



NHILL FREE PRESS & KANIVA TIMES



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Circulating throughout the Wimmera

Wednesday 8th July 2026

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Wimmera JSC contingent: Paul Mackereth (Coach U14B), Barrett (U14B), Hannah (U16G), Holly (U14G), Jonas (U14B), James (U14B).
Photo Rachel Clark

Local hockey players represent at Junior State Championships

THREE local hockey players have represented the zone at the Victorian Junior State Championships in Melbourne, for North West Lightning teams.

Local boys Barrett Clark from Nhill & District Sporting Club and Jonas Beattie from Kaniva Hockey Club were part of the Lightning team in the U14 Boys division.

Hannah Dixon from Yanac Hockey Club played in the

Lightning U16 Girls team.

U14 and U16 JSC competitions were held from Friday 3 July to Sunday 5 July 2026, which followed on from the U12 competition. The U18 JSC will be played in September.

U14 and U16 matches were played at the State Netball Hockey Centre in Parkville and the Footscray Hockey Centre.

There were six Wimmera Hockey Association members

representing at the U14 and U16 tournament, including five players and one official. Other members were Holly Di Pietro from Horsham in the U14 Girls, and James Mackereth from Horsham in the U14 Boys, with Paul Mackereth from Horsham as one of the coaches for the U14 Boys.

Wimmera is part of the North West Lightning zone, a

Continued on page 14

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Easy loading: removable gates & sides
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Community Vaccination Clinic in Nhill

WEST Wimmera Health Service is encouraging community members to stay healthy this season by attending an upcoming Community Vaccination Clinic in Nhill.

The clinic will be held on Thursday 9 July from 10am to 4pm at the Nhill Hospital Dental Clinic, with a range of vaccinations available, including Influenza, Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR), Shingles and RSV vaccines for eligible age groups.

Influenza vaccinations are available for \$25 for people aged 5 to 65 years, while all other vaccinations, including influenza vaccinations for those aged over 65 years, are \$15 per vaccination.

Vaccination remains one of the most effective ways to protect yourself and those around you from serious illness, particularly during the winter months when respiratory viruses are more common.

Community members are encouraged to book an appointment by calling (03) 5391 4267.

For eligibility information or to make a booking, contact the West Wimmera Health Service team today.

Volunteers decorate Nhill shop for NAIDOC Week



NAIDOC Week is celebrating its 50th anniversary this week. The national theme is *50 Years of Deadly*, marking five decades of NAIDOC Week.

NAIDOC stands for the National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee.

While the acronym originally referred only to the organising committee, it has since become the widely recognised name for the annual week-long festival, NAIDOC Week, held across Australia.

The celebration has its roots in the Indigenous protest movements of the 1920s and 1930s, specifically the 1938 Day of Mourning held in Sydney. Originally focusing on Aboriginal Australians, the committee's name was updated in 1991 to formally recognise Torres Strait Islander peoples as well.

NAIDOC Week is a significant national event where all Australians are invited to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

For more information on the history of the movement and upcoming events, visit the National NAIDOC website.

A number of volunteers, including several children, helped decorate the shop.

One of the volunteers, Wendy Bywaters, said: "I love that Australia celebrates NAIDOC Week, and this year is special as it marks the 50-year celebration. We can all be allies." It is great for First Nations and non -Aboriginal people coming together to celebrate NAIDOC week.



EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police

DIAL 000

Local police

Nhill (03) 5391 1022

Kaniva (03) 5392 2244



CFA

DIAL 000



AMBULANCE

DIAL 000



SES

DIAL 132 500



LOCAL HOSPITAL

Nhill (03) 5391 4222

Kaniva (03) 5392 7001

Rural Doctors (03) 5387 9900



NHILL FREE PRESS & KANIVA TIMES

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• Community and News – 10.00am Monday

• Sport – 10.00am Monday (unless arrangements made)

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District Weekend Weather Forecast



Thursday

Min

Max

Cloudy

4

14



Friday

Min

Max

Cloudy

5

14



Saturday

Min

Max

Cloudy

8

14



Sunday

Min

Max

Rain

9

13

Weekly District Rainfalls

30th June to 8am – 7th July 2026

Yanac	Brett Wheaton	19.0mm
Kinimakatka	Rodney Bound	24.0mm
Kaniva	Katrina Hawker	23.5mm
Nhill	Jim Gladdis	16.5mm

**NHILL
FREE PRESS &
KANIVA TIMES**

DEADLINES

**Classifieds and
Casual Display:**
10am Monday

Community, News and Sport:
10am Monday
(unless prior
arrangements are made)



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Change in leadership



President Tony Lord with partner Leanne Watson and outgoing President Ian Meek.



Salt & Pepper Award Recipient Lion Shirley Blackwood.



Leo Mentors - Lions Sam Holland, Mandy Myers and Julie McDonald.

A Change in Leadership for Nhill Lions On Sunday 28th June a large crowd attended the annual Nhill Lions Club Changeover afternoon. Representatives from nearly all local organisations plus visiting Lions from nearby clubs (among them Lions from Dimboola, Kaniva, Goroke, Edenhope, Horsham, Green Park) were in attendance. Guests, friends and family were present along with Hindmarsh Shire Council CEO Monica Revell and Deputy Mayor Cr Rosie Barker who was the emcee for the day.

Cr Rosie's bright warm welcome set the scene for an enjoyable time of recognition, awards, looking back to the year that has been as well as facing the future with new intent and commitment to serve our community and beyond. Prior to the official installation of new office bearers in both the Nhill Lions and Leo Clubs, the annual awards were presented by outgoing President Ian Meek and Secretary Lesley Gordon. First Year Lions Commitment Award was presented to Lion Barb Cavanagh. The Salt & Pepper Award was given to Lion Shirley Blackwood for her dedication and commitment to a vast number of important Lions projects.

The 2025/2026 Nhill Lion of the Year was awarded to a very worthy, albeit surprised, Lion Merril Uhlhorn who is the exemplary treasurer of the club. Outgoing President Ian Meek presented his report on his year "in the chair".

Following the award presentations, the installation of club office bearers for the next year. Lion Tony Lord was handed the traditional gavel and gong by outgoing President Ian Meek. President Tony's team consists of 1st Vice President- Lion Shirley Blackwood 2nd Vice President- Lions David Lansdown 3rd Vice President- Lions Barb Cavanagh Secretary- Lion Lesley Gordon Treasurer - Lion Merril Uhlhorn Following an inspiring address, including numerous Thank You's from the new President Tony, the crowd enjoyed a bountiful afternoon tea. Unfortunately

Catering Team leader Lion Debbie Johnston was ill but Nhill Lions ever reliable Phyllis Pye, with the help of fellow Lions, provided the delicious feast. Note: Reports from both Outgoing President Ian Meek and Incoming President Tony Lord are Included in this edition of the Nhill Free Press

President Ian Meek – Annual Report

My year in the chair commenced rather unhappily because my wife Jenny had been rushed to hospital in a serious condition after a bad fall. Following this there has been numerous hospital stays as well as operations.

I felt it was necessary, because of the constant trips to Melbourne for medical procedures etc, to request a Leave of Absence from the Nhill Lions Club. I am extremely grateful for the patience and understanding of all the Nhill Lions during the [almost] 6 months I was unable to fulfill my role.

Once back in "the chair" I really discovered what a busy club Nhill Is... I have to say that I was a little bit overwhelmed with the amount of work and commitments members just "took in their stride". It is a LOT different from when I was President of the club in 2006, that's for sure.

Some of the activities, projects, functions and events include: Sausage Sizzles

Market Days – BBQ's and all the setting up and setting down that is required is mind blowing.

The Driver Reviver at Lochiel each long weekend as well as school holidays and special occasions like the AFL Gather Round when the highway is awash with vehicles going to Adelaide and then returning to Melbourne.

The Nhill Cemetery Flag Project where some of our members [particularly the Blackwood Lions!] spend literally hours prior to ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day every year placing our Aussie flag on the specifically selected headstones. Then

a week after these memorable times head out again to remove the flags and place them safely in storage. Quite a number of our members also enjoyed being a part of this project too.

Youth of the Year was a brilliant success and our Youth Team Leader Lion Shirley Blackwood certainly does a wonderful

[and professional job].

Lion Shirley is always our Club Peace Poster leader as well as for the three Nhill Schools "In the Spirit of Lions" awards presented at the end of every school year.

Continued on page 7



Kindergarten Open Week

Register your child for Kindergarten and Long Day Care in 2027

OPEN DAY

Come, look and play...

NHILL COLLEGE KINDERGARTEN

3 & 4 YEAR OLD KINDERGARTEN

WEDNESDAY 15TH JULY

2.00PM - 3.00PM

16 WHITEHEAD AVENUE, NHILL

NHILL EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

3 & 4 YEAR OLD KINDERGARTEN

INTEGRATED KINDERGARTEN

WEDNESDAY 15TH JULY

5.30PM - 6.30PM

2/20 WHITEHEAD AVENUE, NHILL

LONG DAY CARE OPEN WEEK

MONDAY 13TH - FRIDAY 17TH JULY

FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO BOOK A TOUR OF OUR LONG DAY CARE FACILITIES DURING THIS WEEK BY CONTACTING THE CENTRE BELOW

2027 LONG DAY CARE REGISTRATIONS CLOSE

MONDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

Virtual tours available on Emerge website



Families are welcome to visit services at another time by appointment

TO REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN

Online: www.eeys.com.au

Email: enrol@eeys.com.au

Phone: 5382 7997



Scan for link to online registration form

TO REGISTER FOR LONG DAY CARE

Download application online:

www.eeys.com.au

Email: sharifah.down@eeys.com.au

Phone: 0428 485 933



Scan for LDC application form

or pick up a form from the EEYS Office

Emerge Early Years Services is the Early Years Manager for the above sites

Down Memory Lane

Some history of the district

THE MAJESTY OF NHILL



FOR the growing middle class at the turn of the 20th century the “palace” moniker was used to signal that the establishment was an opulent, grand destination—a “cathedral of consumption”—rather than a small, dingy retail store.

Well in Nhill the latter would have to suffice.

The emergence of the Temperance Movement in the late 1800s gave rise to an architectural phenomenon called “Coffee Palaces”.

Nhill had many of these small buildings offering tea rooms, reading rooms, restaurants, accommodation and stabling, all with the promise of a peaceful environment undisturbed by rowdy drinkers.

They were pubs with no beer!

But “palaces” they were not, as they lacked the implied grandeur and would have been timber and iron buildings offering very basic accommodation and facilities.

The word “palace” even found a place in the name of Nhill fruit and vegetable shops, not to mention a shoe shop. “Edward’s Federal Boot Palace”.

Continued on page 5

COFFEE PALACE

—

Victoria St., NHILL.

—

JAMES FISHER,

Proprietor.

—

PERMANENT OR CASUAL
BOARDERS. GOOD TABLE
KEPT. MEALS AT ALL
HOURS.

—

Fresh Foods From Own Farm.

—

STABLING UNSURPASSED.

—

Roomy and Safe and for Vehicles.

—

HORSES AND TRAPS ON
HIRE.

—

TERMS MOST MODERATE.

—

JAMES FISHER

(Late of Glenlee),
PROPRIETOR.



The Fruit Palace, NHILL.

To cope with their rapidly growing Business

E. BOUND & SON,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FRUITERERS.

HAVE removed to NEW PREMISES next to the Commercial Bank. This is the LARGEST and BEST EQUIPPED HOUSE of its kind in the Wimmera, and the firm are sparing no expense in bringing it up to date.

A LARGE REFRESHMENT ROOM is provided, where a competent staff is employed, thus supplying a long-felt want.

As the firm produce their Fruit and Vegetables at “Spring Vale” Orchard, Winiam, they can deal liberally with their clients, which accounts for the rapid extension of their business.

Orders from the Trade receive Prompt Attention.

PRIME APPLES from the cool stores supplied at lowest rates. Highest prices given for Fruit Cases and Bottles. Agents for all spraying materials and garden requisites.

The firm desire to THANK all who have supported them in their former place of business, and hope for further patronage at the new premises.

This is the place where you can obtain a delightful

COOL DRINK.

Ice Drinks on a Hot Day. Merchant’s Melbourne aerated waters, soda, lemonade, ice cream drinks, lemon-squash.

This is THE PLACE where you can purchase delicious, plump, fresh fruit at

THE FRUIT PALACE

(The House of Quality),

JAS. SHONE

Has in stock a beautiful variety of Dainty Confectionery.

FOR YOUR SOLDIER BOY.—Swallow and Ariel’s Soldiers’ Comforts, 1s 6d. Dainty assorted cakes and wafers are just the thing to send him, because it’s a little bit of Australia.

Fresh VEGETABLES daily right from the gardens.

PRESERVES—The best Australian makes of canned fruits. MacRobertson’s dainty sweets for children.

FARMERS’ (Ballarat) choice Hams and Polesies in stock, the best in Australia.

Afternoon Teas a Specialty

SUPPERS AT ALL HOURS.

JAS. SHONE is agent for—The Mutual Fire Insurance Coy., buildings, furniture, and live stock.

Down Memory Lane

Some history of the district

Continued from page 4



THE MAJESTY OF NHILL

The town never had a “Picture Palace” but did have the Royal Theatre which was regal enough.

A very early palace in Nhill was probably Mrs Bignell’s 1888 Crystal Palace Hotel, near the Post Office, later to become the Treasury Hotel. It was not a Temperance establishment because it contained a wine shop.

Nhill Coffee Palaces included Dart’s, Makin’s, Fisher’s, Floate’s, Sandford’s and Daltons and the Fruit Palaces included the Top, Day’s, Shone’s, Pecks, Skeggs (flattened in the 1897 tornado), Bound’s which later became the Central Café, Bongiorno’s and Palamara’s Palace Deluxe.

Over time the temperance movement’s influence waned and the coffee palace fad faded with few in existences by the late 1930s and around the same time “Fruit Palace” was replaced by “café”, “milk bar” or “snack bar” as they were not of purported palatial proportions.

Once upon a time, a humble shopkeeper could look at a modest timber shopfront, three bags of oranges, and a broom-leaning apprentice and declare, with full chest and no irony, “Behold... the “Fruit Palace.” And Nhill simply

noddod acceptance.

John Williams - Treasures of Nhill & District Facebook page 2rd June 2026.

The Fruit Palace.

Victoria St., NHILL.

J. AND A. DAY,

PROPRIETORS.

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables. Cool Drinks

OUR ICE CREAMS a wonder, and registered under the Pure Food Act.

TEA, COFFEE, AND COCOA. IMPORTED CONFECTIONERY.

Day's Daily Bread and Pastry a public boon.

A Call Means Satisfaction.

J. AND A. DAY

(next door to "The Union.")

DART'S

Coffee Palace.

VICTORIA ST. SOUTH.

(Under new management).

W. DART OFFERS THE PUBLIC FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATION.

Excellent Meals. 1s.

Good Board and Lodging, 18/ a week

FREE STABLING

A Trial Solicited.

W. DART, Victoria Street South, Coffee Palace, NHILL.

PROPRIETOR.

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FEDERAL

BOOT

PALACE,

VICTORIA ST., Nhill,

(Near Macpherson Street Corner.)

Stocks Suitable Goods, and Sells at Suitable Prices.

Summer street and Tennis Shoes

Cricket Shoes and Boots

Ladies' and Gentlemen's Street Boots Shoes.

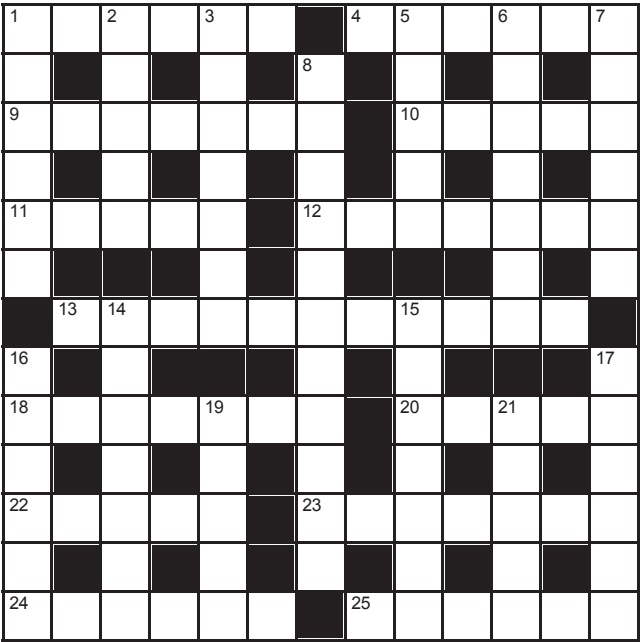
Ask for EDWARDS' SPECIAL LINE of ANY sort of FOOTWEAR.

New Goods arriving Continually. Call and pick for yourselves. Special Lines in Imported Boots and Shoes for both sexes in Black or Tan.

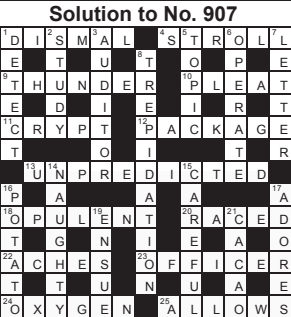
CROSSWORD

Number 908

- Across
- 1 Enlarge
 - 5 Rotation
 - 8 Extraction
 - 9 Prize
 - 10 Garden accessories
 - 11 Cost
 - 12 Admission
 - 14 Cooks under heat
 - 17 Seems
 - 19 Glide on ice
 - 22 Ceasefire
 - 23 Breakdown
 - 24 Lived
 - 25 Gently



- Down
- 7 Continual
 - 12 Changed
 - 13 Arrest
 - 15 Hurrying
 - 16 Practical
 - 18 Representative
 - 20 Grown-up
 - 21 Foe



TRIVIA

- 1. Until the introduction of the Euro on 1 January 2002, which country had the lira as its basic currency unit?
 - 2. What ceremony was held for the first time on 10 December 1901?
 - 3. What religion is the Dalai Lama?
 - 4. What country was divided at the 38th parallel in 1945?
 - 5. Who premièred the role of Evita in the original studio recording of the musical?
 - 6. Do ostriches have taste buds?
 - 7. Euclid is known as the Father of maths discipline?
 - 8. Which Cranberries song has been adopted by Irish rugby supporters?
 - 9. What does a notaphile collect?
 - 10. The Dolomites are a mountain range in which country?
 - 11. Mickey Mantle was a star of which sport?
 - 12. "Silks" is the name used to describe the uniform of a competitor in which sport?
 - 13. Who wrote the piece of music recognised in much of the Western world as "The Wedding March"?
 - 14. Gruyère is a town in which country?
 - 15. Muesli was developed around 1900 by Swiss physician Maximilian Bircher-Benner to feed who?
 - 16. Marion Crane met her end in what film?
 - 17. Which bird has the largest wingspan?
 - 18. Besides eating, ancient Egyptians also used honey for what?
 - 19. To see the right and not to do, it is cowardice was a quote by who?
 - 20. The mountain pass over the Alps which forms the border between Italy and Austria is the what pass?
- BONUS QUESTION:** When were the first world championships in alpine skiing held?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Italy 2. Award of Nobel Prizes 3. Buddhist 4. Kore 5. Julie Covington 6. No 7. Geometry 8. Zombi 9. Banknotes 10. Italy 11. Baseball 12. Horse racing 13. Mendelssohn 14. Switzerland 15. Hospital patients 16. Psycho 17. Albatross 18. Embalming 19. Confucius 20. Brenner Pass
- QUESTION ANSWER: February 19 to 23, 1931, in Mürren, Switzerland.
- Trivia by Tom Trifonoff of Australian Rural & Regional News (ARR.News)

Kindergarten open days for 2027

FAMILIES considering three-year-old kindergarten for their child in 2027 are invited to attend open days at West Wimmera Shire Council’s early years services next month.

The open days will be on Friday, 7 August, from 10am to 11am at Kaniva, Edenhope and Goroke centres.

The sessions are designed for families interested in enrolling their child in the 2027 three-year-old kindergarten program or those who have already lodged an intention to enrol.

Registrations are now open for children eligible for three-year-old kindergarten in 2027.

Families are invited to lodge an intention to enrol by 31 July 2026 to assist with planning for next year’s programs.

Children currently enrolled in three-year-old kindergarten do not need to register, as they will automatically transition into four-year-old kindergarten in 2027.

West Wimmera Shire Council currently offers 15 hours of three-year-old kindergarten across all services and will provide 20 hours of four-year-old kindergarten from 2027.

Council Acting Chief Executive Officer Dalton Burns said the open days gave families an opportunity to experience the welcoming and supportive environment offered at each service.

“Starting kindergarten is an important

milestone for every child,” he said.

“Becoming familiar with the environment and the educators can help make that transition a positive experience.”

At the open days, children can explore the learning environments and meet educators.

Parents and carers will have the opportunity to learn more about the programs, ask questions and discuss their child’s transition to kindergarten.

Mr Burns said Council was committed to delivering high quality early years education across the shire.

“Our educators work hard to create safe, engaging and inclusive learning environments where children can develop confidence, curiosity and the skills they need for the years ahead,” he said.

Open days will be at:

- Edenhope Kindergarten, 52 Langford Street, Edenhope
- Goroke Kindergarten, 12 – 16 Compston Street, Goroke
- Kaniva Kindergarten, 25 Baker Street, Kaniva

More information about West Wimmera Shire Council’s kindergarten services is available on the Council website at <https://www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au/Community/Family-and-children/Kindergarten>

Christmas Lights Bring Winter Cheer to Nhill



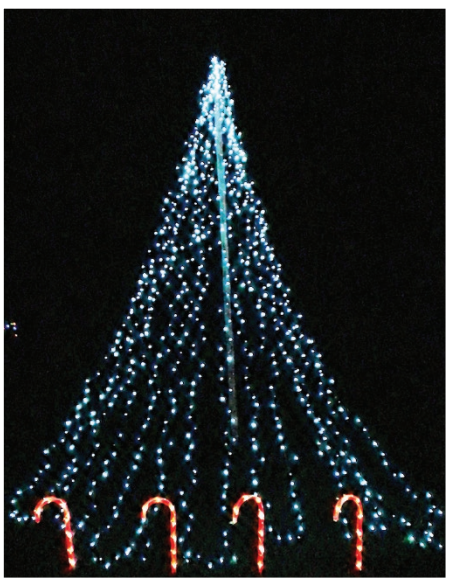
A touch of Christmas magic has arrived early for local families, with Christmas lights now on display during July at a property just outside Nhill.

The display has been set up early so children can enjoy the lights in the evening without having to stay up too late, as they often do during the longer daylight hours of summer.

The lights will remain on display until 31 July and can be found at 728 Halls Road, Nhill, about 14 kilometres out of town towards Yanac.

To get there, head out along the Nhill–Yanac Road, turn right onto Harding’s Road, then after a couple of kilometres turn right onto Halls Road.

Families are welcome to take a drive and enjoy the winter Christmas cheer.



Open Evening



THE Lowan Lodge No. 107 is inviting local residents to attend an Open Evening on Tuesday, 21 July, providing an opportunity to learn more about Freemasonry in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

The evening will be held at the Nhill Young Farmers Pavilion, Victoria Street, Nhill, commencing at 6.30 pm. A complimentary BBQ dinner will be provided for all guests.

A highlight of the evening will be a presentation by a younger member of the Lodge, who will share his personal journey into Freemasonry and discuss what being a Freemason means from a modern perspective. Guests will also have the opportunity to ask questions and

meet local members in an informal setting.

Freemasonry has been in Nhill since 1885 and still is serving the community to this day. The Open Evening is designed for anyone who has ever been curious about Freemasonry or would simply like to learn more about the organisation.

Partners are warmly welcomed to attend.

For catering purposes, please RSVP by Friday, 17 July, to WBro Rhys Webb on 0410 232 996.

Everyone with an interest in learning more is encouraged to come along and enjoy an evening of good food, fellowship and conversation.



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Nhill Free Press & Kaniva Times

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Phone: 5391 1555



Change in leadership

Continued from page 3

The Club also hosts The Garden Walk and this was a wonderful success at the end of October 2025.

Our “Santa Around Town” was once again enjoyed in every street travelled by children and parents alike.... Our Club concludes their Christmas activities by providing the cooking for a massive BBQ for the annual Carols in Jaypex Park.

We try to have a break of a few weeks from Christmas however, as the main hosts of Nhill’s Australia Day celebrations the 26th of January seems to roll around very quickly. This year, due to uncertain weather conditions the Hindmarsh Shire Council agreed that we utilise the Community Centre. The success of this move was applauded by the community and folk are hoping that this arrangement continues annually. It was certainly an honour to be the President of Nhill Lions – our member Lion Bob Blackwood was awarded “HSC Citizen of the Year” which was fantastic. Our Club also recognizes someone in the community with our own special award – this was the fifth year. The person to whom the award goes has NO idea they will be presented with anything and so it is quite interesting to see the awardees’ reaction when their name is announced.

Each year our Club marches in the ANZAC Day parade and I had the honour this year of driving Nhill’s eldest ex-servicewoman Mrs May Craig in the parade. To see our members all walking behind our large striking banner cannot help but make one feel very proud.

The Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal was front and foremost this year with our Lion Phyllis Pye as the Area Manager leading the charge with great money raising ideas. Good Friday the Nhill CFA members join us and we all use the fire station as the Good Friday Appeal centre where Lion Phyllis makes sure we have plenty to eat and drink plus lots of games and activities for the kids. This year our efforts were recognized on national TV news when they pointed out the creativity of a small country town conducting a “Rabbit Poo Lotto”. Just a note here – the Nhill Lions Club can be extremely proud of raising over \$19,000 this year for the RCH Good Friday Appeal. Lion Phyllis and her team concluded the fundraising this year with a very well attended concert where singer Don Costa was the guest artist.

Our members continue to sell raffle tickets for a variety of numerous worthwhile causes. They are also often called upon to help members of the community for various jobs such as assisting with a move to another home.

Recently, our Club hosted the Lions District Cancer Screen Unit. This was in Nhill for 2 full days and two dermatologists were completely booked out. What a wonderful free service this is for everyone in our community.

Finally, after several months of planning we opened the Nhill Community Pantry which is open on a weekly basis every Thursday from 10:30am to 12:30pm. Lions Club members are rostered on each week and frozen goods are delivered by the Centre for Participation in Horsham. Nhill IGA has a bin in the shop where people can

purchase non-perishable items and place them in the bin. At the commencement of this project it was “slow going” however, more and more folk are using this helpful service.

Before I close this report I would like to acknowledge the passing of two very unique members..... Lion Stu Martin died very suddenly on July 1st last year [2025] and last month one of our longest serving members Lion Gordon “Paddy” Field died.

Although our member numbers show a slight decline the Club still has 48 members and a week ago it was a pleasure to welcome 3 new

members.

I wish to thank all the members of our Lions family for giving me the honour and privilege of being President of this great Club.

Thank you to all the members who filled in for me whilst I was unable to attend meetings and to Lion Lesley Gordon [our Club Secretary] for helping me with my reports when needed.

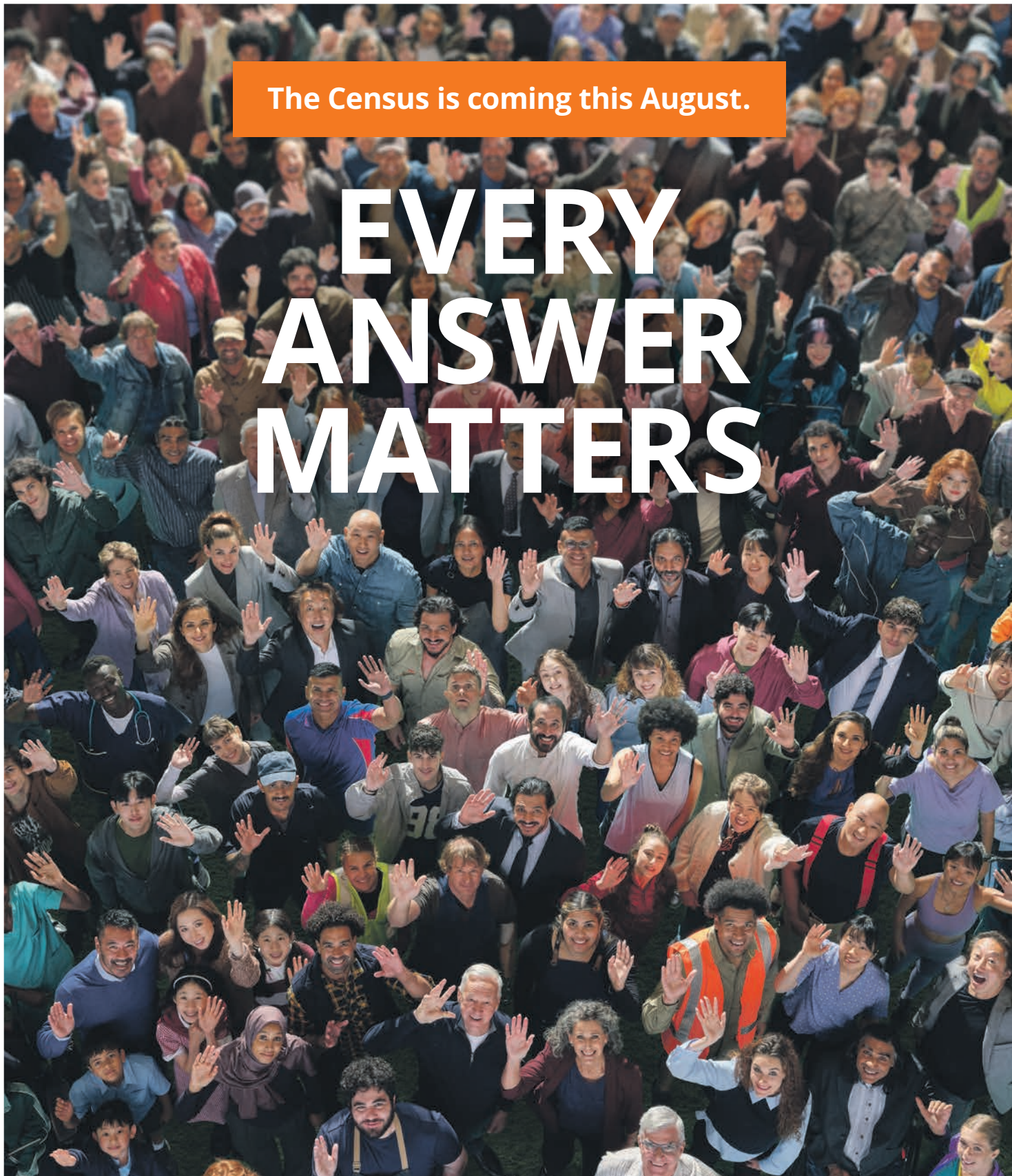
I would like to wish Lion Tony Lord and his team all the best for the next twelve months and wish them a very successful year.

Thanks again.

President Ian Meek



Deputy Mayor Cr Rosie Barker Emcee for the occasion.



Help us understand what Australia needs now and into the future.

Census night - Tuesday 11 August

census.abs.gov.au



Census

President’s Speech



Handing over the Gavel and Gong.

I would like to begin by thanking you all for the trust and confidence you’ve placed in me.

To be given the opportunity to lead this club is something I don’t take lightly.

I’d like to thank our outgoing President Ian Meek and all the executive members for all their hard work over the last 12 months.

I’d also like to congratulate all the award winners today. Awards are earned and not just given away lightly so each of you can be proud of your achievements.

I’d also like to thank Councillor Rosie Barker for coming along and being part of today’s events as well as her enthusiastic support over the last 12 months.

On behalf of all of us, thank you for the work you’ve done and for the example you’ve set.

When people look at Lions Clubs from the outside, they often

Change in leadership

see the fundraising, the projects, the barbecues, the working bees, or the events we support. And yes... those things matter. They help communities grow stronger.

But I think what truly defines Lions clubs is something much deeper.

At its heart, Lions are about people caring enough to show up.

Showing up when someone needs help.

Showing up when the community needs support.

Showing up even when we’re tired, busy, or would rather be somewhere else. And in today’s world, that matters more than ever.

We live in a time where it’s easy for people to feel disconnected ... where many people are struggling quietly, where communities can sometimes feel divided, and where genuine human connection is becoming harder to find.

Yet clubs like ours continue to remind people that kindness still exists.

That community still matters.

And that ordinary people can still make an extraordinary difference.

I think that’s something very special.

Nhill has always been a resilient town. Like all rural communities, it’s faced challenges over the years. But one thing that has never disappeared, is the willingness of people here to help one another. That spirit of community is part of who you are.

Every member here today has contributed to that in some way.

Some of you have given decades of service.

Some have been quietly working behind the scenes without ever asking for recognition.

Some are always the first to volunteer when something needs doing.

And some may not even realise just how much their presence, encouragement, and friendship means to others in this room.

But together, every single contribution matters.

Because the reality is, this club is not built on meetings or titles.

It’s built on people.

People with good hearts.

People who believe that helping others is worthwhile.

People who choose service over recognition.

And I think that’s something worth being proud of.

As I take on this role, I don’t see leadership as standing in

front of everyone. I see it as standing beside everyone.

Supporting one another. Listening to ideas. Encouraging participation and making sure this club continues to be a place where people feel welcomed, valued, and connected.

I also believe we have an important responsibility for the future.

Volunteer organisations everywhere are facing challenges. Membership numbers go up and down and people are busier than ever.

But I genuinely believe organisations like Lions still have a major place in communities like ours.

And that is because no app, website, or social media page can replace what happens when people come together face to face with a shared purpose.

My hopes for this year are simple.

I hope we continue serving our community with pride.

I hope we continue supporting one another.

I hope we welcome new people into our club and help them discover the same sense of purpose and friendship that so many of us here have found.

And most of all, I hope we never lose sight of why we do this.

Not for awards.

Not for recognition.

But because small acts of kindness can genuinely change someone’s day, someone’s situation, and sometimes even someone’s life.

Before I finish, I want to thank not only our members, but also our families, partners, and supporters.

Volunteer organisations only survive because of the people who stand behind us, encourage us, and often sacrifice their own time so we can serve others.

Your support matters more than you probably realise.

So To finish up, I’d like to thank you again for this opportunity.

I am proud to be part of this club.

I am proud to serve this community.

And I am excited for what we can achieve together in the year ahead.

Thank you.

President Lions Club of Nhill

Tony Lord

WESTECH
REAL ESTATE



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Talking Real Estate
With Abbie Martin

What Do the New AML Laws
Mean When Buying or Selling
Property?

From 1 July 2026, Australia’s Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (AML/CTF) laws have expanded to include real estate professionals. While this may sound like a big change, for most buyers and sellers it simply means there are a few extra identification checks as part of the property transaction process.

Why are these laws changing?

The Australian Government has introduced these reforms to help prevent criminals from using property transactions to hide illegally obtained money or finance criminal activity.

These new laws aim to better protect both consumers and the property market.

What does this mean for you?

You will be asked to provide:

- Proof of identity, such as a driver’s licence or passport.
- Information confirming your identity and, in some cases, the source of funds.
- Additional documentation if you’re purchasing or selling on behalf of someone else or through a company or trust.

Will it delay my sale or purchase?

In most cases, no. If you provide the requested documents promptly, the process should remain straightforward and have little to no impact on your transaction timelines. Any delays are usually only experienced if there is a significant delay in returning the required information.

These checks are becoming a standard part of the property transaction process and are designed to ensure all parties meet their legal obligations under current regulations. All personal information is handled securely and in strict confidence.

We’re Here to Help!

We understand that changes like these can raise questions or feel unfamiliar at first. If you’re thinking about buying or selling, or simply want to understand how the new AML laws may affect your situation, please don’t hesitate to get in touch with the team at Westech Real Estate. We’re always happy to talk you through the process and make sure you feel confident about each step. Our goal is to make your property journey as smooth, transparent, and stress-free as possible from start to finish.



\$110,000

9 Leahy Street, Nhill

Positioned in a central location just moments from the Nhill CBD, this 1012m² allotment with rear lane access presents impressive possibility for those with vision. Whether you’re a seasoned renovator ready to take on your next project or looking to start fresh (STCA), this property offers endless potential.

The existing three-bedroom dwelling is in poor condition and requires substantial work to make it liveable. All bedrooms are generously proportioned, while the lounge benefits from good natural light through a bay-style window. The kitchen offers ample space, and the bathroom includes a shower, separate bath, and vanity. Overall, the property is best suited to a full renovation or demolition and redevelopment (STCA).

Rachael McCartney: 0475 461 390



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ABBIE MARTIN
CHELSEA TINK

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Classifieds

DEATHS

POSITIONS VACANT

PUBLIC NOTICES

KRELLE, Burton Hamlyn
02/03/1933 – 05/07/2026
Passed away peacefully,
at Iona Digby Harris nursing home
loving husband of Audrey for 65 years,
loving Father of
Jennifer, Trevor, Ashley and Bronwyn
Grandfather to 11 grandchildren and
Great-grandfather to 4 great-grandchildren
Rest in peace

To be privately farewelled

**KUCHEL,
Ivan Edward**

Passed away peacefully at the Bordertown Hospital on
Thursday, 25th June 2026.
Aged 89 years.

Dearly loved husband of Eve.

Caring father of David & Clare, Sandy, Ian(dec),
Naomi, Andrew & Lucy.

Adoring Pop of Benjamin, Bridie, Cooper,
Charlotte, Joy, Bill, Top and Molly.

~At rest, sleeping peacefully after hard work~

FUNERALS

**KUCHEL,
Ivan Edward**

The family and friends of the late Mr Ivan Kuchel
are respectfully invited to attend his funeral service
being held in its entirety at the Bordertown Cemetery,
Bordertown on Friday, 17th July 2026
commencing at 1:00pm.



Sarah Hamilton
Wattle Range Funerals
Naracoorte (08) 8762 0099

PUBLIC NOTICES



JOIN OUR TEAM

Join the Hindmarsh team and contribute to
our beautiful Shire. We are currently
accepting applications for the following
positions:

Team Leader Pools and Recreation Facilities

Permanent Full Time
Salary commencing at \$77,178 per annum
Applications close 12noon on
Wednesday 15 July 2026.

Accounts and Payroll Officer

Permanent Full Time
Salary commencing at \$77,178 per annum
Applications close 12noon on
Wednesday 15 July 2026.

Plant Operator Labourer – Jeparit

Permanent Full Time
(9-day fortnight)
Salary commencing at \$67,634 per annum
Applications close 12noon on
Wednesday 22 July 2026.

Scan the QR code for details
about these roles and how to
apply, or visit our website:
**[www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/
work-in-council](http://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/work-in-council)**



ANNIVERSARY

CONGRATULATIONS

Frances Ann Lamb and Maurice James Bone



married at the Nhill Methodist Church

8 July 1961.

Congratulations on your 65th wedding anniversary



Councillor CATCH UP



THURS 9TH JULY
EDENHOPE DINE INN
11AM - 12PM

FRI 10TH JULY
11AM - 12PM
KANIVA COMMUNITY ROADHOUSE

**For Sale notices under
\$100 are FREE?**

Give the Nhill Free Press
& Kaniva Times a call on:
5391 1555 or email editor@nhillfreepress.com.au



Council meeting – July 2026

The next West Wimmera Shire Council meeting will be at
2.00pm on Wednesday 15 July 2026 at Harrow Hall, 29
Blair Street, Harrow.

Member of the public are invited to attend. The meeting
will also be livestreamed on Council's website at www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au, to allow members of the public
to view proceedings.

Anyone wishing to ask a question during question time is
requested to submit their written question in advance to
katiefrost@westwimmera.vic.gov.au

David Bezuidenhout
Chief Executive Officer

PUBLIC NOTICES

COMMUNITY FOOD ASSISTANCE
Nhill Community Pantry
EVERY THURSDAY
10am to 12:30pm
at Nhill Lions Den
HELP WITH FRESH FOOD & HEALTHY MEALS

Kaniva & District Progress Association AGM

Wed 29th Jul, 6pm

All are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of
the Kaniva & District Progress Association.

Venue: Henry's Club Hotel Kaniva.

RSVP/Enquiries: Leah Gordon, Courtenay Wallis,
kanivaprogress@gmail.com

Seen Anything Interesting?

News tip, photo or community event?

CALL US ON 03 5391 1555
Call today and let us know.

Seen anything interesting? Give the Nhill Free Press &
Kaniva Times a call on: 5391 1555

Netherby-Lorquon

1962 - 1982

REUNION

Football & Netball

Saturday August 29th 2026

Netherby Hall

10:30 - 11:45 Registration
12:00 - 1:30 Meal, BYO drink
1:30 Official program

Enquiries:
G. Launer 0428 328 368
R. Marra 0439 000 362

Scan for details



<https://tinyurl.com/44znszej>

Nhill and District Historical Society Inc.

"Put them to Music"

The story of the Knight Family Singers
in the Wimmera



In this presentation Craige Proctor will give a glimpse into the lives of a once well-known
Wimmera family, the Knight Family Singers. Living variously at Ararat, Horsham, Natimuk
and Dimboola in the 1870s and 1880s, this large family trod the floorboards around the
district under the guidance of the entrepreneurial and larger-than-life Troy Knight. The
family also had links with Nhill.



Sunday 12 July
(following the Annual General Meeting)
Senior Citizens' Rooms, Nhill

AGM starts at 1:30 pm
All are welcome
Craige Proctor's presentation at 2 pm

Mayoral Matters – June 2026



Governor-General Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC and Mayor Ron Ismay at ALGA NGA 2026.

JUNE has been an exciting month, for me at least. There has been copious quantities of rain and our farming community has had one of the best starts to their cropping in a very long time. The weather has been very kind so far and the 22nd of June (shortest day of the year) has rolled over, and like I said last month the days will start to get longer and warmer. Some folks like the winter, I would believe that there are also some that enjoy going to the dentist – but not me!

Council adopted the 2026/2027 budget at the Council meeting held on Wednesday 24 June 2026 with a strong focus on our assets, particularly our road infrastructure. I highly recommend everyone has a look at the 2026/2027 Budget on our website here: www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/annual-budget.

Unfortunately, some items have had to have a red line put through them as there simply isn't enough money to go around. This is something I have alluded to in many of my previous columns. I did so in the hope of softening the blow as we have all been aware of the funding shortfalls experienced by so many regional and rural councils. Unless there is a change in the government funding, both State and Federal, viability will become even more difficult. Hopefully there may be some glimmer of change.

When I attended the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly in Canberra last week, a motion was put forward by all of Australia's 538 local Councils. All have united at the National General Assembly to call on the Australian Parliament to deliver an immediate increase in untied funding, warning the financial sustainability of Councils and the services communities rely on are increasingly at risk.

In a powerful show of unity, delegates endorsed an emergency

motion calling for fairer funding for local government and backed a joint letter to be tabled with every Member of the House of Representatives and the Senate. The letter, signed by the presidents of state and territory local government associations, calls for a multi-partisan commitment to a stronger funding partnership with councils. This would increase our funding from half a percent to one percent of the federal budget.

Delegates from the Victorian nine-council alliance met in Parliament House with Minister Chris Bowen, Minister Kristy McBain, and Senator Jana Stewart on a range of issues including mining and renewables transmission lines. The meetings discussed the impact that these projects are going to have on our shires and presented a proposal we have put together in an effort to obtain the best possible outcome for the area and our residents.

A great privilege to attend and as in the past, meet with councillors from all over the country.

I listened to and had a photo opportunity with the Governor-General, Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC. One to never let a chance go by, I invited her to visit our Shire. I also sat and chatted with Kerry Cassells a Councillor from Moree Plains, an amazing lady with a wonderful and interesting life story and a council with some challenges.

There were a range of guest speakers on varying topics that are great inspiration, and advice.

Unfortunately, with commuting back and forth from Parliament House to attend important advocacy meetings I missed some.

Presently, the school holiday program is in full swing with the first week of activities already completed, with great participation Shire-wide! Coming up for the second week, we have basketball clinics, cookie decorating, board games, puzzles and more. On Friday, 10 July 2026, we have the screening of Minions & Monsters here at the NMCC in Nhill. Make sure to register your child to attend any of the upcoming sessions as they are all FREE. The school holiday program wouldn't happen without our dedicated Community Wellbeing Team and funding from Victorian Government's Amplify and Engage programs.

Until next time, I hope everyone stays warm and travels safely during the remainder of the school holidays.

Ron Ismay

Mayor

Planting more trees on farms

LANDHOLDERS across Victoria are being supported to integrate more trees into their farming systems, following an extension of the Victorian Trees on Farms (VToF) Program.

The program and Professional Service Provider Register has been extended to 1 November 2026, giving eligible landholders more time to apply for grants to establish trees on their properties.

Through the Victorian Trees on Farms Program, landholders can access grants of up to \$40,000 to deliver on-ground works such as shelterbelts, riparian planting and revegetation projects.

The program supports farmers to improve productivity and build resilience, while delivering environmental benefits including better soil health, reduced erosion, increased carbon sequestration and enhanced biodiversity.

Agriculture Victoria Acting Executive Director Forestry and Fibre Industry Liam Costello said the extension would support more landholders to take part in the program.

"This program is about helping farmers integrate trees into their properties in practical ways that support their business and the long-term health of their land," Mr Costello said.

"The extension gives more landholders the opportunity to plan and deliver planting projects that improve productivity, resilience and environmental outcomes."

Mr Costello said trees on farms also play an important role in strengthening Victoria's farming systems for the future.

"Integrating trees into farming systems can deliver multiple benefits, from shelter for livestock to improved soil and water outcomes, while supporting sustainable land management."

The Victorian Government has invested more than \$1.5 billion to support industry transition, impacted workers and communities, and the management and future use of Victoria's forests.

The VToF program builds on the Victorian Government's broader investment in plantation development and farm forestry, helping landholders diversify income and make the most of their land.

For more information about the program, visit: agriculture.vic.gov.au/vtof

End of an era as road maintenance arrangements change

TODAY marks the end of a remarkable chapter in West Wimmera's history, with West Wimmera Shire Council officially concluding its long-standing role in maintaining Victoria's arterial road network on behalf of the State Government.

From 1 July 2026, responsibility for maintaining Department of Transport and Planning managed arterial roads within West Wimmera Shire will transfer to the department and its contractors under the Victorian Road Maintenance Contract arrangements.

West Wimmera Shire Council had expressed its willingness to continue delivering these services on behalf of the State Government.

However, following changes to the Victorian Road Maintenance Contract model, the State Government elected to transition the maintenance of these roads to its own contractors.

While the organisation delivering the work will change, the roads will continue to be maintained in accordance with Victoria's Road Management Act.

Mayor Tim Meyer said the change marked the conclusion of one of Victoria's longest-running partnerships between local government and the State Government.

Dating back to the establishment of the Country Roads Board in 1913, successive state road authorities have partnered with rural councils to maintain Victoria's arterial road network.

That relationship continued through the Road Construction Authority, VicRoads and, most recently, the Department of Transport and Planning, making it one of the state's longest-standing examples of collaboration between state government and local government.

"For generations, our Council has proudly maintained many of the state's major arterial roads on behalf of the Victorian Government," Cr Meyer said.

"It is a partnership that has endured in various forms for more than a century and has played an important role in connecting our communities.

"Thousands of kilometres have been graded, resurfaced, patched and rebuilt by dedicated Council employees over the decades.

"Many of our staff have spent entire careers caring for these roads, often responding around the clock to storms, floods and emergencies to keep communities connected.

"Today marks the end of an historic chapter, and it is fitting to recognise the generations of Council employees whose skill, dedication and commitment have helped keep these roads safe for residents, visitors and the freight industry."

Since its formation in 1995, West Wimmera Shire Council has proudly continued this legacy, building on the work of its predecessor municipalities and the many Council employees who maintained Victoria's arterial roads under contract arrangements with and on behalf of successive state road authorities.

Cr Meyer thanked current and former Council employees whose professionalism and commitment had helped keep the region's arterial road network operating safely for generations.

"Our staff have always taken enormous pride in maintaining these roads, often under challenging conditions and with limited resources," he said.

"As funding available for routine maintenance has become increasingly constrained over many years, it has become more difficult to achieve the standard of road condition that both Council and our community expect.

"The condition of many state-managed arterial roads should not be seen as a reflection of the dedication or quality of work performed by our crews. Rather, it reflects the challenge of maintaining an ageing and heavily used road network within the funding provided.

"Council firmly believed the long-standing partnership with the state could continue to deliver excellent outcomes for our communities.

"We were willing to continue undertaking this work and are disappointed that this opportunity will no longer exist.

"One of the greatest strengths of the previous arrangement was that local people maintained local roads.

"Our crews knew the network, understood its history and could respond quickly to storms, flooding, road failures and other emergencies."

"We are concerned that the loss of locally based maintenance crews and their knowledge of our road network may impact the responsiveness and efficiency of future maintenance activities.

"We sincerely hope the new arrangements are successful and that our communities continue to receive the level of service they deserve.

"While our role in maintaining the state's arterial roads comes to an end today, Council remains committed to delivering a

high standard of service across the extensive network of Council-controlled roads that connect our communities every day."

From 1 July 2026, residents should contact the Department of Transport and Planning directly regarding issues on state-managed arterial roads.

For urgent hazards requiring immediate attention (24 hours a day, 7 days a week), people can call 13 11 70.

Examples include:

- Large potholes, road washouts or pavement failures that create an immediate safety risk
- Fallen trees, large branches or other debris blocking the roadway
- Flooding or water flowing across the road making travel unsafe
- Any hazard posing an immediate risk to road users, including major fuel spills or livestock on the roadway.

Non-urgent road maintenance issues can be reported through Transport Victoria online at <https://transport.vic.gov.au/contact-us/road-issues-and-enquiries>.

These issues include:

- Potholes
- Faded line marking
- Fallen signs
- Roadside vegetation
- Rubbish
- Graffiti

This online reporting service allows residents to lodge maintenance requests and general road enquiries directly with the Department of Transport and Planning.

West Wimmera Shire Council will continue to inspect and maintain all Council-controlled local roads across the municipality.

Any enquiries relating to these roads should continue to be directed to Council on 13 99 72.

Residents can easily determine whether a road is managed by Council or the Department of Transport and Planning by visiting the West Wimmera Shire Council website and searching "Whose Road Is It Anyway?"

The page provides a simple guide to help residents identify the responsible road authority and includes a list of all department-managed roads within West Wimmera Shire, ensuring maintenance requests are directed to the correct organisation.

Council Advocates for Rural Roads Funding and Jeparit Weir Funding



HINDMARSH Shire Council plays a strong role in advocating for change, support, and additional funding for its priority projects within the Shire. With a small rate base and significant assets, funding road maintenance and replacement of significant assets requires additional funding from State or Federal Governments.

Council has recently been strongly advocating for funding to replace the Jeparit Weir, as well as a dedicated rural Council fund that can be spent on maintaining and improving roads and facilities within Hindmarsh Shire.

Jeparit Weir Replacement

The Jeparit Weir was constructed in 1902 and although maintenance has been kept up, there is a point where full replacement is required. A detailed feasibility study was completed on the Jeparit Weir earlier in 2026. The findings from this study confirmed that the existing weir structure is in very poor condition, at its ends of life,

and should be fully replaced to protect communities and reduce flood risks. The estimated replacement cost is \$5.4 million.

Some of the major funding programs like the Federal Governments Disaster Ready Fund requires Council to contribute 50% of the project cost. With rate revenue of approximately \$10.6M it is impossible for Hindmarsh Shire to even fund 50% of the project cost. Hence support from State and Federal Government is required, and that is why Council is actively looking for funding opportunities for replacement of this weir structure.

Hindmarsh Shire Mayor Cr Ron Ismay said “The CEO, Director Infrastructure Services, and myself recently met with the Federal Minister for Water’s Senior Adviser to discuss the Jeparit Weir and funding avenues available. This was the first of many conversations that will be held with both Federal and State Government officials.”

Cr Ismay continued “Council has recently submitted an application through the

Federal Governments Disaster Ready Fund for the required designs and engineering specifications. Should this application be successful this will be another step forward towards replacement of the Jeparit Weir.”

Dedicated Rural Council Fund

Council, along with neighbouring Councils, have been strongly advocating for a dedicated rural council fund that enables small rural councils funding to maintain their significant assets and continue to deliver services expected by the community that are received in larger centres.

Hindmarsh Shire receives a bottom-quartile of the total Financial Assistance Grant allocation across Victoria (62 out of 79), yet in relation to geographic area, Hindmarsh is the sixth largest geographic area and has the twelfth largest road network.

Without meaningful reform and increased federal support, local governments will face declining asset and road condition, reduced service levels, and increasing financial risk – outcomes that ultimately affect the wellbeing and safety of communities.

Council believes that community members should not be disadvantaged because of where they choose to live.

How has Council been advocating?

Council has prepared advocacy documents on these two priorities (see attached at the bottom of this page). During the recent National

General Assembly in Canberra, Hindmarsh Shire Mayor, Cr Ron Ismay, met with Minister McBain (Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories), Minister Bowen (Minister for Climate Change and Energy), and Senator Stewart to discuss rural funding, the implications of renewables and mining on our communities, and challenges faced by rural councils.

Hindmarsh Shire Council Mayor, Cr Ron Ismay said “The ability to meet

with Ministers McBain and Bowen, and Senator Stewart during the National General Assembly allowed for discussion regarding the funding constraints Hindmarsh Shire Council faces, the impacts of renewable energy and mining projects on our region, and the need for funding to enable Council to maintain existing assets including roads and replace the Jeparit Weir”.

Cr Ismay continued “Council will continue to advocate on behalf of our community at every opportunity.”

Cr Ismay concluded “Advocacy is critical to ensuring Hindmarsh Shire’s priority projects remain front of mind with decision makers. These projects are important to the safety, liveability, and future sustainability of our communities, and Council will continue to pursue every opportunity to secure the funding needed to deliver them.”

For more information please contact Monica Revell, Chief Executive Officer on (03) 5391 4444, or email info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

Community Notice – Illegal Use of Glue Traps

COUNCIL has received notification from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) regarding reports of the use of an illegal substance to control pest birds within the Hindmarsh Shire municipality.

Glue traps are any trap that uses glue, adhesive material, or a similar sticky substance to trap an animal or insect. In Victoria, the sale and use of glue traps for trapping animals is prohibited, including use by commercial pest control operators. Significant penalties apply for the illegal sale or use of these products.

DEECA has advised that the use of glue traps is not only unlawful but can cause significant animal welfare issues. Unfortunately, native wildlife has been affected by the use of the illegal substance, placing additional pressure on wildlife carers and rescue organisations across the region.

Wildlife that becomes trapped may suffer severe stress, injury, dehydration, starvation, or death. Native birds, reptiles, mammals and other non-target species can be unintentionally caught when glue traps are used.

Council reminds residents, landowners and businesses that:

- The use of glue traps to capture animals is illegal in Victoria.
- Native wildlife can be seriously harmed

by these devices.

- Significant penalties may apply for the sale or use of prohibited glue traps.
- Alternative, lawful pest management methods should be used.

For more information about glue traps and Victorian requirements, visit:

- Victorian Department of Health: www.health.vic.gov.au/environmental-health/glue-traps-for-pest-control
- Animal Welfare Victoria: <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals/animal-welfare-victoria/pocta-act-1986/humane-vertebrate-pest-control/glue-traps>

Let’s work together to protect our native wildlife and support the dedicated wildlife carers who help injured animals throughout our region.

If you are aware of the use or sale of glue traps for animal control, please report it to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) Victoria Inspectorate either online via <https://rspcavic.org/who-to-call/> or by calling (03) 9224 2222.

For more information or to speak to Council, please contact the Local Laws department on (03) 5391 4444, or email locallaws@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

Hindmarsh Shire Council joins Western Victorian Careers Expo



Staff at Careers Expo 2026.

HINDMARSH Shire Council joined dozens of exhibitors on Tuesday 23 June 2026 at the Western Victorian Careers Expo. Students from across the region converged at the Wimmera Events Centre to explore a huge range of future pathways, including universities, TAFEs, employment and volunteering opportunities.

Local government may not always be the first career pathway young people consider, which made it especially valuable for our team to connect with students at the Expo. From immediate employment opportunities,

such as lifeguarding at local swimming pools, through to traineeships and future careers in engineering, town planning, mechanics and more, the event provided a fantastic opportunity to showcase the diverse range of employment pathways available at Hindmarsh Shire Council.

For current opportunities with Hindmarsh Shire Council, visit www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/jobs.

For more information, please contact Angela Veitch, Coordinator People and Safety, on 03 5391 4444, or email hr@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au

Locust spring update for north-west Victoria



LAND managers in north-west Victoria are encouraged to prepare now for possible locust activity in spring.

The Mallee has a moderate to high chance of high numbers of young locusts hatching in late September onwards.

The Wimmera has a low to moderate chance of high numbers of young locusts hatching in early October onwards.

Land managers are responsible for controlling locusts on their land.

The best time to control locusts is about 2 weeks after hatching, when they are young and can’t yet fly.

Land managers can also help by checking paddocks and reporting any signs of locusts.

Reporting helps improve forecasting and supports control decisions.

This advice is for people in Mildura, Swan Hill, Gannawarra, Buloke, Yarriambiack, Hindmarsh and West Wimmera



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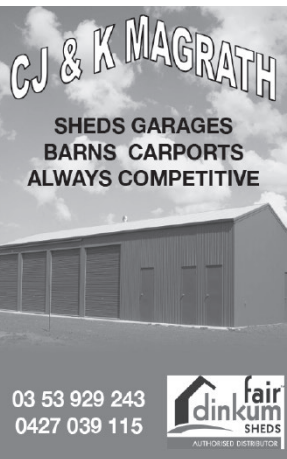
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SPORT

KANIVA GOLF



Glennis Sampson.

IN tough conditions and with the majority of us away, five ladies played a 9 hole stableford competition.

Well done for having a go today ladies. The winner of the day with 16 points was Glennis Sampson, (who was runner up last week, so must be on a roll). Leonie Shurdington won the Nutrien ball today.

Good conditions for golf on Saturday as the boys played the third qualifying round of the club championships and the Doyle's Monthly medal. Winner of the day on a count back was Braden Clark with 75-7-68. Runner-up was Chris Colls 78-10-68.

The nearest the pins were:
Meyer Bulk and Livestock #4 Chris Colls. Nutrien #8, Dodsons Hardware #11, Hicks Haulage #14 and Ahrens #17 was Braden Clark in almost a clean sweep. The least putts for the day was Chris Colls, and the longest putt went to Zac Vivian. The money hole this week also went to Braden Clark.



Braden Clark.

NHILL LAWN BOWLERS AT GOROKE



Goroke Winter tournament winners - Barry Cramer, David Taylor (Kaniva) and Glenis Mitchell (Goroke).



Goroke Winter tournament runners up - Bob Birt (Frances), Joel Lowe (Goroke) and Kevin Jones.

OVER the past few weeks there has been very little action at the Nhill Bowling Club due to inclement weather and various other reasons. Only a few bowlers have been braving the conditions and playing some very casual and not too serious bowls.

For many years during the winter months the Nhill, Kaniva, Goroke and Edenhope Bowling clubs conduct an annual tournament at their club which is on a casual basis and creates excellent fellowship amongst the clubs. Teams are organized

by the host club and it sees bowlers play with members from other clubs. The first winter tournament for this year was held at Goroke last Sunday and which was played in a cool but pleasant winters day. After three games it saw two teams win all their games and the difference between the winners and runners up was just one shot. Winning the tournament with 17 shots up was Barry Cramer, David Taylor (Kaniva) and Glenis Mitchell (Goroke) just ahead of Kevin Jones, Joel Lowe (Goroke) and Bob Birt (Frances) with 16 shots up. To top

off a successful day Allan King won the hamper in the day's raffle. Soup and a barbecue for lunch together with a savoury afternoon tea provided by the Goroke club complimented an enjoyable day for all those in attendance. The next winter tournament is at Edenhope on Sunday 19 July 2026 followed by Nhill's tournament on Saturday 1 August 2026. Any Nhill members wishing to play in these tournaments are asked to place their name on the lists at the clubhouse.

On Sunday 28 June 2026 the club was fortunate to receive a cheque for \$900.00 from the Horsham Sports and Community Club under their annual sponsorship program. These funds will be used to assist in the purchase of a pie warmer for the kitchen area in the clubhouse. The Horsham Sports and Community Club has assisted the club on many occasions over the years and it enables the club to upgrade its facilities or to assist in the completion of special projects undertaken by the club. The club and the members are very appreciative of this ongoing support.

Members are reminded that their memberships are now due and payable. Memberships can be paid to Jeff Merrett (Treasurer) or Barry Cramer (Secretary) or direct to the club's bank account. A directive from Bowls Victoria is that no bowler can play any pennant match or club championship event if they are not a fully paid member at their club. The club is shortly to place an order for more club pennant shirts and any member requiring a shirt should contact uniform coordinator Glenda Pola as soon as possible.

By Dead End

TIGER CUBS WRAP UP



OUR budding Tiger Cub footballers had their wrap-up recently, with a parents' clash and certificates and treats.

A big thank you to all those who made the program possible and a big thanks to organisers Shelley Gersch and Alex Jupp and all the helper parents for its success. The Tiger Cubs Footballers have been loving their half-time games at home games, so keep an eye out on Saturday.

We can't wait to see these young guns out again next season. Go Tiges.

SPORT

LOCAL HOCKEY PLAYERS REPRESENT AT JUNIOR STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Continued from page 1

regional zone which includes Goulburn Valley Hockey Association, Hockey Central Vic, North Central Hockey Association, and Sunraysia Hockey Association.

Attending championships is a huge commitment, with nominations, trials held on Sunday 19 April 2026, and four training sessions at Bendigo, plus various team duties and uniform/merchandise/fees involved.

There are 9 zones across Victoria, including 3 regional and 6 metro. Regional zones include: Gippsland Bulls, North West Lightning, and Westvic Eagles. Metro zones include: Central Flames, Eastern Hotshots, North East Red Devils, North West Tigers, Southern Sharks, and Western Wildcats.

Games were 22 minute halves with 3 minutes break at half time.

After rain at the final training session Thursday in Bendigo and heavy rain on the trip from there to Melbourne the weather was mostly kind for the tournament. With no rain at all on game days and a little sunshine at times the weather was very cool at times but mostly reasonable.

Girls and boys were at different venues each day for the pool matches, however the Wimmera contingent was fortunate that all the members were able to support each other at the same venue on finals day at Footscray.

U14 Boys Lightning

Lightning began in Pool B, drawn to play 4 matches before the teams progressed to either Pool C or D, depending on pool standings.

The Lightning U14 Boys 15 player team was originally named 16 players however one was unable to play due to injury.

The team consisted of several ‘centre forwards’, so time in that position was shared around.

Barrett’s favourite spot is centre forward, although he has been mostly playing Centre Half Back this season, and he

spent time on inner, a tiny bit at centre, and some half back.

Jonas plays mostly in defence in juniors, but played mostly in attack at the tournament, with a little bit of time defending.

Goals were hard to come by against some top teams. Jonas scored Lightning’s first goal for the tournament, from a short corner that was played out after the final whistle, picking up a good rebound. Barrett scored a goal during Lightning’s best match for the weekend, a strong win where the boys all worked together and lifted well. Wimmera’s James was the Lightning team’s top scorer for the tournament with two goals.

Barrett wore shirt number 1, the number he also wore in 2024 when he played JSC for the Lightning Black U12 Boys. Jonas wore shirt number 8, in his first JSC.

The role of captain was shared around. Wimmera’s James wore the captain band for one match.

Barrett currently plays hockey for Nhill’s U16 Leopards, and for the women’s team Thunderbirds as an U14B player.

Jonas currently plays for Kaniva’s U16 Raiders, Kaniva Women as an U14B player and for the open team Cobras.

U14s played mostly in the mornings.

Wimmera/Kaniva’s Clint Beattie did the Sunday morning game tech duty, with results that go live on the Altius platform.

Results 2026 (U14B):

Friday 3 July (Footscray):
9am Lightning 0 lost to Flames 7; 10.50am Lightning 1 (Jonas 1) lost to Sharks 2.
Saturday 4 July (SNHC):
9.50am Lightning 1 (James 1) lost to Tigers 5; 11.50am Lightning 6 (Toby 1, Sully 1, Lewis 1, Jakoby 1, Barrett 1, Clancy 1) def Bulls 0; 2.45pm Lightning 0 lost to Wildcats 2. Sitting 4th in Pool B, Lightning progressed to Pool D.
Sunday 5 July (Footscray):
9am Lightning 1 (Kismat 1) drew with Eagles 1; 4.20pm (7th place play-off) Lightning 1 (James 1) drew with Eagles 1.

Final standings 2026 (U14B)

Gold, Red Devils; Silver, Flames; Bronze, Hotshots; 4th Tigers; 5th Wildcats; 6th Sharks; 7th Eagles (higher on pool ladder); 8th Lightning; 9th Bulls.

Lightning Awards (U14 Boys):

Players’ Player (as voted each game by the players): Lewis Lowe.
Coach’s Award: George Grewar.
Thanks to Coaches Paul Mackereth and Campbell Evans and Team Manager Monique Sagggers for their efforts and encouragement of the young players.

Other results 2026:

U16 Girls Lightning lost their 7th Place Play-Off 1-0 to Flames, finishing 8th. Hannah battled some injury and was able to play short stints.
U14 Girls Lightning won their 5th Place Play-Off against Wildcats 2-0, finishing 5th. Wimmera’s Holly scored a goal in Lightning’s strong win against the Bulls.

- Rachel Clark



Barrett in action for the Lightning U14 Boys against Flames.



Local boys Barrett (Nhill) and Jonas (Kaniva) played in the Lightning U14 Boys team together.



Jonas in action for the Lightning U14 Boys against Sharks. Photos by Rachel Clark.

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Email editor@nhillfreepress.com.au or contact us with the details.



KANIVA LEEOR FOOTBALL RESULTS



Lochie Hahne juggles a mark.



Hamish Bennett takes a strong mark on Saturday. Hamish was named best on ground.



Tyler Roos in action against Harrow Balmoral on Saturday.

Reserves

KLU 6.7 43 def by Harrow Balmoral 7.5 47

Best: 1 - Bennett Crouch, 2 - Kane Hawker, 3 - Tyler Saunders, 4 - Dylan Carnemolla, 5 - Jack Borgelt, 6 - Blake Goodlet
On a sunny but cool day at Harrow KLU got off to a great start with Jonty goaling from the goal square followed quickly by BJ. Harrow responded quickly with three goals but another major to Fish had us trailing by 4 points at the change.

Harrow got the first of second term and could have had more if not for Tyler, Kane, Jack and Corey. Lachie Coad took a strong mark down forward but failed to convert and the game was a real tussle with 5 points the margin at half time.

BJ goaled first in the third quarter to put us in front thanks to some fantastic work from “Mr Everywhere” Ben Crouch. As players tired the game became tight but a great goal to Blake put us up by 3 points at the final change.

Dylan’s run down the wing was the highlight of the game with a lot of bodies going hard at the football. KLU going down by 4 points.

Seniors

KLU 6.10 46 def by Harrow Balmoral 11.8 74

Best: 1 - Hamish Bennett, 2 - Blake Dodson , 3 - Josh Clayton, 4 - Jock Maddern, 5 - Lachy Bates, 6 - Billy King
Goals: L. Bates (3), B. Dodson, P. Munn, J. Clayton
NO JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Netball Results:

A Grade

Best Player: Ruby Gordon, 2nd Best Player: Lauren Brown
Coach’s Award: Zoe Hawker

It was another closely contested match, with the girls narrowly going down by just two goals. Much like last week, the game remained within reach right until the final whistle and never got away from them.

This was a true team performance, with every player contributing throughout the game. The girls put on an excellent



Hamish Bennett in action.

display of full-court defence, while our goalers worked tirelessly under constant pressure to keep us in the contest.

While the last two games have both been within reach, there is so much for the girls to be proud of. They can take plenty of positives and valuable lessons from these performances. Most importantly, they competed hard for all four quarters, played as a team, and never dropped their heads—a fantastic reflection of their determination and resilience.

B Grade

KLU 39 def by HB 49

Best players - Abbie Eastwood & Sinead Kuchel

The B Grade had a fantastic opening quarter of the match and completely blew HB out of the water. The connection in the attacking end was working beautifully between the feeders and goalies to give KLU a 16-9 lead heading into quarter time. HB picked up their pace in the second quarter and caught us on the hop as they edged the score to a one goal lead in their favour. Our defensive pressure was a delight to watch, creating turnover opportunities which we were converting to goal. After an even 3rd quarter, the score was still a 1 goal lead in favour of HB. The group stayed consistent and worked well together and we were well within reach of victory, however silly mistakes in the last 5-10 minutes saw HB capitalise on this, with HB pushing the lead out to 10 goals by the final whistle.

C Grade

KLU 25 def by HB 49

Best Players: Teagan Chaston, Sharon Munn

Tough day down in Harrow as we took on the Roos. It was a hard-fought and well-contested game, with plenty of positives to take away and areas to keep working on. Every girl played their part in what was a physical, tough contest, and the effort and determination never dropped. We’ll take the lessons from today, keep building, and come back stronger next week. Well done, girls!

C Reserve

KLU 26 def by HB 41

Tough day at the office for the C res team at Harrow. A consistently physical game mixed with limited numbers made it difficult however the team consistently tried hard.

Best players Tiarnée Dyer and Megan Steel

U13s

HB 33 def KLU 4

The KLU Under 13s travelled to Harrow to take on a strong Harrow Balmoral side in perfect conditions, with no rain making for an enjoyable day of netball.

Facing a team with plenty of height and strong defensive pressure, the KLU girls showed great determination from the first whistle to the last. They worked hard to move the ball patiently through the court, never giving up despite the challenge of their taller opponents.

Every player contributed with fantastic effort, encouraging one another and continuing to fight for every contest. The

team’s persistence, sportsmanship and willingness to keep trying were highlights of the day.

Best: Taylor Crouch

Second: Emily Dodson

U14s match report

by Passy Kearly from Edenhope

Last week’s game was against undefeated Noradjuha Quantong, it was always going to be a tough battle. The Bombers were too good, with more top age players but our lads weren’t going to go down without a fight.

The Saint-Cougars have grown and developed as the season has progressed.

The Saints-Cougars took the game on and played on when the opportunities arose. When starved of opportunities, the lads slowed down and looked for a free team mate to clear the ball from defence.

Up against better opposition, they haven’t dropped their heads and continued to work for each other. Harry Lannin was key at CHB, cutting off the Bombers forward entries and running the ball out of the backline.

Tyson Harry did well to compete in the ruck and in the midfield linking up with teammates. Archer Ferguson and Mitch Hendy worked together in the midfield and moved around the ground to support the team. Ben Jewell and Archie Dunstall did great work in the backline applying pressure to the Bombers forwards to create turnovers.



Jock Maddern kicks the ball forward on Saturday.
Photos Symone Mitchell

SPORT

BORDERTOWN CLAY TARGET CLUB
SHOOT RESULTS



A Grade Pointscore event winner, Zander Hawker with club president Ash Hawker.



B Grade Championship winner, Cooper Dodson with club president Ash Hawker.



C Grade Championship winner, Caitlin Hendy with club president Ash Hawker.



C Grade Pointscore event winner, Bridey Hawker with club president Ash Hawker.

28th June 2026

Cold early but perfect conditions for shooting later in the day. 22 shooters competed with a third of those being juniors; great to see !!

BLUE RIBBON
AWARD



CONGRATULATIONS to Jack Borgelt on being awarded the Blue Ribbon Spirit of Football Award!
Jack is a fantastic leader both on and off the field and is a valued member of our Under 17 Saint Cougars side. His hard work, commitment and positive attitude have also earned him the opportunity to play senior football with Kaniva-Leeor this season, a testament to the effort he puts in every week. It's fantastic to see his dedication, leadership and involvement within our club and community recognised and rewarded.
Well deserved, Jack - congratulations!

Event [1] 40 Target Medley Championship; comprising of 10 Double Barrel, 10 Single Barrel, 10 Pointscore and 10 Continental.
Kindly sponsored by H & R Rural, Kaniva and Tatiara Insurance, Bordertown
Gavin Height, Ash Hawker, Don Pratt and Andrew Estcourt all 59/60. Wayne Hawker 58/60, Tim Downing 57/60, Cooper Dodson and Kane Hawker 55/60
Overall & AA: Don Pratt 89/90, Ash Hawker and Gavin Height 88/90 A: Andrew Estcourt 59/60, Tim Downing 57/60
B: Cooper Dodson 55/60, Peter Winser 53/60 C: Caitlin Hendy 53/60, Bridey Hawker 41/60 Event [2] 50 Target Pointscore
Kindly sponsored by D & M Rural and Tatiara Insurance, Bordertown AA: Ash Hawker 149/150, Wayne Hawker 148/150
A: Zander Hawker 145/150, Tim Downing and Andrew Estcourt 144/150 B: Cooper Dodson 138/150, Peter Winser 124/150
C: Bridey Hawker 119/150, Caitlin Hendy 112/150
Junior Encouragement Award winner, Bridey Hawker 160/210 High Gun honours to Ash Hawker 208/210
The club's next shoot will be held on Sunday, July 26th with 25 Tgt Pointscore plus 25 Tgt Single Barrel Championship and 40 Tgt Continental event. Practice from 10.15am , Competition start 11.00am

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NHILL GOLF



Min Marshall and Brian Smith.

ON Wednesday the 1st of July, 5 Ladies tackled the golf course in pretty hard conditions for Part 1 of the Ladies Monthly Medal! The wind blew and was pretty cold but no rain thank goodness. And she's on a roll !! Winner of the day was Jean Clark (again) 105-23-82
Runner up Jenny Creek 108-24-84; Nearest the pins 7th Mary Waugh; 9th (2nd shot) Beryl Conquer.
On Saturday the 4th of July Stroke Monthly medal was played. Winner of the day and July Monthly Medallist was Brian Smith 82-11-71 runner up on a Countback was Dave Pert 97-26-71 3rd place Gregory Sampson 88-16-72.
Ladies Monthly Medallist's part 2 went to Min Marshall 116-37-79.
Runner up for Saturday was Jeannette Laslett 115-28-87
Nearest the pins:4th Brian Smith;7th Glen Treverton/ Jeannette Laslett
9th Trevor Polkinghorne; 12th Jacko Etherton and 14th Andrew Koop.



Jenny Creek and Jean Clark.