

The Charlton Community Newsletter

December
2023
Issue 177

\$2

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Charlton's Only Dedicated News Resource

LANDMARK DESTROYED AS FIRE CONSUMES CHARLTON POST OFFICE

Contributed by Jenny Pollard

The landmark Post Office in Charlton's main street was severely damaged when a late morning fire spread through the building on Sunday 19th November.

The fire, which was thought to have been started by a washing machine explosion in the residence, spread to the front of the building, consuming the roof and creating damage to the postal service area. While the Post Office's brickwork façade and walls initially remained upright, the internal damage to the front section of the building was clearly visible from the street. The front portion of the building was later bulldozed to enable firefighting efforts to continue more effectively with the blacking out process. Owner, Russell King, was not in the

residence at the time of the fire.

Shocked residents lined the main street as numerous fire-fighting appliances attended the scene. The mood was sombre and disbelieving, with many saying it was a sad day for the town. With the highway closed to south-bound traffic at Armstrong Street, diversions were set up to allow for the continued flow of vehicles - a job made more challenging with many grain trucks on the road with harvest underway.

As the afternoon progressed a ladder platform and heavy pumper from Bendigo were commandeered and continued to provide fire suppression with the mechanized extension ladder and hose raised high above the building.

Fortunately, no one sustained any injuries, and the King family pets were

rescued, with their cat re-emerging from the debris a couple of days later.

Since the fire, the Postal Service has been relocated to the Charlton Hall in Armstrong Street before it moves to an interim location in the Mensland store at the western end of High Street.

Community support for the King family was swift and ongoing and despite the trauma, Russell was working on getting some of the services operational the very next day.

The Post Office location in the High Street was on the site of the original Charlton postal service which opened in 1879. Over the years the building had undergone a variety of renovations and changes with a significant upgrade in 1961. More photos on page 5.



A sad sight in the main street – the aftermath of the fire.

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How the locals like it.



*Proud Sponsor of the
Charlton Community Newsletter*

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*From the Editor
Carolyn Olive*

Hello everyone,

Welcome to the final edition for 2023. What a big year it's been with the welcome return of the Charlton Film Festival, Charlton Art Show and the Charlton A & P Show; the Centenary of the Cenotaph and 50th Anniversary of the Museum; a Premiership for our Women's Hockey Team; and sadly the loss of our Post Office. Russell, Peter & Janet are doing an amazing job of keeping our postal service running. I hope the process of rebuilding a home and business is not too problematic and wish them every success in 2024.

I'd like to thank all of the sponsors and contributors to the newsletter. Thank you to Jenny Pollard and the Buloke Times who let us use their articles. Thank you to my proofreader.

I'm on board for another year of newsletters. Note there won't be a January edition.

Please make sure to grab a copy of the latest Cultural Magazine—another publication I enjoy working on.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Cheers, *Carolyn*

Upcoming Events

Please note, events are subject to change.

December:

Carols by Candlelight—Sunday 10th
Christmas Fest—Friday 22nd

January:

Australia Day Ceremony—Friday 26th
Tennis Tournament—Friday 26th—Sunday 28th

February:

Film Festival—Friday 16th - Saturday 17th
OK Motels—Friday 23rd - Sunday 25th



**Thank you to all our
sponsors for 2023**

If you would like to become a sponsor please contact
Carolyn on 0418 361 971
or email charltonnewsletter@gmail.com

Email news, items of interest, stories and advertising items to
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Julie Benaim 0457 904 119
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Property of the Month

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LOCATION, SHEDDING, NEAT, PERFECT

- 803m2 (Approx.)
- Open living
- Large Kitchen
- Wood heater
- Split system/ceiling Fans
- Veranda all the way around
- Water tanks
- Fully fenced-picket at front
- Solar (6.6klw)
- Massive shedding
- Double car and single car garage
- Workshop – power/concreted
- 5m Skillion
- Centrally located

Charlton RSL Sub-branch



Charlton RSL's annual 'Community Thanks Night' was held on 20 October 2023 and organisations and individuals were welcomed to dinner and refreshments as a "Thank You" for their support during the year.

Presentations were made to Charlton Wycheproof Community Brass Band and to Bendigo Legacy.

The RSL/Oasis Diggers' Day golf day is run for Bendigo Legacy and, from its inception to 2023, the grand total of \$109,000.00 has been donated to them.

Charlton's Remembrance Day ceremony on 11 November was well attended, including Jade Benham, State Member for Mallee, also descendants of the two Charlton soldiers whose service and sacrifice were remembered, Private Maurice James Claxton who died on 20 July 1916 and Private Bernard Francis Carlson who died on 31

August 1942. After the ceremony the raffle for the lovely Women in War bedspread made by Annette Sherriff was drawn, the lucky winner being Gordon Jane. Sadly, Annette passed away on 30 October this year.

We are working on a project to manufacture life-size figures of service personnel and to install them outside the clubrooms in Armstrong Street; this should be completed by mid-2024. The project has received support from the Coonooer Bridge Windfarm Community Grants Program, for which we are most grateful.

LEST WE FORGET.

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Walsh Motors is proud to support the Charlton Community.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

CHARLTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY BANK WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF OUR CUSTOMERS AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY FOR MAKING OUR 20TH YEAR A WONDERFUL ONE.

WE WISH EVERYONE A SAFE AND VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.

OUR BRANCH WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER, 2023 UNTIL TUESDAY 2ND JANUARY, 2024



Charlton Post Office Fire



CFA personnel work on extinguishing the Charlton Post Office fire during the early afternoon of 19th November. Photo—Jenny Pollard.



Inside the building. Photo—Facebook

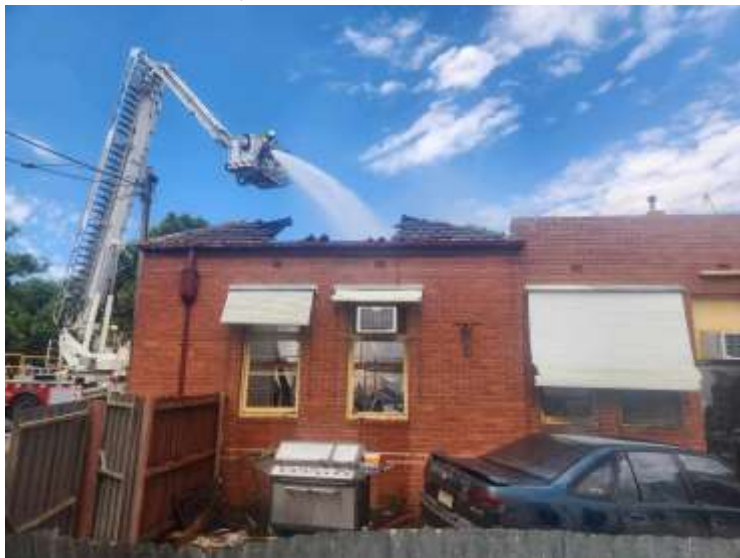


Photo: Facebook



The Bendigo ladder platform was commandeered and is pictured continuing the fire suppression later in the afternoon. Photo—Jenny Pollard



Employee, Janet Scarlett is pictured in the temporary home for the Post Office at the Shire Hall. The sorting boxes in the background were supplied by Neville Cloak and Rob Spruhan (formerly of The Boyz Café, Charlton). Photo—Jenny Pollard



Golden Grains Museum News

Welcome to the final 2023 update from your local Charlton Golden Grains Museum. It is hard to believe the end of the year is almost upon us, and what a year it has been. The tragic continuing war in Ukraine and the situation in the Middle East should make us all aware just how lucky we are to live in our special corner of the world, despite the recent sad loss of our historic Post Office. All our thoughts are with Russell and his family and friends at this time.

From our museum's point of view we can be very proud of the huge amount of work that continues to be done by our wonderful volunteers who freely give up their time: from helping archive items, selling raffle tickets, conducting research, opening the rooms for visitors, and attending meetings, the museum simply couldn't operate without them. If you have an interest in history, would like to help preserve items for Charlton's future generations, and enjoy spending time with friendly like-minded people, contact the museum; you will be made most welcome. You can also become a 'Friend of the Museum' for just \$20. Every dollar goes towards maintaining and improving our town's collection of important historic items for future generations.

Highlights

Among many highlights was the celebration of our 50th Anniversary and the official opening of the former Wesley Chapel in Halliday Street for our 'Keeping the Faith' display. We are so grateful to the community organisations that donated funds to the restoration of this magnificent historical Charlton building, which included the Charlton Uniting Church, Charlton Op-Shop and Charlton Rotary Club. This is a permanent display and Stage 2 of the project

will explore Charlton's Medical history. We were thrilled to dedicate our main display room to the memory of Grace Cadzow; a tireless worker and driving force in the establishment of our museum. All of her children were present which made the occasion even more special.

We were also proud to support, in collaboration with the Charlton RSL Sub-Branch, the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the Cenotaph. A fitting service for the occasion was accompanied by the Charlton-Wycheproof Band playing music from the war years and a lovely morning tea. Visitors were able to also enjoy a wander around the museum at their leisure and collect a souvenir program compiled by Carolyn Olive.

Fundraising is essential to the museum to purchase archiving supplies, pay regular monthly expenses, and for larger projects. We receive our funds through membership fees, admission charges, research requests, grants and donations. We are also very grateful to Charlton residents who support our regular trips to Donald Bingo where we receive monies for our group's attendance. Thank you to the drivers of the vehicles; we hope you have all had a little luck with the calls, but most of all have enjoyed a great social night out. Our last Bingo trip for the year is on Thursday 21st December which is a special Bingo Christmas break-up.

The Old Vic

Our feature story this month looks at a building that served the Charlton community for almost 80 years from the early 1880s until 1963. Named affectionately as 'The Old Vic' by locals, Victoria Hall was built privately by E. H. Miles and officially opened on Her Majesty Queen Victoria's birthday in 1884, remaining the main public building until 1956. On opening night over

350 locals enjoyed an evening of music provided by the Charlton Band with reviews stating, 'It was a spacious, well lighted hall, with all the accessories to give the right tone to either musical or dramatic entertainment'.

Located in Armstrong Street, it was the focal point for celebrations and commemorations which included amongst other things, the announcements of the Boer, First and Second World Wars, as well as send-offs and welcome homes for service men and women. In 1911 the Council purchased the Hall to accommodate the shire offices and council chambers. The premises were also rented out to obtain much needed revenue to groups as varied as the Charlton Higher Elementary School, The Victorian Rangers (a volunteer military body), the Empire Patriotic Fund, Australian Natives Association, the Table Tennis Club and many more. The hall was also used as a movie theatre for many years but by 1937 the venue was in need of repairs. The shire proposed a loan of 14 thousand pounds but ratepayers strongly objected to the spending. The issue of a new shire hall was raised again in 1945, but it wasn't until 1963 that it was a reality.

On behalf of everybody here at the Charlton Golden Grains Museum, have a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe 2024. We look forward to welcoming you some time soon.

For all enquiries, check out our Facebook Page or search on your browser 'Golden Grain Museum Charlton'. Phone enquiries: President Dianne 0417 511 218 Secretary Carolyn 0418 361 971 Archivist Markus 0413 129 216 Volunteers Anne 0408 547 973 Glenda 0417 801 771.



Victoria Hall & Miles'
General Store.

Charlton Remembers

Contributed by Jenny Pollard

The annual Remembrance Day observation in Charlton was shared by RSL members and community attendees, on Saturday 11 November, as the 105th anniversary of the Armistice formalizing the end of the First World War was commemorated.

While our contemporary ceremonies now acknowledge the service and sacrifices made by all those engaged in conflicts across the modern era, the Charlton RSL Sub-Branch presentation held a significant inclusion this year with the recognition of two local servicemen – Private Maurice James Claxton (died 20 July 1916) and Private Bernard Francis Carlson (died 31 August 1942). Descendants of both men attended this year's ceremony and also laid wreaths in memory of their ancestors.

Against the backdrop of the Lone Pine tree on the Clubroom forecourt, the crowd was welcomed by RSL President, Alan McGillivray who extended an invitation to all members, guests and community representatives to lay wreaths for the fallen.

On behalf of the RSL, Alan McGillivray and member John Stiley paid their respects, as did Member for Mildura, Jade Benham MP, who laid a floral tribute.

The recitation of John McRae's poignant poem "In Flanders Fields" by Sub-Branch Secretary, Bill Freeman followed, before the playing of the Last Post, and the call for a minute's silence at 11am. The rousing sounds of the Reveille broke the period of reflection before the ceremony then moved on to the acknowledgements and backgrounds of Private Maurice Claxton and Private Bernard Carlson.

(The following extracts were taken from the Centenary of the Charlton Cenotaph booklet - reproduced with the permission of the author, Carolyn Olive):

Private Maurice James Claxton:

"Private Claxton was the son of John and Sophia Claxton, farmers at Coonooer Bridge. After the outbreak of war, he and his brother, Theodore, enlisted on 21st July 1915. At the time he was working as a farm teamster in Western Australia.

On 20th July, 1916 during the Battle of Fromelles, Private Claxton was reported missing and subsequently pronounced as killed in action by a Court of Enquiry held in the field in August 1917.

His brother, Theodore, took part in the same battle and was wounded and taken as a Prisoner of War.

The Battle of Fromelles remains one of the war's most tragic events for Australian soldiers with almost 2,000 killed in action or dying of wounds and 400 captured – all in a period of 24 hours.

In April 2023, it was announced that Private Claxton's remains had been identified from 245 soldiers recovered from an unmarked grave. He has been reburied in Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery."

Private Bernard Francis Carlson:

"Private Carlson was the son of William

and Margaret Carlson. Known as 'Slim' he was one of six sons to serve in the Second World War. He sailed from Sydney in October 1940 and saw service in Egypt, Libya and Syria. He returned to Australia in March 1942 on leave and was able to visit his family in Charlton.

In August his battalion set sail for Port Moresby in Papua and by the 16th August was advancing along the Kokoda Trail to confront the rapidly advancing Japanese. The battalion's first clash took place at Isurava on 26th August 1942. After holding for three days they had to retreat facing much bitter, desperate fighting. It was during the retreat that Private Carlson was killed in action."

The formalities concluded with the public being invited to place a poppy on the small, white crosses encircling the base of the Lone Pine, before all gathered for refreshments and social time in the adjacent clubroom.

Speaking after the ceremony RSL Secretary, Bill Freemansaid that while the Sub-Branch operated as a small and traditional organization, it greatly appreciated the support given by the community on these commemorative occasions.

Pictured at last Saturday's Remembrance Day ceremony are (l-r) Charlton RSL Sub-Branch President, Alan McGillivray, MP Jade Benham and Branch Secretary, Bill Freeman. (Photos: Jo Phillips)



The general public was invited to place poppies on the crosses in memory of those who served.



Part of the sizable crowd which gathered for the moving commemoration.

Breaking Bread at St Vincent's Luncheon

Contributed by Jenny Pollard

Lunchtime was made a whole lot more enjoyable on 22 November as around 30 people gathered for the Charlton St. Vincent de Paul Society community luncheon held at the Senior Citizens Clubrooms.

The Charlton Conference (Branch) saw members trialling the occasion, which was based on a similar initiative run by Birchip over the past year. Having started off small, Birchip's event has grown in outreach and is now embracing more of the community with successive sessions.

Secretary of the Charlton group, Marg McGrath said, "We thought, well, why can't we do something similar, so, while today is a trial run, hopefully it's the beginning of many more of these gatherings."

Welcoming visitors, Charlton's St. Vincent de Paul Society President, Julie McGrath, said this was an opportunity to bring people together. For people on their own, or for those who found socializing more difficult the lunchtime get-together was a low-key and informal way of joining in with others.

Over a plate of mixed sandwiches, fruit salad and ice cream, slices and hot drinks (catered for by the group) participants settled in – enjoying the catch-up with friends, acquaintances, or in some cases, neighbors, to share the meal and enjoy a leisurely chat.

The Charlton Conference is part of the 9 member WAT region – Wimmera, Avoca and Tyrrell –which also includes the Conferences of Birchip, Donald, St. Arnaud, Maryborough, Ararat, Stawell, Horsham and Warracknabeal.

The Charlton Conference was formed in 1983 following an expression of interest circulated through the St Joseph's Church newsletter.

In a recent recognition of long service, the presentation of a 40 year medal to member, John Powell, was conferred during the October Conference meeting.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society extends outreach to anyone in need. If you, or someone you know needs assistance, please contact this local number – 0499 302 517 – leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

St Vincent de Paul Raffle Results:

\$50 Vouchers to be spent in
Charlton

- 1st Prize – John Headon,
- 2nd Prize – Amy Nicolson,
- 3rd Prize – Basil Avery,
- 4th Prize – Melissa Cumming,
- 5th Prize – (Christmas Cake)
Ron Coatsworth



Sandwiches, slices and other tasty morsels were on the menu at the inaugural Charlton St. Vincent de Paul Society Community luncheon as local President, Julie McGrath, welcomed attendees to the meal.



Charlton Planned Activity Group (PAG) members, (l-r seated) Pam Rosewall and John Minogue (back) Sandy McDonald and PAG co-ordinator Julie McGrath were ready to enjoy the midday meal.

End of an Era as 'House to Home' Closes

Contributed by Jenny Pollard

Sunday 19th November saw the end of an era as the doors closed on Charlton's much-admired retail outlet, *House to Home*.

The High Street business, which has been run by Marea and Greg Judd for just shy of 13 years, bid a sad farewell to customers when the doors were shut for the final time late on Sunday afternoon.

The premises has been a haberdashery / home wares outlet for many, many years - as *R.J.Tippets* (under Bill Sheeran), then *House To Home* (under Matt and Jacinta Holmes-Brown) and finally with the Judds as proprietors.

While it was an emotional time for Marea and Greg, both said it was "time" to make the call, and that they were looking forward to what they call the "next chapter of our lives".

"We want to spend more time with family, do some travelling and re-engage with the farm and many of our passions," said Marea as the remaining items of merchandise were condensed into a small area in the cavernous floor space.

House to Home has been a beacon for quality product over the years, presenting a range of items which have frequently been unique to this outlet. From customized local product through to clothing, footwear, personal items and an extensive range of homewares and home décor, the business has been a drawcard for Charlton, enticing travellers from well outside this area and capturing the attention of visitors passing through.

Friendly service and a welcoming environment has been as much a part of the experience as browsing the exquisitely decorated shelves. Presenting a complete package of quality merchandise combined with premium service was acknowledged at the 2014 Buloke Shire Business Excellence Awards when the business won the Best Retail category.

While recognition such as this was welcomed, Marea said it has been the opportunity to welcome people to the area, build new connections and establish friendships – from both far and wide - which has been rewarding.

And supporting the wider community has also been an integral part of *House to Home's* outreach with generous donations and contributions to numerous clubs and organisations over the years.

Despite experiencing some difficult and trying times – floods, two robberies and COVID lockdowns – Marea said that with the help, support and encouragement from locals and friends they had managed to keep

the outlet operating.

"We have loved our time in this business," Marea said, "and with commitment, passion, hard work and drive we have made this enterprise into what has affectionately been known as "Marea's Mini Myer Store".

Now with new horizons looming, Greg and Marea want to sincerely thank all those who have supported, helped, and contributed to the wonderful success of *House to Home*.

(At the time of writing new proposals are being investigated for the occupation of this large main street space. With more details to come, stay tuned for an update!).



Bringing an era to a close, Greg and Marea Judd closed the doors of Charlton's much-admired House to Home for the last time, on Sunday 19 November, as they look towards new horizons following almost 13 years in the business.

Hungry Little Caterpillars

Have you noticed large numbers of eucalypts that look like they are dying? In fact they are being stripped by cup moth caterpillars—so named because they eat the top out of their spherical cocoons. Although they can defoliate large areas and it looks terrible, most trees will survive. Many trees along the Avoca River in Charlton have been affected by this pest.

Right: Cup Moth Caterpillar

Far Right: Trees at the Common, across the river from Chalton Park.



Charlton Croquet Club News

Charlton Croquet Club held its annual Peg McGrath Doubles event on Thursday 23rd & Sat. 25th Oct. A double round robin was played. Anne Kenny and Sue Nicholls won all their games to win the event. Other pairings were Barb Dalrymple and Naomi Patullo, and Pat Mathews and Margaret Bowen. This was the first time Sue had played in this event.

On 1st & 2nd Dec. Lindsay Patullo played in the Victorian Croquet Association Golf Croquet Doubles Handicap at Cairnlea. Lindsay played, in very wet conditions, with Richard Hingst (Williamstown) and finished Runner up. Congratulations.

The Murray Valley Croquet Association Pennant Competition has played its final round and the break up day will be held in Swan Hill on Monday 4th Dec.

On Thursday 14th Dec. we will play our annual President v Captain event and then take a short break. Association Croquet will resume on 4th Jan. and Golf Croquet on 8th Jan.

Thank you to all who supported our Christmas cake raffle. The delighted winner was Alan Pyers.



Peg McGrath Doubles winners, Anne Kenny & Sue Nicholls.



Winners from Drysdale—James Turton & Mary Crocket. Runners-up—Lindsay Patullo & Richard Hingst (Williamstown)



Raffle winner—
Alan Pyers

CAROLS AT THE REX
SUNDAY 10 December 7pm
Gold coin donation entry

Wooroonook CFA Christmas Party

On Sunday November 26th, Santa arrived at the Wooroonook CFA Christmas party aboard the Fire Tanker and carrying a large sack of lollies. The lights and beacons were flashing and the excited kids and the young at heart knew the party had started.

A decorated Christmas tree with lots of tinsel, festive table settings and the sounds of 'Jingle Bells' playing, all added to the happy and sociable atmosphere.

A delicious BBQ tea followed and it was an opportunity to sit down and catch up on local events for the district families in attendance. The annual Wooroonook Christmas party has been a long standing tradition and it's pleasing to see the younger generation getting the same enjoyment as their parents and grandparents have in the past.



Chloe Armstrong, Lucy Lane & Rachel Smyth.



Jenny McGillivray & Phyllis Fitzgerald



Jeff McLouglan, Tim Smyth & Freddy



Santa with Bernice & Peter Whykes.



L to R—Allan McGillivray, Jon Whykes, Neil Wright, Clem Fitzgerald.



L to R—Ollie Lane, Charlie Lane, Archie Smyth, Jack Armstrong, Santa, Sally Armstrong, Sophie Smyth.

Golden Anniversary for Charlton Museum

Contributed by Jenny Pollard

Fifty years of operation was celebrated by Charlton's Golden Grains Museum on Sunday 19 November on a day which was dedicated to both reflection and the evolution of the local historical powerhouse. Unfortunately, the event was somewhat overshadowed by the fire and destruction of the town's landmark post office just further down the main street.

The acknowledgement of half a century of amassing, curating and maintaining Charlton's local historical content was showcased and applauded as the unveiling of the Museum's latest addition and display was dedicated and formally opened to the public, and a special recognition for former foundation member, and driving force behind the Museum, Grace Cadzow, was conferred.

Opening with a welcome to the large crowd and a brief introduction, Museum President, Diane Wood, related the origins of preserving Charlton's local history – a matter which had been of concern for the Charlton Chamber of Commerce in the early 1970s.

BACKGROUND

Following a public meeting called in October 1973, and attended by "17 enthusiastic citizens" - one of whom was Heather Hargreaves who was at last Sunday's gathering - the Charlton Golden Grains Museum Committee was formed and tasked with establishing a museum to preserve and showcase the town's history. The group received free tenancy at the Mechanics Institute building which had recently been vacated by the Soil Conservation Authority. Aligning with the wheat growing area, the name of "Golden Grains Museum" was suggested and, following an appeal for multiple items of historical interest, the committee held their first successful display in December of that year.

Momentum continued in the following years with the donation of local newspapers dating back to 1878 by Charlton Tribune proprietor, Ian Cameron, along with the acquisition of copies of the North Central News.

Further rooms in the building became available for use in 1977 and 1995, significantly increasing the display capabilities.

Like most of the Charlton community, the 2011 flood wrought significant damage to the Museum, impacting both the building and collection with almost half a metre of water washing through the premises. Following restoration and repairs, operation resumed in March of 2013, and since then the Museum has become a point of inspiration for similar small operatives. Recognition has continued through the receipt of a significant industry award for excellence, along with acquiring Australian

Museum and Galleries Association Accreditation.

MEMBERS RECOGNITION

Recognition of members' contributions was also highlighted by Diane, with special acknowledgement for Joan Mundy for 30 years of service, and Sue Walsh for 25 years service (14 of which as President). Current Secretary, Carolyn Olive, was also recognized for her outstanding contributions as curator and writer having published 6 books on various aspects of local history, including Charlton's 150 years.

HONOURING GRACE CADZOW

Honoring the huge contributions of former member, and backbone of the Museum, Grace Cadzow, current Secretary Carolyn Olive related the following.

A foundation member of the Golden Grains Museum, Grace Cadzow was passionate in her dedication, her drive and

ability to share her extensive local knowledge to both nurture the Museum and build its outreach to a wide audience for over 40 years.

"Today we would like to acknowledge a very special person, who sadly is no longer with us, but has left behind a valuable legacy," said Carolyn. Reflecting on her personal connections with Grace, she said she was a 'terrific teacher' and her knowledge of local history seemed endless. "I wish we could have digitized her brain," said Carolyn. "What an amazing resource that would be!"

The dedication of the main display room as the "Grace Cadzow Room" was a fitting tribute on this half-century anniversary and as Carolyn continued, "While Grace was given a Life Membership many years ago, we didn't want her legacy to be forgotten." Researching, compiling publications,



President of the Golden Grains Museum, Diane Wood (centre) welcomed the large crowd and presented an address on the Museum's origins.



All four of Grace Cadzow's children were on hand for the dedication of their mother's vast contribution towards the growth of the Golden Grains Museum. It was also the first time in many years that the family had all been together. Pictured (l-r) with the dedication plaque in the background are: Jude Weir, Mark and Peter Cadzow and Coral Welsh.

Golden Anniversary for Charlton Museum

archiving, freely assisting volunteers, embracing new technologies and industry advancements, Grace also encouraged the next generation of historians to step forward, thereby ensuring the future preservation of Charlton's history and creating a centre for ongoing research.

The dedication plaque to Grace reads:

"This room is dedicated to Grace Cadzow, a foundation member of the Charlton Golden Grains Museum and a passionate volunteer, archivist and historian for over 40 years. Grace created a valuable legacy that will never be forgotten."

With Grace's four children in attendance, son, Mark spoke on behalf of the family, reiterating his mother's passion for history and research - often to the detriment of the family, he quipped - before saying how much they appreciated this gesture of recognition.

KEEPING THE FAITH EXHIBITION

An additional celebration for the day included the official opening and dedication

of the Wesleyan Chapel in Halliday Street which now houses the display "Keeping the Faith" presenting memorabilia from all of Charlton's churches from the town's inception through to contemporary times.

A long-time project, the 1876 Chapel - which is now one of Charlton's oldest remaining buildings - was used as a storage space for the Museum over the past 15 years. Considered to be an ideal display area, the process of bringing this to fruition was encumbered by a variety of factors, before the donation of a number of organs, a successful grant for showcases and the looming 50th anniversary triggered what was a "slow jog, into a sprint to the finish."

Thanks to significant donations, generous support from the Charlton Uniting Church, local clubs, organisations, local trades people and many supporters, the renovated structure currently showcases the extensive Church exhibition which

includes extensive memorabilia and interpretive panels. While covering all the denominations reaching back to the establishment of Charlton in 1863, Carolyn Olive also included and acknowledged the heritage of the Dja Dja Wurrung First Peoples - honouring their deeply held beliefs and respecting their enduring connection to the land of this area.

MEMORIES

Longtime resident and Uniting Church member, Graham Curnow, then spoke about his recollections of the Chapel saying, "This building has so many memories for me" as he related the fun times from Sunday school to Youth group gatherings, games nights,



Members of the crowd look through the display case items.



A large crowd was in attendance for the celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the Charlton Golden Grains Museum.



Local pianist, Gil Gretgrix, plays the much loved, much travelled and highly decorated early 1900s organ which began life in Charlton as a gift and has returned to its hometown location. This is just one of the many captivating stories presented in the "Keeping the Faith" exhibition.



Mary Walklate (seated) was surrounded by friends and family at the official opening of the "Keeping the Faith" display: pictured also are (l-r) Pat Mathews, Sue O'Connor (Mary's daughter), John Hudson and Moira Sheahan.

Golden Anniversary for Charlton Museum

concerts, play readings, songs around the piano, along with naming many of the people who were closely associated with the Church related activities. In concluding, Graham said, "On behalf of the Uniting Church, I have pleasure in handing over the use of this old building, with all its memories, to the Charlton Museum to carry on keeping the faith."

Due to the warm weather all the day's formalities were conducted indoors at the High Street location, but following Graham's address the large crowd was invited to move across the road for the formal dedication of the Wesleyan Chapel by the Reverend Judi Bird, before taking time to peruse the new exhibition.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Golden Grains Museum wishes to acknowledge the following for their contributions and support for the development of the Wesleyan Chapel project:

Charlton Uniting Church – use of the building, embracing the plans and \$10,000 donation towards the floor repairs | Charlton Op Shop - \$5,000 to make up the shortfall for the floor repairs | Charlton Rotary Club - \$2,000 | Australian Museums and Gallery Association - \$27,000 for showcases and window coverings | Tradies – Kirk Boyle – floor repairs, Matt Holmes-Brown – new window shutters, John Stahl – reconnecting power, provision of lights and power points, Resolution Imaging – printing of



Reverend Judi Bird, who formally dedicated the opening of the Chapel is pictured with Uniting Church member, Graham Curnow, who earlier shared his memories of the building's connection with Church activities.

storyboards | helpers: the Patullo family, Wayne Keenan, Troy Heenan and Darcy McCallum – moving heavy exhibits | Chris McGurk – window cleaning | Clinton Olive – placement of interpretive panels | proof readers – Anne Kenny, Chris McGurk and

Kaylene Cossar | contributors of memorabilia for the displays and fellow Museum members for their support and enthusiasm for the project.

All were then invited to share afternoon tea.



Delivering exemplary service towards the development of the Museum are current and former members (l-r) Joan Mundy (30 years service), current Secretary, Carolyn Olive, Sue Walsh (25 years service + President for 14 years), Heather Hargreaves (foundation Treasurer), current President, Diane Wood, (seated) Dawn Parish (former member). Joan, Sue and Dawn are all Life Members.



Probus News

Probus November Celebrations.

In reflection, November unfolded as a delightful month for our members of the Charlton Probus Club, encapsulating the spirit of Probus. We are pleased to recount the array of events that unfolded during this November.

November Probus Meeting:

On Friday, the 10th of November, our club convened at the Shire Hall. The president graciously welcomed both members and guests.

Charlton Probusians observed a minute of silence for Isabelle Milward, a dedicated foundation member of Probus who ardently supported Peter (husband) in his roles as Newsletter, Outings, and President.

Induction of New Member:

Jocelyn Wheatley was presented to the members by Sue Walsh for induction into the Charlton Probus Club. President David extended the invitation to Jocelyn, emphasising the ideals of fun, friendship, and fellowship. Sue then presented Jocelyn with the Probus badge and certificate. Jocelyn expressed feeling welcomed by the Charlton community, where people would smile and say hello as you met them in the street. Anne Kenny also presented the Probus History Booklet to Jocelyn and other new members who joined this year.

Reports and Celebrations:

Our treasurer reported a healthy balance with gratitude to all members who registered for the Christmas Party. With 41 members in attendance and eleven apologies, it was another well-attended gathering. Warm wishes were extended to Moira Sheahan, Maretia Doughty, Mary Nener, Barbara Dalrymple, and Kevin Mathews on their November birthdays.

Our outings officer, Sandra Patton, led a

caravan of cars to Bendigo for a visit to the Great Stupa. Members travelled to Bendigo for lunch at the Bendigo Red Energy Stadium. After a delightful lunch at the Stadium, members toured the Great Stupa, guided by the staff and volunteers of the complex. The tour commenced with a video presentation on the inspiration and development of the complex. The vision of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, the Great Stupa, is 50 metres square and almost 50 metres tall, making it the largest stupa in the Western World. The stupa is approached via a road that takes you past tranquil gardens on either side, allowing members to enjoy a peaceful walk or use the on-site transport. Within the Great Stupa, guides explained the plans and ongoing work, detailing the arrangement of alcoves, interior decorations with statues, and ceiling panels. The ambitious project is anticipated to span 100 years.

Hand Weaving Presentation:

David Beaty, guest speaker, shared a presentation on his early career at Macquarie Worsted Ltd in Albury and its early history, from its inception as Amalgamated Textiles in 1926 to becoming Macquarie Textiles in 1956. Starting as an apprentice in 1980 and working for 15 years, David explained the Repco Spinning department and the development of self-twist spinning by the CSIRO. Upon returning to Australia, he pursued his interest in handweaving, crafting his equipment from recycled timber. Presenting images of the 8-shaft, counter-marche, floor loom, David recounted his inspiration drawn from Hamburg Weaver Andreas Moller. Armed with hand-tools, he successfully constructed the loom, warping mill, and other equipment. David intends to

create his set of combs for producing worsted yarns in the future.

Two-Minute Talk:

Garry Larmour, the Ambulance Auxiliary and Lions Club representative, shared insights into the Ambulance Victoria Charlton Branch open day on the 26th of November. He conveyed the exciting news that Charlton Ambulance acquired a new Corpuls CPR device, supported by the Neighbourhood House Op Shop, the Charlton Lions Club, Friends of EWHS & the Australian Lions Foundation.

Jokes:

Jokes from Pat Mathews and Lee Parker brought amusement to the group. Appreciations to all, and may you have a safe holiday period



Sue Walsh, Jocelyn Wheatley, David Beaty.



November Birthdays—Maretia Doughty, Kevin Mathews & Moira Sheahan.



Probus Members at the Great Stupa.



David's floor loom.

CHARLTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE



30-34 HIGH STREET (IN THE REX THEATRE), CHARLTON VIC, 3525 PHONE: 0473 759 456

Welcome to the final update on the activities of the Charlton Neighbourhood House for 2023. It is hard to believe that another year has passed and that planning is well underway for a very busy 2024. We will be closed to the public on Mondays and Tuesdays in January as we undertake planning for the upcoming year. You can keep abreast of our many programs, activities, and courses through our website www.charltonnh.org.au; Facebook and Instagram Charlton Neighbourhood House and our front window.

Did you know that all our activities are aligned with the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals? Part of our small way to transform the world.

January saw the town still recovering from October 2022's flood emergency with the Neighbourhood House helping residents obtain eligible grants they were entitled to.

After a delayed start the Charlton Pool reopened and our popular Early Morning Swimming, Gentle Water Exercise, and Water Acclimation sessions commenced.

We worked with the Charlton Tennis Club to enhance their annual tennis tournament with rides, fireworks, and live music, using funding from the National Australia Day Council. The result was a terrific carnival atmosphere with over 800 people attending.



February highlights included our ongoing support of OK Motels, a Creatives Market, First Aid training, and our first Table for 12 for 2023, while in March we celebrated Women's Month with two 'Movies that Matter' and a Sip and Paint event. Another popular activity we were proud to support was the PSB scheme obtaining \$250 rebates for almost 100 people.

April saw Table for 12 hosted by Robbie and Neville where delicious pasties were made. We were pleased to support in a small way the efforts of Bree Stevens, the CFA, and community 'runners' collecting donations for the annual Royal Children's Hospital Appeal.

Law Week was celebrated in May with a free 'End of Life Planner' being made available to the community, while many adults and children enjoyed mosaics, NH Week, and National Simultaneous Storytime.

Kim Thompson held a very popular Table for 12 featuring Pad Thai in June, while one of the town's major events, the Debutante Ball was also held in front of 350 people. The Deb Set also paid a visit to the Hospital residents.



July saw one of the most popular children's events Charlton has experienced when a 'Winter Wonderland' was created at Charlton Park.

Numerous free winter-themed activities, as well as a snow and bubble machine, entertained the large number of children attending. Beautiful knitted winter scarves donated by the Yarning2 Group were all gratefully received by the children.



Book Week and RU OK? Day were celebrated while workshops were held on Grant Writing, and as part of Get Online Week, a scam awareness session.

The Neighbourhood House was proud to be a sponsor of the Agricultural Show and to support the Sound Tracks event, free Kites over Charlton, and recognition of our Carers and Seniors with a free movie session at the Rex Theatre.

Regular Carers lunches, Book Club, and Storytime have continued throughout the year with the assistance of our wonderful volunteers whom we greatly rely on.

Wishing our terrific community a happy and safe Christmas and prosperous & safe 2024.

For more information on any of our upcoming events/courses, visit our website or Facebook, check out our window, or pop into the Neighbourhood House Mon-Fri 10am-4pm

WHAT'S ON IN



DECEMBER

5
TWICE
WEEKLY

Early Morning Swimming
6:30-8:00am Tuesday & Fridays
AT: Charlton Pool
COST: \$20 (Season)
Thank you to Buloke Shire



6

Santa's Selfies & Mailbox drop off
Wednesday Dec 6th 3.30 pm-4.30 pm
Come and take a selfie with Santa as he drops off his mailbox ready for your letters.
AT: Charlton Neighbourhood House



10

Boat & Personal Watercraft Safety training hosted by Seacon Training
1:00pm -5:00pm Sunday
AT: Charlton Senior Citizens Room
COST: \$120 Ages 12+

Booked Out

12

Carers Group Lunch
Tuesday 12th 12pm-1pm
End of year celebration.
AT: East Charlton Hotel
COST: Lunch at subsidised cost

22

Charlton Neighbourhood House closes for Christmas.
Re-opens Wednesday January 3 closed to the public on Mondays and Tuesdays through January.



JANUARY

CONT.
TWICE
WEEKLY

Early Morning Swimming
6:30-8:00am Tuesday & Fridays
AT: Charlton Pool
COST: \$20 (Season)
Thank you to Buloke Shire



10
JAN

Gentle Water Exercise session
Hosted by Nicola Kirk
2:00-3:00pm Wednesdays
AT: Charlton Pool
COST: \$55 (8 Sessions)



10
JAN

Pre-schoolers Water Acclimation
Hosted by Nicola Kirk
3:00-3:30pm Wednesdays
AT: Charlton Pool (small class sizes)
COST: \$45 (4 Sessions)



Commencing
February

Our regular activities including-
Yarning Group every Monday
Carers Lunches 2nd Wednesday
Buloke Book Club 3rd Tuesday
Children's Storytime 4th Tuesday
Contact us for further details.



EARLY MORNING SWIMMING

STARTING TUESDAY 5TH DEC

30 SESSIONS RUNNING BETWEEN 5TH DEC TO 15TH MAR

AT THE CHARLTON POOL

6.30AM-8AM



EVERY TUESDAY & FRIDAY

COST \$20*

FOR 30 SESSIONS



SECURE YOUR SPOT VIA OUR WEBSITE OR POP INTO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE TODAY!



The Charlton Neighbourhood House acknowledges the support of Buloke Shire in waiving fees for Lifeguards for the 2023/24 Pool Season. *\$20 the current fee and subject to other fees.



GENTLE WATER EXERCISES WITH NICOLA KIRK.



STARTING WED 10TH JAN
8 SESSIONS RUNNING BETWEEN 10TH JAN- MAR 13*

CHARLTON POOL

2PM-3PM

COST \$55

FOR 8 SESSIONS

SECURE YOUR SPOT VIA OUR WEBSITE OR POP INTO THE CHARLTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE TODAY!

JAN 10TH, 17TH, 24TH & 31ST

FEB 21ST, 28TH, MAR 6TH, 13TH

*\$55 the current fee and subject to other fees.



The Charlton Neighbourhood House acknowledges the support of Buloke Shire in waiving fees for Lifeguards for the 2023/24 Pool Season.



**Christmas & New Year
Charlton Business
Trading Hours**

Charlton Op-Shop

Normal Trading Hours—Wed - Sat.

Charlton IGA

Fri 22nd 8.30am - 7.00pm
Sat 23rd 8.30am - 6.00pm
Sun 24th 9.30 - 6.00pm
Mon 25th CLOSED
Tues 26th 10.00am - 2.00pm
Wed 27th 8.30am - 6.00pm
Thurs 28th 8.30am - 6.00pm
Fri 29th 8.30am - 7.00pm
Sat 30th 8.30am - 6.00pm
Sun 31st 9.30 - 6.00pm
Mon 1st 10.00am - 2.00pm

Charlton Post Office

Christmas Day—Closed
Boxing Day—Closed
New Year's Day—Closed

Cricket Club Hotel

Sunday 24th Dec—Bar Open (2pm to 1am)
Christmas Day—Closed
Boxing Day—Bar Open (2pm)
No meals yet.

Charlton Hair Salon

Closed from 23rd December
January—limited availability by appointment.

Charlton Newsagency

Christmas Day—Closed
Boxing Day—Closed
Wednesday 27th to Friday 29th Dec – 8am to 4pm
Saturday 30th Dec – 8am to 12pm
New Year's Day—Closed
Tuesday 2nd – Friday 5th Jan – 8am to 4pm
Saturday 6th Jan – 8am to 12pm
Monday 8th Jan – normal operating hours resume

Charlton Foodworks

Closed Christmas Day Only

Charlton Pharmacy

Christmas Day—Closed
Boxing Day—Closed
New Year's Day—Closed
All other days open as normal

The staff at the pharmacy would like to remind people not to leave their script till the last tablet.

Bendigo Bank

Closed Monday 25th December
to Tuesday 2nd January.

Commonwealth Bank

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day
& New Year's Day.

Steeles Butchers

Thursday 21st Dec 10am - 4.30pm
Friday 22nd Dec 10am - 4.30pm
CLOSED
Saturday 23rd Dec to Wednesday 11th Jan
Normal hours resume Thursday 12th Jan 2024

East Charlton Hotel

Sunday 24th Dec—Closed
Christmas Day—Closed
Boxing Day—Closed
Wednesday 27th Dec—Café Open 10am,
Bar Open 11am, Lunch 12-2, Dinner 6-8.

New Year's Day—Closed

Salon 13

Closed Friday 22nd Dec to Tuesday 9th January.

**Charlton Neighbourhood
House**

Closed from 23rd December to Tuesday 2nd January.
Car bookings—0473 759 456

Buloke Shire Council

Closed from 12pm Friday 22nd December to
Tuesday 1st January, 2024.

Charlton Florist & Fashion

Closed Christmas Day & Boxing Day.
Open from 27th December
(hours to be advised)

**PLEASE ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS
FLOWERS EARLY SO YOU DON'T MISS OUT!**

The Vale

Closed 24th, 25th & 26th December.

Open 27th & 28th December from 5pm
Open 29th December 12.00pm-2.00pm
then from 5pm.

Closed from 30th December and will re-open on Wednesday
10th January, 2024.

Golden Grains Museum

Closed in December & January
Open by appointment only

Charlton Hardware

Closed—Christmas Day & Boxing Day

Open 27th, 28th, 29th (8am—5:30pm)
Sat 30th (8:30am—12 30pm)

Closed—New Year's Day

Charlton Bakery Café

Sat 23rd Dec (7am—2pm)
24th—26th Dec—Closed
27th—29th Dec (6am—3pm)
Sat 30th Dec (7am—2pm)
31st Dec—Closed
1st Jan (7am—2pm)

The Rex Theatre

Closed 23rd Dec.—12th Jan.

CHARLTON MEDICAL

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS 2023-2024

Charlton Medical will be closed for the Christmas-New Year period beginning Monday 18th December 2023 through until Monday 1st January 2024. Normal Surgery hours will resume at 9:00am on Tuesday 2nd January 2024.

Please check that you have enough prescriptions to get through this period; if not see the doctor for new scripts before the holidays.

If you require medical assistance during the holidays please call Charlton Hospital on 5477 6800.

In an Emergency Call 000.



Charlton Harness Racing Club

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU MARKHAM FAMILY

It is with much sadness that the Charlton Harness Racing Club and the wider Charlton community prepares to say goodbye to the Markham family who are heading home to WA after nearly two years here in Charlton.

It would be an understatement to say that each of them in their own way has made a positive impact!

Such a big move away from family and friends is never easy but they certainly threw themselves in to all things Charlton and quickly became a part of the fabric of this town.

Ajay, Chaise and Nate all involved themselves in school, sporting endeavours and jobs, and Bonnie – well it is clear she is simply headed for Australia's youngest PM!

They were an integral part of the Training Centre and race day staff and Tamara and Ash were only too willing to offer help and pitch in when help was needed.

We have all greatly enjoyed their company over many a beer and we wish them the best of luck in what lies ahead.

We thank them for choosing Charlton, sharing those four fabulous kids with us and forging friendships that will endure the breadth of this big country!

RYAN SANDERSON TO DRIVE IN FRANCE

In a short career that has already heralded many highlights, a trip to Paris to represent Victoria must surely rank at the top for Charlton's 20 year old Ryan Sanderson.

Receiving the news whilst in Adelaide for the SA Cup, Ryan had little time to ponder what was ahead, before debuting at the amazing Vincennes track in Paris in the International drivers' challenge.

Based at the very famous Domaine de Grosbois Training Centre with world

renowned trainer JeanMichel Bazire (there is a chateau on site!!) Ryan no doubt learnt much about the world of the trotter, as there are no pacers over there.

To put it into a little perspective trotting is huge in France and this is truly an opportunity that could lead to anything for Ryan.

We are so very proud that he is part of our harness racing 'family' here in Charlton. Ryan eventually placed 10th in the Prix Des Rencontres Internationales at Vincennes. Well done Ryan.



Ryan Sanderson. (Still shot from video, Harness Racing Victoria)

LAST MEETING OF 2023 – DEC 15TH

**REMINDER – Community Bank
Charlton and District Cup Day—
March 17th**

**Early birds can book marquees now –
0499701322**

MERRY XMAS TO ALL MEMBERS

The club would like to take this opportunity to thank all the loyal members and sponsors who have continued to support us helping to contribute to such a wonderful year.

- COMMUNITY BANK CHARLTON AND DISTRICT
- AMES AUSTRALASIA
- NORTH WEST AG SERVICES
- FITZPATRICK TRANSPORT
- THE VALE OF AVOCA
- GMG FINANCIAL GROUP
- ELDERS
- WIMMERA MALLEE TOURISM
- TITAN MACHINERY
- HEENAN'S CHARLTON NEWSAGENCY

To our local trainers, drivers and owners who provide us with horses to follow, and to the regulars who turn up every meeting to cheer on the locals.

Thank you to those who have religiously followed along either in person or online our monthly raffle nights.

Whilst harness racing faces many immediate challenges we will be doing our utmost to ensure that Charlton remains a central player in regional racing in the coming years.

President Joe Thompson and the Committee wish everyone a very happy and safe festive season and a great 2024.

Go Charlton Trots.



Chaise, Ashleigh & Nate, Tamara & Bonnie Markham



Nate arkhan, Sabrina Thompson and Bonnie Markham



St Joseph's School

Awareness for Kids
Students were fortunate to have a visit from a real, live radio presenter in John Broughton of Casey Radio 97.7FM! John runs a radio awareness program which he brings to schools all over the state. After learning about the job of radio broadcasting, students from Grades 3-6 worked in small groups to create their own radio programs. Students had roles such as host, sports reporter, weather reporter and traffic reporter to name a few. After working on their scripts and naming their show, students were lucky enough to have John record their live shows – which were very entertaining! Recordings were enhanced by the use of sound effects, music and a giggle here and there! A lot of fun was had in what was a fabulous way to learn all about radio!

Changes – Transitions and Puberty Program

Our Senior students have recently completed a Puberty Program presented by Kerrie McCosh, Department of Education, visiting primary school nurse. Kerrie worked with the students over two separate days using a variety of ways to engage and inform the students.

Our Grade 6 to Year 7 transition commenced with an information session at Charlton College. St Joseph's students from Grade 5 & 6 have met with their College peers on a couple of occasions, aiming to enhance the transition process. The first session was a sports afternoon and the second session was a transition program "Dream Seeds".

The Kindergarten to School transition is well under way with our future Foundation students having their final day this week. The Kinder students have attended four sessions, each time staying a little longer and including different parts of the school day. The Kinder students were lucky to stay

for a full school day this week and even enjoyed a Teddy Bears' Picnic! We can't wait to have these students settle in as part of our school family.

Camping – Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement

Many weeks of planning came together on Monday the 27th of November when the staff and Year 3/4 students from St Joseph's Charlton, St Patrick's St Arnaud and St Mary's Donald came together to attend a school camp at the Pioneer Settlement in Swan Hill. The group left at 9am sharp and travelled to the camp site. After unpacking and exploring the lodgings at the aptly named 'Burke and Wills Lodges' the larger group split into four smaller groups and commenced their activities. Each group completed activities based around pioneer living and Aboriginal culture, including; butter churning, transport from the 1850s to 1920s, vintage car and carriage rides, blacksmithing, pioneer building and laundry, pioneer music, pioneer schooling and site based scavenger hunts. On Monday night, the whole camp attended the 'Legends of Mallee' show which detailed insights from the Wemba-Wemba people. This show also detailed local history of Lake Boga during WW1 and the contributions of the Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force (WAAAF). A fascinating and wonderful show!

The campers were supplied with plenty of delicious meals and additional food through the Paragon Cafe based at the Pioneer Settlement. We thank the caterers and the Pioneer Settlement staff for making our stay so wonderful.

All students and staff had a fantastic time and enjoyed the collaboration, interaction and new friendships experienced while on camp.

As this is the last edition of the Charlton Newsletter, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have

contributed to the life of the St Joseph's School Community throughout the 2023 school year! I thank each of you for your input and support, for that is what helps to maintain our small, rural schools.

As the holiday season approaches, may you find time to enjoy life's simple blessings and the beauty of each quiet moment. Merry Christmas from the Staff and Students of St Joseph's School.



Maddie Lanyon, Willow Caine, Flynn Schofield, Liam Monaghan and Clancy Bourke (Radio Programme)



Grade 3/4 Camp—Patrick Winslade and Toby Bourke.



Grade 5 and 6 from St Joseph's and Charlton College and the Dream Seeds team.

Ambulance Open Day

Contributed by Jenny Pollard

The community was invited to attend an Open Day and learn more about their ambulance service when the Charlton and District Ambulance Auxiliary in association with Ambulance Victoria (AV) opened the doors at the Learmonth Street station on 26 November.

Providing attendees with the chance to take a look inside the station, which was built following the 2011 flood, the session consisted of information sharing, along with demonstrations of life-saving equipment, techniques and interactions with AV personnel.

A sizable crowd of Charlton locals took the opportunity to also view the new Corpuls machine – a thorax compression CPR device which provides automated chest compressions to cardiac arrest patients. The consistent and continuous application not only frees up paramedics to undertake other treatment which the patient may require, it also overcomes the fatigue factor which manual compression entails, ensuring the potential for a more successful outcome. The machine, which can be used in either a stationary situation or in transit, has variable settings and attachments suitable for accommodating a range of patient requirements.

The acquisition of the Corpuls machine was a community supported initiative, evolving from a Charlton Lions Club drive to raise funds for the Ambulance Auxiliary for the purchase. Contributing organisations included the Friends of East Wimmera Health Service (Charlton Campus) and the Charlton Neighbourhood House - Op Shop group – both of whom contributed \$5,000 each. The Lions Club of Charlton then applied to the Australian Lions Foundation who matched the community amount with an additional \$10,000. Representatives from all agencies were at the gathering and spoke of their unhesitating support for the purchase of the machine. Lions Club President, Ross Lane also acknowledged the input of member Peter Watts, whose commitment to the project was a driving factor.

Australian Lions Foundation spokesperson, Bruce Hudgson said that any monetary costs were outweighed by the outcomes the machine can deliver - "even if it saves just one life," he said.

Welcoming the crowd, Jamie Jones, Team Manager of the Charlton Branch, thanked all for their support for the Ambulance service and encouraged everyone to chat with paramedics, local ACOs, and visiting AV personnel, including Senior Team Manager for Buloke / Gannawarra, Libby Fox.

Complimentary activities included manual CRP and Zoll AED (Automated External Defibrillator) demonstrations run

by Community Engagement Coordinator, Ben Miller, along with snake bite management presented by Andrew Jochs (Paramedic Community Support Coordinator – Buloke / Gannawarra). ACO, Tameeka Kelly also ran blood pressure and oxygen level checks, and ACO Nathan Rogers had AV literature to share with attendees.

Service Award presentations were made to local Ambulance Community Officers-

David Pollard (30 year) and Ian Walsh (15 year).

The Lions Club of Charlton provided a BBQ luncheon during which time people could mingle and gain deeper insights into the services provided by Ambulance Victoria and the support which local Ambulance Auxiliaries can generate towards creating improved health outcomes for their communities.



Representatives of organisations which contributed towards the purchase of the automated CPR Corpuls machine are pictured at the Ambulance Open Day in Charlton: (l-r) Peter Watts (Lions Club of Charlton), Val Bourke (Friends of EWHS), Gil Gretgrix (Charlton Op Shop), Bruce Hudgson (Australian Lions Foundation), Jamie Jones (Team Manager Charlton Branch) David Pollard (President Charlton Ambulance Auxiliary) Apryl Start (ACO).



Recipients of Service Awards (L-R) Ian Walsh (15 years) and David Pollard (30 years) are pictured with Jamie Jones (right) following the presentation

A Taiwanese Experience

Contributed by Jo Russell, Charlton AWD.

Kim and Joo and their son Ping, travelled to Hualien, Taiwan in July to take part in a Tzu Chi retreat and to be present for Ping's certification as a Tzu Chi commissioner. Kim described Taiwan as their spiritual home.

Kim and Joo are members of Charlton Action for World Development (AWD) and Kim spoke at the August AWD meeting.

She said that while Taiwan is half the size of Tasmania the population of Taiwan is forty-two times the population of Tasmania.

Tzu Chi is a nonprofit organisation that was founded in 1966 by Master Chen Yeng. The aim was to help the poor and educate the rich.

It prompts character building and the values of charity and love, as well as practical ideals in areas of medicine, education, environment and community volunteering.

Kim and Joo have been volunteering since 2002 when they were living in Malaysia and they continued this work when they moved to Australia.

Ping was introduced to volunteering from an early age and was keen to continue at university and when he started work in Melbourne.

Kim said the recent retreat was a wonderful experience. There were 558 people from 19 countries and 600 local Taiwanese volunteers to help them – so almost one-to-one!

Master Cheng, the founder and leader of Tzu Chi, encourages them to take care of their health so they can reach out to the needy.

She says, in observing suffering you come to appreciate your blessings.

Kim had seen the young volunteers in 2019 in Taiwan when she'd been involved as a supporter and mentor, and she said she was pleased to be there to witness their commissioning. It was an inspiring and informative talk.



*Kim Bian Yap, Ping Ong and
Joo Ong outside Tzu Chi
Headquarters Hualien, Taiwan.*



A statue (far right of picture) of the Buddha stands tall in the background of the herbal garden located in the square in front of the Guandu Jing Si Hall. It is as though he is looking upon all sentient beings with compassion.

Community Bank
Charlton & District

Bendigo Bank

CHARLTON
LAWN TENNIS CLUB 1961

Victoria's Oldest Regional Tennis Club welcomes you to our

January Long Weekend Tennis Tournament 2024 16 Excellent Grass Courts

Fri 26th Jan – MIXED DOUBLES (Aust. Day)

Late 10:30am Start - finals under lights from 8pm!

*- food stalls - dumplings, pizza, bbq, antipasto & salad plates,
ice cream, traditional desserts*

- fireworks @9:45pm

- live music from 6pm

- Australian Open Live on the BIGSCREEN (all weekend)

Sat 27th Jan – SINGLES & Rotating Partner Doubles

Sun 28th Jan – MENS & LADIES DOUBLES

Round Robin Format all grades

(excludes Men's Open Singles)

Buckrabangulę Christmas Tree

Saturday 23rd December 2023

7:00pm

Buckrabangulę Firę Shed

\$10.00 per family

+ Bring a plate of supper to share

Kids Games
Christmas Raffle
Christmas Carols

Santa to arrive at 8:15pm
(BYO small gift for Santa to deliver)

*A Traditional Christmas Community Event
Everyone Welcome!*

Please RSVP (call/text) attendance to help with organisation
Hayley Soulsby 0418 515 892 or
Naomi Fitzpatrick 0407 316 799
Laura Fitzpatrick 0437 689 061



Christmas Fest

ROTARY PARK
FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER
FROM 5:30PM

MAJOR RAFFLE WITH PRIZES TOTTALLING \$2000
MISTER MIKE MAGIC
JUMPING CASTLE
FACE PAINTING
SPINNING WHEEL
BBQ TEA
CHARLTON/WYCHEPROOF BAND

Special visit from Santa

Brought to you by the Charlton Combined Service Clubs

Thank You

I would like to thank the Charlton community for the excellent show of support and compassion during the recent loss of Annette Sherriff. I have been overwhelmed with just how much Annette meant to so many in and around our community. The excellent attendance at the Uniting Church last Thursday was testament as to how well Annette was thought of. Please take this as a personal thank you to all. Many thanks. Bruce Gardner.

Thank You

I would like to say thank you and farewell to all my dear family and friends and all the Charlton people, almost 50 years of my life have been spent in this wonderful community. Now it's time for me to move closer to my family. My fondest memories will be my time spent in Charlton. My door is always open to you all in Bendigo. Sincere thanks and farewell for now.

Julie McGurk



Charlton Arts Presents

CHARLTON FILM FESTIVAL

Great films, great food & great company in the fabulous Art Deco Rex Theatre.

5 films
2 suppers
lunch
& wine

February 16 & 17 2024

For film schedule, visit us on Facebook: Charlton Film Festival

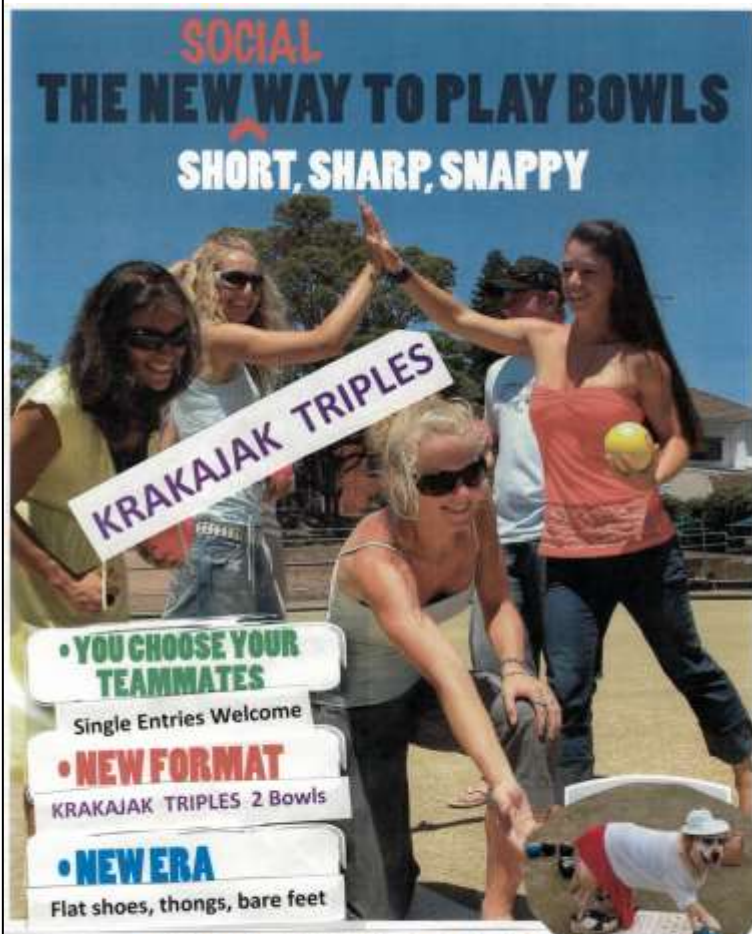
Charlton Bowling Club

KRAKAJAK TRIPLES NIGHT BOWLS COMMENCES IN JANUARY.

AP Earthmoving Sponsored Krakajak Triples Night Bowls (short, sharp, and snappy) commences in Charlton on Tuesday January 9th with teams of Three playing each other over 10 weeks including Finals.

Play is on Tuesday Nights commencing at 7.30pm. Players all play from the same end and the kitty is placed 2.5m from the T. Competition is competitive and the team with the highest score over two games of eight ends wins the prizes for the night.

We would love New Teams to join us (make sure you have a spare if someone is away) it was great to see some younger members of the community joining in for some fun last year.



Venue: **CHARLTON BOWLING CLUB**

Day/Time: **Tuesdays, 7:30pm starting January 9th 2024**
Register by Jan. 3rd, contact Kevin Willey 0428 911 830



Australia Day

Proudly hosted
by Charlton
CWA Cabbaritta

Charlton Australia Day Ceremony
Friday 26th January 2024
8am
Charlton Shire Hall

Charlton Citizen of the Year
Young Citizen of the Year
Community Event of the Year

BBQ Breakfast provided by
Charlton Lions Club \$5

Charlton Golden Grains Museum Bingo Fundraiser @ Donald

Donald Bingo generously allow the Museum to visit them as a fundraiser for our museum. Not only do we receive a generous donation on the night, we also receive a bonus at the end of the year. We aim to go monthly (on the last Thursday). Next trip **Thursday 21st December**. We use our own cars and car pool across to Donald.

Travelling to Donald
via car. Leaving at
6:30 for 7:30pm eyes
down.



Please contact
Glenda Litton for
further details.
0417 801 771

Charlton RSL

RSL MEETING TIMES.

Monthly meetings will be at the Clubrooms, 11 Armstrong Street Charlton 3525 at 1630 on the third Friday of each month.
Bill Freeman, Secretary/Treasurer.

North Central Garden Club

The North Central Garden Club held their final meeting for 2023 on Tuesday November 28 and 14 members celebrated with a Christmas lunch. The day was more about enjoying each other's company and a delicious meal, so only a very brief meeting was held.

The final report on our Open Garden Day was presented and the work of all members was rewarded with a fantastic result, not only financially but also with great community feedback.

The Club will now break until next year when we will hold our first meeting on Tuesday February 27 at 2pm at the Lion's Lodge in Camp Street. New or prospective members are welcome and membership is just \$5 per year.

The NCGC wishes our community a joyous Christmas and a happy and healthy 2024.

Any inquiries please contact:

President: Bernice Kenny ph: 54911334
Secretary: Lynne McRae ph: 0408113104

Charlton Neighbourhood House

30-34 High Street (in The Rex Theatre),
Charlton Vic, 3525

Phone: 0473 759 456

Email:

coord@charltonnh.org.au



What's on at The Rex - December



CAROLS @ THE REX

Sunday 10 December 7pm

Carols start – 7:30pm

Gold coin entry

Glow sticks and glow bracelets available for purchase.

Join together to celebrate the festive season with music and song as Carols @The Rex is presented by a new team, including the four local churches: St. Martin's Anglican, Charlton Uniting, St. Joseph's Catholic and Connect Church, along with the Charlton/Wycheproof Citizens' Band and The Rex Theatre in this truly community hosted event.

Musician Greg Towers will MC the night, which will include performances by students from Charlton College and St. Joseph's Primary School, the Charlton/Wycheproof Band and a special contribution by members of the Anglican Church. And of course, the chance for you to sing along to all your favourite carols. Why not dress in the spirit of Christmas and make this a night to remember!

REX RECESS

Saturday 23 December – Friday 12 January.

Screenings resume – Saturday 13 January 2024 at 8pm.

We're taking a short break over the holiday season to refresh and regroup for the upcoming new year, so mark these dates in your calendar.

The Rex website – rextheatre.org.au – will keep you up-to-date, as will our Facebook and Instagram pages for information.

To all our patrons, volunteers and many supporters, thank you for your input across the past year, and may your Festive Season and the coming year be safe, happy and productive!

CAROLS AT THE REX

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10TH

7:00PM



Christmas Carols

Sing-a-long



Entertainment by:

Charlton College Students

St Joseph's Students

Charlton Wycheproof Band

Christmas Message - Rev. Judi Bird

ENTRY GOLD COIN DONATION
GLOW STICKS FOR SALE

*Come and join in
the singing of
Christmas Carols*

Everyone is Welcome



REX THEATRE



CHARLTON

30-34 High St Charlton 3525
T: 03 5491 2333
boxoffice@rextheatre.org.au
www.rextheatre.org.au



REX THEATRE DECEMBER COMING ATTRACTIONS

Movie Prices: General Admission \$12 Members \$10 VIP Members FREE



FOE M Mature themes, coarse language and sex and nudity
110 mins Drama | Sc-fi

Sat 2 DEC 8pm
Sun 3 DEC 2pm
Tue 5 DEC 8pm

Academy Award nominees Saoirse Ronan and Paul Mescal star in *Foe*, a haunting exploration of marriage and identity set in an uncertain world. Hen and Junior farm a secluded piece of land that has been in Junior's family for generations, but their quiet life is thrown into turmoil when an uninvited stranger (Aaron Pierre) shows up at their door with a startling proposal.



THE HUNGER GAMES: THE BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS & SNAKES

M Mature themes and violence
157 mins | Action | Adventure

Sat 9 DEC 8pm
Sun 10 DEC 2pm
Tue 12 DEC 8pm

Years before he becomes the tyrannical president of Panem, 18-year-old Coriolanus Snow remains the last hope for his fading lineage. With the 10th annual Hunger Games fast approaching, the young Snow becomes alarmed when he's assigned to mentor Lucy Gray Baird from District 12. Uniting their instincts for showmanship and political savvy, they race against time to ultimately reveal who's a songbird and who's a snake.



CAROLS AT THE REX

SUNDAY 10 December 7pm

Gold coin donation entry

CAROLS AT THE REX

Join in the festivities as the community gathers for Carols at The Rex:

SUNDAY 10 Dec 7pm

Gold coin donation entry



NAPOLEON MA15+ Strong sex scenes, themes, violence and blood and gore
158 mins | Action | Biography

Sat 16 DEC 8pm
Sun 17 DEC 2pm
Tue 19 DEC 8pm

A look at the military commander's origins and his swift, ruthless climb to emperor, viewed through the prism of his addictive and often volatile relationship with his wife and one true love, Josephine.

JANUARY MOVIES

THE ROYAL HOTEL CTC 110 mins | Horror



Sat 13 JAN 8pm
Sun 14 JAN 2pm
Tue 16 JAN 8pm

TROLLS BAND TOGETHER CTC 91 mins | Comedy



Sat 20 JAN 8pm
Sun 21 JAN 2pm
Tue 23 JAN 8pm



Seasons Greetings
to all our patrons

Please note:

The Rex will be closed from
Sat 23 Dec - Fri 12 Jan

Screenings resume on
Sat 13 Jan 8pm

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**CHARLTON ANGLING CLUB INC
FISHING COMPETITION & CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Where: Unlimited radius of Charlton

When: Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th December 2023,
7am to 6pm.

Weigh in: Sunday 6.00pm at Clubrooms followed by end of year presentations, BBQ tea & a visit from Santa.

- All members to register by placing their name on the registration sheet at the Clubhouse before fishing
- Photos of fish beside a measure will be accepted as proof of capture, if catching and releasing
- Photos/fish to be presented by fisher at the weigh in to qualify
- Juniors allowed to weigh in Carp. All registered kids receive a prize for participation.

Entry fee: Adults \$5. Juniors \$2. Tea only (not fishing) \$3.

Please join us to celebrate the festive season. Santa will visit with lollies for the kids.

Families please bring a salad or sweet to share.

For more information:

President: Alan Nicolson 0417 386 787

Secretary: Geoff Nicolson 0417 388

652

**All new and current
"fisherpeople" welcome!**





CHARLTON
the Calder's cultural centre

**VOL. 7
SUMMER 2023**

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Charlton Newsagency

The Beat of Friendship
Ross Lane's drumming story
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Cheryl Kemp's versatility
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CWA Recipes

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Charlton
Basketball Association

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St Martin's Messenger—Dec/Jan

Sunday 3 December	Holy Communion	9am
Sunday 17 December	Holy Communion	9am
Friday 22 December	Nativity Service	9am
Sunday 7 January	Holy Communion	9am
Sunday 21 January	Holy Communion	9am

She gave birth

Mary remembered all these things and thought deeply about them. Luke 2:1-30 (verse 19)

Although my memory has faded to some degree, I can remember the pain involved in childbirth. To some degree, I think that there is pain in any process and in any relationship.

Pain is a place where we do not want to go. It can be as simple as procrastinating on a task that is important to one, or as difficult as watching a dearly loved child undergoing trauma. It should not be, we think to ourselves. If only I had done this or that, life would not be so difficult now. Why me? Pain also can be experienced through loneliness or rejection.

However, like the humble shepherds, people can come into our lives and give us a reason for joy. Listening from the heart, aware of their poverty, their very presence announces that Christ is born in the midst of pain and in unexpected circumstances.

The shepherds told Mary and Joseph what the angel had said about the new born child (Jesus): 'He is the Saviour – Christ the Lord'. This is God's good news for us and for all people again this Christmas.

Glory to God in the highest heaven. You are the reason for joy and the giver of peace. Help me to be a humble shepherd and sing your praises. Amen.

Services: All are very welcome – Have a happy and holy Christmas from us all!!

Reverend Judi Bird 0435 593 359, judithblackbird@outlook.com



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Charlton Uniting Church



Charlton Uniting Church, Halliday Street, Charlton.

Service times for December:

Sunday 3rd – 9.00 am at St. Martin's Church.

Sunday 10th – 10.00 am. Communion

Sunday 17th – 10.00 am

Sunday 24th – 10.00 am. Christmas Eve Carol Service.

God grant you peace at Christmas and fill your heart with cheer.

God grant you health and happiness throughout the coming year.

God guides you with His wisdom and keeps you in His care.

This is my special wish for you, this is my Christmas prayer.

Service times for January 2024

Sunday 7th – 9.00 am at St Martins Church of England

Sunday 14th – 10.00 am. Communion

Sunday 21st – 10.00 am

Sunday 28th – 10.00 am

To all the people who are loving and kind. Thank you for the sunshine you bring to our mind.

East Wimmera Parish—St Joseph's Community

Mass Times:

Sun. 10th Dec. 8.30am

Sat. 16th Dec. 7pm

Sun. 24th Dec. 10.30am

Sun. 7th Jan. 10.30 am (Livestreamed in to St Joseph's)

Sun. 14th Jan. 8.30am

Sat. 20th Jan. 7pm

Sun. 28th Jan. 10.30am

Christmas Eve

5pm Boort

7pm St Joseph's, Charlton & Birchip

9pm St Arnaud & Donald

Christmas Day

9am Wycheproof & Banyena



Jade Benham MP

The Nationals Member for Mildura

I welcome you all to contact me through my office so I can help you with any of your State questions.



35a Deakin Avenue, Mildura Vic 3500

jade.benham@parliament.vic.gov.au

jadebenham.com.au (03) 5021 2828

Charlton Badminton Club Inc.

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St Joseph's Catholic Community (East Wimmera Parish)

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Visiting Charlton by appointment.



Cabbaritta CWA

Proud Sponsor of the Charlton
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Meets 3rd Monday of each
month at the Lions Lodge

Tuesday Craft: Every Tuesday
morning, 10-12 at the Lions
Lodge, Camp Street.
Bring your craft project.
All Welcome

**Friendship, Crafts,
Community**

New Members Welcome

Contact: Secretary, Liz Richardson on 0433 332 595

**St Martin's Anglican
Church is a proud
Sponsor of the
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Newsletter**



Charlton Trophies

22 Menzies Street
Charlton, 3525
Rae Heenan
Mob: 0437 093 672



Proud Sponsor of the
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Troy Heenan
Mob: 043108130344

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80-82 High Street,
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Can be open by request
Follow us on Facebook

North Central Garden Club

Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month
Enquiries: Maretia 0447 912 183



Charlton Senior Citizens



*Monday - Bingo 2pm
Tuesday - Cards 1:30pm
Every 3rd Tuesday—Fun Day 10:30am
New Members Welcome
Contact Val Bourke:
5491 1418*

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Charlton Angling Club

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New memberships are now available: Adult \$10, Junior U18 \$5 and Family \$15.

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Charlton Bowling Club

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Dec. 2023

The Charlton Lions Club Inc. are proud sponsors of the Charlton Community Newsletter.

Stick This on Your Fridge



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						2 Lions Paper Collection from 9am.
3 Bowls Singles Championships	4 Senior Citz Bingo, 2pm	5 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	6 Lions Christmas Meeting	7 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	8 Probuss Meeting	9
10 Carols by Candlelight	11 Senior Citz Bingo, 2pm Angling Club Meeting, 8pm	12 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	13	14 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	15 RSL Meeting 4:30pm	16 Fishing Comp
17 Fishing Comp & Christmas Party	18 Senior Citz Bingo, 2pm Bowls Meeting 8pm CWA Meeting	19 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Fun Day 10:30am Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	20 Lions Business Meeting	21 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	22 Christmas Fest	23
24	25 Merry Christmas	26 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	27	28 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	29	30
31						

January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						6 Lions Paper Collection from 9am
	1 Happy New Year	2 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	3	4 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	5	
7	8 Senior Citz Bingo, 2pm Angling Club Meeting,	9 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	10	11 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	12 Probuss Meeting	13 Bowls Fours Tournament
14	15 Senior Citz Bingo, 2pm Bowls Meeting 8pm	16 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Fun Day 10:30am Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	17 Lions Business Meeting	18 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	19	20
21	22 Senior Citz Bingo, 2pm	23 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	24	25 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	26 Australia Day	27
28	29 Senior Citz Bingo, 2pm	30 Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	31			