

Skipton Community News



A Project of Skipton Progress Association Inc.
Volume 49 Issue 23 ~ 29th July 2026

FREE
WEEKLY

Wednesday, 5th August

★ Doors open 5.30pm, Eyes down 6.30pm ★

new venue

THE SUPPER ROOM OF THE MECHANICS HALL
Anderson Street, Skipton

★ ★ ★ ★ A light supper is available at Interval. ★ ★ ★ ★
Free tea and coffee available. Raffles.

This month's theme for fancy dress is:
**YOUR FAVOURITE
MOTION PICTURE
OR TELEVISION STAR**
Dress up and share in the fun!

SKIPTON CEMETERY TRUST

The Skipton Cemetery Trust is seeking help from the community with the replacement of trees that were cut down.

All donations of \$100 or more to replace these trees will have the donors name placed on a board near the front gate.

Please make direct debit donations to:

Bendigo Community Bank
BSB: 633 000 Account Number: 163398050
Account Name: Skipton Cemetery Trust
Reference: Trees + family name

For more information, contact:

Bob Thornton (Secretary) on 0413351144
OR email skipton.cemetery.au@gmail.com

—Bob Thornton, Secretary Skipton Cemetery Trust—

COMMUNITY NOTICE**NOTICE OF AGM****SKIPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Skipton and District Historical Society will hold the Annual General Meeting of the Society on Sunday 9th August at 2pm in the Old Police House, in Stewart Park Historical Precinct, Montgomery Street, Skipton.

All members are urged to attend, the date is a change from the normal meeting day of the Society.

Interested members of the Community are also very welcome, a chance to join the Society and be part of our journey forward or simply find out about us.

Please contact Secretary Barb Pett on 0407 310 990 or email skipton.history.au@gmail.com for further information.

—Skipton and District Historical Society—

**COMMUNITY NOTICE - NOTICE OF AGM
CARRANBALLAC RECREATION RESERVE**
COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT INC.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th of August at 6:30pm at Stoneleigh CFA Shed.

Business includes annual reports, financial statements and election of the Committee of Management.

For nominations or further information, please contact Paul Liston on 0407 053 924.

—Carranballac Recreation Reserve Committee of Management—

DARLINGTON MOVIE NIGHT

featuring

NONNAS

2025 Comedy/Drama



WHERE: DARLINGTON HALL

WHEN: FRIDAY 21st AUGUST, 7:30PM

\$5 ENTRY - INCLUDES SUPPER

DRINKS AND RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SALE

**COMMUNITY NOTICE****NOTICE OF AGM****FRIENDS OF THE RSL SKIPTON BRANCH**

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the RSL Skipton Branch will be held on Thursday 13th August at 11am in the Meeting Room at the Skipton Mechanics Hall, Anderson Street, Skipton.

Business includes Election of Office Bearers for the coming year, Reports on the past year, and Plans for the future.

All members are urged to attend, Volunteers are urged to maintain their commitment, and any interested community members will be equally welcome to support the Friends of the RSL Skipton Branch in their mission to keep the memory of the past, and unite and support our service men and women and their families into the future.

Lest We Forget.

Contact President Graham on 0408 838 261 or Secretary Gail Ward on 0403 530 293 for further information or support.

—Friends of the RSL Skipton Branch—

NOTICE OF AGM

5TH AUGUST | 6.30PM | STONELEIGH CFA SHED

CONTACT PAUL LISTON 0407053924

FROM THE EDITOR**A REMINDER TO OUR ADVERTISERS**

Please be aware that **INVOICES** are **NOW DUE FOR PAYMENT**. Invoices and new rates information have been emailed for your records. If payment is not received, your advertisement will be removed from the Skipton Community News until the account is settled.

If you are having any issues receiving invoices via Xero, please don't hesitate to contact the Skipton Progress Association Treasurer, Angela, by email treasurerskiptonpa@gmail.com, or call 0418 341 168.

We thank you for your continued support for our weekly newsletter, allowing us to deliver news and provide a voice for our community.

—SCN Editor, Kathy Leewai—

SKIPTON FIRE BRIGADE CELEBRATES SERVICE AT AWARDS PRESENTATION NIGHT

Skipton Fire Brigade recently held its annual Awards Presentation Night, recognising the remarkable dedication and service of its members to the Brigade, CFA and the wider community.

The evening celebrated more than 780 years of combined service among Brigade members, highlighting the commitment and volunteer spirit that has strengthened Skipton Fire Brigade over generations.

The event provided an opportunity to reflect on the brigade's rich history while also recognising the efforts of members over the past 12 months, particularly following the significant impact of the Carranballac-Skipton Fire on the 9th January 2026.

A number of members were recognised during the evening with CFA Service Awards, acknowledging their years of dedicated service. The Brigade also proudly presented Brigade Life Memberships to members whose outstanding contributions have had a lasting impact on Skipton Fire Brigade and the local community.

One of the major highlights of the night was the presentation of the Outstanding Service Award to Ian Nash, recognising more than six decades of unwavering dedication, leadership and commitment.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr Nash has held numerous leadership positions within Skipton Fire Brigade and has become one of the CFA's most respected fire investigators. As a Fire Investigator for District 16 and CFA, specialising in both structural and wildfire investigations, he has completed more than 500 fire investigations.

His expertise, professionalism and ability to foster strong working relationships have earned him widespread respect across the emergency services sector and made him a trusted leader in the field.

In further recognition of his exceptional contribution, Mt Nash was also presented with the prestigious Victorian Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria (VFBV) Gold Star Medal, one of the organisation's highest honours for volunteer service and commitment to the CFA and local communities.

Skipton Fire Brigade Captain Ben Cameron praised Mr Nash's contribution and influence on generations of firefighters.

"Ian is a mentor and role model who embodies the very best of CFA values - commitment, integrity and community spirit," Captain Cameron said.

"There is no one who better exemplifies the true meaning of outstanding service than Ian. His dedication to the brigade, CFA and the community over more than 60 years is truly remarkable."

The evening also included the presentation of six National Medals and clasps, recognising diligent and long service by members, as well as National Emergency Medals awarded for service during Australia's Black Summer bushfires of 2019-20.

The Awards Presentation Night was a fitting celebration of the dedication, professionalism and community spirit that continues to define Skipton Fire Brigade, while recognising the valuable contributions of members whose service helps keep the local community safe.

—Media release: CFA Victoria, cfa.vic.gov.au—

SKIPTON AWARDS PRESENTED BRIGADE LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Vernon Dawson
Russell Pitcher
Andrew McIntyre
David Jackson
Anna Nash
Chris Heywood

Ian Nash
Debbie McIntyre
Gary Knight
Bill Shady
Catherin Kavanagh

VFBV GOLD STAR

Ian Nash

CFA SERVICE AWARDS

10 YEAR MEDAL
Clive Fairbain-Calvert
Fionn Kelly-Vaccaro

15 YEAR MEDAL
Alistair Leitch

20 YEAR MEDAL
Tim Haywood
Rathi Dawson
Debbie McIntyre

25 YEAR MEDAL
Yvonne Shady

30 YEAR MEDAL
Adrian Gepp
Gary Knight

30 YEAR CFA LIFE MEMBERSHIP
Vernon Dawson

45 YEAR MEDAL
Lance Corbett

45 YEAR CFA LIFE MEMBERSHIP
David Jackson
Gavin Corbett
Russell Pitcher
Andrew McIntyre

65 YEAR CFA LIFE MEMBERSHIP
John Kavanagh
Ian Nash
Alan Pitcher

NATIONAL MEDAL

NATIONAL MEDAL & 1ST CLASP
Gary Knight

NATIONAL MEDAL & 1ST & 2ND CLASP
David Jackson
Vernon Dawson

1ST & 2ND CLASP
Russell Pitcher

NATIONAL MEDAL, 1ST, 2ND & 3RD CLASP
Alan Pitcher
Andrew McIntyre

1ST, 2ND & 3RD CLASP
Ian Nash

NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEDAL
Alistair Leitch
Fionn Kelly-Vaccaro

OUTSTANDING SERVICE MEDAL

Ian Nash



PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE SKIPTON FIRE BRIGADE AWARDS PRESENTATION NIGHT



*Firefighter Ian Nash
Recipient of the VFBV Gold Star Skipton Brigade
Life Membership. Photograph courtesy of CFA District 16*



*Firefighter Ian Nash
Receiving Outstanding Service Award
Photograph courtesy of CFA District 16*

Public comment invited on the Moreton Hill Wind Farm Environment Report

The proposed Moreton Hill Wind Farm is located on Wadawurrung Country, about 35km southwest of Ballarat, Victoria. The wind farm will have up to 62 turbines, producing enough electricity to power around 260,000 homes and prevent almost 350,000 tonnes of emissions annually. The wind farm will connect into the electricity network via a new underground 220kV powerline to the Berrybank terminal station about 14 kilometres south of the wind farm.

The project requires assessment under the Victorian *Environment Effects Act 1978* (EE Act) via an Environment Report, and is also a 'Controlled Action' requiring assessment and approval under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) due to likely significant impact on Matters of National Environmental Significant (MNES) protected under sections 18, 18A, 20 and 20A of the EPBC Act.

Assessment of the project's impacts on MNES is being undertaken via the accredited Environment Report assessment process as set out in Schedule 1 item 2.1(c) of the Bilateral (Assessment) Agreement between the Commonwealth and Victorian governments.

As such, the Environment Report has been prepared to examine potential impacts on state biodiversity matters and to satisfy the requirements set out by the Minister for Planning under the EE Act for MNES to address the Commonwealth requirements.

The Environment Report can be viewed and public comment can be submitted on the Engage Victoria platform at:
<https://engage.vic.gov.au/project/moreton-hill-wind-farm>

Feedback needs to be received by **7 August 2026**.

Submissions will be provided to Squadron Energy, who will then need to finalise its Environment Report, summarising and responding to matters raised in public submissions.

For more information on the proposed Moreton Hill Wind Farm please visit: moretonhillwindfarm.com.au

Alternatively you can contact Squadron Energy directly on:

Phone: 1300 119 463 Email: info@squadronenergy.com

For more information about the accredited Environment Report process visit: <https://planning.vic.gov.au/environmental-assessments>

Alternatively, please contact the Impact Assessment Unit:

Phone: (03) 8572 7980

Email: environment.assessment@transport.vic.gov.au

For assistance with Engage Victoria, please contact the Department of Transport and Planning at www.vic.gov.au or call the Victorian Government Call Centre on 1300 366 356



Department
of Transport
and Planning



BUSHFIRE RECOVERY SUPPORT AVAILABLE THROUGH CLEAN-UP PROGRAM

Property owners could be eligible for free demolition and debris removal, with support still available through the State Government's Clean-up Program.

Victorians affected by the January 2026 bushfires can still register for the State Government's Clean-up Program.

Free demolition and debris removal is available for eligible properties damaged by the bushfires. This includes properties that are insured, but where there is not enough to cover clean-up and a level of rebuild.

Forge Solutions, the program's head contractor, complete the clean-up works at no cost to the owner.

REGISTRATION

Emergency Recovery Victoria (ERV) encourages all property owners affected by the bushfires to register for the clean-up program. ERV works with property owners to understand their situation, assess damage, review insurance and confirm eligibility. Property owners can register online or by phone:

- www.vic.gov.au/register-for-cleanup
- Emergency Recovery Hotline: 1800 560 760 (option 3)

If a property owner previously withdrew from the program, they can still opt in while registrations remain open.

HOW IT WORKS

Before any work begins, Forge undertakes a site assessment in consultation with the property owner. After this, the property owner is given a Work Pack outlining what has been agreed to be removed, and noting anything the property owner has requested to be left. The property owner opts in by agreeing to the scope of works.

Forge Solutions delivers the clean-up works using qualified trades, where possible from the local area. Once the works are complete, the property owner undertakes a final walk-through with Forge to confirm everything has been completed as agreed.

SAFETY

ERV will not send contractors to a property without notifying the property owner. Authorised workers carry identification, wear Victorian Government or Forge Solutions branding, and will never ask for payment. If a property owner is unsure about someone attending their property, they should contact the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760 (option 3) to check.

AVAILABLE SUPPORTS

Free legal help with insurance is available through Disaster Legal Help Victoria. Financial counselling is also available through Anglicare, and the Rural Financial Counselling Service (details below).

Register today to find out if a property is eligible.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Disaster Legal Help Victoria

Phone: 1800 113 432

Anglicare:

Phone: 5440 1100

Email: DisasterFC@anglicarevic.org.au

Rural Financial Counselling Service

Phone: 1300 735 578

Email: admin@wswrccs.com.au

—Media release: Emergency Management Victoria—



CHECK ON YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Do you know someone who hasn't started their clean-up after the January bushfires?

They may be eligible for free clean-up support.

Register online for Clean-up vic.gov.au/register-for-cleanup or call the Emergency Recovery Hotline

☎ 1800 560 760 (option 3).

OTHER FREE SUPPORT

Disaster Legal Help Victoria provides free legal assistance

☎ 1800 113 432

Rural Financial Counselling Service offers support with financial planning and insurance

☎ 1300 735 578

A quick check-in could help them take the next step.



TABLET BASICS AND SUPPORT

FREE INFORMATION SESSIONS

WOULD YOU LIKE TO FEEL MORE CONFIDENT USING A TABLET?

Join our friendly Digital Literacy sessions designed especially for older adults.

- ✓ No experience needed
- ✓ Small, relaxed group
- ✓ Bring your own Apple or Android (Samsung) tablet, or use one of ours
- ✓ Learn at your own pace with one-on-one help

Topics include tablet basics, important apps, email & online safety.

DATES AND LOCATIONS

CAMPERDOWN

Killara Centre
1 - 4 pm

Thursday 9 July
Thursday 23 July
Thursday 6 August
Tuesday 18 August

TERANG

Rose Room, Civic Centre
1 - 4 pm

Tuesday 1 September
Tuesday 15 September
Tuesday 13 October
Tuesday 27 October

COBDEN

Heytesbury Room, Civic Hall
1 - 4 pm

Thursday 12 November
Thursday 26 November
Thursday 10 December
Thursday 17 December

Places are limited, bookings essential.

Contract the Positive Ageing, Access & Inclusion team on 5593 7100.



**WELLBEING
AND INCLUSION.**



Anglican Parish of Beaufort & Skipton

Contact Marilyn Ellis on 5340 3515 for enquiries

Usual Service times

9:00am on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month

St Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Contact Stewart on 0437 495 553 for enquiries

Service Times: Presbyterian Congregation**Skipton/Lismore**

10am at Skipton each week

St John The Baptist Catholic Church,**Beaufort****Service Times**

- Week One Sunday LLA 10:00am
- Week Two Sunday Mass 8:30am
- Week Three Sunday LLA 10:00am
- Week Four Sunday Mass 8:30am
- Week Five Sunday LLA 10:00am


St Aloysius' Redan
St James' Sebastopol
St Peter's Linton
(Encompassing Skipton,
Smythesdale & Snake Valley)
 Parish Priest: Fr. Con
 Bagaoisan OSJ
 Presbytery: 508 Leith St,
 Redan
 Telephone: 0435 494 472

 Assistant Priest: Fr. Eladio
 Lizada OSJ
 Telephone: 0450 017 007
Parish Coordinators & Safeguarding Officers
 Redan: Bernadette Lynch
 Telephone: 0455 212 123
 Email:
redan@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 Office hours: Tuesday &
 Thursday 9am - 4pm

 Sebastopol: Pauline O'Brien
 Telephone: 0428 699 624
 Email:
sebastopol@ballarat.catholic.org.au
 Office hours: Tuesday & Friday
 9am - 3pm

For Linton Parish enquiries, contact Fr. Con Bagaoisan

The parish acknowledges that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation people and the traditional owners and custodians of this land.

Parish Mass Times
St Aloysius, Redan & St James, Sebastopol: Thursday 9:30am, Friday 9:30am, Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 9:00am, Sunday 10:30am

St Brigid's, Snake Valley, St Peter's, Linton & St John's, Skipton: Saturday 6:30pm, Sunday 9:00am, Sunday 10:30am
St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

3 Lyons St, South Ballarat

Telephone: 5331 2933

Email: ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.auWeb: stpatrcathedral.weebly.comwww.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9/

Office hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10:00am - 3:00pm

The phone will be transferred to the on-call priest so that Hospitals, Aged Care facilities, Funeral Directors or others seeking the services of a priest may be responded to.



St Patrick's Cathedral Parish acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather, the Wadawurrung People of the Kulin nation.

We are a child safe Parish following the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government, implementing procedures and standards as directed by the Professional Standards Office of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE**Skipton Community News Banking Details**

Bendigo Community Bank Beaufort

Account name: Skipton Progress Association Inc.

BSB: 633 000 Account number: 146 795 687

**SKIPTON TRANSFER STATION**

Beaufort Road, Skipton

Skipton Transfer Station opens fortnightly on Wednesdays and Sundays from 1-5pm

Sunday 26th July

Wednesday 29th July

Sunday 9th August

Wednesday 12th August

Sunday 23rd August

Wednesday 26th August

Sunday 6th September

**Skipton Kerbside Bin Collection**
Red waste bins collected weekly, yellow recycling fortnightly, purple glass on first recycling week each month
Green bin collected fortnightly between January & September, weekly between October & December

Tuesday 28th July: Red & yellow bins

Tuesday 4 August: Red & green bins

Tuesday 11th August: Red, yellow & purple bins

Tuesday 18th August: Red & green bins

Tuesday 25th August: Red & yellow bins

Tuesday 1st September: Red & green bins

SKIPTON FOOD BANK**AT JUBILEE CENTRE**

10 MONTGOMERY STREET, SKIPTON

**NEW OPENING HOURS****MONDAYS 2PM-5PM****WEDNESDAYS 12PM-3PM****THURSDAYS 9AM-12PM**

An emergency community pantry providing free food, toiletries and hygiene products, cleaning supplies and other necessities to those in need, no questions asked.

Please consider a financial donation to:

SKIPTON COMMUNITY SHOP

BSB 633 000 Account number: 230967804

SKIPTON OP-SHOP**OPENING HOURS**
 The after-hours phone number for Stan has
 changed to **5340 2478**

Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm

Saturday 10am - 3pm

Sunday 10am - 2pm


SKIPTON LIBRARY AT
THE MECHANICS HALL

5 Anderson St, Skipton



Open Tuesday 10am-12pm

Friday 3pm-5pm

Fiction, non-fiction, Large Print, DVDs, eBooks, children's books & DVDs, biographies, and more. Free membership, all welcome.

Publish your meeting or events dates in the
Skipton Community News each week!
Email details to the Editor to skiptonscn@gmail.com

Post us a flyer to PO Box 60, Skipton VIC 3361

 Or drop us a note into our drop boxes in either the
 roadhouse or the Skipton Country Grocers.

 The deadline for inclusion is 4pm every Friday, to be
 printed in the next week's newsletter.

Story contributions are also welcome.

29 JULY 2026

BSHS NEWS BULLETIN

AN EVENING WITH ABBEY HOLMES

Beaufort & Skipton Health Service is excited to welcome AFLW premiership player and sports broadcaster Abbey Holmes to Beaufort for an inspiring evening of conversation, connection and wellbeing.

Date: Wednesday 16th September

Time: 6:30pm-8pm

Catering from 6:30pm

Keynote commencing at 7pm

Location: Beaufort Community Bank Complex

A former AFLW premiership player and sports broadcaster, Abbey is known for her passion, resilience and commitment to empowering women. Through an engaging and authentic conversation, Abbey will share her personal journey, the challenges she has overcome, and the lessons she has learned about confidence, wellbeing and achieving success both on and off the field.

This event is an opportunity for community members of all ages to come together, be inspired and enjoy an evening of meaningful conversation in a welcoming environment.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

To book your place, please scan the QR code or call 5349 1659.



Beaufort | 28 Havelock Street | 5349 1600
Skipton | 2 Blake Street | 5340 1100

bshs.org.au



CONNECT WITH US

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

AN EVENING

— with —

ABBIE HOLMES

ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS WELCOME



BEAUFORT COMMUNITY BANK COMPLEX

39 Park Rd, Beaufort, 3373

WED 16
SEPTEMBER 2026

6.30PM-8.00PM

CATERING PROVIDED FROM 6.30PM
KEYNOTE COMMENCES AT 7PM

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



To book your place please scan the QR code or call **5349 1659.**



LETTER TO ALL RESIDENTS OF OUR FIRE IMPACTED COMMUNITY

Dear Residents of Streatham, Carranballac, Skipton and the wider community,

I am writing to share with you all the vision of the Fire Film and Community Photo Book which will culminate on Saturday 24th October in the Skipton Hall.

The fire stopped on the south-west corner of our farm from which we had evacuated with our grandchildren whilst our son fought the fire in the Carranballac area. Like Skipton, if the wind had not changed, our farm would have been seriously impacted, however we were lucky and escaped damage.

This gave our family deep, humble thankfulness which therefore allowed me to put my energy into supporting, with my heart and energy, our devastated community.

One of the several ideas was the importance of an Historical record, consequently we now have the Film and the Book being created by local Western District companies. This project also became a way of opening the doors to sharing and conversation, including story telling by our community in a variety of ways so there is an active appreciation of the LONG JOURNEY OF RECOVERY being experienced by ALL our impacted Community.

This process proved to be helpful and healing for many during the Recording of the Skipton Flood in 2011, which encouraged me to repeat the creation of a book and Film.

I have always recognised the deep trauma experienced by all and that their journey is very personal. In all my contact as I have driven this latest project, I have tried to be gentle with my words and actions, humbly accepting no answer or NO as an answer, as I continue to do throughout this process.

I also recognise the Photo Art Exhibition was challenging for many as the visual is truly in your face as will be the book and the film.

Many attendees told their stories of the 1977 fire when Streatham burnt - 49 years later it is still challenging for people to view images of a fire and share stories of their experiences.

We cannot soften the images as the fire was a Huge Challenging Fire for all involved and it is a historical fact.

I have spoken with many fire impacted people from fires they have experienced to understand if it is too soon - the answer is, I am damned if I do and damned if I don't - yes, too soon for some, not for others. If I leave it for a year or two the stories change and people will have moved on.

We have supplied the availability for access to Mental Health Councillors during all our activities, being deeply mindful of everyone's personal challenges and will repeat this for the 24th October when the book is distributed and the Film shown.

Please recognise that there is no compulsion to attend any gathering or purchase any of the creations we are working on, however please be aware that the book and film are a one-off creation. We have created opportunity and historical record for our community if they wish to be part of it.

I hope this letter helps everyone to understand our vision and our deep compassion for the Streatham, Carranballac, Skipton communities. Lisa Wills, who is working with me on this project, and I are continually trying to walk in your shoes with empathy and compassion.

My best wishes to you all,

—Pat Gabb—

COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING GRANTS 2026



Open 1 to 31 Aug

Is your community group looking for funding for a project or program?

Applications open at 9am on Saturday 1 August for Golden Plains Shire Council's Community Strengthening Grants Program 2026.

The program offers not-for-profit community groups the opportunity to apply for one-off grants to assist in delivering projects that directly benefit our community. Council recognises the critical role grants play in strengthening our community by supporting local community groups and organisations to deliver worthwhile projects, programs and activities to the community.

Grants of up to \$7,000 are available in three categories:

- Healthy Connected Community
- Community Inclusion
- Environment and Sustainability

To read more about the three funding categories and eligible projects, please access the program guidelines from our website.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their application with Council's Community Grants team. Please enquire as soon as possible to allow adequate time to discuss your application prior to the submission deadline.

Applications are open until 2pm, Monday 31 August 2026.

For more information and to apply for a Community Strengthening Grant, visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au, email at communitygrants@gplains.vic.gov.au or call 5220 7111.



Moreton Hill Wind Farm

The proposed Moreton Hill Wind Farm is located on Wadawurrung Country, about 35 kilometres southwest of Ballarat. The wind farm will have up to 62 turbines, producing enough electricity to power around 260,000 homes and prevent almost 350,000 tonnes of emissions annually.

The wind farm is proposed to connect to the electricity network via a new underground 220kV powerline to the Berrybank terminal station about nine kilometres south of the wind farm.

For the latest updates on Moreton Hill Wind Farm and to sign up for our community updates, please scan the QR code or visit: www.moretonhillwindfarm.com.au



**SQUADRON
ENERGY**



Groceries

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15 Montgomery St. Skipton

Ph: (03) 5340 2020

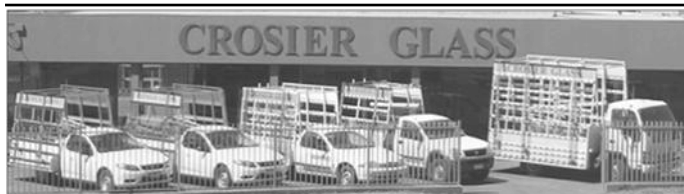
Monday—Saturday

8am—7pm

Sunday

9am—7pm

skipton@countrygrocers.com.au



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QUALIFIED TRADESMEN

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5336 1244

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- General Glazing
- Laminated Glass
- Heater Glass Replacement
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- Glass Cut To Size
- Coloured Glass & Leadlight Supplies
- Commercial Glazing
- Mirrors
- Insurance Work
- Tractor Cabins
- Shower Screens
- Frameless Shower Screens
- Shop Fronts

MOBILE SERVICE
0408 503 866

FAX
5336 1882



107a Hertford Street Sebastopol

BALLARAT & DISTRICT

STOCKYARD HILL Wind Farm

Phone: 1800 753 730

Website:

www.stockyardhillwindfarm.com.au



- Pressure washing. (Concrete, bricks, sandstone, moss removal)
- Lawn mowing, whipper snipping.
- Gutter cleaning.
- Solar panel cleaning.
- General yard maintenance.



CUTTING GALLERY BEAUFORT

60 Neill St, Beaufort
Ladies & Gents Hairdressing

HOURS: Closed Mondays

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (9am till late)

Friday (8:30am-5.30pm)

Closed Saturday

Gift vouchers available / Waxing and Lash & Brow Tints

Stockist of Redken / Zenz alternative Hair Colour

Phone 5349 2688 for appointments



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Josh Todd has the Ray White_Know How

With almost twenty years of selling properties in Skipton and district, Josh has the knowledge, skill and expertise to maximise the value of your property. It's how we've sold more properties in Australia than any other real estate group.

Josh Todd

0428 621 004

josh.todd@raywhite.com

raywhiteballarat.com.au

STREATHAM, CARRANBALLAC & SKIPTON FIRE *Documentary & Book Launch*



A NIGHT OF COMMUNITY & HEALING

SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER FROM 5PM
SKIPTON MECHANICS HALL

FREE ENTRY – ALL WELCOME
LIGHT SUPPER PROVIDED

CONTACT LISA WILLS: 0409301906
OR PAT GABB 0437421802 FOR MORE INFO

www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1620212

PREORDER
YOUR BOOK
NOW!!!



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AWARD PRESENTED TO VIVIANNE BARR



Leading Senior Constable Anthony Graham was happy to present the end of Term Two Neighbourhood Watch Award to Skipton Primary School student Vivienne Barr for displaying exemplary citizenship and always being most helpful in all areas at the school.

Well done, Vivienne!

—Report and photograph from SCN reporter Lois Lane—

COMMUNITY INVITED TO PRE-ORDER FIRE BOOK AND FILM

Streatham, Carranballac, Skipton Community Fire Book and Film - Historical Record and part of the Long Journey of Recovery

We are delighted to invite our community to order the Film and Book if they wish and book into the FREE Community Evening on SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2026 in the Skipton Hall (numbers are needed for catering).

Doors will open at 5pm, food and music, books and DVDs distributed until 7pm, film screening at 7:30pm.

We have volunteers from outside our community helping us coordinate this evening with the aim - to give our WHOLE community a night off!

We would love you all to share the past and our future with our community, however if you feel it is too challenging to attend, we truly understand.

We can't soften the evening, however we understand the challenges it may create for some of our community.

****PLEASE NOTE****

The cut-off date for ordering/booking is FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2026 - the TryBooking site will close that day.

If you are having difficulties with the TryBooking site, please contact Pat Gabb on 0473 421 802 (text only, I will reply), or Lisa Wills on 0409 301 906. We are happy to support you. We strongly encourage you to use the TryBooking site, keeping in mind the creation process is a one-off and PRE-PURCHASE is required.

Due to wonderful financial support we are receiving, we are able to keep the prices down for the community so if we need to reprint the cost will not be subsidised and there would be a minimum number to create a print run. It could be a cost similar to reprinting the Flood Book!

Please note that there have been requests to reprint the 2011 Skipton Flood Book - this is possible but the cost per book is \$100. This is due to the complicated process to scan in good quality and reproduce the book. We will need 10 orders for this Flood Book to be reprinted. If you are interested, you can order the Flood Book on the TryBooking site.

PLEASE SHARE THIS ORDER PROCESS WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY - PURCHASE IS OPEN TO EVERYONE.

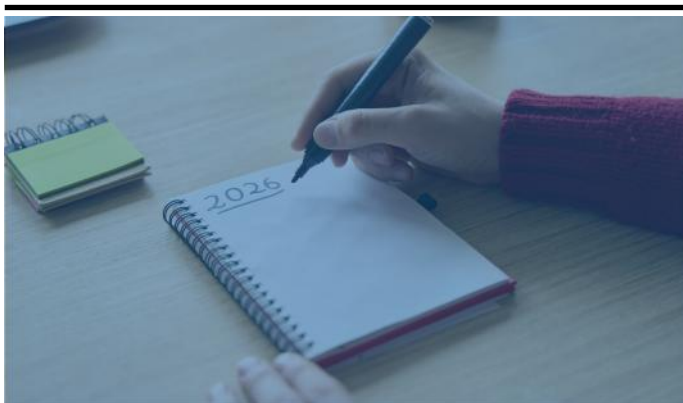
If you are unable to attend, make sure Pat and Lisa know and we can put your order aside.

We hope you are all able to share in this project of History and healing.

—Pat Gabb and Lisa Wills—

For bookings/ordering: www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1620212

QR Code on poster on page 11



Write a Will

A New Year's resolution you should keep

Writing or updating your Will should be at the top of your 'to do' list in 2026. Contact our experienced team to get it started.

We can also assist with:

- Power of Attorney
- Asset protection
- Trusts
- Structuring
- Superannuation
- Taxation Law

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What an achievement!
So... many thanks to
Joan Kirner and Heather Mitchell
for having such vision all those
years ago!

Lets kick our heels up and celebrate!
Share our stories, learn from
one another and have a
cracking good time together!

Kids' & Ne
Creative
Corner



Fat-tailed dunnart - photo courtesy of N. Oddie

AUGUST 15th 2026

Skipton Mechanics Hall

3pm - 9pm

Please RSVP for catering purposes.
Dinner at 6pm. Drinks at Bar Prices.



CORANGAMITE
SHIRE



Upper Mount Emu Creek
Landcare Network

More info; Lyn Heenan
p 0407 801 932
e lyn_heenan@bigpond.com



SAVE THE DATE!

Skipton Spring Festival



SUNDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 10AM-4PM
SKIPTON RECREATION RESERVE



Shearing demonstrations,
Gumboot Toss
Free kids activities,
Live music and entertainment
Food trucks and market stalls,
Classic and vintage car show,
And More!



follow for updates:
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LOCAL FARMER AND COMMUNITY LEADER**MEGAN READ TO CONTEST RIPON**

The Liberal Party has endorsed respected local farmer, small business owner, volunteer and mother of four Megan Read as its candidate for Ripon at the Victorian election on 28th November.

Born in Creswick, raised in Ballarat and now farming near Beaufort with her husband Warwick, Megan has spent her life living, working and volunteering across the communities of Ripon. She has built successful businesses, served local schools and sporting clubs, helped raise hundred of thousands of dollars for community causes, and played a leading role in supporting recovery following the devastating Streatham-Skipton fires.

Now, she is stepping forward to fight for the future of regional Victoria.

Mrs Read said Labor had taken country communities for granted for too long.

“Regional Victorians deserve better. We deserve safe roads, quality healthcare, strong local schools and a government that respects the people who grow our food, protect our communities and keep regional Victoria strong,” Mrs Read said.



Megan Read

Photograph courtesy of Victorian Liberals

As a farmer, Mrs Read has also been on the frontline opposing Labor’s reckless renewable energy rollout across prime agricultural land in western Victoria, standing with local communities against poorly planned transmission lines and industrial-scale energy developments that threaten productive farmland and regional livelihoods.

Mrs Read said she would fight to scrap Labor’s unfair Emergency Services and Volunteer’s Fund, fix crumbling local roads, back farmers and small businesses, and ensure regional communities receive their fair share of infrastructure investment.

“Country Victorians shouldn’t be paying more and getting less. We deserve a government that listens to regional communities instead of imposing decisions on them.”

Mrs Read said Ripon needed a strong local representative who understood firsthand the challenges facing families, farmers and small businesses.

“I’ve spent my life serving this community because I care deeply about its future. Now I’m asking for the opportunity to serve it in Parliament and deliver the change our region deserves.”

As part of Jess Wilson’s New Liberal Team, Megan is asking for your support to deliver the Fresh Start regional Victoria deserves.

—Media release: Liberal Party of Australia, Victorian Division—

COMMUNITY RECOVERY GRANTS NOW OPEN

Labor is continuing to stand with communities affected by January’s bushfires with more recovery support.

Minister Ward recently announced the Community



Recovery Grants program is now open.

The Member for Ripon Martha Haylett is encouraging community groups and non-for-profits to apply for grants up to \$75,000 to deliver recovery programs of all sizes.

The program will back locally led projects that help people recover, reconnect and rebuild across bushfire-affected council areas.

It is based on a simple principle: local communities know their recovery needs best.

That’s why we are giving local groups the flexibility to design and deliver the projects that matter most to them.

This can include trauma-informed training and psychological first aid.

It can also support community wellbeing events and workshops that bring locals together.

“These grants will help our bushfire affected communities to run workshops and projects that help families on their journey to recovery,” said Member for Ripon Martha Haylett.

Projects may also include practical preparedness resources such as “Are You Ready?” materials to help households plan for future emergencies.

This builds on more than \$420 million in bushfire recovery support already funded, which we are delivering in partnership with the Commonwealth.

Anyone needing assistance is encouraged to contact the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760 to be connected with relevant support.

Applications are now open and close on 31st August 2026.

For more information and to apply, visit vic.gov.au/community-recovery-grants-2026-bushfires.

—Media release: Office of Martha Haylett, Member for Ripon—

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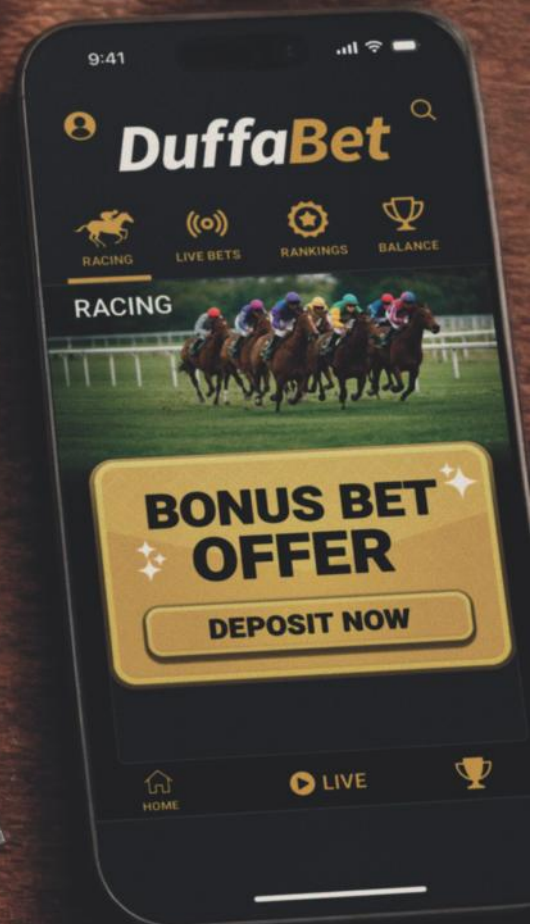
BEAT DUMB THUMB

SET LIMITS BEFORE YOU BET

Ever noticed your thumb gets excited when it comes to gambling apps? Once it sees the alerts, bonus offers and multi bets, it can't get enough. Next thing, it's whacking bets on everything from the footy to Hungarian wrestling.

It's called 'Dumb Thumb'. But the good news is, you can beat it by setting limits.

- ✓ **Max once a week**
- ✓ **Max 2 types of gambling**
- ✓ **Max 2% of weekly pay**



Q Beat Dumb Thumb

**BELOW ARE SOME EXTRACTS FROM 1936 FROM THE SKIPTON STANDARD & STREATHAM GAZETTE FROM 90 YEARS AGO
LOCATED IN THE SHS POLICE HOUSE MUSEUM, MONTGOMERY STREET, SKIPTON.**

**These extracts are researched and provided by:
Terry Gosling (Treasurer of Skipton Historical Society)**

EIGHTEEN MEALS A DAY.

Mealtime is worktime for Mr. Tom Peabody. His job is to go round tasting the lunches, teas and dinners in a certain chain of restaurants. If he finds anything wrong the cooks hear about it pretty soon.

He can make a safe bet if vegetables have been re-cooked. And he knows at once if something is missing from the mixed dishes.

"Sometimes I go through the whole menu," he says, "but I usually pick out one separate dish. I often start my day's eating by tasting pork at ten in morning. Then I go on to trying jam.

"Some days I spent the whole morning tasting wines. I have to eat dabs of butter and drink endless cups of tea and coffee. Then there is lunch. More tasting in the afternoon—till dinner-time—and finally supper." Mr. Peabody made a wry face. He has not had an appetite for nearly twenty years.

A fifteen-meal day is his usual average, but the eighteen-meal day happens quite frequently.

Restaurants must watch their competitors, so Mr. Peabody spends his spare time eating rival meals.

"Then I have to go through the whole set lunch, just to see what they give one for the money."

Mr. Peabody has a slim, active figure, and looks about thirty-seven. He says the best waitresses are the ones who "mother" their customers, and that the worst insult you can give him is to invite him to dinner.

A TREE OF ALL TRADES

Britain's first "one tree" exhibition, held at Ceylon House, London, was devoted to displaying samples of the cocoanut palm's products, of which there were over two hundred in daily use. From the shell of its fruit, craftsmen fashion spoons, ladles, drinking cups, bowls, buttons, and toys. Crushed into powder, the shell also makes a toothpaste, while when burnt it is used as the charcoal in gas-mask manufacture.

From the fibre of the husk is spun a yarn. This material is woven into mats and door-rugs. The toughest fibres are exported to Japan, where they are made into brushes and brooms.

The sweet juice, derived from the fruit stem, is made into a light liquor, called toddy. This, when fermented and distilled, is converted into arrack, a potent drink. From the tree trunk, troughs and drain pipes are hollowed.

We are forgetting the nut! Apart from its fair-ground enticements, it yields cocoanut oil, which is a mainstay not only of medicines and cosmetics, but of margarine, candles, and soap. Another product of the nut is poonac, a valuable cattle and poultry food.

In Ceylon, where the cocoanut palm ranges over 1,100,000 acres, the natives look to it for all their domestic accessories from their cradle or roof thatch to a resplendent funeral pyre.

To discover more about Skipton's past, drop into the Old Police House at 35 Montgomery Street between 2pm and 4pm on the third Sunday of every month. All are most welcome.



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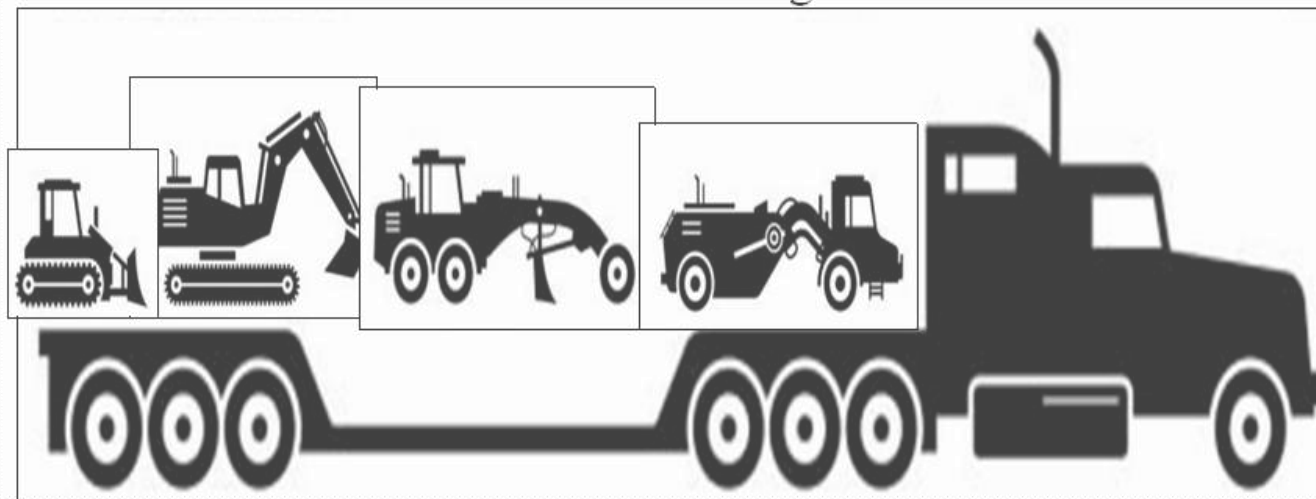
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Saturday 9.00am - 12.00pm



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Authorised by Dan Tehan MP, Liberal, 190 Gray St, Hamilton VIC 3300.

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AUGUST 2026



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Nurse Practitioner	
9:00 AM—4:00 PM Tues—Thurs	
Nurse Led Clinic	
9:00 AM— 5:00 PM Mon—Fri	
Pathology	
9:00 AM—12:30 PM Mon—Fri	
District Nursing	
Mon & Fri	
Social Support Group	
Tues & Thurs 11:30 AM Cost \$10	
Exercise Classes	
Thurs 9:30 AM & 10:30 AM Cost \$5	
Physiotherapy	
Thursday weekly Cost \$10	
Mortlake Pharmacy	
Medication deliveries Wed & Fri 2:00 PM	
Podiatry	
3rd Thurs of the month 10am-4pm Cost \$10	
Maternal & Child Health Nurse	
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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3 Nurse Led Clinic	4 Nurse Led Clinic/ District Nursing SSG-ARARAT	5 Nurse Led Clinic	6 Nurse Led Clinic Exercises Centre Lunch Physio	7 Nurse Led Clinic
10 Nurse Led Clinic District Nursing	11 Nurse Led Clinic/ District Nursing Maternal & Child Health Nurse	12 Nurse Led Clinic Massage Therapist	13 Nurse Led Clinic Exercises Doctors Visit Kinder Visit Physio	14 Nurse Led Clinic District Nursing
17 Nurse Led Clinic	18 Nurse Led Clinic/ District Nursing SSG-DUNKELD	19 Nurse Led Clinic	20 Nurse Led Clinic Exercises Centre Lunch Physio & Podiatry	21 Nurse Led Clinic
24 Nurse Led Clinic District Nursing	25 Nurse Led Clinic/ District Nursing Maternal & Child Health Nurse	26 Nurse Led Clinic Massage Therapist	27 Nurse Led Clinic Exercises Centre Lunch Physio	28 Nurse Led Clinic District Nursing
31 Nurse Led Clinic				

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- Corangamite Youth Showcase | Sunday 20 September
- Camperdown Show | Saturday 10 October
- Noorat Show | Saturday 21 November
- Light Up Camperdown | Friday 4 December

Register now at corangamite.vic.gov.au/perform.

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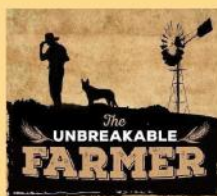
Closes 5 pm, Wednesday 5 August.

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Movie of the month

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The Dressmaker, Timboon & District Public Hall (2015 Kate Winslet)

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LIGHT up The NIGHT

LISMORE RECREATION RESERVE
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The Skipton Community News is a project of the Skipton Progress Association Inc. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we create and publish, the Wadawurrung People of the Kulin Nations, and we pay our respect to Elders past, present, and emerging.

The Skipton Community News is a proud member of the Community Newspaper Association of Victoria. Find current and previous issues online at the National Library of Australia/TROVE: <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-2816369293>

DISCLAIMER: All information in SCN is from sources believed to be accurate and current at the time of publication. The Editor reserves the right to withhold publication of anything deemed inappropriate, including any anonymous contributions. Views expressed in SCN are not necessarily the views of Skipton Progress Association Inc. —Kathy Leewai, Editor, SCN—



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AND MEETINGS

Skipton Senior Citizens Club Every Monday at Skipton Mechanics Institute Hall From 2pm till 4pm on Monday, and on the fourth Monday have an earlier start of 12 noon for Lunch. Committee Meeting follows at 2pm. "Seniors" is a fantastic way to enjoy a weekly outing and to make new friends. Play Cards, Bingo, Carpet Bowls, and "lots of Other Stuff"!! - Seniors also have trips and outings throughout the year. - Just come along, you will be happy you did.	Sunday 2nd August, 11am-3pm, HARRY WALDRON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION at the Beaufort Community Complex, 39 Park St, Beaufort. Friends and Family are invited to join in. Please RSVP to Louise on 0439 424 337.
Euchre Card Group Meets on Wednesdays at 1:30pm. In the Billiard Room, Mechanics Hall. All welcome. All ages will enjoy cards.	Sunday 2nd August, 12pm-3pm, TEXTURED COCKATOO PAINT & SIP COMMUNITY EVENT at the Skipton Mechanics Hall. All skill sets welcome, beginner friendly workshop. \$35pp, call Karen to book on 0427 729 808. Brought to you by the Skipton Art Trail Group & Skipton Progress Association, proudly sponsored by Moreton Hill Wind Farm.
Skipton Library in Mechanics Hall Opening times: Tuesday 10:00am to 12:00pm Friday 3:00pm to 5:00pm Fiction, non-fiction, LARGE PRINT, DVDs, eBooks, Children's books & DVDs, and biographies. Free membership, all welcome. Come and check us out.	Wednesday 5th August, 6:30pm CARRANBALLAC PROGRESS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at the Stoneleigh CFA Shed. For more information, please contact Paul Liston on 0407 053 924.
Skipton Food Bank NEW OPENING HOURS - see Page 6 An emergency community pantry supplying food, toiletries, and other necessities for those in need, no questions asked. For cash donations, please deposit to: Skipton Community Shop BSB: 633 000 Account number: 230967804	Wednesday 5th August, 6:30pm CARRANBALLAC RECREATION RESERVE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at the Stoneleigh CFA Shed. Business includes annual reports, financial statements and election of the Committee of Management. For nominations or further information, please contact Paul Liston on 0407 053 924.
Skipton Historical Society From 2pm-4pm, the third Sunday of every month, in the Court House Museum and Old Police House, in Stewart Park, Montgomery St, Skipton. All visitors welcome. Further enquiries, please call Secretary on 0407 310 990 or email skipton.history.au@gmail.com.	Sunday 9th August, 2pm SKIPTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING in the Old Police House in Stewart Park Historical Precinct, Montgomery St, Skipton. All members are urged to attend. Interested members are also very welcome, a chance to join the Society and be part of our journey forward. Please contact Secretary Barb Pett on 0407 310 990 or email skipton.history.au@gmail.com for further information.
Skipton Community Market The community market is held on the second Saturday of each month, 9am-1pm. If you are new in town, or haven't been to the market before, come and enjoy a free morning tea and browse the interesting stalls. For stall bookings, call Jan on 0422 785 017.	Thursday 13th August, 11am FRIENDS OF THE RSL SKIPTON BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING in the Meeting Room at the Skipton Mechanics Hall, Anderson St, Skipton. Election of Office Bearers for the coming year, Reports on the past year, and plans for the future. All members urged to attend, volunteers urged to maintain their commitment, and any interested community members are welcome to support the mission of the Friends of the RSL Skipton Branch. Lest We Forget. Contact President Graham on 0408 838 261 or Secretary Gail Ward on 0403 530 293 for further information or support.
Beaufort Art Trax Gallery Is Open: Friday & Monday 11am - 3pm Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4pm Phone: Heather 0427 492 082	Saturday 15th August, 3pm-9pm 40 YEARS OF LANDCARE CELEBRATION at the Skipton Mechanics Hall. SAVE THE DATE!! Everyone is welcome to join the celebrations. More information on page 13.
Beaufort Historical Society 9 Livingstone St, Beaufort Open hours every Wednesday 10am-4pm, and last Sunday of the month from 12pm-3pm. Except for the months of June, July & January. All welcome.	Sunday 16th August, 7pm, THE DEPLORABLES musical comedy at Camperdown Theatre Royal. An uplifting, hilarious, and joyous musical about the first Australian women's cricket match in Bendigo in 1874. Book tickets at events.humantix.com/the-deplorables
	Tuesday 18th August, VIETNAM VETERANS DAY Friends of the RSL Skipton Branch will mount a service to observe Vietnam Veterans Day, this year falling on the 60th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan. The brief service will be held at the Skipton War Memorial, Anderson Street, Skipton, commencing at 11am. All welcome, personal tributes can be made on the day, the brief ceremony will be followed by refreshments in the Skipton Mechanics Hall. In case of rain, the ceremony will be conducted in the Skipton Mechanics Hall. Contact welcomed by President of Friends, Graham Layley on 0408 838 261 or Secretary Gail Ward on 0403 530 293.
	Sunday 23rd August, 1:30pm MATINEE MOVIE featuring <i>Sweet Country</i> (2017) Western/Adventure. Starring Sam Neill and Hamilton Morris. Doors open 1:30pm, screening at 2pm. Admission \$5 for adults (includes afternoon tea), children under 12 FREE. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.