

The GRETA BUNYIP

"YOUR GRETA & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER"

gretabunyip@gmail.com

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Feb 2021



This season has been a massively challenging one with the restrictions and awkwardness that COVID 19 continues to place upon us as a club. We are meeting those challenges. While success on the field has been a little sparse our extremely youthful A grade team did manage three wins on the trot which had them sitting second on the one day ladder. Here is a list of noteworthy achievements so far this year.

A Grade - Michael Honmann 53 runs v RoversUBCC

Nick Pell 40 runs v City Colts

Tom Rosser 4 wickets for 11 runs v Beechworth

A.Res- Mick Barnard 45 v Beechworth and 42 v Benalla

Tom Webster 60 v RUBCC

Dave Allen 4 for 21 v Benalla

B Grade- Liam Semmons 80

Craig Williams 79 no v Benalla

Blake Sheather 65 v Milawa

Paul Phillips 48 v Delatite

Tyler Gotschling 46 v RUBCC

Oscar Day 44 v City Colts

Under 14s Xavier Rosser 50no v Rutherglen and 40 v RUBCC

Under 12 Eamon Mullins 27 v Magpies

Murphy Flanigan 2 for 11 v Ovens Valley

The annual T 20 game vs the footballers was a great success with the footballers getting the win (although I think they may have lost 20 wickets during their innings)

Firearm Safety Course LRD Approved Instructors

Wednesday 10 March

7.30pm at the Greta Hall

Do you own firearms and want to know how to sell them?

Are you up to date with current gun laws in Australia?

Do you want to get a gun licence? (Adult or junior)

What type of security do I require to own a gun?

How can I transport a gun and ammo safely?

On completion and passing the test, certificates will be issued to allow you to apply for your Victorian Firearm Licence.

One on one instruction can occur under prior arrangement. Please book early.

If you would like to come along please book your attendance and numbers by 9th of March

Limited numbers due to Covid 19 restrictions.

Contact Adrian 0407 516 221

owe a big thank you to Francis O'Brien, Bill and Val McMonigal, Allan Porker, Cris Perra, Trish Wadler, Frank Ryan and Anthony Griffiths who deliver your copy of the Bunyip to your mailbox. Thank you to these volunteers who donate their time and travel costs to our community. Thank you Gigi Costenaro for proof reading each edition.



Events and workshops for 2021

We have a good mix of workshops planned for this year, many of which have been on hold since last autumn! We welcome everyone to our events.

Some of the topics to be covered this year include:

- Managing shelterbelts and corridors in the long term
- Farm dam enhancement for wildlife
- Online climate based forecasting tools
- Introduction to paddock regeneration

Establishing populations of small native fish in farm dams

You have the opportunity to be involved in the second phase of our project to establish populations of Southern Pygmy Perch in farm dams. This is a research project and a small trial, based only in our catchment in North East Victoria. Our Landcare Group is privileged to be offered the chance to find homes for these small native fish. **We are looking for 5-10 farm dams/wetlands where we can stock 100 Southern Pygmy Perch in each dam.** Dams should have good vegetation around the edges and within the dam, never dry out and be fenced from stock.

Please contact Sally on 0437 136 162 by the end of February to have a chat about your site and arrange an inspection. This is a fantastic project to be involved in and is a great way of using your farm dam to help protect these native fish.

Water for wildlife on hot days - what you can do



Birds

One of the best ways to help birds beat the heat is to provide a water source in your garden. Birds will use a variety of bird baths in different positions - small, shallow dishes are good for smaller birds, while larger

birds will utilise deeper baths. Keep baths clean and refill daily with fresh cool water. Be sure to wear gloves and use face masks when cleaning out your bird bath to avoid transmission of contagious diseases between birds and humans, such as Psittacosis, a bacterial infection also known as parrot fever that was observed in the North East in November last year.

To read more about how to set up bird bath, head on over to the Birds in Backyards team website at www.birdsinbackyards.net/Bird-Baths

Insects

While some insects such as Blue Banded Bees will get their moisture from the nectar, others such as the Honey Bee that need to travel long distances might need a little water station. You can help them use conventional bird baths by placing a rock or stick in the bath that allows them to access water and climb out, have floating plants that they can land on, or even using fabric/chux cloth that can soak up water and drape this over the edge of the bath. Another option is to use a small saucer and fill with sand. Keep the sand moist and the insects will suck the moisture from the sand.

As always, diversity is a good thing in your garden - use a variety of shallow and deep dishes, saucers with sand and ground level saucers or baths for lizards. These can be placed in the shade, which reduces evaporation and provides a cooler stop over for your garden visitors.

For any queries about our projects, events or if you would like to join our Group, please contact Sally Day (Project Officer) on 0437 136 162.



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Enquiries & Inspection always welcome

Ken & Georgie Manton

Mobile: 0437 585 605

Email: ken.manton@hotmail.com

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Photo: 14 months
@ 768kgs

SEMEN AVAILABLE



Vendors at the Southern Charolais Breeders Sale
Thursday 18th March 2021
Yea Selling Complex, Yea Victoria

EVENTS IN NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS

Rural City of Wangaratta

As part of the Community Resilience and Recovery Program we have launched the Community Connection Events Fund! We know that it's been a tough year, and that groups, organisations, and clubs all around Wangaratta would love to start getting together again. The Community Resilience and Recovery Program and Rural Placemaking Program are working together to make that happen.

What is it? An opportunity for Community Groups in THE Rural City of Wangaratta to receive \$1000 in funding to help them hold their events

What will be funded? Events that help promote your group, connect your community, or help your community to build their resilience and re-build social connections.

How do we apply? Applications are open until 19 February 2021.

The application form and more information can be found here: [Community Connection Events Program Rural City of Wangaratta](#)

King Valley will soon be home to hundreds of kilometres of gravel cycling tracks.

And to launch the trails the Rural City of Wangaratta will run a two day event in Whitfield.

"King GRAValley" on 2 May will be aimed at experienced riders, while a family day on 1 May will be targeted at locals looking to try the growing sport and come together.

Expressions of interest are opening for cyclists and riders this weekend, but this email is to let you know that we want you to be involved.

We want the King Valley Gravel Cycling Event to have a festival feeling, showcasing local food and wine, businesses, bands and musicians, and also our community organisations.

If you are interested in having a table, a booth, performing at or even sponsoring the event, complete our expression of interest located here before 25 February 2021: [Business and Community Group EOI form](#)

The project team will be in touch over the next few weeks to talk about what that presence might look like.

If you have any questions email us at communityresilience@wangaratta.vic.gov.au

Benalla Art Gallery has opened a new exhibition as part of a state-wide photography festival.

The exhibition, titled *A Stone from Another Mountain*, is the work of Damien Shen, an artist who has become nationally renowned both for his remarkable skills as a draughtsman and for his unique explorations of personal background.

Born from the rich combined heritages of mainland China and the Ngarrindjeri peoples of South Australia, Damien Shen combines drawing with a wet-plate collodion photographic process to explore traditional imagery through a personal, documentary lens.


For the exhibition the artist searched for archival images of paintings from various Dynasty periods and discovered that the Shen family name harks from China's Song Dynasty period. To indicate his Chinese ancestry he created a self-portrait, placing himself onto the image of the emperor on a horse and then placing the figure onto the Coorong (Ngarrindjeri homelands) alongside portraits of his immediate Ngarrindjeri family, to indicate his immediate Indigenous background.

A Stone from Another Mountain is an Official Exhibition as part of the *PHOTO2021 International Festival of Photography* - Australasia's largest and most significant photography event. Delivered in collaboration with over 40 cultural institutions, museums, galleries and universities, the Festival features free exhibitions, outdoor displays and artist commissions in Melbourne and across regional Victoria, alongside events and education programs.

The exhibition is supported by MARS Gallery and is showing until 21 March 2021 at Benalla Art Gallery.

The Gallery is also hosting an in conversation between the artist Damien Shen, and cultural critic Ashley Crawford, on 6 March. Places are strictly limited, and bookings can be made via gALLERY@benalla.vic.gov.au or on 5760 2619.


GRETA CFA UPDATES



TRAVELLER'S CHECKLIST:

- Keep an eye on the weather
- Check Fire Danger Ratings daily
- Download the VicEmergency app
- Be prepared to change your plans!

www.cfa.vic.gov.au/travel



Will you be spending some time in the great outdoors this Australia Day holiday?



- Outdoor fires need to be at least 3 metres away from flammable objects, including buildings, caravans, camper vans and tents.
- Never use petrol to start fires.
- Extinguish fires with water before you leave.
- Children always need to be supervised around fires.

www.cfa.vic.gov.au




The risk from the Total Fire Ban we had on Australia Day has passed by. With the wet weather at the moment people will be dropping their Guard, but we may still have another Total Fire Ban day this summer.

A big thank you to Greg Keane Glenrowan Captain & Incident Controller and the 20 Tanker Trucks that turned out from the Region 23 Brigades and the Helitak, which put out the Glenrowan West Rd/Rifle Range Rd fire in early January. The flames could be seen from Greta West as the fire ran up to the top of Warby Ranges, before the Helitak pulled it up and crews quickly rounded it up.

Paul McCallum
Greta CFA Community Safety Liaison

Download the **Vic Emergency** app today.



Plan. Act. Survive.



Don't let this



Become this!



For more information on what you can and can't do during the fire danger period, go to www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can/



Ah, such is football life in Kelly country

By - Martin Flanagan, August 21, 2010 (*The Age*)

JOHN Tanner's grandmother was Ned Kelly's first cousin. John was born in 1933. He remembers, as a boy, going with his father to visit Ned's brother, Jim.

Jim Kelly was a 20-year-old in jail in New South Wales when what is remembered as the Kelly outbreak started in 1878, otherwise he would have been part of it.

All sorts of claims are made nowadays about where the Kelly armour was made. John says lots of farmers were blacksmiths in those days. He shows me where his grandfather's smithy was, beside a creek. His grandfather was imprisoned during the outbreak for being what was called "a Kelly sympathiser". "There was a lot of support for Ned in this district," he says. We visit what remains of the Kelly hut on nearby 11-Mile Creek where the outbreak began.

John's son Greg captain-coached Greta for years. A local dairy farmer, he is a hefty man with a quiet grin. In the 1986 grand final against Bright, he was belted early, split right across the brow. They got a needle and thread from somewhere but there was no anaesthetic. At half-time they put 13 stitches into his forehead and he played on. Greta lost by five points. It was a Ned Kelly sort of performance and they're still talking about it at the Greta footy club.

Greta, three hours north-east of Melbourne by car, has nothing in terms of facilities. It doesn't have a post office, it doesn't have a shop, it doesn't have a pub. It has a football and netball club. Until the war, they played football in a paddock opposite the cemetery in which Ned Kelly's mother, sister and two brothers lie.

When Sidney Nolan did his famous series of Kelly paintings in the 1940s, he journeyed to Greta to see Jim Kelly. Jim wouldn't talk to him. It was like a war zone around Greta during the outbreak - the Kellys and the sympathisers versus the rest. An echo of that can still be heard today. All the Kelly graves in the Greta cemetery are unmarked.

We were standing in the cemetery when John told me that former South Melbourne star Laurie Nash coached Greta in 1946. John, a quiet, genial man, saw Nash kick a place kick - that is, in the rugby manner - positioning the ball in a cowpat. "It went through the top of that gum tree over there," he said, pointing.

The land around Greta is a powerful green right now. "It's like we've had a real winter, says Kev Naish, brother of my companion for the day, former Richmond and Port Adelaide player Chris Naish. Kev's a former president of the club.

The Greta footy ground runs north-south with gum trees at the southern end. In the background are the Black Ranges and further east is Power's Lookout. Harry Power was the old cattle thief who taught young Ned Kelly the trade. Ned's father died when he was 13 and he became the man of the house. Ned Kelly's legend can be seen as the story of a mother and a son.

Greta had a terrible run with injuries this year. A broken arm, a broken leg, five knees. Eleven of its team who played last Saturday were under 21. Their captain was 19-year-old Stephen Brooks, a bush Joel Selwood, throwing his body around in the packs to create openings that aren't there.

Like Selwood, he's not that big for the role he plays.

The other Greta player who stood out, Jack Humphries, is going to marry John Tanner's grand-daughter Lindsey, who was playing for Greta in the big netball match against arch-rival Moyhu.

There was no denying the intensity of the netball. Moyhu kept looking like it was going to over-run Greta, which kept edging back. Greta won by one.

Greta dominated local netball in the 1990s and early 2000s. Most of its team from that time came back last Saturday, as did a lot of old footballers, because it was the heritage round.

"Listen to that," I said to Chris Naish somewhere in the third quarter of the footy. He described the sound as "the hum of the men at the bar", and summed up the history of the Greta Football Club with the words "Same community, different paddock".

There's a lot of feeling in Kelly country that the AFL is neglecting country footy. "There are clubs up here just hanging on," says Kev Naish. The Ovens and King league costs its 12 member clubs \$45,000 a year to run. Why can't the AFL help pay that?

Moyhu won the footy by 10 points, but Greta was gallant to the end.

I stood with John Tanner in the sheds. "They gave what they had," he said of the Greta boys. There had been a cold northerly blowing and it was good to get inside the clubrooms where there were men, women, children, warmth.

The team of champion netballers was called up one at a time, their individual honours read out. There seems to be a tradition of strong women around Greta.

The women were presented with medals by club president, Ben Craven, a no-nonsense young man who shoed me off a seat because he wanted it for a woman.

The club put on what it called "a feed", beautiful roast beef, scalloped potatoes in a cheese sauce and fresh vegetables. In addition to beer, they serve wine by the glassful and, in Greta, that means the glass is full.

When we stepped out into the cold night to drive back to Melbourne, Kev Naish came with us to the car, telling me to stay with him when next I return to this country footy club with so many ghosts around it.

By - Martin Flanagan, August 21, 2010 (*The Age*)

Martin Flanagan is one of Australia's most respected sports journalists. He was a regular AFL columnist for the Age for many years, and is the author of over a dozen books.