



ABOUT BOORT

EDITION 206 JANUARY 2022

Contact BRIC on 5455 2716 or email bric.boort@bigpond.com to receive the 'About Boort' via email.



SERVING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

Merry Christmas

from



*Photo: Friends and family
with staff at Audrey's Café
Boort*

BRIC—Holiday Closure Dates are: 24th December to 7th January.

Annual Plan 2021-2025

At last week's Ordinary Meeting for November, Council approved, adopted or noted a number of items – including the Annual Plan 2021-2025.

The Annual Plan sits under the Community Vision 2031 and Council Plan 2021-2025, both of which were adopted at last month's Council Meeting. It details the specific actions Council will deliver in its commitment to the Community's Vision of: *Creating a community where everyone is welcome and has the opportunity to live, work and thrive*. This is together with Council's vision of: *Loddon will be a resilient, sustainable and prosperous community of communities*.

The Annual Plan is essentially an annual report card to gauge whether Council has carried out its intended actions, and if not, assign a new timeframe.

The Annual Plan will be reviewed at the end of each financial year to ensure actions have been completed and to monitor any other actions that may have come up due to changing circumstances or funding opportunities.

The Community Vision 2031 and Council Plan 2021-2025 is available from www.loddon.vic.gov.au/Our-Council/Plans-strategies-and-policies/Plans-and-strategies

Footpath Asset Management Plan

Council has adopted the Footpath Asset Management Plan 2021, which outlines the key elements involved in managing Council's footpaths, both sealed and unsealed.

The plan includes actions for improvements in managing the footpath network, including better understanding our community's expectations through engagement, but also communicating what is achievable with existing funding. Other actions include developing a pedestrian access strategy to provide an overall view of the preferred footpath network in towns, and reviewing modelling of long term financial forecasts on a two-yearly basis.

The Footpath Asset Management Plan is available from Council's website at www.loddon.vic.gov.au/Our-Council/Plans-strategies-and-policies/Plans-and-strategies

Pyramid Hill Streetscapes Revitalisation Project – preliminary designs endorsed

The November meeting also saw Council endorse preliminary designs for the Pyramid Hill Streetscapes

Revitalisation Project.

These preliminary designs form the basis of the detailed design and tender documents.

The designs are in the final stage of completion with the Request for Tender release expected to happen next month, with the awarding of contract and start of construction anticipated to occur in February next year.

The project focuses on the civic centre of Kelly Street, Ottrey Street, Victoria Street and to a lesser extent Barber Street. Kelly Street and the east west linkage of the Senior Citizens Centre through Kelly Park to Lions Park, west of Kelly Street, is the central focus of the plans.

It's fantastic to see the endorsement of these preliminary designs, which is another step towards this project, which will further make Pyramid Hill a great place to live, work and visit.

The project will complement works already completed to Pyramid Hill's main streets, including new footpaths, paving along Kelly Street, Kelly Park play space upgrade, and footpath to the train station lined with solar bollards.

The project has been made possible via funding of \$800,000 from the Victorian Government as well as a \$610,000 contribution from Council.

Other outcomes from the meeting

Further outcomes from the November meeting include:

Council resolved to support an application for Round 2 of the Sport and Recreation Victoria Country Football and Netball Program, to install floodlighting at Serpentine and Mitiamo Recreation Reserves.

Council received and noted the mid-term review report on the Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2019-2024

Council also noted a number of quarterly reports. These included the Annual Infrastructure Program 2021-2022, Road Management Plan Defect Rectification Compliance, Local Laws and Planning Compliance Activity, Strategic Planning Activity, Public Health Activity, Building Services Activity and Statutory Planning Permit Activity.

To view all items from the November Council Meeting, including the Meeting Minutes, visit www.loddon.vic.gov.au/Our-Council/Agendas-and-minutes/Agendas-and-minutes-2021

Pool lifeguards urgently needed

A shortage of lifeguards across the country is having an impact locally on pools in Loddon Shire.

This shortage has meant that unfortunately, Pyramid Hill, Wedderburn, Boort, Mitiamo and Inglewood pools are currently operating with reduced hours through to 18 December.

While it is not ideal, Belgravia Leisure, who manages Council's pools, has made the decision based on the safety of pool users.

Belgravia Leisure is urgently recruiting for more life-guards to ensure the pools can get back to regular operating hours.

If you or someone you know is looking for some summer work, please head to <https://belgravialeisure.com.au/simply-the-best-summer-jobs/> to find out more.

Raising the Roof feeding and housing systems event

Registrations are now open for the two-day intensive feeding and housing systems event *Raising the Roof* to be held 1 and 2 February 2022 at Radcliffe's in Echuca. This free event will feature industry experts regarding planning, investing and operating feeding and housing infrastructure. It will help inform investment decisions and will include presentations highlighting new industry resources, as well as an up-close experience of feeding and housing infrastructure.

To find out more and book your spot, go to <https://bit.ly/3cZuAFP>



MAYORAL COLUMN
7 December 2021

Know Your Council data released

The latest Know Your Council data for Loddon Shire has been released and shows that Loddon performed well in 2020/21 in many key service areas.

Know Your Council data is collected from councils by the State Government and provides information about the performance of councils across Victoria.

Data is collected around nine services: animal management, aquatic facilities, food safety, governance, libraries, maternal and child health, roads, statutory planning and waste collection.

Key service areas where Loddon Shire performed well in comparison to other councils include animal management, waste collection service quality, statutory planning and governance.

Council also performed well compared to other councils in the cost of sealed local road reconstruction and resealing per square metre.

On another note, sealed local road requests, in comparison to other councils, was very low (7.9 requests per 100 kilometres compared to more than 38 requests per 100 kilometres). This low request rate could be attributed to lower-than-usual travel due to COVID-

19 restrictions.

The data also reflects other impacts of COVID-19, including on library services. With library agencies often closed due to COVID-19 restrictions, access to physical collections saw active library borrowers in Loddon drop to 6.35 per cent. This figure was more than double in similar councils and all councils. This also suggests that Loddon borrowers use physical library collections more than similar councils or all councils.

Indicators also show that Council is reliant on rates for 36.59 per cent of its income while similar councils have rates between 52 per cent to almost 62 per cent (all councils) of their income. Council remains loan free and has high levels of unrestricted cash.

To view the full Loddon Shire data across the nine services visit <https://knowyourcouncil.vic.gov.au/councils/loddon/reports/summary>

Shop local this Christmas

With Christmas time fast approaching now is the perfect time to shop locally – either in person or online, and help small businesses continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our community does a great job in supporting our local businesses, and this local support is crucial. Shopping locally means your money stays in the community – helping keep (and where possible, create) local jobs and the local economy to thrive.

We have a fantastic range of locally-owned businesses across our region that offer an incredible array of retail services, world-class produce, hospitality services and other supplies.

You can view the range of local businesses in the Loddon Shire by visiting the Business Directory on Council's website at:

www.loddon.vic.gov.au/For-residents/Business-Directory

If you have yet to add your business details to the directory (or need to update your business details), you can do so from the webpage.

It would be remiss of me not to mention The Loddon Shed – a one-stop shop that provides direct access to high-quality artisan goods from the Loddon Valley.

Visit www.theloddonshed.com.au to find out more and find that unique Loddon Valley gift.

Volunteer with the Loddon Visitor Information Centre

If you're looking for volunteer opportunities in the community, then the Loddon Visitor Information Centre would like to hear from you.

Startup Central Victoria 2022 Accelerator Program

Expressions of interest have opened for round two of Startup Central Victoria's next Accelerator Program, which starts in early February 2022.

The Accelerator Program, which has 15 places available, is open to aspiring and emerging entrepreneurs aged 18 years-plus (individuals and teams) from central Victoria who are looking to startup or scale up a business idea.

Entry to the program is open to early-stage founders through to those wishing to scale up to national and international markets.

The program includes 12 free hybrid evening sessions with three tailored learning streams and is supported by experts, coaches and mentors.

The three tailored streams are Discovery – early-stage founders; Development – creation, testing and validation; and Advanced – scaling-up nationally and internationally.

The sessions start from the second week of February to the end of May and will be delivered by La Trobe Innovation and Entrepreneurship and their international partners.

For more information and to submit an EOI, visit <https://startupcv.com.au/>

The EOI closes Monday 24 January 2022.

Startup Central Victoria is a City of Greater Bendigo-led initiative in collaboration with neighbouring shires, including Loddon Shire Council.

Local History Grants Program applications open

Applications are now open for the 2021-2022 Round of the Local History Grants Program.

The Local History Grants Program encourages and fosters community activities that preserve, record and share the local, social and community history of Victoria and Victorians.

For more information and to apply go to:

<https://prov.vic.gov.au/community/grants-and-awards/local-history-grants-program>

Applications close midnight, Monday 24 January 2022.

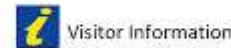
Goldfields World Heritage listing bid

I'd like to thank Cr Wendy Murphy who attended an event in Clunes last week on Council's behalf.

The partnership of 13 councils and Victorian Goldfields Tourism Executive is aiming to raise the profile of the Central Victorian Goldfields.

World Heritage listing aims to share the Central Victorian Goldfields story with people from across the globe and hopes to create social, cultural and economic opportunities for communities and individuals across the region.

Council is looking forward to receiving a full briefing in the New Year about what the World Heritage listing will mean for our Shire.



Loddon Valley – the place to be these holidays

I'd like to take the opportunity this week to highlight all the wonderful things our Loddon Valley has to offer these summer holidays.

If you're looking for a getaway a bit closer to home these holidays, then our beautiful Loddon Valley is the place to be.

We're lucky to have such a fantastic array of things to do and see right on our doorstep. This includes a range of water sports on our wealth of lakes and waterways, idyllic shady fishing spots and great places to camp.

Our state and national parks offer a number of rewarding lookouts, easy bushwalks, bird watching and pleasant picnic areas to relax and unwind.

You can immerse yourself in our region's rich history – including exploring the character and charm of our region's towns, as well as visit one of our many local businesses.

If you haven't had the chance to explore our Loddon Valley in a long time (or have never had the opportunity) – the holidays are the perfect time to do so.

To find out more about what to see and do in the Loddon Valley these holidays, visit

www.visitloddonvalley.com.au or call the Loddon Visitor Information Centre on (03) 5494 3489.

You can also drop by the Visitor Information Centre at 24 Wilson Street, Wedderburn.

WHATS ON

We encourage community members to check directly with event organisers to see if listed events are proceeding. If events have been cancelled and the Loddon Shire has not received notice, they may still appear below.

2022 Australian Masters Water Ski Championships

Friday, 21 January 2022 | 08:00 AM to Sunday, 23 January 2022 | 03:30 PM

Established in November 1960, the Bridgewater Water Ski Club is situated on the Loddon River in the heart of Bridgewater.

Hosted over three days this event attracts Australia's best athletes in the country in water skiing, slalom, trick and jump and includes competitors in all age groups ranging from under 10 to over 65 as well as our top national open men's and women skiers.

Contact Craig 0409 182 050

Email: craigsclc29@outlook.com

Bridgewater Public Caravan Park, Park St, Bridgewater on Loddon 3516

Wedderburn Pacing Cup & Richmond Family Trotters Cup

Sunday, 30 January 2022 | 12:30 PM

Come and have a big day out for the last time at the Trots at Donaldson Park as it is, before the new complex is built.

Fashions on the field, members draw for a cash bonus on cup races. Bookmaker (Al Barker) and the TAB will be on course.

The 'Smolda' bar will be in operation as well as the Lions Club BBQ. Catering from 24 Karat Cafe will be set up in the pavilion.

Members tickets \$10. Umbrella packages available by contacting the club on 0427 346 312 or email wedderburn@hrv.org.au

Donaldson Park - Chapel and Hospital St, Wedderburn 3518

Minelab Wedderburn Detector Jamboree 2022

Saturday, 12 March to Sunday, 13 March 2022

Family friendly event run over 2 days. Participants and general public must provide proof of COVID-19 double vaccination upon entry.

Donated by Minelab, the 2022 major Senior Detector

Token Hunt prize is the GPX 6000 valued at \$7999.00. Senior Detector Token Hunt \$50.00 for the weekend including breakfast and entertainment. \$40.00 for one day.

6.45 am - Breakfast & registration on Saturday & Sunday

7.45 am - Competitors briefing on Saturday & Sunday
Token Hunt: Saturday 8am to 3pm & Sunday 8am to 1pm. Rules and regulations must be adhered to and coils must not exceed 14 inch.

Saturday & Sunday - The Coach House Gallery and Museum will be open from 10am to 2pm

Saturday 12 March

9am to 4pm - Monster Town Garage Sales (Saturday only)

10am - Green & Gold Prospecting - Detector demonstrations. These demonstrations are to introduce beginners to prospecting. Run every 2 hours

4pm to 6pm - Seniors Gold Panning Knockout (Victorian Gold Panning Association assisting with this activity). \$10.00 per participant

Saturday evening - 6pm tea followed by 8pm entertainment

Sunday 13 March

8am - Registration

8.30 to 1pm - Green & Gold Prospecting Junior Detector Token Hunt. Cost \$10 per child (8-16 years)

9.30am - Registration for Junior Gold Panning Competition. \$5.00 per participant

10am Green & Gold Prospecting - Detector demonstrations. These demonstrations are to introduce beginners to prospecting. Run every 2 hours

2pm - Minelab Wedderburn Detector Jamboree Token Draws - Mayor draws for senior token hunt sponsored by Minelab. Coiltek major prizes.

For further information contact the Loddon Visitor Information Centre 03 5494 3489

E: loddonvisitorinformation@loddon.vic.gov.au

Hard Hill Tourist Reserve, Hard Hill Crt, Wedderburn 3518

Inglewood Lions Country Market

9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Our friendly country market is held on the second Saturday of each month.

Managed by the Lions Club of Inglewood.

Contact Eddie 0472 539 874 or check Inglewood Lions Country Market Victoria 3517 Facebook page for any Committee decisions to close the market due to COVID-19 precautions.

E: inglewood@lions201v1-4.org.au

Brooke St, Inglewood 3517

Tarnagulla Archive Open Day

The Archive is open to the public from 10am-3pm on certain Sundays throughout the year. We will also accommodate access by appointment wherever possible (please email us).

Contact David 0417 392 260 or visit our Facebook page: Tarnagulla History Archive

Email: tarnagullahistoryarchive@gmail.com

Tarnagulla Public Hall, 69-71 Commercial Road, Tarnagulla 3551



Know Your Council data released

Know Your Council data collected from councils by the State Government has been released this week and shows Loddon performing well in 2020/2021 across many key service areas.

Data about nine services is collected annually and provides an opportunity for the community to access consistent information about the performance of councils across Victoria.

Services include

- Animal management
- Aquatic facilities
- Food safety
- Governance
- Libraries
- Maternal and child health
- Roads
- Statutory planning
- Waste collection

Animal management performs well, rehoming almost 60% of animals impounded, a much higher rate than similar councils rehoming nearly 40%. The cost of the service is just under \$11 per head of population compared with \$17.67 for similar councils.

Aquatic facilities have performed as well as similar councils with number of visits per head of population at 2.08 compared with 1.97 in similar councils and 2.27 across all councils. Cost remains a concern at \$22.34 per visit compared with \$14.16 across all councils. However, similar councils cost \$23.04, reinforcing the challenge of providing services across dispersed

populations.

The provision of food safety services was impacted by numerous businesses being closed due to COVID-19. Library services were also impacted by COVID-19 with figures suggesting that Loddon borrowers use physical library collections more than similar councils or all councils. With library agencies often closed due to COVID-19, access to physical collections resulted in active library borrowers dropping to 6.35% compared with more than double that figure in similar councils and all councils.

Governance showed strong performance in community satisfaction with council decisions with a rating of 61 out of 100 compared to an average of 56 and 57 respectively for similar council and all councils.

Maternal child health services performed consistently with counterparts in other councils.

Sealed local road requests were very low compared with other councils, at only 7.9 requests per 100km compared to more than 38 for other councils. This could be attributed to reduced travel due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Council also performed well compared to other councils in the cost of sealed local road reconstruction and resealing per square metre.

Statutory planning performed well compared with other councils, with a lower time taken to decide planning applications and a higher proportion decided within required time frames. A reduced cost for the service can be attributed to a number of vacancies during the 12 months.

Waste collection service quality performed well. The cost of the service for Loddon and similar councils is higher than all councils largely due to the relatively small number of properties within significantly larger areas of land. Waste diverted from landfill remains below the level of similar councils and all councils but has improved over the past 4 years.

Data is also collected about sustainable capacity and financial performance.

Loddon's financial performance showed high costs per property assessment but low average rate per property assessment of just \$1244.14 per property compared with an average of \$1722.85 for similar councils and \$1798.88 for all councils. Indicators also show that Council is reliant on rates for 36.59% of its income while similar Councils have rates between 52% (similar councils) to almost 62% (all councils) of their income. Council remains loan free and has high levels of unrestricted cash.

Asset renewal and upgrade as a percentage of depreciation was almost 80% compared with over 100% by other councils. This is an area Council is reviewing over the coming 12 months.

Council's sustainability indicators show higher than

average expenses per head of population, highlighting the challenge of providing services and infrastructure across a large geographic area. Workforce turnover was lower than other councils despite Loddon employing additional grant funded staff during the period as part of the State Government's economic stimulus response to COVID-19.

To view the Loddon Shire data go to <https://knowyourcouncil.vic.gov.au/councils/loddon/reports/summary>



The Boort Resource and Information Centre have meeting rooms for hire.

Please call BRIC if you would like to make enquiries or a booking.

5455 2716



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Boort Bowls Club Inc.



January 2022
Annual Tournament

**Wednesday 26th January
Australia Day**

3 Bowl Pairs Any Combo
3 Games of 12 Ends

12:30 pm Start

**\$300 - Winner's Prize money
\$150 - Runner-up Prize money**

Entry Fee \$15 per player
Afternoon Tea Provided

President

J. Nelson: 5455 2255

Secretary

G. Twedde: 5455 2128

Tournament Secretaries

L. Maxted: 5455 2122
Mob. 0428 551 332

S. Morris: 5455 2880
Mob. 0409 194 196

K. Birt: 5455 2224



The Boort Tourism and Development group are seeking interested Boort community members to provide input with regards to the Boort Community Plan.

Community Planning

Community planning encourages people to work together in their communities to consider and document the social inclusion, capacity building and community participation needs of their community. The information gleaned from the community and provided to Council through the community plan document is used to inform planning, funding, advocacy and community development activities of Council.

Community planning in Loddon

Local Community Planning Groups volunteer their time to coordinate the development and implementation of a community plan for their particular community. To develop a community plan, Community Planning Groups seek the ideas and opinions of the community as a whole via a thorough and inclusive consultation process.

Once the community plan is developed, Community Planning Groups present their plans to Council. Community Plans Council determine what projects and activities to prioritise and what involvement Council will have as communities work to deliver the actions identified in their community plans.

Getting involved

Community planning is open to everyone in the community, the commitment and input required is flexible. Residents can volunteer to be a member of the local Community Planning group, contribute to implementing one specific project you are particularly passionate about or just like to input your ideas

and comments into the Community Plan.

There are many benefits to being involved in community planning. These include;

- Helping improve your community such as establishing more social events, develop new infrastructure, facilitates or help to 'beautifying' the town
- Meet new people
- Gain satisfaction and a sense of achievement from contributing to the community

Learn new skills

Achievements

Community Planning in Loddon Shire has a strong and proud history and has produced some excellent outcomes that improve the overall lifestyle of residents and visitors.

Some examples of Community Planning achievements include;

- Boort Eastern Entry Project.
- The Inglewood and Bridgewater Community Building Initiative.
- Bendigo/Loddon Transport Connections Program.
- Bridgewater Foreshore Redevelopment (Stage 1).
- Various Public/Town Hall Upgrade Projects.
- Inglewood Community Hub Project.
- Janiember Park Upgrade (Serpentine Recreation Reserve).
- Tarnagulla Community Centre.
- Wedderburn Streetscape Project.

There will be a questionnaire available early next year for community members to contribute their ideas and thoughts to the plan.

If you have questions please email:

boorttourismdevelopment@gmail.com

Or speak to Sophia Herrington, Wendy James

or Barry Kennedy



PH: 54515200

DID YOU KNOW?

Boort District Health has a 2 bed Urgent Care Centre (UCC).

This is not an Emergency Department (ED).

It is different to an ED because:

It is not staffed with a doctor on site, and

It does not offer the full suite of emergency equipment/facilities that larger organisations such as Bendigo Health has.

The BDH UCC is staffed with qualified Registered Nurses 24/7.

It is supported by Dr Olise of the Boort District Medical Centre either in person or over the phone.

What does this mean?

There is a qualified nurse on duty every single shift, every single day, every day of the year, who can see you and assess you if you present to BDH UCC feeling unwell or injured.

There is a doctor on call 24/7 who will be consulted over the phone regarding your care and will either give advice and medical orders over the phone to the nurse treating you OR they

will assess you and consult with you via Telehealth OR they will come in and see you face to face in our UCC.

If you phone BDH for advice and are advised to present to UCC OR if you present to UCC in person of your own means or are brought to UCC by Ambulance Victoria, our nurses on duty will triage you.



BOORT FLORIST

122 Godfrey Street, Boort (Next door to Audrey's)

Phone 7 days a week

0427 180 011

OPEN: Tues, Thur & Fri from 10.30am

Flowers, Plants and so much more

Garden Deco, Gifts, Alternative Clothing



Orders taken for Hampers.
Member of Petals Relay

Now taking bookings for face painting!



Boort Florist

Fairy Dust & Angel Wings





BOORT ANGLING CLUB Inc No A 0051259 P
34 Ring Road Boort. Vic. 3537
PO Box 43 Boort. Vic. 3537
Email: boortanglingclub@yahoo.com

December 2021

There was no December meeting because of the harvest break, however we had a small but enjoyable get together for sausages and burgers on bread. Fishing has been good for those fortunate enough to venture out. An example of this is, Craig and Sharon Thomas had a few days at Lake Charm and caught redfin by the dozen.

BAC is keen to help Little Lake Boort Asset Management Committee in the constant quest to improve the lake. This includes water quality, reducing foreshore erosion, making conditions better for the survival of, and faster growth rates of native fish, redfin, and various other aquatic life, whilst making the lake a more enjoyable place for locals and visitors. One way to help achieve this is to greatly reduce carp numbers. This would be done in the most professional and humane way, and the carp would be taken for processing while the native fish, redfin and other natives would be left in the lake. We believe that if this operation is carried out and repeated when opportunities arise, the food availability and better environment created will result in the preferred recreational fish surviving and growing to make it a more popular fishing lake. In the 2020 to 2021 year the lake was stocked 15,000 fingerling fish, the birds certainly would have taken some, but many of these would have been eaten by carp and disadvantaged by the destructive feeding tactics of the carp.

BAC is consulting with Loddon Shire Council re: the installation of better lighting and footpaths for the Public Toilets near our club rooms.

These toilets are used by many who picnic on the foreshore, walk the lake, or call at the car park, as well as BAC members and those who hire the rooms.

Thanks Willy Weed Boat, his drivers and support team. Prolific growth of "the weed" combined with windy conditions and a couple of breakdowns has created a real challenge to this year's program. We are informed that the weed has nearly finished flowering. We are hoping that growth will slow and with the filling of the lake in a week or so the weed should go to the bottom and conditions will improve.

Next meeting will be at 7.30pm Wednesday 12th January 2022. With any luck the weed may have backed off and we can wet a line before the meeting.

Everyone, have a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

BAC Committee

Calling All Tennis Players!



**SATURDAY TEAM COMPETITION
WILL COMMENCE SATURDAY
JANUARY 29TH 2022**

We are now taking names for interested players to participate in our Senior Tennis competition. This will be a 7 week competition plus finals and Club Championships.



**Juniors from Year 5
onwards may
participate.
Friday 21st January**

**Names to: boorttennis@yahoo.com.au
Kim Potter (0447554203)**

Yung Balug Keeping Place

The Museum is situated on the property of Paul & Cathie Haw built on a Lunette hill, East side of Lake Boort, overlooking the wetland.

Lake Boort contains the highest concentration of scarred trees in Australia made with stone tools. You are able to walk around Lake Boort to study the Red Gums which hold these amazing scars.

Around the edge of the lake there can be found at least 50 "Cooking Mounds".

The Yung Balug Clan Keeping Place mainly caters for educational groups who want to learn their early Australian History. School groups are most welcome.

The Keeping Place is a unique place to study Aboriginal history and the local environment. The Boort Region has significant Wetlands which can be visited at the same time.

The "Yung Balug Keeping Place" displays a very large collection of Yung Balug Clan artefacts handed over mainly by retired farmers.

The Keeping place also grows native foods, specialising in Acacias (Wattles) for human consumption, you can



Photo is part of a very large collection of Artefacts presented by Farmers in the district.

walk among the rows of wattles.

Detailed Aboriginal History on the Northern Plains was well documented by Paul Haw and Margaret Munro in the publication titled "Footprints Across the Loddon Plains". This book is for sale at The Keeping Place.

Thanks to the State Library of Victoria, The Keeping

Place now exhibits some of the oldest photos of Aborigines living on the Kinypanial Creek, taken in the 1850's by John Hunter Kerr.

Environmental Tours of the Wetlands in the Boort Region are also conducted.

Everyone is welcome to visit, but please call before visiting.

Please phone on 0417 333 171 or

Email - paulcathiehaw@gmail.com

Photo is Jeannine McNab installing one of the 34 photos taken by John Hunter Kerr. These photos were supplied by the State Library of Victoria.



Yung Balug Keeping Place museum is situated on the property of Paul & Cathie Haw.

Well worth a visit to see the amazing Artefacts collected from the Boort Region.

A recent addition is 34 photos taken by John Hunter Kerr in the 1850's

This was made possible by the State Library of Victoria.

Everyone is welcome, but please call or email before visiting.

Phone - 0417 333 171

Email - paulcathiehaw@gmail.com

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Office now in Boort!

Every Wednesday, commencing 12th January 2022 from 1pm to 3pm

Room 8, BRIC, 119-121 Godfrey Street, Boort.



Call in and speak with local Client Specialist

Lawrence Cameron

or to arrange an appointment call:

0439 207 107

Lawrence is also available for on-farm visits Monday to Friday



BOORT BOWLS

The bowls members have been very active playing Pennant, State Events, Club Events and Tournaments. Mid-Week and Saturday pennant has stopped for a Christmas New Year break and will resume again mid January. A barbeque night was held to wind up bare foot bowls until after New Year. A special open fun bare foot bowls night will be held on Monday 3rd January for all men, women and children to come and play. A barbeque will also be included for this special night. Brochures with more details for this event are on display on the local notice board and at the caravan park.

Club

Congratulations to Shayne Morris on winning the North Central Playing Area State Singles and we wish him good luck and good bowling when he represents North Central at Regional level in March. Also congratulations to Thelma Moresi on winning the North Central Playing Area and Wimmera Region 60+ State Singles. Thelma will represent the Region in the final

16 of this event at Bendigo in February.

Congratulations to Shayne Morris (Skip), Kevin De Piazza, Muriel Maxted and Laurie Maxted on their great win at Cohuna Golf Classic Fours Tournament. Minor prizes collected at two tournaments was Gill Tweddle winning Fan The Cards and Ken Strachan the roll to the ditch at St. Arnaud and Thelma Moresi winning roll to the ball at the Inglewood Tournament. This concludes the final bowls report for 2021 and wish all club members a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

- Gardener -

Expression of Interest Required

The Boort Cemetery Trust are seeking 'Expressions of Interest' for the position of gardener for the Boort Cemetery. This position will be 3-5 hours per week with seasonal requirements.

Enquiries and job description available from the Secretary: boortcemetery@gmail.com by 23/12/2021



www.agriculture.vic.gov.au

This beautiful flower can devastate our waterways

Agriculture Victoria is encouraging Mildura, Swan Hill and Kerang district residents to report sightings of the State prohibited weed, water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*), following recent detections in the area.

Leading Biosecurity Officer Kaitlin Wright said despite its beauty, water hyacinth is one of the world's worst aquatic weeds.

A single infestation can double in size in just two weeks, devastating natural waterways and impacting heavily on aquatic flora and fauna.

"Water hyacinth can be identified by its purple flower spikes in summer and thick, fleshy round leaves that sit on the water's surface," Ms Wright said.

"It has dark feathery roots that trail in the water below and one plant is capable of producing 3000 seeds in one season."

The plant has been illegally sold at some regional markets and online in the past and Agriculture Victoria is concerned that some residents may have innocently bought the "beautiful but devastating" plants for their fish tanks, ponds or dams.

Land owners of properties where infestations have recently been detected were unaware they had such a dangerous weed in their backyard until informed by Biosecurity officers.

"It's vital that people report any sightings of water hyacinth even if you purchased this plant without knowing it was such an invasive weed. This will help us protect important waterways like the Murray River and Kerang wetlands.

"Please don't try to control or dispose of the weed yourself, instead contact Agriculture Victoria, who will organise for the safe and secure disposal of plants, at no cost to the land owner."

In Victoria, this highly invasive aquatic species is a State prohibited weed under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* and managed with the aim of eradication from the State.

Agriculture Victorian encourages anyone who thinks they have water hyacinth or have seen it offered for sale, to report it on 136 186 or Weed.Spotters@agriculture.vic.gov.au.



ABOUT BOORT SPONSORED BY THE BOORT AMITY CLUB

**Cool room and Portable
Loo Hire available**
Kathy Lowrie phone number
0473 090 784.

NEED A COPY OF YOUR COVID-19 VACCINATION CERTIFICATE?

Call the Australian
Immunisation Register on
1800 653 809
(M – F 8am – 5pm)

Your vaccination certificate will be
posted out to you within 2 weeks.

You can also access your certificate online via MyGov.
If you need help with this, call and make an appointment
at BRIC on 03 5455 2716



BOORT PLAYGROUP

Wrap-Up

We have had a wonderful year at Playgroup. The children have enjoyed a wide range of indoor and outdoor, structured and unstructured play. Parents have enjoyed meeting and getting to know each other, and sharing special time with their children.

Special events for 2021 have included:

Visit to the Spanner Sculpture Gardens

Visit to the fire station

Visit from the ambulance and paramedics

Teddy Bear's Picnic with Carousel at Nolen's Park

Christmas Break-Up with a visit from Santa

We are very fortunate to be able to utilise the Boort Pre-School space, although opportunities for this have been limited by COVID restrictions this year. We thank the Boort Pre-School staff and students for sharing the space with us.

We need to extend a big thank-you to the Boort Baptist Church, who have allowed us to utilise the church hall and playground for many sessions during the year, and also store our supplies in the hall for a period of time. The children especially enjoyed using the ride-on vehicles on the deck and the ramp, and there was plenty of space for the adults to gather. Thank you!

Thanks must also go to the Men's Shed for running the merry-go-round at our Teddy Bears' Picnic. It is always lots of fun for the children and is very much appreciated.

The children loved the excursions to the spanner gardens, the CFA shed, and the visit from the ambulance and our local paramedics in May. Thanks so much to everyone who has hosted or visited us for activities during the year.

Finally, thanks to our Santa for giving up your time to come and make our break-up extra special!

We are excited for 2022 at Boort Playgroup! The committee members will be Karina Johnston, Jess Pink, Kayla Waldron and Anna Balzer. Our first session for 2022 will be held on **February 4th at 9:30am**. Contact Karina for more information on 0408 175 926. Please come along and see what Playgroup is all about! We would love to have you.



PETER WALSH
YOUR VOICE IN PARLIAMENT

Peter Walsh MP MEMBER FOR MURRUMBIDGEE • LEADER OF THE NATIONALS

Support our local businesses

Small businesses need our help and support in what continues to be tough times.

If we spend locally then our small businesses do too, keeping our communities strong. Every little bit helps.

For the latest Coronavirus information go to peterwalsh.org.au or follow us on

We are in this together, and together we will get through.

Peter Walsh MP 496 High Street, Echuca 3564 Tel: 54 82 2039 or 1300 467 906 E: peter.walsh@parliament.vic.gov.au

Funded by Parliamentary budget.

|||||
Libraries
Change Lives

 Public Libraries
Victoria

 Borrow
Box.
Your library in one app.

 **beanstack**



BIG Summer Read

JOIN. BORROW. PLAY. WIN!

1 DECEMBER 2021 - 31 JANUARY 2022

Download the **Beanstack Tracker** app,
register to play at <https://plv.beanstack.org>
or visit your local public library



Goldfields
Libraries



Croquet Report

A Golf Croquet Coaching Workshop was held at Boort Lakeside Croquet Club on 25th and 26th November.

Two participants from Boort, two from Charlton, one from Maldon and eight from Wycheproof were fortunate enough to be taught by State coach John van der Touw. John showed them drills, discussed tactics, reviewed grips, stalk, stance and swing and also covered a theory component. All participants enjoyed the experience and will now have a break during which they will practice skills and enter competitive events before reconvening in a couple of months for the next workshop which will also be held in Boort.



Local player Gwen Parker practicing her skills

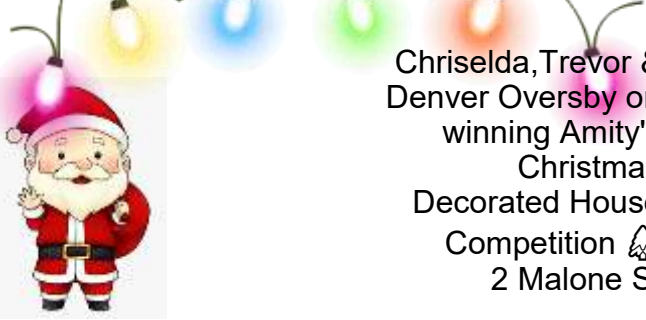
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPENING HOURS



Holiday Opening Days in Boort

The last visit from Goldfields library staff will be Thursday 23 December, 10.30am-12.30pm, with the library closed from Thursday 23 December and reopening on Monday 10 January 2022. The first visit from library staff on Monday 10 January, 10.30am-12.30pm.

CONGRATULATIONS TO



Chriselda, Trevor & Denver Oversby on winning Amity's Christmas Decorated House Competition 🌲
2 Malone St

Special mention to Joan & Trevor Broad
51 Lake view Street 🌲

Congratulations to Country Wool Bedding for winning Amity Best Christmas Window Display 🌲



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THE BRIC Christmas Comp

- Best Tree Not Decorated
Susan Gould

Best Handmade Decoration, Wreath or Bunting
Pat Higgins and Gayle Zanker



Boort Croquet Club

On Friday 10th December the Boort Croquet Club held their Christmas



Break-up. A good crowd of thirty-five people enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by the Catering Committee. A lovely evening of chatting, playing croquet and listening to live music from "Honest Ken" was had by all.

After a short break over Christmas and New Year we will





BOORT

TROTting CLUB

BOORT THE NORTHERN OASIS
SUMMER RACE MEETING

SUN

2nd JAN

2022

Race Meeting
Gates Open 12pm

FREE ADMITTANCE & FREE RACE BOOKS



8 RACES
FEATURING

BOORT THE NORTHERN
OASIS PACE \$10,000
Major sponsor: Victorian
Olive Groves David Young

BOORT THE NORTHERN OASIS TROT \$10,000
Major sponsor: Boort Lakes Holiday Park

FAMILY FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

Music from Boort's
star vocalist
Elias Lanyon

A CHANCE TO WIN

A Big 4 Holiday Park voucher

Pick 5 Jackpot

On-course tote and bookmaker

STAY AND ENJOY

Blast After the Last and Big 4 Draw

Luncheon kiosk, Ice-cream van, Coffee Van, Tote, Bookmaker, Music, Prizes
Children's activities and prizes

ALL WELCOME: INVITING BOORT COMMUNITY PEOPLE AND HOLIDAY MAKERS

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO SHOW YOUR VACCINATION CERTIFICATE ON ENTRY
PATRONS 18 AND OVER ARE TO BE FULLY VACCINATED

SPECIAL HOSPITALITY PACKAGES

Book a table and dine in the Sports Bar
\$30 per person or on the lawns of the
wonderful Northern Oasis trackside for free.

Bookings:

Neil Beattie 0427 552 468

Nicole Myles 0408 321 652

John Campbell 0437 077 887

Event Calendar 2021/2022

All events tentative and will follow current COVID restrictions and the Boort Ski Club COVID safe plan.

Strict Guidelines will apply and be shared prior to each event.



| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Wed 29th Dec 2021 (8pm)</p> |  | <p>Last Man Standing Draw & 60th Anniversary</p> <p>Be part of our 60th Anniversary and yearly big event with big prize money and many spot prizes and games during the night</p> |
| <p>Fri 31st Dec 2021 (11am)</p> |  | <p>Annual General Meeting & Presentations</p> <p>AGM followed by presentations for last season's final tournament</p> |
| <p>Sat 12th Feb 2022 7am-1pm</p> |  | <p>1st Coaching Day</p> <p>Want to start or improve your skiing? Don't have a boat and your children want to learn? We can help!</p> |
| <p>Sun 13th Feb 2022 7am-1pm</p> |  | <p>1st Club Tournament</p> <p>All age groups welcome, test yourselves against the best of the best. Very social, easy-going competition</p> |
| <p>Sat 5th Mar 2022 7am-1pm</p> |  | <p>2nd Coaching Day</p> <p>Want to start or improve your skiing? Don't have a boat and your children want to learn? We can help!</p> |
| <p>Sun 6th Mar 2022 7am-1pm</p> |  | <p>2nd Club Tournament</p> <p>OK you now realise after the 1st round that none of us are that good, second change compete or improve your score</p> |
| <p>Sat 12th Mar 2022 11am</p> |  | <p>Family Day</p> <p>BBQ, new members drive, members raffle, beginners coaching and Tournament presentations</p> |

FREE ENTRY



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

'ASSISTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN
GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE NATIONAL
AUSTRALIA DAY COUNCIL',

**WEDNESDAY
26TH JANUARY
2022**

11am
-
5pm

NOLEN'S PARK

BOORT

BYO
CHAIR

**OFFICIAL AUSTRALIA DAY CEREMONY
FOOD STALLS / MUSIC / ACTIVITIES**

**FREE ENTERTAINMENT!
ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: JUMPING SLIDE,
PADDLE BOARDS, CANOES, THE ZONE**