

GARFIELD ISSUE 181 spectator

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DEADLINE IS THE 20th OF THE MONTH

Issue out the first week of every month, except January.

Check out The Garfield Spectator in colour on our website

A recent holiday destination by local family? Where is it??? Photo by Karen Thomson

The Garfield Spectator is a community publication and as such, the views, comments or details published are not necessarily that of the committee. Every effort is made to ensure what is printed is factual and correct. All advertising material is the responsibility of the provider and inclusion in this publication is not an endorsement of any service or product.

ARTICLES: Submit via email or post

To submit via email write the following in the email headings:

Subject line: Editor, subject/name of article, author and photographers name to be published.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work, live and learn the Wurundjeri and Boonwurrung people of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge their continued connection to land, water and community, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging

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Body of email: Your article/photos attached

Payment is required with copy by deadline for all advertisements, see table below for prices. All advertising in the printed copy will also appear on our website, in the downloaded versions of the current and previous editions.

Note: All page references will relate to A4 size paper.

Advertise for 11 continuous issues for the price of 10.

Garfield and District Non-For-Profit Community groups and clubs are not charged for advertising (conditions apply). Community notices will be published according to availability of space.

ADVERT SIZE	COST PER ISSUE	DIMENSIONS (hwxw)
Business card	\$15	8.5cmx 5cm
1/4 page	\$20	12.5cm x 9.5cm
1/2 page	\$35	14cm X 9cm
Full page	\$70	27cmx19cm

Bunyip R.S.L. Branch President Retires by Roman Kulkewicz

Former Bunyip Branch RSL President, Colin Teese from Garfield has retired and is settling into his new home at Hillview Bunyip Aged Care. He served as Bunyip RSL President for 18 years. Colin 93 is a well known, respected and much loved icon in the local community. He has been a Garfield resident and lived in the same house in Archer Road for seventy two years. He is well known for selling RSL badges and conducting RSL Services in Garfield and Bunyip for the past eighteen years. Colin has also conducted RSL Services at Hillview and for the Bunyip Junior Football Club. In that time he and his team have sold in excess of \$150,000 in RSL badges.

His battle over 27 years with Prostate Cancer continues which has slowed him down to where he is now taking things at a slower pace.

Eighteen years ago he suffered and beat cancer of the femur.

Colin's association with the RSL began when at eighteen years of age in 1951 he registered for compulsory National Service. He was in the second intake at Puckapunyal. After 3 months he transferred to the 6 Battalion Royal Melbourne Regiment at Preston to complete his obligatory time in the Army. Colin joined the Bunyip RSL about 30 years ago when the number of war veterans increased.

Born in Warragul in 1933, Colin began his schooling at Lardner Primary, then attended Warragul High School completing his Intermediate Certificate. The family moved to Preston and Colin wanted to be a builder. "There were no apprentices or apprenticeships in those days" he recalls. Colin was called an "Journey Man" starting off with a push bike and a sugar bag for his hand tools and working with different builders to learn the building trade.

After the war there was a shortage of tradesmen and this was a great opportunity for Colin to work as a builder. He had his own business for about 3-4 years.

Colin's wife Thelma passed away in 2019 after 49 years of married life. The couple had 3 children. When Colin moved to Garfield there were more paddocks than houses there. There was a dairy farm where Greenland Court is today. But it was a great town to live in. It has a good rail service and was close enough to the city.

Colin has always been a community minded person. He served as a volunteer at the West Gippsland Hospital in Occupational Therapy for 10 years. He is a Life Member of the Garfield and District Memorial Swimming Pool where he was Secretary manager for 10 years.

He has enjoyed Ballroom Dancing and only stopped attending dances in February this year. He was a keen tennis player and also loved rifle shooting.

Colin and his wife Thelma had travelled extensively to countries such as Japan, Russia, Ukraine, USA, New Zealand, Fiji, United Kingdom, Europe and Ireland.

I asked him for some words of wisdom. Firstly he has a message for wives "get your husbands to get tested for Prostate Cancer"



Colin at Hillview



Colin with his own memorabilia outside his room



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The Iona State School was located on the corner of Thirteen Mile Road and Bunyip River Road at Vervale. The name of Vervale didn't come into use for this area until around 1917, 23 years after the school was established, which is why it was never officially known by that name. The school, with an attached three-roomed teachers quarters, opened on July 9, 1894 and was originally known as Koo Wee Rup North; then in 1899 it changed its name to Bunyip South and then in 1905 to Iona.

There were 83 pupils enrolled when it opened and the head teacher was Arthur Jamieson. When the school opened many of the local children had not been at school since their parents had moved to the area (it was around 1893 that permanent settlers moved to the Swamp) so it was not an easy time for Mr Jamieson as some children had no interest in attending school after a year or so of freedom. Mr Jamieson also had to establish a school garden and a playground.

By 1895, the school population had grown to 120 pupils and the new Head Teacher Joseph Lyons arrived in the April. He had three assistants - Mr Colquhoun, Miss Alston and Mrs Lyons. Joseph Lyons remained at the school until 1907.

As the school population increased the teachers quarters were used as class rooms, and so a separate teacher's residence of five rooms was built in 1908. The original school building burnt down on July 6, 1913 and school lessons were held in a private house until the new building, which had accommodation for 164 pupils, opened on April 28, 1914. The school was opened by Mrs Keast, the wife of the local state member of Parliament, in front of a crowd of 500 people, with entertainment provided by the Iona Brass Band.

The Education Department established the War Relief Fund in August 1914, to raise money for the War effort or as the Education Department's Record of War Service, 1914-1919 book put it 'sustained and generous help by Victorian boys and girls may well assist to keep Australia free from the horrors of war. Every boy and girl should therefore endeavour to make regular contributions till the close of War'. This book lists the amount of money raised by children at all schools in Victoria and the children at Iona raised £196 for this fund, a substantial amount compared to other schools in the area.

After the War, from April 1920 to the end of 1927, the Head Teacher was World War One veteran, Percy Scouller. Percy Osborne Scouller had enlisted on February 8, 1915 at the age of 23. After serving overseas Sergeant Scouller arrived back home in Australia in June 1919 and was discharged in the August of that year and had a number of temporary appointments until he was posted to Iona.

In 1942, electricity was supplied to the school and the telephone was connected in 1964. Celebrations took place in 1964 to mark the 50th anniversary of the new building with between 500 and 600 people attending. Another celebration took place in 1989 to mark the 75th anniversary of 1914 building. Sadly the school could not celebrate 100 years of education as the school was closed on 17th December 1993, seven months short of its centenary. The building is now at Nar Nar Goon and is used as a Scout Hall

Sources

**Vision and Realisation: a centenary of history of State Education in Victoria*, edited by L.J. Blake. Published by the Education Department of Victoria, 1973

**on the edge of the swamp: a history of the Iona Primary School No 3201 1894-1994* by Denise Nest (Iona Primary School Back-to-Committee 1994

Pictures on page 7



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BUNYIP-GARFIELD PROBUS CLUB - BY HELEN PEGGIE

Professor John Parker, who is a former Surveyor General of Victoria, was our guest speaker this month and he spoke about Victorian borders with a great knowledge of the subject. One of the amazing details he informed us was that the Victorian/South Australian Border isn't exactly where we think it is and in fact, it appears to be right in the middle of prime agricultural land. The Victorian/South Australian generally follows 141st of east longitude. However due to a 19th century surveying error, it does not perfectly align with the true meridian. Because of the surveying mistake the State line is technically really shifted about 3.6 km west of the actual meridian. That is not the only border in question, John pointed out that New South Wales is also in doubt because of the error that was made so many years ago. It was a very interesting talk and one that we wouldn't think twice about normally. After this we had lunch at the Koo Wee Rup Hotel.

The Fabulous Flm Group saw (The Day the Earth Stood Still) with Michael Rennie and Patricia Neal.

Our outing this month was to the Art Centre at Warragul to see the show (Top of the World.) Husband and wife team Melissa Langton and Mark Johes entertained us with songs of the 70's like Shirley Bassey, Olivia Newton-John and the Carpenters. Afterwards we had lunch at the Warragul Golf Club.

The Walking group cointue to walk some more of the Warragul Twin Towns Walk which is always enjoyable.

Our Gardeners at the moment are in recession until Spring.

Helen.

Rest in Peace

To the families and friends of those who have recently lost loved ones in Garfield and surrounds, we offer our sympathy and support at this sad time..



New Financial Year. Fresh Start.



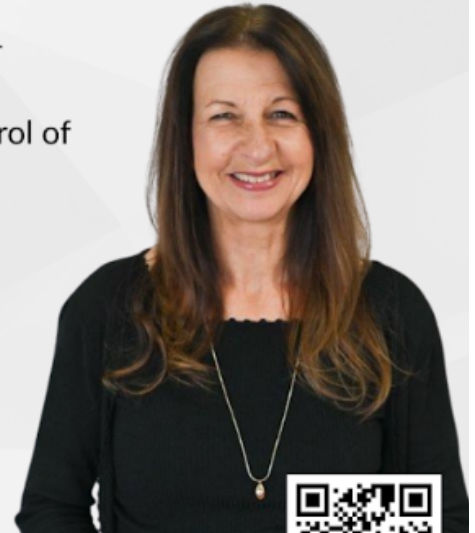
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Our days have cooled down Our homes are heating up

Winter is the peak time for heater fires, we are in the middle of winter and the days are really cold and nights frosty and with people and children indoors during this time, it's more important than ever to follow some basic fire safety tips.

- Never leave portable heaters and fireplaces unattended; turn off heaters and make sure fireplace embers are extinguished before leaving the room.
- Turn off all heating and extinguish open fires before going to sleep.
- Drying clothes and other items must be kept at least one metre away from all heating.
- Children must be supervised near all types of heating. Ensure a safe distance is maintained between children and heating.
- Always use a fire screen in front of an open fire.
- Keep wood and other combustibles at least one metre from a fire.

All residents should also have gas heaters inspected and serviced every two years to ensure the safety of loved ones from carbon monoxide poisoning or fire.

To reduce the risk of fire starting from your fireplace or wood heater you should:

- Use a torch to check for creosote build-up or obstructions.
- Have your chimney professionally cleaned annually
- Only burn dry, clean wood
- Extinguish your fire before going to bed or leaving the house

Over time there could be a build-up of creosote, a black tar-like residue, which is highly flammable and could clog up chimneys.

Creosote is not only caused by general use, but it can also build up quicker if you are using incorrect fuels, such as green wood or treated timbers.

Each year CFA sees an increase in the number of chimney fires from both fireplaces and wood heaters. Let's all do our part in keeping our homes safe over the cooler months.

Other heating methods

Electric blankets are a great way to make our beds toasty and warm on those cold

great way to make our beds toasty and warm on those cold winter nights, turn electric blankets on 30 minutes before getting into bed and turn as you get into bed. Keep electric blankets flat with controls at the side of the bed and regularly check for broken or exposed wiring. Finally, never consume liquid in bed whilst the electric blanket is on as this could lead to electrocution.

Heat bags are widely available to purchase and are filled with a variety of different things from wheat, rice, millet, lavender etc and are used to ease sore muscles and for warming us up on those cold days and nights. Only use the heat bag to the manufacturer's directions, especially if purchased in a child's teddy and never use a bed warmer as they can overheat and cause a fire.

Kindly reminder – Smoke alarms save lives and need to be in good working order. Batteries should have been replaced at the end of daylight savings

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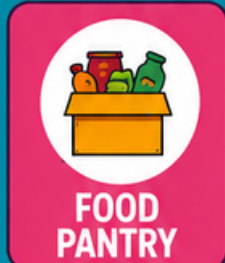
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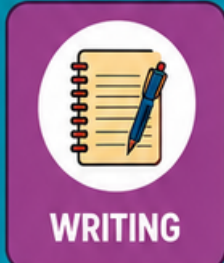
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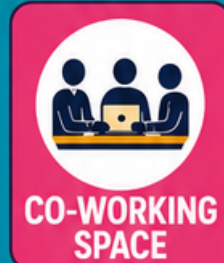
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Reducing Bunyip and Districts carbon footprint

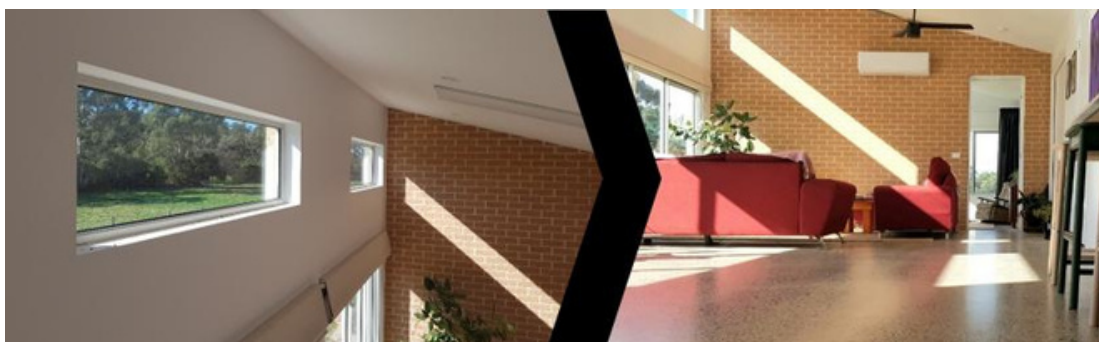


Settle in for a Sustainable Home Journey

When Kathy set out to build her home, she wasn't chasing trends, she leaned into her passion for sustainable living. A passion built over many years. Having been exposed early in her career running workshops for owner builders using sustainable materials like rammed earth, mud brick and straw bale, her decision felt like a natural progression.

"I don't like being cold," she laughs, but quickly adds the underlying motivation: "We owe it to the earth to build something that doesn't deplete resources." For Kathy, sustainability wasn't just nice to do, it was about comfort, practicality, and long-term thinking.

One of the biggest misconceptions Kathy encountered was that sustainable homes can only be achieved with large budgets and custom architects. Working with financial limits, she chose a volume builder which is an unconventional route for a sustainability-focused project. While cheaper, it came with trade-offs. "Their [volume builders] knowledge started and ended with solar passive design," she explains. This meant she had to advocate strongly for features like improved thermal mass (e.g. internal brick walls), appropriate appliances (e.g. heat pumps), and even basic inclusions like ceiling fans that you would expect to be part of the package.



Designed for the sun to heat the home in winter with well placed eaves keeping the sun out in summer

Despite the challenges, Kathy prioritised a few non-negotiables: a north-facing orientation, good insulation, and effective sealing. "If you face your house the right way in the southern hemisphere, you're 80% there," she says. These decisions have paid off significantly.

Kathy found a way to save on architecture costs. She visited Yourhome.gov.au and modelled her home off a free house design.

The website's free Design For Place home designs can help anyone create an energy-efficient, sustainable home that suits their climate and lifestyle.



CONTACT US

BragBunyip@gmail.com

ABOUT US

Bunyip Renewables Action Group is a not-for-profit community group that aims to reduce the carbon footprint of the Bunyip district by facilitating the town's switch to renewable energy.

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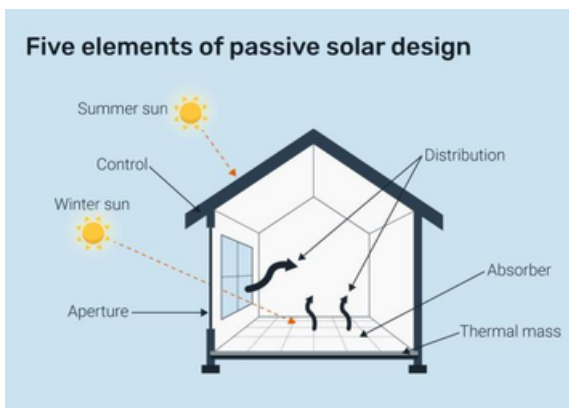
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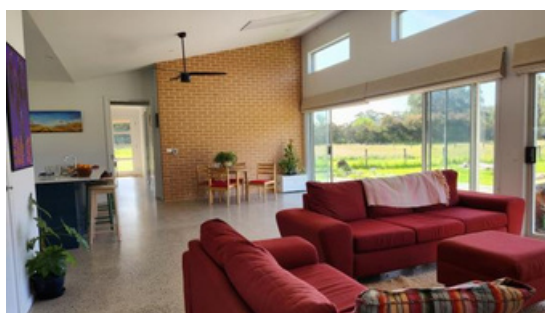


Today, her home performs exceptionally well in both extreme heat and cold. On chilly winter days, even when it's just 13 degrees outside, her home feels warm and inviting thanks to sunlight and thoughtful design. "It's like a living object," Kathy says. "It cools, heats, breathes and lights with the elements." With well-placed windows, natural light floods the space, and the breeze flows easily through during warmer months, reducing reliance on mechanical heating and cooling.



Kathy emphasises that sustainability is not about a single feature, but a combination of thoughtful choices. "What makes the house work is the sum of its parts, the design, the appliances, and even our lifestyle."

Kathy offers practical advice for those considering a similar path but are worried about cost. She recommends exploring free resources like the government home design website. It provides climate-appropriate plans that can be adapted by builders. Equally valuable, she says, is speaking to people who have lived in sustainable homes. "Theory is helpful, but firsthand experience is gold."



Concrete floor & internal brickwalls provide thermal mass

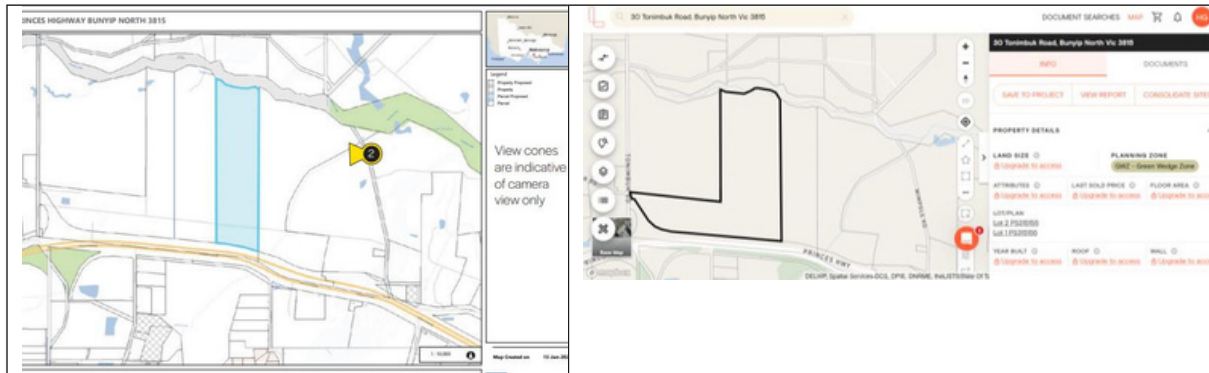
Kathy's story shows that sustainability on a budget is not only possible—it's worth fighting for. Through determination, careful research, and a willingness to question conventional choices, she created a home that delivers comfort, resilience, and lasting environmental and economic benefits.

Thanks Kathy for sharing your story and inspiring others to consider the long term benefits of sustainable design.

BESS Battery Storage Projects proposed for Bunyip North

Applications have been made by two separate internationally based companies to construct massive BESS (Battery Energy Storage Systems) in Bunyip North. The Projects has been chosen as it sits between the Latrobe Valley generation centre and Melbourne's major electricity demand areas. These Projects will sit side by side on agricultural land which is zoned as Green Wedge. They have been fast tracked which effectively means the democracy process has been taken away from residents and local government, and our Councillors.

The table below indicates the location of each Project and their proximity to each other.



Batteries tend to have a life of between 20-30 years after which time the companies say that all signs of construction and regeneration to original state of the land (dependent on landowner's request) will be facilitated. The specific details for each of the Projects are as follows:

Wimpole AMPYR Battery Project - 35 hectares (east/west agricultural, north Cannibal Creek, south Princes Fwy). The Project Plans also allow for an additional 4 hectares for an AUSNET Terminal Substation.
Property location: Lot 3 Princes Hwy (opposite the current Princes Hwy & Nash Road intersections).

It is anticipated that the Project will incorporate 208 battery containers. These white, shipping-container-style units will house a massive 375 megawatt (MW), 1,533 megawatt-hour (MWh) storage system.

Wimpole AMPYR will be at the Bunyip Community Market on 26th July.

<https://ampyr.com.au/our-projects/wimpole-battery/>

<https://ampyr.com.au/Wimpole-Social-Impact-Assessment.pdf>

RES Battery Project - 30.8 hectares (east Tonimbuk Rd, west agricultural land next to Wimpole BESS, north Cannibal Creek, south Princes Fwy).

Property address: 30 Tonimbuk Road, Bunyip North

The 400 MW / 2,400 MWh utility-scale facility is anticipated to comprise of 400 battery shipping containers, 52 inverter and transformer units, a new high-voltage Bunyip North Terminal Station, operations and maintenance buildings. The Project is currently being developed by RES Australia and recently achieved its Federal environmental clearance in June 2026. RES does not intend to be the long-term owner of the Project, which is a concern.

https://www.bunyipnorth-energystorage.com/media/k31plofd/bunyip-bess-summary-planning-application_web.pdf

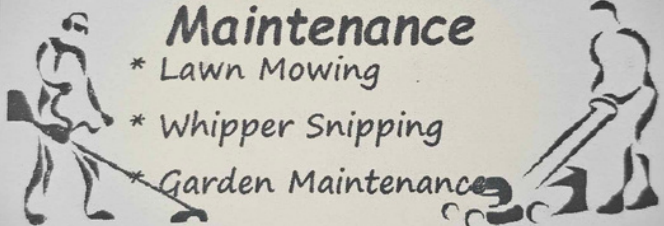
Applications of Objection to the RES BESS Proposal close on 21st August.

- Objections can be made by
email: energyandinfrastructure@transport.vic.gov.au
post: Minister for Planning, C/- Department of Transport and Planning, GPO Box 2392, Melbourne VIC 3001.

Residents of areas around Bunyip and in the neighbouring townships, who are on social media are urged to join the 'Friends of Bunyip and Surrounds' Facebook. We are planning a community meeting to discuss this – details to be published on our Facebook Page soon.

Hannah Gordon. Friends of Bunyip and Surrounds

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BUNYIP DISTRICT UNITING CHURCH

'Linking God and Community'.

BUNYIP – GARFIELD – LONGWARRY WORSHIP SERVICES

Date	Time	Location
Sunday August 2	9:00am	Bunyip Uniting Church
Sunday August 9	9:00am	Garfield Uniting Church
Sunday August 16	9:00am	Bunyip Uniting Church
Thursday August 20	11:00am	Hillview Aged Care
Sunday August 23	9:00am	Garfield Uniting Church
Sunday August 30	9:00am	Bunyip Uniting Church
Sunday September 6	9:00am	Garfield Uniting Church
Sunday September 13	9:00am	Bunyip Uniting Church
Thursday September 17	11:00am	Hillview Aged Care

Website: <https://bunyipdistrictunitingchurch.wordpress.com/home>
For further information please phone: 0414 716 521

SERVICE LOCATIONS:

Bunyip - 9 Nash Road. Garfield - 13 Garfield Road. Hillview Aged Care - 22 A'Beckett Road, Bunyip.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Ecumenical Prayer Group. Monday 8:00am at 'The Crossing' 134a Princes Way Drouin. Phone 5625 2655.

Welcome to the Well. First and third Monday 7:00pm at Drouin. Phone Stuart 5625 3202.

Craft and Friendship Group. Tuesday 10:00am at the Garfield Church Hall (not during school holidays). Phone Robyn 5629 5541.

Adult Fellowship (UCAF). Second Thursday 6:00pm at the Bunyip Church Hall. Phone Margaret on 5629 2318.



Please visit us at
www.wgrt.au



RAINFALL (mL)

Thanks to 'rain collector' Keith Wilkinson



	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	TOT
26	3.5	67	76	42.5	63	38.5							290.5
25	66	25.5	59.8	22.8	22	43.8	81	36.5	61.3	104	197	42	761.5

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

BUNYIP AND DISTRICT WOMEN'S SHED INC.

10A Volunteers Dve Bunyip
Judy 0427 148 292

BUNYIP SLIMMERS CLUB

Meets Friday morning 9.30am Bunyip Uniting Church.
Maree McRae 0468 411 144.

CANNIBALCREEK FUNERALCELEBRANCY

Bryan Sharp 0421 617 275
bryan.sharp1@bigpond.com

CEC-CARDINIA ENVIRONMENT COALITION

62 Cameron Way, Pakenham 3810
Adele 0417 373 690

GARFIELD BOWLING CLUB

P.O. Box 85, Garfield. Club House 5629 2384
For information regarding barefoot bowls and tournaments,
Trevor 03 5629 2384

GARFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Meet on the second Tuesday of the month (excluding
January) at Brewster's Foodstore, 5.30pm.
Brewster's 0407 151 202

GARFIELD COMMUNITY GARDEN

Social & garden maintenance meetup every Saturday
(weather permitting) 10-12noon.
Natter & nibble at 11.15am
Also some Wednesdays. Meg 0466496107

GARFIELD COMMUNITY HALL and RECREATION RESERVE

P.O.Box 28, Garfield. Lara 0421 150 855

GARFIELD COMMUNITY OP SHOP

71 Main St Garfield. Monday to Friday 9.30am-4.30pm,
Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm 0459 982 338

COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF GARFIELD & BUNYIP

Garfield. bunyipgarfieldprobus@gmail.com
Meet 1st Tuesday of month at CommunityCentre,

GARFIELD FOOTBALLCLUB

garfieldfnc@gmail.com
President Chris Greenhall 0458 410 592

GARFIELD GOLF CLUB

180 Thirteen Mile Road, Garfield.
5629 2794
info@garfieldgolf.com.au

GARFIELD NETBALL CLUB

garfieldnetballclub@gmail.com
President Kristie Miller 0414 319 102

GARFIELD FAMILY MEDICAL CLINIC

8658 7866 - 73-75MainSt, Garfield. Clinic
OPEN EVERY WEEKDAY.

GARFIELD PLAYGROUP

Every Friday 9.30am - 12pm
at Garfield Community Centre.
P.O. Box 47, Garfield.
Lara 0421 150 855, Erin 0422 544 771

GARFIELD PRESCHOOLKINDER

P.O.Box 24, 29-31 Garfield Rd, Garfield.PH: 5629 2208

GARFIELD PRIMARYSCHOOL

84 Railway Ave, Garfield. PH: 56292274

MOY-YAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

Jen 0428 372 686

GARFIELD & BUNYIP ROTARY CLUB

P.O. Box 19, Garfield.
Meet every Wednesday at Garfield Bowling Club
Graeme Squires 0417 105 598

GARFIELD SWIMMING POOL

5629 2780

GARFIELD TENNISCLUB

Michelle 5629 2979 or 0409 142 318

GARFIELD - TYNONG CRICKET CLUB

Titans P.O. Box 108, Garfield.
Glen 0425 883 568 Jason 0422 309 933.
Beswick St, Garfield. 5629 4423

GARFIELD UNITING CHURCH

Margaret 5629 2318

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JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Mrs Dale White JP for Victoria #8942
0407093622 - Garfield
Mr Martin Sayers OAM JP
0411 074 468

MT CANNIBAL RESERVE

Garfield. 1300 787 624

MT CANNIBAL ADULT RIDING CLUB INC

Meet 2nd Wednesday & 4th Saturday of the month.
Contact president 5942 8314

GARFIELD JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

garfieldjfc@gmail.com
President Dave Glazzard 040