



MURRA-BIT-A-NEWS A FREE PUBLICATION

March 2023

Community News Contributions Gratefully Accepted

P.O. Box 3, Murrabit 3579

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Murrabit Advancement Association Inc.

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Murrabit Community News

March and April are always a busy time in our little town.

The March Market was another good one with lots of people coming along to shop amongst the 70 plus stalls.

The Murrabit Cod Challenge sold out again quickly and was a great success over the weekend of 17-19 March. While only a small number of native fish were caught, there are now less carp in the River! Lots came early and set up camp on the Thursday and it was great to have Tiamo Twin Flame Pizza from Gunbower back in town. With football, netball and tennis training on the same night, there sure was a great crowd enjoying the woodfired pizzas!

Coming up we have the regular April market on 1 April and then one week later our Easter Saturday Market. We have street entertainers from Melbourne booked to attend our Easter Saturday market - 'Sandy Crack' and 'Terry Towelling'! They will be entertaining the crowd and are sure to create a great deal of excitement across the Market site!

After Easter is over, we have 'Krazy Koala Entertainment and Bebo Circus' on Sunday 30 April to bring joy to our young Murrabit, Myall and Benjeroop children and families. Following that, on Sunday 21 May, the Ladies of Murrabit Arts and Culture Group are working in partnership with Creative Gannawarra to host a musical performance by renowned Aboriginal singer and songwriter, Nancy Bates. Nancy will also run a singing workshop. The afternoon performance will be followed by an afternoon tea.

Thanks again to the whole crew of really hardworking volunteers who put on these community events for everyone to enjoy.

Also thank you to the leaders from all our community groups who come together each month to plan and make decisions which help support every community group at Murrabit to remain sustainable and viable, despite the challenges.

Speaking of community planning, on Monday 20 March, we hosted a Community Planning workshop at the Murrabit golf clubrooms. This provided the opportunity for community members from across the whole district to come together to input into a Murrabit & District Community Plan. Thanks to Gannawarra Shire Council for organising this and to Lisa and Rachel from Local LogicPlace for running us through the workshop. The end result will see a reviewed community plan in place.

On the same night, the Murrabit Group School hosted a community event with the children putting on a STOMP performance.

We welcome anyone that is new to Murrabit & District. If you would like to be involved in the community in anyway, please get in touch as we would love to welcome you as part of Team Murrabit!

A reminder that Blazeaid are set up at Murrabit Recreation Reserve. Please contact Blazeaid on 0459 434 766 for more details or pop into the rec reserve to say G'day. The Blazeaid volunteers would love to meet you. They are in the area assisting our residents impacted by the floods. Give them a call if you need assistance or can help out as a volunteer. Pictured right is Charmaine from Blazeaid making a purchase from the school's roadside stall.

MURRABIT COUNTRY MARKET

First Saturday of every month plus Easter Saturday



A Community driven success story

Gonn Avenue, Murrabit

www.murrabit.com.au

www.facebook.com/murrabitcountrymarket

NO DOGS ALLOWED (Guide Dogs excepted)

More information (03)5457 2205

8.30am-
12.30pm
FREE ENTRY

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

UPCOMING MURRABIT MARKETS

SATURDAY 1 APRIL 2023

Live Music - Honest Ken

followed by

SATURDAY 8 APRIL (EASTER)

Live Music - Kim Ritchie

Featuring 'Sandy Crack' & 'Terry Towelling'

Bouncing Stiltwalkers from Melbourne!



Murrabit Group School students selling produce from the school gate to raise money for their school camp. Pictured with Blazeaid volunteer, Charmaine - please stop by and make a purchase..



ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION

Murrabit Hall 10:30am 25 April 2023

Hum and Strum music

We were all thrilled last week to have Doris Mathers back in action and able to join us again for our regular Wednesday sessions. We also welcomed 2 new members, Colleen and Michael Lahey from Barham, who thoroughly enjoyed the day. We hope that they will become Hum and Strum regulars!



It was a great day out when we performed at Glenarm on 15 March with a very enthusiastic audience who sang and clapped along with us. And it was great to have Murrabit locals Hugh and Judy Webb singing along and having a catch up afterwards.

We are certainly having great fun playing together and we really enjoy performing. But if that's not for you and you'd just like to come along to our regular Wednesday sessions (2pm at the Golf Clubrooms) for some fun – all good too! At the moment we have guitar, ukulele, banjo and keyboard but people who just like singing are part of our group as well.

So 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.

NEWSLETTER DETAILS

Deadline for articles for the next edition is:

TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2023

Information can be emailed to murrabit1@bigpond.com, delivered or posted through the door.
Community interest info is free. Advertise from \$10.

MARKET CLEAN UP ROSTER 2023

April Market—Murrabit Playgroup
Easter Market—Murrabit Men's Shed



Murrabit Netball News

As preseason draws to a close, we are beginning to welcome juniors to season 2023.

F-troop, U14's U17's juniors commence training each Thursday night from 5.30pm @ the Murrabit Netball Courts. Senior training follows at 6.15pm.

Behind the scenes, our Committee have been busy working on community grants as the Murrabit Netball courts are due for a surface assessment and the new communal facilities seek furnishings.

In the off season, a Selection policy was created for a seamless process for Coaches and the newly appointed Netball Coordinator, Erica Cummins. This has been a work in progress exploring other Club policies and values in both local leagues and so far, feedback from local players has been positive. After attending the League season launch on the 5th of March, our Club will implement the Netball Victoria Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy that commits our Netball Club to safeguarding children and young people.

Exciting news - Amalgamation is likely between the Netball and Football Clubs who recently formed sub-committees to progress towards one!

The Netball Club would also like to recognise all the volunteers that helped out at the recent annual Murrabit Cod Challenge held on the 17th, 18th and 19th of March. The Murrabit Football Club once again, put on a superb event, if it was largely carp being caught. Well done to all involved.

The first round is just around the corner, Saturday April 15th and Murrabit will be travelling to Moulamein. Round 2 will be a home game and the social committee have organised a 'Reverse Draw', along with music by Jenna Conlan.

President, Jenny Nethercote



Murrabit Hall News

We had intended to hold our AGM next month but April is very, very busy so we will hold our overdue **AGM on Monday 1 May 2023**

7:30pm in the Hall. We'd love you to

come along and you might even like to join our committee!

The new lawn around the Hall is really starting to sprout. It will look terrific when it's all done. Thanks to Pete Laursen for mowing the lawn behind the Hall. Unluckily for Pete, his good intentions were thwarted after a couple of runs when the sprinklers came on and he had to retreat!

The Hall 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 54572291 or Neil Hopkins 0490830641. **Have a great month everyone!**



Murrabit Lawn Tennis Club

We congratulate our junior white team of James, Kobe, Evan and Drew (pictured below) on their terrific season and for coming runners up in the NDLT competition. The Grand Final



was always going to be a tough one competing against a very strong Gunbower team, who been undefeated all year. Our boys put in a wonderful effort and gave Gunny a bit of a fright,

going down by only 7 games. It was a great effort by our kids and the club was very proud of them.

Well done also to our Division 1 and Division 3 teams who both played in the semi-finals the week previously. Division 3 held the lead for most of the day and were unlucky to go down to Gunny by 3, missing out on a spot in the Grand Final. Division 1 were no match for the Koondrook team on the day.



Murrabit Division 1 team (pictured above). Semi-finals 2023: Bernie Monaghan, Jo Yard, Ang Morton, Sally McDonald, Jordy McNeil (pictured below) and Simon Morton.

Our junior blue team finished 5th on the ladder. Unfortunately for the girls they were in the top 4 all season, but dropped out after the final round. All our junior players did an amazing effort this year.

Murrabit was the only club to have 2 junior teams in the competition. Clearly a credit to our junior coaching program and our members.

During the last month we have played our club championships. A big congratulations to our champs. Men's champion for 2023 was awarded to Simon Morton, defeating Tim McNeil. In the ladies Sally McDonald defeated Ang Morton for the championship. The junior boy's final was played between James McDonald and Evan McNeil, with James the winner. The girl's championship is yet to be finalised with the final match to be played between sisters Belle and Lyla Morton. Results to come.

We are looking forward to our Easter Tournament and calling for help from all our members. The tournament runs for 2 days over Easter, with the Mixed competition on Friday and the Doubles on Saturday.



Our tournament is very relaxed and everyone is welcome to play. We have 3 grades. A grade (for the more serious tennis players), Intermediate and B grade. A place for everyone, even if you have never picked up a racquet. Juniors are under 16s and under 13s. It is a great chance to get out in the sunshine and have some fun with your family and friends. Participants are encouraged to dress up and prizes will be awarded for best dressed. Entries are open until sections are full. Feel free to contact any club member using the Survey Monkey link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/6JTSHT5 As part of our tournament, we are selling raffle tickets for our major raffle. Tickets this year are \$10 each with the chance to win \$1000. Other great prizes are also up for grabs including a tennis racquet and a hamper. Tickets can be purchased from any club member, Murrabit Trading, Murrabit General Store or from the tennis club over Easter. Hope to see you at the Tennis Club at Easter for the Murrabit Trading MLTC Easter Tournament!



MURRABIT EASTER TENNIS TOURNAMENT

HELD OVER 2 DAYS EVERY EASTER FOR OVER 75 YEARS

76th Annual Easter Tennis Tournament

Mixed event Good Friday - Doubles Easter Saturday

A fun family weekend. Entries are now open at

www.surveymonkey.com/r/6JTSHT5

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/MurrabitEasterTennisTournament

Thank you to all our wonderful sponsors who assist in the running of this tournament.

Contact Angela Morton 0408 3132 57
or Sara McNeil 0439 380 604.

MYALL PIONEER AND REMEMBRANCE DISPLAY OFFICIAL OPENING Sunday 7 May 2023

12noon barbeque available

1pm Live Music with Stuart Sims and the Gay Charmers Band. Songs from the "good ol' days" with Neil Hopkins and Murrabit Hum and Strum Music. Revealing Stories from Memories. Photos and memorabilia welcome for display.

3pm Official Opening of Myall's Pioneer and Remembrance Display by Gary Napier: President Myall Hall Committee, Cr. Ross Stanton: Murray Ward Gannawarra Shire Council, and George Rathbone representing the Australian Light Horse, assisted by former students of Myall State School.

Join in and reconnect after the floods. Community members who have a connection with Myall come and mix with the locals and enjoy unwrapping history.

Followed by afternoon tea

Contact :email m2cockroft@gmail.com

Mob:0429 193 972 Ph:03 5457 0291

**Funded by Gannawarra Shire Council
flood recovery grant**



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 Playgroup

LIKE our **Murrabit Playgroup** Facebook page to keep up to date
Or contact: Codie Laursen President 0458 237 789 or
Olivia Monk Secretary 0427 603 912



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 Meetings: Monday 27 March and 8 May 2023 at the Market Office

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

The Murrabit & District Heritage Group is collecting flood photos, video footage, and any stories to ensure that this information is captured, recorded and possibly published into a book the same as in 2011. This includes the Westby, Myall, Capel's Crossing, Murrabit West and Benjeroop areas.
Email: murrabitheritage@gmail.com



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

Upcoming Community Lunches: Sunday 23 April, 25 June - commencing 12 midday.

Working Bee to Tidy up Grounds, Community Garden and Shed (1:30pm to 4pm) 16 April 2023

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 Senior Citizens

Next Community Luncheon will be held on Wednesday 26 April 2022 at 12 midday. \$11 for 2 course meal.

Please phone Evelyn Napier on 5457 0280 by 20 February if you would like to attend. Knowing numbers helps with catering. **ALL WELCOME**

FREE COVID STUFF

We have quite a few boxes of face masks and some boxes of RAT tests which were given to us by Bendigo Health after their recent visit at the Feb market. It's easy! Just drop into Murrabit Trading, talk to the very friendly staff (Eric or Karen) and pick some up!!

Murrabit Rec Reserve

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

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.

LIONS NEED 4 FEED - REGISTER NOW

If you, or someone you know, are impacted by the recent floods and need help with fodder then register with us for some fodder assistance.

It's a very quick and easy form (one short page, about 6 clicks) and will take about 3 mins. Please register on our website:

<https://www.needforfeed.org/apply-for-assistance.html> Or contact Neil Hopkins, Murrabit President, 0490 830 641 or any local Lions club member.



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)**.



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.

HISTORICAL SNIPPET

Murrabit Bush Nursing Hospital

Medical assistance was available in Kerang from very early days, but it was a long trip with a sick person, over bad roads with slow transport. Most illnesses were treated at home, the nursing being done by the family, with help of kindly neighbours. Most babies were born at home.

Round the turn of the century, Mrs MURRAY, was a midwife and she brought most of the locals children into the world, followed by her daughter Phoebe (Reilly).

Murrabit Bush Nursing Centre was established on January 12th 1927 with membership of 60, and by the end of the year there were 98 members.

Bendigo Red Cross Society had generously donated 100 pound per year for 3 years to the new centre. The annual subscription was 1 pound 10 shillings, for a family and 15 shillings, for single people, and with a government subsidy the centre soon became an established part of the Murrabit community.

Sister TURNER, the first sister, boarded with Mr and Mrs PITMAN and the centre supplied a horse and jinker. In view of the time taken visiting patients, especially in wet weather, the Committee built a substantial cement cottage in Murrabit with a surgery for the sister's work. This made her more readily available and also enabled her to carry out Infant Welfare.

The Bush Nursing Cottage had a plaque on the wall saying "This stone was laid by Miss L JONES, Red Cross Society, Bendigo. Sept. 1930".



In a room, presumably the one used as a surgery, had a floor to ceiling mural of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs and their little cottage, there was a castle on a hill, squirrels, mushrooms, toadstools, trees and stumps. Sourced from "Murrabit Thru the Years 1845 – 1977" by Jean KIBBEY and "Murrabit, our Murrabit" by Jill SUTHERLAND.

...to be continued next month

FAREWELL TO CRES WALTERS

The Murrabit community is deeply saddened by the passing of Cresenz 'Cres' Walters on Saturday 11 March 2023. Cres moved to Murrabit after her marriage to Dick Walters 66 years ago. She has been a very much loved resident for all these years and we will miss her friendship and wisdom immensely. She was an active member and contributor of many community groups including the Murrabit & District Heritage Group. Cres had celebrated her 90th Birthday earlier this year. Our love to Dick, Kathrine, Elizabeth, Peter and Marion and their extended families.

Cricket News

Back to Back Cricket Premiers

Murrabit 8/134 (40 overs) to Barham 132 (38.5 overs)

Nathan Henry 30 runs. Simon Kelly 29 runs. Brent James McKnight 23 runs. Zeb Hein 4 wickets for 13 runs. Simon Kelly 3 wickets for 27 runs. Simon Ettershank 2 wickets for 17 runs. Simon Kelly was man of the match, putting on crucial runs late in our innings and getting the key wickets of Sobotnicki, Akurugoda and Lake.

But the man of the moment was without doubt young Zeb Hein, winning us the game from nowhere, with 4 late wickets. Two overs remaining Barham needed 5 runs to win and had two wickets in hand. Some beautiful, flighted leg spin, taking two wicket in one over to seal the match. Leaving Barham 3 runs short.

If you haven't watched the live stream yet, it's well worth watching from 5:39:15. Barham were batting well, when they got a single taking them to 5/130, needing only 5 runs to win from 4.2 overs, 5 wickets in hand.

The rest is history.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/78R9vwfecjg?feature=share...>

Thank you to the Barham team for a great game of cricket, played in good spirit.

And CONGRATULATIONS to Murrabit, an amazing effort to never give up. Cricket is a funny game!



2023 GRFNL SEASON



GOD CHALLENGE



Marked by Business, Supported by Service



R1. 15/4 - MOULAMEIN (A)

R2. 22/4 - HAY (H)

R3. 29/4 - WANDELLA (A)

R4. 6/5 - ULTIMA (H)

R5. 13/5 - MACORNA (A)

R6. 20/5 - HAY (A)

R7. 27/5 - MOULAMEIN (H)

R8. 3/6 - WANDELLA (H)

--- KING BDAY BYE ---

R9. 17/6 - MACORNA (H)

R10. 24/6 - ULTIMA (A)

--- SCHOOL HOLIDAY BYE ---

R11. 8/7 - MOULAMEIN (A)

R12. 15/7 - HAY (H)

R13. 22/7 - WANDELLA (A)

--- LEAGUE BYE ---

R14. 5/8 - MACORNA (A)

R15. 12/8 - ULTIMA (H)

R16. 19/8 - MOULAMEIN (H)

STRONGER TOGETHER



Kerang Turf Club cluBarham Kerang Cup

 SATURDAY 8TH APRIL 2023 | GATES OPEN AT 11:00AM

142nd running of the Kerang Cup held on Easter Saturday! 7 Race program including the cluBarham Kerang Cup. **Free Local Buses** from Barham, Koondrook, Gunbower, Leitchville, Cohuna, Quambatook, Boort, Lake Meran - for more details contact the club. Marquee and Umbrella packages including Hamper options, "The Tailored Peach" Fashions on The Field for all ages, Kids Activities from Kelly Sports, Easter Bunny trackside with an Easter Egg Hunt, music by Jade, full catering, The Kerang Sporties Club Footballer (Male & Female) & Netball 100m Sprint, eftpos available.

General Admission
\$20^{PP}
\$15 concession

Umbrella Packages
\$300
Marquee Packages
\$360
For 10 people. Admissions Not included

BOOK NOW AT [COUNTRY.RACING.COM/KERANG](https://country.racing.com/kerang)

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Murrabit & District Lions club

If you are interested in becoming involved in our Lions Club and serving our community, please contact our membership Chairman Bill Hazen on 5457 2213 or our President Neil Hopkins on 0490 830 641.



Golden Rivers Electrical Pty Ltd

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- 300mm & 460mm dig buckets
- Hydraulic quick hitch
- 300mm auger with power drive

Rates:

- \$250 per day – Dry Hire. (experienced operator with current, relevant licence required)
- Tipping trailer – 8'x 5' and Car trailer 14'x 6' - \$60 each per day.
- Mobile cool room (with additional freezer section) - \$80 per day.
- Prices are excluding GST



- Kerang Car Wash

Contact: Phone or text 0427 674 473



SUNDAY 30 APRIL 2023

MURRABIT HALL

1:30PM TO 4:00PM

MURRABIT-MYALL-BENJEROOP

FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

www.krazykoala.com.au

UPCOMING MURRABIT MARKETS

Saturday 1 April 2023

Saturday 8 April 2023 - featuring heroes of the water - **Sandy Crack and Terry Towelling**, Melbourne based street entertainers, who will be on patrol and ready to initiate land rescues! Be dazzled by their daring drills!

Saturday 6 May 2023

Saturday 3 June 2023

Online stall bookings and further information:

www.murrabit.com.au/market

or phone 5457 2205

2 HOUR CIRCUS WORKSHOP INCLUDING 30 MINUTE PUPPET AND CIRCUS SHOW FOLLOWED BY A FUN PARTY STYLE ARVO TEA

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN - KRAZY KOALA SHOW

WE ARE EXCITED TO BE BRINGING THIS HIGH PROFILE PERFORMER FROM GEELONG TO MURRABIT THANKS TO A \$1500 GRANT RECEIVED FROM THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR FARMER HEALTH'S #BUILDING FARM SPIRIT PROGRAM. THE MURRABIT PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE IS COVERING THE SHORTFALL. TICKET COST IS JUST \$5 PER PERSON (CHILD OR ADULT) TO COVER AFTERNOON TEA. WORKSHOP IS TARGETED AT PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN AND ABOVE (ADULTS CAN BOOK TOO TO ENJOY SOME KRAZY FUN!). OPTION FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN TO ATTEND THE SHOW AND AFTERNOON TEA. TO BOOK, SEND AN EMAIL TO MURRABIT1@BIGPOND.COM OR PHONE 5457 2205.



The Ladies of Murrabit Art and Culture Group is pleased to be partnering with Creative Gannawarra to bring Nancy Bates to Murrabit!

Save the Date: Sunday 21 May 2023. 2pm Murrabit Hall, followed by afternoon tea.

Nancy is a high profile Aboriginal Singer and Songwriter. This is an event not to be missed and one we are delighted to be hosting in our little town. Nancy will also offered to host a singing workshop. If you would like to be involved in planning this event. Ticket details next newsletter.