



FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

HELLO READERS Welcome to this 23rd edition of our community newsletter. We must apologise – our December issue did not reach you – a computer glitch resulted in it not being printed and it was too late when we found out. We trust that you all enjoyed a Happy Christmas and that 2011 is treating you very well. We produce 2500 copies of this newsletter most of which are delivered direct to homes but many are also available through community centres and local shops. We receive a lot of feedback from you, our readers, praising the range of information we bring you and we have to thank our contributors for their efforts. Please keep up the good work.

As a Progress Association, we, together with the

Chamber of Commerce, are working on a heavy vehicle alternative route to help clear the town centre. We hope that you took the opportunity to sign the petition which was available throughout the town. Then there is the Optus Tower, town parking, the CFA redevelopment, the Salvation Army redevelopment and we are still working on the Town Logo.

May we advise sporting and community groups that you are welcome to send representatives to our meetings whereby we may be able to help you with your problems – it's worth a try.

Meanwhile, let's all work together to make our town, Leongatha, the best in the whole of Australia. It's good value.

Kind regards, Mike Curley, "Progress Leongatha".

LEONGATHA LIFE MEMBERS

Three of our Leongatha Sports Residents have recently been awarded Club Life Memberships. Firstly, **Trevor White** joined the Croquet Club's only other Life Member, Mrs Bee Cramp. Trevor has worked tirelessly for the Club and the award coincided with the Club's 80th Anniversary of croquet in Leongatha.



Ian Rassmussen was presented with Life Membership of Leongatha Table Tennis Club. He started playing in the 1950's and then with Leongatha Club when it was established in 1963 and he, together with wife Dawn, has worked ongoing for the sport over the years.

Frank Dekker was presented with Life Membership of Woorayl Golf Club having joined the Club at age 15, a member for 27 years, club secretary for 20 years and has represented the Club at the South Gippsland District Golf Club Association for many years.

Congratulations Trevor, Ian and Frankie. (Mike) Photographs: Trevor with Bee Cramp and Cr Jim Fawcett, Ian with his trophy, Frank with President Graeme Winkler. Photographs courtesy of "The Great Southern Star"



WOORAYL LODGE LADIES' AUXILIARY

(by Mike)

Well, another year has come to a close and we are all very pleased with what we have been able to achieve last year.

Results of our Fathers' Day Competition were: 1st Prize - \$100 Panthers Mensland Gift Voucher – S. McAuliffe, 2nd Prize – Car or Picnic Rug donated by RACV – Ted Wigley. Drawn at the Lodge 4pm on 4th September. A big thank you to all who supported us.

We held our second "Cent Day" for the year at the Lodge on 21st October and it was again a great success. We had over 70 contestants with lots of lovely prizes and everyone enjoyed it.

Australia's Open Garden Scheme – Mount Eccles Manor

The weather forecast was dreadful and, whilst we would have loved nice sunny days, it turned out better than we expected. We had good crowds both days including a busload of Senior Cits on Saturday. The gardens were absolutely magnificent, Lions provided BBQ lunches both days, Rotary, together with Lodge committee members organised admission fees and parking, we provided tea/coffee refreshments and there were lots of plants for sale provided by the nursery in Mirboo North. All-in-all, a great success. Thank you Christine and David.

Next on our calendar was the Lodge's Annual Fete and Garage Sale on 27th November – hope you were able to come. Well, how lucky were we with the weather. The forecast certainly wasn't good but the rain stayed away until well after the finish. We had good crowds and the day was again a success. At the close of the Fete, the following raffles were drawn: The lovely Christmas Hamper was won by Alan Moore of Leongatha and that beautiful Patchwork Quilt made by our resis was won by Zel Fawcett also of Leongatha.

The Annual Christmas Party for Resis and Families was held on 9th December and that lovely Gentleman in Red did find his way here. He was wonderful to all of us. We had a lovely lunch and later entertainment by resis and then staff members. A great day for all..

LEONGATHA LIBRARY

A fond farewell to **Rosemary Abbey** who has retired and is now finding herself so busy that she can barely fit it all into a day. She was heard wondering how she managed it all while also working. We wish Rosemary all the best in her retirement and hope to see her continuing her long association with libraries from the 'other side of the counter'. And...we'd like to welcome **Susan Hanson**, who moved to Leongatha from Canberra, and commenced as Principal Librarian in February 2011.

Summer Reading Club (SRC) - 68 children entered the SRC with a theme of "Scare up a good book" this year.

Libraries throughout Australia took part in the program, which is designed to encourage and promote reading and literacy. Children were encouraged to read 10 books to complete the requirement, which this year also entered them into a prize draw. Many participants read more than the minimum 10 books, with a couple of children coming close to 100 books.

Library Lovers Day....was celebrated on the 14th February. In fact at West Gippsland we've made February **Library Lovers month**. Library members had the opportunity to submit a mini romance story of exactly 50 words – no more, no less, to win a 'Library Lovers' hamper.

Story Time has commenced for 2011. It is held in the Leongatha Library every Friday morning at 10.30am during school term. The session runs for about ½ an hour with stories, songs, rhymes and activities. Story Time is a great chance for parents/carers and children to spend quality time together, listening to stories and often completing simple take home crafts. Come and be part of the fun!! Best of all, it's **FREE!!**

Coming soon: National Simultaneous Storytime will be held on Wednesday 25th May during Library and Information Week. In libraries all around Australia the story, Feather for Phoebe, will be read at 11am. Come along and enjoy the festivities!

Public holiday closures:

Leongatha Library will be closed on Monday 14th March (Labour Day); Friday 22nd April, Saturday 23rd April, Monday 25th April (Easter) and Tuesday 26th April (Anzac Day).

Usual opening hours:

Monday 10am to 6pm
Tuesday 10am to 6pm
Wednesday 10am to 6pm
Thursday 10am to 6pm
Friday 10am to 7pm
Saturday 10am to 1pm



Check out our website: www.wgrlc.vic.gov.au for details on all the services provided by the library. You can find out details of story time sessions held across the region, hours of opening for all our libraries, search the catalogue and *place holds for items at our other libraries* and check the online databases. For further information contact Leongatha Library: 5662 4829

We're 4 U

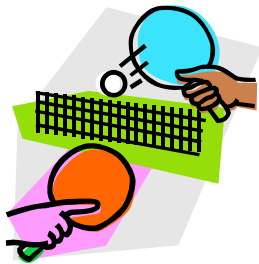
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Leongatha Table Tennis Association



- report 12.11.10

As we head into the holiday season we look back on our achievements for 2010.

It has been a very busy and successful year. In January we had some of our juniors commence their involvement with the Gippsland Sports Academy Table Tennis Program. This was a first for us and also the first time the academy had run a Table Tennis program. While it has been a huge learning curve for our players, coaches and administration people it has also been a hugely rewarding experience. Our "Academy Kids" have achieved amazing progress in their game, they have played in a number of tournaments at MSAC in Melbourne and other venues, they have achieved some excellent results against some of Victoria's top players. Michaela was successful in being selected to represent Victoria in the under 13 girls team, and travelled to Queensland to play a tournament with them. Selection of players for next years Academy program is now under way.

We have had eleven members participate in a coach accreditation course, and we are now well placed to provide coaching programs for any beginners wishing to take up table tennis as their sport.

During the year we were pleased to host a number of schools events at our centre. We ran a fund raiser day/

night event to raise funds for improvements and to purchase top quality tables.

We held a very successful presentation night with "Great Scott" the magician entertaining before we presented our yearly awards.

Michael Holwerda was the Tom Lott best club person award winner, Michaela Campbell was the most improved player - all grades, and Daniel Campbell the most improved player in B grade.

Ian Rasmussen was made a Life Member for his many years of service to table tennis.

Season 2011 started in February, although some players continued to hone their skills on a weekly basis.

Keen-Agers continue to play every Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9am - noon, there will only be a short break of two or three weeks over the Christmas - New Year period.

Anyone of any age wishing to come in at those times will be made welcome. Why not come along and enjoy the fun and friendship.

Six Keen-Agers travelled to Bairnsdale on October 30th to play in their first Open Tournament in their magnificent new centre. While we could not beat the Traralgon teams we did have players make the semi finals of the men's doubles and the mixed doubles.

In September we hosted some twenty Drouin Keen-Agers and a return visit to Drouin is planned for early 2011.

To contact us e-mail
leongathatt@hotmail.com

Further information from Ian on 5662 5578.

THE SALVATION ARMY SOUTH EAST SERVICES NETWORK

Gippscare Family Violence Outreach Service ...

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The South Gippsland Citizens Advice Bureau (and Community and Visitor Information Centre) in Leongatha is currently looking to increase its team of committed volunteers. New volunteers will be asked to attend a three-day orientation course designed to provide the skills to be an effective *Bureau and Visitor Information Centre* volunteer.



unteer.

The course will be offered in a choice of two sets of three Wednesdays; the first option will run on Wednesdays 2nd, 9th and 16th March, and the second option will run on Wednesdays 6th, 13th and 20th April.

For more details contact the Bureau or call (03) 5662 2111, Monday to Friday, 10 am to 4 pm.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

We continue to meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month with the exception of this November and December. In October Social Worker Kim Bolding gave us a talk on services available to Carers which tied in with Carers' Week 16-23 October. Carers from our group attended lunch at Leongatha RSL on 22nd October as guests of Carers' Association of Victoria. Our November meeting was our Christmas Lunch which we held at Manna Gum Restaurant in Inverloch and we all had a lovely day.

This year has been tinged with sadness as we lost four of our members. On a happier note we enjoyed a group outing to Tarwin Lower and Venus Bay. A variety of guest speakers have been well received.

Dr Kelly Bertram, Senior Registrar, and Ms Sue Varley, Movement Disorder Nurse, both from the Neurological Department of the Alfred Hospital agreed to come to talk at our meeting on 21st January about their involvement with a number of trial medications for Parkinson's and about any other aspect of living with Parkinson's. They are two of the medical team involved in the Parkinson's trial. We invited members from Moe, Warragul, and Frankston Groups to join us on that day resulting in a total attendance of close to 60 with over 40 staying on for lunch. It was very educational.

When and where do we meet:

We meet on the 3rd Friday of each month at the Leongatha RSL Clubrooms. We gather at about 10am for a 10.30 start and after the close of the meeting most of our members and visitors enjoy fellowship as we have lunch here together which is very reasonably priced. A big "Thankyou" to the RSL for looking after us so well. Enquiries – President Peter 5668 4274, Sec/Treas Trevor 5662 5393. Compliments of the season to our members, RSL staff, carers and readers. (by Mike)



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LEONGATHA CROQUET CLUB

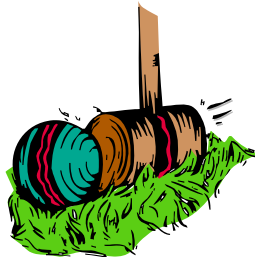
Under the guidance of Damica Symmonds, curator of the Leongatha Golf Club, and with the input of labour by club members, Leongatha once again has croquet lawns to be proud of. Resulting from applications of fertilizer, spraying to control weeds and pests, the newly sewn grass is now firmly established. The most favourable growing conditions over the past three months have resulted in a transformation of the playing area.

Because of the small number of club members, finance is an ongoing challenge. Our thanks are extended to the management of Cinema 4 who recently supported our club through the screening of the film "Life As We Know It". A percentage of the door takings was donated to our club. Club members sold tickets and provided afternoon tea for the patrons.

The Leongatha Croquet Club Association Rules Tournament was held from November 15th to 17th. Competitors came from Bendigo, Korumburra, Leongatha, Morwell, Phillip Island, Traralgon. All players were impressed with the standard of the playing surface.

The Club is once again inviting other groups from the district to come and enjoy twilight games. Lessons and equipment are available on these occasions and enjoyment is assured. Club days are Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. The courts are situated beside the tennis courts in Roughead Street. Enter through the Recreation Reserve gates.

For further information contact Club President Thelma Arnup 5657 3372 or Secretary Ann Shandley 5668 6213.



WOORAYL LODGE

2009/10 ANNUAL REPORT

This is the 49th Annual Report of Woorayl Lodge and every year the Aged Care Industry appears to become more demanding and the pressure on staff, management and Committee to meet these demands also increases. The major issues and highlights for the year are as follows:

KPMG Advisory Report – We took advantage of advisory assistance during the year which was subsidized by the Department of Health and Ageing where they reviewed areas of Strategic Planning, Business Analysis, Operational Reviews and Financial Modeling and we are currently working through the Report.

Certification – The Lodge has easily surpassed the minimum building standards and we comply with the 2008 Building Certification Instrument.

Standard of Care – we continue to receive excellent feedback from residents and visitors as to the standard given to our residents much to the credit of staff and volunteers.

Fund Raising – we continue to receive excellent support from the local community and during the year funds were received from Lord Brassey Lodge, the Freemasons Public Charitable Fund, Leongatha RSL, Lions Club of Leongatha, and the Estate of Mrs Rita Barnes and we must thank the Woorayl Lodge Ladies' Auxiliary who contributed \$50000 to the construction of Dewar Lane for which they had been fund raising for at least 10 years.

Thanks – We express our heartfelt thanks to all staff, volunteers, contributors, residents, family members, Committee members and Ladies' Auxiliary members. Mike Curley, President, 2007-2010.

Many thanks to our volunteer Mike Curley for typing, advertising, submissions & proofing.. Without his efforts we would not be able to publish "progress Leongatha"

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Leongatha Fire Brigade

The Leongatha Urban Fire Brigade is possibly the oldest secular community service organisation in the town. We are always on the lookout for new members to become firefighters but we also need more support members to do other tasks.

Many people don't feel they have the skill, fitness or capacity to be a frontline firefighter, but they may still be just what we need at the Leongatha Fire Station.

The Leongatha CFA is like any volunteer group, it needs the people behind the scenes to keep it running and provide support for those on the fire front.

Some of the best volunteers we have are retired from serving on tanker crews, or perhaps were never on the fireline at all.

They can make the district safer by teaching fire safety to the community, helping with brigade administration, maintaining equipment or even just tidying up the station a couple of times a week.

Some brigades have non-operational volunteers carrying considerable responsibility, in roles as senior as Brigade Secretary, and many people don't realise that just under half of Victoria's 60,000 CFA volunteers are non-operational.

Any football club that fields a team on a Saturday also needs the coach, trainers, fund raising auxiliary, secretary committee and people in match day roles like manning the ticket box or the scoreboard.

Your local CFA brigade is the same, and they are CFA volunteers, part of the brigade, given CFA training and vital to the organisation, just like the crews who respond to fires and car accidents.

So even if you can't see yourself as a frontline firefighter, volunteering can still offer you the camaraderie, the chance to serve the community and the respect that goes with the words 'CFA Volunteer'.

A visit to the CFA's website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or a chat with a Leongatha CFA volunteer (there is usually someone at the Fire Station around 7:30pm on Monday Evenings) can help you discover how you could be part of the team.

Andrew Kay

Captain, Leongatha Fire Brigade



WOORAYL GOLF CLUB

The Woorayl Golf Club will be fifty years old on the 8th of April 2011, but the course has been around for 100 years.

For the first fifty years the course was known as Leongatha Golf Course. It was not until 1961 that the Leongatha Golf Club moved to its new location at Leongatha South retaining its name. Several weeks after the opening of the new course at Leongatha South, Jack Roughead convened a meeting in Leongatha attended by about 40 people to form a new golf club to play on the existing course at the Recreation Reserve. The new club was to be named Woorayl Golf Club (we lived in the Shire of Woorayl then), the first game was played on 8th April 1961 with Basil Pugh the first president.

TO CELEBRATE THE FIRST 50 YEARS OF THE
WOORAYL GOLF CLUB ALL PAST AND PRESENT
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STONE.

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IRISH BLESSINGS


May God grant you always
a sunbeam to warm you,
a moonbeam to charm you,
a sheltering angel so nothing can harm you.

May the Lord keep you in his hand
and never close his fist too tight

May you live to be a hundred years
with one extra to repent.
*** May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be ever at your back.

May you always have walls for the wind,
A roof for the rain, tea beside the fire,
Laughter to cheer you, those you love near you,
And all your heart might desire.

May the neighbours respect you, Troubles neglect you,
The angels protect you And Heaven accept you. ***

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SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE BRASS BAND - BAND NEWS

The South Gippsland Shire Brass Band has been an important part of the South Gippsland community, serving it musically since 1892 and is the oldest community group in Leongatha.

The Band has been performing at Churchill Island, Pound Creek and Mardan South Church in November and in December we were busy with Christmas Carols. Then there was "Carols at the 'Drome" on Saturday 18th December which was huge with many talented performers taking part,

The New Year saw us performing on Australia Day at Leongatha, and Pound Creek CFA, also at "Music for the People" at Mossvale Park on Sunday 27th February, then with Anzac Day coming up on 25th April. Planning is underway for 2012 which promises to be a big year with the centenary of our home, the Leongatha Courthouse and the Band's 120th year.

We welcome new members – perhaps you have just moved into the area, can play a brass instrument or just want to learn. Former members of the South Gippsland Schools Music Programme would be most welcome. We have a modest membership fee and supply instruments and uniforms and we play a wide variety of music from classics to pop. If you just enjoy music and would like to come along and listen, or play, you would be most welcome – rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm at Leongatha Courthouse, or contact President Darryl Hunt 5662 3623.

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WOORAYL LODGE TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday 19th March 2011

Dakers Centre,
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7pm Start

BTO Nibbles, Drinks,
Glasses

\$15 per person, Tables
of 10

Bookings recommended

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5662 2053

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SOUTH GIPPSLAND – UDDERLY SATISFYING AWARD

(Extract from Melbourne 'Sun' 6 October by Mike)

Young dairy share farmers Lucas and Kylie Licciardello are aiming to have one of the best production herds in the nation. The couple, from Kardella in South Gippsland, recently won the Genetics Australia Share Dairy Farmer of the Year award.

With their young longmeadows holstein stud, Lucas 29 and Kylie 28 said their focus is on breeding high-yielding animals. "We registered our own cows in 2006, and we thought we'd go left field by focusing more on production," Lucas said.



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WOORAYL LODGE

(by Mike)

On 14th October our residents and staff lined our side of McCartin Street to wave to 800 Motor Cyclists as they rode from Bairnsdale to



Phillip Island for the GP in what is known as the Barry Sheene Memorial Ride. Residents were supplied with checkered flags to wave and were rewarded with hundreds of horn blasts as well as sirens from Police and Emergency Vehicles. Everyone enjoyed it.

A group of residents had a very enjoyable day at the Senior's Week concert in Korumburra entertained by Wendy Stapleton who sang songs by Doris Day and Dusty Springfield. South Gippsland Shire put on the concert and provided transport for the day and a lovely afternoon tea.

Preparations were under way and our Craft Group worked their fingers to the bone to have things ready for our Annual Fete on 27th November. Among the many items was a beautiful patchwork quilt, the patches of which were sewn by residents and assembled by our volunteer, Isabelle Cooper. It was raffled and it would be a wonderful addition to any home, won by Zel Fawcett. The Ladies' Auxiliary Christmas Hamper raffle was also drawn at the fete, winner Alan Moore.

We had a wonderful afternoon of entertainment provided by Kathy and Suzie who travelled here from Queensland stopping mostly at aged care establishments. They were excellent.

We were all sad to farewell cookie Heather – we all hope you enjoy your retirement, Heather.

Our Woorayl Wallabies Team competed in the recent Interlodge Quiz Challenge at Carinya Lodge on 19th October. It was a very close battle and the final scores were 1st Hillside Bunnies 69, Woorayl Wallabies 68 and Carinya Cats 64 points. Thank you to our competitors for a job well done. Most of us attended the Annual Fete which was great and then in December we had our Resis and Family Christmas Lunch and, would you believe, Santa visited us. He was very entertaining and he gave us some lovely little goodies. It was great plus we had a beautiful lunch. The Ladies' second Christmas Hamper was won by Tracy Gordon and that lovely Christmas Cake made and decorated by Hazel Morley was raffled.

Early February we said farewell to a long-time staff member, Di Williams, who resigned to commence her own catering business. We conducted a morning tea for her attended by a good turn up of residents, staff, volunteers, Ladies' Auxiliary and committee members to say Goodbye and Good Luck to this very, very popular staff member. She'll be fondly remembered by all.

Our days are filled – art, craft, exercise, reading, choir, bus outings, Church visits, entertainers. We love it.

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LMCT 1500

Citizen's Advice Bureau

28/11/2010 PRESS RELEASE

TAX HELP PROGRAM FINISHES FOR 2010

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) acknowledged the work of the *South Gippsland Citizens Advice Bureau* tax-help volunteers (Nicholas Peck, Tony Holmes and Clare Carmichael) last week.

Chris Ramsden, Community Liaison Officer for the Australian Taxation Office, presented each of the volunteers with an ATO gift and also used the occasion to thank the volunteers on behalf of the tax office. Bernie Billman, the tax help volunteer from Philip Island was also acknowledged.

Chris also presented the South Gippsland Citizens Advice Bureau and the Philip Island supporting venue with a certificate acknowledging their involvement.

2010 has been the twenty-second year of the "Tax Help program".

In his presentation to the volunteers Chris Ramsden noted that this year tax-help volunteers throughout South Gippsland had assisted 211 clients. He also drew attention to the special thanks the ATO passed onto all the bureau volunteers who backed the program with bookings, mailings etc.

2010 was also the centenary of the ATO's formation, and for this special year commemorative stamps had been issued. Each of the volunteers received a unique collector's envelope with stamp, and the venues received a set of the commemorative stamps.

Below, Tax-help volunteers with ATO liaison officer, left to right: Bernie Billman, Chris Ramsden (ATO), Nicholas Peck and Clare Carmichael.



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And may you be in heaven,
Half an hour before the devil knows you're dead

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to be sure....to be sure....

Father Murphy walks into a pub in Donegal, and says to the first man he meets,
"Do you want to go to heaven?"
The man said "I do Father."
The priest said, "Then stand over there against the wall."
Then the priest asked the second man,
"Do you want to go to heaven?"
"Certainly, Father" was the man's reply.
"Then stand over there against the wall," said the priest.
Then Father Murphy walked up to O'Toole and said,
"Do you want to go to heaven?"
O'Toole said, "No I don't, Father."
The priest said, "I don't believe this. You mean to tell me that when you die you don't want to go to heaven?"
O'Toole said, "Oh, when I die, yes. I thought you were getting a group together to go right now."



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*Information provided for the benefit of members, guests and authorised visitors.



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Dumbalk & District Progress Association's Annual Village Market Saturday 26th February 2011

At the Dumbalk Hall
Stall Holders accepted at 7 am
Market Commencing at 8 am

Events & Stalls include: Crafts, bric a brac. Antiques. Giftware. Toys. Clothes, jams/chutneys cakes. Fresh produce, Books, raffles & competitions, lucky dips, fresh produce, BBQ & refreshments.

CFA in attendance for information & advice.

Stalls available: \$10 outside- \$2.00 trestle hire if needed, inside \$15.00.

Tarwin Valley Camp Draft is also on that weekend at the Dumbalk Reserve.

Wheelchair access available

Dumbalk Village is only 15 minutes from Leongatha & Mirboo North.

For information or bookings contact Bev on 56644344 or Sunny on 56644254

**LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?
WOORAYL LODGE**

**NEEDS VOLUNTEERS TO HELP CAN YOU? CALL US
WEEKDAYS 03 5662 2053**

MACULAR DEGENERATION FOUNDATION

(MDF)

(Extracts from MDF Newsletter Spring 2010 by Mike)
A recent Access Economics report titled the "Economic Impact of Vision Loss in Australia in 2009" stated:

The most common form of blindness is Aged-Related Macular Degeneration, often referred to as AMD
50% of blindness among Australians aged 40 or over is attributable to AMD

7% of allocated health system expenditure was spent on AMD, the lowest of expenditures for any of the major eye conditions

Thank You – please accept our sincere appreciation and thanks for your generous response to our end of financial year appeal and the following were possible because of your support:

Stopped the "capping" of the Extended Medicare Safety Net for Lucentis (treatment for wet MD)

Answered an average of 74 calls per day (18391 for year) to the Helpline

Distributed over 12000 MD information kits to the community

Over 34000 people registered on our database whom we help, support and inform

Education sessions across Australia with over 8000 people attending

The nation TV and radio campaign continuing to achieve high levels of awareness

Best result ever for MD Awareness Week 2010, with huge media exposure and 20 million media impressions

272429 visits to the website – a massive 60% increase

The generosity and support of our clients, volunteers, donors, corporate sponsors, government and all those who support our work inspires us to do even better in the year ahead (Julie Heraghty, CEO)

DONATIONS AND HELP

Suite 302, Level 3, 447 Kent Street, Sydney, 2000

Helpline 1800 111 709 Email

info@mdfoundation.com.au

Website www.mdfoundation.com.au

LEONGATHA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

**We meet monthly at Leongatha RSL,
Michael Place, on**

3rd Thursday at 7.30pm (except December)

**New members and visitors most welcome –
come along and join us to support your/our
town and surrounds**

>Thank you Leongatha RSL for your support <



**South Gippsland Citizens Advice Bureau
and
Community and Visitor Information Centre**



February 2011

Do you have skills you would like to use to help the community in a voluntary capacity? Are you a "people person"? Did you know the *South Gippsland Citizens Advice Bureau* (and *Community and Visitor Information Centre*) in Leongatha

helps people in our community in all sorts of ways? The Bureau provides information to clients with regard to benefits, pensions and concessions, youth issues, consumer affairs, health and lots more. It helps with referral to social workers, and legal services. For clients on low incomes, the Bureau's tax office trained volunteers can provide assistance with tax returns.

The Bureau is also the body overseeing the *Community and Visitor Information Centre* in Leongatha which provides tourism information to travellers passing through South Gippsland.

The Bureau is currently looking to increase its team of committed volunteers. New volunteers will be asked to attend a three-day orientation course designed to provide the skills to be an effective *Bureau and Visitor Information Centre* volunteer.

The course will be offered in a choice of two sets of three Wednesdays; the first option will run on Wednesdays 2nd, 9th and 16th March, and the second option will run on Wednesdays 6th, 13th and 20th April. The *South Gippsland Citizens Advice Bureau* might be just the right place for you, if what you've just read seems a fulfilling way to help people in our community.

Contact the *Citizens Advice Bureau* on (03) 5662 2111 from Monday to Friday, between 10 am and 4 pm for further details and to register your interest. Meanwhile, you can check out the bureau's web site at www.sgcab.org.au

Memorial Hall Complex
Michael Place
LEONGATHA 3953
P.O. Box 250
LEONGATHA Vic 3953
Phone 5662 2111
Fax 5662 2001
Email cabi@dcsi.net.au

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CHILDREN AND WATER

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Call V. Sokhom or Channy on **5662 4277**

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Facsimile: 03 5662 4446
leongatha@newsxpress.com.au
www.newsxpress.com.au

IMPORTANT – our old "hotmail" address is no longer current – please email to progress@leongatha.vic.au

The South Gippsland Citizens Advice Bureau is located in the Memorial Hall complex, Michael Place, Leongatha opposite the Post Office and is open from Monday to Friday, 10 am to 4 pm. Visitor and tourist information is also available Monday to Friday, 10 am to 4 pm, Saturdays and public holidays (except Christmas day and Good Friday) from 10 am to 2 pm and Sundays from 11 am to 3 pm.

The Leongatha and District Historical Society Inc

P O Box 431 Leongatha

www.leongathahistory.org.au

email leongathahistsoc@yahoo.com.au

Preserving your heritage for the future

The Society operates out of the Leongatha Mechanics' Institute in McCartin St, next to the Memorial Hall

Services provided

- displays on the history of the area. The pioneer room is a permanent exhibition showing aspects of life from times long ago. The other display areas have changing exhibitions on various subjects of interest.
- a catalogued collection of photographs
- a catalogued collection of documents
- a catalogued collection of memorabilia
- a library of books on local subjects
- The Great Southern Star from the early 1960s
- a collection of maps
- research assistance from noted local historians

Welcome to 2011!!!!

Latest News

• Lennie's Ride

Mary Small wrote a wonderful children's book called *Lennie's Ride* about local boy Lennie Gwyther. Lennie rode his pony to Sydney for the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1932. He was 9 years old at the time and became quite famous. The book is on sale at our Society for \$15 plus postage.

• Activities for 2011

The Society holds a monthly meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in our Mechanics Institute rooms beginning at 8 pm. **All welcome.**

The rooms are open to the public on Thursday and Friday of each week from 12 noon until 4 pm or by appointment. Visitors are welcome to enjoy the displays or research the collection.

January

The theme for our exhibition is "**Summer Time**"

On display are items and photographs about summer sports and activities.

Leongatha Swimming Club is 50 years old and part of the exhibition is devoted to the history of this club. Alan Beasley has been researching the early years of the club and is keen to continue.

March

Bus tours are being planned and detail will be published later.

April

On Wednesday April 20th members and friends are welcome to join us for dinner at the RSL. This will be followed by a speaker and a tour of the displays.

A committee meeting will be held on Wednesday the 13th of April

May

At the meeting on Wednesday May 11th we will show some of the movies of local history we have on DVD and Video. A Bair Street Walk is to be planned with the assistance of Jack Edney.

Mary Small the author of *Lennie's Ride* is coming to run a children's workshop. Details will be published closer to the event.

June

Wednesday 8th General meeting guest speaker

July

Wednesday 13th General meeting

August

Wednesday 10th Annual/General Meeting

Daffodil Festival Theme "Lets get a Head"

The "Lets get a Head" including photos of people, hats, shaving things, hair dressers, hearing aids, scarves, dental, dentists, hair dressing appliances.

Spectacles Please come and see what we do . You may find something interesting and worthwhile.

Australian Plants Society

SOUTH GIPPSLAND GROUP

It is possible that the venue for the Group's meetings will be changed. If you wish to attend any meeting please ring 5662 2449. The programme for the coming months is:

Saturday March 26 1.30pm - Visit to Gay and Ian Cornthwaite's *Strzelecki Plant Farm* (5668 7209) 974 Yarragon-Mirboo North Road, ALLAMBEE RESERVE Enquiries 5659 8187

Wednesday April 13 8pm - LEONGATHA "STERCULIACEAE" (Kurrajongs, Thomasia, Sterculia, Lasiopetalum – velvet bush) Trevor Blake, *Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants* illustrator and APS Maroonah Group member. Enquiries 5684 1379

Wednesday May 11 8pm - LEONGATHA "AUSTRALIAN PLANTS and CLIMATE CHANGE", Greg Moore, Principal, Burnley College, The University of Melbourne, Enquiries 5659 8187.

Wednesday June 8 8pm - LEONGATHA "NATURAL HISTORY PUBLISHING" Peter Lothian former owner of 'Lothian Publishing', Enquiries 5674 2864.

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Ph: 03 5662 4124

NATIONAL SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SUB/BRANCH

A big welcome to 2011, our thoughts and sympathy go out to all those who have suffered in the recent devastation of so many areas of our country.

We are very proud to say that our Memorial was unveiled and dedicated at Inverloch on Sunday 12th September. One hundred participated in this significant day for our sub-branch and we invite everyone to visit and pay homage.

Our AGM was held on Sunday 6th February with a somewhat smaller attendance owing to uncertainty of the weather and flooding in some areas. We will be in need of a new Treasurer but that hopefully will be sorted out within the next month or so.

Not much happening at present but we will get our activities and bus trips organised soon. Our Guest Speaker was Paul McLean who spoke of his time in the Police Force from the beginning, of his appointments at various stations in and around Melbourne and on being assigned to the country. After a month in Korumburra

, he found his home base. Paul also spoke of his time in Timor and the difficulties you face in a foreign country.

Sunday 13th February started the 60 years of Celebrations of National Service with a march at the Shrine in Melbourne, our Memorial Day at Puckapunyal on 20th March and a very large event planned in September at Townsville where hopefully they will have recovered enough to stage this important event where they are expecting many thousands of Nashos and their families to attend.

With the post out of letters from Ken Smith MP and staff, many hundreds of Nashos have received their National Service and Defence Medals. There are still many more of you out there who have NOT, so, come on former Nashos, make an effort and send for them. You are entitled to – if not for yourself but for your sons, daughters and grandchildren. Posthumous forms are also available.

Don Earl, President, 5655 1853

FRIENDS OF LEONGATHA LIBRARY

The Library public farewelled Rosemary Abbey at a well attended Afternoon Tea on February 7th. Thank you to all who attended and to all who contributed towards a gift for Rosemary.

A successful Christmas Hamper Competition and our January Book Sale raised over \$2000. A recent committee meeting allocated \$2000 for the purchase of stock for the Library shelves. The Christmas Hamper was won by Mrs Audrey Illingworth and 2nd prize winner was Rob Meyer.

Tickets will be on sale from early April for our Mother's Day Hamper.

New members are welcome to join the group – Annual Subscription fee is \$5 – application forms are available in the Library.

LEONGATHA COMMUNITY WEBSITE

www.leongatha.vic.au
WITH DIRECTORIES FOR
Tourism, Business, Community Groups
Advertising rates are very attractive for businesses and
other organization email to:
advertising@leongatha.vic.au
or call Deb 0438 686 210



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MANAGERS
Bim & Kay Puru

14 Turner Street, Leongatha, Victoria, 3953
Phone: (03) 5662 2753 ~ Fax: (03) 5662 5514
Email: leongathacvpark@bigpond.com.au
www.leongatha.vic.au

Aquatic Education



South Gippsland SPLASH operates an extensive Aquatic Education program with classes offered

for all ages and abilities including: infants, pre-school, primary school age, participants with special needs, adults, and older adults.

So whether you haven't swum for years, are looking to learn or simply wishing to get your child more confident in the aquatic environment, we have something for you!

Classes operate throughout the week, running in line with the school term. For more information when classes are run please see reception or contact Customer Service at SPLASH on 5662 5911.



SOUTH GIPPSLAND WALKING AND ADVENTURE CLUB

The Club meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at Leongatha Community House at 8pm. We are a group of people of all ages with a common interest in an active lifestyle spent mostly in the outdoors. At times we do like our coffee and cake after an activity and regularly meet for a meal together at a local restaurant.

Day walks are held each Tuesday morning and regularly on a Saturday or Sunday. We have regular base camps allowing us to travel further and to enjoy a different area. In December we joined all the Gippsland Clubs for a combined camp in the high plains out from Licol. As well as these base camps, extended walks carrying a backpack are offered. For those club members who wish to try out this activity we have experienced leaders and a supply of gear which is available for members to hire before buying. Beginners overnight walks are also on the programme. Some members enjoy a further challenge and have hiked for 7-10 days in remote areas.

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YOUR TOWN ?

DO YOU WANT TO SEE
IMPROVEMENTS?



You are welcome to join us at our meetings
LEONGATHA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

We meet in the Gold Room Leongatha RSL
3rd Thursday each month 7.30pm. WE LOOK
FORWARD TO MEETING YOU

Overseas trips have also been put on the programme and these have included New Zealand, Thailand, Singapore and the Cook Islands.

Many members are keen on cycling. Rail trails, far and near, have been explored and the bikes paths in Melbourne are visited on a regular basis. Local day rides are held and there is a regular overnight trip to Walkerville from Koonwarra. We even have a moonlight cycle each year to and from Fish Creek from Meeniyan with a night meal at Fish Creek.

Another group enjoy canoeing both locally and in rivers and lakes further away. In the past members have tried activities which include parasailing, tandem parachuting, abseiling, white water rafting and caving.

If you are interested in a bit of fun and a bit of activity we would like to meet you. President Ros can be contacted on 5664 2358. Cheers for now.

beyondblue www.beyondblue.org.au

beyondblue info line	1300 22 4636
Mensline Australia	1300 78 99 78
Lifeline	13 11 14
Relationships Australia	1300 364 277
Kids Help Line	1800 55 1800
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Call Mike 5662 3530**

LEONGATHA COMMUNITY WEBSITE www.leongatha.vic.au with Directories for Tourism, Business, Community. *check it right now* Advertising rates are very attractive for businesses and other organisations. email to advertising@leongatha.vic.au



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SES

FLOOD STORM EMERGENCY

132500

VICTORIA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

12 Watson Road, Leongatha – Training every Wednesday 7.30pm to 10pm –
New Members welcome Controller 0429 343 199 Duty Officer 0427 343 199

LEONGATHA PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

P O Box 132, Leongatha Vic 3953

Inc A004604X ABN 23949307606

www.leongatha.vic.au progress@leongatha.vic.au

The Leongatha Progress Association has been formed to unite, promote and be an advocate of the Leongatha area.

The specific objectives of the Leongatha Progress Association are:

To develop data and information sources for the Leongatha area.

To develop communication and networking opportunities for the Leongatha area.

To develop, encourage and facilitate collaborative approaches toward the delivery of economic, social and cultural development programs and services in the region.

To increase awareness of economic, social and cultural development program in the broader community.

To provide representation in local, state, and national efforts to promote and protect the Leongatha area through collaboration with the Local, State and Commonwealth Governments.

To monitor and communicate national and international issues affecting the Leongatha area.

To promote the interests of the Leongatha area by lobbying the relevant authorities.

To associate with other groups to achieve common goals.

Leongatha Progress Association invites contributions to this newsletter by email, progress@leongatha.vic.au or post / hand deliver submissions to Mike Curley, 14 Ogilvy Street, Leongatha 3953. Phone: 5662 3530.

This is your community newsletter and we encourage you to take advantage of this offer. Next publication of our newsletter will be June 2011. Our distribution is approx. 2400 households. Deadline for next edition is 23 May 2011.

Thank you to the South Gippsland Shire Councilors Lewis and Jackson for their support of this newsletter.

24 Hour Phone Help Lines

Ambulance, Fire, Police	000
Child Protection	13 12 78
Gamblers Help	1800 156 789
Injured Wildlife (RACV)	13 11 11
Lifeline	13 11 14
Mensline Australia	1300 789 978
National Security	1800 123 400
Poisons Information	13 11 26
State Emergency Service (Flood, Storm Damage)	13 25 00
Suicide Helpline	1300 651 251
Wildlife Rescue	1300 094 535
Women's Domestic Violence	1800 015 188

www.leongatha.vic.au

Your Leongatha Community Website HAVE YOU VISITED YET?



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