



Buninyong and District  
Community News

# Village VOICE

EDITION 5, JUNE/JULY 2025

## *A Starry Night at the Buninyong Town Hall*





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SAT JUL 12



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E: fiona@fionaross.com.au

**BUNINYONG MEDITATION GROUP - WEDNESDAY 6.15PM**  
For more details contact Paul on 0407 833 515



## Buninyong Fine Art Faire

## A Curated Market for Discerning Art Lovers

The Buninyong Fine Art Faire will be held on Sunday 15 June, from 10am to 3pm at the Buninyong Town Hall. Organised by the Buninyong ARTpreneurs, under the umbrella of Buninyong Community Events Inc., this curated indoor market will feature original works by local fine artists, including paintings, drawings, prints and smaller art-based items such as cards.

Each artist will manage their own table, with many working on pieces throughout the day. It's a chance to have a chat with the artists, see how they work, and buy directly from them.

Entry is free, and Devonshire tea will be available for purchase on the day.

Fine artists (excluding photography) are welcome to apply for a table. A fee of \$15 applies, and places are limited. To apply, email – [buninyongartpreneurs@gmail.com](mailto:buninyongartpreneurs@gmail.com).

This event is one of several being developed by Buninyong ARTpreneurs, the group also responsible for the well-supported Buninyong Art Prize & Exhibition, which returns in October. This larger event runs from 10–12 October and continues to attract strong interest from both local and regional artists.

Submissions for the Art Prize open in August, with more details to be shared via Facebook ([Buninyong ARTpreneurs](https://www.facebook.com/BuninyongARTpreneurs)), local posters and community boards. Artists and visitors alike are encouraged to save the date!

Contributor: Buninyong ARTpreneurs

# History

The Crown Hotel has been a landmark of Buninyong since 1851. After being closed for renovations for almost a year, locals are very glad to have their local watering hole back in business.

The first licensee was George Selleck. With the discovery of gold at Buninyong in August 1851, Geelong man George Selleck decided to open a hotel. He built a two-storey wooden building, and the new hotel opened in April 1852. Mother Jamieson's Buninyong Inn was previously the only hotel in the district.

The Argus of 30 June 1853 gives the following report:

*I walked over to Buninyong yesterday. That place is now assuming some importance, and far exceeded my expectations. Mrs Jamieson is erecting a large and substantial hotel of stone, and stores are in process of formation for some distance along the road. Selleck is also making additions to the unpretentious edifice of times past.*

In the early stages of the gold rush, the two Buninyong hotels had a virtual monopoly, as hotels were not allowed to operate on the goldfields. In 1854, a new licensing act saw many new licences issued in Ballarat and vicinity. Mrs Jamieson, who had embarked on building an expensive stone hotel in 1853, was bankrupted. George Selleck managed to weather the storm.

The hotel was home to many important civic events. The first

meeting of the Buninyong Roads Board was held at the Crown Hotel on 30 August 1858, with George Selleck elected.

In 1859 George was also elected to the new Borough of Buninyong. The Crown continued to host meetings of

the Borough for many years. George Selleck died in 1869. His widow Frances conducted the licence of the Crown Hotel with her son Harry until its sale in 1878.

The hotel was destroyed by fire on 31 December 1884. On 23 February 1885, the ceremony of laying the foundation stone for the new hotel took place, and the new brick and stone hotel was built by Richard Rennie of Buninyong for £2,000, with the coach house and stables costing £400. The architect was George Lorimer of Ballarat.

From this time, the Crown had many different licensees, and ownership was sold to the Ballarat Brewing Company in the twentieth century. By 1933, the Crown was the only hotel in town.

Amongst the licensees, before the era of the TAB, Lew McRae was known around the district as an SP bookmaker. This meant the Crown was the place to get a bet on the horses!

Major renovations took place in 1956, under the architect John Vernon,

with the dilapidated wooden rear removed and old out-buildings were demolished. The hotel was painted and repaired, and the kitchen modernised. A new lounge, dining room and female toilet block were constructed on the north side of the building.

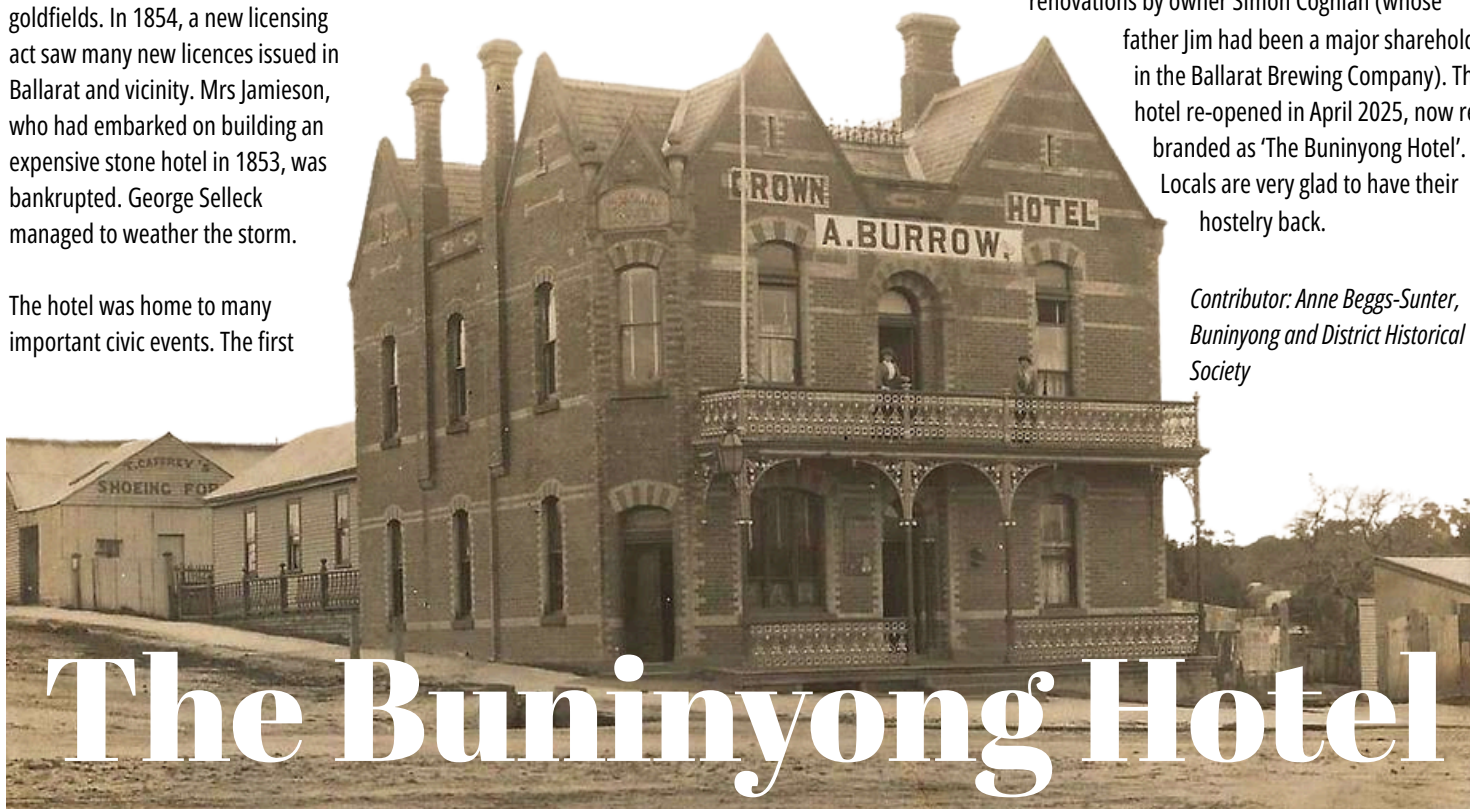
Until 1970, few people stayed at the hotel, evidenced by the Lodger's Book in possession of the Buninyong and District Historical Society. Once a month the Buninyong Shire Council dined at the hotel, and there were occasional special functions, but there was no regular meals service.

The hotel was extended and re-modelled under architect Ewan Jones in 1984, with the addition of the bottle shop. A photo published in the Courier on 11 January 1985 shows the hotel being repainted in a light colour, and the Gothic roof additions to the dining room. From this time, the dining room began to play a much greater role in the service of lunches and dinners, and the hotel had a TAB agency in the entrance foyer.

In 1998, the hotel was raffled by the Ballarat Brewery to raise funds for the Sydney Olympics. The winner, a Geelong man, put it on the market. In 2008, the TAB agency was removed and the hotel re-painted an even lighter shade. The glassed-in conservatory over the balcony beside the dining room was also added.

In June 2024, the hotel was closed for renovations by owner Simon Coghlan (whose father Jim had been a major shareholder in the Ballarat Brewing Company). The hotel re-opened in April 2025, now re-branded as 'The Buninyong Hotel'. Locals are very glad to have their hostelry back.

*Contributor: Anne Beggs-Sunter,  
Buninyong and District Historical  
Society*



# The Buninyong Hotel



# A Maze and Sound Bath Experience

**It was a dark and still evening as I made my way to the Sound Bath and Labyrinth experience on Tuesday 15 April at the Buninyong Uniting Church.**

The glorious, south-facing stained glass windows glimmered with the suggestion of mystery and enlightenment. The internal lights presided delicately over a village green in shadow. Within it was a modest gathering of ten, including the Reverend Paul Sanderson, our host, and Fiona Ross from Blackwood, who brought the music. Her instruments were arranged on the slight pulpit stage: exquisite quartz crystal sound bowls, curious plinky-plonky wooden boxes, a myriad of singing dishes—golden and sacred—things to tap with, things to shake, and an odd upright piano, small and strange, that a grasshopper might play.

I wasn't sure what to do, as I am adequate at meditation at best. I can stop my leg from jittering and I can breathe quietly, but I am terrible at stilling my thoughts, and I can hardly tell the difference between breathing in and breathing out. Paul tells me "it takes time and patience" but I still peek once in a while to see if the silence is ending soon.

The event was arranged in three parts: the first was quiet contemplation, with some reflections on the myths of the upcoming Easter. The second part was the sound bath proper, and the third part was an invitation to walk through the labyrinth, which was actually just an enormous square canvas covering all the floor space with a maze painted on it. It's perfect if you suffer from claustrophobia but you still like to get a little lost and found.

While the music was very transforming and magical, I would say my favourite part was the labyrinth walk. Perhaps I am living life wrong, but I find there are few opportunities to experience the sacred source, where silence hums loudly. Walking the path, hearing the socks shift on the feet of the folks as they too walked, it took me there. No goal but to travel the journey to the middle and back out. No hurry but for the movement of the person behind you and in front. No rule, except to avoid planting a hip and shoulder bump on anyone, especially if their heads are low. You can get three weeks for that.

The evening ended with an invitation to join in a song adapted from the classical Persian poetry of Hafez, who I had never heard of either. Fiona kicked it off, singing in a loop, and soon ten ragged and solemn voices joined her, echoing in the air above the maze. It was a beautiful moment in a mystical night. "This place where you are right now, God has circled on a map for you. Wherever your eyes and arms and heart can move against the earth and sky. The Beloved has bowed there Our Beloved has bowed there knowing You were coming."

Among my several distracting thoughts that evening, a recurring motif was, "I wish so-and-so were here. He would get a lot out of this!" Or "So-and-so would love this!" I would heartily recommend any wellness boffins, the curious, and any other meditation-adjacent members of the Buninyong and District community to get involved in the many other similar events that will be hosted in the Buninyong Uniting Church over the coming months. It is culture with a lowercase c, which also stands for community, and compassion, and care and kindness if you are terrible at spelling. The welcome extends to all.

*Contributor & Photos Supplied by: Andrew Sutherland*



## PRODUCED BY

This is a community project of the Buninyong and District Community Association, with the support of the Community Bank Buninyong.



Buninyong and District Community Association  
Registration Number A0039386K  
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## Management Committee

Village Voice: Buninyong and District Community News Production Team under the direction of Buninyong and District Community Association.

## Key Dates

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Publication cut-off is STRICTLY 14th of month prior to production.

## How to Contribute & Guidelines

Contact – [news.bdca@outlook.com](mailto:news.bdca@outlook.com)

Max 400 words per article. Longer submissions **WILL** be edited down.

Electronic submissions must be in either Microsoft Word or plain text only. Photographs or images **MUST** be in jpeg format.

The photographer must be identified, and have provided permission for publication prior to the photo being published.

Hand-written articles or photographs may be posted to - Village Voice: 408A Warrenheip Street, Buninyong VIC 3357. Please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope if any material needs to be returned.

The contributor's name **WILL** be published.

## Where to Read the Village Voice

Online via the website:

[www.buninyongcommunityassociation.com.au](http://www.buninyongcommunityassociation.com.au)

Facebook: Village Voice - Buninyong and District Community News

Via Poster QR codes on local noticeboards, for you to read or download to print at home.

## Advertising

For any advertising enquiries, please contact [news.bdca@outlook.com](mailto:news.bdca@outlook.com)

This publication can be viewed using this QR Code.



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# District Residents Fill RSL Park on Anzac Day

## Buninyong

Under threatening clouds, a crowd estimated around 800 attended the Anzac Commemoration in Buninyong RSL Park on the morning of 25 April.

RSL President Ron Fleming read the Anzac Requiem and gave the main address. Almost 30 community groups, schools and individuals laid wreaths at the cenotaph and more than 80 sprigs of rosemary were placed among the 225 white crosses.

Mount Clear senior student leaders provided readings, and a four aircraft flyover, arranged by Tony Coxall, featured in the commemoration.

Three recently installed flag poles enabled flying the flags of Australia, New Zealand and State of Victoria and were raised by 1st Mt Clear Scouts.

Mr Fleming then expressed his thanks to the Buninyong community for their strong attendance at the Commemoration. He also acknowledged their continued generous support to the Anzac Token Appeal in the lead up to Anzac Day.

*For the second year the post service march, led by Piper Aram Haroutunian, saw an increase in participation with the salute taken by Cr Tess Morgan and Ron Fleming. Many RSL members marched with members of their family.*

*RSL Members again marked 110 service graves in the Buninyong Cemetery with a National Flag, and a wreath and flag was placed at the west entrance on Anzac Day.*

## Cambrian Hill

Later that day, the RSL conducted another service at the Cambrian Hill Avenue of Honour. The avenue containing 56 oak trees honouring service men and women from the district who served in World War I and II.

Ron Fleming welcomed 50 attendees, many of whom have connections to those honoured by this avenue in Glassons Road, Cambrian Hill and dedicated in December 2020.

Unfortunately, rain curtailed the service so all adjourned to a local hall for afternoon tea.

## Buninyong RSL AGM

The April Annual General Meeting re-elected a returning committee of Ron Fleming, President; Daniel Hardy, Secretary; Lyle Thorne, Treasurer; Bob Barks, Senior Vice President; and elected James McKenzie as Junior Vice president.

The 22 members present heard that in spite of membership not recovering to pre-COVID levels, the sub-branch continues to be active in its commemorations, support to district ex-service events, and maintaining its local profile.

*Contributor & Photos Supplied by: Ron Fleming*



Generations of families marched in the 2025 Buninyong Anzac Parade. RSL member Ron Delaland marches with family members.



L-R: RSL executive members James McKenzie, Bob Barks, Ron Fleming, Lyle Thorne and Daniel Hardy.



Members of the Buninyong Probosc Club move forward to lay a wreath.



Mt Clear College student delivers a reading to the large gathering following the wreath laying.



RSL Chaplain Rev Lynton Wade leads the gathering in the Lord's Prayer.



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# Soft Plastics Recycling Pilot – your impact so far!

It has already been eight months since the City of Ballarat launched the Ballarat Soft Plastics Collection Pilot program, and the Buninyong community's participation has made a real difference.

At the recent Buninyong Smart Living Expo, Begonia Festival, and Let's Chat Ballarat Community Expo events, the City of Ballarat received lots of positive feedback and interest in the program. Many people wanted to know how the pilot was going.

To date, 265 Buninyong residents have participated in this program to recycle 'scrunchable' soft plastics using the specially designed, 100% recycled orange bags. This initiative is helping to keep waste out of landfill and the environment and supports the circular economy by giving plastics a second life.

## Your Impact in Numbers

- Since the pilot commenced in July 2024, nationwide over 40,000kg of soft plastics have been collected through the pilot program across all nine participating councils.
- This means over 40,000kg of soft plastics did not end up in landfill or in the environment.
- Thanks to the Buninyong community, we are reducing waste and supporting a more sustainable future.



## What happens to the collected soft plastics?

Instead of becoming waste and ending up in landfill or the environment, your plastics are finding new life in useful and quality products. All soft plastics collected in the orange collection bags are transported to APR Kerbside in Truganina, Victoria where they are first sorted from other recyclables.

## Community Enthusiasm and What's Next?

In the coming months, a survey will be sent out to all pilot participants to gather feedback on their experience of using the special orange bags to collect soft plastics for recycling. This will help the City of Ballarat understand what worked well, what can be improved, and how the

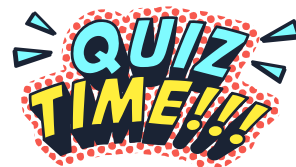
program has benefited the community. Your input will be valuable in shaping the future of soft plastics recycling.

The pilot program has space for more to join, so encourage your family, friends, and neighbours. There's still time! Register online at [ballarat.vic.gov.au/property/waste/recycling-ballarat](https://ballarat.vic.gov.au/property/waste/recycling-ballarat) or call Customer Service on 5320 5500. If you need more recycling orange bags, you can collect them from the Customer Service Centre at the Phoenix, free of charge.

*Contributed & Photos Supplied by: Amanda Bavin,  
Head of Communications and Design  
City Of Ballarat*

## A Quizzily Quiz! *Submitted by: Bev Elshaug*

1. Antarctica is colder than the Arctic. True or false?
2. Which word can join SNOW, NET and BASKET to make 3 new words?
3. How many words can you make from PRECIPITATION?
4. According to BOM, the lowest maximum temperature ever recorded in Ballarat was 3.2 degrees in May 1977. True or False?
5. If it is winter in the southern hemisphere, what season is it in the northern hemisphere?
6. Name the coldest place in Australia (and it's not Ballarat!).
7. Does the short beaked Echidna hibernate in winter? Yes or no?
8. How many sides does a snowflake have?
9. Which animal's fur turns white in winter?
10. Which Australian capital city has the least daylight on the shortest day of the year?



Answers on  
Page 10



# Buninyong Film Festival 2025

**The 31st Buninyong Film Festival (BFF) screened on the 23 and 24 of May.**

The Festival showed seven unique and highly acclaimed films that would not otherwise be brought to regional Victoria. The Film Festival draws patrons from across the State and even from Melbourne.

Thanks largely to sponsorship from the Community Bank Buninyong and a small team of dedicated, yet overworked volunteers, the Festival saw solid patronage at each screening session. The Friday night retro supper was again a highlight with tasty savouries and drinks served.

A spokesperson for the Festival said, "We had some new challenges this year. The City of Ballarat and the Town Hall Asset Committee doubled the cost of using the hall, removed key audio and other equipment and did not allow us to use previously shared spaces – the heating also broke down – but fortunately we were able to overcome these and had a good response from the community and patron numbers were consistent across our sessions."

## Call for Support

Buninyong Community Events Inc, an umbrella organisation, supports the BFF for many similar community events in the Village. Like many community led organisations, volunteers are precious and always welcomed. If you would like to help ensure the BFF continues into the future please contact the BFF via email: [bunfilmfest@gmail.com](mailto:bunfilmfest@gmail.com)

*Contributor & Photo Supplied by: Buninyong Film Festival Committee*



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# Book Review

Prisoners of the Castle by Ben Macintyre is a non-fiction WWII book about Colditz Castle, a German castle made into a prisoner-of-war camp by the Wehrmacht. Used as a prison “for the most troublesome captives of the Third Reich”, Colditz had more escape-attempts than any other camp. It contained many nationalities, each with their own guards.

Prisoners of the Castle explores the truth of tales from Colditz, its characters, its place in history, its heroes, and the ordinary people—both German and captive—who were unfortunate enough to be a part of its story. I know many people do not like war novels and I am usually one of them. However, after reading two books by Ben Macintyre—The Spy and the Traitor, and Prisoners of the Castle—I now have a respectful appreciation for his research and efforts to narrate the horrors of war and persistence of the human spirit.

The book has a fascinating array of individual stories. It is very much a tribute to the courage and determination to survive and the amazing inventiveness of escape-attempts. But life at Colditz was about much more than just escaping. It was a “miniature replica of pre-war society with its issues of class, politics, sexuality and race”. There were theatre presentations, drama groups, sports, alcohol production and language classes, to name a few of the pastimes—though boredom and repetition were a greater enemy. There were also knotted sheets, secret tunnels and elaborate disguises.

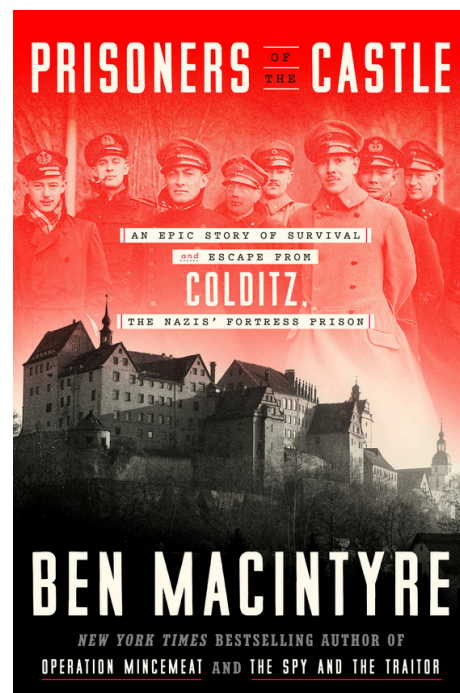
Prisoners of the Castle is entertaining but factual, and Macintyre writes in an easy-reading style. It is an extremely interesting perspective of an important part of WWII history, and it personalises the story of Colditz and its occupants. It contains photos,

## Prisoners of the Castle by Ben Macintyre

maps and drawings that support the authenticity of the research and bring the individuals and their stories to life. The final chapter, Aftermath, traces the post-war outcomes of many of the prisoners, an interesting end to the book.

Ben Macintyre is a British author, reviewer and columnist for The Times newspaper. He has written over 12 books, and Prisoners of the Castle was published in 2022.

*Contributed by: Bev Elshaug*



## Request for Young Story Tellers

### Hey young storytellers!

Are you 11 to 15 years of age?

Do you love making up fun, exciting, or magical stories?

We want to hear from YOU!



We're looking for short stories (400 words or less) written by kids just like you. Your story can be about anything: an amazing adventure, a funny day at school, a talking animal, or even a trip to space as long as Buninyong is featured in it! The best stories might be featured in our special collection, and there could be cool rewards too. So, grab a pencil or a keyboard and start writing – your imagination is the limit!

All submissions must be checked/proofread by a teacher or parent. Once completed email your story to [news.bdca@outlook.com](mailto:news.bdca@outlook.com). Please write 'Short Story Submission' in the subject field of your email.

### CALL FOR REWARDS

The Village Voice team are looking for support for the above and are seeking exciting rewards to help celebrate the amazing young writers participating in our Kids' Short Story Submissions! If you or your organisation can contribute kid-friendly rewards-like books, craft kits, puzzles, gift cards, or other fun surprises, we'd love your support. These rewards will help recognise the creativity and effort of every child who shares their story with us. To donate or find out more, please contact us at [news.bdca@outlook.com](mailto:news.bdca@outlook.com). Let's make this a joyful and inspiring experience for all our young storytellers!



# FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE RESUMPTION OF 'RESERVED' GRAVES

Public notices concerning graves at the Buninyong Cemetery held by a small deposit made many years ago were placed in local newspapers on two occasions - (6 June 2022 and 27 July 2024).

The notices advised that, should no contact be made within a specified period, the graves would be resumed by the Trust and made available for sale to the public.

This is the final notice.

**Should no contact be made prior to 30 July 2025** concerning the lawn grave sites listed opposite, the Cemetery Trust – in accordance with the Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003 s91 – will cancel any *reservation* rights.

Buninyong Cemetery Trust  
Ph: 0415 929 571



No	Name
68	McGregor, 1978
87	Curwen-Walker, 1981
181	Whykes, 1986
189	Wills, 1987
193	Davies, 1988
267	Cumming, 1991
289	Brimacombe, 1995
293	Pearce 1994
392	Coppin, 1998
459	Trezise, 2001
476	Goodall, 2003
477	Goodall, 2003
478	Snowden, 2004
481	Gross, 1988
493	Beer, 2001
498	Nankervis, 2003
502	Cations (2004)
510	Davidson, 2003
641	Eason (2005)
718	Hardy, 2005

## Upcoming Production: The Scottish Play

On a blasted heath, after a great victory, three witches prophesy that Macbeth shall be king, but Banquo shall beget a line of kings. As events begin to bear out the prophecy, Macbeth, mad with ambition, hacks a bloody path of murder to gain and sustain his crown.

But the three fates will not be denied, and a price must be paid.

The Bard in Buninyong, in collaboration with the Creswick Theatre Company, presents Macbeth at the Creswick Courthouse Theatre.

Performance Schedule:

- Friday, 15 August at 8pm
- Saturday, 16 August at 1pm & 8pm
- Sunday, 17 August at 1pm
- Friday, 24 August at 8pm
- Saturday, 25 August at 1pm & 8pm
- Sunday, 26 August at 1pm

For more information check out our Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/ArtsBuninyong](https://www.facebook.com/ArtsBuninyong)

To purchase tickets, please visit –

[www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1408467](https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1408467)



Contributor: Susan Pilbeam, The Bard in Buninyong

# Bard in Buninyong



## Buninyong Primary School Celebrates Mother's Day with Heartwarming Breakfast

On the morning of 8 May, Buninyong Primary School hosted its annual Mother's Day Breakfast at the Buninyong Bowling Club. This cherished event brought together students, staff, and families to honour the incredible mothers and mother figures within the community.

The breakfast was a delightful affair, featuring a spread of delicious food thoughtfully prepared by the school's dedicated canteen staff. Their culinary efforts ensured that guests were treated to a warm and satisfying meal to start the day. Adding to the success of the event was the support of enthusiastic volunteers, including Master Chef scholarship students, teaching staff, and education support staff. Their collective efforts contributed to the smooth operation and welcoming atmosphere of the morning.

A special mention goes to the school captains, who played a pivotal role in assisting with the welcoming of guests and ensuring that the event ran seamlessly. Their leadership and dedication were evident in their interactions with attendees, making everyone feel appreciated and valued.

The Mother's Day Breakfast not only provided a platform to celebrate the mothers and mother figures, but also showcased the strong sense of community and collaboration at Buninyong Primary School. The event highlighted the importance of coming together to acknowledge and appreciate the contributions of those who play significant roles in the lives of students.

As the morning concluded, there was a shared sense of gratitude and joy among all participants. The success of the event was a testament to the collective effort and community spirit that defines Buninyong Primary School.

Looking ahead, the school community eagerly anticipates the opportunity to celebrate this special occasion again next year, continuing the tradition of honouring the remarkable women who make a difference in the lives of students.

*Contributor & Photos Supplied by:  
Nicole Philips, Vice Principal, Buninyong Primary School*



## 40th Anniversary Concert A Local Celebration

Get ready for a night of music and nostalgia at Buninyong Town Hall on Saturday 12 July as we mark 40 years since Live Aid!

Enjoy live performances of classic 1985 hits by amazing local artists. Doors open at 6:30pm and entry is just \$15.

80s dress-up is expected, so dust off those leg warmers and your Choose Life t-shirt for a true throwback vibe!

Look out for posters around town and follow [Buninyong Community Events Inc.](#) on Facebook for updates.

Relive the magic of Live Aid  
—don't miss it!

### Quiz Answers

1. True;
2. Ball;
3. depends on how clever you are!
4. True;
5. Summer;
6. Charlotte Pass NSW, altitude 1,500m;
7. Yes;
8. Six;
9. Arctic Fox;
10. Hobart.



# BUNINYONG VILLAGE WINTER MARKET

**BUNINYONG TOWN HALL  
SATURDAY 19 JULY  
1PM TO 5PM**



# Buninyong – Mt Helen Lions Club Inaugural Fashion Parade

The inaugural fashion parade hosted by the Buninyong Mt Helen Lions Club took place at the Buninyong Town Hall on Sunday 18 May. This collaborative event between the Op Shop and Book Shop was a resounding success. A heartfelt thank you goes to all who contributed before the event, assisted on the day, and, of course, to those who attended.

Embracing the theme of 'Sustainability', the parade highlighted the importance of self-expression through second-hand clothing. By recycling, reusing, and reducing landfill waste, participants contributed positively to the environment. The event showcased how items from the Op Shop could be creatively combined with books from the Book Shop to craft unique styles. Attendees learned how to embellish garments with embroidery, transform clothing into gift wrap, and create material flowers, bows, and ribbons. Additionally, wool was available for those interested in learning to crochet or knit.

Both shops are committed to minimising landfill waste. The Book Shop recycles old books and magazines, with duplicates stored for the quarterly \$1 sale days (the next sale is on 5 July at the Buninyong Town Hall). The Op Shop partners with a major retailer to recycle soft plastics and donates clothing to communities in need across Australia.



The runway event was a true celebration of community, featuring Buninyong locals, volunteers from both shops and their families, and Lions Club members. Brands such as Dangerfield, Converse, RM Williams, and Maggie T were showcased, with a surprising number of Australian designers also featured. The atmosphere was vibrant, filled with enthusiasm, a sense of community connection, and cooperation, including the newly re-formed Buninyong CWA.



CWA Branch President Sonya Sutcliffe remarked, "The fashion revival was a wonderful example of community; it was an effective way of bringing people together. The inclusion in this collaboration allowed the CWA to share what we do while serving our sought-after scones and passionfruit sponge. It was tremendous to see so many volunteers in action."

Funds raised from the fashion parade and sale will be distributed to various charities by the Lions Club.

Let's Celebrate Buninyong: Recycling, Reusing, and Reducing Landfill.

*Contributor & Photos Supplied by: Martine Foerg, Buninyong Lions Fashion Parade Organiser*

# WINTER WORD SEARCH

B I E U S D U P F W S F R O S T B I T E  
 G M F L N D G V I I M C V B U C Z C P B  
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FROSTBITE  
 OVERCAST  
 WINDCHILL  
 THUNDERSTORM  
 DRIZZLING  
 CAMPFIRE  
 TRACKIES  
 FLANNELETTE  
 GUMBOOTS  
 UGGBOOTS  
 HOODIE  
 BLANKETS  
 HEATER  
 SNUGGLING  
 BUSHWALK  
 RAINCLOUD  
 FIREWOOD  
 FOOTYSEASON  
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 SLIPPERS  
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 FIREPLACE  
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 COLDSNAP  
 SOUP

## BUNINYONG FINE ART FAIRE 2025

**A curated market for discerning art lovers**

**SUNDAY  
15 JUNE  
2025**

**10am-3pm**

**BUNINYONG  
TOWN HALL**

309 LEARMONTH  
STREET, BUNINYONG

FIND MORE INFORMATION AT OUR WEBSITE  
[WWW.BUNINYONGARTPRENEURS.COM.AU](http://WWW.BUNINYONGARTPRENEURS.COM.AU)

**PRESENTED BY  
BUNINYONG  
ARTPRENEURS**

A handpicked showcase for art enthusiasts, the Buninyong Fine Art Faire features outstanding works by accomplished regional artists. Set in the charming, historic village of Buninyong, it offers a rare opportunity to discover, connect with, and collect original, inspiring pieces directly from the creators.

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ART**

**ARTIST  
LEAD**

**DEVONSHIRE  
TEA**

**MEET THE  
ARTIST**

**FREE ENTRY!**



# Out and About in Buninyong

Extract From Buninyong Heritage Walks by Neil McCracken 2008

## The Sandstone Building

The Sandstone Building was at one time the Buninyong Court House, whose foundation stone was laid by Governor Barkly in January 1858. It was later used as the Buninyong Butter Factory, and then the Shire Council Depot. Along with the smaller brick cottage, which is now part of the Buninyong Primary School, they are all that remain of the Court House/Warden's office complex. This area, including the Primary School Oval, was the site of the Police Camp in the days when Buninyong was the Administrative Headquarters for this part of Central Victoria.

## The Gong

Located in a picturesque setting, the Gong is one of Buninyong's early Water Reserves.

## Buninyong Brewery

The Buninyong Brewery was built in 1855 by a Mr Allen and from 1857 was operated by Thomas Sheppard, first chairman of the Buninyong Borough Council in 1859. It traded as Sheppard's Crystal Malt Brewery until Sheppard's death in 1873 when the brewery closed.

## Additional Information

Locality: Cnr Yuille & Cornish Streets. The location of these two buildings, as discussed in the aforementioned book, is in the vicinity of the Gong. The Buninyong Brewery is situated just south of the wooden bridge that crosses the eastern end of the Gong. The old Sandstone building is located across the road, above the Botanic Gardens, and adjacent to the Primary School. Neither of these buildings can be accessed by the public

## BUNINYONG HERITAGE WALKS

and

Other Interesting Nearby Walks,  
Cycle Rides and Scenic Drives



Neil McCracken



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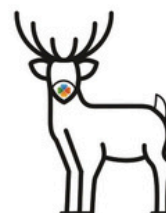
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# Buninyong Golf – Junior and Women's Golf

**Buninyong Golf Club is proud to have become a signatory of the R&A Women in Golf Charter in May 2024.**

This recognition affirms our commitment to inclusivity across all aspects of golf, including management and competition. We are the only club in the Ballarat District to be part of this Charter, and as of May 2025, only 144 clubs in Australia have received this honour.

Our club has long been supportive and inclusive of women members, and we are thrilled to be formally recognised by our governing body.

## Junior Pennant Success

The Ballarat District recently held the annual Junior Pennant competition. Three of our Buninyong MyGolf girls were part of the first all-girls trailblazing pennant team. The girls' team was elated to win the Junior Pennant Final recently.

## Golden Putter Event

Buninyong Golf held its prestigious Golden Putter Event on 21 March. This event is sponsored by Industrial World / Ballarat Bearings, who have supported the event since its inception. 96 women participated and enjoyed pleasant weather conditions on our magnificently presented golf course. Midlands Golf Club members Lynette Lock and Fran Edwards took home the Golden Putters with a score of 63 nett.



Junior golfers: L–R Oscar Bourke, Anastasya Macaulay, Molly Dennis, Celina Li, Silei Bai, Grace Beilfuss, Tara O'Beirne

## Women's Golf Clinics

You may have noticed flyers in many Buninyong business windows over the past few months advertising Women's Golf Clinics. 17 women enrolled in the clinics with PGA professional golfer Andrew Cartledge and successfully completed the eight-week sessions. Buninyong Golf followed this up with some complementary rounds of golf so that the women may continue on their wonderful golfing journey. A Mentor Program has been initiated by our women members, who have been allocated one or two clinic participants to offer support, encouragement, and to assist the women on the course. Many of our clinic women are eagerly in the process of getting their handicap scorecards submitted and looking forward to playing competition golf.

## Junior MyGolf Program

The Junior MyGolf Program, also conducted by Andrew Cartledge, ran on Wednesday afternoons during the first school term and concluded in early April. There were three large groups divided into younger primary school age, followed by the girls' group, and then more advanced junior golfers. It is anticipated that MyGolf junior sessions will return to Buninyong in the Spring.

Entries can be made on the Golf Australia Website: [www.golf.org.au](http://www.golf.org.au)

For more information, please call Buninyong Golf Ph. 4311 3805.

*Contributor & Photos Supplied by: Helen McSparron, Buninyong Golf Club Women's Captain*

## Good Friday Way of the Cross Walk

On Good Friday, 65 people from the combined churches of Buninyong gathered to walk the village. We started outside the Town Hall at 8:30am, carrying a large cross, then paused at nine locations to read the account of Jesus' arrest, death, and resurrection.

The walk concluded at the Labyrinth in the grounds of the Uniting Church. This time together helped us reflect on these events from 2000 years ago and their significance for us today.

If you would like to learn more about Jesus and the Christian faith, please feel free to contact one of the local churches or simply attend a service—you will be most welcome!

### Buninyong Uniting Church

Learmonth Street, next to the old CFA  
More information – Paul Sanders on ph. 0407 833 515

### Buninyong Catholic Church

St Peter & Paul's, 701 Fiskin Street, Buninyong  
More information – Parish Office on ph. 5332 6611

### Buninyong Anglican Church

Corner Warrenheip and Scott Streets Buninyong  
More information – Mark Schnerring on ph. 0401 022 107 or [buninyonganglican.org.au](http://buninyonganglican.org.au)



### Buninyong Baptist Church

Meet at Buninyong Uniting Church (Learmonth Street, next to the old CFA)  
More information – Craig Semple on ph. 0438 438 175 or [byongbaps@gmail.com](mailto:byongbaps@gmail.com)

*Contributor & Photo Supplied by: Mark Schnerring, Buninyong Anglican Church*



# Discover Fitness in Buninyong



## Why not join a local fitness group in and around Buninyong!

### Meet on the Mat

Tennis Club Rooms, Forest Street, Buninyong  
Pilates exercise group with a qualified instructor in a relaxed group setting. Janine Gifford has been teaching Pilates in Buninyong for over 7 years. Clients participate in a Beginners to Intermediate floor-based session using balls, circles and bands.

Wednesdays – 9:30am & 6:30pm

Friday – 8:30am

Contact - Janine ph. 0429 424 989

Email - janine.gifford@bigpond.com

Facebook - Meet on the Mat



### Eureka Health Pilates

509 Warrenheip Street, Buninyong  
Eureka Health runs one of the local Pilates Studios. They are passionate about helping everyone to move their body safely to achieve their own goals. Formerly called OASIS Pilates, they changed their name so that everyone in Buninyong is aware that the studio is part of Eureka Health in Ballarat, based in Wendouree.

Classes can either be booked via the website or by downloading the Wellness Living 'Achieve' Client app through the Apple App Store or Google Play.

### Movement Matters

Buninyong Town Hall – 309A Learmonth Street  
A seated exercise class to keep you strong and moving.

Thursdays – 11am to 11:45am

\$5 per class - payable by EFTPOS at the door (no cash payments).

No bookings necessary - just turn up and join in the fun!

### Parkrun Buninyong

*There is a core group of organisers working away behind the scenes and they are still in the planning stage with no firm date for commencement yet.*

*A community meeting was held in March to inform the local community about the plans and it was very well received by those who attended. The organisers are currently looking for community grants to raise the funding that is needed but are happy for people to register their interest in the event. Parkrun is a community event, which relies heavily on volunteers to operate each week.*

*If you are interested in Parkrun – please contact Event Director Vicki - Email v.hallam09@gmail.com*

### My Insight Health

Buninyong Uniting Church Hall

302 Scott Street, Buninyong

Yoga Classes

Thursdays – 6pm to 7pm

Website - <https://myinsighthealth.com.au/>

### Konditioned

307 Learmonth Street, Buninyong

(the old CFA Station)

Konditioned Studio is a boutique Reformer Pilates Studio in the heart of Buninyong, offering additional Clinical Reformer Classes and Physiotherapy Services. Their mission is to provide a welcoming space where everyone can find their own ultimate condition.

<https://www.konditioned.au/>

Contact Hannah ph. 0448 632 212

hello@konditioned.au

### El Dorado Line Dancing

Buninyong Town Hall – 309A Learmonth Street  
Fridays

Basically Beginner – 10am

Beginner & Improver – 11:30am

First lesson free – then \$5 per session

All welcome!

Contact Ella ph. 5368 1354

Email – ellaeldorado@gmail.com

Facebook – El Dorado Line Dancing



### Buninyong Men's Walking Group

The group meet at the Buninyong Town Hall at 9am each Tuesday.

Further information, contact ph. 0419 361 428, or just turn up and join in.

### Eureka Athletic Club

Regularly holds cross country runs over winter and has athletics available over summer.

Coaching for all ages and abilities is also available.

Facebook – Eureka Athletic Club

Contact Email – eurekaathclub@gmail.com

### Lilac Moon Tai Chi

Masonic Hall (behind the RSL Hall)

Learmonth Street, Buninyong

Tuesdays – 11am

Thursdays – 6pm

To find out more contact Sandra

ph. 0409 662 106

### Federation Health, Sports & Aquatic Centre

University Drive, Mount Helen

Federation Health, Sports and Aquatic Centre offers an exciting range of dynamic and innovative recreation, education and health programs and services open to students, staff and the public.

Health & Fitness Centre

Monday to Friday – 6am to 8:30pm

Saturday & Sunday – 9am to 4pm

Pool

Monday – 6am to 7:30pm

Tuesday to Friday – 6am to 8:30pm

Saturday & Sunday – 8am to 4pm



Group Fitness Classes

Monday – 12pm – Stretch & Balance

Wednesday – 12pm – HIIT

Thursday – 12pm – Pilates

Friday – 12pm – Water Aerobics

Phone: 5327 9695

Email: hsa@federation.edu.au

Facebook: [facebook.com/federationhsa](https://facebook.com/federationhsa)

Please check the University website for updated memberships and costs.

<https://federation.edu.au/about-us/facilities-and-services/commercial-services/hsa/membership>

*Contributions were received by the Village Voice via callout on social media.*

# What's Happening in Buninyong

## June & July

### Buninyong Senior Citizens

Weekly Meeting  
Every Tuesday  
11:30am to 3pm  
Buninyong Town Hall  
Contact Jan ph. 0409 174 605

### ATA Acting Classes (Junior & Teens)

Tuesday during School Term  
from 6pm & 7pm  
Buninyong Town Hall  
Call Adam for a free trial class on  
ph. 0419 593 257  
For more information:  
[www.ataactingstudio.com](http://www.ataactingstudio.com)



### CWA Buninyong General Meeting

Thursday 5 June & Thursday 3 July  
6pm onwards  
Buninyong Community House

### CWA Buninyong Monday Creatives

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Month – 10am  
Buninyong Town Hall

### CWA Buninyong Monday Masterclass

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of Month – 6pm  
Buninyong Town Hall

You are welcome to attend 3 meetings/activities  
as a guest before joining.  
CWA Contact - Sonya ph. 0417 168 456

### Buninyong Book Shop Book Club

Tuesday 10 June – 1pm  
Tuesday 8 July – 1pm  
Buninyong Community House

### Buninyong Bridge Club

Every Tuesday 10am to 12pm  
Buninyong Community House  
Contact Ange ph. 0402 098 267

### Live & Acoustic

Red Door Pizza  
401 Warrenheip Street, Buninyong  
Sundays – 5:30pm to 7:30pm  
ph. 5341 8235

### Art Lessons

with Trudy Nicholson  
Tuesdays – 5:30pm to 7:30pm  
Contact Trudy ph. 0407 613 038



### Buninyong & District Community Association

General Meeting  
Thursday 26 June – 7:30pm  
Buninyong Community House

### Making Time Workshops

Buninyong Gift House

Beginners Photography &  
Basic Use of Your Camera  
Sunday 29 June  
2pm to 4pm

Carnivorous Plant Maintenance  
with Phil from Durham Carnivores  
Sunday 27 July  
2pm to 4pm

[www.buninyonggifthouse.com.au](http://www.buninyonggifthouse.com.au)

### Buninyong Village Winter Market

Saturday 19 July  
1pm to 5pm  
Buninyong Town Hall Precinct

### Buninyong Book Shop Enormous Book Sale

Saturday 5 July  
10am to 4pm  
Buninyong Town Hall

### Buninyong Fine Art Faire

Sunday 15 June  
10am to 3pm  
Buninyong Town Hall

### Live Aid 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Concert

Saturday 12 July  
Doors open 6:30pm  
\$15 entry



### Handmade at the Hall

Garibaldi Hall  
4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the Month  
6.30pm to 8.30pm  
Contact Carli or Kristy  
[garibaldicommunity@gmail.com](mailto:garibaldicommunity@gmail.com)

Haven't got a project to work on? Don't worry they  
will have some spares!

### Buninyong & District Historical Society

Open 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of Month  
9:30am to 1:30pm  
Buninyong Town Hall

### Meditation Group

Every Wednesday – 6:15pm  
Buninyong Uniting Church  
Contact Paul ph. 0407 833 515

### Buninyong Community Playgroup

Every Friday – during School Term  
from 9:30am  
More info -  
<https://buninyongcommunityplaygroup.square.site>



### Shape-Note Singing Workshop

Buninyong Uniting Church  
15 June – 2pm to 4pm

A Shape-Note Singing workshop is a unique, old-school way of singing (also called Sacred Harp) that's all about community and joy, not performance or perfection.

This tradition began in New England and found its heart in the American South. It is vibrant, participatory, and lots of fun! You'll learn the basics and sing straight from the Sacred Harp songbook. No experience needed (seriously)!

If you haven't sung since you were a kid, or you've only ever sung in your shower, don't worry.

Everyone is welcome!

Suggested Donation \$5/\$10

For Bookings Contact – Sam ph. 0466 841 552



# The Journey of the Buninyong “Redbacks” Soccer Club

The Buninyong “Redbacks” Soccer Club began its journey in 2009 when a group of local parents saw the need for junior soccer in the community. Starting as a satellite of the Vic Park Soccer Club, the Redbacks launched with just three junior teams and 30 players. Initially training at Buninyong Primary School, the club eventually moved to Royal Park, sharing space with the Friends of Royal Park, now Buninyong Sustainability.

In 2012, the Redbacks became independent and formed as Buninyong Soccer Club. That same year, with support from the Ballarat Council, the club revitalised an old soccer pitch behind the Buninyong Tennis Courts. A new storage shed followed, and player numbers grew to 55. Despite limited resources, the club quickly earned a reputation for its positive, community-focused culture.

As the original Under 11s aged into the Under 17s competition, the club grew rapidly reaching 95 players. Due to space limitations, older teams began hosting home games at Ballarat University. In 2015, the Under 17s became the first Redbacks team to reach a grand final. While they didn't win, their effort inspired the club and drew strong community support.

The following year, in 2016, the Redbacks entered the senior men's competition and won their first-ever premiership. This success attracted support from both the Ballarat Council and the Ballarat & District Soccer Association, who backed a vision for new facilities including clubrooms, change rooms, and senior pitches at Royal Park.

By 2017, membership peaked at 165, driven by the dedication of founders Sue and Marcus Mroczkowski. That year also saw the launch of the club's first all-girls team and the senior men's promotion to Division 1.

The club reached a major milestone in 2019 when the Council secured state funding to build two new pitches at Royal Park. Although the 2020 season was paused due to COVID-19, pitch construction proceeded without disruption.

By 2021, the club finally had quality facilities and a permanent home. As of the 2025 season, the Redbacks field nine teams with over 100 players. The club remains strong, built on the hard work of its volunteers, coaches, and community. With games at Royal Park on most Sundays between April and September, the Redbacks invite everyone to come down and cheer them on!

[www.facebook.com/buninyongredbackssc](https://www.facebook.com/buninyongredbackssc)

*Contributor & Photo Supplied: Buninyong Soccer Club*



## Chilli Tomato Chutney



**Recipe submitted by  
Karen Thomson, CWA Buninyong**

### INGREDIENTS

1.5kg ripe tomatoes  
500g brown onions  
¼ cup salt water  
1–1½ cups brown vinegar  
2 cups brown sugar  
3 tbsp curry powder  
1–2 tbsp dry mustard  
½ tsp ground nutmeg  
½ tsp ground cinnamon  
½ tsp ground ginger  
1 cup sultanas  
1–2 tbsp minced chilli (optional)  
Salt, to taste  
Cornflour and extra vinegar,  
if needed to thicken

Note: Nutmeg, cinnamon, and ginger can be replaced with ¾  
tbsp Chinese five-spice powder.

Also adjust the amount of chilli to your taste preference.

### DIRECTIONS

Dice or slice the tomatoes.

Peel and dice or slice the onions.

Place the tomatoes and onions in a large bowl, cover  
with water, and sprinkle with ¼ cup salt.

Cover the bowl and let it stand overnight.

The next day, drain the liquid from the tomatoes and  
onions and place them in a large saucepan.

Add 1 cup of vinegar and bring to the boil over medium  
heat, uncovered.

Add the brown sugar and stir over low heat until the  
sugar dissolves.

Add the curry powder, mustard, spices, chilli (if using),  
and sultanas.

Mix well and bring to the boil. Add extra vinegar if  
needed.

Simmer uncovered for 35–40 minutes or until the  
mixture thickens. This can take up to an hour.

Taste and add salt if needed.

Remove from heat and allow to cool slightly.

Pour the mixture into hot, sterilised jars.



#### YOUTH SPOTLIGHT NOMINATIONS

If you know a local young person who deserves a shout out for following their passion - please contact [news.bdca@outlook.com](mailto:news.bdca@outlook.com)

## Local Lad Joins Moorabbin City Pipe Band

Charlie Holland developed a passion for drumming while at Buninyong Primary School. In high school at Ballarat Grammar, Charlie took the next step in his musical journey, further developing his kit skills, along with cajon, and pipe band drumming. He was quickly co-opted to be the bass drummer for the Grammar senior band and thus began a kilted career.

Despite the disruption of COVID, Charlie was dedicated to his drums and encouraged by the school, leading to his participation in the national Grade 4B winning drum corps in 2022. Charlie also won two Victorian solo drumming titles.

While completing year 12 in 2024, Charlie, along with Hamish (another Grammar school piper) were invited to join the prestigious Moorabbin City Pipe Band. They went on to join at the beginning of the season and have recently been awarded the band's most improved drummer and piper respectively.

Just weeks ago, Moorabbin competed in the Victorian Pipe Band Championships in Maryborough coming home with the overall Grade 2 State Champions trophy and also winning the best Grade 2 Drum Corps.

The talented 18-year-old also continued to support and perform with the Ballarat Grammar Pipe band during the remainder of the 2024-2025 season. Charlie played his final competition with Ballarat Grammar on 17 May at the Victorian Pipe Band Championships before changing his kilt to represent Moorabbin.

Now balancing his time between music, his baking apprenticeship and other interests, Charlie continues to grow both as a musician and a young adult. His future in the pipe band scene looks bright, and Moorabbin City Pipe Band look forward to many more national and international competitions.

*Contributor & Photo Supplied by: Darren Holland (Dad)*

## A Fond Farewell (But Not Goodbye) to Reverend Paul Sanders

On Sunday 18 May, Paul Sanders led his final service at the Buninyong Uniting Church as he officially retired from the ministry. After many years of dedicated service, Paul is taking a well-deserved break—though we're glad he'll still be involved in events and activities at the church and in the wider community.

Paul has brought warmth, vision, and a thoughtful, compassionate approach to everything he's done in Buninyong. His big-picture thinking and enthusiasm have helped shape many wonderful community experiences.

One of the highlights of our time working together has been the development of the Chamber of Music series. What began as a shared idea has grown into a regular and much-loved event on the local calendar, now in the capable hands of the acclaimed Fiona Ross.

Paul's support and encouragement were instrumental in bringing that vision to life.



Personally, I want to say a heartfelt thank you to Paul. It has been a genuine privilege to work alongside him and to witness the positive impact he's had on our community. We wish him all the best in retirement—and look forward to seeing him around Buninyong, still making a difference in his own interesting and thoughtful way.

*Contributor: Lisa Cressey, Buninyong Community Events Inc.*

*Photographer: Luba Bradford*





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0412 185 313

## Catherine **KING MP**

**Federal Member for Ballarat**

- 03 5338 8123
- Catherine.King.MP@aph.gov.au
- CatherineKingMP
- Catherine\_KingMP



***Standing up for our Community!***

[www.catherineking.com.au](http://www.catherineking.com.au)

Authorised by Catherine King MP, Australian Labor Party, 5 Lydiard St North, Ballarat VIC 3350



**Got a great community  
idea, but don't have  
funding?**



# SPARKTANK

**Ideas Build  
Community**

## **Community Bank Buninyong's got you!**

We've already returned over **\$2,250,000** to meaningful community projects, but in 2025 we'll be distributing another **\$50,000\*** on the one night.

If you're involved in a local community group you'll want to be part of this vibrant and community-focused event. We're looking for bold, innovative ideas and stand-out creative projects your local community group can bring to life with our support\*.

### **Community Come Along!**

SparkTank will be held in Buninyong on Monday 4 August 2025. Be part of something special! Selected community groups will pitch for their share of up to \$50,000 of community investment funding on the night\*. This will be a fun, all-of-community event. FREE tickets available mid-June, including supper by the Buninyong CWA. \*T&C's apply.

**Applications  
open until 8 June.  
Event tickets  
available soon!  
[sparktank.org.au](https://sparktank.org.au)**



**[sparktank.org.au](https://sparktank.org.au)**

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