

# The Charlton Community Newsletter

February  
2025  
Issue 189

\$2

[www.charlton.vic.au](http://www.charlton.vic.au)  
[charltonnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:charltonnewsletter@gmail.com)

**Charlton's Only Dedicated News Resource**

## *New School Year Begins*



*St Joseph's Prep Students—Sophia Sait, William Donaldson, Tessa Wright, Athena Getley & Wyatt Steenhuis.*

St Joseph's has welcomed five new Foundation students and Charlton College has welcomed eight new Foundation students in 2025.

On the first day of Foundation new friendships are made, adventures begin, and the love of learning takes root! We wish them all the very best on their first year of schooling.

Charlton College are lucky enough to have four new staff members.

Megan Godkin-Briggs has relocated from Melbourne and is 6 months away from finishing her teaching degree. Megan will be working with students in both Primary and Secondary classrooms as a Teacher Aide.

Ebony Start is a very familiar face to us at the College as last year she was one of our Year 12 students! Ebony is using her first year out of school to assist our students as a Teacher Aide, they will be able to follow her example of being an excellent student.

Declan Ryan is one of our new Teachers, and has relocated from Queensland, and is a big fan of the Richmond Football Club. Declan will be working over both Primary and Secondary areas teaching Maths, Science & PE.

Claire Smith is another new teacher who has also relocated from Queensland – excited to live the country life! Claire will be teaching our Secondary students English, VM Literacy and Accounting.



*Charlton College Foundation Students—Olive McGurk, Leo Stahl, Lailah Teggatz, Harry Cossar, Tully Van Boven, Charlie Lane, Matilda Leslie & Chloe Watts.*



*Charlton College new staff members—Megan Godkin-Briggs, Ebony Start, Declan Ryan & Claire Smith.*

**Charlton IGA  
plus Liquor**

28 High St, Charlton VIC 3525  
Tel: (03) 5491 1909

*How the locals like it.*



*Proud Sponsor of the  
Charlton Community Newsletter*

## *Inside the CCN - February Edition*

Page 1	New School Year Begins
Page 3	Lions Park—Another Step Forward
Page 5	Christmas Celebration at Wooroonook
Page 6	Charlton College Awards Ceremony
Page 7	St Josphe's School News
Page 8	Charlton Australia Day
Page 9-11	Golden Grains Museum News
Page 12	Celebrating CWA—A Golden Era
Page 13	Charlton Bowls Club News RSL Sub-Branch Appeal Raised \$65,000
Page 14-15	Tennis Tournament
Page 16	Golde Grains Museum News
Page 17	Charlton Harness Racing
Page 18-19	Charlton Neighbourhood House
Page 20 - 22	Vale Bill Fitzpatrick
Page 23	Charlton Probus News
Page 24	What's on at the Rex Charlton Campdraft News
Page 25-27	Notices
Page 28	Club News
Page 28-35	Sponsors & Advertisers
Page 36	Calendar

## Thank you to all our sponsors for 2025

If you would like to become a sponsor please contact  
Carolyn on 0418 361 971  
or email [charltonnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:charltonnewsletter@gmail.com)

Email news, items of interest, stories and advertising items to  
[charltonnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:charltonnewsletter@gmail.com)

## *From the Editor*

*Carolyn Olive*

Hello everyone,

Welcome to the first edition for 2025. It's a big one with a few articles from last year—there was no January edition so playing catch-up.

Congratulations to our Australia Day winners—Gill Gretgrix, Fletcher Holmes-Brown, and the crew behind the Blue Tree Project, which also won the Buloke Award.

Welcome to our new sponsor, Oakvale, who do contract harvesting and disc chaining. Also thank you to our regular sponsors for supporting us again.

I look forward to receiving and sharing your news, so keep the articles coming. Can I remind contributors to send items to [charltonnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:charltonnewsletter@gmail.com) and not my personal email.

Harvest was a mixed bag. Gosh what a dry year we had! Here's hoping this year gets off to a good start with a nice early break.

I hope everyone has a great 2025.

Cheers, *Carolyn*

## Upcoming Events

Please note, events are subject to change.

### **February:**

Red Back Rally—Fri 7th to Sun 9th  
OK Motels—Fri 21st to Sun 23rd  
Courthouse Gallery Art & Craft Sale—Sat 22 & Sun 23  
Uniting Church Market—Sat 22nd  
Town Garage Sale—Sun 23rd

### **March:**

Charlton Pacing Cup—Sun 16th  
Film Festival—Fri 21st & Sat 22nd



# CHARLTON MEDICAL



Charlton Medical is proud to support  
the Charlton Community Newsletter

Learmonth Street Charlton, 3525

Tel: (03) 54776888

Fax: (03) 54476889





This 5-bedroom brick home located in a central position in Charlton is ready to move straight into. With a huge living room and dining with the bonus of a four-car garage plus carport and extra shedding.

**Julie Benaim 0457 904 119**  
Real Estate sales window at 31 High St Charlton  
Office 33 High St Wedderburn  
admin@p1property.com.au

**Property of the Month**

**6 Armstrong Street, Charlton \$549,000**

**"BEAUTIFUL HOME IN A GREAT LOCATION!"**

- Cathedral ceilings with exposed beams.
- Huge living area.
- Dining area.
- Rumpus Room.
- 5 bedrooms with built-in-robos.
- Main bedroom with massive walk-in dressing room and ensuite.
- Bathroom with bath, separate shower, toilet.
- Separate vanity area.
- Large office.
- Evaporative Cooling.
- Solar.
- Lots of storage space.
- Courtyard area leading from living, rumpus and bedroom.
- Fernery.
- 1419.9m2.

## *Lions Park - Another Step Forward*

The Lions Park now has a new concrete path running through the Park as part of the on-going Charlton Lions Club Project to take the Park from a vacant block of ground to a community Park that the town can be proud of.

The Charlton Lions President John Headon was full of praise about the recent work done by Randall Perry at the Lions Park. John said, "The quality of the work, the exposed aggregate finish and the fabulous visual impact the work has had on the Park is exceptional. The Club started this project back in 2016 planting over 120 native shrubs along the boundary of the property, then came a viewing Platform, more garden beds, new tables and chair sets, concrete garden edging, the Sir John Monash Tribute Garden, and more recently concrete steps to the Viewing Platform and an irrigation system. Progress has been pretty much geared to the availability of Grants and the Clubs ability to raise funds."

"The Club is extremely

grateful to Regional Development Victoria and their Tiny Town Grant Program which provided the Grant of \$17885 to make the path a possibility, together with local funds raised by the Club of \$5536. It could not have happened without the Grant".

If you are new to town and are wondering where the Lions Park is located it is up the hill on the corner of View and Currie streets, the site of the old Water Tower which was designed and built by Sir John Monash in late 1913/14.

John was also full of praise for the help the Club has received from non-Lion members of the community during this process, people like Wes and Kye Jenkyn, Randall Perry, Aaron Watts, Andrew Watts, David Cossar, the Charlton Forum and Neighbourhood House and of course for all the grants we have received from the Community Bank and other Government Departments. It's been a real joyride, the Club is extremely

grateful for this support and is very proud of its achievements.

When asked about the future John indicated that the Club had a number of plans to pursue, the Playground Equipment promised

by the Shire, the possibility of sails over the Viewing Platform and tables and is also considering some Garden Art made by our budding local Garden Art specialists.



**WALSH MOTORS**  
**5491 1444**  
[www.walshmotors.com.au](http://www.walshmotors.com.au)



Walsh Motors is proud to support the Charlton Community.

70-72 High Street, Charlton  
Ph: 54911 144 Fax: 54911984



# Shares available now

Shares are now available in North Central Financial Services Limited, the company operating the locally owned Community Bank of Charlton.

Thanks to the support of our shareholders and customers, our community company has contributed over \$1.8 million to the local community.

We now have over 270 shareholders and are continuing to grow and support our community. If you'd like to find out more about becoming a shareholder, go to [bendigobank.com.au/charlton](http://bendigobank.com.au/charlton) and select 'Trading Shares (LVM)'.

**To register your interest in becoming a shareholder, contact Je-Anne on 5491 2322 or email [ncfssecretary@gmail.com](mailto:ncfssecretary@gmail.com).**

**North Central Financial Services Limited**



# Christmas Celebration at Woonoonook

The Christmas spirit was alive and well for the annual Wooroonook CFA party held on Sunday November 24.

The festive decorations set the scene for local families to enjoy a very sociable BBQ meal.

The highlight for the youngsters was the welcome arrival of Santa handing out bags of lollies and wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.



*Bernice and Peter Whykes enjoying Santa's company.*



*Newly elected brigade captain, Harrison Mulquiny, had the honour of putting the star on the Christmas tree.*



*Rachael Smyth (L) and Chloe Armstrong (R) were responsible for the beautiful decorations.*



*Who doesn't love a visit from Santa?*





# Charlton College Awards Ceremony

Charlton College's Awards Ceremony was held on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> of December at the REX Cinema with a large crowd present. School Captains, Dayne Bartlett and Emily Olive, compered the event. In their addresses, School Council President, Troy Heenan noted the strength and professionalism of the staff who go above and beyond to support our students and Principal Jamie Daff noted the resilience displayed by students in what was another challenging year.

The Australian Defence Force Long Tan Leadership Award recipients were Emily Olive and Sarah Blair. These students were acknowledged for the leadership and teamwork they have demonstrated within the school and broader community and for demonstrating values considered integral to the ADF and Australian society. ADF also provided funding for a Future Innovators Award. The recipient of this was Elliott Fitzpatrick. This award aims to encourage the next generation of innovators, critical

thinkers and problem solvers by recognising their success in STEM subjects.

Students recognised for their all-round achievement were Wally Judd, Samuel Cossar, Erin Blair and Fletcher Holmes-Brown. GWM Water sponsored the Science High Achiever Award. Ezmerellida Gray was the recipient of this scholarship.

Marley M'Gurk, Ruby Radcliffe and Emily Olive were awarded for exhibiting the Colleges Three R's, Respect, Responsibility and Resilience, each receiving a Parents' Clubs SWPBS award for their relative area of the College.

The Bourke family award in Oscar's name, was awarded to Engineering student Michael Olive. Along with the scholarship Michael was presented with a Perpetual Trophy.

The North Central LLEN, again sponsored the Vocational Pathways award. Nick Thompson was the recipient of this, while the Charlton Newsagency received the Workplace of the Year Award.

Jamie Daff, alongside Kaylene Cossar, President of the Charlton Neighbourhood House, presented Dayne Bartlett with the Charlton Dux Scholarship for 2024. On receiving the scholarship Dayne spoke about the many people and experiences that have led to her success.

The evening concluded with the College Captains' report where they acknowledged the memories they will take with them and thanked the work of all staff at the College. They also acknowledged the support of the many scholarship donors on behalf of the College.



*Dux: Neighbourhood House President, Kaylene Cossar & Dayne Bartlett.*



*Oscar Bourke Award: Isaac Bourke, Brendan Bourke, Michael Olive, Reggie Bourke, Julie Bourke, Clancy Bourke.*



*Class of 2024: L to R: Hugh Sait, Ned Zagame, Murphy McGeown, Elliott Fitzpatrick, Cooper Boyle, Nick Thompson, Angus Soulsby, Dayne Bartlett, Emily Olive, Ebony Start, Ezmerellida Gray, Bonnie Nicolson.*





# St Joseph's School News

## St Joseph's Celebrates the 2024 School Year.

With singing, baking, crafting, swimming, movie-watching, gingerbread house building and spreading Christmas cheer far and wide, the students of St Joseph's School enjoyed a less structured finish to the school year!

On 17 December the school community gathered to acknowledge the 2024 school year with a Mass of celebration, which included graduation for the Grade 6 students. The whole school community gathered to celebrate all that had been achieved throughout the year and to give thanks for those who were leaving our school community. The Grade 6 Class of Willow Caine, Rosie Fitzpatrick, Henry Lanyon, Darcy Olive, Marly Morkos and Isaac Roberts was recognised, and each student was presented a certificate of graduation.

Awards presented were as follows:

**Bendigo Bank Grade 6 Academic Award**  
presented by Neville Spruhan-Cloak  
Henry Lanyon

**Cabbaritta CWA Award - Junior and Middle Progress Awards**

Presented by Margaret Fradd

Junior – Oli Power-Hall

Middle – Connor Caine

**Lions Club Citizenship Award**

Presented by John Headon

Rosie Fitzpatrick

**Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions**

Presented by Mary Hogan

Willow Caine

**Charlton Arts Inc – Prep/1/2 Award**

Presented by Bernice Kenny

Johan Siju

**Charlton Arts Inc – Gr 3/4 Award**

Presented by Bernice Kenny

Macey Revell

**Charlton Arts Inc – Gr 5/6 Award**

Presented by Bernice Kenny

Sophie Roberts

**Oscar Bourke Memorial Award**

Presented by Clancy Bourke

Toby Bourke

Congratulations to all award winners and a special thank-you to all award donors and presenters.

## New School Year Underway

At St Joseph's School staff have warmly welcomed the students and their families for the 2025 school year. It was wonderful to see the smiling faces as students flowed through the gate on Tuesday morning! We are thrilled to have welcomed five new foundation students and six new families to our school. Foundation students Tessa, Wyatt, William, Ethena and Sophia, together with Franklin in Grade 2, Yazmin in Grade 5 and Daniel in Grade 6 have joined our school community. Ms Katie Brown, teaching in the Junior Room reports that the Foundation students have settled in

like old hands – well done! We will celebrate the beginning of the school year with an opening Mass, under the theme of Belonging, on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 10:15am. Parents, extended family, parishioners, friends and interested community members are all warmly invited to attend. Mass will be followed by morning tea in the school's multi-purpose room.

We will spend Weeks Two and Three of the term completing our swimming program, focusing on water familiarisation, water safety and some stroke development skills. The program will culminate in a swimming sports carnival on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February, will be able to demonstrate what they have learnt, along with some novelty relays and activities. Again, all interested

members of the school community are most welcome to attend and cheer the students along!

Our dedicated staff continue their professional learning in Structured Literacy, are implementing the new Victorian Mathematics Curriculum and are commencing their learning to introduce AUSLAN as our additional Language Curriculum. I don't know where they get their energy from!

Looking forward into Term One we celebrate our school feast day on March 19, have our school photos taken, will celebrate Harmony Day and the older students will journey to Boort for the HOT SHOTS Tennis tournament. We are excited to share a fantastic 2025 with you all!



Gr 6 Graduation Class L-R. Henry Lanyon, Isaac Roberts, Darcy Olive, Rosie Fitzpatrick, Willow Caine & Marly Morkos.



Award recipients L-R. Willow Caine, Toby Bourke, Connor Caine, Macey Revell, Henry Lanyon, Oli Power-Hall, Rosie Fitzpatrick & Sophie Roberts.





# Charlton Australia Day

## **Contributed by Jenny Pollard** **INVOLVEMENT – THE LIFE BLOOD** **OF OUR COMMUNITIES**

In Charlton, as in other Buloke towns on 26<sup>th</sup> January, the spirit of endeavour was applauded under the over-arching Australia Day theme of “Respect. Reflect. Celebrate”. In perfect weather conditions a large crowd gathered outdoors for the traditional Australia Day breakfast before acknowledging the award recipients whose extensive contributions have enriched the wider community.

With the ebb and flow of breakfast conversation building and a soundtrack of Aussie music in the background, the formalities began outdoors with the raising of flags followed by the singing of the national anthem. Supporting RSL representatives, Bill Freeman and Gordon Risk, with the flag raising were CWA Junior members, Molly and Renee Riley, while the Charlton Choir lead the national anthem.

Moving into the Hall, the stage setting was a focus point reflecting the upcoming Golden Anniversary of local CWA Branch, Cabbaritta. Examples of handcraft, events and fundraising initiatives coordinated by the Branch referenced the scope of community support undertaken by this group. Friends of Red Cross also had an outreach stand with literature available from members Janet Stafford and Joy Freeman.

A warm welcome by Cabbaritta CWA President Maria Perger opened the proceedings before Cr. Bruce Stafford (Lower Avoca ward) gave a short address.

Combining a personalised introduction and sharing reflections on what the national day means to him, Cr. Stafford highlighted Australia’s historical eras from the First Nations people, through to the convict settlement, pioneer expansion and immigration initiatives following on from the Second World War. Helping to build the multicultural diversity of the nation, Bruce also listed the ideals which motivated these forebears, and encouraged the community to re-affirm and commit to Charlton remaining a “welcoming, inclusive and connected place” in which all have a role to play.

President of the Charlton Forum, Wayne Litton, then came forward to present the following local awards. *(Citations have been abridged).*

### **Charlton Citizen of the Year –** **Gill Gretgrix**

*“Gill’s unwavering dedication to the Charlton community since 1967 has earned her the title of Charlton 2025 Citizen of the Year. Over the years, Gill has made significant contributions, including playing tennis, golf, and hockey for local clubs, and supporting the Charlton Harness Racing Club as a caterer and later as club secretary from 1999 to 2007.*

*Her involvement extends to the Charlton Bowls Club, the Golden Grains Museum, and local events like the Christmas Fest and Carols by Candlelight. As the long-time organist at the Uniting Church, she has provided music for services and led the church’s catering efforts. Gill has also played piano for the Charlton Deb Ball for*

*over 25 years.*

*In recent years, she has served as secretary of the Charlton Probuss Club, managed the Charlton Op Shop, and updated the community on river levels during the 2022 floods. Additionally, she played a key role in catering for the Rotary Art Show and hosted six Rotary exchange students. Gill’s selfless contributions have undoubtedly enriched the Charlton community, making her a well-deserved recipient of this award.”*

In responding Gill said, “This is the most humbling thing which has ever happened to me. I just do what I do.” Acknowledging parental encouragement from an early age, Gill continued, “The life-blood of our towns is the involvement in the community.” Whether the contribution is large or small – “not everyone has to be a major player”. A brief reflection on her initial meeting with husband Doug – coincidentally on the Australia Day weekend in Lorne – the social mores of the time with 6 o’clock closing of pubs, and her thoughts on involvement in events such as the Christmas Fest and Carols at The Rex, Gill concluded by saying, “It is thanks to all you people who have been with me through all this time who have helped me be what I am today – and I thank you.” Gill also acknowledged the extensive support of her family.

### **Charlton Youth Citizen of the Year –** **Fletcher Holmes- Brown**

*A shining example of a young citizen dedicated towards making a positive impact on his community, Fletcher Holmes-Brown was named the Charlton Young Citizen of the Year.*

*Demonstrating an unwavering commitment and dedication towards fostering positive change, Fletcher’s role as President of the Charlton Youth Group has seen the execution of successful fundraiser events which have unified the community and gained essential resources for youth group initiatives.*

*Fletcher’s ability to also juggle part-time work with Youth Group responsibilities is in addition to his academic and extra-circular roles at Charlton College. Respected by his peers, Fletcher will take on the leadership role of School Captain in 2025 and in addition to his other contributions, he has offered guitar lessons to younger students at lunchtime to encourage their creative expression.*

*Fletcher’s other commitments include membership of the Youth Parliament that worked across LGA borders to compile a Bill to present to Parliament. He is a “go to” person by the NCLLEN when seeking a youth voice and this year he helped coordinate their cooking classes which were an extension of the CNH Charlton teens program. He is a member of the Buloke*



Charlton Citizen of the Year, Gill Gretgrix, is pictured with Charlton Forum President, Wayne Litton. Gill had a busy morning coordinating the choir which performed throughout the ceremony.





# Charlton Australia Day

Loddon Ganawarra Youth Network, again providing a youth voice directly to LGA's and their partners. He is the sole rural representative attendee to the State FreeZa Forums.

Actively supporting his local sporting clubs – in particular the Charlton Football Club – Fletcher's direct involvement in the sport was brought to an end following a significant concussion injury. However, his determination to remain connected with the team continued with undertaking the role of Reserves runner each week during the 2024 football season.

Fletcher's diligence and strong organizational skills are coupled with a remarkable ability to inspire and motivate those around him. His multifaceted contributions, encompassing leadership, community service, and academic excellence, make Fletcher an exceptional winner of the Young Citizen of the Year award."

Opening with an acknowledgement to other award recipients, Fletcher's response began with the value of shared time spent across many community organisations in town. Thanking his parents Matt and

Jacinta, and praising the support of all of his siblings over the past year, Fletcher also commended one of his closest friends for "proving that country kids are just as eligible for the opportunities which are often spoon fed to metropolitan private schools." While grateful for the award, Fletcher expressed concern that future generations of youth in Charlton also have access to the many opportunities which he has enjoyed. In concluding he said, "There is no reason that "country bumpkins" such as ourselves cannot rise as high or accomplish as much as our bigger city counterparts".

## Charlton and Buloke Shire Event of the Year – The Blue Tree Project

While details of this event appear elsewhere in the paper, respondents for the Charlton award were Mia Ayars (Charlton Neighbourhood House representative) and project instigator, Bronwyn Fisher.

"On behalf of the Charlton Neighbourhood House we are incredibly honoured to accept this Charlton Forum award," said Mia, as she recounted the communal drive to establish the project and the support with which the community embraced the project.

In a heartfelt and emotional speech, Bronwyn Fisher spoke about the stigma of suicide and mental health, revealing the ripple-on effects and the statistical data which includes; 3000 deaths per year in Australia; it's the leading cause of death for ages 15-44 years; double that number for the indigenous population; one farmer every 10 days and in the Defense Forces 3 service men or women every fortnight. "The Blue Tree symbolizes hope, resilience and support," Bronwyn said.

Thanking the Charlton Neighbourhood House and in particular Kaylene Cossar for "paving the way for it to spread through the Buloke Shire during Mental Health Week", Bronwyn spoke emotionally about seeing the project come to fruition and its embrace by the wider community. Thanking a long list of organisations and supporters, she spoke of future locations in town which may support ongoing Blue Trees to carry the message forward.

## Charlton Youth Volunteer Awards

Poppy Fitzpatrick – Co-President,  
Charlton Youth Group

Annie Olive – Secretary, Charlton Youth Group

Isabel Soulsby and Emmersyn Nelson –  
Buloke Youth Group Liaisons

Poppy and Annie are exemplary leaders of the Charlton Youth Group, known for their inclusivity and dedication. Together with Isabel and Emmersyn, they have made a remarkable impact through their volunteer work, helping to organize and lead fundraising events like Junior Discos and the successful ice cream sales at OK Motels events.



Fletcher Holmes- Brown (third left) shared a moment with his parents and family following his announcement as Charlton Young Citizen of the Year.



The Blue Tree Project received both the Charlton and Buloke Event of the Year for boosting awareness around mental health issues. Representatives of the Charlton Neighbourhood House—the facilitator Mia Ayars and Chairperson, Kaylene Cossar are pictured with the project instigator, Bronwyn Fisher (r). Charlton Forum President Wayne Litton is pictured (l).





# Charlton Australia Day

Emmy and Issy represent Charlton with pride at Buloke Youth Group meetings, attending both in person and via Zoom to share ideas and contribute to regional initiatives. Annie has also taken on

additional responsibilities, writing articles and providing photographs for the quarterly Charlton Cultural magazine, enriching the community's engagement with youth-led projects.

All four of these young people are outstanding examples of dedication, teamwork, and positivity, making a difference in the Charlton and Buloke communities.



*Charlton Youth Volunteer Award recipients are (l-r) Isabel Soulsby, Poppy Fitzpatrick and Annie Olive. (Absent: Emmersyn Nelson).*



*CWA Junior members (l-r) Renee and Molly Riley assisted RSL Secretary Bill Freeman and member Gordon Risk with the flag raising at Charlton's Australia Day ceremony.*



*A large crowd attended the Charlton ceremony, enjoying the pleasant outdoor setting for the traditional breakfast.*





# Charlton Australia Day

## Guest Speakers

CWA members Bernice Kenny and Bronwyn Simpson presented a short reflection on the development and outreach of the Country Women's Association – a coverage of which will appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

The ceremony continued with the presentation of Welcome Packs to newcomers who are now calling Charlton

home.

The Charlton Choir, coordinated by Gil Gretgrix, provided musical interludes throughout the morning sharing favourites songs - "I Am Australian", "The Road to Gundagai" and "We've Done Us Proud".

Acknowledgement for the support from the following contributors to the Australia Day event included: Buloke Shire - Community Recovery Fund (provision of

breakfast), Charlton Lions and Lions Ladies (cooking the breakfast), Charlton Forum (coordinating the awards), Charlton Neighbourhood House (welcome to new residents), the Charlton Choir, all volunteers, John Stahl (power) David Pollard (sound), Red Cross and all CWA members.

The ceremony concluded with the singing of both verses of "Advance Australia Fair".



*Welcoming and integrating newcomers to town with welcome packs.*



*Red Cross members Janet Stafford (standing) and Joy Freeman (seated) were on hand to share Red Cross outreach and literature at the Charlton ceremony.*



*Following the breakfast the crowd stood for the singing of the national anthem outdoors as the Charlton Choir lead proceedings.*



# Celebrating CWA - A Golden Era of Service

A Golden Anniversary filled with many golden highlights is how Charlton's Country Women's Association (CWA) Branch, Cabbaritta will mark its' 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary during 2025.

As the organizing body of Charlton's Australia Day ceremony, a retrospective address on Cabbaritta and CWA outreach was presented by two Branch members as part of the recent Australia Day program. A brief outline of the organisation's rural origins and the evolution of the current Branch, along with the diversity of local outreach was pertinent on a day which celebrated community achievements.

The following is a coverage of this address. Long-standing Branch member, Bernice Kenny opened the presentation:

"I want to briefly share with you the impact which the Country Women's Association of Victoria (CWA) has initiated and sustained since its beginnings in 1928, and which continues to provide direction for our organization today.

Empathy, support and assistance never go out of style, and while CWA might be viewed as the "Tea & Scone" ladies, the scope of the organization - has - and continues to - extend well beyond the kitchen!

Today, while we have applauded the outreach of the "Blue Tree Project" (Buloke Shire Event of the Year) for highlighting mental health awareness, CWA was originally formed to provide a supportive link for the soldier settlers' wives who lived in isolation on the newly opened up Mallee landscape.

Without the technology and transportation we take for granted today, these pioneering women strove in remote and harsh settings, raising families, frequently alone, and without the convenience of a quick phone call when things went wrong.

In those days no one ever asked them if they were coping.

CWA was formed to create ways of bringing women together. In rural areas premises - which became known as CWA Rest Rooms - were secured in towns, where on shopping days mothers could feed and change their babies, meet with other women, talk and perhaps do some craftwork.

*(Doesn't this sound like outlets we have today - which recognize that a "burden shared is a burden halved?")*

Supporting the war effort during WW2 saw the drive for practical needs being met with the local CWA engaged in activities such as making camouflage nets, knitting socks, and creating care packs to be sent overseas to the soldiers.

By 1946 changing times saw a new CWA Branch established in Charlton. Known as the 'Younger Set', the focus was on addressing the needs of younger age groups and younger families. Through social occasions such as dances and baby shows, funds raised aided with the establishment of the Infant Welfare Centre and the Bush Nursing Hospital.

Our current CWA Branch began fifty years ago in 1975 - adopting the indigenous name—'Cabbaritta' - which means 'by the

water' or 'a bend in the river'.

A half century of service is a significant milestone and the local community - and beyond - has been enriched by the activities, achievements and resources which our local 'country women' have supplied.

From hosting events such as the Cancer Council's "Biggest Morning Tea", to providing behind-the-scenes support following natural disasters; to adding our voice to state and national matters through the wider CWA organization and now encouraging the up-coming generations through our CWA Juniors Group, these are the people who will help to build the future. We currently have 15 junior members, ranging in age from 7-15 years. Girls and boys are welcome, and we encourage young people to consider joining."

CWA member, Bronwyn Simpson then continued with the Branch's community involvement:

"Our Branch will celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday this year and as a service group we play an important role within the Charlton community.

Supporting friendship is our primary goal. We support local groups such as the Tuesday Crafters, and the Charlton Agricultural Show. The "Story Time" mats and pillows are an example of our support for the local library program, and the Charlton / Wycheproof Citizen's Band has been a recipient of our fundraising.

Cabbaritta has supported education for Charlton through many donations to the play groups, kinder and Driver Education. At the local schools we have assisted with activities such as knitting programs, and each year we now sponsor student scholarships. Many local families have also been recipients of the CWA State Education grants, both at secondary and tertiary levels.

Not everything is fundraising, and we put our thinking caps on each year to decorate

Christmas windows and the stage for the Australia Day celebration. We attempt to acknowledge every baby born in the 3525 postcode area with a handmade gift.

Cabbaritta Juniors have met for activities for more than ten years now, and this has even included some young lads who enjoy expanding their creative skills.

Where would we be without the community coming together as we host the "Biggest Morning Tea" for cancer fundraising each year! A lot can be said for a chat over a cup of tea and a nice slice!

As we probably know CWA is well known for their scones. The OK Motels Festival visitors always compliment us and we serve approximately 200 scones for that event. This year four of our members were among the 170 members from around Victoria who volunteered at the Melbourne Royal Show. There were 16,420 handmade scones made over the eleven days of the Show, and for those interested, this required: 1,026 kilograms of self-raising flour, 246 litres of milk and the same of cream. The Royal is the biggest fundraiser for the Association and these funds contribute greatly to the running of the organization. Together with the donations to the community emergency and welfare funds which each Branch contributes to, CWA is able to support individuals and communities in need. Charlton has been a grateful recipient, especially in times of floods in our town.

Our organisation's theme - "Care, Empower, Contribute" - can be seen within our membership and within our community. Even if the CWA isn't for you, I am sure you could take up the mantra with any other group or sporting association in town. Country towns really thrive with volunteers, and Charlton is better for each contribution that you make.

Thank you, and I wish you all a very happy 2025 Australia Day".



Charlton's Australia Day guest speakers Bronwyn Simpson (l) and Bernice Kenny (r) are pictured with the Cabbaritta CWA President, Maria Perger (centre).



# Charlton Bowls Club News

## Like Father like Son

Charlton Bowling Club Singles Champion, following in his father's footsteps, is Wayne Southwell, defeating a previous Champion Kevin Willey 25/19 on a day that the bowls did as they wanted to in the very windy conditions. Wayne seemed to have the wind worked out in a very tight game until Kevin gave him a four giving Wayne a three shot lead nearing the end.

Wayne is the son of Life Member Ian (Nuggett) Southwell who has won the Singles Championship eight times and Lynne Southwell who has won the Ladies Singles Championship six times.

There are many Tournaments and Club Championships coming up, Members are to keep an eye on the boards to see what's happening.



Kevin Willey & Wayne Southwell.

# Charlton RSL Sub-Branch



The 2025 Australia Day commemorations opened with the raising of the Australian flags by junior CWA girls Molly Riley and Renee Riley, assisted by RSL members Bill Freeman and Gordon Risk; thanks girls for a job well done.

RSL applauds the 2025 Charlton award winners Gill Gretgrix, Fletcher Holmes-Brown and the Blue Tree project led by Bronwyn Fisher. For many years Gill has led the Charlton Choir and been accompanist at our ANZAC Day commemorations. Fletcher epitomises the resilience of our youth. Bronwyn's Blue Tree Project draws attention to two major community concerns, mental health and suicide, both of which are prevalent amongst veterans. Well done all.

Plans are under way for ANZAC Day 2025; to work around Easter (Good Friday is on 18 April, Easter Monday is on 21 April), badge selling will be on Wednesday 16, Thursday 17, Tuesday 22, Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 April.

*LEST WE FORGET.*

# Appeal Raises \$65,000

## Media Release - da Vinci Surgical Robot Appeal raises \$65,000

The Lions Club of Charlton A79 and Friends, da Vinci Surgical Robot Appeal raised the magnificent total of \$65,535-89 with donations coming from a broad area along the Calder Highway as well as Donald and St Arnaud. This amount includes a Grant from the Australian Lions Foundation (ALF) of \$15,000 from their Grant fund which became possible with the agreement of the Bendigo Base Hospital and the St John of God Hospital electing to work together in order to get this valuable piece of equipment into the Bendigo Health Care mix ensuing that the machine will benefit both Public and Private Health Care patients alike.

Lions President, John Headon, said, "The Club is extremely grateful to the ALF Grants team and the 201V1-4 District executive for helping us to make this possible, it really adds a significant input to the Clubs efforts with the Appeal. Also a huge thanks to the North West Calder

communities including Donald and St Arnaud for getting behind and supporting the Appeal to bring new technology to our Health area that will make Surgical Robot operations possible for the people in our area."

John explained that the district Service Clubs including the Lions Clubs of Charlton, Donald, Inglewood, St Arnaud, Wedderburn and Wychebrook, Retro (the former Charlton Rotary Club), OASIS and the St Arnaud Rotary Club contributed a grand total of \$17,016.

Other Charlton organizations such as the Charlton Bowling Club, the Charlton Club, the Men's Shed, the Travellers Rest Committee, Charlton Arts, the Skita Grimshaw Motor Cycle Touring Club, the Charlton Golf Club, Charlton Football Club, the Op Shop, the Charlton RSL, the Uniting Church, the NC Garden Club, CWA, Friends of EWSH, and North Central Financial Services made a combined total contribution of \$23,500. Other donations included the Noonan Family Trust, Trade

Travel and the Simon Mulqueen Funerals totalled \$10,110. The balance of \$109 is bank interest on the account.

John said, "The money has now been forwarded to the St John of God Foundation and we understand that the Machine has been purchased and is in Bendigo where the Hospital will be setting it up for Doctor Training in January and February. We also understand that it is planned that Prof. Janelle Brennan, a Bendigo based Urological Surgeon, is to perform the first operation using the Surgical Robot in March 2025; a very successful conclusion to a very gratifying Project for both the Club and the broader Bendigo and District Health community."

"The Club members all gave the project their best efforts" John said "but I need to acknowledge the extra work of Lion Peter Watts who played a pivotal role in getting donations and in particularly our success in getting the ALF Grant approved".



# Tennis Tournament

Charlton, home to Victoria's oldest regional tennis club, has once again shown why it has been able to survive for so long, the Charlton Lawn Tennis Club hosting another spectacular tennis tournament. Whilst numbers were down on 2024's record entries, returning to more normalised levels of just under 200 players, the Charlton and District Community Bank Australia Day Weekend tournament saw three great days of tennis ensue, the 16 grass courts playing perhaps the best that they have ever played, certainly in recent memory, Brian Heenan is to be commended on how the courts were presented, and how they stood up to three warm days of tennis. Many comments heard about how true the bounce was, playing more akin to hard courts than what players have come to expect of grass courts. The North Central region, probably not appreciating the point of difference they have with so many clubs still being able to hold on to so many, you only have to look down the road at a major regional centre like Bendigo, now without a grass court, to realise how fortunate those in the region are to have more than 100 grass courts in small communities all less than an hour's drive of Charlton.

Amongst the crowd that plays in Charlton each January, are a host of regulars, some having played the Australia Day weekend event for more than forty years!! Regular returnees coming from Merimbula, Adelaide, Sale, Seymour, Avenel, Shepparton, Geelong and greater Melbourne, some making Charlton their home for more than a week, enjoying the

local company and amenities, joining tennis club volunteers in helping to set up and make sure a great weekend is guaranteed for all. New players this year were attracted from as far as Dubbo—Graham and Alison making the 792km journey for an enjoyable weekend's tennis – vowing to return next year such as was the 'amazing' time they had. Monday's forecast no doubt slowing the number of players wanting to play singles, but the Doubles and Mixed Doubles days still having great support.

Australia Day Sunday was again the major focus of the weekend's activities, Mixed Doubles the format of the day, the showcase of the Charlton Tournament since lights were installed on the front row of courts in time for the 2023 event. The five finals getting under way at 7:30pm. Before that though, players and spectators alike were treated to a bevy of food options, Little Sangria with their wonderful Paella, The Vale of Avoca with pizza offerings, Asian infusion with dumplings and fried rice on offer, pulled pork rolls, and traditional BBQ prepared by the Charlton Lions Club, topped off with soft serve ice cream, allowing no one to go hungry, and only the fussiest of fussy eaters could find a reason to be remotely disappointed. If the local tennis wasn't inspiring enough, the Australian Open Men's Singles Final was playing on the big screen courtesy of the Charlton Football Club and GrainCorp. Patrons were able to settle in on the magnificent surrounds of the Charlton Tennis Club, head on a swivel as they tried to keep an eye on everything that was going

on. At the conclusion of the local finals, the large crowd was treated to a spectacular fireworks display, many townsfolk enjoying the show from the comfort of their own porch, and if that wasn't enough, local entertainer Greg Towers of East Charlton Hotel and now Cricket Club Hotel swung into action, joined on mike by daughter Alicia to keep the festivities in full swing. It would be great to see more locals take advantage of this free night's entertainment and join in the fun over at the tennis club in 2026 – ALL WELCOME – you don't need to swing a racquet to enjoy the weekend.

Locals to do well included: Jo Southcombe, winning the Ladies A Grade Singles and teaming with Troy Heenan to make the final of the A Grade Mixed Doubles; Nick Thompson winning the Men's B Grade Singles; Mason Heenan pairing with cousin Nate Pokorzynski to win the Men's C Grade Doubles, Beth Dillon's grandson and Rae & Brian Heenan's nephew Samuel Ellis playing with Taylah Pratt to win the C Grade Mixed Doubles; one of Charlton's newest residents, new teacher Claire Smith jumping on court to finish Runner Up in the Ladies D Grade Doubles; while St Arnaud member Stephen Rodger also did well, pairing with Grant Woodbridge (Merimbula) to finish Runner Up in the Men's A Grade Doubles. Great to also see former Charlton player Les Finlay's grandson Adam and great grandson Jesse on court at this year's tournament, Les' daughter Anne also in attendance.

All in all, another incredibly successful tournament. Tournament secretary Rae Heenan, now in her 30+ year, reflecting on the consistency of entries across recent memory, even if a little panic had set in a week out with less than 20% of final entries received!!

Special thanks to the Charlton and tennis communities, Kim T and Andrea O'G, who along with Donna S, Rebecca H, Marisa B, Natasha S, Jayne B, Leanne F, Deirdre McK & Kaylene C in preparing lunches for the ravenous crowd, freshly made each morning, in an admirable show of community spirit, these along with the many who made slices and Gloria B who sets up the canteen each morning do so despite any of them being members of the tennis club, understanding the importance of the event on the community schedule and happy to do their bit. Also a shout out to Wayne K for his help on the bar; Grant Woodbridge who comes as a player, but makes sure he is in Charlton from Merimbula in time to help at the Friday working bee; Charlton Lions Club members on the BBQ; the Wycheproof Racing Club





# Tennis Tournament

for the use of their umbrellas and tables; Charlton Football and Cricket clubs for their marquees; and the Charlton Harness Racing Club for their umbrellas, all combine to bring the Charlton Tennis Club within Charton Park alive each January. Finally, big thanks to all members of the Charlton Tennis Club for the huge amount of work that goes into putting on such an event, it's not easy, but is a valuable weekend on the Charlton calendar, pulling much needed external money into town, not just for three days, but across the week.

## Results:

Charlton & District Community Bank Open Mixed Doubles: Alex Bakogianis (Nathalia) & Ash Andrews (Melbourne) defeated Michael & Narelle Smyth (Bendigo); East Charlton Hotel A Grade Mixed Doubles: Paul Page & Heather Richards (Adelaide) defeated Troy Heenan & Jo Southcombe (Charlton); Bakery Lane Apartments B Grade Mixed Doubles: Peter French & Anne Crouch (Adelaide) defeated Denzel Cooper & Samara Connors (Bendigo); Charlton Hardware C Grade Mixed Doubles: Samuel Ellis & Taylah Pratt (Bendigo) defeated Tyson McCoomb

& Fiona Robinson (Avenel); Charlton Caravan Park D Grade Mixed Doubles: Miller & Kylie Evans (Bendigo) defeated Stuart & Olivia Atkins (Ivanhoe).

Charlton IGA Ladies A Grade Doubles: Sheryn Long (Bendigo) & Rosie Nihill (Nathalia) defeated Di Arnott (Adelaide) & Jennifer Luke (Sale); Priority 1 Property Ladies B Grade Doubles: Deb & Rhian Shepherd defeated Anne Crouch & Jenny Fisher (Adelaide); Foundry Palms Motel Ladies C Grade Doubles: Kylie Evans (Bendigo) & Cara Sacco (Frankston) defeated Priya Coatsworth & Lana Fawcett (Wycheproof); Perry Contractors Ladies D Grade Doubles: Ava Gordon & Chloe Locke (Seymour) defeated Claire Smith (Charlton) & Elise Turner (Wheelers Hill).

Walsh Motors Mens Open Doubles: Sam McHarg & Zach Ranson (Shepparton) defeated Joe Nihill (Nathalia) & Troy Snow (Geelong); Teys Australia Mens A Grade Doubles: Kelvin McAlpine (Kooyong) & Paul Page (Adelaide) defeated Stephen Rodger (St Arnaud) & Grant Woodbridge (Merimbula); Charlton Massage Clinic Men's B Grade Doubles: Brett Stephens & Jim Sutton defeated Simon Flood & Frank

Ryan (Bendigo); Fine Farm Organics Men's C Grade Doubles: Mason Heenan (Charlton) & Nate Pokorzynski (Caroline Springs) defeated Justin Dungey & Sam Hower (Shepparton); MCG Airconditioning Mens D Grade Doubles: Keith Chittleborough & Bryce Martin (Wheelers Hill) defeated Sam Payne (Shepparton) & Toby Robe (Cohuna).

Charlton Newsagency Ladies A Grade Singles: Jo Southcombe (Charlton) defeated Rhian Sheppard; Hannaford Seed Cleaning Ladies D Grade Singles: Michelle Amalfi defeated Tallulah Duffy (Bendigo);

BQS Group Mens Open Singles: Sam McHarg (Shepparton) defeated Zach Ranson (Shepparton); Vale of Avoca Men's B Grade Singles: Nick Thompson (Charlton) outlasted Peter French (Adelaide); Signwise/Wright's Building Mens C Grade Singles: Lachlan Stark (Strathdale Park) defeated Adam Brandt (Green Gully); North West Ag Services Men's D Grade Singles: Ollie Robertson (Seymour) defeated Oscar Bath (Melbourne).







# Golden Grains Museum News

Welcome again to a brand new year of stories and updates from your local Charlton Golden Grains Museum. The museum volunteers have been enjoying a break away from the regular routines that are involved in running and maintaining our collection, but are looking forward to another year of archiving our town and district's local history. We are now open every Sunday from 11:00am until 3:00pm, or by arrangements with one of the members listed below. Admittance is still a very low \$5, and free for children. Perhaps your local group or organization would like to have an interesting outing. Group tours of all sizes are most welcome, and a cuppa and biscuits could accompany your visit.

Essential fund raising efforts will continue and will include our popular Bingo trips to Donald, sales of merchandise at events and in-house, as well as research requests and donations from both individuals and businesses. Don't forget to donate your Container Deposit funds to the museum. We raised over \$500 last year. Our museum and other registered groups really appreciated your donations. Remember that a tax deductibility receipt is available if you require it. Another simple option is to 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 present and future generations. We are also excited to be partnering with the Charlton Neighbourhood House on several projects during the year. Keep an eye open for more details of these exciting activities as they come to hand.

## Education

As our community's children return for another year to their modern well equipped local schools, we will look back briefly on

what education looked like for previous generations in the area. So many vibrant, often one teacher schools, that once were a part of their small communities are now long gone, but their stories live on. The first mention of a school is in 1870 in the St Arnaud Mercury detailing the story of a picnic afternoon organised by Mrs Armstrong. In 1871 a push was on for funding for a new building for the 23 children currently attending in a shearers hut deemed totally unsuitable. With no funding forthcoming the school closed in late 1872. In July 1874, Mr B.S. Stevenson, a teacher, wrote to the district school inspector stating that he had temporarily reopened the school in the old bark hut for 40 students. A petition of local residents was sent to the newly formed Education Department requesting the school be recognised as a State School. In 1875, Charlton State School 1480 was opened to 42 children, with a further 20 on the waiting list. The teacher, Mr R.A. Nicolson sent an urgent request to the Minister of education recommending, "the urgent supply of much needed accommodation promised some time ago, as the need is very pressing, there only being a bark hut 18 X 10 for present purposes".

By 1875 there was a school building consisting of a classroom and accommodation with a kitchen, parlour and two bedrooms. By 1877 over 100 children were enrolled and the school was proving totally inadequate. In 1879 a new brick building had been built with the Head Teacher Nicolson (whose wife also taught classes) paying twenty five pound out of their own pocket. The school continued to grow with 169 pupils enrolled by 1879. Undergoing major renovations in 1907 the school now boasted 4 classrooms with fireplaces, ventilation, and lavatories.

The need to accommodate older children studying was solved in 1912 with the opening of Charlton Higher Elementary School (HES). Initially 76 boys and girls enrolled studying subjects that included algebra, geometry, latin, physics, chemistry and many more. Sport was also an important aspect of the curriculum with the HES girls having much success in the 1920's through 30's. By 1945 there was a need for a bus service to run routes to the various areas surrounding Charlton, and continued growth in numbers saw the Minister grant the HES High School status. Meanwhile the Primary School continued to operate on its original site, and in 1962 had a record number of 229 children enrolled. A new High School was built in Davies Street in 1966. By 1992 declining numbers saw the push to have a combined campus established in Charlton, with the Charlton P-12 College opening in 1996.

Do you have a few hours free each month? The Charlton Golden Grains Museum is always looking for new members to help maintain, archive and assist with our collection and attend during opening hours to the public. If you have an interest in local history and would like to help preserve Charlton's story contact the museum; you will be made most welcome by our friendly team. You could give as much time as you wish and don't need any experience; training will be provided.

Have you thought about having your families story recorded for future generations? We have introduced a popular service where you can record your history for us to scan into our digital reference library, and store a copy of the papers, family images or genealogy charts in an A4 size envelope. This is a wonderful opportunity for stories not to be lost, but preserved for researchers at a later stage. Cost is a very low \$10, which goes towards helping to maintain our collection.

For all enquiries, check out our Facebook Page or search on your browser 'Charlton Golden Grain Museum'.

## Enquiries

For all enquiries about our group check out our Facebook Page, search on your browser 'Golden Grains Museum Charlton', or email [goldengrains@bigpond.com](mailto:goldengrains@bigpond.com).

Phone enquiries:

President Diane 0417 511 218  
Vice President David 0422 185 885  
Secretary Carolyn 0418 361 971  
Treasurer Judy 0407 150 186  
Archivist Markus 0413 129 216  
Anne 0408 547 973  
Glenda 0417 801 771  
Sue 0407 140 336



Mr Nicolson and students at Charlton's first State School, 1875.





# Charlton Harness Racing

## CHARLTON CELEBRATES MEMBERS' RACE DAY

The Charlton Harness Racing Club took the opportunity to dedicate our January 31<sup>st</sup> meeting to all of our loyal members who continue to be a part of the club, taking on a range of roles.

The club is very much based on a strong band of people who not only fulfil official duties but volunteer their talents and efforts when the occasion demands. It is these people who are the backbone of the club and who allow us to plan for future growth and development.

So the club extends a big THANK YOU to the following who were honoured with a race name to recognise all they have done. From attending every meeting, to cooking, mowing lawns, tending the bar, hosting events, selling raffle tickets or donating time and goods, our club is indebted to you all for your willingness to see the bigger picture, be involved and help whenever needed.

Sparra Cossar	Beth Dillon
Kim Thompson	Darren Carroll
Marg McGrath	Wes Jenkyn
Cormack Racing	

The club was also very grateful for the big number of people who attended the first race event as these gatherings are so very vital if the club is to thrive and provide a happy social fabric for locals to enjoy.

## 2025 STARTS WITH A BANG

It would appear that 2025 may indeed be the year of Charlton! We are so happy to see that everyone from the training centre has hit the winner's list already and that all trainers are featuring prominently at tracks around Victoria.

Special mention to Tori Hutchins who has guided Celestial Zodiac to four wins in a row, John Tormey after finishing last year

as Charlton's leading trainer training a winning double at Mildura, and Zac Steenhuis who won first up with Tap To Pay at Swan Hill for the newly formed syndicate of locals. Fantastic to see many of the young lads (and not so young!) in town getting involved and experiencing the fun of horse ownership. Mick Gadsden also has three winners for 2025 so start following the locals!

## COMMUNITY BANK CHARLTON & DISTRICT CUP DAY MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup>

A big part of growing the club is securing more meetings to be run here in Charlton. We will have 16 meetings scheduled for 2025 but are looking to extend this to a few more in the future if we can.

The racing calendar is both crowded and competitive so one important aspect to facilitate change is to deliver a very successful Cup Day. We are very grateful to again have the Community Bank Charlton and District commit again to being our major sponsor of the day and the Pacing Cup, along with North West Ag Services who have been long time sponsors of the Trotting Cup. How fortunate are we to have this strong support from within our own town? It would be fantastic to have all locals pop in on the day and be part of an event that we are very proud to say is uniquely Charlton.

Our theme this year is 'WE'RE ALL COUNTRY', so get on board and be a part of what we hope will be a great day.

NOTE – as the TAB is no longer offering a betting service on course we will be having several bookies on course to service all of our keen punters.

Keep an eye out for flyers with lots of information regarding the day's format and

contact Andrea on 0499701322 for any enquiries.

Marquees are SOLD OUT but there are still some tables available in the dining room \$55 per head.

We are so thrilled to have the services of Kylie and Naomi Fitzpatrick to cater for everyone- don't miss out!

**DATES TO REMEMBER**  
**NEXT RAFFLE NIGHT – March 2<sup>nd</sup> @**  
**CRICKET CLUB HOTEL**  
**NEXT RACE MEETINGS**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February**



*Celestial Zodiac, Tori Hutchins & Luke Dunne.*



*Brittany O'Brien with son Wyatt and Shadow Terror.*



*Luke Dunne, No Emotion, Mick Gadsden & Kim Thompson.*



*Trainer Dianne Giles, Sassyla Driver, Leilani Justice & Beth Dillon.*



# CHARLTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE



Charlton Neighbourhood House  
The Heart of Our Community

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

## Welcome to 2025!

The New Year is here, and our January window display asked, "What did you promise yourself this year?" We loved seeing the responses and encourage you to make 2025 your year of growth, connection, and discovery. Whether it's learning a new skill, making time for yourself, or staying socially connected, we're here to help you achieve your goals. Let's make it happen together!

## Welcome Back 'Other Locals'

We're excited to welcome back our 'other locals' this month as OK Motels returns to Charlton. Enjoy your weekend and all our town has to offer!

This year we were not asked to coordinate locals to work the bar, which makes us sad as we will miss catching up with all the regulars and meeting new people.

## Regular Weekly and Monthly Activities

- Coffee with a...: Join us every Monday during the school term from 10:30 AM to 12 PM at the FLO Cafe for a chat with local guests, including Buloke Shire Councillors, community groups, and more.
- Yarning<sup>2</sup>: A relaxed social group for all things yarn —knitting, crochet, macramé, and more! Mondays from 10:30 AM to 12 PM.
- Storytime: For children under 5 and their caregivers, Storytime runs every fourth Tuesday of the month from 10:30 AM to 12 PM at the Charlton Library inside the Shire Hall.
- Book Club: Love to read or listen? Share your latest literary adventures on the third Tuesday of every month from 10:30 AM to 12 PM. No set book, just great conversation.

## February Highlights

### Get e-Prepared

Emergencies are hard enough without the added stress of lost or damaged documents. We are offering to guide you through storing electronic copies of your important documents securely, using the Justice Connect-Telstra program 'ePrepared'. This will be once a month and bookings are essential. Book your 15-minute initial consultation now and a 30-minute follow-up session. Spaces are limited, so don't wait!

## Creative Classes

- Watercolour Painting: Join Kate Giakimis on February 2nd and 16th for relaxing and creative watercolour sessions. (Fully Booked)
- Jazz Classes with Miss Zoe: 8 weeks of Jazz dance classes for children aged 5 to 12 years. Starting February 12th.
- We had our Lino Cut workshop in January which was a great success! It was great to see so many amazing art works.

## March Activities Preview

- Table for 12 – Greek Cuisine: Deb Cleary leads a hands-on cooking class on March 27th. Create and enjoy delicious Greek dishes. \$25
- Recycled Baskets Workshop - Join Kate Giakimis on March 2nd to create beautiful baskets from recycled materials!

## Looking Ahead

Stay tuned for exciting events in the coming months, including bus tours, cooking classes, and creative workshops. Don't forget to book early as spaces fill fast.

Together, let's make this a fantastic year for Charlton!



[www.charltonnh.org.au](http://www.charltonnh.org.au)

FOLLOW US

Charlton NH



[info@charltonnh.org.au](mailto:info@charltonnh.org.au)



view our window

**CNH Open Hours** Monday to Friday 10am-4pm. Closed for lunch 12.30-1.15pm.



# WHAT'S ON FOR



## FEBRUARY

Each  
Monday  
of School  
Term

### Yarning<sup>2</sup> Social Group

Where: FLO Cafe

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

FREE, bring your own yarn project



24

### Coffee with a...

Where: FLO Cafe

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

FREE, pop in for a chat and coffee



2

### Water Colour Workshop

Where: Courthouse Gallery

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

FREE, bookings essential.



25

### Storytime for the under 5's

Where: Library inside the Shire Hall

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

Cost: FREE



10

### Coffee with a...

Where: FLO Cafe

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

FREE, pop in for a chat and coffee



28

### Conversation Hour with Chris

Where: CNH

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

FREE, Topic- Three Religions: Christianity, Judaim, Islam

12

### Carers & Co. Group Information Sharing

Where: East Charlton

Time: 12 pm- 1.30 pm

Cost: buy your lunch



## BOOK NOW FOR MARCH

16

### Water Colour Workshop

Where: Courthouse Gallery

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

FREE, bookings essential.



1

### Weaving Workshop

Where: Senior Citizens Rooms

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

FREE, bookings essential.



17

### Coffee with a...

Where: FLO Cafe

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

FREE, pop in for a chat and coffee



2

### Recycled Baskets Workshop

Where: Courthouse Gallery

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

FREE, bookings essential.



18

### Buloke Book Club

Where: Library inside the Shire Hall

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

Cost: FREE, discuss any book, no set text.



19

### e-Prepared Paperwork Sessions

Where: CNH

Time: Appointments only

FREE, bookings essential.



19

### e-Prepared Paperwork Sessions

Where: CNH

Time: Appointments only

FREE, bookings essential.



23

### Resilient Women: Empowered Communities

Where: Charlton Park

FREE, bookings essential



22-  
23

### OK Motels

Where: Whole Town

30

### Photography with Chloe Smith

Where: Courthouse Gallery

Time: 10.30 am-12 pm

\$20, Students \$10, bookings essential.





# Vale Bill Fitzpatrick (1933 - 2024)

## Eulogy

*Written by his eldest son, Billy Fitzpatrick.*

Bill was born on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 1933 to parents Mick and Lucy Fitzpatrick of Charlton. Mick, a farmer, and Lucy, a school teacher, lived on the farm Kenton Park where the truck depot now resides.

In 1936 Dad's brother John was born. The boys did pretty normal things for the time on the farm: gathering eggs, milking the cow, chopping wood, and a lot of rabbit trapping!

Dad tells of the time when coming home from Barrakee with his dad Mick in the little old Chev truck, young Bill said,

"Dad that front wheel looks awful wobbly,"

Pop said,

"Nothing to worry about, that's just a bit of wear in the king-pins."

Sure enough, a kilometre or two later, the wheel came off. You would have thought this would have turned Dad off trucks, but far from it.

Dad's schooling years were at St Joseph's Charlton and by all accounts they were pretty normal, Dad being a pretty good student, with most of his school books covered with designs of trucks and trailers. His proudest schooling moment was when he captained the St Joseph's football team to a win over the Charlton State School, which was a big deal at the time.

When Dad turned about 15 his mum and dad thought it would be of benefit to further his education at the great school St Patrick's College Ballarat. This was not appreciated by Dad, but off he went. Dad didn't tell us too much about St Pat's, but he did say the initiation for the new boys was to be dunked in the water troughs and half drowned. He also told us about catching the little old trams into Ballarat when all the boys would run from one side to the other causing the tram to nearly derail. They got into a fair bit of trouble for that.

The great Jack Dyer from Richmond was at his peak about this time and he came to St Pat's to take the boys for footy training, and Dad got his autograph, which we still have. Dad claims he asked Jack Dyer if he could play for Richmond, Jack said,

"You can come down when you grow a bit."

Dad was terribly home sick, so when he came home from term one, he begged to stay. He must have put up a pretty good fight because he never went back.

Dad's working life began when he was still too young to get a licence. His first job after leaving school was cutting wood to fuel the steam engines at the Charlton Quarry to run the crushers. He also had to keep water up to the boilers, which was a pretty hard job; there were no water pumps on Honda motors back then, so he had to take a horse with a Furphy tank down to the little dam and scoop the water up using a pitch fork with a little tin wired onto it.

When not working at the quarry, Dad was still doing farm jobs at home: sheep work and cropping, and tractor driving which was of



*Bill & Marie*

great interest to Dad because it had an engine and wheels. Even though he said the WD40 McCormick Deering was a great tractor it could be a bastard to start some mornings.

Dad was around 16-17 years old when his interest in trucks really started to take hold. His uncles, the Soding brothers, owned a produce store in town and had a brand new 48 KB6 International truck with a 25-foot semi-trailer. They used to cart produce to Melbourne and return. Dad was hooked.

Dad's father, Mick, was big in sheep at this time, buying and selling sheep, so Dad thought it would be a great asset to have a truck and crate to move them around. So once Dad obtained his licence at 18, a Chev Maple Leaf and 25-foot two deck crate was purchased. The crate was pretty rough, as it had been hit by a train early in its life, but Dad didn't worry, a bit of welding and paint, and Dad was in the big time.

Dad's first paid trip was from Tittybong near Lalbert to Charlton, after that farmers

and stock agents wanted sheep carted, so a bigger truck was purchased, an L180 International with a 35-foot, 2-decker. This immediately brought more work, longer trips and outside town carriers asking for help, so another truck was purchased with brother John driving one.

By now it was the late 1950s. The trucks of the day were slow, rough, under powered, and most of the time overloaded. The roads weren't much better, with a little bit of bitumen, but mostly dirt or gravel at best.

On one trip, Dad – in his new F600 Ford – was coming home from Ivanhoe NSW heading for Balranald when a storm cloud swept through, grinding Dad to a stop in the middle of the road. Dad sat there for two days before help arrived. A fencing crew from nearby Bellevue Station pulled up wondering what he was up to. They quickly unloaded the sheep and walked them back to a holding yard and Dad lived at the station for three weeks before being able to continue.



# Vale Bill Fitzpatrick (1933 - 2024)

It was one of those years when every afternoon a shower swept through making the road unpassable. Dad's father Mick and the stock agent came looking for Dad but could only get to Homebush, still 160 kilometres from where Dad was stranded. Eventually Dad got a message through saying he was all right and would be home when he could.

More work continued to come so more trucks were added to the fleet as well as drivers. Col Sullivan, Bruce Chamberlain and Dav Jackal were among the first. Next was diesel powered trucks like Leylands, which brought more power and reliability.

Dad never played sport after leaving school, but was very keen on racing. He loved motor sport. He got involved in racing Go Karts and also had a racing boat named Thunderbird, which he and his co-pilot Arthur Martin would race at lakes like Boort, Lake Boga, and Lake Eppalock. They must have been pretty good because they won many trophies including a Victorian title in their class.

Dad also had two ski boats over his time and could ski pretty well, not bad for a bloke who couldn't swim! He would ski with two life jackets and "hang on for dear life", he would say.

About now Marie (mum) came on the scene. Dad met Marie at a dance in Inglewood. One thing led to another and they were married on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 1968. Not wasting any time, Billy was born August 69, followed by Paul February 71, Leanne January 75, and baby Julie in January 80.

Dad was still working hard doing plenty of miles, but had moved on from the Leylands to Federals, Commors, Deutz, Diamond T, and finally a 62 model S Kenworth, a brand he drove right up to this year. People thought Dad was mad buying a 3-year-old truck, he could have bought three brand new Dodge trucks for the price he paid for the Kenworth at the time. Dad had the last laugh as the Kenworth with its big power V871 GM pulled the 3 deck crates with ease and did well over 1 million trouble free kilometres.

The early 70s saw the world-wide fuel shortage and the crash of wool and sheep prices which forced Dad to change gears and turn to interstate cartage. Having already ordered a new Kenworth 1974, which he kept, he sold off all remaining trucks and crates except one and one driver left to handle any stock work. Dad started running Melbourne to Adelaide. He would be gone for one, two, or three weeks at a time and mum would joke when he did come home us kids would wonder who this strange man was in the house.

Truck movies were all the go in the late 70s, movies like *Convoy*, *Smokey and Bandit*, and *White Line Fever*. It was one of these movies showing at the drive-in at Birchip that Dad took mum and us kids to. I can remember well, we were flying and we made it to Birchip in record time, it wasn't until we parked, and the old Monaro was steaming out the radiator that Dad realised we had been driving at 100 miles an hour, not 100 kilometres an hour like in his new Kenworth with the speedo in kilometres. I can remember running around the drive-in with an empty cordial bottle looking for water. I was about 9 or 10.

Dad had new Kenworths in 74, 78, and his flagship, the Aerodyne, in 1980. He was back carting stock and also tomatoes from Boort to Dandenong for Heinz and moving into grain tipper work, carting during harvest from Navarre to Dunolly, Moolort to Dunolly, and Wedderburn to Dunolly.

It was around this time Dad first used the services of Andy Walker of Dunolly, an expert in anything mechanical, especially engines, gearboxes, and diffs. Over the years Andy and his men, Des, Shane, Melton, and Paddi, to name a few, have kept our fleet rolling day and night.

In 1980 Julie was born, and with mum and new baby Julie in hospital for the compulsory 10 days, school started for the new year, making Dad in charge of getting Billy, Paul, and first-time school girl Leanne ready for grade prep. Dad certainly looked out of place

lined up with all the preppies and their mums at St Joey's.

As good a truckie as Dad was, he was absolutely hopeless with anything home related. When we had a wood fire, we never had any wood, the grass was never mown because he couldn't get the mower going, and when he did it was a sight to see with dad with a hanky over his nose and mouth, and screaming at us kids to get back, it was probably a good thing because our mower was a slasher type and he once got too close to the water tank and sliced a hole through it. Dad never swore much, but he did after that.

Dad was never big on holidays and I can only ever remember going on one. It was from Charlton to Mount Gambier, on to Adelaide and back. It took us two days and two nights, with dad just driving, pointing at landmarks and different tourist attractions saying, "We'll get out next time kids."

By the middle 80s Paul and I started to play junior footy for Charlton. Dad was always busy on trucks, but once we made the higher grades like seniors, he never missed a game. He could tell us every kick, handball or mark we got. He would stand around near the coach's box rain, hail or snow. He never praised us much, but you knew if you played well. He would ask,

"Any sore spots?"

"Did you get a prize?"

(which meant did you get an award).

You would say,

"Aw yeah, got third best."

Dad would say,

"I thought so."

But if you played a bad one, he would say, "That bloke you were on today was pretty good."

During the 80s, as Paul and myself got older, we spent every minute we could at the depot or with dad in the truck, learning and watching what he did. He was a super hero to us and we couldn't wait to get our licences and get on the road. One thing dad taught us was you had to start at the bottom and work your way up. We did everything from changing tyres, wheel bearings, brakes, loading wool, general and penning sheep all under the watchful eye of the boss: dad.

Once we started driving, it was,

"Don't be in a hurry,

"Always look well ahead,

"Don't use your brakes,

"Slow down well before corners,

"If you miss a turn, don't panic, go to the exit to turn around,

"When carting sheep, keep your cool, don't hit or kick, just turn their heads,"

All these things have kept us in good stead.

Dad, over the years, has employed hundreds of drivers, many going on not only to be great workers, but becoming great friends. Blokes like Dav Jackal, Bruce Chamberlain, Roy Paynink, Peter (Lurch) Harrington, Shane Melton, Brendan Bourke, and Clem Fitzgerald just to name a few.

Dad was recently making his list of all the drivers he's had and I asked him where do





# Vale Bill Fitzpatrick (1933 - 2024)

Brendan, Paul and myself fit into your best drivers' list. He just said,

"You boys don't count, you're family"

If anyone needs praise, it's mum. She kept house, looked after us kids, answered phones, took messages, kept dad clean, fed, and on the road, and did all the bookwork.

As they say, behind every great man, there's an even greater woman. Not a truer word has been spoken about mum.

During the 90s, Paul and myself were behind the wheel with dad still doing more than his fair share. Wycheproof and Bendigo sheep sales, and sheep boats into Portland and South Australia kept us busy.

As long as I can remember dad rarely missed a field day or clearing sale in the area. He loved going and talking to everyone. He would say it was a great P.R. day, always coming home with a handful of Chinese shifters which he put in every truck or car he owned.

1997 was a big year for me, and for dad as I became a father for the first time and dad became a grandfather. From this time forward, dad was known as Pa.

He was Pa to 22 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, and one on the way. We were into the 2000s and Pa was still driving strong and was nominated for the Truckies Hall of Fame in Alice Springs. He and mum made the trip to accept his nomination and have made it every year since, except the covid years.

In 2005 Pa thought a new ute would be the go for him to make the trip to Alice Springs. He asked us what he should buy. We told him to get a diesel twin cab 4x4. It would be a good tourer and we could use it around the yard. So came the day to pick up the new ute, Paul took him to get it. When they got there, there was a red lowered V8 Holden ute with mags and a bulbar sitting there. Pa said

"What do you think?"

Paul said,

"Where's the diesel twin cab?"

Quick as a flash, Pa said,

"Oh they're for old blokes!"

One thing about Pa, he hates birthdays, not sure why, he just hated it. He wasn't much better on Christmas, could be a real downer. Also, we were always last to get to anything

and first ones to go home.

I can remember once sitting in the car waiting for Pa to come to take us to the Charlton show. He just had to make one more phone call,

"I'll be there in a minute," he would say. So, I perched myself in the driver's seat playing Peter Brock driving this way and that way. When he finally came the steering must have been on full lock with dad reversing out full bore and side swiping the shed. To say the least, he was not happy!!

In 2014 Pa announced he was getting a new crate. We said, "Wouldn't it be better to buy a caravan and take mum on a trip?"

Pa got his new crate. He was 81 years old.

One thing about Pa, he only ever did what he wanted. There was only one way to do things and that was his way. No matter what we did at the depot he had to double check everything.

He would say after changing tyres,

"Those wheel nuts tight?"

"Yes Pa, they're bloody tight!"

"Give me the spanner."

He might get a little movement out of one,

"There you go, told you. That could have come off down the road."

So, to keep the peace, we do it Pa's way.

In 2024 Backroads ABC came to town and called us to do a story on our family in the trucking game. I thought Pa might freak out, but once the camera was rolling, you couldn't shut him up. The scene where Pa picks up the presenter in the Maple Leaf took at least 10 goes, but Pa loved it, and when it finally aired this year, he must've watched it 100 times.

Pa was still carting sheep to Bendigo this year, doing his last trip to Bendigo in July with three decks on. He managed a couple of small pick ups after that. Not bad for a man in his 90s. He reluctantly now watched his grandsons Will and Darby doing what he loved: cart sheep to Bendigo on Sundays.

Pa and Mum did one last trip to Alice Springs this year, of course driving that red ute all the way there and back.

This story only scratches the surface of all the things Pa has done and been. He loved trucks, driving, and family, in that order. He was a son, brother, uncle, husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, but most of all, he was a truck driver. RIP



Bill at the blockade at Ravenswood, 1979.



Bill at the depot.



Billy, Paul, Bill, Marie, Leanne & Julie.





# Charlton Probus News

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December fifty Charlton Probus Club members attended our Christmas meeting at the Charlton Golf Club. We began with a Minute's Silence in memory of Neil Cossar. Neil joined Probus in 2013. He was President in 2018/19 and Publicity Officer in 2022/23 and 2023/24. Neil was a willing member and did many tasks behind the scenes. Vale Neil.

At this meeting we also farewelled Margaret and Richard Bibby. Margaret and Richard were Foundation members and in 2007/08 and 2008/09 were the Outings officers. A highlight of this time was organising a trip to Norfolk Island. Margaret was President in 2009/10 and Richard was Program Officer in 2013/14. Margaret was Assistant Treasurer for 5 terms. Besides their contribution on the Committee Richard also organised the Footy Tipping for one season and has helped deliver our newsletter from the beginning – over 200 newsletters! We thank them for their contribution to our Club and wish them well in Bendigo.

After a short meeting Grace was read by Margaret Bibby and then Christmas lunch was served. After lunch members were treated to a delightful performance by the students from St Joseph's School

The young performers brought Christmas cheer with renditions of both traditional and contemporary Christmas songs. The students

received a warm round of applause before heading back to school.

This was followed by our own carol singing. Thanks to Gill Gretgrix for playing the keyboard. Brian Patton and Eily Rosewall won the best hat competition. After some lucky draws and jokes, Richard Bibby read the Travellers' Farewell.

We held our first meeting for 2025 on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. The 36 members present were wished a Happy New Year. Graham Curnow entertained us with his rendition of "The Cattle Dog's Revenge. Happy Birthday

was sung to Denise Winsall and Di Field.

Our Guest Speaker was Bill Freeman who spoke about Wills. Some of the topics Bill mentioned were: revoking a will, appointing executors, joint tenants and tenants in common, letters of administration, intestacy, granting of Probate, Medical Power of Attorney and Financial Power of Attorney. Bill then answered questions. Thanks to Bill for filling in on short notice and reminding us that when we have a valid will, we give ourselves the best chance of making sure our assets go where we want them to go.



*Probus members at the Wedderburn Christmas Fest.*



*Brain Patton & Eily Rosewall (Winning Hats).*



*Richard & Margaret Bibby.*



*Wedderburn Visit.*



*December Birthdays—Kim Wishart, Pat Saunders & Sue Walsh.*



*Christmas Breakup.*





# What's On at The Rex

## MARCH AT THE REX

Looking for a cultural fix? How about planning a weekend (or two) with Charlton's Rex Theatre when film and music take centre stage during March.

The 2025 Charlton Arts Film Festival again features an abundance of variety, mixing mainstream and indie content for discerning viewing.

The Rex welcomes back the Lyster Opera Company with their performance of Mozart's comedy / romance - "*The Abduction from the Seraglio*" - a treat for music lovers, and a light-hearted intro to the art form for first-timers.

Check out the details below!

### 2025 CHARLTON ARTS FILM FESTIVAL

Friday 21 & Saturday 22 March

Times: Various

Tickets: \$12 single film through to \$100 season ticket

Bookings & details: <https://events.humanitix.com/charlton-film-festival-2025>

Here's a chance to unwind, indulge your inner cinephile and critique a selection of movies which will challenge, provoke and engage as the annual Charlton Arts Film Festival makes a transition to the month of March.

Capturing visitors from across the state, this staple on the Charlton calendar provides a dedicated timeslot for consecutive viewings of foreign language movies, documentaries, topically themed films or a mix of multiple genres. Beyond the commercial releases, and enhanced with delicious suppers and a luncheon, it's little wonder that visitors return year-on-year, or that the weekend is earmarked as a pseudo family reunion for many.

With the option of seeing one movie or

picking up a season's ticket, all the essential details covering this year's movies, screening times and ticket purchases are included elsewhere in this publication. Engaging and affordable - don't miss out!

### LYSTER OPERA COMPANY

presents

### THE ABDUCTION FROM THE SERAGLIO

*An opera in 3 Acts by W.A. Mozart.  
Sung in German (with English subtitles)*

Saturday 29 March

Time: 2pm - 5pm

Tickets:

General admission: \$40

Concession (Seniors, full-time students, Centrelink): \$35

Child (16 years and under): \$30

Bookings: 0410 890 388 | [lysteropera.com.au](http://lysteropera.com.au) | [rextheatre.org.au/live-shows.html](http://rextheatre.org.au/live-shows.html)

Following a stunning debut at The Rex in 2024, Lyster Opera returns with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "*The Abduction from the Seraglio*" - a comedic tale filled with romantic twists and turns set in a Turkish palace.

This is a light-hearted show with an undemanding storyline, filled with young, highly trained professionals, who like to have fun on stage, but whose musical skills mean they can deliver the goods when the action demands. And this work will test them to the limits!

### SO, HERE'S THE STORY

"*Seraglio*" (pronounced "ser-raa -li -o") is a Turkish harem.

The story is about Belmonte who sets off to Turkey to rescue his fiancé, Konstanze, her friend, Blonde (pronounced "Blond-a") and Blonde's boyfriend, Pedrillo, who have been kidnapped to be sold as slaves by the ruler, Pasha Selim.

The opera plays out in hilarious, action-

packed circumstances wherein the heroes and heroines must outwit their captors, particularly the fiendish Osmin (the bad guy), who is overseer of the Pasha's seraglio.

Developed to reflect the interest in the exotic culture of the Ottoman Empire and Turkey at the time, the work premiered on 16 July 1782 and was created in the genre known as Singspiel (literally a singing play - so there is some dialogue, and the role of Pasha Selim is a speaking role).

"*Seraglio*" features some of Mozart's most spectacular and difficult arias - especially for Konstanze - who must be able to perform vocal pyrotechnics! (Yes- the role has been referred to as the "Ironman / woman" of singing—requiring endurance, speed, strength, agility and plenty of skill).

The work became an instant success with the public on opening and was the most frequently performed of Mozart's operas during his lifetime.

"*The Turkish Finale*" from "*Seraglio*" was featured in the 1984 Academy Award-winning movie "*Amadeus*" where the Austrian Emperor, Joseph II (who commissioned the work) tells Mozart that it had "*too many notes*"! (Come along and see if you think that is the case!).

Lyster Opera - as Victoria's touring opera company - brings this art form to new audiences in regional areas which would otherwise not have access to these high-quality performances. Productions are visually impressive and feature emerging opera stars in some of the most demanding vocal roles in the art form's repertoire.

"*The Abduction from the Seraglio*" is sung in German with translations displayed on a large screen (the translations are frequently very funny, with many witty asides included!).

# Charlton Campdraft News

In November, the Charlton Campdraft Club held its Annual General Meeting (AGM), bringing together members to reflect on a successful year and discuss plans for the future.

The meeting, which was attended by committee members and volunteers, highlighted the dedication of the club and our commitment to supporting both local initiatives and wider community efforts.

The Campdraft Club also presented a series of donations to both the Neighbourhood House and through a 12 Days of Christmas campaign on social media. These contributions

providing essential services to local families in need, and spreading festive cheer during the holiday season.

The club is proud to give back to the local community. Whether it's through the Campdrafts or through donations, it's all about making a positive impact and helping those who need it most.

We would also like to congratulate club members who competed across Vic and NSW in the lead-up to the Christmas and into the New Year. Their hard work and accomplishments in the arena exemplified the club's commitment to

excellence and sportsmanship. Charlton Campdraft Clubs first meeting for 2025 will be held in

March in the Senior Citizens rooms and we encourage anyone to attend.





## Attention quilters!!

Are you a local patchworker? We want your quilts for an exhibition.

## PIECED together

Charlton Courthouse Gallery  
June 7th - 9th, 2025

Expressions of Interest: Send your name and the size, year and dimensions of your quilt to Jodie 0439 994 883.  
NOTE: One quilt per person. Closing date 18th May.



## CHARLTON COURTHOUSE GALLERY

## ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION & SALE

22/23 FEB 2025

10 AM-  
5 PM SAT & SUN

8 CAMP STREET

CASH OR EFTPOS

Charlton Arts  
proudly presents:

## CHARLTON FILM FESTIVAL

March 21st & 22nd 2025  
@ The Rex Theatre

### Friday

• Lee - 8:00pm

### Saturday

• There's Still Tomorrow - 10:30am

• Sing Sing - 1:45pm

• The Pool - 4:00pm

• Saturday Night - 8:00pm

Tickets from \$12 for single film up to \$100 for full season (5 films, 2 suppers & lunch)

Available from Charlton  
Neighbourhood House (0473 759 456)  
or online at  
<https://events.humanity.com/charlton-film-festival-2025>



The Lyster Opera Presents

# Abduction from the Seraglio

Die Entführung aus dem Serail

An opera by  
W.A. MOZART

2025 REGIONAL TOUR

16 MARCH - MOE PLAZA  
22 MARCH - MILAWA TOWN HALL  
29 MARCH - THE REX CHARLTON  
5 APRIL - THE POTATO SHED, DRYSDALE  
12 APRIL - PHEE BROADWAY THEATRE, CASTLEMAINE  
26 APRIL - CRESWICK TOWN HALL  
3 & 4 MAY - IRENE MITCHELL STUDIO, SOUTH YARRA

Tickets: [lysteropera.com.au](https://lysteropera.com.au)  
or 0430 890 388

LYSTER OPERA

HENKEL BROTHERS



## **Charlton Croquet Club News**

Although the Croquet Club had a couple of weeks break it does not mean all members took a break. From 27-29<sup>th</sup> Dec. Lindsay Patullo partnered Lachlan Berryman (MCC) in the Victorian Croquet Association (VCA) Doubles played at Cairnlea and finished 3<sup>rd</sup>. Immediately afterwards Lindsay competed in VCA Open Singles and finished 4<sup>th</sup>. Lindsay has been selected in the Victorian State team to play in the Eire Cup in Adelaide from 12 -16 March.

Naomi Patullo played in the Victorian Bronze Medal at Cairnlea on 18 & 19 Jan.

Locally, play has resumed and in February we have our Section Championships and the AC Invitation Doubles. We invite anyone interested to come along to our Come 'N Try nights at 7pm each Wednesday in February. Equipment provided.

## **Charlton Croquet Club**

**Presents**

### **Come 'n Try Nights**

**Wednesday nights  
5th, 12th, 19th & 26th February  
7pm**

**Come and enjoy an evening of fun and learn how to play croquet.**

**For more information contact Lindsay Patullo  
0413 194 464 or Val Bourke 0427 074 999.**



## **Charlton's February UpMarket Day**

**Sat. 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025**

**9am – 12 pm**

**Cnr High and Halliday Sts**

*Collectables,  
Specialty stalls,  
Plants,  
Produce,  
Jewellery  
Doughnuts  
Cooking*



**Enquiries phone Gill Gretgrix 0427911308  
Proceeds go to Charlton Projects.**



## **2025 Memberships**



**Temporary memberships are available.**

**Scan the QR code for more information!**

**Please email [charlton.community.gym@gmail.com](mailto:charlton.community.gym@gmail.com) if you have any queries**

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

**Where:** Unlimited radius of Charlton  
**When:** Saturday & Sunday 15th & 16th February 2025  
**Weigh in:** 6pm Sunday at Clubrooms followed by BBQ tea.

- 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 by 6pm to qualify
- Juniors allowed to weigh in Carp. All registered kids receive a prize for participation

**Entry fee:** Adults \$5.00. Juniors \$2.00. Tea only (not fishing) \$5.00.

**For more information:**

**President:** Alan Nicolson 0417 386 787

**Secretary:** Geoff Nicolson 0417 388 652

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





REX THEATRE



CHARLTON

30-34 High St Charlton 3525  
boxoffice@rextheatre.org.au  
www.rextheatre.org.au



## REX THEATRE FEBRUARY COMING ATTRACTIONS

**Movie Prices:** General Admission \$12 | Members \$10 | VIP Members FREE | Children under 3 - FREE



### MUFASA: THE LION KING

PG Mild themes and violence  
118 mins | DrAdventure | Animation

Sat 1 FEB 8pm  
Sun 2 FEB 2pm  
Tue 4 FEB 8pm

Lost and alone, orphaned cub Mufasa meets a sympathetic lion named Taka, the heir to a royal bloodline. The chance meeting sets in motion an expansive journey of an extraordinary group of misfits searching for their destinies.



### CONCLAVE

PG Mild themes  
120 mins | Thriller

Sat 8 FEB 8pm  
Sun 9 FEB 2pm  
Tue 11 FEB 8pm

Cardinal Lawrence is tasked with one of the world's most secretive and ancient events, participating in the selection of a new pope. Surrounded by powerful religious leaders in the halls of the Vatican, he soon uncovers a trail of deep secrets that could shake the very foundation of the Roman Catholic Church.



### A REAL PAIN

MA15+ Strong coarse language  
90 mins | Comedy | Drama

Sat 15 FEB 8pm  
Sun 16 FEB 2pm  
Tue 18 FEB 8 pm

Mismatched cousins David and Benji tour Poland to honour their grandmother. Their adventure becomes complicated as old tensions resurface while exploring their family history.



### A COMPLETE UNKNOWN

M Coarse language  
141 mins | Biography | Music | Drama

Sat 22 FEB 8pm  
Sun 23 FEB 2pm  
Tue 25 FEB 8pm

In the early 1960s, 19-year-old Bob Dylan arrives in New York with his guitar and revolutionary talent, destined to change the course of American music. Forming his most intimate relationships during his rise to fame, he grows restless with the folk movement, making a controversial choice that reverberates worldwide.

MARCH

Charlton Film Festival  
Fri 21 & Sat 22 March 2025

LIVE ON STAGE



LYSTER OPERA presents  
The **ABDUCTION** from the **SERAGLIO**  
Saturday 29 March 2pm

See more: [rextheatre.org.au/live-shows.html](http://rextheatre.org.au/live-shows.html)  
Bookings: 0410 890 388 | [lysteropera.com.au](http://lysteropera.com.au)



## St Martin's Messenger—February

Sunday 2 February	9am	Holy Communion
Sunday 16 February	9am	Holy Communion
Sunday 2 March	9am	Holy Communion
Sunday 16 March	9am	Holy Communion

### Think of Neighbour as a verb Luke 10: 29-38

The parable of the Good Samaritan is interesting because Jesus does not answer the lawyer's question. "The question from the lawyer - 'who is my neighbour?'; and the answer of Jesus frustrates the lawyer's desire to define his liability. (10:29). Jesus has no interest in defining who your neighbour is. The problem of the lawyer's question is not in finding an answer, the problem is the question itself. The lawyer thinks God's purpose for the world is to divide it into boundaries, be they cultural, religious, ethnic or monetary. He believes the world works properly when we care for our own. We reach out to those who fulfil the correct definitions, and we stray no further – for that would be risky and there we might meet strange and ungodly people. The lawyer believes in neighbourly love, but only to those who possess neighbourly status (presumably of his choice).

Instead of giving an answer, Jesus shifts focus onto the lawyer by asking a question back: Which of these was a neighbour to the man? His point? Neighbour is more a verb than a noun. Neighbourliness is something we offer, not something we have as a virtue. In the kingdom of God, neighbouring is not about who do I have to love, but who do I get to love. If we look at "neighbour as more a verb than a noun" think about how this will change your prayers and change your practice?

**Prayer:** Dear God, please show me how best to 'neighbour' those around me. Open my eyes, give me opportunities. Help me to break down boundaries I might be imposing on my world, and to actively love those you put in my path, in my life. Through your Son Jesus I pray. **Amen.**

Reverend Judi Bird      0435 593 359  
judi.bird@bendigoanglican.org.au

## Charlton Connect Church

### Services

Sundays, 5pm @ Charlton Senior Citizens  
1 High Street, Charlton



Collective Society Youth  
Fridays, 6:30pm @  
Charlton Uniting Church Hall  
Halliday Street, Charlton

# Thank You

*Thank you to everyone for your best wishes,  
gifts, flowers, cards, food, and for helping me  
celebrate my 90th Birthday.*

*Norma Lang*

## Charlton Uniting Church

Halliday Street, Charlton.

### Service times for February:

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb. Uniting Church. 10.00 am  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb. Uniting Church. 10.00 am  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. Uniting Church. 10.00 am  
Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. St. Martins @ 9.00 am



Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – UpMarket in  
Church Hall. 9 am til 12. Noon  
Contact – Gill Gretgrix 0427 911 308

## East Wimmera Parish—St Joseph's Community

### Mass Times

Sun. 9<sup>th</sup> Feb.                      8.30am  
Sat. 15<sup>th</sup> Feb.                  7.00pm  
Sun. 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb.                  10.30am



**CHARLTON COMMUNITY GYM**



For more information and/or to  
become a member  
scan the QR code

or

email us

charlton.community.gym@gmail.com

## CHARLTON COMMUNITY GARDEN

\$10 membership per year

Wednesday & Saturday mornings

9am—12 noon

Located behind the Charlton  
Hospital. Entry via lane at rear of  
Foodworks Supermarket.



## OAKVALE

### Grain Harvesting Disc Chaining

Ph: David 0427 571 379

SMS: Chris 0427 579 152

### Charlton Neighbourhood House

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

Phone: 0473 759 456

Email: coord@charltonnh.org.au



Charlton Neighbourhood House  
The Heart of Our Community





Perfect for a  
business stopover or  
an extended stay to  
experience  
everything Charlton  
has to offer.

- ☑ Affordable accommodation
- ☑ Range of rooms - queen, twin, single, spa & family
- ☑ Function room with restaurant & bar facility
- ☑ Conference room seats up to 350
- ☑ Swimming pool

## CHARLTON MOTEL

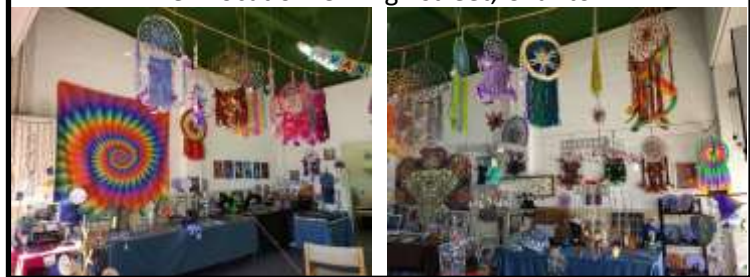
158 High Street, Charlton, VIC 3525  
03 5491 1600 charltonmotel@gmail.com



charltonmotel.com.au

## Vanessa's Zen Den

Handcrafted bags, jewellery, clothes, dream catchers.  
New location: 31 High street, Charlton



## CHARLTON HARDWARE



**HARDWARE**  
**PAINT**  
**PLUMBING**  
**TOOLS**  
**FASTENERS**  
**GARDEN**

**AUTO**  
**KEY CUTTING**  
**CAMPING**  
**POOL SUPPLIES**  
**GAS DELIVERIES**  
**GAS REFILLS**

12 Mildura Way, Charlton, Vic 3525  
(03) 5491 1204 sales@charltonhardware.com.au

## Become a Charlton Newsletter sponsor

For more information contact Garry Larmour  
on 5491 1647 or Carolyn on 0418 361 971.



- BP Charlton -  
Under New  
Management



Barista Coffee  
Freshly Made Hot  
and Cold Food  
Sweet Treats



*Worth Stopping For*

## Jade Benham MP

The Nationals Member for Mildura  
for Regional Victoria

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



*Newsletter Subscription*

(03) 5021 2828  
35a Deakin Avenue, Mildura Vic 3500  
jade.benham@parliament.vic.gov.au  
jadebenham.com.au  
#JBMP



### 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.



## Charlton Badminton Club Inc.

Proud sponsor of the  
Community Newsletter



All New Members Welcome



Bar  
Bistro  
Cafe  
Accommodation  
(03) 5491 1613

*Greg & Leanne's East Charlton Hotel*



## ROUND PRODUCTIONS

Round Productions provides a wide range of rural services to the Charlton area including metal fabrication, rural fencing, and yard building. We also have skid steers, excavators, telehandlers and trucks available for all onsite needs from trenching to post hole boring to site clean ups and levelling.

Lot 1 St Arnaud Rd, Charlton, Vic, 3525  
Open by appointment  
Jason: 0400 698 409



**CHARLTON**  
*Travellers Rest*

John Curtin Drive, Charlton  
0448 276 631

**Proud Sponsor of the Charlton Community Newsletter**

## CHARLTON PHARMACY

23 High Street  
Charlton 3525  
Tel: 5491 1521

Trading Hours  
Mon—Fri 9am to 5:30pm  
Saturday 9am to 1pm



**REVIVE PHARMACY**

## St Joseph's Catholic Community (East Wimmera Parish)

*Proud Sponsors of the  
Charlton Community  
Newsletter*



## Become a Charlton Newsletter sponsor

Small advertisements \$100

Large advertisements \$200

Banner advertisements negotiable depending on placement in newsletter.

For more information contact Garry Larmour on 5491 1647 or Carolyn Olive 0417 361 971.

**Darren Mills**  
0436 008 050  
darrenmpm@gmail.com

Small renovations  
Fencing  
Furniture assembly  
Gutter maintenance

Interior/ exterior house painting  
High pressure cleaning  
Interior/exterior house repairs

**To become a Charlton Community Newsletter Sponsor**  
Please contact Carolyn at [charltonnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:charltonnewsletter@gmail.com) or 0418 361 971



## Charlton Neighbourhood House

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

Phone: 0473 759 456

Email:

coord@charltonnh.org.au



Clothes and jewellery  
Homewares  
Bric a brac  
Small furniture

# CHARLTON VINTAGE

Retro & Vintage

Thursday and Friday: 10am – 4pm

Saturday and public holidays: 10am – 2pm

Or by appointment: Win 0412 255 267

52 High Street, Charlton



charltonvintage.com.au



## Taxworld Australia Pty Ltd

M 0418 530 129 P 1300 308 382

E taxman@taxworld.com.au

www.taxworld.com.au

**Professional service for all of your business and  
personal tax requirements**

- Servicing clients in the Wimmera & Mallee
- Tax planning
- Tax returns
- Succession planning for business and farmers

*"Your local accountant"*

# Florist

Joan Supple

Registered Florist

Flowers are available from Charlton IGA.

For special orders ring  
5491 2220 or 5495 1415.



## The Vale



Hosts: Benno & Carmel

**BED & BREAKFAST**

**LICENCED CAFÉ**

Home style cooking

Quality Pizzas

**Specialising in Private Functions**

\*Cocktail Bar

\*Beer Garden

\*Balcony Dining

**Like us on Facebook**

Phone : 5491 1353

Email: [bookings@valeofavoca.com.au](mailto:bookings@valeofavoca.com.au)

Website: [www.valeofavoca.com.au](http://www.valeofavoca.com.au)

## YOUR LOCAL AGENT IS:

Charlton Centrelink Agency

11 High Street, Charlton VIC 3525

(located in Getley & Sons Real Estate office)

**Monday to Thursday 9 AM—11:00 AM**



Australian Government



# Services Australia



Supplier of quarry  
products and blue  
stone construction  
materials.

2591 Calder Hwy,  
Charlton

Phone: 03 5491 1247

**To become a Charlton Community Newsletter Sponsor**  
Please contact Carolyn at [charltonnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:charltonnewsletter@gmail.com) or 0418 361 971



# Bakery Lane

## SERVICED APARTMENTS

16 High Street  
CHARLTON

2 & 3 BEDROOM | NIGHTLY / WEEKLY RATES

STAYZ.COM.AU

(03) 54911 691 | 0409 516 920

# Charlton Supermarket

Open 7 days a week

Monday to Saturday: 10:00am to 7:30pm

Sunday: 10:00am to 7:00pm

High Street, Charlton 03 5491 1080

# Charlton Bakery

*From our family to yours*

Phone 0492486534

60 High Street, Charlton

Monday—Friday 6am to 3pm

Saturday 7am to 2pm

ABN: 32 650 336 397



# WRIGHTBUILDING

PH: 0438 516 083

ADMIN@WRIGHTSBUILDING.COM.AU

2.7T EXCAVATOR | 3.5T TIPPER TRUCK | DINGO DIGGER | 10X5 TIPPER TRAILER

# SIGNWISE solutions

(03) 5491 1200



sales@signwisesolutions.com.au www.signwisesolutions.com.au

Full Colour Digital Printing & Computer Generated Signs, Corporate, Business, Government, Community & Sporting Groups, Canvas Prints, Wood Photo Blocks, Banners, A Boards, Vehicles, Plaques, Honour Boards, Logos, Business Cards, Fridge & Vehicle Magnets & Promo Products.

*For all of your sign, canvas and promotional needs!*

# Charlton Basketball Association

*Proud sponsor of the  
Charlton Community  
Newsletter*



# Charlton Lawn Tennis Club

*Proud sponsor of the Charlton  
Community Newsletter*



# Charlton Arts

Annual Film Festival

Charlton Art & Photography Show

School Music & Art Awards



## *Stephen Perry* **PERRY'S PAINTING SERVICE**

- Interior & Exterior Painting
- New Homes
- Re Paints
- Commercial Work
- Restorations
- Free Quotes



Proud Sponsor of the  
Charlton  
Community Newsletter

**0409 357063**



**LOCALLY HANDMADE  
CERAMICS**

Available through  
**Heenan's Charlton**  
Authorised  
Newsagency.



## **School Bus & Charter**

38 Halliday St,  
Charlton, 3525  
Tel: (03) 54 911 237  
Fax: (03) 54 911 100

*Proud Sponsor of the  
Charlton Community  
Newsletter*

**CRICKET CLUB  
HOTEL**



**CHARLTON**

Bar Open  
Sunday—Friday 2pm till late  
Saturday 11am till late

92 High Street, Charlton  
Ph 5491 1630  
cricketclubcharlton@gmail.com

## **Foundry Palms Motel**



**Hosts:** Ned & Kerry  
**Website:** foundrypalmsmotel.com.au  
**Email:** admin@foundrypalmsmotel.com.au  
86 High St, Charlton, 3525  
**Phone:** 03 54911911



**Jess Round, CPA**  
**GMG Financial Group**  
Taxation Agents, Accountants &  
Business Advisors  
**PO Box 495**  
**Swan Hill VIC 3585**  
**Ph: 03 5032 9422**  
**Mob: 0408998731**  
**Email:** [jess@gmgfg.com.au](mailto:jess@gmgfg.com.au)  
**Website:** [www.gmgfg.com.au](http://www.gmgfg.com.au)

Visiting Charlton by appointment.



## **Cabbaritta CWA**

**Proud Sponsor of the Charlton  
Community Newsletter**

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  
Charlton Community  
Newsletter**



## **Charlton Trophies**

**Troy Heenan**  
Mob: 0431 813 344  
**Rae Heenan**  
Mob: 0437 093 672



**Charlton Newsagency**

## **Become a Charlton Newsletter sponsor**

Small advertisements \$100  
Large advertisements \$200  
Banner advertisements negotiable depending on  
placement in newsletter.  
For more information contact Garry Larmour  
on 5491 1647 or Carolyn on 0418 361 971.





**37 High Street, Charlton, 3525**  
**OPEN EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT**  
**5.30pm until late.**  
**VISITORS WELCOME!**  
Meat raffle, members draw,  
beer garden, pool tables & darts.  
Air conditioned venue  
available for hire.  
Contact John - 0434 827 913  
Entertainment and events  
on a regular basis.  
Wheelchair access and ample off street  
parking at rear.



*The Probud Club of Charlton Inc.*  
*Friendship, Fellowship and Fun*  
*For Retirees and Semi Retirees.*  
*Proud sponsor of the Charlton Community*  
*Newsletter*  
Contact Anne on 0408 547 973

## Steel's Butchers Charlton



**Hours:**  
Thursday 10am - 4.30pm  
Friday 10am - 4.30pm

*For large or specific  
orders please call  
ahead to our  
Wedderburn shop.  
54943 334*

**49 High Street, Charlton**  
PH: 03 5491 2034



## Charlton Op Shop

**Hours:**  
Wed. Thurs. Fri. 10am – 3pm  
Sat. 9am – 12 midday  
Open Public Holidays

80-82 High Street,  
Tel: 0491 634 932

Can be open by request  
Follow us on Facebook



## North Central Garden Club

**Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month**  
**Enquiries: Maretia 0457 336 052**



## Charlton Senior Citizens



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

## Become a Charlton Newsletter sponsor

Small advertisements \$100  
Large advertisements \$200  
Banner advertisements negotiable depending on  
placement in newsletter.  
For more information contact Garry Larmour  
on 5491 1647 or Carolyn Olive 0417 361 971.



## Charlton Angling Club

**Proud sponsor of the  
Charlton Community Newsletter**

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



Heenan's  
CHARLTON  
AUTHORISED  
NEWSAGENCY

69 High St Charlton, Vic, 3525  
Tel: (03) 5491 1680

- Daily Newspapers
- Magazines
- Greeting Cards
- Stationery
- Printer Cartridges
- Tech Accessories
- Giftware
- Helium Balloons
- Toys
- Sporting Goods

*Proud Sponsor of the Charlton Community Newsletter*



Low-cost Pet Desexing  
2/18 Piper Road, Bendigo VIC 3550  
Bookings via website only  
[www.snipandchip.com.au](http://www.snipandchip.com.au)

F.P. Nevins & Co. Real Estate PTY LTD  
Real Estate Agents, Auctioneers

Local Representative:  
**Doug Finlay**  
Livestock and Real-estate  
0407927573

Proud Sponsor of the  
Charlton Community  
Newsletter



Excavator & Rock breaker Trencher & Bob-cat Hire, Wood saw  
**0427 528 968**  
[rjperry@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rjperry@bigpond.net.au)

**NORTH CENTRAL SMASH REPAIRS  
& RESTORATIONS**



**DAN: 0417 655 856 PH: (03) 54911389**  
**EM: 0419 445 164** [ncsmashrepairs@outlook.com](mailto:ncsmashrepairs@outlook.com)

Insurance & private work | Light vehicle repairs | Restorations  
Spray painting | Detailing | + more!  

**Charlton A & P Society**

*Proud sponsor of the  
Charlton Community  
Newsletter*



**Charlton  
Uniting Church**

**Working for Charlton and beyond**

Proud Sponsor of the  
Charlton Community  
Newsletter

Halliday Street,  
Charlton 3525

**Charlton Bowling Club**

P.O Box 128  
Charlton, 3525  
5491 1830

*Proud Sponsors of the  
Charlton Community  
Newsletter*







# February 2025

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
						<b>1</b> Lions Paper Collection from 9am
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Senior Citz Bingo, 1:30pm	<b>4</b> Mens Shed 1 pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	<b>5</b> Lions Dinner @ Lodge RSL Social	<b>6</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	<b>7</b> <b>Red Back Rally</b>	<b>8</b> <b>Red Back Rally</b>
<b>9</b> <b>Red Back Rally</b>	<b>10</b> Senior Citz Bingo, 1:30pm Bowls Meeting 7:30pm Angling Club Meeting 8pm	<b>11</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	<b>14</b> Probus Meeting RSL Meat Raffle @ CCH	<b>15</b> <b>Fishing Comp</b> Bowls 100UP 9am
<b>16</b> <b>Fishing Comp</b>	<b>17</b> Senior Citz Bingo, 1:30pm Bowls Meeting 7:30pm CWA Meeting	<b>18</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Fun Day 10:30am Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	<b>19</b> Lions Business Meeting RSL Social	<b>20</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	<b>21</b> RSL Meeting <b>OK Motels</b>	<b>22</b> <b>OK Motels</b> Up Market Gallery Art & Craft
<b>23</b> Town Garage Sale Gallery Art & Craft <b>OK Motels</b>	<b>24</b> Senior Citz Bingo, 1:30pm	<b>25</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm NCGC	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Lions BBQ at Wyche Park	<b>28</b>	

## March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> Lions Paper Collection from 9am
<b>2</b> <b>Bowls Pairs 10am</b>	<b>3</b> Senior Citz Bingo, 1:30pm	<b>4</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	<b>5</b> RSL Social	<b>6</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>Fishing Comp</b>
<b>9</b> <b>Fishing Comp</b>	<b>10</b> Senior Citz Bingo, 1:30pm	<b>11</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	<b>14</b> Probus Meeting RSL Meat Raffle @ CCH	<b>15</b> <b>Bowls 100UP 9am</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Senior Citz Bingo, 1:30pm Bowls Meeting 7:30pm CWA Meeting	<b>18</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Fun Day 10:30am Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm	<b>19</b> Lions Business Meeting RSL Social	<b>20</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	<b>21</b> RSL Meeting <b>Film Festival</b>	<b>22</b> <b>Fishing Comp</b> (Pental Island) Film Festival Bowls Triples 10am
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Senior Citz Bingo, 1:30pm	<b>25</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm Senior Citz Cards, 1:30pm NCGC	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Mens Shed 1pm - 4pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>Live Show @</b> <b>The Rex</b> Bowls Fours 10am
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					