# September-October 2025

Community News Contributions Gratefully Accepted

P.O. Box 3, Murrabit 3579

Website: www.murrabit.com.au

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

Phone: 03 5457 2205

Murrabit Advancement Association Inc. Email: murrabit1@bigpond.com

# Murrabit Community News

Across the district is a sea of yellow as we enjoy the canola flowering season. The crops are looking sensational on both sides of the Murray River. No doubt the rainy days, interspersed with warm weather is being enjoyed by our farming community. Let's hope the good times continue!

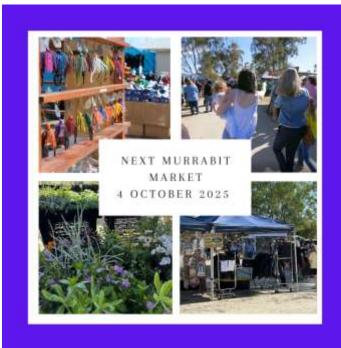
The netball and football season is over and families are enjoying a break from sport over the school holidays. Well done to our netball teams who brought home premiership wins.

Spring is always a great time to get out and about and there are some fabulous community events coming up that are being well supported by the wider community. Come along and enjoy what's on offer.

If you are new to Murrabit & District and haven't yet had a welcome visit from Jeanette, give us a call and we will arrange for a *Welcome to Murrabit* pack to be delivered to your door! 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: <a href="mailto:murrabit1@bigpond.com">murrabit1@bigpond.com</a>







# Coming Up

### Saturday 4 October: Murrabit Country Market

Come along for some school holiday fun. Live music by Jimmy Johnson. Country market food by our local community groups. Variety of market stalls. Stall bookings to www.murrabit.com.au/market

#### Friday 17 October: Veteran Car Club of Victoria

Murrabit is hosting a morning tea. Vintage vehicles will be parked on the Murrabit Market site from 9:30am to approx. 11:00am. Around 200 people are expected. If you can help the Lions Club by assisting with catering, please give Pattie McDonald a call on 0427 570 295. Community members are encouraged to come along on the day and view the cars and chat to our visitors.

# 22 & 23 October: Hall Stories Theatre Production by Damian Callinan

A fantastic community event is planned for Thursday, 23 October. *Hall Stories* with Damien Callinan promises to be an entertaining evening full of jokes, humour and wonderful local stories based on the many years of events and incidents that have happened in and around our Hall and about the people (and animals) that have been there.

Stories are being collected in the lead up to the big night - if you have a story to share - please contact **Faye Morton 0427 508 795** or come along to talk to Damian at the hall the night prior to the main event, when a meet and greet evening will be held.

## Hum n Strum Music

We visited Murrayhaven for our September performance. And what a crowd - A full house and spilling out into the next room! We started off a little slowly, and we had a few missing, but by the second song we were flowing along very nicely and making some excellent music. The people at Murrayhaven are a fantastic audience and we all had a terrific afternoon, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the performance and there were plenty of requests for a return visit. Now, I don't know who started it all (probably Ficko himself) but the tales about the prowess of John Ficken, the Ballbank Smoocher, are growing with every outing we have and certainly had everyone laughing at Murrayhaven. We are all looking forward to the next exciting instalment!

And a little bird told me that Kerry and Bones Crafter are back from their wanderings around Australia so it will be really nice to have Kerry back singing with us soon.

Our group meet each Wednesday at the Murrabit Golf Club from 2- 4pm (although we often start earlier and finish later). And for those who like performing we also play once a month at different spots around the district.

Our regular get-togethers are very informal and good fun and we are always happy for new people to join in. You don't have to play an instrument, you just have to like music! If you're interested in coming along, contact Neil Hopkins 0490 830 641 for more information.





## Hall News

Don't miss this one!! We're looking for people who might have some interesting,

entertaining or funny stories about anything that might have happened in or around the Murrabit Hall in the past 100 years. If that's you, give Faye Morton a call on 0427 508 795. Because...

The Hall will be hosting a fantastic community event on 23 October. Hall Stories with Damien Callinan promises to be an entertaining evening full of jokes, humour and wonderful local stories based on the many years of events and incidents that have happened in and around our Hall and about the people (and animals) that have been there. There are flyers around the town about the event and included in this newsletter. I know that you'll love to be involved.

This past week we have had the Barcom Scouting group staying at the Hall while they run their fantastic adventure program at the river. The young participants spend a couple of days constructing rafts and then spend the next couple of days paddling them all the way from Murrabit to Wood Wood. What an adventure!

The next social meal/community lunch is this coming week – Wednesday 24 September. Michael, the head cook, has asked that people please book in if they are coming. At times we've had quite a few extras come along, and while it's lovely to see everyone there, it puts a strain on the food supplies for that meal. Contact Community Care 4429 1900 to book. The October meal will be on Wednesday 29 October.

We have the Hall Committee AGM coming up in the next month or so. If you reckon that you might be interested in joining us to help look after our wonderful Hall, why don't you give me a call?

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.

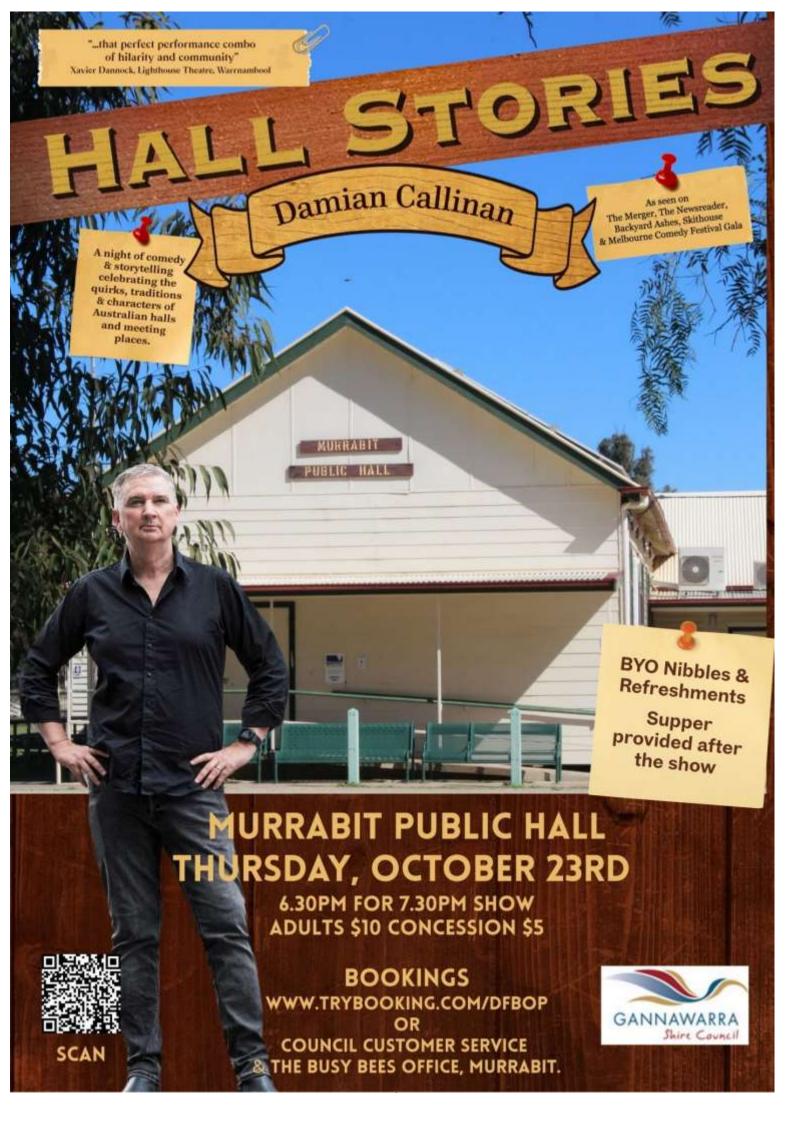
To hire the Hall or for more information, contact Neil Hopkins (Pres) 0490830641 or Jeanette Coulter (Sec/Treas) 0458 572 331.

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 warm and 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 will start creating mosaic pavers for the new community garden in November. This will add much needed colour to the garden and enable the crafty group to practice their new mosaic skills. Can't wait to see the end result!





## Murrabit Netball

The Murrabit Netball Club had an outstanding season, with four teams reaching the Grand Final. A & B grades secured senior premierships, with the B grade achieving three consecutive titles. The U17s won their first premiership since 2005, so exciting! Congratulations to the 14's runners-up, Grand finalists. A wonderful experience to take part in, so be proud of this achievement. I am filled with pride to have served as President in this very successful season.

PREMIERSHIP PHOTOS – Saturday 7th September @ Macorna Rec Reserve

Congratulations to the undefeated U17 Premiers on their success. The majority of these juniors played in last year's U14s premiership and continued into the next age bracket with such dominance. We extend our sincere appreciation to Coach Lauren Morrow and Nicole Henry for their dedication throughout a successful season. Our junior players' strong performance bodes well for a promising future, and I am confident they will meet the Central Murray challenge in 2026.

#### **U17 Premiers**



The B Grade team maintained the lead throughout all four quarters to secure a solid win over Hay. Congratulations on three consecutive victories - each player's effort was dominant. We are so grateful to Coach Erica Cummins for her support and for another successful season.

B grade - 3 x Premiers



A Grade was neck-and-neck until the third quarter, when a few adjustments and strong determination led Murrabit to a comfortable 18-goal win. This final Golden Rivers will no doubt be a memorable premiership for A Grade. Big thanks to Kalinda Stanton and Emelia Shannahan for coaching the team to victory.

#### **A Grade Premiers**



I also wish to acknowledge longstanding Life Member Pam Lingenberg, who has retired this season. A cornerstone of our Club, Pam's dedication as President, Primary Carer, and league President, along with her personal support, has been invaluable.

The Best Club Person award went to Travis Collier, who has gone above and beyond to ensure that our social events were at the forefront this year. Congratulations Trav.



Thank you to all in the netball and football clubs for your support in 2025. With the end of Golden Rivers and a new chapter in Central Murray, the Committee will focus on recruiting, merger discussions, and court upgrades. Our Annual General Meeting in November – as always, new members are welcome!

We look forward to a fresh and exciting 2026 season!

#### Jenny Nethercote President

## School News

Term 4 has come to a close and the second half of the term was a busy one. We had the Book Week Parade and students dressed as their favourite Roald Dahl character. We had Oompa Loompas, Willy Wonkas, Matildas, Violet Beauregarde, Veruca Salt, witches and even foxes. It was a sight to behold. I think Mrs Coulter might have won the dress up competition as you could barely recognize her!!

The Athletic Competitions continued and we had the Kerang Zone Trials and the Mallee Zone Athletics. A big congratulations to Huey Hein, Jade Lavey, Keira McNeil, Moppy Pappin, Riley Danson, Emily Murray, Xavier Hein, Clariah Lea, Pippy Morton and Myrtle Pappin who represented the school and Kerang District at the Mallee Zone Sports. Congratulations to Moppy, Pippy, Emily and Myrtle who have made it the Regional Athletics in Bendigo on 13 October.

On 4 September the whole school had a fantastic full day excursion to Werribee Zoo (pictured below). Highlights included an education session and a safari tour, where they saw giraffes, rhinoceroses and gorillas, as well as many other animals, in an open range habitat. The students asked lots of questions and now know a lot more about the animal kingdom.



On the last Monday of term, 4 students represented our school at the Rotary Spelling Bee at Kerang Technical High School Thornley Hall. They were Jade Lavey, Moppy Pappin, Brandon Thomas and Myrtle Pappin. This was a great effort by these students to challenge themselves at a higher level.

Prep Transition has been taking place with morning visits. The P-3 class are excited having our Preps visiting and introducing them to what school will look like in 2026.

Our Grade 5/6 students visited SuniTafe in Swan Hill as part of their Aspire Program. It was called "Big Dreams, Bright Future", as the students looked at what job possibilities there are.

On our last day of term we had a Footy Colours Day where the students dressed in their favourite footy team and had a hot dog lunch. They were asked to predict who was going to win the AFL Premiership (this was before the Preliminary Finals). Geelong had the most votes, followed by Hawthorn and Brisbane who had a similar amount of votes.

Only 2 people voted for Collingwood. It will be interesting to come back and see who was right!!

Term 4 promises to be exciting as well with the Canberra Excursion, Swimming, Step Up Day and Concert, amongst the things planned.

Greg Adams Principal



# Murrabit Heritage Group

On Monday 8 September, the Heritage Group and others travelled to the Bael Bael Homestead, located on the western lunette of Lake Bael Bael, between Kerang and Swan Hill. It was a beautiful sunny morning and we all enjoyed a talk by current owner, Brett Boyd, a walk around the property, and a picnic morning tea.

The homestead consists the house, shearing shed and stables building, believed to date from the 1870s.

The Bael Bael Run was created by the subdivision of Reedy Lake station which was established as a 370,000 acre station in 1845.

The house is constructed using a post and lintel frame of adzed hardwood timbers infilled with horizontal Murray pine drop logs. The plan is a regular grid of four square rooms off an unusually wide central hall. The central hall is almost the same width as the rooms. The roof structure is of unsawn bush timbers with sawn hardwood battens. The roof was initially clad with split timber shingles, some of which survive under the later cladding of corrugated iron. Bael Bael Homestead is of architectural significance as an outstanding and refined example of drop log construction. It is heritage listed and will soon undergo some work to stabilise the roof.



Next heritage meeting will be the Annual General Meeting: **Monday 9 November** commencing at 7:30pm at the Murrabit Market Office, Gonn Avenue. New members are always welcome. Lovely supper included!

### Farewell to Dick Walters

Members of the Murrabit & District Heritage Group express sympathy to Marion, Catherine, Peter, Elizabeth and your families on the passing of Dick on 11 September. Dick made a significant contribution to our group and it's many projects over the years, much of which can be seen around town and in the books produced. Dick was a born and bred Murra-bit-ian and President of the Murrabit & District Heritage Group from 2011 to 2022. Dick contributed much to the history of the area and we will really miss Dick's wisdom, encouragement and friendship. Dick's funeral is being held at the Kerang Anglican Church on Friday 26 September 2025, commencing at 1pm.



## **Tennis News**

Welcome to the tennis season of 2025/26. There is still time to put your name down to play tennis with the Murrabit Tennis Club for this season. All abilities and new members are welcome. We are looking forward to a fun, social year of tennis ahead. Contact Ang 0408 313 257 if you are interested.

Round 1 is set to hit off on 18 October. We will have two senior teams and a large team of juniors entered in the Northern District Lawn Tennis Association.

Thursday night training will start on 9 October. Anyone is welcome to come down to the courts on a Thursday night for a social hit and catch-up. We have plenty of spare racquets. Bar is open and a BBQ is usually available.



Our very popular junior coaching programs will be held each Thursday night at 6pm. Starting on 23 October and running up to 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. See the attached flyer for details. Happy Hitting!

Ang Morton President



## Murrabit Newsletter Details

If you are not already receiving this free community newsletter via email, please send us your email address so that we can add you to our email list.

Newsletter is also available from our website:

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

Deadline for articles for the next edition is:

## FRIDAY 17 OCTOBER 2025.

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

Community interest info is free. Advertise from \$10. Produced by volunteers. All articles are to be provided in Word format or high resolution picture files.



#### **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

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

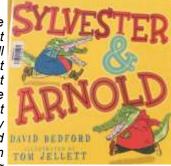
## Murrabit Playgroup News

We are still enjoying some lovely sunny Mondays at Murrabit Playgroup with seven little children and their big people attending and enjoying time creating, learning and chatting together.

Jeanette brings the school library to playgroup on the first Monday of the month. The September book was

Sylvester & Arnold by David Bedford.

Sylvester and Arnold are both big, tough crocs. At least that's what they tell everyone else. And it's what they tell themselves. But then they meet Betty the Bad ... It's a story about rivalry that ends with Betty the Bad, Sylvester and Arnold all accepting each other's differences and living happily ever after!



We welcomed a new family, Sonja and Jasper in September. We would love some more new families come along and join us. It's a great way to meet others and for children to play and learn together in a safe environment.

After helping to plant the garden in August, the playgroup children got to take home the first produce from our new community garden. Lettuce, spinach, snap peas and parsley. We also got creative and made some lovely wide mouth fish out of paper plates. Using the glue sticks and glitter was very much enjoyed!

If anyone 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.

Email: murrabitplaygroup@gmail.com

**Upcoming playgroup sessions:** Monday 6 October and Monday 20 October, 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 enquires 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 invenue 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

## 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.









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

#### **2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Community Open Days: Sundays 1:30 to 4pm.

Or just come for a cuppa and chat at 3pm

Community Lunch 12noon: Sunday 28

September (Terry's Sandbar)

Vintage Car Visit to Murrabit: Friday 17

October

Annual General Meeting: 1:30pm to 3pm

Sunday 19 October

Christmas Lunch: Sunday 7 December

**Murrabit Market set-ups:** 9am MAA Shed/Lions Park: Fridays 3 October, 31 October, 5

December

**Murrabit Market Stalls** 8:30am to 12:30pm: 1st Saturday of each month: Saturdays 4 October, 1

November, 6 December



# **Gannawarra Seniors Festival 2025**

# Calendar of Events October 1 - October 31

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	*Note: NDCH Social Meal—bookings essential ph. 5451 0200, cost from \$12 per person	**bookings required for these events -details check with Council 5450 9333	2	NDCH Social Meal KOONDROOK*
<b>o</b>	NDCH Social Meal QUAMBATOOK*	Author Talk Laurelle Cousins 10.30am Morning Tea COHUNA LIBRARY	9 NDCH Social Meal LEITCHVILLE*	9
<b>B</b>	NDCH Social Meal LAKE CHARM*	Crafting & Morning Tea 10.30am COHUNA LIBRARY	Kerang Neighbourhood House Special Social Lunch 12noon Leitchville Seniors Celebration with Kim Ritchie 1.00pm**	NDCH Social Meal COHUNA*
Creekside Lunch @ Treetops Spences Bridge Rd, 12 noon**	Author Talk J Mary Masters 10.30am & Morning Tea KERANG LIBRARY Hall Stories with Damian Callinan 6.30pm Lake Charm Hall**	22	NDCH Social Meal KERANG*  Hall Stories with Bamian Callinan 6.30pm Murrabit Public Hall**	NDCH Social Meal MACORNA*
27	NDCH Social Meal LALBERT*	NDCH Social Meal MURRABIT*	Singalong with Gay Charmers 2.00pm KERANG LIBRARY**	3)











Victorian Seniors Festival 2025







# 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.





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 24 September 2025

Wed 29 October 2025

#### Kerang

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



Swan Hill 34 McCallum Street, Swan Hill VIC 3585 (03) 4016 2005 info@ghrealestate.com.au



GRAEME HAYES

Principal / Licensed Real Estate Agent VIC & NSW



NATHAN HIPWORTH Licensed Real Estate Agent VIC & NSW



TRAVIS HIPWORTH
Water Trading / Licensed Real Estate Agent



CHELSEA MANUEL Business Davelopment Manager



TAMIKA YATES Swan Hill Office Manager



COLIN BALCAM Sales Agent



GEMMA EAGLES
Property Manager



CHARLY DELMENICO



EMILY EDWARDS
Property Manager



HOLLY EAGLES



TAYAH BOX

SERVICING KERANG, SWAN HILL, AND SURROUNDING AREAS

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY SALES. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, WATER TRADING, ONLINE AND ON SITE CLEARING SALES, BROAD AND IRRIGATION FARMS

WWW.OHREALESTATE.COM.AU

# **Golden Rivers Electrical Pty Ltd**

**Greg Maher** 

20 Gonn Avenue, Murrabit VIC

0408 500 988





TA & DI

# THOMSON PLUMBING

(Formerly Gary Napier Plumbing)

Troy 0427 570 310 Donna 0458 570 310 Licence No. VIC - 37387 NSW - 238436C Email: dt.thomson@hotmail.com

## ANDREW LEAHY FARTHMOVING

Specialising in Irrigation layout also Ploughing, Smudging & Ripping Ph. Andrew 54 57 2368 or 0408 500 875





ASH HOBSON PH: 0408 906 603



Your One Stop

Stock feeds, Hardware, Plumbing, Seed, Fertiliser, Gates, Fencing, Elgas, Chemicals, Hay & Silage supplies, Fuel, Oils, Pet food, Clothing, Gardening, Animal health, Dairy needs, Irrigation & much, much more.

Ph.5457 2235 www.murrabittrading.com

# 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.







# **SCOTT MCNEIL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR**

918 Myall Road, Myall VIC 3579 5457 0304 0419 561 126



Licence No. Vic 14011 NSW 173404C



2023

#### 0428 194 984

2.5t Excavator Ditch Witch Trencher **Bobcat** Tip Trailer

Small tractor work - slashing, ground work Small square hay cutting & baling General farm. Home maintenance & handyman work Mustering



### FOR HIRE

# 1.8 tonne CAT Mini Excavator

Attachments:

- 1000mm mud bucket,
- 300mm & 460mm dig buckets
- Hydraulic guick hitch
- 300mm auger with power drive

- \$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



Contact: Phone or text 0427 674 473