



MURRA-BIT-A-NEWS

A FREE PUBLICATION

August 2023

Community News Contributions Gratefully Accepted

P.O. Box 3, Murrabit 3579

Website: www.murrabit.com.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/whats-on-in-murrabit

Phone: 03 5457 2205

Murrabit Advancement Association Inc.

Email: murrabit1@bigpond.com

Murrabit Community News

Looking forward to the start of Spring after a particularly chilly few weeks!

The August Murrabit Market had a cold start with overnight rain but as the sun started to poke through, the crowd arrived and despite it being an away football/netball match, we had a fairly consistent morning.

The week prior to the August market, a highly successful Art Workshop was held at the Murrabit Family Hub (formally Murrabit Playgroup Centre). 28 women of all ages, came together to enjoy time creating and chatting, plus a lovely catered lunch.

Mid-August a Men's Breakfast was held. This was also a great success with 32 men attending and enjoying time catching up and meeting new people.

The Murrabit Heritage Group is starting to plan the 100th Anniversary of Murrabit, which falls in 2024. An event is being planned for the weekend of 6-7 April 2024. This is the week after Easter and part of the school holidays. If you would like to be involved, please get in touch.

The next Murrabit Market will be held on Saturday, 2 September 2023. Live music by Noel Pearson. Variety of market stalls. Breaky, morning tea, and lunch by our local community groups. Stallholder bookings to www.murrabit.com.au/market or phone (03) 5457 2205.

Don't forget Father's Day on Sunday, 3 September. After that Murrabit will host the Football and Netball Golden Rivers Grand Final on Saturday, 16 September which will no doubt be a very exciting day.

As always there are a few Annual General Meetings coming up across town over the next few weeks. This is a great reminder what goes on in our community relies on our volunteer groups. The volunteers behind these groups make sure Murrabit continues to thrive. If you are not already involved and would like to be, get in touch and we will happily help point you in the right direction.

MURRABIT COUNTRY MARKET

First Saturday of every month plus Easter Saturday



Up to 100 stalls of:

- Plants
- Hardware
- Clothing
- Timber crafts
- Fresh produce
- Hot food & BBQs
- Devonshire teas
- Art & Crafts
- Giftware
- Antiques
- Books

A Community driven success story

8.30am-
12.30pm
FREE ENTRY

Gonn Avenue, Murrabit

www.murrabit.com.au

www.facebook.com/murrabitcountrymarket

NO DOGS ALLOWED (Guide Dogs excepted)

More information (03)5457 2205

24km from Barham
26km from Kerang
50km from Swan Hill

NEXT MURRABIT COUNTRY MARKET

SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2023

R U OK? Day is coming up on Thursday 14 September 2023. This is a National Day of Action dedicated to helping people develop skills to ask others "Are you OK?" The R U OK? Day organisation states, "you don't need to be an expert to reach out – just a good friend and a great listener". There are four simple steps to remember to start a conversation.



1. Ask



2. Listen



3. Encourage action



4. Check in

It's a conversation that literally could change a life.

If you would like to host your own event on R U OK? Day and to check in on the mental health and wellbeing of those around you, or find out more head to: www.ruok.org.au/

Busy Bees of Murrabit

Community owned and operated gift shop and visitor centre, Gonn Avenue, Murrabit (part of the Murrabit Market Office Complex).
Open Murrabit Market mornings 9am to 12:30pm. Keep up to date by giving our **Murrabit Promotions** Facebook page a LIKE



Murrabit Senior Citizens

Upcoming Community Luncheon will be held **Wednesday 27 September at 12 midday. \$11 for 2 course meal.** Please phone Evelyn Napier on 5457 0280 if you would like to attend.
Knowing numbers helps with catering. **ALL WELCOME**



Murrabit Book club

Book Club meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 8pm, usually in member's homes. Please contact Jeanette Coulter 5457 2331 for more information.

Murrabit Heritage Group

Next meeting: **Monday 11 September 2023, 7:30pm at the Market Office**
Includes a lovely supper

Contacts: Narelle O'Donoghue 0427 834 367, Faye Morton 5457 2333 or Neil Hopkins 0439 970 029, or email **murrabitheritage@gmail.com**

If you are interested in local history, LIKE our **Memories of Murrabit** Facebook page



Men's Shed is held 1:30pm to 4pm Sundays

Annual General Meeting: **Sunday 17 September at 1pm.**
Membership fees are \$35 to cover insurance costs and can be paid by dropping into the 'shed' on a Sunday.
Contact: Stephen O'Donoghue, Secretary 0418 577 238.
Facebook - **Murrabit Men's Shed**

Murrabit Accessible Defibs

24 hour accessible defib machines are mounted externally next to the kitchen door at the Murrabit Hall and at the door to the Murrabit Men's Shed. The Men's Shed defib machine cabinet also includes a set of pads suitable for children under 8 years.
These life saving machines are available to anyone in an emergency.
Remember to always first call an Ambulance in an emergency by phoning **Triple Zero (000).**



Town Working Bee

Sunday 24 September 2023, 9:00am at the Market Office, followed by BBQ lunch in the Lions Park 12noon. Focus area this year will be from the Gift Shop through to the Fire Station.

Murrabit Rec Reserve

The Murrabit Recreation Reserve is managed by a DECCA appointed committee of management. Hiring enquiries to Terry Morton President 0409 692 630 or Stephen O'Donoghue Secretary 0418 577 238.

Murrabit Fire Brigade

If you would like to be involved in helping to keep our community safe, contact Stephen O'Donoghue, Captain 0418 577 238.
Facebook - **Murrabit Fire Brigade**



Hon Peter Walsh MLA

Your State Member of Parliament representing Murray Plains Electorate

496 High Street, Echuca

Phone: 5482 2039 or

1300 467 906

Email: peter.walsh@parliament.vic.gov.au

Please feel free to contact my office with any matters concerning the State Government or its departments.



Murrabit & District Lions Club

Interested in becoming involved in our Lions Club and serving our community? Contact Membership Chairman Bill Hazen on 5457 2213 or President Neil Hopkins on 0490 830 641. Murrabit Lions Club is looking for a place to store their Lions caravan. If you can help us or have an empty shed available give Neil Hopkins a call.

Murrabit Golf Club

If you are interested in what's going on at the golf club and upcoming activities - they are promoted on the Golf Club's Facebook page. Search 'Murrabit Golf Club'.



MURRABIT MARKET CLEAN UP ROSTER 2023

September Market - Murrabit Playgroup
October Market - Murrabit Tennis Club
November Market - Murrabit Fire Brigade
December Market - Murrabit Tennis Club
January Market - Murrabit Tennis Club
February Market - Murrabit Playgroup
March Market - Murrabit Fire Brigade

KERANG TO ECHUCA BUS SERVICE 1st Tuesday & 3rd Friday of each month Timetable, Bus stops & Fares

8am - Departs Kerang Railway Station -
8.25am - Departs Murrabit Hall
8.45am - Departs Koondrook Hall (side)
9.05am - Departs Cohuna Hall (rear)
10.15am - Arrives Echuca CBD
2pm - Departs Echuca CBD for the return service
One-way, part way and non-concession fares are also available.
No bookings necessary. Tickets available from the driver and allow for free transport on Echuca buses whilst there.
For more information, please call Public Transport Victoria on 1800 800 007.



Murrabit Hall News

Our **Annual General Meeting**, which has had to be postponed a couple of times, will now be held on **Monday 25 September at 7:30pm** in the Hall kitchen (it's nice and warm in there!).

Our Hall is a very significant and important part of our town and community. We're hoping that you might be interested in helping us to maintain our Hall and organise its use by joining our committee.

We have the Scouts Victoria group again coming for a week in mid-September (8th-10th & 13th-17th) to use the Hall as the base camp for their yearly adventure rafting program on the Murray.

The Hall is a popular venue and we have yoga in the Hall on Monday and Wednesday evenings, Line Dancing on Thursday afternoons and the regular Community lunches. And who could forget the morning tea on market mornings!

The Hall is available for hire and is a perfect venue for a wide range of functions, day or evening, and is extremely well-equipped. To hire the Hall or for more information, contact Marlene Laursen 5457 2291 or Neil Hopkins 0490 830 641. **Have a great month everyone!**

Hum n Strum music

We had one live performance in July with a visit to Cohuna Village. Even though we had a few members unable to be there, we had a great time and the residents really enjoyed themselves – and that's our main aim!

We had a return visit to Glenarm last Wednesday. We played up a storm and everyone joined in. We stayed on for a cuppa, some delicious cake and a chat with the residents afterwards (including a well-known Murrabit fella Hugh Webb). What a terrific day!

Our regular Wednesday meetings are very informal and terrific fun. Hum n Strum meet at the Murrabit Golf Club from 2- 4pm (although we often start earlier and finish later). We have 14 current members, we play some great songs, enjoy afternoon tea and plenty of friendly social chat. We have a drum coming into our group so we're all keen to hear how that adds to our sound.

You don't have to play an instrument, or be the next Olivia Newton-John, Nellie Melba or Slim Dusty; you just have to like music!

If you're interested in singing or playing for enjoyment in a really relaxed, friendly atmosphere contact Neil Hopkins 0490 830 641 for more information.

MURRABIT NEWSLETTER DETAILS

If you are not already receiving this free community newsletter via email, please send us your email address so that we can add you to our email list. You will then receive the newsletter on the day it is produced.

The monthly editions of this newsletter are also available from our website:

www.murrabit.com.au/murra-bit-a-news

Hardcopies are delivered via Australia Post to local residences.

Deadline for articles for upcoming editions are:

TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2023

Information can be emailed to murrabit1@bigpond.com, delivered or posted through our door.

Community interest info is free. Advertise from \$10.

Murrabit Netball News

After 16 rounds, its finals fever! We have great representation in 2023. The Netball/Football Club in finals are:-

1st semi: August 25 @ Moulamein

Murrabit B Reserve v Macorna @ 2.45pm. Goodluck girls we are all behind you. Reserves take on Wandella at 12.35pm. Get around them.

2nd semi: September 2nd @ Ultima

U14s, B grade and A grade sit in top position. We are so excited for the double chance.

U14s will be versing Ultima @9.45am.

A Grade versus Macorna 12.15pm.

B Grade plays Moulamein @ 1.30pm.

Preliminary – September 9 @ Macorna

Grand final – September 16 MURRABIT IS HOSTING. We need all hands-on deck to make this Grand Final a successful day. Please look out for rosters on social platforms or speak to Jen or the committee if you can volunteer some time. We appreciate and value your time. Thank you.

This will be rewarded with some fun local music talent Grand final evening featuring Seven Car Pileup. What a fantastic way to end the day!

Forward notice: Vote Count and Presentation Night will be combined this year. This will be held Friday 22 September. Time TBA

Let's all get behind our Club these finals and support hard - **GO BLUES**

President - Jenny Nethercote



Are you starting to think about summer sport?

Tennis at Murrabit is the answer for you

Murrabit Lawn Tennis Club welcomes you to join our club for the 2023/24 tennis season

Contact us on 0408313257, Facebook or murrabitolawntennisclub@gmail.com



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Murrabit Footy News



With the Home and Away season wrapped up, we are excited to see how far our Senior Netballers (A, B and B Res) as well as our U14 Netballers can take their finals campaign. From a Football perspective it was a bitter blow for our U17 team who went down by a narrow margin in their final game and ultimately miss out on finals. Our Reserve team will be our only

Football representative in the 2023 finals.

Good luck to all teams competing.

Towards the end of the season current coach Mick O'Toole announced he would step aside to enable a playing coach to be appointed. The club would like extend a huge thank you to Mick for his work and efforts in the role.

Mick came on board at a time of need and has navigated through Covid and a large turn-over of our older players. He has worked tirelessly to recruit and develop our younger players and his work has enabled us to be in a solid position to push forward in the coming years.

When we spoke to Mick earlier in the year he felt that the club should look

for a playing coach who can provide on- field leadership and hopefully bring some new faces to the side. So thank you Mick - we hope you will remain involved at the club and look forward to seeing you, Melissa and family at the footy in 2024.

(Mick is pictured right).

Our Football department had been working

behind the scenes to secure a coach for 2024. Following Mick's announcement, we are excited to welcome Jack Shannahan as our Senior Coach for 2024.

Jack has an impressive CV having played high level football in leagues such as the VFL, NEAFL, GFL, NTF, BFL, and CMFL. He has coaching experience as an assistant coach at Strathfieldsaye and more recently coaching the Colts at the Mallee Eagles.

Some supporters will be familiar with Jack's father-in-law Roger Bett, who coached us in the early 90s.

We extend a warm welcome to Jack and his young family - Emelia and twins Billy and Maggie. We look forward to them becoming part of the club and our journey forward.

This year Murrabit will host the Grand Final! We are hoping for some fine finals like weather and hope that we may have some of our own team represented on that day. If any community members wish to assist on the day please contact President Neil Teasdale who will be more than happy to assign a role for the day.

Our Vote Count and presentation night will be held on the one night this year at the complex. Friday the 22 September. Please keep and eye out on our socials for further updates on this.

Go Blues!





MURRABIT LAWN TENNIS CLUB

**Annual General Meeting
to be held
Friday 8th of September
6:30 pm**

**at the Royal Hotel Barham
for dinner**

All Welcome

**Please RSVP to Ang
0408 313 257**

Murrabit Lions - can you help?

The local footy Grand Final will be held at Murrabit on September 16 and the Lions Club is in charge of the gate. It's a busy day so if you think you could spare some time to give us a hand please let us know. And that would be fantastic!

We are still looking for a place to store our Lions caravan (our mobile kitchen). If you can help us or have an empty shed or garage that might be available we would love to hear from you. Thank you

**2024
SENIOR COACH**






JACK SHANNAHAN





Murrabit Lions

The Junior Public Speaking Competition club final was held at our July dinner meeting. It was fantastic to see so many family and friends come along to support the kids. We had 5 talented young speakers - Sophia Larkin, Hunter More and Charlotte Keath (Year 5/6) and Xavier Hein and Pippy Morton (Year 3/4). They did a marvellous job. Our club winners were Sophia Larkin and Pippy Morton who went on to compete in the Regional Final at Cohuna in the first weekend of August. In a high standard competition the girls spoke extremely well with Pippy finishing as Runner-up in the Year 3/4 section. Well done girls!

Special thanks to Julie Hall and Kyra Laughlin who were the judges for our Murrabit club event (pictured below).

We had a busy morning on 11 August when we catered for a very hungry crew at the opening of the new Arbuthnots saw mill on Koondrook West Rd. Those saw millers can really eat!!

And our August dinner meeting featured Lions members Wayne and Yvonne Clayton talking about their recent overseas adventures in Ireland (pictured below right) where Wayne represented Australia in the World Ploughing Championships. We had plenty of guests for the dinner who helped to make it a terrific friendly and enjoyable evening.

Our club meets twice monthly at the Murrabit Golf Club. Second Tuesday of the month for business meetings and fourth Tuesday for Dinner meetings when we also have a guest speaker.

If you are new to our district or are interested in becoming involved in Lions and helping our community, please contact membership Chairman Bill Hazen on 54572213 or President Neil Hopkins on 0490 830 641.



Join in the fun on:

Friday 15 September
3pm - 6pm

FREE ACTIVITIES:

- ★ Rock Climbing Wall
- ★ Giant Outdoor Games
- ★ Small Age Rampage Disco
- ★ Face Painting
- ★ And lots more!

★ **FREE BBQ - provided by Rotary**

For more information ph: 5452 1546



Supported by Gannawarra
Flood Recovery Funding



Friday 15 September

Murrabit Playgroup had advertised to run a Little Kids Disco on Friday 15 September but the Library in Kerang has a Small Age Rampage Disco the same night. So, instead of doubling up we encourage all local families to attend the larger event in Kerang where there will be a Rock Climbing Wall, Giant Outdoor Games, a Disco, Face Painting as well as a FREE BBQ. It's the last day of school so head along to the Kerang Library and enjoy heaps of family friendly FUN!



Murrabit Family Hub

Paint Near the Murray

- Flood Recovery Creative Outreach event -

Twenty eight Murrabit & District women participated in a Paint Near the Murray workshop on Sunday 29 July 2023.

Hosted at the Murrabit Family Hub, arranged by Murrabit Playgroup Inc and funded by Gannawarra Shire Council, the workshop was delivered by the Dandy Lion Studio, Swan Hill.

Over the two-hours, participants were supported to develop a piece of creative floral art.

While learning skills such as blending colours, creating fine lines, floral design, and adding final touches, the room was filled with chatter and laughter as the artworks developed.

The workshop was held as part of a larger creative outreach program held throughout July as part of the Gannawarra flood recovery program.

The workshop provided a much needed self-care activity and time out from busy schedules, and included a grazing box as a lunch-time treat.

The workshop demonstrated the diversity of creative talent as each woman created a slightly different version of the original.



Men's Breakfast Success

A Men's Breakfast was held at Murrabit on 16 August (pictured right). This was a really positive morning. It was good to spend time with friends, catch up with people that we haven't seen for a while, and an opportunity to meet new people. It was good to understand that such a simple concept of an informal breakfast worked well and was so well attended. It was also good that people travelled to Murrabit to join in. This really added to the event and demonstrated that it was something that was needed. People travelling to our community also showed that the impact of the floods was widespread and that attendees wanted to show their support for our community and also to gain benefit for their own wellbeing. The open fire at the rear of the Lions Park added to the informal gathering and allowed the men to just stand around and talk. Thank you to Mallee Family Care and Gannawarra Shire Council for supporting the event and to John Pay and David Hosking for cooking the breakfast. David invited us over to Quambatook to see how they run their weekly breakfast – I'm sure we will take up that offer at some time in the future.

The breakfast has stimulated interest within our community to run something similar in the future. We have access to all the equipment we need and it was great to see that it was such a success and that men across our district do want to come together – to meet others, socialise and just to talk.

Stephen O'Donoghue
Murrabit Men's Shed Inc.



GOLDEN RIVERS FOOTBALL AND NETBALL GRAND FINAL MURRABIT RECREATION RESERVE SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2023

Kerang
69 Wellington Street, Kerang VIC 3579
(03) 5450 3792
admin@ghrealestate.com.au

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