

STRATFORD SKATE PARK

The aim of the Stratford Skate Park upgrade was to create an inclusive and active precinct for people of all ages and ability levels, who live in the Stratford community. The previous Stratford skate park was constructed in 2008 and designed to cater for the size of the community at that time. As identified in the Public Open Space Plan 2014 - 2024, Market Reserve Stratford was identified for an upgrade to district level open space. Recent works have enhanced the play opportunity for young people, as well as an improved shelter incorporating a BBQ and furniture to encourage people to extend their visit to the park.



What do you think about the new changes at the Stratford Skate Park?

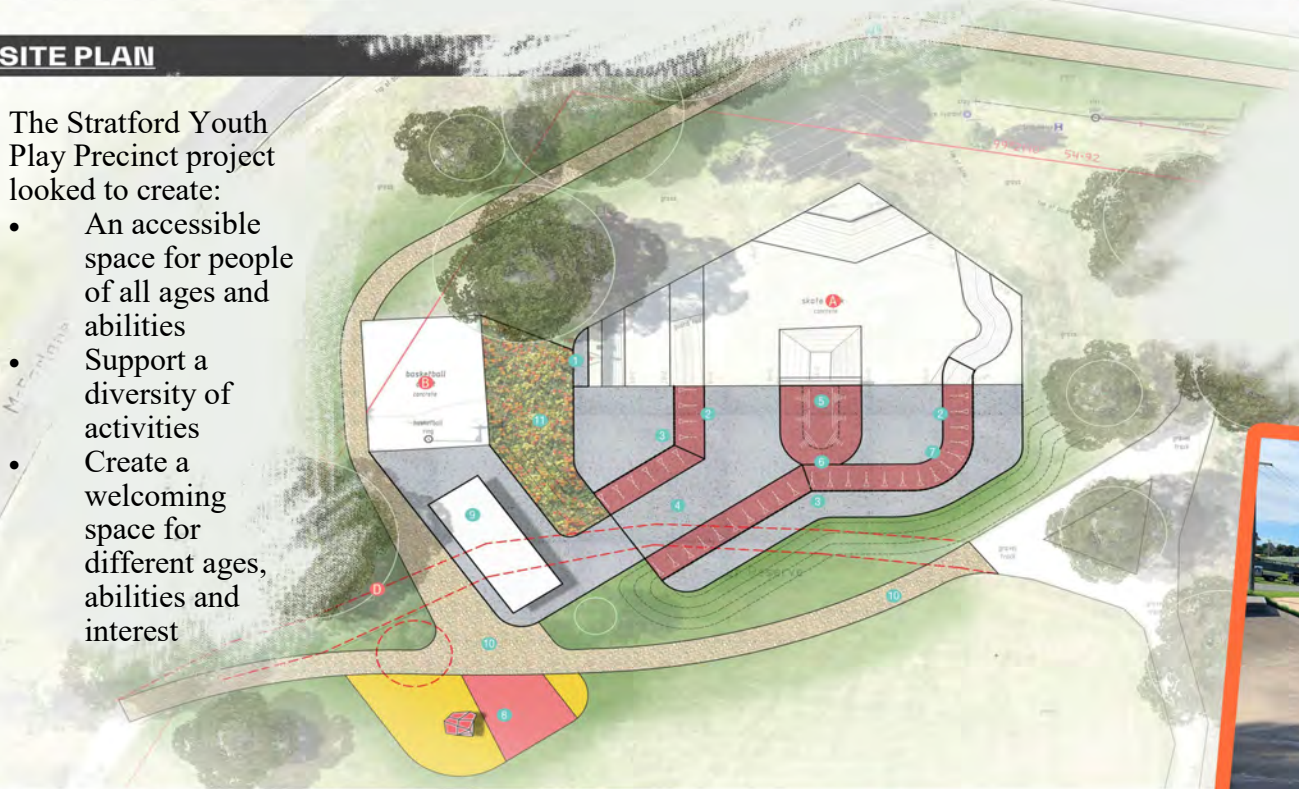
It's nice and smooth and I'd recommend it for BMX bikes and scooters. It's really improved now with the new ramp. They have added rails and a bowl pit. BUT the problem is – THERE ARE NO TOILETS!

Edan

SITE PLAN

The Stratford Youth Play Precinct project looked to create:

- An accessible space for people of all ages and abilities
- Support a diversity of activities
- Create a welcoming space for different ages, abilities and interest



STRATFORD SKATEPARK EXTENSION

OPTION A: TRANSITION FLOW

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 1 EXPANDED DECK TO EXISTING | 6 MOGUL/QUARTER BLEND | 11 PLANTING BED |
| 2 750H QUARTERPIPE | 7 750H QUARTER POCKET | A EXISTING SKATEPARK |
| 3 750H SHARP QUARTER HIP | 8 BOULDERING TOWER ON EPDM | B EXISTING BASKETBALL COURT |
| 4 750H MINI RAMP | 9 RELOCATED SHELTER | C EXISTING GRAVEL ENTRY |
| 5 600H MOGUL | 10 NEW GRAVEL PATH | D PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF EXISTING PATH |



What do you think about the new changes at the Stratford Skate Park?

The new grind rails are good. The park is really better for the 8 years and over so the kids can do tricks.

Ethan



WHAT TO DO IN AND AROUND

STRATFORD

DAY 01

Visit the Stratford Museum (Hobson St, Stratford)

Open Tuesday & the 4th Sunday of the month

Bike ride along the Rail Trail to Maffra (10km each way).

Drive to Briagolong Quarries (20 km return)

DAY 02

Walk/Ride the Arts Trail through the streets of Stratford. More information at Segue.

Drive to Sale (20 km each way) and walk/ride around Lake Guthridge and Lake Guyatt.

DAY 03

Walk/Ride the Blackall Creek Reserve alongside Merrick St, Stratford.

Drive to the Glenmaggie Weir (BYO Barbeque or Picnic).

DAY 04

Walk/Ride to The Knob Reserve (Old Redbank Rd, Stratford).

Drive to the Blue Pool, Briagolong for a swim.

DAY 05

Walk/Ride to the Apex Park (Tyers St)

Memorial Park (Tyers St)

Market Reserve (Hobson St)

Mary Treasure Reserve (Hobson St)

Visit the Maffra Car Museum

Where to Eat in Stratford

- The Stratford Bakery
- Avon River Bakehouse
- Avon Hotel
- Ticklish Turtle
- Wa De Lock Cellar Door
- Badger & Hare Cafe
- Grill Em Takeaway
- Gippsland Jersey Milkshakes
- The Vines on Avon Vineyard
- Segue Cafe
- Moo Moo Thai
- McBrick



STRATFORD SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
TWELFTH NIGHT by THE COMMUNITY PLAYERS

"If music be the food of love, play on"

In keeping with our 2023 Stratford ShakesPAIR Festival Theme, our Community Players bring you one of Shakespeare's most loved comedies. Join us as we share a tale of ship-wrecked twins lost on the shores of Illyria.

Enjoy an evening's adventure full of mistaken identities, love triangles, tricks, and unrequited love. Come and see our ensemble of local performers have fun with puns, pratfalls, and pranks aplenty. Performance Dates:

Friday 5 May - Saturday 13 May
Tickets: Adults \$25 / Concession \$20
All shows performed at the Stratford Courthouse Theatre

PHOTO CREDIT: Lisa Hayman Photography
Photo Features: (from left) Andy Veale, Anna Roberts (front), Blake Roberts, Susanna Bady & Castelle Dugan.



RESIDENT'S SAY
The annual Shakespeare on the River Festival in Stratford is always an exciting time. Bouquets to the dedicated organisers and participants for their passion and enthusiasm. The festival is an enormous asset to our town and area, culturally, socially and economically. Our local primary school students are introduced to Shakespeare and all the enriching benefits of engagement with the performing arts. Visitors from far and wide attend performances and the Faire Day, to the benefit of accommodation providers and retailers.

This year, Stratford Town Crier and Segue Community Hub and Arts Cafe will share a stall on Faire Day. We are very excited that we will have available copies of the promised "Stratford Book of Poetry", a compilation of original poems submitted to the Crier by local residents, their family members and friends. Please visit our stall and secure your copy. Equally exciting, we will launch free Welcome Packs for new residents and visitors. Finally our raffle which proved so popular at last year's Fair Day returns, bigger and better! Come and visit our stall. We look forward to seeing you.
Judy Donoghue

CH GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL
This year we raised the magnificent sum of just over \$8,000. Thank you to all who helped. I still have room on my bus trip to Merimbula which will be held on 18 – 21 May, the cost is \$365.00 per head and single supplement is \$55.00 per night. Could you let me know as soon as possible if you are interested.

Val Mildenhall  **goodFriday**
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STRATFORD MONTHLY RAINFALL FROM THE BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY

FEB/22	MAR/22	APR/22	MAY/22	JUN/22	JUL/22	AUG/22	SEP/22	OCT/22	NOV /22	DEC/22	JAN/23	FEB/23	MAR/23
27.1	77.7	102.3	20	29.4	21	70.8	37.6	74.1	103.4	50.4	19.7	10.3	73.2
2022 = 711.3		2021 = 843.9		2020 = 822.9		2019 = 368.2		2018 = 361.9		2017 = 436.6		2016 = 592.9	

STRATFORD LIONS CLUB

You know that winter is coming when the Lions Club of Stratford hold their first wood raffle. A trailer (6x4) of red box and red gum was donated by Stan Luxford for the Lions Club to raffle. This was a huge success and thank you Stan for your generosity. President Lindsay Ross drew the winning ticket at 1.00pm at the end of the BBQ on 15 April. The winning ticket was Kellie Lett and when contacted she was very pleased. The wood was delivered during the following week. We are hoping to have a second raffle later on in May and as the Lotto slogan goes “You have to be in it to win it” Good luck and you may be the next winner.

The next big event that the Club is involved with, is the Walk



for the Black Dog Institute from Stratford to Briagolong on 13 May. We are one of the many sponsors of the walk and will be having people at the 3 rest areas, organising the portable toilets and marshalling the walkers throughout the walk. The organizing committee have been supported by local businesses and they have generously donated prizes. If you require more details contact Cal Coleman on 0409 025 196 or see the details on Facebook and he will be able to help you with how to apply to be part of the walk or where to donate to the Black Dog Institute.

Paul Wager

STRATFORD COUNTRY WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION

Did you know there is a Junior Branch connected to the Avon Country Women’s Association of Vic Inc. Branch which meet each month on a Saturday? April’s meeting will be on the 22nd where the Juniors will be doing some cooking and clay moulding. If your Junior member is coming, please let Emma know on 0409 865 047 just so there are enough kits for everyone.

After the excitement of the North Gippsland Group’s art and craft exhibition, members thought it would be good to have a relaxing social trip instead of our usual craft morning followed by lunch, and our regular meeting. Seven members carpooled and visited a local café for a delicious coffee and lunch. The group split up to wander around the township’s shops to enter and admire or purchase some more

wool or patchwork materials, (oh did I really need that!) or to wander around the garden centres or opportunity shops. It was a lovely social day which we all enjoyed.

Each year the CWA of Vic Inc. choose a country for all of Victoria to learn about. This year it is Namibia which is on the west coast of South Africa. This exercise keeps the member’s research, cognitive and presentation skills from becoming scratchy. It provides an opportunity for members to learn about a country and to do some public speaking in a friendly environment.

The Senior members meet on the third Monday of the month in the Senior Citizens rooms in Hobson Street. Everyone is welcome to come along for a cuppa and chat. For more information please phone Emma on 0409 865 047.

Dianne Honey

STRATFORD RED CROSS

We haven’t really any news this time just a reminder our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month. May meeting will be Tuesday 2 at 11.30am at the Avon Hotel followed by lunch. The Stratford branch has been active for 109 years continuous service to the community. We welcome new and current members to come along and enjoy a catch up.

Red Cross members will lay flowers at the memorial park cenotaph to commemorate Anzac

STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

David Tulloch was our guest speaker at our last meeting and we thank David for his very interesting presentation.

23 April is the 150th BIRTHDAY!! Our home, the old Methodist Church in Hobson Street, was opened on that day with a mention of the foundation stone being unveiled. Sadly, we have never discovered its location, even during all the restoration work that has been done. We will be celebrating this special milestone on “Faire Day”.

“The Shakespeare Faire Day” will be held on Sunday 7 May and we invite you to come and enjoy a delicious “Avonshire Tea” which will be available in our grounds

STRATFORD MEN’S SHED MEN’S SHED ON THE ROCKS?

Not really, but certainly looking for some support from the local community. No point waiting until it’s too late.

The local Men’s Shed is now well into its thirteenth year of operation. During that time the group has been a wonderful servant of the local community. Some of the organisations that have benefitted from the members include the Historical Society, the Anglican Church, the Baptist Church, Bushfire Relief, Wildlife Groups, the Cemetery Trust, the Primary School and Kindergarten, the RSL and the Senior Citizens to name a few.

In addition to this the members have access to a extensive range of equipment and have access

Day. World Red Cross day is Monday 8 May. Many thanks to all who support Red Cross in our area.

Dianne Semmens



adjacent to the “Faire” activities. This is our major fund raiser for the year and your support is always appreciated.

We are pleased that the new extension to our shed is under construction and we are hoping that it will be completed in time for the Shakespeare Festival. This extension will enable us to increase our area for displays. A vintage reaper and binder have been offered to us and we are eager to expand the displays in our rustic agricultural theme.

We look forward to seeing you at the Museum which will be open on “Faire Day”.

The Museum is open on Tuesdays between 10.00am - 3.00pm and you are always welcome to call in.

Jane Spice

to other more experienced members who are highly skilled and very willing to share their knowledge. ‘On the job’ training is readily available.

But, and it is a big BUT, the membership of 16 is made up of 4 foundation members, all of whom are now thirteen years older and, understandably, SLOWING DOWN. In addition several of the other members are also approaching eighty and experiencing a decline in energy levels. To coin an old phrase, the spirit is willing but the flesh is getting weaker. That is the cold, hard truth of the matter. The solution in the long-term, is an injection of younger members with energy and fresh ideas to continue the outstanding community work being done and ensure this wonderful resource is not lost to the local community.

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STRATFORD LAWN BOWLS

Great news for our Stratford Junior Bowler, Tristan Russell. Tristan, who has been playing Crackerjack for the last 2 seasons was recognised as a promising talent and was encouraged to enter the Gippsland Junior Championship held at Paynesville recently. He won his first 2 rounds and progressed to the semis. Another victory secured him a place in the Final, and he won that to become the Junior Champion of the Gippsland Bowls Region. He then teamed with Emily Melrose in the pairs event and they were



runners up in that final. Fantastic results in your first ever tournament Tristan. Congratulations. Tristan attended Stratford Primary School, plays cricket with the Stratford Redbacks and is an apprentice butcher at Shaw's Quality Meats. Another great success story on the bowls green was achieved by Stratford Club member Leonie Flynn. Leonie teamed with partner Phil Crowder in the Bowls Victoria Mixed Pairs held in the Gippsland area for the first time. Leonie and Phil, from Karingal Bowls Club took out the title, winning \$3000 each in prize money. Leonie became the first ever female skipper of the Mixed Pairs in winning the match. Congratulations Leonie and Phil.

Margaret Robbins

STRATFORWARD

Stratforward, our residents, business and community organisations incorporated association will be at the Shakes 'Pair' Medieval Faire Day and Makers Market on Sunday 7 May between 10.00am and 3.00pm. Pop into the marquee, say 'hello' and buy a raffle ticket as we start to raise funds for signage. In this edition of the Town Crier, we are introducing the new Committee starting with President, Shayne Hyman, and Vice President, Kiah Cashman.



Originally from Gippsland, my family moved to Melbourne when I was a child. Twelve years ago, I decided to return and make Stratford my home. With careers in secondary teaching and human resources behind me, I have been applying my skills, knowledge and experience to agriculture, and most recently, bushfire recovery and resilience. Currently I work part-time for West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority, and I own and manage a boutique consulting

business. I love living in Stratford, my son and beautiful granddaughter, floating around the Gippsland Lakes with my partner on our old houseboat, travel and reading.

Kiah Cashman was born in Sale and moved to Stratford in 1988 with her family. She grew up on a beef cattle farm on the outskirts of Stratford and played for a number of junior sporting clubs as a child. An accountant by trade, Kiah has worked in several corporate roles locally and decided to establish her own venture in 2020, just before the Covid pandemic struck. She is the proprietor of Avon River Bakehouse, employing twelve staff and offering a variety of food services to the local community.



As a local business owner, Kiah is passionate about ensuring the commercial precinct of Stratford grows to support the increasing population of the town and tourists passing through.

Shayne Hyman

STRATFORD S.E.S.

Late March and Stratford members were paged to a road crash on the Maffra Boisdale road. It was early evening and raining. A vehicle had hit a tree and two passengers were trapped. Hydraulic tools were used to free the casualties, paramedics then transported them to hospital. Early April and the unit was tasked to assist paramedics with a motor cycle casualty on the Billy Goat Bluff Track. When nearly to the location the AV members were informed that the casualty had been air lifted to hospital. Members then returned to Stratford.

A week later, early morning and there was a road crash near Tinamba. A truck had rolled. The first report was that people were trapped. A Stratford member was close by and arrived at the crash



soon after and reported that the occupants had released themselves though injured, but were not trapped. A few days later and a large branch had fallen across a local road. Two crews attended, cut the tree up and cleared the road.



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STRATFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Stratford Primary School finished a jam-packed Term 1 with a range of activities for our students.

A highlight to complete the term was the Bike Education Program. All students from Years 3 -6 took part in a range of Bike Education activities for the final 2 weeks of term, culminating in the Bike Ed Challenge on Wednesday 5 April and Stratford's Biggest Bike Ride on Thursday 6 April. Our school dog and unofficial Assistant Principal Bee came along for the ride in the basket attached to Mrs Ward's bike!



Stratford Primary. We continue to look for opportunities to promote wellbeing and a positive mindset at our school. Coming up we have Years 3-6 Camp to Coonawarra. This is provided free of charge through the Victorian Government Positive Start program. We also have a dedicated 1 hour session per week for every class to take part in Mental Health and Wellbeing education.

To support our parent community in promoting positive

mental health, Stratford Primary will be hosting a "Raising Resilient Children" Seminar on Wednesday 10 May from 6.00pm - 7.30pm. This seminar is free of charge and open to everyone in the community – you do not have to have a child enrolled at Stratford Primary to attend.

Education Week for Government Schools will be from Monday 1 May – Friday 19 May 2023. To celebrate our learning at Stratford Primary School, we will be opening our doors to all

potential enrolments on the following days and times: Tuesday 16 May 2.30pm - 3.30pm Tours at 2.00pm and 3.00pm. Wednesday 17 May 6.30 - 7.30pm Information Session for New Enrolments (Foundation 2024). Thursday 18 May 9.00am - 10.00am Tours at 9.00am and 9.30am.

Of course, our school is always open for information and tours and everyone is welcome.

Kate Steele



Our Family and Friends Association ran a successful Easter Raffle and Bunnings Barbecue, raising much needed funds to make improvements to our playground. Our next Bunnings BBQ will be Saturday 3 June, so come along and buy a sausage for our school! A large vote of thanks to all our community members who helped with the Working Bee on Sunday 2 April. The front area of our school, in particular our memorial garden, received a lovely tidy up.



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VON LANDCARE GROUP

Seed Raising workshops for the Stratford community.

Two great opportunities for the Community to help to restore our fragile and endangered local plants.

*When: Sunday 30 April and Sunday 7 May
Time: 9.00am to 11.00am*

Where: 20 Dixon Street Stratford

What's happening?

This will be a morning of propagating the grasses of our region. Learn how to collect, store, prepare, plant and then care for seedlings. The plants propagated on this day will be planted in the Heyfield Wetlands Fenced Seed Propagation Area and then used for future revegetation projects. RSVP and questions Beth 0427 456 094.

Anna Roberts



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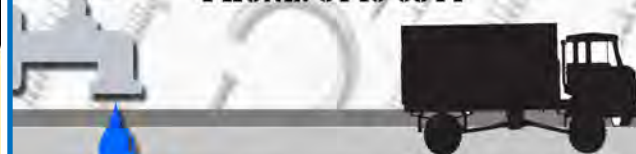
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STRATFORD SCOUTS

“On 1 April on a glorious Autumn day, five Scouts and two Leaders left Bairnsdale at 8.30am and ventured off on an epic 30 kilometre journey along the East Gippsland Rail Trail.



They had to carry packs weighing 1/3 of their body weight, which was required to simulate the packs they will be carrying for an overnight hike scheduled for term 4.

With lots of stops to rehydrate and regroup along the way they finally made it to Bruthen at 5.45pm.

Hats off to Assistant Scout Leader Jason Scicluna, he partnered the scouts for the entire journey and was the only Leader to complete the full hike.



Kylie Beechey and Sophia Collins who are the two youngest scouts in our group, managed to complete the whole 30kms along with Patrol Leader Delila Martin.

Emma Beechey and Callum Scicluna both did very well but sustained minor injuries and were not able to complete the whole hike but still achieved the initial goal and will also get a badge for their kilometres completed. They were commendable in their support roles throughout the day encouraging the others at the various check points and providing water as needed.

They were aided by Group Leader Jeremy Duncis whom shadowed them along the way in a support vehicle stocked with water and other

supplies and Scout Leader Max Dent, who started enthusiastically but also sustained an injury and was not able to complete the full 30kms.

The hike has been planned since week one of this term and it was great to see the group being able to achieve their goal.

If this sounds like the sort of adventure that you or your child would love to be a part of, email stratfordscouts1st@gmail.com for more information.

Jeremy Duncis



SHAKESPEARE ON THE RIVER FESTIVAL

Young Volunteers Recognised

The Janice Jones Youth Achievement Award has been a vital part of The Stratford Shakespeare festival since 2003. It is presented to a young person who has gone above and beyond in the areas of acting, technical support, musical ability, and/or outstanding support and contribution to the Shakespeare Festival. The award process has evolved over the years to now include nominations by the committee for all deserving candidates.

This year all three nominees hail from Stratford and the festival has played a huge part in each of their lives from a very young age. For the youngest nominee, 16 year old Lauren Mac Krell, the Shakespeare Festival is more than just helping out for a few weeks “...it has given me a community, a

sense of belonging”, Lauren told the committee. From joining The Courthouse Kids performing at the festival at the age of 7 to now helping run the weekly Monday acting classes, working behind the scenes in Groundwork Youth Theatre’s shows and helping on Faire Day; this quiet achiever contributes so much without seeking the limelight for themselves.



22 year old Tilly Korbman has returned to her hometown after spending the Covid years and lockdowns away in South Australia. Tilly has years of experience on the stage; from the age of six in Drama Works for Kids plays, to Groundwork Youth Theatre shows both here and in the UK and in the Community Players Taming of the Shrew. She is now giving back by helping guide a new group of young performers as they devise a new show Shakespeare in

PEARil! A stand out festival memory for Tilly was getting to be a part of the Shakespeare Dance flash mob of 2011 but every year she has also given back by serving at the Bard’s Banquet, helping young people learn lines or running the Faire Day kids games.

The third nominee, 17 year old Stella Ramage, has filled the vital need for a skilled tech to help illuminate our festival stages. This will be her third year in the bio box for the two main shows at The Courthouse Theatre, both Groundwork Youth Theatre’s original work and The Community Players take on Twelfth Night. She is also a talented musician who performs on the Singers, Songwriter, Storytellers Stratford Stage plus entertains guests at the official festival opening. Stella thanked her mother for the inspiration to get involved in community theatre “...the happiness I saw from her and the reactions from the audience was so special to me.” The committee is so grateful to have her volunteer even in the busy final year of school at Catholic College.

In the past twenty years nominees and winners of this award have gone on to forge careers in many parts of the entertainment industry from light and audio production, to singing mezzo soprano at Victorian Opera or costuming on film sets on the



other side of the world. SOASA President Gavin Roberts also wants to acknowledge the importance of having young people come back to the festival; “They are our future, without that new blood and energy we won’t have a festival. There are past winners and nominees now running the place - Lisa Hayman our secretary, Jake Watson taking on running the Bard’s Banquet, and Tilly who came back to direct Groundwork Youth Theatre.” The deserving winner will be announced at the official festival opening on Friday 28 April at The Stratford Courthouse Theatre. Come support them all at the opening of Groundwork’s new play or hit them up for a game at our Faire Day 7 May.

For tickets and all things Shakespeare visit stratfordshakespeare.com.au

Helen Waddington

Photo credit: Lisa Hayman Photo & Film - Lauren Mac Krell, Tilly Korbman & Stella Ramage



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Located in the north of the former Avon Shire, Cobbannah is situated along Cobbannah creek at Pretty Boy Hill.

Established in about 1864 as a stop on the way to the Crooked River and Dargo goldfields. A road north from Stratford through Briagolong to Cobbannah to Dargo was known as the insolvent track because of its poor condition. Poore and Boord had a halfway house at Cobbannah which at the time was known as Pretty Boy's Pinch at the Junction of the Stratford and Bairnsdale shortcut roads. Richard Marshall also had an accommodation house beside Cobbannah Creek a short distance from the road junction.

Located across from Poore and Boord's halfway house was the Cobbannah Hotel, thought to have been established in about 1864, it was operated by Richard Gee for many years, until his son Harry took over.

In 1913 Charles Hardy purchased a licence from Harry Gee and in the 1920s he built a new hotel in front of the old (pictured: Maffra Historical Society P02994bVNFf).



After his death, in 1919 his wife Sophia took over the licence, however in 1924 she applied to transfer the licence to James White, and in 1928 to J. Deverall. By 1934 the Hotel was in the hands of Gregory Skehan. After Sophia Hardy's death in 1936 her son became licensee. In 1942 the licence was surrendered by Joseph Cook of Richmond and that same year Sydney Treasure purchased the property.

The former Cobbannah Hotel was still used on occasion for accommodation until it burnt down in the 1965 fires and was not rebuilt. In 1993 a house from Lindenow was moved there, the area is now private land.

Daniel Parker-Estoppey

RYKO – A WILD LIFE FULL-CAST AUDIO DRAMA

RYKO – A Wild Life tells the exciting story of Ted Ryko (aka Edward Reichenbach), an adventurous cyclist and photographer who travelled extensively across Australia's mysterious, dangerous and 'tantalising' Top End in 1914-17. Ryko had conquered the nearly 3000 km (2000 miles) overland cycling record across the desert from Adelaide to the frontier town of Darwin but he soon discovered a divided society that pushed him to new limits.

Ryko's exploits and the travails that beset him are vibrantly brought to life by a large number of talented, multi-skilled Artists including 26 Voice Actors, 20 Musicians, 2 Brass Bands, Composers, Sound Designers, Recordists, Engineers, Foley Artists, Scriptwriters, Directors and Producers.

The story is an intensely human drama based on real events and presents an authentic



representation of the historical, political and cultural context of the time. It challenges views of prejudice and disenfranchisement, dual citizenship, xenophobia and paranoia in a multi-cultural, de-stabilised environment.

RYKO – A Wild Life reveals a proto-treaty (still not recognised) from the Indigenous Crocodile Islanders of Arnhem Land to the Northern Territory Government. It also provides a voice for the contribution that the then disenfranchised Chinese made to Australia and highlights truths of how some Australian citizens of German descent were treated during WW1.

The entertaining, creative production accentuates themes of cultural story-telling through a mix of Indigenous, Western and Eastern music and language, all wrapped in classic Australian humour.

Total run time : 4 hrs 28 mins presented in 15 episodes.

Release date: 2 May 2023

Available on 43 podcast platforms (excluding Audible).

Producer: Rod McMillan

Scriptwriters: Rod McMillan & Michèle Adler

For more information and a complete list of Voice Actors, Musicians, Technicians and Assistants go to www.adland.com.au and follow links to The Ryko Project.

Contacts:

Rod McMillan rod@adland.com.au +61 3 51 455 422 / 0491 116 232

Michèle Adler michele@adland.com.au 0408 434 010

ANGLICAN PARISH

Roll up! Roll up! For the annual Avon Anglican Family Fun Fair taking place this month on Saturday 27 May starting at 10.00am full of family friendly activities! The parish is grateful once more to our sponsors the Wellington Shire Council and Marathon Electrical for their support.

All the usual free children's activities will be there including a "trackless train" ride around the church's precinct. The pet show will be up and running again plus gifts for all entrants and judging again by Dr Steve Postlethwaite with certificates and prizes. We are trusting for fair weather.

Refreshments and the sausage sizzle BBQ will be available as usual. All welcome and no entry charge!!

Prior to the start of Stratford's Shakespeare Festival, a Shakespearean service of Evensong took place at Holy Trinity Stratford on Sunday 23 April (the Bard's birthday - 459 years!). The Reverend Dr Tim Gaden (Chaplain at Gippsland Grammar) preached and the Very Reverend Keren Terpstra (Dean of St Paul's Cathedral Sale) officiated. A delicious light supper was served afterwards. Parish Op Shop – The winner of our Easter Basket Raffle generously donated their prize to a local school and we do hope the recipients enjoyed their basket of Easter goodies. April's Family Movie Night featured the movie "The Amazing Maurice" and a very enjoyable time was had by all who attended!

The Parish's retiring offertory for May is in support of Anglicare.

Worship Services: our regular Sunday services continue to be streamed via Facebook and Zoom as follows: For Facebook search for 'Anglican Parish of Avon'; services go live 5 minutes before commencement. Please email Priest Dave Perryman (davidjrperryman@gmail.com) for details to join via Zoom. Copies of our Order of Service are available at our parish website <http://anglicanavon.org.au/parishbulletin/> and Facebook.

Parish Dates –May

Thursdays mainly music 9.30am in Parish Hall during School Term.

Fridays 9.30am - Morning Prayer at Holy Trinity.

Mondays 7.30pm - Bible Study (via Zoom) during School Term

Sunday 14 - All Age Family Service/Mother's Day 10.00am - at Holy Trinity and 4.00pm - Healing Service

Monday 15 - Sunday 21 National Volunteers Week

Friday 19 & Saturday 20 - Synod at Warragul

Saturday 20 - Men's Breakfast 8.30am Holy Trinity

Sunday 21 - Synod Warragul

Friday 26 - Family Movie Night

Saturday 27 - Family Fun Fair 10am (the monthly Women's Craft group has been

re-scheduled to Saturday 3 June)

Sunday 28 - Pentecost Sunday – Whitsunday.

Gail Wager

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STRATFORD
PLAYGROUP

Stratford playgroup finished off the term with some Easter themed activities including basket making and egg decorating. Easter's not complete without some choccy treats that were enjoyed by all at our morning tea time. We also celebrated National Playgroup Week in March which included a





messy play session utilising our outdoor space. Shaving foam, box painting and a water trough were all enjoyed on this day.
We are currently on term break and will commence Term 2 on Tuesday 2 May due to the Anzac Day public holiday the week before. We look forward to more playgroup fun next term.
Sandy

STRATFORD SISTER
CITIES

We will be holding a delegates meeting in May. A very exciting reunion trip has been planned. Jacqui Ingram has worked really hard on all their individual itineraries. She has also arranged that our delegates will all stay in the same hotel, then be taken to Stratford in their own bus. They will be all wearing red and white t-shirts in our local football team colours.

Everyone was notified who their hosts will be in Canada and we are busy looking for unusual gifts to take over to them. If anyone has any ideas they would be appreciated.
If you would like to join our group or know more about us feel free to call Sandra Meredith 0406 983 503.
Sandra Meredith

Stratford Primary School

Tour Times
and
Information Sessions
for
New Enrolments
(Foundation 2024)

Our school will be offering a range of sessions through Education Week to welcome potential enrolments for 2024.

SCHOOL TOUR DATES AND TIMES :
Tuesday 16th May Tours at 2.30pm and 3.00pm.
Thursday 18th May Tours at 9.00am and 9.30am.

FOUNDATION INFORMATION EVENING
6.30-7.30pm Wednesday 17 May
Please contact the Office on
03 5145 6554 to express your interest in attending a tour or the information session.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child to our beautiful school—a small school with many opportunities!

AIM HIGH SHOW RESPECT BE CURIOUS BE HONOURABLE



Speeding? Significant fines apply.

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STRATFORD TRANSPORT

V/Line Stratford Timetable

For more information phone:
Sale Railway station 5144 2042 or
V/Line 1800 800 007 6am to midnight,
or visit V/Line.com.au.

Effective 13 February 2022

Leaving Stratford going to Melbourne

Monday - Friday

5.07am (bus) 6.51am 1.32pm 3.55pm (bus) 6.44pm

Saturday 6.51am 1.32pm 5.31pm

Sunday 8.11am 1.34pm (bus) 5.31pm

Arriving from Melbourne in Stratford

Monday - Friday

10.34am 12.03pm (bus) 4.39pm 8.32pm (bus) 9.50pm

Saturday 10.58am 3.38pm 9.37pm

Sunday 10.57am 2.20pm (bus) 9.37pm

Note: Where bus is indicated, bus is only to or from Sale or Traralgon and the remainder of the journey to or from Melbourne is by train.

Please check your times with Vline.

Tickets available for purchase at the Stratford Post Office.

COPY FOR MAY 2023 ISSUE

Deadline for ARTICLES
and ADVERTISING

TUESDAY 23 MAY 2023

by 5.00pm

Delivery starts 30 MAY 2023

Articles and adverts are to be submitted to:

Leanne Dugan,

Editor at:

1-3 Bolden Street, Stratford

Phone: 0419 518 277

Email: stratfordtowncrier@gmail.com

Facebook: Stratford Town Crier

All articles must have a contact name
and phone number.

All payments to:

The Treasurer

Stratford Town Crier

P.O. Box 70,

Stratford VIC 3862

ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card - 6 x 8.4cm = \$42

Double Business Card - 12 x 8.4cm = \$102

1/4 Page - 9.25 x 26cm / 18.5 x 13cm / 8.4 x
28.63cm = \$182

PLEASE NOTE:

Small additional charge for creating new ads.

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Stratford Library

Opening Hours

Monday, Wednesday & Friday

10.00am - 1.30pm

3.00pm - 6.00pm

Saturday: 10.00am - 12.00pm

Closed Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday

Phone: 03 5145 6403



EMERGENCY



**POLICE or FIRE or
AMBULANCE EMERGENCY Call 000
SES STORM Call 132 500**

For all other NON-URGENT calls
Stratford Police 5145 6404

(Calls transfer to Sale Police if Stratford is unattended)

Stratford Fire Brigade - Mark Jones 0428 179 826
Stratford S.E.S. Duty Phone 0427 091 951

SAFE STEPS

www.safesteps.org.au

Victoria's Family Violence Response Centre
24 hour response phone line 1800 015 188

RESPECT

www.1800respect.org.au

National Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Counselling Service
24 Hour response phone line 1800 737 732

CHILD PROTECTION

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Ruth Mundy 0414 497 068

Lyn Audrey 0408 393 338

STRATFORD MECHANICS HALL

For bookings contact:

Val 5145 6861 / 0448 514 568

Ben 5145 6489 / 0418 586 459

AED Device Locations in Stratford are:

Stratford Recreation and Football Reserve: Cnr Wellsford and
Macalister Streets.
G B Dugan Pavilion, Pine Lodge, Llowalong
Road.
Stratford CFA, McFarlane Street.
Stratford S.E.S. McFarlane Street.
Stratford Bowling Club, Dawson Street
Stratford Senior Citizens Centre, Dixon Street
Stratford Anglican Church, Blackburn Street
Stratford Pharmacy, Tyers Street
Segue, Tyers Street
HC Fitness, Princess Highway



Stratford Victoria Sister Cities

Jilian Anderson 0439 094 695

Stratfordward

Beth Ripper 0427 456 094

Stratford Op Shop

Denise Vranek 5145 6355 / 0417 100 047

Wellington Horse Riding Club Inc.

Kellie Gartung 0438 456 694

Munro Public Hall

Jenny Dunsmuir 0407 458 291

Stratford Singer Songwriters Storytellers

Anita Hensen 0408 999 181

STRATFORD TIP OPENING HOURS

Tuesday 10.30am - 5.00pm

Thursday 10.30am - 5.00pm

Saturday 9.00am - 12.00pm

Sunday 1.00pm - 5.00pm

CLOSED Monday, Wednesday & Friday
Note: Waste Disposal Charges will apply
Township waste collection day is Tuesday
& Recycle bins every 2nd Tuesday

Please contact the Stratford Town Crier if you would
like to add your club or organization to our list

DISCLAIMER

All Articles and Advertising submitted are
accepted in good faith but can be altered at the
Editor's discretion. No responsibility is accepted
for any misrepresentation.

LOCAL CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

Anglican Parish of Avon

Parish Hall Bookings—Denise Vranek

5145 6355 or 0417 100 047

Australian Caravan Club (East Gippsland Branch)

Dennis Carstairs 0428 252 759

Badminton Club

Gladys Tatterson 5145 6255

Avon Indoor Recreation Centre

Kate Steele 5145 6554

Avon Landcare Group

Harry Hof 5145 6379

Beth Ripper 0427 456 094

Ben Cruachan Walking Club

Beth Kilpatrick 5145 6595

Country Women's Association

Emma 0409 865 047

NCWV Central Gippsland Branch

Jan Baxter 5145 6679

North Gippsland Legacy

Lyn McLindin 5109 8240 or 0408 393 338

Prospectors and Miners Association

Graham Watt 5145 6701 AH

Segue Community Hub and Arts Café

Jessica Darvill 0426 207 484

Linda Brodribb 0427 040 037

Shakespeare Association

Gavin Roberts 0419 323 219

Southern Tae-Kwon-Do Academy

Gerry Laughton 5141 1429

Stratford 1st Scouts

Miriam Ripper 0405 196 931

Stratford & District Amateur Basketball Association

Roby 0417 533 302 / 5145 8248

Krystal 0427 288 680 / 5145 6425

Stratford & District Angling Club

Mick Dee 5145 6803

Stratford & District Neighbourhood Watch

Paul Wager 5145 6376

Stratford Bowls Club

Bev Thatcher 5145 6380

Stratford Cemetery Trust

Kerry Townsend 0428 005 018

Stratford Cricket Club

stratfordcricketclub@gmail.com

Stratford Dog Agility

Janet Leemon 0419 884 871

Stratford Fire Brigade

Mark Jones 0428 179 826

Stratford Fire Brigade Ladies Auxiliary

Deidre Morris 0448 364 045

Kathy Booth 5145 6497

Stratford Football Netball Club

Matt Telling 0439 069 782

Stratford Historical Society

Judy Richards 5145 6836

Marion Stothers 5145 6270

Stratford Junior Netball Club

Rachel Nicholls 5145 6677

Stratford Kindergarten

Nina Adams 5145 6446

Stratford Courthouse Theatre

Steve Laws 0431 513 579

Stratford Lions Club

Bill Morley, Membership 0438 430 841

Medical Equipment

Laurel Davies 5145 6489 / 0418 586 459

Stratford Men's Shed

Peter Vranek 0401 151 187

Stratford Playgroup

Kerry Muir 5145 6252

Stratford Pony Club

Tammy Dyer 0438 554 247

Stratford Recreation Reserve Committee

Andy Bye stratfordrecreserve@gmail.com

Stratford Red Cross

Alison Rule 5145 6285

Nola Adams 5145 6928

Stratford RSL

Gary Tobin 5145 6018

Stratford RSL Ladies Auxiliary

Jan Baxter 5145 6679

Stratford Senior Citizens

Pat Turner 0411 456 803

Stratford Singers

Rosemary Dunworth 5148 2101

Stratford Tennis Club Inc.

Mark Kennedy 5145 6683

Stratford Uniting Church

Office 5145 6565

STRATFORD SINGER SONGWRITERS

These two up-and-coming musicians performed at the Singer Songwriters Night in March. Both singer/songwriters performed their own material.

Em J Nock (Emily) has been performing for many years, singing and strumming on her guitar. You may have seen Em J busking at the Shakespeare Festival on Faire Day or in the Sale Mall at the Clocktower. Em J and her father Chris Nock went to the Tamworth Country Music Festival this year.

While in Tamworth Em J performed in the Golden Gigs talent contest, the Toyota Zone gig, and busked in the streets. Dicko from Australian Idol sat for a while to watch Em J



perform and offered suggestions for her musical future. Em J has performed at Christmas at the Port of Sale, the Maffra Show, Maffra Christmas Festival, Bond St open mic, Bruthen open mic, and at The Wedge. If you get the chance to see Em J perform, check her out, her voice is sweet, angelic, and just beautiful.

Dane Nicholls, like Em J, has performed at many various events and venues in our local area i.e. local pubs, wineries, the community garden in Sale, Vines in Maffra. Some of his favourite events have been opening for Fanny Lumsden and Ross Wilson. Dane started singing and playing guitar in primary school, both Dane's sisters played musical instruments and he wanted to as well, and from there he fell in love with all things music. Dane has been part of and performed with Stratford's youth theatre group Groundwork, he has been in many of the Shakespeare community plays and musicals with Sale Theatre Company and Maffra Dramatic Society. Dane has recently moved to

Melbourne and is studying music at JMC Academy to expand his talent. Dane raises eyebrows and drops chins when performing, he has a powerhouse of a voice.

Both these youngsters are from Stratford. Both love performing music and both have a promising future in the performing arts. Both Dane and Em J will be performing at the Shakespeare Festival Faire Day on 7 May on the Singer/Songwriters stage along with many other talented local performers who are part of the crew.

The next Singer Songwriters event is on 26 May at The Stratford Courthouse, doors open at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. Get your name on the board early. Witts End Bar open. FREE entry. Check out our Facebook page to see what we do.

Anita Hensen



FILMS AT THE BUNDY

Films at the Bundy have brought forward their June screening of Iranian comedy-drama 'Hit the Road', which will now be shown at the Bundy Hall on Wednesday 26 April at 7.30pm.

'Hit the Road' follows a chaotic, tender family on a road trip across Iran, the clandestine purpose of which becomes clear as the film progresses. The babbling observations of the 6 year old son and the family interactions are described by critics as 'enchanting...'

Hit the Road is writer and director Panah Panahi's feature debut and, according to critics, his 'deceptively light touch hits that sweet spot between laughter and tears'.

Films at the Bundy film society hosts screenings on the fourth Wednesday of the month and memberships can be purchased on trybooking.com/CFAHJ. Come-and-try tickets for a single film are also available at the door. The next screening is black comedy Triangle of Sadness on 24 May which won the Palm d'Or at last year's Cannes Film Festival.

Rachel Patton



STRATFORD COURTHOUSE THEATRE

We're pleased to announce that all permits and permissions for our outdoor stage have finally been obtained and it should be in place by early May. We're very grateful to local Federal member, Darren Chester, for his assistance with securing funding for this project. Keep an eye on our website and social media for details of the opening event.



May sees the Courthouse playing host to the Shakespeare on the River Festival, with the Community Players performing Twelfth Night on Friday May 5, Saturday 6 May, Thursday 11 May, Friday 12 May and Saturday 13 May and The East Gippsland Geezers presenting No Holds Bard on Wednesday 10 May. The Courthouse Kids will also perform on Monday 8 May.



Friday 26 May sees another episode of our regular open mic night at the Stratford Singer, Songwriters. See elsewhere in this issue for more information.



David Bridie

To say we're excited is an understatement. On Saturday 27 May we welcome 7 time ARIA award winning artist David Bridie, as one of Australia's most loved and innovative musicians. A founding member and songwriter of critically acclaimed musical groups Not Drowning Waving and My Friend The Chocolate Cake, Bridie has also maintained a substantial career as a solo artist releasing six albums (so far!). He has also scored the soundtracks for over 100 international and Australian films, television series and documentaries earning numerous AFI AACTA and Screen Music awards.

Steve Laws

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Plenty of activities to keep kids of all ages entertained for hours. Jumping Castles, sword making, kids craft and a kids games arena



10am - Medieval Makers Market

Wander through over 60 stalls of locally made and sold products, Ceramics, Cakes, Glassware, Homewares, clothing and more.



Feasting from 10am till sold out

Come taste the best of Gippsland with so many food trucks you could feed a folly of fools. Including Big Bear Donuts for desert.



Music and entertainment until 4pm

Enjoy a full day of entertainment over Two festival stages, the main stage with music from all ages and the songwriters stage with Sailors Grave Brewery in the Art Colt open to 4pm



Lost Trades and Arts

Learn the trades of the past with displays in spoon carving, wood turning, weaving and spinning, blacksmithing, clay turning and more.

SUNDAY MAY 7TH

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For assistance in languages other than English, contact Translating and Interpreting Services (TIS) on 131 450.

