary: Peter Billing, 0413 213 596 or peter.billing@iinet.net.au.

**Anglican Church** St Paul's, Templeton St. Worship: Eucharist for all ages 10am on 1st & 3rd Sundays, followed by bring & share lunch. All welcome. Enq.: Father Chris Keast Home: 0353 324 723 Mobile: 0427 911 792 Email: ckeast@ballaratanglican.org.au for baptisms, weddings & funerals.

**Art Attack / Circus** Primary school students from 3:30pm - 5pm and Secondary school students 5pm - 7pm Tuesday afternoons at Clunes Football / Netball Club during school terms. Call 5345 4078.

**Clunes & District Agricultural Society** Meet 8pm on 3rd Thur of month from Feb - Oct. Nov meet Thur before Show & Thur after. President: Jenny Redpath Ph. 0400 613 153; Secretary: Gayle Wrigley Ph. 0400 907 506; Homecrafts: Julie Spittle 5343 4201. Website: www.clunesshow.com.au.

**Clunes & District Young Farmers** Meetings every 2nd Tues, 7.30pm at the Young Farmers club rooms at Show Grounds. A friendly, social environment for anyone aged 16-30. Contact: Jenny 0400 613 153.

Clunes Angling Club All welcome. Meet on the first Monday each month 7.30pm, old SMB building.

**Clunes Artists' Group** Meet 1st Saturday of the month starting 10.30am and every Thursday at 12.30pm as a working group. Venue: Attitude, 25 Fraser St. Enquiries: Marlene 0409 355 857.

**Clunes Bowling Club** Social Bowls every Wednesday, 6pm arrival for a 6:30pm start. Contact Josh Polson 0417 300 969 or polsy1031@yahoo.com.au.

Clunes Book Club Enq.: Karen: 5345 3703. Meets 7:30pm on the 3rd Mon of the month at the Bowling Club.

**Clunes Crafternoon** Mondays Meets 4th Monday of the month at the Clunes Neighbourhood House 12-3pm BYO lunch + craft projects, all crafts + kids welcome.

Clunes Field & Game Eng.: Eric 5345 3571.

**Clunes Football & Netball Club** Enq.: Chris Hill 0420 780 588 or Kath Milne 0448 453 665, www.clunesmagpies.com.au. All welcome.

**Clunes Free Lending Library** Meetings held 4th Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. Enq.: Graeme Johnstone (Chairman of the Committee) 0427 534 532 or via e-mail at thedukesbb@bigpond.com.

**Clunes Garden Club** Meet on the first Mon of the month at 10.15am at Attitude. Outing days meet at 9.15am. For info, please contact Secretary Susan McVeigh 0400 557 434 or President Deirdre Krausgrill 0425 707 972.

**Clunes Golf Club Inc** Ph: 5345 3499. Contact Ray Skinner 0428 056 509 or Lawrie Lees 5345 3034. Course 18 holes, sandscrapes, par 70, all year round play. Non members \$10 green fees for 18 holes. \$5 with Member. Under 16 free. Visitors welcome on Sunday/Wednesday competition days.

**Clunes Landcare and Waterways Group** New members always welcome. Contact: Chris O'Donnell 0408 034 017 or cluneslandcare@gmail.com for information.

**Clunes Library** at The Warehouse-Clunes, 36 Fraser St (next to Collins Place). Open Mon & Thur 10am-6pm, Wed & Fri 10am-4pm. Sat 10am-3pm & Sun 11am-3pm. Closed Tue. Ph: 5345 3359.

## Community Groups

**Clunes Men's Shed** Open 10am-12pm Mon, Wed & Fri at the Community Gardens, 18 Alliance St. A safe and friendly space for men to meet in a workshop setting. Enq.: Peter Chandler 0438 222 095.

**Clunes Museum** Seeking volunteers to help catalogue the Collection in the Museum Workshop from 10am each Thursday. Committee meets every 2nd Thursday of the months at 10am in the Ulumbarra Room at the Warehouse. Enq.: The Warehouse 5345 3359 and leave message for Museum.

**Clunes Neighbourhood House** Youth, art & community programs, printing services, free internet, gallery available for hire. 70 Bailey St (at Bottle Museum) Ph: 5345 4078, Email co-ordinator@clunesnh.org. Open 9-3 Mon-Fri. Website: www.clunesnh.org.

Clunes Pre-School 109 Fraser St. Enq.: 53453228 or clunes.district.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

Clunes Reconciliation Group Enq. Pat Hockey 0457 463 971 or pat@breaze.org.au.

Clunes RSL Membership enquiries to the Secretary, Mr Lindsay Pritchard, on 0427 028 556.

**Clunes Tourist & Development Association** During COVID, meetings will be held online. Contact President Darrel Dreiberg on 0412 513 068 or Secretary Damien Whitten on 0458 553 200 for enquiries.

**Clunes Trekkers** Regular weekly town walks for any fitness level. Varied bush walks for medium to experienced walkers. Contact: Lois Nichols on 0467 331 136.

**Clunes Writers' Group** Meets on the second Monday of the month (including public holidays), at Attitude on the corner of Fraser and Templeton Streets from 1pm -3pm. For further information contact Patsy Skinner on 0407 377 610.

**Community Garden** 70 Bailey Street, Clunes. Meets Tuesday and Friday at 10am.

**Creative Clunes Inc.** Organisers of the annual Clunes Booktown festival and monthly Booktown on Sunday author talks. Volunteers always welcome. Enquiries: 5345 3947 or at the Railway Station, Service St.

**Lee Medlyn Home of Bottles Management Committee** Meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at the Bottle Museum, 70 Bailey Street, Clunes at 10.30am. Visitors welcome.

**Mad Chatters Club** Meets every Wednesday at 2pm to 3.30pm for a casual get together at Rose & Oak café. New members are most welcome. Contact Carmel on 0421 635 369.

**Monday Night Netball Clunes** Every Monday evening during school terms. 2 seasons per year. Enq.: Lana 0427 781 080 or Liz 0429 453 808.

**Spare Parts Club** Meets 1st Tues of month 2pm to 3:30pm, Clunes Community Health Centre. Enq.: Georgina 5345 9150 or Barbara 0410 946 095.

Tourello Red Cross Meetings as required. Please contact Janet Harrison for information on 5345 3060.

**Uniting Church** St Andrew's. 12-14 Service St (Wesley Campus). Worship services at 11am on 2nd and 4th (Holy Communion) Sundays and last Sunday of school term at 4pm including meal and activities for all ages. Everyone welcome. Enq.: Rev Rosemary Carter 0431 286 285 or rosemary.carter@internode.on.net.

**Yoga Classes** At Clunes Attitude every Tuesday 7pm, and Chair Yoga Friday 11.30am. All levels welcome. Enq: Lily 0459 138 797 or lilymason75@gmail.com or www.lilymasonyoga.com.

## **POWER SAVING BONUS**

Lisa Carey

The Victorian Government is encouraging households doing it tough with energy bills to apply for the one-off \$250 Power Saving Bonus payment. Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio has called on all eligible households to take advantage of the one-off \$250 payment before the program ends on 31 January 2022. This includes households receiving payments through the Pension Concession, JobSeeker, Austudy, Abstudy or Youth Allowance programs, or who hold a Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold Card. The program aims to reduce cost of living pressure with a \$250 payment transferred electronically into bank accounts or provided via cheque on request.

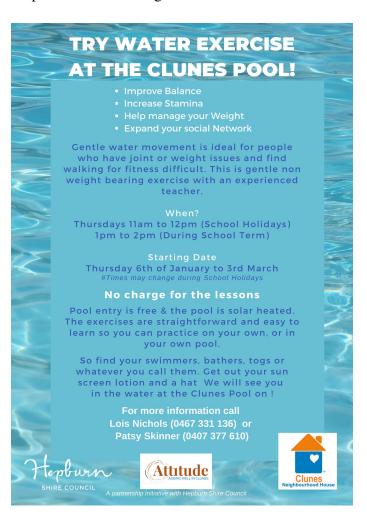
Labor Member for Western Victoria, Jaala Pulford, encouraged community members to check their eligibility and apply for the payment by calling 1800 000 832 or visiting compare.energy.vic.gov.au. Ms Pulford said: "There are still many Victorian households who have not yet applied for what could be crucial relief for their energy bills amid the second, devastating year of COVID-19. This \$250 payment helps reduce household bill pressure, and I call on all pension concession, JobSeeker, Austudy, Abstudy or Youth Allowance recipients – or if you know someone who is – to apply."

## CHANGE AT THE TOP

Hepburn Shire Council



On 17 November, Council elected Cr Tim Drylie (featured right) and Cr Jen Bray (featured left) as Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Hepburn Shire. Congratulations Tim & Jen!





### **CAMERON WARD UPDATE**

## COMMUNITY VISION & COUNCIL PLAN



Council recently adopted the 10-year Community Vision and 4-year Council Plan, and we couldn't have done it without you.

This is a great example of the community and Council working together to ensure we had a plan that reflected the aspirations of our community. We've held lots of community drop-in

sessions, hosted surveys and reached out to you, the community, in so many different ways.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to be involved. This vision and plan reflects many of your aspirations for the future of our wonderful Shire.

#### **ACCESS TO COUNCIL FACILITIES**

Under the Victorian Government's COVID roadmap, anyone over 16 years must show proof of vaccination to enter Council facilities. This includes our libraries, hubs (including The Warehouse - Clunes), Duke Street Customer Service and Visitor Information Centres. We understand that this may be difficult for some residents. Thank you for your understanding and compassion for our staff, who are simply doing their job and following the mandated requirements.

#### **END OF YEAR CLOSURE**

Just a reminder that Council Offices, Depots, Hubs and Libraries will close at 2.00pm on Friday 24 of December and reopen on Tuesday 4 January. Transfer Stations are closed on Christmas Day and Code Red days. Staff involved in Emergency Management will carry out their roles and responsibilities in accordance with Emergency Management procedures.

Kerbside bin collection won't be impacted over the festive period, so please put out your bins as usual. Councillors and staff wish you a safe and happy break over the festive season.

#### SUSTAINABLE HEPBURN



Sustainable Hepburn is a new strategy that will be Council's updated commitment to environmental sustainability. Community consultation activities were kicked off during November with the formation of a Sustainable Hepburn Community Reference Group. This was comprised of four technical working groups:

- Beyond Zero Emissions
- Biodiversity and the Natural Environment
- Low Waste and Resource Recovery
- Climate Resilience.

The community will have the opportunity to provide feedback and input into Sustainable Hepburn. Find out more at https://participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/sustainable-hepburn.

#### WESTERN VICTORIA TRANSMISSION NETWORK

Council continues its advocacy and is strongly opposed to the transmission lines being above ground, and the potential location of the transmission station.

Keep up to date with our activities at https://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/western-transmission-lines-project/.

#### SUBSCRIBE TO HEPBURN LIFE

We have moved away from the printed Shire News to a monthly electronic newsletter, Hepburn Life.

To receive the newsletter direct to your inbox sign up via the QR code or at https://mailchi.mp/hepburn/sign-up.



# Gayle Tierney MP

STATE UPPER-HOUSE MEMBER FOR WESTERN VICTORIA

As a member of the Andrews Government, please feel free to contact me to discuss any State Government matters you may have.



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Authorised by G Tierney, 1 Yarra St, Geelong. Funded from Parliamentary budget



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