

GARFIELD spectator

ISSUE 179

PO BOX 147, GARFIELD, 3814 | INCORPORATION NO: A0053615E | ABN: 59 328 075 826



*New Medical
Centre
open in
Garfield
See Page 4*

Proudly supported By
Community Bank
Bunyip & District

 **Bendigo Bank**

Supported by



Cardinia

Cardinia Shire Council

GARFIELD SPECTATOR ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS

DEADLINE IS THE 20th OF THE MONTH

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

Contact details:

email:garfield spectator@gmail.com **mail:**PO BOX 147, Garfield 3814

Check out The Garfield Spectator in colour on our website...

www.garfieldspectator.com.au

Front cover: Logo of Garfield Community Association - our unsung heroes. For more info. see page 11

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:

Can be submitted 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

ADVERTISEMENTS

Can be submitted via email or post

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

Subject line: Advertiser, size of article and layout wanted (see below), name of business

Body of email: Your article/photos attached

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.

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 www.garfieldspectator.com.au, 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.

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

Garfield Community Association

The Garfield Community Association (GCA) is a small but dynamic community committee that acts as a conduit between our local community, local government and beyond.

Some of our ongoing commitments and responsibilities include organising annual events like the main street Christmas Tree's, the Living Legends Lunch, and community festival's such as the Christmas Festival and the Food & Wine Festival (in recess).

Other aspects of what we do is the Association auspice's some of Garfield's community groups such as the Community Garden, the Youth Group & the Blue Tree, Mental Health programs and the Rail Town Garden maintenance.

This allows these volunteer groups to do what they do best which is to provide programs and assistance for our local residents. The GCA, being an incorporated body, helps cover their public liability insurances, as well as assisting in the grant process by being their financial banker, and assisting in paying their accounts.

As an organisation we frequently liaise with council and various levels of government and often provide letters of support when local communities are seeking grants for specific initiatives.

The Garfield Community Association is made up entirely of passionate local volunteers that meet regularly on the second Tuesday of the month (excluding January) at Brewsters Foodstore & Cafe at 5.30pm.

For more details please contact Brewsters on 0407 151 202



As we prepare this issue of the Spectator the Senior and Reserve Garfield Stars teams are going very well, the Seniors have won their last four in a row, being the first team to beat the Warragul Dusties and pulling a great win out of the bag against Cora Lynn - their first for many years.

Prior to this round on 6th June we are third on the ladder. Our great player/Coach, Eddie Morris has been leading on the League stat sheets for a few weeks. We hope the great work can continue this weekend with a trip down to Phillip Island.

Our reserves team is unbeaten thus far which is a great effort and I am sure selection night has got a whole lot harder.

Our U16's and U18's are having mixed fortunes but to their credit they are out there giving it their all week after week

by Gwen O

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..



GARFIELD FAMILY MEDICAL CENTRE

Garfield Family Medical Centre was built with a heartfelt commitment to our community — to ensure that local families have access to quality healthcare close to home. As a locally owned and operated medical practice, we chose Garfield because we believe in the people, families, and future of this wonderful community. Since opening our doors, we have been humbled by the support we have received and honored to care for patients of all ages. We are incredibly proud to have achieved a 5-star Google rating, with many patients sharing kind words about the compassionate care, respect, and attention they receive from our team. Every day, we strive to treat our patients as we would our own family, taking the time to listen, care, and support them through every stage of life. Our dream is to continue growing with the community by welcoming more doctors, expanding our services, extending our opening hours, and introducing onsite pathology so more healthcare needs can be met locally. We sincerely thank everyone who has trusted us with their care and warmly invite those who have not yet visited to come and experience the difference for themselves. By choosing Garfield Medical Centre, you are not only investing in your own health and wellbeing, but also helping strengthen and secure the future of healthcare in Garfield. Together, we can build a healthier, stronger, and more connected community for generations to come. We invite you to read some of the wonderful testimonials from our patients and discover why so many local families are choosing Garfield Medical Centre for their healthcare needs.



**GARFIELD
FAMILY MEDICAL**

NOW OPEN
5 Days a Week

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
9am - 2.30pm

*providing accessible, high-quality
healthcare to the Garfield community.*

Your **Family's Health**
is our priority

NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

☎ **03 8658 7866**
📍 75 Main St, Garfield
🌐 www.garfieldfamilymedical.com.au

 **HotDoc**
BOOK AN APPOINTMENT



OUR SERVICES:

- ✓ General Family Medicine
- ✓ Women's Health
- ✓ Men's Health
- ✓ Child & Adolescent Health
- ✓ Chronic Disease Management
- ✓ Mental Health Care
- ✓ Immunisations
- ✓ Small Procedures
- ✓ Health Assessments
& Preventive Care
- ✓ We collect pathology onsite



**GARFIELD
FAMILY MEDICAL**



Dr Gayani Yahampathge
(Qualifications - MBBS , FRACGP)



Dr Sashini Jayaratne
(Qualifications - MBBS , MRCGP(Intl))

OUR DOCTORS

*Experienced, caring GP's dedicated to your
family's health at every stage of life.*

ODE TO BRIAN BARBER By Erin Tremewan

*Today we gather, hearts worn thin, to farewell our mate Brian
A well dressed cowboy, rugged and free, most alive where a man ought to be
Boots polished up and hat worn proud, never the loudest in the crowd
But quick with a grin, a tale, a joke and never far from a diet coke
He rode his horses proud and tall, with grit and laughter through it all
And though life took one leg away, he still did everything his way
That spare leg gathered dust somewhere, Brian had no use for it there
“No need for that” he’d always say, then carry on come rain or day
A fisherman too, patient and wise, happiest beneath open skies
Whether by water, horse or land, Brian lived life firsthand
At Brewsters Cafe he’d hold his place, daily catch-ups, familiar face
Then down the op shop or community hub, where a chat with Brian was always enough
Trivia night with the Peg Leg team, sharp as ever, quick and keen
Full of stories, wit and cheer, the kind of bloke all loved to hear
He’d strap his bins into his scooter tight, tourniquet style, quite the sight
With faithful Leo by his side, four strong legs matching Brian’s stride
Together they’d roll down every street, one man, one dog, a pair complete
And I’ll always be grateful more than words can say, for the kindness he showed me every day
And though today we say goodbye, his spirit’s far to wild to die
So here’s to Brian, tough and true, a one-of-a-kind through and through
May horses run where you now roam and wide open plains forever feel like home
And somewhere now beneath sunset skies, that cowboy spirit still rides high
Hat tipped low and shoulders back, still blazing down some out back track*



COUNTRY STYLE MEATS

JUNE NEWSLETTER



AUSSIE PORK MEDALIONS \$13.89/KG

CASSEROLE STEAK \$15.89/KG BRAISE, SLOW COOK, OVEN, SOUP

BEEF PIN WHEELS 4 FOR \$20

OVEN @ 180 FOR 30 MINS AIR FRYER @ 180 FOR 15 MINS

DON'T FORGET OUR BEER STICKS

3 NEW READY-MADE CASSEROLES THIS MONTH

3 VARIETIES OF OUR CHICKEN WRAPS 4 FOR \$25

SUNDRIED TOMATO, BASIL, GARLIC BUTTER AND SPINACH

MUSHROOM, BACON AND ONION

ASPARAGUS, CHEESE AND GARLIC

FULL RANGE OF ALL YOUR CASSEROLE AND SOUP MEATS:

LAMB SHANKS, LAMB RIBS, OSSO BUCCO, BEEF SHORT RIBS, MEATY BONES,
BACON BONES, SMOKED HOCKS, FRESH PORK BONES, CHICKEN MEATY BONES

Trading Hours: Monday to Friday 7am-6.30pm. Saturday 7am-1pm.

**HOME DELIVERY CAN BE ORGANISED FOR THE SELF-ISOLATED
OR THOSE UNABLE TO GET TO THE SHOP**

SLIDING DOOR REPAIRS

Are your doors sticking, catching
or just not sliding properly?

- > Timber & Aluminium Sliding Doors
 - > Bi Fold Door
 - > Cavity Door
 - > Wardrobe Doors
 - > Security Doors
 - > Track & Roller Replacements
 - > Screen Replacements
 - > New Locks Fitted
- And Much More***

We fix Your Sliding Doors!



ALL
Sliding Door
REPAIRS MELBOURNE

Ph 0438 538 244

info@asdrm.com.au

www.allslidingdoorrepairsmelbourne.com.au

ANZAC DAY 2026



RON STEWART OF BUNYIP STANDING TALL AND PROUD - HE IS CHARGED WITH LOWERING AND RAISING THE FLAG



MICHELLE GUNNING PAYING TRIBUTE TO HER LATE FATHER (SANDY TOCOCK) 1ST ARMoured REGIMENT -RAEME - WEARING HIS MEDALS EARNED IN VIETNAM. HE WAS ALSO MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES



THE AMAZING BERNIE DINGLE AND HIS SON ED, FROM THE LIGHTHORSE MUSEUM IN NAR NAR GOON ,TOGETHER WITH HANK HEEREMANS AND JACK KLEIN



A large crowd gathered around the Cenotaph on ANZAC Day, a good mix of schoolchildren, middle-aged and older residents and some Veterans.

The service was conducted by RSL Bunyip Secretary and Acting President - Dave Papley. He paid a moving tribute to retiring President Colin Teece, thanking him for his many many years of service

Gwen Oldmeadow



BUNYIP DISTRICT UNITING CHURCH
'Linking God and Community'.

BUNYIP – GARFIELD – LONGWARRY
WORSHIP SERVICES

Date	Time	Location
Sunday June 7	9:00am	Bunyip Uniting Church
Sunday June 14	9:00am	Garfield Uniting Church
Thursday June 18	11:00am	Hillview Aged Care
Sunday June 21	9:00am	Bunyip Uniting Church
Sunday June 28	9:00am	Garfield Uniting Church
Sunday July 5	9:00am	Bunyip Uniting Church
Sunday July 12	9:00am	Garfield Uniting Church
Thursday July 16	11:00am	Hillview Aged Care
Sunday July 19	9:00am	Bunyip Uniting Church

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**
A Beckett Road, Bunyip.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Ecumenical Prayer Group. Monday 8:00am at 'The Crossing' 134a Princes Way
Drouin. Phone 56252655.

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

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.

Lawn Mowing & Garden Maintenance

- * Lawn Mowing
- * Whipper Snipping
- * Garden Maintenance

Richie 0431 415 761

TREES BY RICK

Qualified Arborist

Free Quotes – Contact Rick

Tree Trimming
Tree Removal
Tree Pruning
Chipping

treesbyrick@gmail.com
0413 886 999
Trees by Rick
treesbyrick.wixsite.com/arborist-work

Brewster's
Foodstore and Cafe

81-83 MAIN STREET, GARFIELD
PHONE: 0407 151 202

**CHRISTMAS IN JULY
SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY 25TH 2026
THREE-COURSE DINNER
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
MORE DETAILS IN
JULY ISSUE**



OPEN EVERY DAY EXCEPT
CHRISTMAS DAY FOR BREAKFAST AND LUNCH AND ALL YOUR
CATERING NEEDS

Alexander Leithhead and the Junction Store at Bunyip South

By Heather Arnold harnold@dcsl.net.au

In early 1894, Alexander Leithhead opened the Junction Store at Iona, or Bunyip South as the area was originally called. The reason for the name is explained in a newspaper report - *From the bridge [at Iona] to Mr. A. Leithhead's No. 1 Store is a distance of about 1 mile and three quarters, and at this point no less than six roads meet and three bridges are to be seen. After having a chat with the proprietor of the Junction Store, as Mr. Leithhead's place of business is appropriately termed, we set off along the Main Bunyip road for a mile and a half when we arrived at the railway crossing [at Bunyip].*

Just to further clarify, the store was on the north side of the drain, at the junction of the Bunyip River/Main Drain at the intersection of Bunyip-Modella Road, Evans Road and Bunyip River Road.

Alexander and Harriet and Brunswick and Coburg

Alexander Andrew Leithhead was born in Glasgow in Scotland in 1840 to Thomas and Elizabeth (nee Andrew) Leithhead. Alexander, a cooper, married Harriet Emma Kendall at St Luke's Church of England, on December 5, 1863, in South Melbourne. Harriet, the daughter of Kennett and Harriet (nee Merchant) Westfield, had married previously in 1858 to John Kendall, who died in May 1863. Harriet and John Kendall had two children - Harriet (1859-1943, Mrs George Withers) and a little boy born in 1861 named John Kennett, who died at less than two years old.

Alexander and Harriet Leithhead had seven children -

- Elizabeth - 1865-1866, born in Melbourne.

- Alexander Thomas - 1867-1901, born in South Melbourne.

- Mary Ann - 1870-1872, born in South Melbourne.

- William - 1873-1957, born in Heidelberg.

- George David - 1876-1931, born in Collingwood.

- Kennett John - 1878-1959, born in Brunswick.

- Lillian - 1885-1945, born in Coburg.

In August 1877, after moving to Brunswick, Alexander was elected as a councillor to the Borough of Brunswick and in 1882 he was elected as the Mayor. He resigned from his roles as both Councillor and Mayor in May 1883, due to his *having severed his connection as a resident with the district of Brunswick*. The family moved to Moreland Road in Coburg and in August 1885, Alexander was elected as a councillor to the Shire of Coburg; then in 1886 he was re-elected to the Brunswick Council as well. His second time at Brunswick was short-lived as he resigned in January 1888, in a protest at the council planning to spend £10,000 to erect a new town hall. Around this time he also resigned from the Coburg Council.

In January 1887, Alexander joined with Thomas Cormick to form Leithhead and Cormick, Timber Merchants in Moreland Road, Brunswick. Three months later in April 1887, Alexander had a serious accident, as reported in *The Argus* - *"Accident to a Councillor- A serious accident happened yesterday at the Moreland Sawmills to Mr Alex Leithhead of Leithhead and Cormick, a member of both the Brunswick and Municipal Councils. Mr Leithhead is the senior proprietor of the firm and has only recently had very extensive machinery erected, of which he has had but little experience. Mr Leithhead, at the time of the accident, was assisting to place a new belt on one of the circular saws, when he slipped and his left hand was caught by the saw, which lacerated it in a frightful manner. He was immediately carried to his private residence in Coburg, where Drs Stewart and Elliott attended, and placed the sufferer under chloroform, when it was found to amputate three of the fingers. The fourth finger on the same hand was amputated some years ago, through the finger being crushed."*

In January 1891 the firm became insolvent and an auction of plant and stock was held on January 15. I am unsure of the Leithhead's movements immediately after this. In October 1887, Harriet Leithhead had been granted 840 acres of land in Jindivick. Did they acquire this land with a view to one day becoming farmers, or was it a convenient timber supply?

Alexander and Harriet at The Junction Store

Whether they went from Coburg to Jindivick or from Coburg to Bunyip South, by January 1894, Leithheads Store was open for business. The store was also used for community meetings and gatherings. For instance, in June 1894 a meeting was held by settlers at the Bunyip end of the swamp with the object to *make certain representations to Mr Catani, engineer in charge of the works*; in May 1895 a meeting was held at the store to consider the *insufficiency of monetary aid to settlers* and in June 1895 a Bunyip Village Settlement Progressive Association meeting was held there.

In May 1899 the *Warragul Guardian* reported that - *Mr Leithhead has further enlarged his Junction store, which now has a most presentable appearance. It was a good idea to complete the alterations before the new settlement sets in. Mr Leithhead has been closely identified with the development of the Swamp from the very beginning, and his own business has passed through a process of evolution and the future is even brighter than the past.'*

Continued on Page 8

BRAG

Reducing Bunyip and Districts carbon footprint



We made it to the big screen!

With Ya Cardinia is a compelling short documentary series celebrating the people and stories driving positive change across Cardinia Shire. Through four powerful, intimate films, the series shines a light on local voices that are often unheard but are making a meaningful difference in their communities.

Each story captures the passion, resilience and community spirit of its subject—inviting viewers not only to connect, but to be inspired to act.



Scan the code to watch the video

Among these stories is us the **Bunyip Renewables Action Group (BRAG)**—a standout example of grassroots leadership and environmental commitment in our region. BRAG's work highlights how local action can contribute to a more sustainable future, demonstrating the tangible impact of community-led initiatives. Our story reflects the strength of collective effort and the importance of acting locally on global challenges.

The series also features Have Hope Inc., Moses Riek, and Caldermeade Farm, each offering a unique perspective on community contribution. Thanks Cardinia Council for funding this through the Arts grant.



\$500 donation from Bunyip Rodeo
\$500 donation from Bunyip Community Market

Your support empowers us to champion local initiatives that create real, lasting impact for our community. Together, we're making sustainability practical, achievable, and part of everyday life—helping shape a greener future and making Bunyip an even better place to live for everyone.



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

AusNet grant success

BRAG is proud to be part of the Energy Resilience Community Fund. A battery and backup generator has now been installed at tennis/netball clubhouse to strengthen local resilience especially during extended power outages. This supports our community to stay connected and transition to a sustainable energy future. Thanks AusNet!



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.

RECYCLE

Your takeaway coffee cup at simply cups dispenser Bunyip IGA

Your soft plastics at Bendigo Bank Bunyip

DONATE

To BRAG via Container Deposit Scheme code: C2000010517

Alexander Leithhead and the Junction Store at Bunyip South
By Heather Arnold harnold@dcsi.net.au

continued from page 6

A family tragedy

On Christmas Day, 1901 tragedy struck the Leithhead family, with the death of six familymembers. Alexander and Harriet's son Alexander had moved to the goldfields of Western Australia. Alexander had married Margaret Dixon in 1888 and they had seven children -Alexander, Jessie, Vivian (1893-1894), Charles, Harriet Josephine, Margaret and Lillian - all born between 1889 and 1900, the eldest six in Victoria and Lillian in Western Australia.

The *North Western Advertiser* reported on this awful sad event-

A Terrible Catastrophe - Father and Five Children Roasted to Death

A terrible tragedy occurred at Day Dawn early on Christmas morning. The residence of Alexander Thomas Leithhead was burnt to the ground at 2a.m., and five children, range from infancy to 11 years were burnt to death, while the father received injuries that subsequently proved fatal. He was terrible burned about the back of the body, the arms and hands and was sent to Cue Hospital. The eldest boy was saved, but so far Mrs Leithhead's condition as she is in a state of frantic grief and dementia.

A later telegram says than an inquest on the bodies of the five children was opened this morning. A burial order was issued by the coroner, and the inquest was then adjourned until Saturday. Mr Leithhead was sent to the Cue Hospital, three miles away, at 3 a.m., but was not attended until eight hours later. In the meantime he suffered terribly and died shortly after advice was obtained.

The funeral of the bodies of the five children took place at Cue cemetry about 7. All the mine hands and townspeople went in trollies, wagons and every available conveyance. It was the largest attended funeral ever held in the district..All the bodies were placed in on coffin. The names and ages of the unfortunate children were: Jessie, aged 11 years; Charlie 9 years; Josephine 7 years; Maggie 6 years; Lillian 2 years. A subscription has been started to send Mrs leithhead to her friends. The eldest boy is under the care of Dr Erson for burns about the arm and hand.

Mrs Leithhead and her eldest son, Alexander, both survived - Margaret married James Flett the next year in Victoria and died in Western Australia in 1937; Alexander, the only surviving child, died in 1942 .

Alexander and Harriet move to Western Australia

On May 31st 1904 the Leithheads sold the stock of the Junction Store and the property upon it stood and moved to Western Australia. Two of their children lived in that State, William and Lillian plus their grandson who had survied the fire William, their fourth chid, had married Emma Hansen Steenhot in 189 and had two children born in Buyip and two in Western Australia; he died in 1957. Lillian, their youngest child, married David Byrne in Western Australia and she died in Sydney in 1945

Alexander and Harriet's fifth and six children stayed in Victoria, George married Alice Julia Barker in 1899 and the had three children (births registered in Garfield and Bunyip South); the family lived on Pitt Road, Vervale and George died in 1931, he is buried at the Bunyip Cemetry. Kennett married Helen Carslake Wisker in 1899, all born in Brunswick and he died in 1959

Harriet Emma Leithhead died on November 1, 1911 in Fremantle South, Western Australia and is buried at the Fremantle Cemetery. Alexander Andrew Leithhead died aged 72 on February 12, 1912, at Throssell Street, Collie, Western Australia, the home of his youngest daughter, Lillian, Mrs Byrne. He is buried at the Collie Cemetery. His obituary had this interEsting fact about Alexander - *The deceased was a highly esteemed member of various Masonic Lodges and was said to be one of the highest and oldest Masons in Australia, having been elected a member about half a century ago..* **TO BE CONTINUE IN JULY**



COMMUNITY GATHERS TO SAY THANKS TO FRONTLINE WORKERS

CFA alongside other emergency services agencies gathered on Sunday 26th April at Gumbuya World for a 'Community Heroes Day' to say a big thank you to frontline workers and their families. More than 5,000 emergency service personnel, families and community members came together on the Sunday to join in on the celebration.

The 'Community Heroes Day' was organised by the Emergency Services Foundation and Gumbuya World to acknowledge the efforts of all frontline workers and to thank the families who stand behind them.

Members from Bunyip and the South East Head Quarters Fire Brigades attended the event on behalf of CFA, with a tanker, Mobile Education Unit and children's activities.

Bunyip Fire Brigade Captain Jason Boler who has been with the brigade for 24 years said it was a privilege to have the brigade involved in the event.

"Events like this are a great reminder that the work of emergency services doesn't go unnoticed," Jason said.

"As volunteers, we couldn't do what we do without the support of our families behind us, so it's fantastic to have that support recognised."

Bunyip Fire Brigade Community Safety Coordinator and D09 District Support Officer Kylie Shanks said the day provided a valuable opportunity to connect with the community and other emergency services organisations.

"The day couldn't have gone any better and it was a great location to host the event," Kylie said.

"We had so many people come and show their support, ask us questions and participate in the children's activities we had set up.

"Having the tanker on display and activities helped create an engaging space for families to enjoy throughout the day."

Kylie also highlighted the strong sense of gratitude and appreciation shown for emergency services workers and their families throughout the day.

"It was a really humbling reality to know that the community want to come together to recognise the work we do," Kylie said.

"It's nice to be thanked, but at the end of the day we choose to volunteer our time because we love what we do."



Does anyone have a double digit piano they wish to dispose of - preferably in working order - please contact Linda on 0418 383 165

Bunyip and District Mens Shed



The Bunyip Men's Shed stands as a testament to the evolving nature of community spaces, transcending its original purpose to become a vibrant hub of activity and camaraderie. Initially conceived as a place where men could come together to combat loneliness and support each other, particularly those who are retired or facing health challenges, the concept has grown into something much more. The workshop is impressively well-equipped, providing members with the tools and resources to engage in creative projects, learn new skills, and pursue hobbies. This welcoming environment fosters communication and connection, helping participants build friendships and find a sense of purpose. Beyond just being a workshop, the Bunyip Men's Shed is a beacon of community spirit, where members share stories, experiences, and laughter, enriching their lives and strengthening the community as a whole. The Men's Shed is part of the Victoria Association to which a membership fee is paid for each member giving them insurance coverage - currently Bunyip has 24 members, including four of the originals. Many useful objects and toys are made by the woodworkers and sold at various markets in the district. Money made is used to purchase more wood from Heyfield. Occasionally they are also able to make a donation to worthy causes - including recently the Bunyip Bakery to assist with their school lunches program. I visited on what was Lew Brown's last day at the Shed before he moves up country. We will all miss him and his family.

Linda Evans



KING LEGAL GROUP

- Wills & Estates
- Litigation
- Leasing
- Property Law & Conveyancing
- Sale & Purchase of Business



MORE INFORMATION:

- 📍 29 Main Street, Bunyip, 3815
- ☎ (03) 5617 8251
- 🌐 kinglegallgroup.com.au

Sterling Carpet Care Garfield

SPECIALISING IN

- ✓ Carpet/Upholstery Cleaning
- ✓ Water Damage
- ✓ Emergency Flood Restoration
- ✓ Vinyl Floor Strip & Seal
- ✓ Tile & Grout Cleaning
- ✓ Leather Cleaning



Houses, Bond exit clean, Offices,
Schools/Kindergartens, Aged Care &
High-rise Apartments.

Melbourne to Moe

Phone: 0409 010 106

sterlingcc@bigpond.com.au

Working with Children Check
Police Checked
Fully Insured

For Quality Carpet Care!



Improve Your Internet

- Licenced Starlink Installer
- WiFi and Internet
- Wireless Bridges /Access Points
- Data Cabling
- Digital TV Antennas
- TV Mounting
- Local Technician
- Free Quotes and Advice



Call Mark on
0413 233 536



ABN: 35 618 396 955

GARFIELD AUSKICK BOYS

Children from our local Auskick had an exciting day at the MCG on ANZAC Day. What a special day it was for Digby Airdrie, Samson Todaro and Harry Pickering. They watched the ANZAC Ceremony the the match between Collingwood and Essendon. At half time they played on the hallowed turf of the MCG in the AusKick match. The boys were accompanied by Digby's dad, Heath, Samson's dad, Jason and Harry's mum Christy.

From left - Digby, Samson and Harry

Gwen O



Necktie Factory in Garfield - seeking information

I have had a request for information about the Necktie Factory at Garfield which operated from around 1949 in Main Street, Garfield, on the east side of the old Garage which is now Luna's Cafe. In December 1948 The Bunyip and Garfield Express posted this short report

"After many previous endeavours by the Progress Association, Garfield has at last obtained a factory. An old established firm seeking expansion on this line, has opened a "Tie" factory with half a dozen machines installed, and more to come. We understand the the work is very skilled and interesting - in addition to which it will provide local girls with another avenue of employment close to their homes, and the opportunity of becoming skilled machinists."

What we know is that it was operated by Martha and William Deeker. William was born in 1898 in Victoria, and lived at various addresses around Coburg and was a fitter and turner by trade.

Martha was born around 1895 in Boulogne in France to Marie and Leon De Court. She married in 1917 in England to Norman Edward Atallah, who died in 1947 in New Zealand. Martha moved to New South Wales in 1929 and Victoria in 1932, and her entires in the Electoral Rolls list her occupation as tie maker. Sometime around the mid 1930s it appears she she took up with William and they lived in the same house in Wood Street in Preston for a time, even though they never married.

In the 1949 Electoral Rolls Martha is listed as Main Street, Garfield - occupation tie manufacturer and his is a cutter. William died in June 1953 and was buried at Coburg Cemetery.

In the 1954 to 1968 Electoral Rolls Martha is listed at Main Street, Garfield, occupation tie manufacturer. In 1972 she was living in Drouin, presumably retired. She died in 1973 and is buried at Fawkner Cemetery.

Do you have any information about the Necktie Factory? Do you now anyone who worked there or do you have a photograph? I wold love to hear from you and we can publish a a full history of the factory in a future issue of the Spectator.

Heather Arnold: harnold@dcsi.net.au or 0407 521 637

MOTHERS' DAY IN GARFIELD 2026



We've heard Paul Hogan at the Garfield Theatre and elsewhere many times, and also Sean Luke Spiteri on different nights for many years. On Sunday 10th May (Mothers' Day) the crowd at the theatre enjoyed being entertained by both singers.

They alternated on stage with Paul doing tributes to Frankie Vallie, Robbie Williams and Michael Buble while Sean performed hits of Elvis Presley, Tom Jones and John Lennon.

The audience, particularly the mums, enjoyed their special afternoon.

Thanks again Sue and Fred.

Gwen O

GARFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP GRANTS

AVAILABLE FOR 2026

Who is eligible? – local not for profit organisations

Application must include:

- Project description
- Funding request amount
- Benefits of project
- Expected date of completion
- Copy of organisation's bank statement including account name, BSB and account number
- Contact email and two mobile numbers

If successful, two representatives must be available to attend presentation day on Sunday 26th July

Please send applications to Garfield Community Shop, Main Street, Garfield, 3814

Applications close 30th June 2026

BY HELEN PEGGIE



This year over 60 of our members headed to Eden for our Caravan and Camping week away. After everyone settled in we gathered together for Happy Hour and collect our program before going to the Eden Golf Club for dinner. Over the week there was a special competition that would be run for the Bunyip/Garfield Fishing Challenge for fish caught in the Park boundaries and there be prizes for winning categories.

On Monday we travelled to Pambula to visit Oaklands Barn and Garden Centre which has been designed like an historic rural building that has a number of different in it. We had a lovely morning tea of scones with jam/cream then we went to explore the many shops such as Homewares/Gift/Brewery/Art Gallery/Pantry and Garden Centre then we had free time for the rest of the day to explore the Pambula area before heading back to the park for a BBQ dinner.

Tuesday was an early start for the keen ones who love fishing when they went on a charter fishing trip. Luckily the fish were biting very well and the ladies out-fished the men with 30 fish caught overall. Well done ladies.

We had morning tea before the walkers gathered to go on their walk, taking in the scenery along the way to see Boyds Tower. Benjamin Boyd built the Tower of expensive sandstone as a symbol of his power, he intended it to be a lighthouse but the Government did not approve. Boyd went bankrupt soon after and fled to California, abandoning his debts and his workers. It was built 1846 to 1847 and then it was used as a whale spotting lookout and not a lighthouse. Others just spent time around the park enjoying the beautiful sun while some went exploring some the different area and places of interest. We all went to the Great Southern Hotel for dinner then back to the park for a film night.

Wednesday was another lovely morning as we went down to the Pier to board the cruise boat called Bubbles for a wildlife sightseeing cruise around Twofold Bay, which is said to be the third deepest natural harbour in the Southern Hemisphere. It is known to be sheltered waters and at certain times of the year humpback whales rest as they migrate to warmer waters. Unfortunately we did not get to see any but we saw dolphins. The Bay is also known for the history of whaling between 1840 and 1930. We all enjoyed our morning tea while heading back to Eden. The afternoon was free to relax or checkout the surrounding areas. Dinner that night was at the Seahorse Inn.

Thursday we rose to have an egg and bacon breakfast that was prepared for us by our great cooks. The rest of the day was a free day, some went walking while others shopped or checked out historical laces. Dinner that night was at the Eden Golf Club then back to camp for a quiz night.

Friday there were beach games and a competition for building sand castles as was disc bowls and bocce then we had a picnic lunch together. That night as our dress-up party with the theme - Eden by the sea. Everyone looked amazing with such a great selection of many things like shellfish, seagulls, bikini girls, Gilligan's Island Tours, surfer, wales, prawns, lifesavers, ottopuses, star fish, beachgoers and jellyfish of all colours ready to have a great night.

We all enjoyed a BBQ dinner followed by some delicious home-made desserts. Thanks to all who made this possible.

On Saturday our cooks were up early to provide us with a pancake breakfast on the last day. As it was ANZAC Day we held a small service. We then reviewed the highlights of the week and had the Camp Awards before we celebrated one of our members having an 80th birthday. We had free time to finish exploring and then games in the park.

We organised our own dinner that night, some gathered for the last time before heading home the next day.

A big thank you to the ones who organised this week (especially the weather) and to everyone who helped during our week together.

Something that happened while there, one person was brave and swimming and two days later a shark was sighted in the area (our lifeguards from the dress-up night and weren't on the job.)

Sunday we all headed home looking back on the lovely week we had together.

Precision Maintenance Melbourne

Home Renovation & Building Services



Helping Home Owners & Landlords For Over 10 years.

- * All Carpentry inc. Pergolas, Decking, Weatherboards.
- * Renovations inc. Bathrooms and Kitchens.
- * Tiling & Silicone Work.
- * New Colourbond & Wood Paling Fences.
- * Fence Repairs/Straightening.
- * Gutter Cleaning & Maintenance.
- * Select Painting.
- * Fence, Weatherboard & Internal Spraying.
- * Timber Decking Staining & Oiling.
- * Select Garden Work inc.
- Lawn Mowing & Vegetation Removal.
- * Trailer Work. * Chainsaw Work.
- * Demolition Work. * Odd Jobs.
- * Real Estate Work.

Excellent Problem Solving Skills.
Quality Workmanship.
Free Quotes!

Facebook Page: Precision Maintenance Melbourne.
Local To Garfield. Liability Insured.
Call Darren Mob: 0436 472 478



GARFIELD PHARMACY

"We proudly support local community"

Services: Prescriptions, Webster Packs, Flu-Vaccination, NDSS. TAC/WorkCover.

Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm, Sat: 9am-1pm

73-75 Main Street GARFIELD

PH: 03 5629 2408

Follow us on facebook

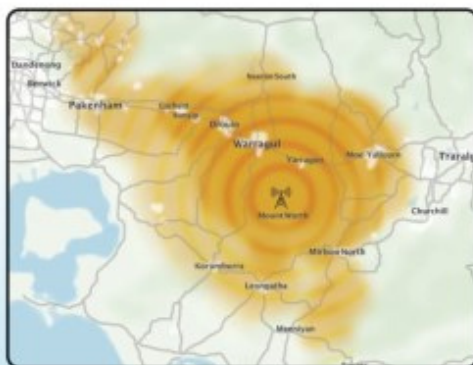


WEST GIPPSLAND COMMUNITY RADIO

103.1FM
3bbrfm.org.au

3BBR-FM broadcasts a variety of music, local news and interviews to Baw Baw Shire in the West Gippsland region of Victoria, Australia on 103.1 FM and streaming online.

West Gippsland Community Radio Inc. is a not-for-profit organisation run entirely by volunteers to serve its local community. We offer opportunities for people to learn radio production and public speaking skills in a supportive environment.



LISTEN LIVE



LISTEN AGAIN

CARDINIA SHIRE

RECYCLING DRIVE AND DROP EVENT - REGISTER NOW

Got hard-to-recycle items taking up space at home? This is your chance to clear them out the easy way.

Join us for our next Recycling Drive and Drop event and be part of a community effort to recover valuable materials and keep them out of landfill.

Just load up your car with accepted items and roll through, no need to get out. Our team will be there to safely unload your items and make sure everything goes to the right place for reuse, repurposing or recycling. It's a quick, convenient way to take positive action for the environment while finally dealing with those items that can't be recycled in your kerbside bins.

Accepted items:

- Small e-waste (phones, cords)
- Polystyrene (no beans)
- Soft plastics
- Textiles and clothing
- Bulky cardboard

Important info:

Saturday 11 July 2026, 8am–4pm

Council depot (18A Purton Road, Pakenham)

Cardinia Shire residents only

Registration required (spaces limited)

One visit per household

Cars only (no trailers, vans or commercial operators)

Registration opens 1 June. Pop it in your diary and be a good sort for our community and environment.

If you can't attend, visit our A–Z waste and recycling guide for other year-round options

We would like to extend our very grateful thanks to ***Cherie Bridgman*** who has been our amazing and uncomplaining editor for the last 18 months - she has been so flexible when the committee members have not met her deadlines with articles for inclusion.

She found time for the Spectator while holding down a full-time job, having an increasingly time-consuming role as the drummer in the Indie-Pop band Pretty Bleak and also preparing for her nuptials.

Thank you so much Cherie - we wish you all the best in married life and your future in whatever direction life takes you



Phoenix Rural Fencing Pty. Ltd.

Paul Knight

0448 818 503

phoenixruralfencing@gmail.com



End of Financial Year is almost here — are your books ready?

Avoid the last-minute stress and get ahead now

Our Services:

- ✓ GENERAL & STRATEGIC BOOKKEEPING
- ✓ CATCH-UP & RECTIFICATION
- ✓ PAYROLL SERVICES
- ✓ SOFTWARE TRAINING

CONTACT CHRIS

CC Sorts Numbers – Your Local, Reliable Bookkeeper

0412-390-797

chris@ccsortsnumber.com.au

Scan the QR to see our website:



YET ANOTHER OLYMPIAN IN OUR MIDST

Regular readers may recall a two-part article I previously wrote about our Modern Pentathlete - Peter Ridgway.

I have unearthed more Olympic honour in our locale - yet again involving horses.

In 2008 Laurie Lever achieved a remarkable feat by becoming one of the three Australians, alongside James Roycroft and Harold Brooke to compete in the Olympics at the age of 60 or older. This was his debut when he joined the Beijing Team. Participating in both the team and individual jumping events he showcased his remarkable skills. He achieved seventh place in the team event and a very commendable twenty-third place in the individuals.

Laurie's equestrian journey began at the age of 10 and his passion for riding has remained steadfast throughout his life.

He has contributed to the sport in many ways over the years from running a leading training centre, coaching and contributing to the coaching system in Victoria and around the world and offering unwavering support for fellow equestrians.

Laurie's dedication to the sport is a family affair, as his two sons are also actively involved as competitive jump riders creating a true equestrian legacy within their family. One son successfully manages Treehaven, their equestrian property on the Mornington Peninsula. His other son has achieved great acclaim training riders and horses in Belgium.

Laurie worked for two years in Oman training horses and riders in the Royal Stables.

It was sadly realised that the best horses and riders were in Europe and he moved his wife and sons to England for two-and-a-half years before reaching a crossroads. Annie and the boys returned to Australia and Laurie stayed on working for another season before he sold his horses and also returned here.

Laurie's remarkable achievement in representing Australia at the Olympics and his continued pursuit of equestrian excellence are an enduring testament to his passion for the game. His story serves as an inspiration to riders of all ages, demonstrating that dedication, skill and love for the sport can transcend barriers.

After a life searching for perfection in his sport, much travelling and moving his family around the globe - Laurie now leads a quiet life in West Gippsland and is a valuable member of a pub trivia team at The Garfield.



**Laurie was inducted in
the Equestrian Victoria -Hall of Fame
Jumping
2022**



**The amazing Ashleigh Drossel Dan
Laurie's own owned trained and mount**

David W Bull

Family Funerals

... the little things make a big difference

Pakenham

190 Princes Highway
5941 4888

*Since 1979, assuring personal
attention and care at all times
for our local community for 45 years*

0436 414 300

www.davidwbull.com.au



Specialists in:
**Domestic, Commercial
and Industrial
Split and Ducted
Air Conditioning Systems**

Call Gary on 0448 803 499



- All carpentry work
- Residential maintenance and repairs
- On site welding services
- Qualified and accredited tradesmen

Call George on 0416 258 400

JW'S MUSIC SCHOOL

GUITAR LESSONS

TEACHING BY JAY WHELAN

FIRST LESSON FREE. 30+ YEARS
EXPERIENCE IN MELB MUSIC SCENE.
FRIENDLY CREATIVE ENVIRONMENT. ALL
AGES AND LEVELS.

BOOK NOW

www.jwmusicschool.com.au

mob: 0435 720 853

email: wiggs28@gmail.com



BUNYIP



SKIP BINS

0437 505 069

bunyipskipbinsvic@gmail.com

- Yard and Landscaping Waste
- Builders Waste
- Green Waste
- General Household Waste
- Mixed Waste
- Recyclable Waste
- Scrap Metal

- Walk-In skip bins and hook bins from 2m³ to 30m³
- Also offering onsite rubbish removals, demolitions and site cleans with plant and labour

www.bunyipskipbinsvic.com.au

Find us on Facebook and Instagram  

CORA LYNN FOOTBALL CLUB'S 100 YEAR CELEBRATION

BY GWEN OLDMEADOW

The Cora Lynn Football Club current and past players, coaches, presidents, workers and followers celebrated 100 years of the Football Club over the weekend of 23rd and 24th May, which included a function at the Pakenham Cultural Centre on 23rd May.

A big crowd attended the evening and the history was spoken about in four sections/quarters during the century. The highs and lows were mentioned and there is a book written about the time.

Everyone around the Club and local district knew the late Don Wakenshaw who loved the Club and was always there helping wherever he could. Don moved to Garfield in the later years of his life.

The late Eddie and Mary Dillon had 7 children (see below photo at the function), later all had a big connection to the Football Club. Michael was presented with framed Legend Award winning B&F awards and played in Grand Final teams. Terry also played senior football and very involved in getting the club into such a great position they are now in - on and off the field.

Terry Dillon had a big part in organising this event and thanks all who helped. He paid tribute to the many people who started the Club and played important roles in the life of the Club but are no longer with us.

From the left twins Claire and Terry, Denise, Michael, Ann. Peter and Kathy



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

For bookings Lara Canty 0421 015 855

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

GARFIELD RECREATION RESERVE

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

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

GARFIELD VICTORIA

www.garfield.au
admin@garfield.org.au
0495 386 953

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