



MURRA-BIT-A-NEWS

A FREE PUBLICATION

October/November 2025

Community News Contributions Gratefully Accepted

P.O. Box 3, Murrabit 3579

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

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Murrabit Advancement Association Inc.

Email: murrabit1@bigpond.com

Murrabit Community News

On Thursday 16 October, the Murrabit community had the opportunity to see the P.S. Melbourne passing under our historic Murrabit Bridge over the Murray River. This was the first time in 60 years that the P.S. Melbourne had been on our bit of the river, as it makes its way upstream from Mildura to be permanently moored at the Port of Echuca. The P.S. Melbourne was built in Koondrook 112 years ago and has been moored at the Koondrook Wharf for a week or so waiting for river levels to rise to continue its journey.

The following day, the Murrabit community hosted the 2025 RACV Veteran Car Club of Australia (Vic) 70th Anniversary rally. Lots of pre-1920 vehicles were displayed on the Murrabit Market site while participants, who came from all over Australia, enjoyed a country style morning tea in the Murrabit Public Hall. The event was coordinated by the Murrabit & District Lions Club. Busy Bees was open while the visitors were in town and lots of shopping was done. It was a great event and we are sure some of the participants will re-visit Murrabit in the future.

We also hosted Hall Stories by renowned comedian, Damian Callinan on Thursday 23 October. Lots of fun! Photos next month.

Coming up is the November Murrabit Market on 1 November, Melbourne Cup Luncheon on 4 November, and then Remembrance Day where there will be a service at the Murrabit Cenotaph from 10:30am followed by a morning tea at the back of the hall.

If you are new to Murrabit & District, we love having new residents join us and will point you in the right direction if you would like to get involved. If you don't already receive this newsletter by email, send us an email and we will pop you on the mailing list: Email:

murrabit1@bigpond.com



Coming Up

Saturday 1 November: Murrabit Country Market

48th Anniversary. Live music by Noel Pearson. Country market food by our local community groups. Variety of market stalls.

Pictured below is the line up of pre 1920s vehicles on the Murrabit Market site as part of the 2025 RACV Veteran Car Club of Australia (Vic) 70th Anniversary rally, which came to Murrabit for morning tea on Friday 17 October 2025.





HOSTED BY THE LADIES OF MURRABIT ARTS & CULTURE GROUP AND
MURRABIT PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE

MELBOURNE CUP DAY

\$10 ENTRY
INCLUDING LUCKY DOOR ENTRY
BRING ALONG A PLATE OF FINGER FOOD TO SHARE,
SWEET OR SAVORY
BYO DRINKS

TUESDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2025
MURRABIT PUBLIC HALL FROM 11AM

Dress in race day attire
ladies, gents and families welcome

RSVP to Ang Morton
0408 313 257
Siangmorton@gmail.com

Hum n Strum Music

We are hoping to perform after the November Social Meal at the hall, as we did last year, and bring a bit of early Christmas joy for everyone there. It was a terrific success last year and everyone enjoyed joining in with all of the Christmas carols. We are off to Northhaven this month to get some toes tapping, some hands clapping and maybe even some feet a-dancing! They love some live music there so we are looking forward to returning.

Our newest resident to Murrabit, Heike, came along last week and played up quite a storm on a variety of percussion instruments. It was great to have her involvement and hopefully she will become a familiar face in our group.

Our regular get-togethers are very informal and good fun. We meet each Wednesday at the Murrabit Golf Club from 2 - 4pm and we are always happy for new people to join in. You can come for the whole time or just a part of it. You don't have to play an instrument, you just have to like music! And if you are interested in performing, we also play once a month at different spots around the district.

You're welcome to just come along or if you would like to know a bit more, contact Neil Hopkins 0490 830 641 for more information.



The Hum n Strummers performing at Murray Haven



Hall News

We have the Hall Committee AGM coming up on Tuesday 11 November at 7:30pm (in the Hall). Our Hall is an amazing asset to our district and if you reckon you might be interested in joining us to help look after our wonderful hall, why don't you give us a call, or just come along?

During October, the Veteran Car Club of Victoria landed in Murrabit and the hall was the action centre for catering for their morning tea. The cars were spectacular but in true Murrabit style, the morning tea was even better!! The Car Club members were blown away by the fantastic food provided. Good on all those people who cooked, prepared or helped on the day. Great job Pattie in pulling it together and a very special thank you to all the ladies involved for their generosity and amazing efforts.

The October social meal/community lunch is coming up – Wednesday 29 October. Contact Community Care 4429 1900 to book.

The November meal will be the last one for the year on 26 November. We will have HumnStrum along again to perform and lead the Christmas Carols.

The Hall is available for hire and is a perfect venue for a wide range of functions, day or evening, and is extremely well-equipped.

To hire the Hall or for more information, contact Neil Hopkins (Pres) 0490 830 641 or Jeanette Coulter (Sec/Treas) 0458 572 331.

Have a great month everyone!

Murrabit Crafty & Chatty Club

Enjoy crafting or looking for a friendly group to join? Crafty and Chatty Club is held every Wednesday 10am to 12 noon, Murrabit Family Hub (opposite Murrabit Trading).

Gold coin donation (includes morning tea).

It's a cosy venue - ideal for crafting and chatting! Everyone welcome.

Bring along a project or just come for a chat.

After a mosaic workshop earlier in the year, the crafty group are planning to create mosaic features for the new community garden.

This will add colour and interest to the garden and enable the crafty group to practice their new mosaic skills. Can't wait to see the end result!





Murrabit Lions Club

Our last dinner meeting was a busy one with Treasurer Pattie McDonald handing over our annual donations to local organisations, and a presentation by Lloyd Polkinghorne on the Variety Bash

trip of 'Team Bluey'.

The night commenced with an amazing meal provided by the Koondrook Tennis Club. Donations were then made to local organisations such as Murrabit Golf Club, Group School, Hall Committee, Men's Shed, Playgroup and Tennis Club with representatives from each group accepting donations below. These local donations totalled \$3,800. Further donations were made to local hospitals and aged care facilities.



Lloyd Polkinghorne then spoke about the Victorian Variety Bash trip that took 10 days to get from Hamilton in Victoria and up to Darwin in the Northern Territory. Car 33, Team Bluey raised over \$46,000 for the Variety Club and Lloyd spoke of some of the fun that happened on the way.

Lloyd was presented with a Murrabit Lions glass and pen by President Neil Hopkins (pictured below)

The October market was a very busy one with the great weather attracting many visitors on the day.

Have you thought about joining Lions?

Murrabit Lions is a very friendly, welcoming group. We are all about friendship and helping our community. Our Club is very much a local community club with our efforts focussed on helping local

people and groups. If you are new to the district or are interested in becoming involved in Lions and helping our community, please contact membership Chairman Bill Hazen on 5457 2213 or President Neil Hopkins on 0490 830 641



What a spectacular day we had when the Veteran Car Rally visiting us for morning tea. Thank you to the Murrabit community. The Murrabit & District Lions Club was supported was a large contingent of local ladies to cater for the 2025 RACV Veteran Car Club of Australia (Vic) 70th Anniversary rally on Friday 17 October. Lots of pre-1920 vehicles were displayed on the Murrabit Market site while approx. 200 participants, who came from all over Australia, enjoyed a country style morning tea in the Murrabit Public Hall.



On behalf of the Murrabit Lions Club we would like to most gratefully thank the amazing team who supplied cakes, slices etc, helped with set up on Thursday and working tirelessly on Friday to prepare the morning tea for the 200 plus visitors whom were blown away with the most amazing spread we were able to provide for them. We are so appreciative of your support.

Without naming all workers, a SPECIAL THANK YOU to Lisa Petrie, Lee McKenzie Jenny McDonald and Heather Laursen for making the scones and sandwiches - a job well done.

For those fortunate enough to see the veteran cars it was a sight to behold, the proud owners so friendly to talk to and display their pride and joy vehicles on their way to Barham and then back to Benjeroop for afternoon tea, then Swan Hill overnight.



School News

The students have come back to term 4 with big smiles on their faces. Some major works were completed at school over the holidays as part of the Active Schools Grant. We had an extension to the basketball court and the students are enjoying playing full court basketball. Both towers have padding and there is fencing at the end of the court for safety.



The cricket pitch has been recovered and this will be able to be used shortly.

Participation in Regional Athletics in Bendigo took place on Monday 13 October and Murrabit Group School had 4 representatives. Competitors were: Pippy Morton - 2nd in hurdles, Myrtle Pappin - 4th in Long Jump, Moppy Pappin 4th in 100 metres relay, Emily Murray - 5th in discus. This was a wonderful effort by all these girls. Pippy will now compete in the VPSSA State Athletic Championships later in the term. A great achievement Pippy. On Monday 20 October, Brandon Thomas, Pippy Morton, Hughie Hein, Riley Danson, Emily Murray and Keira McNeil represented the KDPSSA in T20 Cricket in Swan Hill.

If anyone is thinking about enrolling their child for school in 2026, then Murrabit Group School is a great place to send your child. Please contact the Principal, Mr Greg Adams, 0447 531 841, for a tour of what the school has to offer.

Greg Adams
Principal

We would like to send out a massive thank you to Bunnings in Swan Hill for generously donating \$200 worth of plants to the school. We are currently working on a bush tucker garden and updating our vegetable garden. School students pictured below accepting plants from Bunnings.



School students enjoyed seeing the P.S. Melbourne pass under the Murrabit Bridge over the Murray River on Thursday 16 October. And pictured below at the Veteran's car club event on Friday 17 October,



KERANG TO ECHUCA BUS SERVICE

1st Tuesday & 3rd Friday of each month

Timetable, Bus stops & Fares

8am - Departs Kerang Railway Station -

8.25am - Departs Murrabit Hall

8.45am - Departs Koondrook Hall (side)

9.05am - Departs Cohuna Hall (rear)

10.15am - Arrives Echuca CBD

2pm - Departs Echuca CBD for the return service

One-way, part way and non-concession fares are also available. No bookings necessary. Tickets available from the driver and allow for free transport on Echuca buses whilst there.

For more information, please call Public Transport Victoria on 1800 800 007.

MURRABIT MARKET CLEAN UP ROSTER 2025

November Market - Murrabit Fire Brigade

December Market - Murrabit Tennis Club

January - Murrabit Tennis Club

February - Murrabit Playgroup

March - Murrabit Fire Brigade

Murrabit Playgroup News

Playgroup is a great way to meet others and for children to play and learn together in a safe environment. Each session we have free playtime, followed by a book, craft activity and a morning tea.

Our children's book for October was *The Very Cranky Bear* by Nick Blend. The cranky bear is indeed VERY CRANKY! The storybook is about four friends who encounter a very cranky bear and try to cheer him up. This heart-warming picture book with rhyming and repetition shows children it's OK to have times when you're feeling a little cranky just like Bear and how to be a thoughtful just like sheep. It's a book about promoting kindness, which the children then practiced at playgroup as they shared toys and crafted together.

We have a resident owl living in the playgroup yard so we made owls out of paper plates. This was a fun activity as the children learnt to safely use scissors, and sticky glue! The owls turned out really great and the children then had fun running around hoot, hooting!!



Anyone that has transport difficulties and would like a pick up for playgroup, please let us know. Most of us have cars fitted with car seats and more than willing to pick you up and drop you home if you don't have access to a vehicle to come along.

Gold coin donation includes a cuppa and morning tea. President of Murrabit Playgroup is Nathan Hocking and Secretary/Treasurer Olivia O'Donoghue.

Thank you to the Murrabit & District Lions Club for donating funds to Murrabit Playgroup during the month. This donation helps us to cover the costs of operating a playgroup at Murrabit from our wonderful facility.

Email: murrabitchildren@gmail.com

Upcoming playgroup sessions: Monday 3 November and Monday 17 November, 9:30am to 11am, Murrabit Family Hub (opposite Murrabit Trading).

- A place where everyone is welcome -

Early Childhood Educator Wanted

Are you a qualified early childhood educator who might be interested in starting up a Family Day Care business at Murrabit?

We have a purpose built facility at the Murrabit Family Hub that has run a successful Family Day Care operation in the past.

The facility is now owned by the community and we are wanting to get childcare back up and running.

We are looking for a qualified early childhood educator to utilise the building at low cost to provide a childcare program at Murrabit.

We have made enquiries to Family Day Care Australia and the process is that an early childhood educator links up with a family day care provider who is licensed to provide in-venue childcare. We have also made contact with Family Day Care providers and have found one that is licensed to provide in-venue care who is keen to talk further with a potential candidate. If you are a qualified early childhood educator, please get in touch and we will be only too happy to meet you at a suitable time to tour you through our wonderful facility and help you through the registration process.

This is a much needed service in our town. We would love to help support getting childcare back up and running.



Interested?

Phone 5457 2205

or email:

murrabit1@bigpond.com

RAINBOW VEGGIE ADVENTURE!



Monday 17th November | 10.00am -10.30am

We'll be sharing the delightful book "Rainbow Plate"

After storytime, kids can join in taste testing a variety of fruit and veggies. It's a fun and interactive way to explore healthy eating and get creative together!

For more information or any questions please contact healthpromotion@ndch.org.au



Murrabit Book club

Anyone is welcome to come along to Murrabit Book Club. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 8pm in member's homes. That member is responsible for supper. All you have to do is turn up and enjoy the company of other like-minded people who enjoy reading.

For more information contact Jeanette Coulter (5457 2331).



Anyone is welcome to come along anytime. Membership fees: \$35 to cover insurance. Contact: Stephen O'Donoghue, Secretary 0418 577 238. Email: murrabitmensshed@gmail.com. Facebook - Murrabit Men's Shed

Community Open Days: Sundays 1:30 to 4pm. Or just come for a cuppa and chat at 3pm

Christmas Lunch: Sunday 7 December

Murrabit Market set-ups: 9am MAA Shed/Lions Park: Fridays 31 October, 5 December

Murrabit Market Stalls 8:30am to 12:30pm: 1st Saturday of each month: Saturdays 1 November, 6 December

At the end of September the Men's Shed enjoyed a BBQ lunch at Terry and Faye Morton's Sandbar (pictured below). It was a great weather day and we enjoyed chatting while Dave cooked everyone a BBQ lunch. The river was the perfect place to take time out and catch up with others from across the community.



Would you like to:

Improve mobility, flexibility and core strength, relieve stress and calm your mind?

Come and join in Murrabit Yoga

Suitable for EVERY body regardless of flexibility, age or experience.



Robyn: Gentle yoga Mondays 9am Murrabit Golf Club

Gentle yoga Mondays 6pm Murrabit Hall

Neil: Men's yoga Wednesdays 6:30pm Murrabit Hall

Cost: \$15 for 80 minute session

Interested in attending?

Phone Neil 0490 830 641 or

Robyn 0427 517 236 (Accredited yoga instructors)



Murrabit Heritage Group

Next heritage meeting will be the Annual General Meeting: **Monday 10 November** commencing at 7:30pm at the Murrabit Market Office, Gonn Avenue. New members are always welcome. Lovely supper included!



The P.S. Melbourne passing under the 99 year old Murrabit Bridge over the Murray River as it makes its way upstream to be permanently moored at the Port of Echuca.

Remembrance Day

Tuesday 11 November

10:30am Murrabit Cenotaph

Followed by cuppa and chat at the back of the Murrabit Hall.

Contact Neil Hopkins 0490 830 641.

Lest we forget





**NORTHERN
COUNTRY
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Murrabit Public Hall
Every Thursday 1pm - 3pm
Everyone is welcome - Come alone or
bring a group

For more
information call
44036640



Murrabit Accessible Defib - Snake Bite Kit included

24 hour accessible defib machines are mounted externally next to the kitchen door at the Murrabit Hall and at the door to the Murrabit Men's Shed.

These life saving machines are available to anyone in an emergency.



Murrabit Rec Reserve

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

Camping enquiries to Terry.



SOCIAL MEALS

Murrabit Hall
Bookings to NDCH Community
Care (03) 4429 1900
A great way to socialise and enjoy
a home-cooked two-course meal
for just \$12.

Wed 29 October 2025

Wed 26 November 2025

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

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TAMIKA YATES
Swan Hill Office Manager



COLIN BALCAM
Sales Agent



GEMMA EAGLES
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CHARLY DELMENICO
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EMILY EDWARDS
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HOLLY EAGLES
Administration Assistant



TAYAH BOX
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Make Murrabit Count and Participate in the Regional Wellbeing Survey

The Regional Wellbeing Survey will be launching at the end of October, and Murrabit residents are encouraged to participate.

The annual Survey is run by the University of Canberra and is now in its 13th year.

The survey asks people living outside our big cities to share what's working, and what's not, in their communities.

This year, with funding from the Gardiner Foundation, results from the survey will be used to develop a wellbeing framework and data dashboard for Gannawarra Shire.

Dr Kim Houghton from the University of Canberra is encouraging Murrabit residents to complete the survey, go in the draw to win \$12,000 in prizes, and support donations to neighbourhood houses in Gannawarra Shire.

"The Survey helps us understand what makes your community so special, and what you need to support long-term wellbeing", said Dr Houghton.

"The Survey provides community leaders and organisations with access to local data that can help guide local planning" he said.

As well as the prize draw, completing the survey will also help raise money for Gannawarra's Neighbourhood Houses, as for each of the first 200 surveys completed by Gannawarra residents the University of Canberra will donate \$5 to the Neighbourhood Houses.

You can complete the survey here: www.regionalwellbeing.org.au

If you would prefer a paper copy survey call 1800 981 499, or text your name and postal address to: 0493 088 387

You know your community best

Share what's working (and what's not)
and win \$12,000 in prizes

regionalwellbeing.org.au

Regional
Wellbeing
Survey



Tennis News

Tennis season is now underway, although we are yet to have a game due to a bye for Murrabit in Round 1. The first wave of the racquet against Kerang Blue will be on 25 October at home.

Thursday night training has started, and it is always a relaxed social night. Feel free to come on down to the courts for a hit, a chat, and something to eat. We have plenty of spare racquets. The bar is open, and a BBQ is usually available.

Our very popular junior coaching programs will be held each Thursday evening at 6pm and started on 23 October and will run until Christmas.

The Hotshots program is for ages 3 and up and teaches kids the basic tennis skills. It involves lots of fun and games and is a great opportunity to get the little ones involved.

Tennis 4 Teens is for those a bit older (adults are also welcome to join in for some coaching tips). Participants will receive coaching and also have the opportunity to experience sets and competition play. Shaun Davey is excited to be in charge of the Tennis 4 Teens this year, and Sally McDonald will continue to run the Hot Shots. Thanks to our coaches and the Committee members for running this program.

Happy Hitting!

Ang Morton, President



Murrabit Tennis Juniors ready to start season 2025/2026



Murrabit & District

Business Directory

Advertise your business on this page for \$10 for a small ad or \$15 for a larger ad.

Send details to murrabit1@bigpond.com

Golden Rivers Electrical Pty Ltd

Greg Maher

20 Gonn Avenue, Murrabit VIC

0408 500 988

Licence no: VIC - 12893 NSW - 215064C



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Busy Bees of Murrabit

Community owned and operated gift shop and visitor centre, Gonn Avenue, Murrabit (part of the Murrabit Market Office Complex).

Keep up to date by giving our

Murrabit Promotions

Facebook page a LIKE

Open Murrabit Market

mornings 9am to 12:30pm.



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



-Kerang Car Wash

Contact: Phone or text **0427 674 473**