

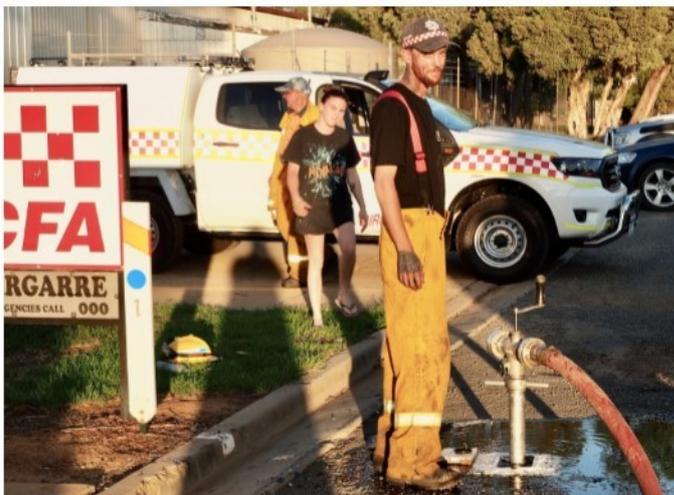
The Girgarre Gazette,
a Girgarre Cottage Publication

The Girgarre Gazette

February 2020

Another successful Moosic Muster

Crowds gather at the 2020 Girgarre Moosic Muster. More pictures inside.



Smoke-blackened faces and red-rimmed eyes... our men on the job. Story page 22

Celebration of Life for the
Late Colin Crilly - Page 6



COTTAGE COORDINATOR'S CATCH UP

Wow, here we are in 2020. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year! So much has happened since the last Gazette, which I know Irene will cover in more detail.

However, here at The Cottage we were involved in organising the Christmas Carols at the sound shell for the second year, a fabulous night with approximately 100 in attendance. We had our free sausage sizzle, CFA visited with Santa and his helper and the lovely Michelle from Marshelvali mobile animal farm brought along a wide variety of animals that were a hit with children and adults alike. (See report on page 5).

Australia Day was terrific we had just over 70 people attend; our Ambassador Jason Yeap OAM gave a lovely presentation, as did Bill Perry who was representing Girgarre's RSL 100 years (3 October 2020). I would like to thank Brendan Nicholson (pictured left) for doing a marvellous job as MC, Laurie Young, George Weeks, Rob Axen, George Dibattista and all of the volunteers who set-up, packed-up, cooked and ensured the day was a success, thank you!

The Girgarre Community Award winner was the very well deserving Wendy Burke congratulations Wendy and thank you for everything that you do.

I would also like to acknowledge the wonderful dedication and commitment of Graeme Leak to our community. Graeme worked tirelessly on the slide presentation for our Australia Day ceremony, spending nine hours perfecting the images and the narrative for our presentation "A Year in the Life of Girgarre". Thank you Graeme all the best for 2020, happy and safe travels.



The next event on our calendar is the Town Garage Sale on the 14 of March; if you are interested in having a stall (and yes please let us make this years amazing) please contact us at The Cottage. The more the merrier, invite some family & friends to join you!

Many thanks to the Girgarre Development Group who have kindly sponsored the Christmas Hay Bales event and both winners will receive \$100. Story page 20.

Words on Wheels recommences on the 18th of February where we share a meal and discuss the topic of the night - "Country Life" this month, if you have not joined us before and would like to attend or find out more once again please contact us here at The Cottage.

We welcome Chris Marshall as our new WOW facilitator ad once again thank Carol Ohlin for her years of dedication to this program.

The Cottage Book Club is up and running with our next meeting on Tuesday the 4 of Feb 6pm. If you cannot make it but would like to read this month's book "The Battle of Lone Pine" you can just pop in and pick it up, do not forget your library card. If you are not a member of the library, we can join you up here and you will gain access to more than 3 million books. Take care and bye for now. Kezia

FIRST AID REFRESHER

The Cottage will be offering a First Aid Course in May if there are enough expressions of interest. Individual or local groups who would like to either learn the basics, refresh or upgrade their existing qualifications are welcome.

The course will be conducted by Rich River First Aid-HLTAID003 who are a Registered Training Organisation (RTO 40990). They provide Victoria and Southern NSW with quality First Aid and continuous learning. They comply with and exceed requirements according to ASQA and Workplace Health and Safety rules.

To register, please contact Kezia at the Cottage during business hours 10am-3pm Monday to Thursday Ph: 5854 6482.



Left: Australia Day Ambassador, Jason Yeap and Mrs. Yeap with Girgarre Community Award Winner Wendy Burke (right)



14th ANNUAL MOOSIC MUSTER

“A DREAM WEEKEND”

Wow! Another amazing Muster under our belt! Regardless of numbers being down a little, mainly because of the bush fires, we still counted 158 camp sites, 2400 heads at Workshops and Sunday morning in the Supper room.

Every year sees some new development, change or addition, but the real highlight for 2020 was the Bush Dance - it proved to be a brilliant way to bring locals and visitors together to start the week of music and entertainment. You don't often see a 27 piece band and a floor full of dancers of all ages.

The Kids Muster was busy and full most of the day, Open mics were very well attended by both performers and audience - they made for great entertainment all day Thurs, Friday and Sunday in the cool of the Hall, and the concerts Friday and Sat nights were great quality. Again the cold wind caught us out but some fine tweaking next year may make that more bearable at the Saturday evening concert.

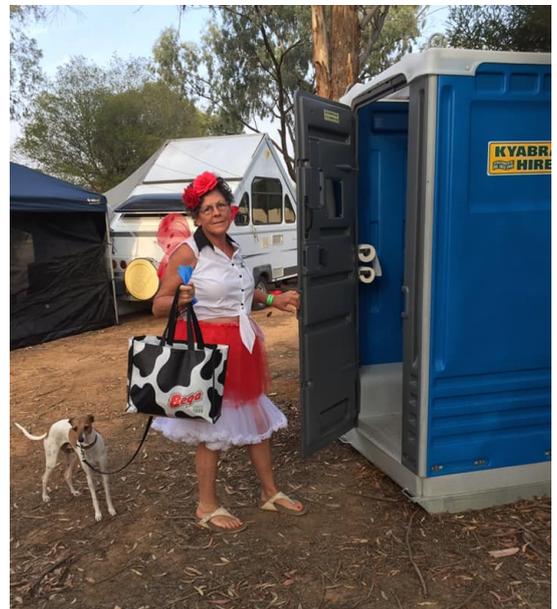
Thanks to ALL volunteers - especially the locals who made this possible, who fed us so well, saw to all the preparation and smooth running of the festival, offered venues for use, and were there to sort out any conundrums.

So many of the visitors took roles of support too by leading workshops, assisting with venue preparation, manning the caravan, giving the kids the time of their life, taking photos, MC roles in all the events, putting their hands up where they saw a need, and making amazing music everywhere.

We are already in planning mode for next year, and look forward to sharing and working together with you in 2021 ! *Below: Kicking up their heels at the Bush Dance*



Above: Volunteer Presenters: Sue Ferguson runs an accordion jam and Pam Hayes, the creative songwriting workshop and first songs concert. Right: 'The Toilet Fairy', Judi C keeps the necessary comfortable for the campers. Below right: 'Green Fieldz' - Sally Carter and Keith Rea, extraordinary fiddle music. Just one class act in a wonderful concert. Below: Watching the concert in comfort and style.





14th ANNUAL MOOSIC MUSTER

A Chuckling Good Time at the Kids Cluckfest

Late last year, way down in far reaches of South Gippsland, Miss Mandy, Bizzo, and the good folk of Chuckleberry Farm put their heads together to plan for some eggs-citing activities for the Chick...er..Children at January's Muster.

After a great deal of chuckling, plans for a 'Cluckfest' were laid to the delight of the Chicks who were at Girgarre's Kinder on the Saturday.

The morning was spent decorating the chicken face masks, trying on the wings Miss Mandy had made especially for them and learning the Chuckleberry version of the chicken dance for the concert that evening (*photo right*).

After the chicken dance, 25 couples enthusiastically joined in a fun Heel' n' Toe Polka, (*below right*) encouraged by Miss Mandy with music by Bizzo and Halo, the cello playing Scarecrow, (*picture front cover*) before the main concert began.



**MANY THANKS TO THE LIMBERJACKS,
LOYAL SUPPORTERS OF THE KIDS MUSTER EACH YEAR**

Left: Miss Mandy and below: the original and ever popular Chicken Dance with plenty of enthusiastic dancers at the Wednesday evenings Bush Dance.



CAROLS AT THE SOUND SHELL

It was a pleasant evening on Friday 6 December for the annual Girgarre Carols at the Sound Shell.

Over 100 enjoyed the music performed by the primary school children, ably led by Lyn Cosham and Maureen Shepherd who both volunteer to teach Ukulele at the school each week.

Di Burgmann, another volunteer teacher of music at the school and her student, guitarist Olivia Pangrazio played Rusty Holden Ute accompanied by the singing of the school children.

Word sheets were handed out to the audience for the carol singalong and the Jigarre Jammin' Band, a group made up of members of the Pure Drop Band and the Billabong Bushies provided the musical accompaniment.

Santa turned up to distribute bags of lollies to the children arriving, as he always does, on the back of the local fire truck much to the delight of the children. It was a great night and the organisers wish to congratulate everyone who took part. Especially the bands, the Cottage, Safeway, all of the volunteers, the Girgarre CFA and the Marshelvali Farm for the gorgeous animals.



Above: Enjoying the Carols



Above: Here's Santa and Lining up for Santa. Below: The Jigarre Jammin' band.



**CELEBRATION OF LIFE
for the late
COLIN LESLIE CRILLY**

Colin was born in Kyabram on the 16th of August 1951 and died on the 29th January 2020.

He was the loved husband of Dianne (dec'd), the son of Les and Betty Crilly, brother to John, Neville, Laurence and Noel. Brother-in-law to Irena, Carol and Margo.

Loved uncle of nieces and nephews.

A private cremation.

There will be a Celebration of Life for Colin from

1pm on the Sunday 16th February at the Girgarre Recreation Reserve.

All are welcome to attend.

Colin was a life member of the Girgarre Football Club and worked at the Girgarre Cheese Factory for many years.

Further enquiries.

John Crilly 0437 438 077

Condolences to all of the family



W.O.W. Storyteller at Girgarre Cottage

3rd Tuesday of month at 6pm

January	-	No Session
February	18th	79V Country life
March	17th	99V Luck of the Irish
April	21st	07A Spirit of ANZAC
May	19th	78V Count your blessings
June	-	No Session
July	-	No Session
August	18th	82V Down memory lane
September	15th	94V Farmers & fergies
October	20th	88V Folklore & fable
November	17th	92V Australian bushrangers
December	-	No Session

Storyteller - Chris Marshall

These sessions are created by the Campaspe Regional Library and delivered by Library Volunteers



Girgarre Town Garage Sale

Saturday 14 March 2020

8am -1pm

Registrations \$5 per site

Prepaid at Cottage appreciated or \$ will be collected on the day.

Please contact Cottage on 5854 6482. Include your name, address, phone and brief description of items e.g. Household, shed clearance, plants

Maps to be purchased from Cottage \$2 on day (7.45am)

27 Olympic St, Girgarre. The Nursery will be open

A sausage sizzle, tea & coffee will be available.

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OPENING HOURS: 9.00AM - 5.00PM MON - FRI, 9.00AM - 11.00AM SAT
For your banking needs. Cash out facility available. Newspapers, milk and some grocery lines. Phone: **5854 6200**



Green Gas For Girgarre – Feasibility Study Underway.

The proposed joint venture between Australian Gas Infra Structure Group (AGIG) and Girgarre's Resource Resolutions has taken a large leap forward in recent times with the release of a statement outlining the current state of play between the company and Resource Resolutions principal, Ian Bertram.

The Australian Gas Infra Structure Group (AGIG) is one of the largest gas infrastructure owners in Australia. Its portfolio includes ownership of the gas distribution network in and around the local Girgarre district. They are a company committed to a low carbon future and are therefore exploring opportunities to increase their production of green gas, an energy source that produces 13% of household greenhouse emissions.

Currently, natural gas supplies around two thirds of total energy consumed by Victorian households. Modern gas power generation produces about half the emissions of highly efficient coal plants and are much cheaper to build. Gas therefore has an essential role to play in reducing Australia's emissions and injecting 'green' gas into the gas networks and pipelines. This is key to achieving the States 2050 ambitions of being carbon neutral.

The company is currently working its way through a feasibility study that commenced 15 November 2019. The program takes them through the end of February 2020 and includes feedstock review, approvals and permits review, gas network engineering analysis, site assessment and financial modelling.

Employment Opportunities

If the project is successful in proceeding, there will be in the order of 20 people peak during construction and 8 people employed on a shift basis at the plant during operations. Additionally, regionally there will be a significant economic boost with services provided both during construction and operations.

AGIG has undertaken to keep the local community informed and is committed to supporting the local economy and looks forward to engaging with the community further as the project proceeds through its approval processes.



Above right: The Junkestra in the Sound Shell. Left: Resource Resolutions in the former Heinz factory.

JUNKESTRA RISING

Our unique orchestra made up of locals and friends of Girgarre is taking over its own affairs. This has come about as we realise we won't always have the benefit of the talent and expertise of our mentor, Graeme Leak. To this end, a committee has been formed, called 'The Ministry' and made up of members of Junkestra who are all excited at the prospect of the Junkestra continuing.

A program of events has begun with the first one being at the Girgarre Jammin' camp weekend concert in September. There will be rehearsals in September before which a call will go out for other people who might like to join us on this journey. Check this space in the August Gazette.

No musical talent or experience necessary. The only qualifications are to be 12 years of age or over; a resident of Girgarre or one of the numerous friends of Girgarre, and to be prepared to attend rehearsals and concerts. Adventure, fun and a caring community is guaranteed.



In the future, we anticipate applying for grants to employ a composer and producer and are proposing to rehearse for a season of performances, perhaps three months in all, once a year, in local halls. We have our own Conductor, Maureen Shepherd, (*pictured left*) well trained by Graeme and ready to take on the challenge of keeping us all focussed and doing our best.

Girgarre Junkestra has given several performances since it was formed in 2018, including the official opening of the Girgarre Soundshell at Girgarre, an event in Nathalia and a highly successful performance to a standing ovation in Federation Square's Deakin Edge Theatre in Melbourne.

Lyn Cosham -The Minister for Communications, Girgarre Junkestra. Contact: kenlyn23@outlook.com; 0417 931 417

KILTER RURAL - Innovative Farming - The Future of Agriculture

Kilter Rural CEO Cullen Gunn and Co-Ordinator of Farm Operations, Brendan Watson (pictured below right) were present at the Girgarre Development Group meeting on Tuesday 28 January.

Kilter Rural are the owners of 3 farms totalling 1500ha in the Girgarre area. The company is an innovative investment model for irrigated farmland that seeks to deliver long-term financial returns through efficient use of scarce land and water assets, underpinned by large scale ecosystem protection. The aim of the program is to increase the long-term resilience of farming through the aggregation of land and a targeted approach to water use to maximise production.

Opportunity, not an Impediment.

Cullen spoke at length on the philosophy and strategies behind the purchase and aggregation of the land here in Girgarre. "Large-scale vegetation clearing over 200 years has delivered legacy degradation impacts that are still playing out. We consider the issues facing Australia's natural assets as an opportunity. The scope for new investment in irrigated landscape regeneration and ecosystem repair can deliver products and services that drive profitability, protect biodiversity and address climate change impacts."

The company was first attracted to the central Goulburn region by water delivery security. "We are one of the largest water management companies in Australia," he said. "Versatile soils and access to a highly motivated and skilled local agricultural workforce were also a factor in our decision to buy land here. The company's strategy focusses on irrigated annual crop regimes that deliver the greatest return per megalitre of water utilised".

The first redeveloped farms are in production now with an early focus on processing tomatoes. This regime includes a mix of organic and conventional crops, while up to 30 per cent of the landscape under management will be

revegetated with a mix of native species. It's a balanced agri-business model that has an improved eco-system at the heart of its platform".

The first 130ha revegetation area is in planning, working with the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority on possible species mixes at various sites. The company actively reports on environmental condition, using the Accounting for Nature Framework, an independent methodology developed to measure trend and condition of soils, water and native vegetation over time.

VicSuper.

Kilter Rural has had the benefit of collaborating with VicSuper on the regeneration of Australian farmland, water and ecosystems since 2006. Working for VicSuper to deliver their investment over the past 14 years, Kilter Rural has proven that balancing agriculture with environmental protection delivers sustained returns with reduced risk.

This strategic approach to managing Australian farmland, water and ecosystem services was acknowledged in November 2019 when the company was awarded 'Impact Asset Manager of the Year' at the Australian Impact Investment Awards.

A Win Win Situation - Exciting Developments for Girgarre.

Chair, Jan Smith thanked both Cullen and Brendan for their time. "Tonight's presentation to our members has been a unique and valuable insight into the future of food production in Victoria." she said "It's an exciting win-win situation all round; securing water for our channels while valuable land is being regenerated into an efficient, highly productive unit. I am impressed with this model. It's one that acknowledges the carbon footprint that naturally comes with agriculture and by this collaborative approach, takes action to improve the eco-system that will offset it."



Left: Three young stars at the Muster, chosen to play at the concerts Friday evening. Below left: 'Dancing With Angels' gospel singalong at the Muster, one of the most popular sessions. Below right: from left, Maureen Shepherd, Ali Rendell and Jenny Bassett. Three of our treasured volunteers.



Brendan Watson on the left and Cullen Gunn right.



Development Group General Meeting

“Building a sustainable vibrant community and creating opportunities to celebrate the achievements of the town”

Kilter Rural -Cullen Gunn addressed the meeting on the sustainable model of agriculture and their social outcomes that focus on local business development, employment, community investment, people in the landscape, education as well as indigenous partnerships. See page 8

ACM Report - John Hommes reported that production at the factory is on target and that stage 2 has commenced with the installations of the foundations for the cheese factory

Peter Leason/ Solar farm reported that progress is slow but the solar farm will commence construction within 12 months - engineering problems in system have delayed commencement date.

Ian Bertram / Resource Resolutions reported on progress with the Heinz site. See page 7

Graeme Leak Graeme conducted workshops and dreaming sessions to determine future of the Junkestra (see page 7) and the Sound Walk. Graeme liaised with Rob Axen and Wallace Williams who are undertaking the next installations in the walk.

Muster the 2020 muster was another amazing event with attendees coming from as far as South Australia and Queensland. A full report on the 2020 muster will appear in next month's Gazette when all reports are in.

The ABC program Back Roads attended the muster filming some of the amazing things that happen in our small town. The Crew will be back in town later this month.

Theremin - it was decided that the Theremin will be put into storage where it will undertake repairs and prepare for its next phase in its life in Girgarre.

Market - January's market was a very busy market for many stall holders -patrons enjoyed a great concert with many of the favourite Muster bands playing during the morning. It was discussed that the April market will fall in the middle of the Easter holidays.

Jigarre Jammin - during the running of the festival a session of Jigarre Jammin was held with a packed hall enjoying a great session lead by 4 Jig Jam leaders. Our old hall was full of amazing music and song with people from across eastern Australia participating in this unique musical program. 130 plus people playing their instruments and using their voices was something to behold. The Jigarre Jammin will resume on February 25 Saturday. Everybody is welcome to come along to play, to sing or just to listen.

Hay Bale competition -The Development Group has again sponsored the Hay Bale Christmas competition and has

provided the \$100 first prize. There were two awards this year. 1. Best individual prize and 2. Best series. Evelyn Nicholson and the Nicholson family won the first award with Megan and Chris Williams from the Camel Farm winning best series. Media attention was great even making the Sun Herald - well done to all and thanks to Bernie & George for our entry at Gargarro. This simple concept provided much attention with many stopping to enjoy – thanks again to Margaret Snelling for her magical light display which again attracted much attention -thank you to all the other Girgarre residents whose light displays made for a most colourful Christmas.

Signage boards - Karl Devlin has updated the information on boards at rear of hall. The whiteboard in the park is now available for any group holding an event or gathering in the town to advertise on – please do not use permanent makers on this board.

Girgarre Stanhope Rail Trail Walking Track. Sandra McDonald reported that the annual meeting of the Girgarre Stanhope Rail trail will be held on Monday 10 February at the Memorial Hall, Girgarre at 7.30pm - all welcome

Gargarro Botanical Garden - Doc McDonald reported that a trip to visit the Melton Botanical Gardens will be held on Sunday 2 February to view the garden and the nursery. Doc also reported that lighting for the amphitheatre and front lawns will begin shortly. Doc reported that soil tests required for stage 1 of the Garden had been completed and that the detailed design is expected to be delivered by 23 April.

Friends of the Garden –Bernie Ryan thanked the Girgarre Fire Brigade and particularly John Warde and George Weeks for the watering they had undertaken in the Gardens.

Kindergarten - Sally Canny reported that they are undertaking self-promotion looking for additional enrolments. The Girgarre Community Kindergarten is a beautiful space for children – please call in and chat to our wonderful staff, if you have children ready to start their kinder years

CFA see page 22

RSL - Rob Axen reported that the RSL will upgrade signage on the foundation stones on the front of the Hall- gold leaf will be used in this restoration work – this work is being undertaken as part of the RSL'S 100-year celebration.

Ian Wadelton reported on **volunteer bike riders** who had recently given our old supermarket a facelift - the old building looks very smart with her new coat of paint. Jan Smith. (Chair 28 January 2020)

ANNUAL MEETING

Girgarre Stanhope Rail Trail
Monday 10 February at 7.30pm
Memorial Hall Supper Room.
All Welcome

Dreaming session for the
Sound Walk
with Graeme Leak
and others.
Story page 22



COTTAGE SERVICES AND LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS



COTTAGE HOURS. The Cottage is open 10am to 3pm, Monday to Thursday at 27 Olympic Street, Girgarre. Coordinator: Kezia Talbot. Telephone: 5854 6482 for services listed below.

COTTAGE SERVICES.

FOOD BANK. Food parcel available for those in need. Confidentiality ensured. Available Monday to Thursday 10am to 3pm.

COMMUNITY CAR. Information and criteria for bookings. Contact The Cottage.

SENIOR'S GROUP. Meet weekly for outings or social events. Meet Tuesdays 10am at the Cottage.

UTILITIES ROOM FOR HIRE. Need a space to hold a meeting, do some training, hold an event or activity? The Cottage has a room for hire including tea & coffee.

ITEMS TO HIRE Specialty items including shower chairs, walkers, porta cots, child's car seat, wheel chair, baby bath, high chair, walking sticks.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED. Teach a class, join the committee or help out at the nursery.

FREE PLAYGROUP Mondays 10am to 12pm. Held at the Girgarre Kindergarten.

BOOK SWAP Leave a book and take one. Free Service at the Cottage.

DONATE CLEAN DENIM Ros makes it into quilts. Stains don't matter.

DONATE ITEMS TO HELP OTHERS Spectacles, mobile phones, routers, bras, baby items, mastectomy items, cotton clothing suitable for Fijian climate www.upliftbras.org. Plastic lids off soft drink bottles, juices and water bottles for Envision.

GIRGARRE (CAMPASPE) REGIONAL LIBRARY Borrow a book, DVDs, talking books - thousands of titles can be ordered online at www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/library and delivered to The Cottage.

PRESCRIPTION SERVICE Leave your scripts for collection and return. Free service at the Cottage

LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS

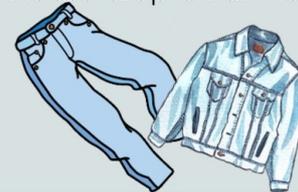
GIRGARRE PRE-SCHOOL Enrolments welcome anytime www.kyabramkindergarten.com.au or phone 0428 738 147

GIRGARRE HALL FOR HIRE Available for your next event. Phone Sandy Fletcher at the Girgarre Post Office T: 5854 6200

STANHOPE MEN'S SHED Open Mon, Wed & Fri, 9am to Noon. Tea & coffee, chat, computers, wood and metal lathes. Phone Des 0457 300 321

WORDS ON WHEELS Everyone welcome. Stimulating discussions on topical subjects. Third Tuesdays 6pm. Phone Cottage 5854 6482

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ODD SPOTS

STANHOPE SHOW, SHINE & SWAP MEET

Sunday 8 March

Stanhope Recreation Reserve, Midland Highway Stanhope

Entries are now available for the 2020 Stanhope Show and Shine. Open to anyone who has a car, ute, bike or truck along with stallholders with something to sell. Pre-booking prices are \$10 for first category & \$5 for each subsequent category entered before 5 March.

Registration on the day will be \$15 per vehicle. Pre booking would be appreciated, entries close at 10 am on the day and judging will take place at noon. Entries may enter from 7am (from Savige Rd) and the public from 8am.

A good variety of food will be available from the canteen; a BBQ and coffee van including breakfast from 8am. There's a jumping castle; face painting ; ice cones and much more fun for the children.

Volunteers from all local organisation are needed to help on the day. Profits raised from the event will be distributed to the volunteer groups that register to assist with Lyn. Entry forms are available from E: stanhopeshowandshine@gmail.com or phone Lyn on 0427 572 629 for more information.

MACK TRUCK MUSTER & ANNUAL VINTAGE MACHINERY RALLY

SHOWCASING AUSTRALIA'S WORKING PAST

Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 March. Kyabram Showgrounds



If you're into vintage engines, tractors and steam engines, or Mack and other brands of trucks, restored and restorable, there'll be something for you at the Mack Muster. The owners of each display are always more than happy to talk to you about their display while you admire their handiwork. There'll also be shearing, old style working machinery and blacksmithing demonstrations over the weekend.

It's a great family day out. Memorabilia displays and hobby demonstrations are also on the program, something for all the family to enjoy. Onsite catering will be available. \$5 entry fee per adult and children under 16 free. For enquiries please phone Barb 0439 448444 or John 0427 484247

Proudly conducted in conjunction with Vintage Engine Rally and supported by the Shire of Campaspe.



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E: kendunstall@telstra.com

Brent is at 1 Kuhle Court, Kyabram 3620 T: 5853 2198 F: 5852 2755 M: 0407 521 172

THE FOUR PILLARS OF GIRGARRE

WHO WE ARE



THE GIRGARRE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Celebrating the Achievements of our town.
Building a Sustainable and Vibrant Community.



EDUCATION

The Girgarre Primary School

Preparing a Path to the Future

The Girgarre Community Kindergarten

We aim to achieve an environment where everyone belongs, feels welcomed, valued and respected, while providing learning opportunities for children through exploration and play.



THE COMMUNITY COTTAGE

The Community Centre exists to help, support and encourage people of this rural area to enrich their lives by developing friendships and new learning skills.



SPORT

The Girgarre Recreation Reserve

The Girgarre Football Netball Club
The Girgarre Tennis Club
The Girgarre Cricket Club

Our active and vibrant community, working together

CONTACT THE COTTAGE

Girgarre Community Group Inc. (The Cottage)

A1601 ABN: 66 944 230 131.

27 Olympic St. (P.O. Box 35), Girgarre, 3624

Phone: (03) 5854 6482 Fax: (03) 5854 6484

<http://girgarre.com.au/girgarre-community-cottage>

E-mail: girgarrenh@bigpond.com

Coordinator: Kezia Talbot

Connect with us on Facebook. Girgarre Community Cottage

www.girgarre.com.au

The Girgarre Gazette

Do you have something you would like us to share?

Deadline for publication is the 20th of the month

Email: girgarregazette@yahoo.com.au

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www.girgarre.com.au

The Gazette is produced for the benefit of the community by the Girgarre Community Group Inc. (The Cottage).

Join our email list! Drop us a line and we will add you to our distribution list.

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Welcome Shirlie

We would like to welcome Shirlie Baum to the Boomerang Travel team in Kyabram.

Shirlie has over 31 year's knowledge in the travel industry and can help deliver the best experience for your next holiday.

Call in and say hi to Debi, Shirlie or Tanya and see what great holidays are on offer today!



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Group Name	Details	Contact name	Contact number
The Girgarre Community Group Inc.	President	Duncan Rodrick	0427 391 706
The Girgarre Community Cottage 3rd Monday 7pm	Coordinator	Kezia Talbot	5854 6482
Girgarre Seniors	Tuesdays 10:45am	Debra Stelzer	5854 6482
Words on Wheels Girgarre Cottage	Discuss chosen books 3rd Tuesdays 6pm	Carol Ohlin	5854 6371
Girgarre Green Thumbs Nursery	Nursery Sales	Carol/Lorraine W	Carol 5854 6371
Girgarre Open Garden Committee	Open Garden Festival	Lorraine Warde	58546236/0438 546 237
Girgarre Playgroup 0-5 years Monday 10-12pm,	Girgarre Kindergarten Begins 2nd week of terms	Bernie Smith	5854 6482
Jigarre Ukulele (J-Ukes) 1st & 3rd Wed (5th) 1:30pm	Play/learn with others Girgarre Cottage	Lyn Cosham	5859 0297
Girgarre Patchwork Quilters Fridays 9:30am	Quilters and sewing group Memorial Hall	Nola Marke	5854 8226
Girgarre Line Dancers Thursdays 2pm \$7	Memorial Hall	Gloria Atkins	0400 539 778
Carpet Bowls-Thursdays 7:15pm April to August	All ages. Memorial Hall	Theo George Rob Varcoe	0428 740 976 0409 975 997
Girgarre Community Kindergarten	Lead Educator	Robyn Swan	5854 6368
Girgarre Primary School	Principal	Peter Caldow	5854 6275
Girgarre Returned Services League 1st Tuesdays 7pm. Feb-Nov	President RSL Club Room	Laurie Young	0429 009 515 5854 6303
Girgarre Country Fire Authority 1st Monday 7:30pm	Captain CFA Meeting Room	Maree Gadzinski	5854 6264
Stanhope/Girgarre Lions Club 2nd Wednesday 7pm	President Stanhope Hotel	Avis Weller	5854 6383
Girgarre Community Church Sundays 9:30am	Christian Church	Ron Gregory	5854 6382
Stanhope and District Men's Shed Mon, Wed, Fri. 9am-12	Have fun and create. 3 Tivey Rd. Stanhope	Des Crichton	0457 300 321
Girgarre Memorial Hall Committee	Memorial Hall	Sandra McDonald	5854 6324
Girgarre Development Group (DGD) Last Tuesday, Jan-Nov 7:30pm	Girgarre Improvements Memorial Hall	Jan Smith	5854 6283
Gargarro Project	Gargarro Botanic Gardens	Athol McDonald	5854 6324
Friends of Gargarro Garden - working Bee 4th Sunday of month	Chairperson	Bernie Ryan	5857 2407
Girgarre Craft Market 2nd Sundays. 8:30-12	Bookings/enquiries	Carol Ohlin	5854 6371
Girgarre Farmer's Market	Bookings/enquiries	Jan Smith	5854 6283
Jigarre Jammers. Feb to Nov 4th Saturday 10:30-4pm \$2	Acoustic Music	Irene Labbett	0429 149 246
Girgarre Living History	Book title "Girgarre" Record of local history	Athol McDonald Jenny Wadelton	5854 6324 5852 2301
Girgarre Recreational Reserve	President	Darren Butler	0427 546 332
Girgarre Football/Netball Club	President	Brendon Nicholson	0413 022 398
Girgarre Cricket Club	President	Mick Coyne	0488 296 566
Girgarre Tennis Club	President Secretary	Josh Maudsley Fiona Smith	0400 546 766 0408 502 274

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The Girgarre Community Group Inc. 'The Cottage' facilitates the

COMMUNITY CAR

Priority is given for medical/health appointments. However, if car is available, other types of trips will be considered upon request.

Volunteer Drivers are always required, both for local trips or longer trips

Interested to volunteer?

The Cottage will assist with legal requirements.
 Call Kezia Talbot
 T: 5854 6482
 Cottage hours are 10am-3pm Mon-Thu.

Effective 1-Oct-2019, booking fee of \$5 applies.
 Cancellation fee applies if cancelled with under 24 hours notice: Melbourne \$20, Bendigo \$15 and others \$5.

Stanhope Lions Club News - SOS Answered

In November last year the Stanhope Lions Club sent out an urgent request for help to restore the old wagon installed in the Lions Park. The wagon, donated to the Club in 1991 by the Enders Family of Stanhope, was in need of urgent repairs and some TLC.

The Stanhope and District Men's Shed answered the call and offered to complete the necessary repairs and three willing Stanhope handymen, Mick West, Tony Trist and Kelly Cheong put their hands up and offered to do the painting. The local CFA members also stepped in and hosed the Wagon clean and Leigh Hall of Paintright in Kyabram came over and advised on suitable paints.

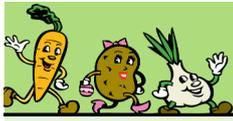
The wagon restoration was a community effort greatly appreciated by President, Avis Weller who, on behalf of the Lions Club members thanks everyone for their generous support. *Below: L- R. Kelly Cheong, Mick West and Tony Trist and the refurbished wagon.*



**FRIENDS OF GARGARRO
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Need catering for a function? Well, the Gargarro Gardens Catering Team will be more than happy to cater for your needs depending on numbers. Phone Bernie Ryan for more info if you are planning a function.

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 Mob: 0455 578 722



GARDEN NOTES -



WEIRD VEGIE COMPETITION- NOT LONG NOW.

APRIL 12, 2020

LOOK AFTER THOSE VEGE PATCHES, THERE'S GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON.

WATCH THIS ADVERT NEXT MONTH FOR THE CATEGORIES.

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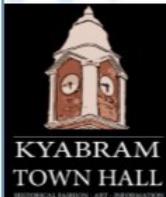
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Change to Dr Brun's Stanhope Clinic commencing January 2020

All Monday sessions will remain the same except for the following, dates which have now been moved to a Tuesday.

Tuesday 21st January 2020
Tuesday 17th March 2020
Tuesday 12th May 2020
Tuesday 7th July 2020
Tuesday 1st September 2020
Tuesday 27th October 2020
Tuesday 22nd December 2020

Tuesday 18th February 2020
Tuesday 14th April 2020
Tuesday 9th June 2020
Tuesday 4th August 2020
Tuesday 29th September 2020
Tuesday 24th November 2020

Clinic Times will remain the same from 9am to 11.30am

**Bookings can be made by contacting
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JANUARY 2020

KYABRAM TOWN HALL *WRITERS' GROUP*

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in time for **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY,**
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THERE IS NO THEME FOR THE BOOK :

- **except** stories must **feature women** – true or fictitious – across time, space, and culture;
- Writers must be **over 18.**
- We are open to **male writers writing about women.**

GUIDELINES:

- **Fact or fiction in any style or genre is acceptable:** whodunits, romance, sci-fi, fantasy, etc., memoir, biography, history, in **prose or poetry.**
- **Story and the "voice" of the writer** are the most important.
- **Technicalities** like grammar, punctuation, etc. should not stop anyone – help will be available from the editorial team.
- **Maximum word count** per piece: **2000-ish.**
- **Contributions** will be **assessed/chosen/edited** by the Kyabram Town Hall Writers' Group editorial team.
- **We prefer** contributions to be sent **by EMAIL** to kyabramwritersgroup@gmail.com
- However, **typed hardcopies** are welcome.
 - **Deliver by hand or post to:**
Kyabram Town Hall,
ATT: KTH Writers' Group,
199 Allan Street Kyabram, Vic 3620.

TIMELINE:

- **November 1st 2020** is the **cut-off** point for handing in contributions.
- **Manuscript ready mid-January 2021,** and
- **Printed by Thursday March 1st 2021.**
- **Possibly a book launch on IWDay, Monday 8 March 2021**

THIS IS **NOT** A COMPETITION and there are no prizes and no individual royalties.

- **Copyright** for each story remains with the author.
- **BUT** authors must agree to allow their work to be published in this book (and any re-runs, should the need occur).

ENQUIRIES: 0427 194 885

Thank You!

A sunny Girgarre Christmas smile from
Frosty the Hay-man on Curr Rd



Below: Di Burgmann, Senior work-shop Co-ordinator for the Muster



Immediate Relief for Bush Fire Affected Families

One hundred percent of the \$30 million (to date) donated to the Bendigo Bank's Social Enterprise Foundation Bush Fire Appeal will be distributed directly to the communities affected, continuing on into the long term as required.

Funds are hitting the ground now in the bushfire areas as an immediate relief measure to those most affected, including families who have tragically lost a loved one.

Immediate examples include funds to purchase fodder for livestock; vital infrastructure and generators for essential power.

Individuals and communities will continue benefit as current and emerging needs such as rebuilding the social fabric of communities; stimulating economic development and improving social inclusion come to the fore.

Importantly, fund distribution decisions are being informed by and for local communities.

A good example of this is on Kangaroo Island where fire has destroyed almost half of the Island (more than 200,000 hectares). Families and businesses on Kangaroo Island have already received generators to provide them with essential access to electricity to assist them get back on their feet. The generators were purchased locally at Mitre 10 Kingscote to ensure the investment stays within the local economy.

Your local Bendigo Bank branch is still accepting donations. Updates on how the money is being spent is readily available on the Bendigo Bank website and Facebook page. <https://www.bendigobank.com.au>. Until next time - Christine Borger (Chair)



Proudly supporting
our community

CHRISTMAS HAY BALE COMPETITION

The Christmas themed Hay Bale competition was once again a huge success with some very creative takes on Christmas and Santa in particular. The winner of the individual prize was the Evelyn Nicholson family, Curr Rd and the series prize went to the Camel Farm on Webb Rd. Well done. We are all looking forward to see what our creative farm families can get up to for next year. Thanks to the Development Group for sponsoring two \$100 prizes. *Below left: Santa down the chimney at the Camel Farm.*



Above right: Santa on the Camel sleigh



COTTAGE AND VOLUNTEERS END OF YEAR BREAKUP CELEBRATIONS.



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SPORT

TENNIS CLUB CELEBRATE REVAMPED COURTS AND CHRISTMAS

Girgarre Tennis Club recently held the official opening of the new tennis courts and Christmas party. Past Club President Avis Weller cut the ribbon on the new courts, in recognition of all of her efforts at the club over many years, especially in pushing for the resurfacing of the old courts. Once the courts were opened, families took to the courts to try them out before enjoying a sausage sizzle.

Avis Weller cuts the ribbon



The Tennis Club and Girgarre Recreation Reserve would like to recognise the Shire of Campaspe for undertaking the project and delivering a great resource for our community. The courts are sure to get much use by both the tennis and netball clubs. We would also like to encourage the wider community to go down and have a hit on the courts, as they are a community space and the more use, the better!

Fiona Smith

Emma Canny tries out the new courts



GIRGARRE FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB



With only two months until season 2020 kicks off, both football and netball training are going strong.

Netball trials were held in January with approximately 50 girls trying out, the strongest turnout we have had in many years. We will be fielding all 4 senior grades this year which is very exciting. They are all very competitive and looking to do well this season.

Eleven years & under netball has been introduced into the KDL this year. Alicia Parsons has been appointed as coach and we are looking forward to building the skills of our young girls and boys in a fun and safe environment. At the moment we particularly would like to see a few more boys and girls join up for the under 11 team. If there are any boys or girls interested in playing please contact **Tenealle Nicholson on 0439 462 226 for more info.** The minimum age for 11&U is 7, turning 8 by 31 December 2020. We are also fielding 13&U, 15&U and 17&U.

On the football front, recruiting has gone very well with a number of new players signed up. New coach Bill and the boys are working hard together and are confident of improving on last year's valiant efforts. Our thirds have also started training; we are always looking for more players to join our great group. Training is Monday and Wednesday nights, 6-7.15pm.

The season commences on Saturday 18 April with a round 1 game at Lancaster. Our first HOME game is Saturday 25 April (ANZAC Day, games commencing from 1pm – netball and 1.30pm – football). Don't forget to check out our Facebook page **Girgarre Football Netball Club** to keep up with everything that is happening.

GIRGARRE FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 August



Girls To Get A Guernsey With The Giants

The SGR Giants are excited to announce the introduction of a Youth Girls Football team in season 2020.

The SGR girls team was accepted into the Shepparton & District Women's Football League in November opening the door for local girls to play football.

Local girls aged between 14 - 18 years now have the opportunity to play football thanks to Rural Bank who have come on board as a major sponsor for 2020. The Bank's generous support has allowed the club to purchase jumpers for the female team.

A number of girls have registered an interest in joining and many began training back in July. All girls between 14-18 years of age who would like to play football please contact Jason on 0417 213 482 for further information. Come along girls and try out for Australia's great game.

Tenealle Nicholson.

HATS OFF TO OUR FIRIES



A brand-new Forward Command Vehicle (FCV) was delivered to Girgarre Fire Brigade last week. The smart new, up to the minute vehicle is the result of the fund-raising work of both the Active (those at the fire front) and Brigade (those in the background) members of Girgarre's Brigade. They diligently cook a delicious breakfast at the Farmers and Growers Market each month, the funds raised allowed them to match dollar for dollar a Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program (VESEP) grant to purchase the vehicle.

Brigade Captain Maree Gadzinski spoke highly of the 20 men and women on her team. "They are hardworking and willing volunteers" she said. "We would not have raised the funds to match the grant for the vehicle without them. More importantly, it would have been so much harder to raise our contribution without the support of the local community in allowing us to run the market BBQ. I cannot thank them

enough".

The FCV vehicle carries the Incident Controller at any given fire situation. It can be seconded to the CFA at major fire events, but it is Girgarre owned and used to carry recruits to training (there are five being trained in Girgarre now) and for general, local CFA use. The team are pictured above.

If you notice the blackened face and the red rimmed eyes in the photos, they are the result of yet another small local fire on the night of the photo shoot. Well done fellas, It's hot uncomfortable work. Well done to all the Brigade members in the background too, seeing that supplies are kept up to date and the building in ship shape order. Irene Labbett *Below left: There's always an investigation following a fire, Stuart Stevens, Investigation Officer pictured with Capt. Maree Gadzinski and right: Two of the recruits get some on the spot training.*



Sounding Out The Future



Graeme Leak, our artist in residence in 2019, was back with us from Scotland for 3 weeks in January. Graeme drew on his wide network in the art installation field while here, inviting two of his colleagues, Ian Bracegirdle and David Murphy, both professional installation artists, to lead a 'dreaming' session for the future of the Junkestra and the further development of the Sound Walk. Wallace Williams and Rob Axen, designers of the two existing Sound Walk installations, also took part. It was a very productive session resulting in many new ideas to think about and develop. We'll watch with interest where it all leads. *Pictured from left: John Warde, Ian Bracegirdle, David Murphy & Jan Smith*

FIRE ON THE HOME FRONT - GOOD WORK!



A prompt response by volunteer brigades from Girgarre and other local areas contained a fast moving fire on Winter Rd, (cnr McEwan and Peppertree Lane) Girgarre on Wed. 8 January. A strong southerly wind was causing the fire to accelerate rapidly but quick action by brigades from neighbouring localities saved nearby farm structures. Fifty-five hectares of open farmland was lost.

area was monitored for the following 2 days. The incident is currently under investigation.

Girgarre CFA Captain, Maree Gadzinski, would like to thank all the brigades for their assistance, including a special thank you to the Girgarre community for their continued support. **Marie asks everyone to continue to be vigilant on days of high fire danger as the recent rain, while welcome, has done little to reduce the fire risk.**

Eight CFA trucks, 7 FCV's and approximately 100 personnel attended with 4 tankers remaining on the scene overnight and the



Right: Inspecting the FCV (page 22) and the Brigade offers a huge 'Thank You' to Friends of the Gargarro Gardens for catering for the CFA Christmas Break Up.



There's no snow in Girgarre so Santa arrives by the local Fire Engine, accompanied by Capt. Koala for the annual Christmas Break Up. There's fun for the kids and a little light relief for the members of the Brigade during a busy fire season at.



The fire season this summer has been catastrophe in Vic and NSW. Shaun Halls and Chris Tooley have put in a pretty fair effort contributing to the fire fighting this season. The crew they were on saved 8 houses in the Morton NSW district, near Bateman's Bay on their last stint just before Christmas. *Pictured left: Shane Halls photo of a wall of flame. Something the fire fighters regularly face. Well done to both of you, and to the others that went earlier in the season. Everyone appreciates all the work our volunteer fire fighters do, at home or away.*

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