

Locku News

Lockington's Priceless Paper

\$ FREE

CLOSE OUR LOCKY POOL???!!! How Very Un-Australian of the Campaspe Shire

By the time this edition is printed and distributed, our Shire Councillors will have discussed and possibly voted on an outdated and inaccurate report, suggesting the closure of our regional pools, including Lockington's.

The report in question recommends that the Council CLOSE AND DECOMMISSION the Colbinabbin, Lockington, Rushworth, Stanhope and Tongala pools following the end of the 2021/22 outdoor pool season. This same report also recommends the closure of the Kyabram and Rochester pools at the end of the 2024/25 season, leaving only the Echuca pool open for public use.

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The issues at hand... Inaccuracy, Un-timely, Irresponsible, Unreasonable and Negligent.

Inaccuracy... The tabled review is a continuation of a report first prepared in 2016, which in previous discussions with the Campaspe Shire had been identified as being "inaccurate", there are still inaccuracies in the new report.

Un-Timely... The agenda for this week's Council Meeting was only made public late last week, in the middle of school holidays and the pool season. This definitely has not allowed for suitable Community Engagement nor allowed time for complaints to be made by the public, though I'm sure our Councillors have already received a mountain of feedback on the looming closure of our regional pools.

Irresponsible... local swimming instructors "Splash 'N' Learn to Swim" have recognised that "THIS IS NOT OK! Kids need somewhere safe to swim! Local Swimming Pools stop thousands of children from swimming in unsafe waters. The Campaspe Shire is a farming area where children have easy access to rivers, channels, dams and lakes... these places are not swimming pools!"

Unreasonable... Our regional communities fought and worked hard to get pools in our towns. All the Campaspe Shire had to do was maintain these pools, they haven't, and are now complaining about high costs to bring these pools back up to standard. Our pools are critical infrastructure in our communities and should not have been let waste away by our shire. There is NO EXCUSE for closing our regional facilities. Instead of spending exorbitant amounts of money within the Echuca boundaries, some money should have been set aside for maintenance and replacement of our regional facilities.

Negligent... By allowing our pools to deteriorate to the seemingly "beyond repair" states they are now in, our Shire

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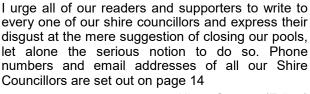
Next Typing Date MONDAY, January 31 (Entries by 10am)

See page 2 for details

This week's Locky News was prepared by... Alison, Marilyn and Rhain

Councillors have failed us... the communities who vote them into Council. The loss of our regional pools will directly discriminate against our regional Our kids swimming abilities will be impacted severely, causing increased drowning risk in our communities. Without our local pools our kids will no doubt spend more time indoors on hot days, likely on electronic devices,

> and with less social interaction, this in turn will lead to increased mental health issues within our



Alison Stewart (Editor)

Pictured left... Paddy, Olivia, Sophie and Frida The sign says it all





LOCKINGTON & DISTRICT LIVING HERITAGE COMPLEX

Complex: 5486 2515 - Open Sunday's 1pm to 4pm or by appointment President: Kevin "Jack" Oliver - Secretary: Beryl Marshall 5486 2353 Website: http://www.lockingtonvic.com.au

Hello again Everyone,

We've been reading early newspaper reports of the conditions encountered by the farming families who lived in our district more than 130 years ago. We had reached the year 1887, which seems to have begun badly. The January heat was so severe that it caused illness, by a violent storm which uprooted trees and damaged buildings. Rain fell in torrents but, while it delivered 4 inches (100 mm) in some areas. only 1 inch (25 mm) was received in other localities. At the end of March, the Terricks district experienced an earthquake. This was reported by the Pinegrove correspondent, in the Riverine Herald, on 1 April 1887. "[The earthquake] was accompanied by a rumbling sound, and it made crockery-ware rattle considerably." Early April brought some rain, with about an inch [25 mm] being recorded, and this along with the report that repairs to Mrs O'Brien's brick store at Tennyson damaged in the February storm - had been completed, was a rare piece of good news. On the other hand, whooping cough was prevalent in the district - and a month later, some mild cases of typhoid occurred; swarms of locusts had arrived, and the Postmaster General decided to cut back the local mail service from daily to thriceweekly. A petition was being drawn-up to protest this last item, and the district was feeling hard-done-by.

Nevertheless, the local people were aware of those whose misfortunes were greater than their own. On 11 May 1887, the Riverine Herald reported that the Pannoobamawm State School had collected an amount of £2 6s 6d to be sent to the Hon. Treasurer in Melbourne "to assist the Bulli sufferer." On 23 March that year, an explosion had occurred at a mine at Bulli in the Illawarra coal fields of New South Wales, south of Sydney, causing the deaths of 81 coalminers. The majority of them were fathers of young families. Communities throughout Australia, through their schools, raised funds to be sent to the widows and children of those who were lost. Pannoobamawm did their bit.

By mid-year, local hopes were high for a fair to good harvest and the acreage put under crop in 1887 was greater than in 1886. Though the quest for irrigation was less urgent than in earlier years, it was not Mountjoy Brothers' woolshed, Terricks East. Whilst maintaining the need for a national irrigation scheme, those attending decided to ask the Echuca Shire to support the formation of an Irrigation Trust for the Terricks district, west of the Campaspe River. However, a month later, on 19 May 1887, a meeting of landholders in the North-west 'Bye until then, riding of the Echuca Shire, was held at the Tomara State School to Marg O'Brien.

discuss irrigation, and "it was decided that no steps be taken at present." The reporter to the Riverine Herald on 21 May, noted "It looks as if those present are afraid to have anything to do with irrigation." This was followed in July, by a meeting held in Mrs O'Brien's store at Tennyson, where those attending expressed their particularly among young children. Then, in mid-February, a serious opposition to the irrigation proposals being advanced at that time. The grass fire swept across several district properties before being brought main objection, reported in the Kerang Times and Swan Hill Gazette under control and, at the end of that month, much of the district was hit on 2 August 1887, was "fear that a scarcity of water will be experienced." Later that month, a deputation from the district waited on the Minister of Water Supply, Mr Deakin, giving voice to their concern about the insufficiency of the supply of water under the conditions proposed by the Rochester Irrigation Trust, and stating that they were prepared to pay for water if it was "secured to them by a National scheme in the hands of the Government." The Minister's reply was that the opinion of the people would be taken into account by the Government. On that same day, the deputation waited on the Postmaster General, Mr Derham, who promised to give consideration to their claim that the change made to their mail delivery system had resulted in a poorer service.

In the meantime, the social life of the district, mainly based on cricket, continued unabated. Of special note, on 22 June 1887, the entire district gathered to celebrate Queen Victoria's Jubilee with a gigantic bonfire on the summit of the Terricks Rock. On 20 August, a concert and ball were held in Mrs O'Brien's store-room, to raise funds to improve the Pine Grove Racecourse Reserve, which had lately been granted to the residents. Another community need had been met recently, with the establishment of the Pannoobamawm Cemetery. On 22 July, the Elmore Standard announced that "the rules and Regulations, and the scale of fees and charges of this cemetery" appeared in the Government Gazette on Friday, 15 July 1887. The sad reality of death was familiar to the farming community of that time. and sometimes involved the very young. On 25 November that year, the Elmore Standard reported a sad and fatal accident to the five-yearold son of Mr Thomas Pitts, of Pannoomilloo. The little boy had walked too close to one of the animals, was suddenly kicked in the head, and died instantly. Neighbours and friends all around were exceedingly sorry for the bereaved family. Another local death, though not an unexpected one, was reported in that same newspaper. The forgotten. In mid-April, "a large and influential meeting" was held at deceased was a Mr Whitfield, an elderly settler on Diggora Road, Pannoomilloo, "a much respected and consistent member of the Bible Christian body at Diggora."

> Prospects for that season's harvest were still looking good towards the year's end, but we'll have to check on them next time.

LOCKINGTON COMMUNITY NEWS INC. CONTACT AND PUBLISHING DETAILS

Website: www.lockingtonvic.com.au Email: lockynews@bigpond.com

Typed Monday fortnightly, distributed the following Friday.

Deadline: 10am on typing days, earlier if possible please. Leave items at our office at the Heritage Centre (through the slot). We welcome news, reports and personal items, photos etc. sent in via email. Please try to limit file sizes to about 1000kb (1Mb).

Tel/Fax: 5486 2515 Leave a message on answering machine if office is unattended.

Postal: 2-10 Market Street, Lockington, 3563 Editor: Alison Stewart Ph: 0417 177 807

Casual Advertisements - must be accompanied by name, address and telephone number (without this information the advert cannot be printed)

Charges: Minimum 5.5cm x 5.5cm \$8.50 incl GST (Locals), \$12.50 (Non Locals). Contact our office re larger advertisements and prices. No charge for non profit organizations.

Reports - a word count limit of approx. 500 words is sufficient for most reports, preference will be given to shorter reports. Due to space limitations your report may need to be edited.

Letters to the Editor, articles and reports should be typed or printed, and must show the author's name and contact details. We do not include controversial political issues or party policies unless we can give equal space to all parties or sides of the argument. (Contact details are for office use only and will only be published by request.)

Articles printed in this paper are printed in good faith and in no way reflect the views held by the 'Locky News' voluntary workers. We reserve the right to reject items deemed to be unsuitable. Any malicious information will be forwarded to the Police.

All news items will be put on website unless we're advised not to.

DEATH

Gardiner, Alan Arthur Born Rochester 26.08.1932, died 19.12.2021.

Farmed at Bamawm, Diggora and Rochester.

Husband of Nancy (Whitelock) of Horsham for 65 years.

Father of Gregory (Maree), Douglas (Phuong), Neil (Sharryn), and Paul. Proud grandfather of several. Prouder great-grandfather of several more.

A good and honest man, proud descendant of the Hilton, Stower and Burge families, original selectors at Bamawm.



To the people of Lockington and Dingee District Areas

A BIG THANK YOU

from the bottom of my Heart for your support And Friendship during the past 12 Years.

Blessings and Warm Greetings

Anita Bringold Massage Therapist

Anglican Parish of Rochester & Lockington

Rochester 9.00am Lockington 11.15am.

Reverend Bertram

Enquiries: Jeff Millard 0477 944 964





10AM SUNDAYS

Photos courtesy: Noomlight Media by Vin

Contacts:
Pastor Bill Cochrane
0427 865474
or Edwin Keele 5484 3117

CATHOLIC CHURCH



St Canice's, Lockington
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays 8:00am Mass

<u>St Joseph's, Rochester</u> Every Sunday - 10:00am Mass Every Sunday—6:30pm Mass

<u>Sacred Heart, Elmore</u> Every Saturday - Vigil 6.30 pm

NORTHERN RIVERS UNITING CHURCH CLUSTER



Face to face worship begins at:
† January 23 - Tongala 10.00am
† January 30 - Rochester 10.00am

ZOOM connection is available at churches and homes every week.

The link is:

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/826-6681-8761 Password 22

<u>Via phone</u>: 03 7018 2005. Meeting ID: 826 6681 8761# Password 22#

Contacts:

Rev Brian Morgan 0419 933 938 or Graeme Haines 0427 862 355.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Currently being delivered by Intereach Aged Care Services



LETTER TO THE LOCKY NEWS READERS

Cr. Leanne Pentreath, Western Ward. Dear Cr. Leanne,

As our representative, what can you do for saving our Lockington Pool? Reading the 'Riverine Herald' of Monday, 17 January, 2022 I felt sad to read again the issue regarding closing Community Pools throughout the Shire, including Lockington, with a "sweetener" of \$803,055 being given for our community to have a 'significant say in how it is spent'. I wonder how much say we would have and how we could spent it, why not use it to maintain our pool, teach our children and keep them safe Many years ago I did an "Adults learn to swim course" in Lockington's pool, and so thankful I did, and recommend they be conducted in Shire pools, if they are aren't already. I haven't seen any advertised.

How much is the life of a child drowned? Where will our children learn to swim, could they be at risk of being a statistic of drownings in Australia, which already are too high? According to Royal Life Saving Australia, as at 14 January, 2022 already 48 drowning deaths have been recorded. Isn't that enough to reconsider the closure? Swimming in channels is illegal and dangerous due to plastic lining etc. But can that be policed?

Our school is next door to the pool, a perfect spot for children to learn, and no expense in walking them to the pool for their swimming sports. Are they going to use the \$803,055 to bus adults and children in to the Echuca pool for lessons, school sports etc? I doubt it. Suitable times and dates then become an issue!! Close our pool and there is another reason to shop outside our town.

I appreciate there are costs involved with maintenance and providing life savers, but, I repeat, what is the life of a person worth? Teach them now, save a life later.

Thank you for taking time to read my letter, and I hope give it serious consideration.

Yours truly, Beryl Marshall.

Isaiah c9 v 6.

For unto us a Child is born Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His Name will be called

Wonderful, Councelor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.



Lockington Neighbourhood House

Ph: 0499 170 329 E: nhldbc@gmail.com Terri Hateley, Coordinator



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CASUAL ART GROUP

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Mondays 10am-12pm In the Plumbers Shed **Commencing Monday** 7th February 2022





Lockington Men's Shed

Morning tea and activities every Tuesday morning from 10.00am-12.00pm.

2022 Registration forms available now

Come along and enjoy Morning Tea, activities and mateship

LOCKINGTON PLAYGROUP

Wednesdays during school terms CONTACT BETHANY ON: 0429 636 578 FOR MORE INFORMATION



MOULIN ROUGE MUSICAL AT THE REGENT THEATRE

Bus trip 2nd March 2022

\$150.00 per person



Register and pay at the fuel counter Cannot hold tickets without payment

Tuesday

8.00am - 5.00pm Wednesday

8.00am - 6.00pm

Hours Thursday 8.00am - 5.00pm

Every Wednesday 4pm-6pm



During school terms only

Do you have a young person starting secondary school next year? Ask for a registration form for 2022 now!

Forms are available from Lockington **Neighbourhood House**

Lockington Library



OPEN

Tuesday: 10am - 2pm Wednesday: 10am - 5.00 pm Thursday: 10am - 2pm



Bus Trip

\$50.00 per person for the bus

31st March 2022 Show entry can be purchased online or at the gate on the day Register at the fuel counter What's coming up on Australia Pay in and around Locky...





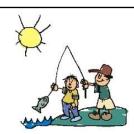
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 26



<u>Australia Day</u> <u>Brçaky In The</u> Park

The Lockington Lions Club
extend a big welcome to all
to come along for the
Australia Day Breakfast in the Park
on 26th January 2021.
Breakfast begins at 8 am
with a gold coin donation,
followed by a Flag raising ceremony at
10am.

Our guest speaker will be... Councillor Tony Marwood Echuca Ward Councillor (Campapse Shire Council) Kids
Fishing
Competition



(Thanks to *The Lockington Action Club*) 10:30 - 12:30pm

Bring the whole family down for a relaxing picnic lunch/ fish n chips. (BYO food) with the competition running from 10:30am till 12:30pm!

Sooo many prizes to give away!! With fishing rods up for grabs for the biggest fish caught, and a mystery prize for the mystery yabbie weight! And yabbie races

Would love to see you all there to support this great event!

Spread the word.

Please register at the rotunda from 10:30am onwards

Come and spend

AUSTRALIA DAY



ARVO at the Pool!

It's the best way to cool off in town!

From 3pm to 7pm (subject to 25 deg) usual entry fee applies.

<u>Australia Day</u> <u>Pinner & Speaker</u>



Organised by the Milloo branch of Victorian Country Women's Association

Will not be held in 2022



Lockington & District Bush Nursing Centre Inc.

ISSUE 184 JANUARY 2022

A big thank you to the community for doing the right thing in December when we had cases become apparent - this helped contain the outbreak quite quickly.

COVID TESTING

A team of staff from Bendigo Health operated a pop up testing clinic at the Centre on Wednesday 22nd December. Thank you to all those who came to get tested. We had just under 100 tests done. Thank you to the Lions Club for the loan and assistance with the shade marquee.

Bush Nursing staff ran a drive through testing facility Tuesday 4th - Friday 7th January from 11 - 12noon. Over 100 people were tested during this period.



Any further testing <u>for our locals</u> will be by appointment only and will be dependent on staff availability as emergencies and Centre appointments have priority. Please check with your local pharmacy to purchase Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT's), as the Centre does not have them for sale.

Who should get tested?

If you have symptoms, and or have been notified as a close contact, you need to use a rapid antigen test, or get a PCR test if you can't access a rapid antigen test. Please check the Victorian Government coronavirus website at https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au for current and up to date details.

Positive Rapid Antigen Test?

If you test positive on a rapid antigen test, you are a case. You must report your positive rapid antigen test result as soon as you can. To report your result, call the Coronavirus Hotline at 1800 675 398, or fill in this online form at: https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/report

Covid Testing sites

Echuca, Rotary Park, Rose Street: from 8am,

Bendigo, McLaren Street 10am - 5.30pm

Kyabram, Northern Oval, Tisdall Road: from 9am on Monday Wednesday and Fridays.

*Remember to check websites for early closure or altered times due to heat.

Covid Boosters

These vaccinations are being provided by Chemists, Vaccination hubs and GPs. Give them a ring to arrange a booking. No boosters are being done at the Centre.



Closure - Australia Day public holiday - Wed 26th January 2022

Thought for the day - One small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day!





LOCKINGTON PLANNING GROUP

Next meeting: MONDAY 21st February 2022
Where: Lockington Community Hall

Time: 7.30 pm

Planning needs to commence prior to:





RURAL AID VOLUNTEERS COMING:

When: Saturday 14th May 2022 to Sunday 22nd May 2021.

Planning needs to begin on projects throughout the district.

Please ensure you have a representative present at this meeting so that we can be organised and ready to go when the volunteers arrive.

Some of the original projects and now been completed and we need to know that we have a united plan for future developments.

Wendy Sims 0427 868 307

Meals to be provided during the week:

Sunday: Monday:

Tuesday: Lions Club Wednesday: Bowls Club

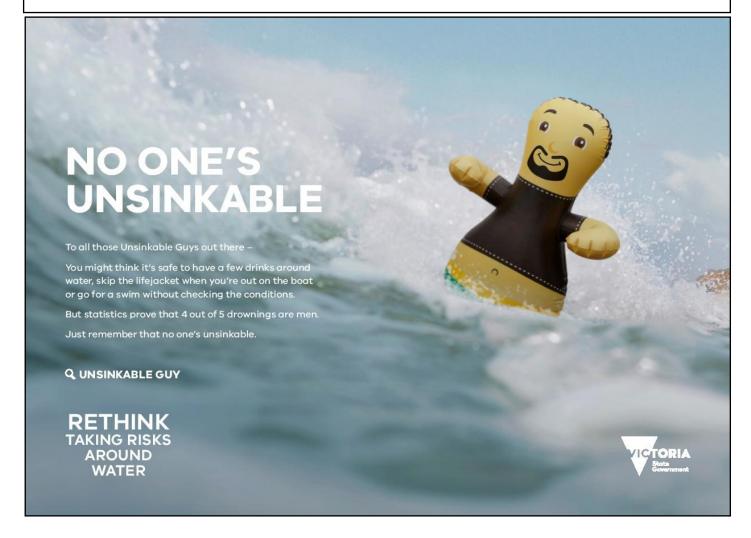
Thursday: Volunteers eating at the pub

Friday:

My name is Simonne Collins and I'm one of Phill Collins' 11 grandchildren. Phill also has 3 great grandchildren. This morning Pa asked me to send in the below story on his behalf.

Phill Collins' late mother Bertha 'Bert' Collins was a very religious women and said grace before every meal. Bert regularly told her 8 children the following saying:

'Patience is a virtue,
Virtue is a grace,
and if you have them both,
you need not have a pretty face'.



COMMUNITY

ACTION CLUB OF LOCKINGTON

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

1st Wednesday - Dinner at Clubrooms 3rd Wednesday - Activity



President:

John Wright: 0409 259 723

Secretary:

Tommy Eade: 0417 899 806

COMMUNITY



LOCKINGTON RECREATION RESERVE

For venue hire (including outside toilets) contact... Toni Hardess ph: 0409265529

Venue hire prices are as follows: \$100 for function room \$140 for function room and kitchen.

HEALTH

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Registered Number: A11551

Caring for the Lockington Community

MON - FRI 8.30am to 4.00pm (Lunchbreak 12.30-1.30) Phone 54862544

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President
John Wright 0409 259 723
Secretary
Wendy Sims 0427 868 307

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admin@tongalaagedcare.com.au

Monday,

Tuesday & Wednesday

10.00am - 2.00pm

Thursday & Friday

9.30am - 12 Noon, 12.45pm - 4.00pm

For more information please contact Lockington branch on 5486 2304

Elmore/Lockington/Rochester Community Bank® branches

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COMMUNITY CENTRE

LOCKINGTON

Bookings Call Bev Brereton 5486 2331 Or 0447 553 303

LIONS CLUB OF LOCKINGTON



DISTRICT SERVICE CLUB Serving Our Community

Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesdays Lockington Heritage Complex

President Lion:

John Van Den Bosch 0417 999 144 Secretary Lion: Marg Dowie 0427 795 576 Treasurer : Phillip Cunnington

3

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GRAPHIC DESIG MAGNETS • APPAR SEO • LOGO DE Nigel Riordan (03) 5486 5457



RETAIL

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11 Hopetoun Street, Lockington Ph 4408 7610 Open 7 days

Mon & Tues 9:00am - 6:30pm Wed & Thurs 9:00am - 7:30pm

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Post Office Phone/Fax 5486 2419 Open 9am - 6pm Mon to Fri 9am to midday Saturdays



Lockington Community Hotel Co-operative Ltd 1-3 Archibald St (Cnr Lockington Road) Lockington, VIC 3563



For enquiries & bookings - Ph:03 5486 2501 Drinks / Accommodation / Meals



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Email: stonesdairyservice@outlook.com

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PETER WALSH MP MEMBER FOR MURRAY PLAINS

Electorate office:

496 High St

Echuca 3564

Ph: 5482 2039

Local Call:1300 467 606

W: www.peterwalsh.org.au

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

peterwalshmp
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Jon Watson 0481 718 824

jon.watson@rochesterbowen.com.au

Certified in



"300 Words" CHALLENGE

Please send us your articles and photos for inclusion in the paper, and receive a \$10 Locky Dollars Voucher.

Email your word document and attached photo to ... lockynews@bigpond.com
(300 Word Challenge in the subject line)

Local businesses...
please contact Alison 0417 177 807
for redemption of vouchers





BAREFOOT BOWLS

BAREFOOT BOWLS has now commenced for the New Year.

Register 6:30pm for 7:00pm start.

All ages welcome! Singles, couples, families, groups come along and have a fun night!

Of course, Covid rules will apply, as we are governed by Bowls Victoria, proof of double vax is a requirement.

Well Womens Clinic

Next visit date TBA



For appts/enquiries ring 54862544

Subject to change Re: Covid19 updates

Campaspe Shire Council Immunisation Session By appointment only

Ph: 1300 666 535 Monday, 24th January 11.30am – 12noon

Lockington Bush Nursing Centre Vaccines for children & adults, including flu vaccine

Refer to Council website for more info.

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Wendy Sims 0427 868 307 (Victoria)

Paul Harrison 0436 306 388 (N.S.W) For advertising on our local

FM 88 Radio

Contact
Aileen Brewer
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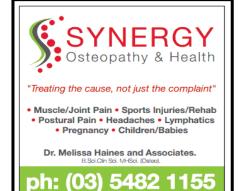


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From Front Page

I urge all of our readers and supporters to write to every one of our shire councillors and express their disgust at the mere suggestion of closing our pools, let alone the serious notion to do so. Here are the email addresses of all our Shire Councillors.

Alison Stewart (Editor)

LIST OF CAMPASPE COUNCILLORS

Cr Chrissy Weller

Echuca Ward Councillor - Mayor Telephone0437 567 401

Email: c.weller@campaspe.vic.gov.au

Cr Rob Amos

Echuca Ward Councillor Telephone0437 042 170

Email: r.amos@campaspe.vic.gov.au

Cr Tony Marwood

Echuca Ward Councillor Telephone: 0437 731 169

Email: t.marwood@campaspe.vic.gov.au

Cr Colleen Gates

Kyabram Deakin Ward Councillor - Deputy Mayor

Telephone: 0457 916 615

Email: c.gates@campaspe.vic.gov.au

Cr Daniel Mackrell

Kyabram Deakin Ward Councillor

Telephone: 0429 517 535

Email: d.mackrell@campaspe.vic.gov.au



Cr Adrian Weston

Waranga Ward Councillor Telephone: 0428 320 464

Email: a.weston@campaspe.vic.gov.au

Cr Paul Jarman

Rochester Ward Councillor Telephone: 0407 825 133

Email: p.jarman@campaspe.vic.gov.au

Cr Leanne Pentreath

Western Ward Councillor Telephone: 0437 248 212

Email: I.pentreath@campaspe.vic.gov.au

Cr John Zobec

Kyabram Deakin Ward Councillor Telephone: 0418 213 413

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ROCHESTER ANGLING CLUB

Are you Interested in Fishing?

Rochester Angling Club are currently looking for new members.

The club split their time over organising fishing trips, and taking an active roll in the conservation of local fish habitat and stocking local waters for future enjoyment of all.

They also hold a monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at the Rochester Showgrounds from 7 pm that often involves a byo BBQ.

If you think that you may be interested, please ring;



Bruce Kneebone on 0407341485

Or

Stephen Peter on 0481974166

VOLUNTEERING

Every small community needs volunteers, and this can be in the form of anything from Presidents, Treasurers and Secretaries to bbq cooks and gardeners. The trick is to see where you fit.

Some good guestions to ask yourself are...

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- What skills would I like to build on?
- What are my interests?
- Which organisations need help?
- · What skills are needed?



The Lockington community has a history of being very proactive, but that doesn't happen without volunteers.

Please, if you're not involved with a local group, find one that suits you, your skills and interests, and stick your hand up to pitch in and help our community to thrive.

Alison Stewart (Editor)

MEDIA RELEASE A better deal for Murray Plains Peter WALSH FOR MURRAY PLAINS | LEADER OF THE NATIONALS

Another New Year, and another round of **NEW LABOR TAXES AND CHARGES SAYS WALSH**

The Nationals leader and Member for Murray Plains, Peter Walsh, says Victorian workers, families, students and businesses can welcome the New Year with yet another financial hit with further cost of living pressures as several of Daniel Andrews' new and increased taxes come into effect.

Mr Walsh said as local communities work hard just to begin their recovery from Covid and being the most locked down state in the world, another raft of new and increased charges will see Victoria fall even further behind.

He said Labor's new and increased taxes and charges, starting from January 1, include:

- Road tolls a 1.045 per cent quarterly increase for CityLink as part of a decade long 4.25 per cent per annum increase, meaning a 24-hour pass for a car will cost \$0.21 more.
- Jobs tax an up to 1 per cent payroll tax surcharge on large employing businesses.
- Land tax a 0.25 per cent increase on taxable holdings exceeding \$1.8 million, and an increase of 0.3 per cent increase on taxable holdings exceeding \$3 million.
- Public transport a 2.3 per cent price increase, meaning an additional \$73 per year for a daily metropolitan user.
- Windfall Gains Tax a new property tax of up to 50 per recover and rebuild for the future. cent applying to re-zoned land commencing from July 2023.

"Since 2014, the Andrews Labor Government has introduced, or increased, 39 separate taxes as Victoria has become the highest taxing and most indebted state in the nation," Mr Walsh said.

"Instead of funding schools, hospitals, roads and emergency services, Victorians' taxes continue to be wasted on Labor's multi-billion dollar big build blowouts," he said.

"Victorians deserve a government that can manage costs, projects and deliver value for money - they certainly don't cases they end up jammed into a bus. deserve the secretive, deceptive power-hungry government. He said passengers on lines to his electorate will now pay an they currently have.

doing behind the scenes is coming out - the denials about add an extra \$104 to yearly travel. any direct involvement in the hotel quarantine and contact "Of course if you live in Echuca, for example, which is tracing being exposed in the media this week.

"It is time all Victorians woke up to the rights they have lost and the lies they have been told – and remember that at the ballot box in November."

Mr Walsh said the Andrews' Labor Government's latest round of taxes and charges mean less money for you, your family and your future.

He said instead of supporting Victorians to recover and rebuild, Labor continues to waste billions on cost blowouts and time and again, leaves Victorians to pick up the tab.

"Big new taxes will only hold us back; and see Victoria fall further behind. Businesses, workers and families should be supported as we recover and rebuild – not slapped with new cost of living pressures," Mr Walsh added.

TWO YEARS OF FAILURE AND THE ANDREWS **GOVERNMENT STILL HASN'T LEARNT ITS LESSON**

The Nationals leader and Member for Murray Plains, Peter Walsh, is calling for the delivery of a common-sense plan to ensure a safe return to the classroom for all Victorian students for the first day of Term 1.

Mr Walsh said after struggling through the world's longest COVID lockdown - and eight consecutively-disrupted school

terms - Victorian students have fallen behind and missed too many critical days of face-to-face learning.

Which he said is why he is calling on the Victorian government to adopt the Victorian Liberal Nationals' common -sense plan to get kids back in the classroom - and keep them there.

The plan includes:

- A guarantee that schools will not be locked down.
- Free rapid antigen tests for all students and staff with vaccinations made easily available.
- Ensure all classrooms are equipped with air purifiers.
- A plan to manage staff shortages and ensure continuity of learning.

"This plan will support students and their families to return to school safely and allow children to fully re-engage with their educational, social and mental development," Mr Walsh explained.

"After two years of this pandemic, there simply is no excuse not to be prepared - our children have been denied their lessons and the Andrews Labor government has failed to learn anything from its botched handling of every aspect of the pandemic," he said.

"The government must deliver this comprehensive plan to safely get our kids back into classrooms throughout 2022.

"If it doesn't, the government's failure to prepare is threatening our kids return to school and seeing students fall even further behind.

"Our plan will support the children, and their families, to make a safe and successful return to the classroom so we can

"By getting kids back to face-to-face learning we will help get their educational, social and mental development back on track."

REGIONAL VICTORIANS TAKEN FOR ANOTHER RIDE SAYS WALSH

The Nationals leader and Member for Murray Plains, Peter Walsh, says regional Victorians have just been hit with another price rise for the privilege of taking a trip on one of the state's most underperforming services – the train.

That is, Mr Walsh added, if they even get a train. In too many

extra 1.1 per cent (on average) and, for example, V/Line "Piece by piece the truth about the things this government is passengers on the Bendigo line will see seven-day passes

> serviced by that line, you will mostly get a bus from Bendigo," Mr Walsh said.

"But if you do get the train you end up on the slow train to nowhere because the line is not safe to travel at normal speeds because the Andrews Labor government doesn't care about regional infrastructure – it is busy wasting billions of taxpayer dollars on botched road and rail projects in Melbourne," he added.

"And that is typical of the rail network across the state - we get to pay more for a substandard service."

Mr Walsh said the price rise took effect on January 1 reversing a fare freeze applied during the pandemic.

But he said it comes at the wrong time, as not only are many Victorians still struggling to make ends meet and pay the bills, patronage across the network remains at record lows.

Data from the Department of Transport shows passenger trips have plummeted through lockdowns, with just 600,000 trips per day across the state - down from 1.66 million per day before the pandemic began.

For the Bendigo V/Line services, patronage has dropped from 8055 trips a day in 2018-19 to 2740 in 2020-21.

Continued page 16

Labor's poorly managed response left hundreds of whom have suffered through two years of the harshest thousands of people out of work and unable to pay the restrictions in Australia and the world," he said. bills or forced to close their business," Mr Walsh said.

"We should be encouraging locals to find more reasons to choose public transport to travel, not fewer," he said.

"Higher fares put more pressure on people still struggling to make ends meet, on sick regional Victorians travelling to Melbourne for medical appointments and is less incentive for office workers to get back to the CBD.

"Everyone can now see Labor can't manage major projects, let alone the economy, which has left Daniel Andrews swimming in debt and desperate to plug billions of dollars in cost blowouts, no matter the cost to Victorians.'

PREMIER'S SHADOW LOCKDOWN IS CRIPPLING SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY SAYS WALSH

The Nationals leader and Member for Murray Plains, Peter Walsh, says Victoria's already delicate efforts to recover and rebuild have been dealt a savage blow as business owners across the state cry out for more support.

Mr Walsh said despite the Andrews Labor Government trumpeting no more lockdowns once vaccine targets were met; tightening isolation requirements, coupled with density limits and further restrictions, have left our state - regionally and in the metropolitan area - in a "shadow lockdown".

He said towns right across regional Victoria are famous for their trendy little retail strips, along with their historic precincts and café and restaurant scenes.

"But now supply chain workforce shortages are forcing more doors, right across the state, to be closed.

"The reintroduction of density limits, mask mandates and other restrictions has also meant consumers are most hesitant to shop, keeping vital dollars way from local businesses," Mr Walsh added.

"Fares were frozen during the COVID pandemic after "It's another slap in the face to business owners, most of

"That's why the Victorian Liberal Nationals have called on the State Government to immediately extend the Commercial Tenancy Relief Scheme for a further three months.

"It is due to end this week, so an extension of the scheme would mean thousands of small businesses would avoid unaffordable rent increases just as new restrictions are enforced.

"Instead of giving business owners the confidence needed to rebuild and recover, Daniel Andrews is leaving Victorians behind."

Mr Walsh said the only thing different between now and previous lockdowns; is Daniel Andrews has left small businesses to fend for themselves by not provided the support needed at this crucial time.

He said Daniel Andrews "must end this shadow lockdown and stop imposing 2020 style restrictions on family run cafes, retailers, restaurants and businesses and must immediately provide the support needed for their survival".

"A Liberal Nationals government would give business owners the confidence they need to recover and rebuild," Mr Walsh said.





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LOCKINGTON BOWLS CLUB

REPORT 24/12/21

With Christmas with us, there will be little activity on the greens. During the week the semi-final of the Club championship between Phillip

Cunnington and Steve Pavone was played out.

The contest was one of the most impressive display of bowls from to two individuals, that has been seen for some time. At first it was the left-handed Cunnington who gained the early break to set up a lead of 15-6 after fifteen ends. Pavone was trying desperately to keep in touch and suddenly found the green to pick up ten shots to four to trail 16-19 on 24 ends. The game was on. However, Cunnington crept out to 24 shots to 16 and requiring one shot for victory. Pavone had other ideas and promptly picked up two - triples to trail 22-24. On the final end Pavone was holding two shots with a Cunnington bowl remaining. It was magic bowl from Cunnington that moved the shot bowl to earn the right to play the final against Ken Main winning 25-22. Both bowlers were congratulated on the memorable game. The final will be played this week.

The Bendigo Campaspe Goldfields State Sixty and Over Pairs were held at Bendigo East Bowls Club recently. The bowlers representing the Campaspe Area bowled extremely well to make the finals in both Men's and Ladies. For the women, Beryl Eddy and Sandra Connolly (s) Moama defeated Judy Davies and Helen Clough (s) (Bendigo East) 16-15 in the semi-final. In the final against Patti Pain and Julie Ross (s) (Golden Square) the Moama pair were out bowled after a promising start to trail 6-15. Their opposition were in fine form and won the final 19-6.

In the men's section, the Moama pairing in Rob Wastell and Mike Lineham (s) defeated Kevin Shuttleworth and Rod Phillips (s) Castlemaine 15-12 to reach the final against Ron Pearce and Ian Ross (s) from Bendigo East who had eliminated the composite pair in Barry Anset and Phil Godkin (s) 16-14 following a marathon game that was interrupted by persistent rain. The final produced some magic moments as both teams traded shots. The Moama pair gained a slight break to lead 9-6 after eleven ends. Holding three shots on the following end the opposition skipper Ian Ross killed the end. Both teams were level pegging until the final end where the Bendigo East pair was leading 12-11 and Moama holding one shot, before Ross delivered a final bowl to move the shot bowl out and claim victory 13-11. It was a great day for the Ross family winning a title each.

REPORT 3/1/22

The club ended the year 2021 with a successful Christmas - New Year Open Fours tournament. The event attracted a high standard field of 112 bowlers from Calivil, Cohuna Golf, Echuca, Elmore, Rich River, Deniliquin, Tongala, Stanhope, M.C.C. - Melbourne, Kangaroo Flat, Boort, Bendigo, Rochester, Pyramid Hill and several Lockington members. The tournament was supported by the Moama Bowling Club, to which the club is indebted for their generous support.

Bowlers also attended to remember the late Tom Davis who passed away on Sunday 21st November 2021. Tom Davis was an esteemed Life Member of this club and several visiting bowlers spoke highly in the remembrance of Tom Davis, not only as a trusted friend but also a handy travelling bowler. Davis had favourites in family, friends, farming and "Fergie" tractors.

The club was pleased to have the Bendigo-Campaspe-Goldfields Region chairman Paul Moller on the green. Moller gave a display of brilliant leading that helped propel his team to four wins and a Runners Up prize. On the greens all bowlers were treated to ideal conditions along with a cool to moderate warm day. At the completion of the four games of ten ends, there were only two teams undefeated. Based on a Points system, the winners on a total of 110 points was the composite rink of Garth Whiffen, Alan Clements, Ian Hammil and Kelvin Whiffen (s) (Tongala-Rochester) to take home the major trophies. Runners Up went to another composite team comprising Paul Moller, Tom Ristic, Barry Anset, Brad Marron (s) 106 points - from Kangaroo Flat - M.C.C.). The winning rink were very dominating in recording an 18-nil score in the first game and then a 19-1 victory in the final game. In the major raffle competition, six lucky bowlers shared in the spoils.

Club Senior Vice-President, Neil Haines thanked all bowlers for their support along with the Moama Bowling Club. Haines also congratulated Lady President Anne Lowrie and her committee for preparing the magnificent meals during the day. The green staff headed by Kevin Humbert and Les Brereton were acknowledged for another perfect presentation of the immaculate greens. Pauline Humbert was thanked for the presentation cards entitled the "Evolution of Man" together with her contribution towards the major raffle. All bowlers were congratulated for being conscious of the COVID-19 protocols and adhering to the rules in place. Thanks to our COVID-19 Supervisor Denise Gilmore. The tournament was a great success overall.

In the club championships, the women reached the semifinal stage after Lorraine Appleby defeated a gallant Margaret Dowie 25-21 in a high standard display of draw bowling from both combatants. The game was a story of both bowlers sharing ends on a regular basis until the scoreline read 22-21 in favour of Appleby. Appleby picked up a double and a single to move into the semifinal against Phyllis MacFarlane while Leanne McInnes will meet Sue Harris in the other semi-final.

In the men's section Phillip Cunnington will play Ken Main in the final of the Club Championship.

Members have attended local tournaments during the past week. The team skipped by Russell Shawcross travelled to the Dingee Bowling Clubs' Fours event on Wednesday and scored two wins and a tie - no presents!.

Get well wishes are extended to our Club President Ray Hanson, who is on the sick list.

The club also offers all bowlers and sponsors a Happy and safe New Year.

REPORT 10/1/22

The women played an exciting game of Triples at their weekly Social bowls on Tuesday. After a roll-off to the Yardstick, the trio comprising Kathi Maddison, Betty Mustey and Denise "Happy" Gilmore (s) were declared the winners.

The Tuesday evening Sports - Barefoot bowls resulted in a slice of history as there were no two game winners. Following a lengthy countback process, the team comprising Ian Staig, John van den Bosch, Sue Evans (s) won the major trophies on Aggregate shots ahead of John Fisher and Leanne McInnes (s).

(continued next page)



LOCKINGTON BOWLS CLUB (CONTINUED)

In the Midweek pennant competition, our women could not match the might of the strong Moama contingent. Losing all rinks in the 36-72 result. (Phyllis

MacFarlane lost to E Bennett 16-17; Pauline Humbert It. B.Trengrove 9-27; Annette Brereton It. D Hogan 11-28). This week they will play Echuca at home.

The Week-end pennant will resume this Saturday with Division Three to play away at Rich River while Division Four B will meet Rich River Green away.

On Sunday four of our members played in the BCG Regional Novice Singles at North Bendigo Bowling Club. The big news out of the day's play was that Sue Harris won all three games to make the final to be played on Sunday February 6th 2022. Harris defeated C Johnstone 21-15, then received a walkover in the second game before defeating M Carter 21-11 in the semi-final. The final will be played between Sue Harris and C Flint. Kathi Maddison lost her first game to G Trewartha 16-21 in a gallant performance. In the Men's section Steve Pavone defeated B White 21-14 before winning his second match 21-5. In the semi-final Pavone was defeated by Ian Hamill in a close game 19-21. John Fisher lost his first round to M Foord 10-21. The club congratulates our four members for the initiative and drive to compete in their first ever individual Regional competitions.

Rochester and Elmore over the weekend. Positive results Lowrie, Umpire Leanne McInnes, Greens staff, Annie have not been handed to the scribe as yet?

On Sunday 23rd January the club will stage the Annual Waterwheel Open Fours starting at 9.30am. This event is a Gold Letter tournament and has proven to be a very popular play-day for all bowlers. Last Tuesday the womens' Social bowls were washed out Contact Chris Stewart 5486 2607 or Russell due to the heavy rainfall during the morning. Shawcross 0428 862468 for entries. The field is filling quickly.

The weekly Friday evening barbeque and practice session will resume this week.

On the weekend the BCG Regional Premier League unbeaten run following victories over Castlemaine 103-57 Campbell won their respective rinks 24-7 and 20-17.

Report: 17.1.22

The newly crowned Club Champion of the Lockington Bowls Club is Ken Main, who survived a frantic late challenge from his opponent Phillip Cunnington to win 25-24. The final was played on Friday afternoon with both combatants displaying some memorable draw bowling. Main gained the early edge to lead 6-2 after six ends. Ends were traded until scores were level at 13-all after 18 ends. Cunnington gradually made headway to win five of the following 7 ends to lead 20-14. Suddenly Main clicked into gear and reeled off four ends straight for ten shots to establish a 24-20 advantage. Cunnington was not to be denied and slowly collected three shots to draw level on 24 - all and game on. The final end provided some not collected. The drawn name was Kath Palmer. exciting moments as both bowlers were holding shots before their opponent would outdraw them. In the end, Main was able to draw a near resting toucher to claim his first Club Championship. Both bowlers were applauded as they left the green.

In the womens' Club Championship, Leanne McInnes will meet Phyllis MacFarlane this week. McInnes defeated a gallant Sue Harris in the semi-final played on Saturday morning. In a game that was highlighted by some exceptional bowling, McInnes was able to keep at bay a persistent Harris to win the match 25-13 where the actual scores did not reflect the overall close heads and where McInnes was able to exert her experience to win and attempt to win her third Club Championship in four years. MacFarlane received a walkover from Lorraine Appleby.

The women held a successful 3-bowl Triples tournament on Wednesday attracting twenty teams representing clubs Echuca, Deniliquin, Moama, Rochester, Elmore, Rich River, Mathoura, Calivil, Dingee, Ky Valley View, Tongala, Kyabram plus several Lockington members.

Lady President Anne Lowrie welcomed bowlers and wished everyone an enjoyable day. Tournament Secretary Lorraine Appleby read the Conditions of Play and thanked Nichol Trading for their ongoing support. The club was privileged to have Glenda Nichol come along and present the prizes and give an interesting talk. At the completion of the day's play there was only one three game winner being from Rich River and comprised Wendy Nagorcka, Roseanne Sharp and Liz Easther (s) in a brilliant display of bowling. In second place was the team from Kyabram featuring Jan McFadyen, Jill Barrett and Margaret Cox (s) on a countback from seven teams on two wins - Kyabram 2, Echuca 1, Echuca 2, Lockington, Deniliquin and Dingee. The Spider winner was Lois Chugg and the Roll to the Ditch winner was Ruth Members have enjoyed playing in local tournaments at Lennie (Tongala). Appleby thanked President Anne Haines, Chris Stewart, Denise Gilmore -COVID Check, Margaret Davis and Betty Mustey for the Flower arrangement and Pauline Humbert for the raffle and Presentation envelopes.

On Tuesday evening at the Sports-barefoot bowls attracted 28 players in fine conditions after the rain. The winners were Ian Scurrah and Jeff Carnie (s) with 2 wins plus 9 shots and 8 shots against Cindy Felmingham and Ian Angove 2 wins plus 9 shots and 11 shots against.

played a double-header with Moama retaining their In the local Campaspe Area Pennant the club was able record all three victories with Midweek Division two - all rinks up and a tight match against South Bendigo scoring a 56-51 win against Echuca with two rinks up. (L 75-67 and sharing the rinks. Kevin Brennan and Bradley McInnes lost to M Malone 19-25; Phyllis MacFarlane defeated W Curnow 20-10; Annette Brereton d. H Trotter 17-16).

> The Week-end pennant resulted in wins for both Division Three and Division FourB over their respective Rich River Green opponents. The division three had two rinks up in the 66-57 win against some strong opposition. (Graeme Turner d. J James 24-15; Ian Johnson I.t. J Arthurson 22-24; Philip Cunnington d. G Edgar 20-18). Division Four B shared the rinks in the closely fought out match and won 42-38. (Bill Musgrove d. G Kiefel 28-9; Neil Haines I.t. G Clarence 14-29). Both division 2 and 4B retain their second place on the respective premiership ladders.

> The Friday evening barbeque and practice session was well attended and the elusive lucky members draw was

> > (Continued next page)

LOCKINGTON BOWLS CLUB (CONTINUED)

There is a host of Club tournaments coming up in the near future. On Sunday the club will hold the Annual Waterwheel Classic Open Fours commencing at 9.30am. Contact Chris Stewart 5486 2607 or Russell Shawcross 0428 862468 for details.

On Sunday 6th February the annual Mixed Pairs (2x4x2) will be held at 1.00pm. Entries to Chris Stewart 0439 834 207 (text only) or Lorraine Appleby 0427 802569 and Annie Haines 5486 8220.

The popular Twilight Mixed Fours will be held on Tuesday 15th February. This event will start at 5.00pm. Entries to Lorraine Appleby 0427 802569 or Annie Haines 5486 8220.

The BCG State Fours was held at Golden Square Bowling Club on Sunday. The local bowlers were well represented. In the women's section the Moama rinks involving Christine Ritchie, Mia Young, Kath Wastell and Sandra Connolly (s) won a semi-final berth after winning two games in considerable fashion. Another Moama rink comprising Colleen Maslen, Merrilyan Rehe, Marilyn Stephenson and Mary-Anne Spizer (s) also gained a semi-final berth after defeating the Moama four of Jayde Campbell, Kelli Norris, Denise Pappin and Cassie Millerick (s) 19-16 in the quarter finals. The mens section only delivered just the one successful rink. Jim Hogan, Glen Dorward, Barry Brennan and Kevin Brennan (s) will compete in the semi-finals. Other teams were casualties in their first round.



Winners: Rochester Tongala Team



Runner Up Team: MCC Kangaroo Flat





Runner up – Ladies 3 Bowls Triples Tournament



Men's Championship winner- Ken Main on right, Centre Ray Hanson – Men's President – marker. Left – Phillip Cunnington.





JANUARY 2022

Sunday 23

Heritage Complex Open 1:00pm - 4:00pm On Duty: Jim & Therese

Monday 24

Immunisation Session
Bush Nursing Centre
11:30am - 12 Noon By appointment only

Bamawm CWA 10:30am Locky Business Centre

Wednesday 26

Breaky in The Park 7:30am at Lions Park

Kids Fishing Competition
1-3pm at the Rotunda on the Channel

Arvo at the Pool 3-7pm

Sunday 30

Heritage Complex Open 1:00 - 4:00pm On Duty:: Fenton & Les

Monday 31 LOCKY NEWS TYPING DAY

Closing time for articles/adverts 10:00am (earlier if possible)

ST. MARY'S OP SHOP

Mon, Wed, 10am to 2pm Thurs Fri, 10am to 2:30pm

CLOSED

December 17 to February 22

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 2

Action Club Dinner 7:30pm Club Rooms

Thursday 3

Landcare Meeting 7:00pm Lockington Hotel

Sunday 6

Pine Grove Gun Club Simulated Field & Game

Heritage Complex Open 1:00pm - 4:00pm On Duty: Beeryl and Garry

Monday 7

Heritage Complex Meeting 7:30pm At the Complex

Wednesday 9

Lions Club Dinner Meeting 7:30pm Heritage Centre

Thursday 10

Milloo CWA 10:00am Milloo Hall

Friday 11

Social Indoor Bowls 7:30pm Bamawm Extension Hall

Saturday 12

Lockington Pony Club Rally 10:00am Scurrah Reserve (Contact Christine Buckley 0400 576 767)

Sunday 13

Heritage Complex Open 1:00pm - 4:00pm On Duty: Joe & Julie

LOCKINGTON LIBRARY

Tuesday 10.00 am - 2.00 pmWednesday 10.00 am - 5 pmThursday 10.00 am - 2.00 pm

CLOSED
December 16 to January 11

BANK TRADING HOURS

Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays - 10.00 am - 2.00 pm Thursdays & Fridays - 9.30 am to 12 noon, 12.45 pm to 4.00 pm



Weekly Activities

MONDAYS

- Strength & Balance Class
 9.00 am Bush Nursing Centre
- Nicole Hocking Podiatrist
 9.30 4.30. Bush Nursing Centre.
 Phone: 5486 2544.

TUESDAYS

- Men's Shed 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Phone 0499 170 329
- Dr. Patrick Nzegwu
 9.30 am 5.00 pm
 Bush Nursing Centre
 Phone: 5486 2544.
- Ladies Social Bowls Names to be in by 9.45am for 10:15 am start
- Barefoot Bowls Names by 6:30pm Start 7:00pm

WEDNESDAYS

- Strength & Balance Class
 9.00 am Bush Nursing Centre.
- Tai Chi
 4:30–5:30 pm Bush Nursing Centre
 \$8 per session, with Fay Sizeland
- Lockington Playgroup 10:00am - 1:00pm (not during school holidays)
 St. James Church Hall. Enquiries: Bethany: 0429 636 578
- Social Scrounge Men's & Ladies Names in by 12:45pm

THURSDAYS

- Social Activity Day 10am - Bush Nursing Centre Phone: 1300 488 226
- Men's Shed
 By appointment
 Phone: 0499 170 329
- Ladies Social Badminton
 9:30am Bamawm Sports Centre.
 Enquiries: 0458 548 622

SATURDAYS

 Bingo 7:15 pm - St. Joseph's Hall Campaspe St, Rochester.