

Corryong Courier

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Cars parked in Stage 1 of the Hanson Street project.

Council considers street changes

The Towong Shire Council was meeting yesterday afternoon to review its options for further stages of the Corryong streetscape project.

Stage 1 of the works was completed just prior

to Christmas after several delays including bad weather and mandatory design changes required by North East Water and VicRoads.

However, the loss of car parking space drew criticism over safety issues

resulting in a community petition raised voicing concerns over the widening of the footpath in the Hanson Street CBD.

"This will restrict the space available to access parked vehicles and to manoeuvre vehicles into and out of parking spaces. We regard this situation as unsafe. The footpaths are already an adequate width. The gutters should be retained at the original 3.9m distance from the shopfronts," it read.

The petition was signed by 161 people and presented to council at its December meeting.

Councillors called for a report on the safety issues raised which were to be considered at a Special

Council Meeting set down for yesterday.

Council staff met with a delegation involved with the petition on Monday to discuss a Road Safety Audit report and a number of options that have been put forward. They also canvassed Hanson Street traders for their opinions.

The options before council are:-

Option 1: Continue with the project in its current design.

Option 2: Reduce the lateral depth of the parking bays to 4.8m to enable a 0.6m manoeuvring space.

Option 3: Reduce the lateral depth of the parking bays to 4.8m and reduce the footpath width to 4.65m (from 5.05m) to

provide a 1m manoeuvring space.

Option 4: Keep the kerb in the original (historical) position to increase the length of the parking bays to 5.4m and provide a 1m manoeuvring space.

Option 5: Abort the project and terminate the contract.

It is understood that the petitioner representatives expressed a preference for Option 3.

In the report to council it was noted that during the community consultation phase of the project in March 2021 issues such as the increasingly aging population, the need for wider car parking spaces and safer pedestrian crossings throughout the CBD were raised.

The consultation included in-person conversations with each of the businesses in the CBD impacted by the proposed upgrade works. Council also received 76 responses to an online community survey.

In April 2022 council held an in-person 'Meet the Project Manager' consultation session in Corryong.

An additional online survey was undertaken to obtain more qualitative feedback.

Cont. on page 2.

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Walwa Community Market Dates

Saturday January 13, 2024: 5pm-8pm (Twilight Market)
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This tree came crashing down on the Murray Valley Highway at Shelley at around 2pm yesterday afternoon, narrowly missing two vehicles. The road was closed for some time as the debris was cleared.

Haines pushes for better coverage

Federal Member for Indi, Helen Haines, has backed recommendations of a parliamentary inquiry into regional mobile phone coverage.

The 'Connecting the country: Mission critical' report makes 23 recommendations including guaranteeing minimum levels of mobile coverage, providing roaming across service providers during emergencies, acknowledging the need for continuous coverage along major transport routes and multi-carrier sharing of mobile phone infrastructure.

"The recommendations in this report are a positive step forward for mobile phone connectivity in regional, rural and remote Australia and I urge the government to implement them," Dr Haines said.

"The 30 per cent of people who live outside the major cities know too well the digital divide that exists between regional Australians and our city counterparts.

"That is why I support the recommendation

for an universal service delivery obligation on mobile service providers, ensuring a minimum level of mobile phone service to all Australians regardless of where they live.

"Acting on the parliamentary committee's advice could go a long way to bridging the gap for people who live, work and study in the regions, and those who are travelling through that rely on good mobile phone service.

"Mobile phone coverage is also critical during natural disasters, and I support the recommendation to establish a working group to investigate the possibility of mobile roaming across service providers during emergencies.

"I agree with the report that the government should fund infrastructure that supports multi-carrier mobile network sharing along important transport corridors.

"Our region attracts many visitors but with few service providers available they often find themselves without

coverage. Increasing sharing of mobile phone infrastructure among phone companies could tackle this issue while making mobile service costs more competitive for locals."

Dr Haines made a submission to the inquiry featuring the experiences and connectivity chal-

lenges of community members in Indi which were highlighted in the final report. "As a regional Independent, I've worked hard to improve phone coverage across Indi from Cudgewa to Kinglake. By working together as a community, Indi has had tremendous success under the Mobile Black Spot program, Dr Haines said.

Street changes could be costly

Cont. from page 1.

This survey focused on specific design features such as parking options, pedestrian crossings, tree plantings and bicycle access.

It was also noted that increased outdoor dining spaces was one of the key factors that aligned with the funding application eligibility.

As the project has been significantly enabled by state funding contribution, council is required to comply with grant agreement requirements.

The report to council indicated that there would be no impact on the budget for options 1 and 2 while

options 3 and 4 are likely to incur a significant increase in cost.

Option 5 would require council to terminate and pay to be released from the construction contract. The cost of this is unknown, however, expected to also be significant.

The consequences of not completing the project would be to return the grant funding, with all costs relating to the works to-date to be borne by council (ie. ratepayers). Any contract termination costs would also be at the expense of the ratepayer.

Council had not made its decision at the time of going to print.



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Two milestones reached last year

The year 2023 marked two related landmark achievements.

The Upper Murray Historical Society celebrated the 60th anniversary of its formation and the inaugural Man from Snowy River festival was also held in Corryong in 1963.

The festival was conceived by the Corryong Progress Association to commemorate renowned high country horeman, Jack Riley, as 'The Man' almost 50 years after his death.

From photographs of the time a highlight of the festival was the street parade which included floats, horse drawn vehicles and horse riders, local school children dressed in period costume and an old-time band on a truck bed (pictured).

Sporting and horse events were also held on the Corryong football oval.



Power project reaches landmark point

Snowy Hydro has announced another major achievement for the Snowy 2.0 pumped-hydro project, with the breakthrough of the final three metres of the power station's 223-metre long transformer hall cavern crown.

The Snowy 2.0 delivery team began excavating the transformer hall (pictured) and machine hall caverns in June 2023 for the power station which will be located approximately 800m underground at Lobs Hole in the Snowy Mountains.

When completed, the machine hall will be 251 metres long and 52 metres high and the transformer hall 223 metres long and 46 metres high. Together they will form one of the largest and deepest caverns in the world, big enough to fit the Sydney Opera House inside.

Precise drill and blast methods are used to profile the curved cavern crowns (or ceilings) and break up the rock, which is mucked

out and followed by surface scaling to remove any remaining loose rock. The exposed solid rock face is then supported with rock bolts and shotcrete.

The excavation sequence of the cavern crowns is carefully planned and executed, as the rock mass relaxes and moves inwards as the excavated void increases. These movements are expected and are closely monitored during the process.

So far, about 17,000 cubic metres of material has been excavated from the central heading of the transformer hall cavern crown. The heading has been advanced in 3-4 metre rounds from either end of the cavern for a total of 77 blasts.

The machine hall cavern crown breakthrough will take place in coming weeks and widening of both cavern crowns, known as side slashing, is ongoing and planned for completion in coming months.

Excavation of both power station caverns is set to continue through 2024.

"The breakthrough of the transformer hall cavern crown represents another important milestone for the Snowy 2.0 pumped-hydro project that will significantly expand the existing Snowy Scheme and will provide an added 2,200 megawatts of on-demand power and 160 hours of large-scale renewable energy storage for the National Electricity Market," said Snowy Hydro CEO, Dennis Barnes. The breakthrough of the transformer hall cavern crown is a really pleasing milestone for the Snowy 2.0 team, reinforcing that we're making good progress with our underground drill and blast excavation activities," he said.

"We are well on our way to delivering the largest single project that will help ensure Australia's secure and reliable transition to renewable energy."



The grapevine

Club Corner:- The jackpot at The Club Corryong this Friday is \$370. Last week's winner was Ilma Clarke (\$10).

Visitor Information Centre snippet:- "How do I get to the Grampians? I wish to travel the scenic

way and what do you recommend I should do there?" The Grampians National Park is in western Victoria. A 7 hour drive from Corryong. Halls Gap is the prominent township providing information on discovering the Grampians.



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OUR TOWN TOWARDS 2030

CORRYONG

We are collaborating with the community to develop a Draft Place Plan for Corryong.

We recently held in-person workshops where we discussed these Big Ideas for Corryong:

- + Revitalise main street, strengthen heritage & small town character
- + Gateway to Snowies & centre of adventure tourism
- + Major service centre for the region
- + Age & environmentally friendly streets & public spaces
- + Sustainable housing for a resilient community

FIND OUT MORE

Call Towong Shire Council : 1300 365 222

Email : info@towong.vic.gov.au

Website : tinyurl.com/ourtown2030



SCAN FOR MORE INFO

Have your say!

If you couldn't attend one of our in-person workshops but would like to have your say on the Draft Place Plan, there's still time!

Scan the QR code above to view the draft plan and participate in the online exercises.

OR

Visit:
tinyurl.com/corryong-our-town

**Submissions close 5pm
Wednesday 31 January
2024.**

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Racers wanted for regatta

A new local event on the Australia Day weekend is certain to attract participants and spectators.

The Khancoban Lakefest incorporating the Khancoban Cup Raft Regatta will be the first of its kind on the picturesque waters of Khancoban Pondage.

The event has been organised by Khancoban Events Inc which expects to see the boat ramp park lined with a flotilla of spectators, colourful crafts and their crazy crews for the fun event.

The competition is expected to be fierce, the costumes wild and the rivalry intense in this inaugural raft regatta as competitors float, splash and paddle their way to the finish line for some great cash prizes, not to mention bragging rights for the entire year.

Local businesses, clubs and organisations are already committed to participating in the event, not only to promote their involvement and association with the



Craft of a different kind will be seen on the Khancoban Pondage in a new event.

Khancoban Lakefest but to also use the regatta as a team building exercise to improve morale and comradie amongst their team members.

Even though it might be obvious, the saying "it's

the taking part that counts" is true! Whether your raft places first or last, there are many different awards and cash prizes up for grabs. You may be sporting the wackiest fancy dress, have the most creative raft or simply sink

straight to the bottom of Khancoban Pondage – all of which gives you the chance to win some great prize money.

Follow the Khancoban Events facebook page for further information.

Nominations are to

be received no later than Monday 22nd January, 2024.

Teams will receive race safety notes prior to the regatta. It is recommended that all participants on board familiarise themselves with them.



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Discover the magic of 3D Animal Portraits using recycled bits and bobs, or dive into the world of Weaving with recycled cotton to craft vibrant floor rugs. Sessions are happening at:

Walwa Primary School
3D Animal Portraits
When: Wednesday 17 January
Time: 10:00 am

Cudgewa Hall
Weaving
When: Wednesday 17 January
Time: 2:00 pm

Magorra Park Multipurpose Centre
3D Animal Portraits
When: Thursday 18 January
Time: 10:00 am

Bethanga Recreation Reserve
Weaving
When: Friday 19 January
Time: 10:00 am

Limited spots available, to book now visit: www.artstartshere.com.au/classes



towong.vic.gov.au

Proposed park increases fire risk

The Mountain Cattle-men's Association of Victoria (MCAV) is warning that bush users will not sit by and watch the creation of a Great Forest National Park, as recently recommended by the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC).

The VEAC report suggests converting around 75 per cent of the Central Highlands region into "a large protected area such as a national park."

The proposal, if implemented, would mean locking up the largest area of forest close to Melbourne.

"The lock up and leave it approach does not work," President of the Mountain Cattle-men's Association of Victoria (MCAV), Cass McCormack, said.

"Get in the car and go for a drive right now, go

spend a day in one of our so called 'pristine' National Parks - you won't see the landscape for blackberries and weed growth, let alone be able to access the picnic areas because the roads are in such terrible condition.

The MCAV has warned that they, along with many other bush users, will not sit idly by and watch the creation of another National Park to be left to grow into a bushfire tinderbox.

"The forest belongs to us all and that includes hunters, loggers, families, four-wheel drivers, bushwalkers, fisherman. We all want the landscape to be maintained and the evidence clearly shows National Parks are not.

"I am confident when I say that no-one who genuinely knows and uses the landscape thinks this is a good idea," Ms.

McCormack said.

"This is just another example of a report carried out by those who sit behind a desk. These reports have no value in the real world and I hope the government will recognise that."

The proposal has gained traction following the end of native forest logging and will be considered by an expert panel next year.

"We are watching this situation very closely and you can be assured there will be a huge outcry if a Greater Forest National Park is created," Ms. McCormack warned.

"We will not sit by and watch another park be locked away from all of us who use and love the bush."

For more information on the MCAV go to www.mcav.com.au.

Corryong Neighbourhood Centre

Opening Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am - 5pm

Wodonga Eye Care – Visits every 2nd & 4th Monday – Book appointments via 02 6056 4000

Community Calendar - Find & share local events - <http://uppermurraycommunitycalendar.org>

Youth Space – Open from 3:30pm on weekdays – All 12-25-year-olds welcome. Contact our socials @UpperMurrayYouth to get involved, or call 02 6076 2176 and ask for Adele or Cherie.

Mental Health First Aid – February 5th & 6th – Fully funded - 2-day course – Open to ages 16-25

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Watching grass dry can keep you safe

The CFA is calling on Victorians to become 'citizen scientists' to help contribute critical information about the state's fire risk.

The 2023-24 fire season is expected to be hotter and drier than recent years and grassland curing observers play a vital role in collecting ground information.

The ground observations are combined with satellite imagery to produce maps that show how dry the grass is across Victoria.

CFA Remote Sensing Analyst, Dr Danielle Wright, said CFA needs more observers trained to provide readings of grass curing.

"There are parts of the state where we really need more eyes on the ground like the North-East, the North-West and South-West where we have fewer observers participating," she said.

"Our volunteer grassland observers are an incredibly valuable resource that helps to inform a lot of our decision-making over the fire season.

"We can't rely on satellite imagery alone.

It is the best performing model available to us but it can overestimate and underestimate the curing levels.

"Across bare sand and soil, the model overestimates curing. In areas of new growth from rainfall, the satellite sensor can pick up the green growth and underestimate curing.

"Observers can adjust the satellite readings which means we can provide more accurate information to inform decision making when it comes to fire risk over summer."

Melissa Hughes (pictured) is a volunteer with Wattle Glen Fire Brigade and is a grassland observer.

She said the online training module took about 30 minutes to complete and it gave her everything she needed to become a citizen scientist.

"I love the data and the science that goes into this grassland observation," she said.

"The course was so easy and CFA gives you great tools to support the role.

"This really is citizen science at its best. The information we observers



Melissa Hughes is a CFA volunteer and a grassland observer.

gather has an immediate benefit to the community.

"I don't just see grass anymore when I am out on the road, I see so much more detail. It might be dry at the top but still green at the bottom and I know exactly where it is

in the curing process no matter where I am."

Dr Wright said it's a great way to contribute to CFA and Victoria's understanding of the landscape for this summer and beyond.

"Anyone who is interested in the role can

participate, not just CFA volunteers," she added.

"The readings from the observers will better help our fire behaviour models for this coming summer."

For more information: visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au/grass or email grassland@cfa.vic.gov.au.

Standard warning system explained

Victorians now have access to a range of education materials to better understand warnings for bushfires, floods, storms and extreme heat.

The recently launched Australian Warning System education initiative includes information on different hazard icons, warning levels and action statements to help the community understand what they need to do to stay safe in response to emergencies.

The three warning levels - advice, watch and act and emergency warning - are the same for bushfires, floods, storms and extreme heat.

The community education initiative features well-known ABC presenter, Justine Clarke and the voice of Chilli from children's TV show Bluey, Melanie Zanetti, and includes videos, story books, audio books, posters, social media content, radio advertisements and more.

It has been developed by Emergency Management Victoria, on behalf of Victoria's emergency services.

This follows the national implementation of the Australian Warning System coordinated by the Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council (AFAC).

EMV has worked with emergency service agencies to ensure materials are fit for purpose with a key focus on distribution across the state - particularly in high-

risk areas. Emergency Management Commissioner, Rick Nugent, said "It's important Victorians understand the different types of warnings and hazards so they know what actions to take to keep themselves safe, before, during and after emergencies.

"We've already seen concurrent and converging emergencies over the past few months, reminding us that it's important to remain prepared for all types of emergencies this summer.

"Never rely on one source of emergency information. Download the VicEmergency app and create a watch zone and tune in to your local

emergency broadcaster."

Forest Fire Management Victoria Chief Fire Officer, Chris Hardman, said "You're never too young to learn about what you need to do in an emergency - especially if you live in, work in or visit high-risk areas.

"As we progress through the bushfire season, I encourage all Victorians to take some time to know their risk and have a plan. And if you're planning on visiting our state forests, please monitor conditions and check the VicEmergency app before you leave home to ensure you have the most up to date information."

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THE YEAR 2023 IN REVIEW

The year 2023 was another one of change in the Upper Murray headlined by the Federal Football Netball Club going into recess, community concerns over the Corryong streetscape project and the implementation of bushfire recovery projects across the region including the installation of synthetic greens at the Corryong golf course.

January

• **Towong Shire Council** is seeking a suitably qualified artist or group of artists to design, produce and install four new large scale artwork pieces.

• The Sejm of the Republic of Poland has declared that 2023 will be the Year of Pawel Edmund Strzelecki and in Australia, a series of events is being co-ordinated by Kosciuszko Heritage Inc.

• **Towong Shire Council** has developed a draft masterplan to help guide future development of the High Country Rail Trail and is now inviting feedback from the community on the proposal.

• The Snowy Hydro 2.0 power upgrade has faced a number of obstacles recently and questions are being asked about its effectiveness, according to an ABC Radio story by business reporter Daniel Ziffer.

• The first of three spans of girders are now in place as the basis of the new Towong Bridge deck slab begins to take form.

• A Corryong family won \$25,000 with a 'scratchie' ticket purchased from the Corryong Newsagency.

• The first automated 24 hour / 7 days a week fuel console in the Upper Murray was installed at Mildren & Coysh in Corryong.

• Snowy Hydro has announced the appointment of Dennis Barnes as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director.

• The Snowy Valleys Council Citizen of the Year was Tom Moss of Khancoban.

• The Towong Shire Australia Day awards

were:- Corryong: Joint Citizens of the Year - Catherine and Stewart Ross; The Community Group of the Year - supporters and committee members of the Corryong & District Memorial Hall; Special Recognition - Stuart Spratt. Walwa: Citizen of the Year - Shirley Cheshire; Junior Citizen of the Year - Walwa Primary School pupils; Community Group of the Year - Walwa-Jingellic Lions Club.

February

• Record rainfall was recorded in a number of towns across the North East over one Sunday night with 118.6mm recorded at the Corryong Airport station while some residents reported falls of more than 130mm.

• The Corryong Op Shop is to get some overdue repairs and renovations to ensure the structural longevity of the building and to give the shop an overall refresh.

• A meeting was held to discuss the formation of a Corryong Business Chamber to promote the local economy and ensure the future of the town.

• The Elliott Way is unlikely to re-open until May 2023 after additional rockfalls that occurred along the route in November and December last year.

• A new 24/7 accessible defibrillator was installed at the front entrance of AG Warehouse in Corryong.

• The Man From Snowy River Museum has received \$100,000 in funding to undertake major works on the outdoor exhibit area.

• For the first time in more than 20 years two Corryong representative basketball teams played in the Wodonga tournament - Under 14 Boys (Division 3) and Under 16 Girls (Division 2).

• Three projects in the Upper Murray have received funding under the third and final round of the Local Community Projects Grants program - Corryong Sporting Complex - \$327,004 for a golf course upgrade; Tintaldr Recreation



Australia Day award recipients (from left) Stuart Spratt, Stewart and Catherine Ross and Austin Nicholas.

Reserve - \$304,420 upgrade of the facilities; Upper Murray Region Community Catering Hub - \$183,101 to construct an equipment shed.

• The 'Future of the Upper Murray' project, headed by Dr Juliette Milbank, was launched in Corryong.

• **March** Member for Benambra, Bill Tilley, labelled the chronic failure of ambulance response times in the Towong Shire as a sick joke, citing that it had sat in the Top 10 of the



The Corryong Golf Club installed new synthetic greens.

most performing shires in Victoria since records were made public in 2014.

• Under the Upper Murray Place Based Power Plan - Energy Resilience and Reliability Project, a combination of solar, battery and generator systems have been supplied and installed across 23 sites in the region including three community-scale batteries at Corryong Health, the Corryong Recreation Reserve and Walwa Bush Nursing Centre.

• Local tennis coach, Richard Girvan (pictured right), will represent

Australia in the 50 & Over section of the World Tennis Championships in Türkiye.

• Matt Spurgeon and Tracey Fair will operate a B&B and provider restaurant in the former ANZ Bank building in Corryong and expect to open by the end of the year.

• Biggara Valley farmer, Keith Whited, said he had never seen



Maintenance program for the school's 'Shelter in Place' safe location building.

• Wangaratta trainer, Ben Brisbane, went back-to-back when he trained Eleveena to win the 2023 Towong Cup.

• Marita Albert was awarded Life Membership of the Upper Murray Historical Society for her behind-the-scenes work with the Corryong museum.

• Stuart Spratt undertook the 130km charity walk from Bonegilla to Corryong for the 'March On' campaign to raise awareness of veterans' mental health issues.

• Results of the Corryong basketball grand finals were:- Junior Division 2 - Raptors 32 d Warriors 21; Junior Division 3 - Bucks 28 d Knicks 14; Division 1 Men - Raptors 47 d Feds 41; Division 1 Women - Misfits 26 d MAD 18.

• Winners at the annual Corryong golf tournament were Seb Mathews (C grade), Pat Kamba (B grade), Jimmy

He (scratch), Shane Bannon (A grade) and Gail Bramich (women).

• Local cafe owner, Stuart Spratt and supporters raised more than \$25,000 for veterans' mental health awareness and prevention by walking from Bonegilla to Corryong.

• Corryong police investigated the brazen theft of a black Ford Territory from a carport at Walkers Sawmill at Corryong.

• The Corryong Bowls Club triples winners were Simon Donadon and Cheryl and Col Smedley.

• Khancoban defeated Cudgewa 59-40 in the Upper Murray Tennis Association grand final.

• **April** Local lawn bowls identity, Carol Fair, narrowly lost the Victorian Open Women's Singles 21-18.

• The combination of Sean Bannon, Scott Prior and Zane Heinjus pocketed the first prize of \$500 in the Corryong Grande 3-person ambrose golf event on a countback from Chris McInnes, Bill Sheather and Ben Nelson.

• Tooma-based horseman Travis Bandy won the senior Stockman's Challenge at the Man From Snowy River Bush Festival (emulating his father Scott who won the event five times); the Ladies Challenge winner was Larissa Guaran, Scarlett Chaston was crowned Junior Champion and the Striplings event was won by Jack Lindley.

• Corryong Health CEO, Dominic Sandilands, announced his resignation from the position to take up a role as Chief of Corporate Affairs at Albury Wodonga Health.

• Four teams kicked off the 2023 football season - Tumbarumba, Cudgewa, Bullioh and Corryong - after the Federal club went into recess.

• **May** It was announced that Walkers Sawmill at Corryong would close by September once the existing log stock is milled.

• A hidden waterfall at

Thowgla that emerged after the 2019/20 Black Summer Bushfires was one of several recovery projects that had come to fruition.

• After a number of setbacks, Corryong FoodShare Services had a new home after installing a 'Commander' transportable building on the former Girl Guides' block in Harris Street.

• As part of Stage 2 of the Great River Road project, the Towong Council announced the installation of four new largescale artwork pieces along the touring route.

• **June** Local mountain bike racers christened the new trails at the Playles Hill Park development.

• Dr Tyson Pardon began employment at Corryong Health as an introduction to General Practice (GP).

• Corryong champion Evan Nicholas made his 300th senior appearance in the red and blue.

• After recovering from an ACL injury, Kristy Whitehead made her debut for Port Melbourne in the VFLW competition in round nine.

• Corryong footballer, Riley Holland, was airlifted to a Camberra hospital after suffering fractured ribs and a bruised lung in a match against Cudgewa.

• The installation of the new synthetic greens at the Corryong golf course were completed.

• Three-time Richmond premiership player, Bachar Houli, suffered serious injuries in a car accident on a Bringenbrong property including a broken pelvis, fractured shoulder and a punctured lung.

• Under the joint government Disaster Ready Fund, Corryong will get \$15M to establish an Advanced Microgrid system that would improve energy resilience to the town during natural disasters.

• Halfway through the football season, Cudgewa was undefeated sitting two games clear of bullioh.

• Former local, Lisa Wilkinson, was awarded



Cudgewa went through the 2023 season undefeated.

an Australian Antarctic Medal in recognition of her outstanding service.

• The Khancoban Kitchen, which specialises in gourmet pantry products, won the Positive Impact (Making a Difference) category at the annual Australian Rural Business Awards.

• **July** Local resident, John Whitehead, officially opened the new Towong Bridge.

• The Corryong Historic Machinery Club received \$4135 under the Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal and the Gardiner Dairy Foundation for an IT upgrade, defibrillator and air conditioning.

• **August** Mildren & Coysh Pty Ltd in Corryong received a grant of \$17,495 for a new air compressor under the federal government's Energy Efficiency Grants for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises program.

• Corryong College students Ananda Hyatt,

Zoe McKimmie, Beau Scott and Paige Heinjus received Certificates of Excellence in the 2023 NAPLAN results.

• Kristy Whitehead, was a member of Port Melbourne's VFL Women's premierships team which defeated Collingwood in the grand final.

• The Towong Turf Club was recognised for the success of its annual race meeting with a nomination as the 'Best Victorian Country Racing Event in 2023'.

• Tumbarumba captain, Jim Waters, claimed his second consecutive seniors football best and fairest in a close count at the Upper Murray league's presentation night while Cudgewa stalwart Megan Nankervis won the A grade netball award.

• The Towong Turf Club has been recognised for the success of its annual race meeting with its nomination as the 'Best Country Racing Event in 2023' in Victoria. Cudgewa sharpshooter Adam Prior

won the goalkicking with a total of 58 in the home and away season.

• LifeCycle Upper Murray Inc was formed to promote, encourage and facilitate cycling activities and events in the Upper Murray.

• Stage 1 of Corryong's Hanson Streetscape project began.

• Cudgewa underscored its mantle as the 2023 Club of the Year when the Blues claimed four premierships from the seven grand finals they contested winning the seniors and reserves football and A and B grade netball.

• **September** After two decades of research, Kim Winter launched her debut novel 'Cedar'.

• A number of dignitaries and locals attended a ceremony to unveil a \$100,000 upgrade of the outdoor area at the Man From Snowy River Museum.

• The Corryong Indoor Bowls Association presented 93-year-old Hume Whitehead with Life

Membership. After a number of delays including bad weather, work on the Corryong streetscape project after a three-week delay.

• **October** A record number of 25 exhibitors showcased the resources that are available to communities before, during and after an emergency at the North East Emergency Expo in Corryong.

• The Corryong Bowls Club Men's Championship Pairs saw Simon Donadon and his nephew Toby Vandervalk take the title from another family combination of brothers Rohan and Brett Whitehead.

• The Corryong Historic Machinery Club held its first rally since 2019 following the 'Black Summer' bushfires, the pandemic and a 'big wet'.

• **November** Corryong College teacher, Kendall Heycox, won the Victorian Outstanding Early Career

which recognises effective and innovative teachers in the first five years of their career.

• Corryong FoodShare Services began operating out of its new premises in Harris Street.

• The Playles Hill Park was officially opened by local identity John Whitehead and Cr Andrew Whitehead.

• Julia Cooper was announced as the new CEO at Corryong Health.

• Walkers' timber mill in Corryong powered down for the last time, putting 24 employees out of work and severely impacting the local economy.

• Past and present members of the Sacred Heart community celebrated the 60th anniversary of the school's opening.

• The official launch of the Corryong Golf Club's new synthetic greens attracted players from throughout the region and drew rave reviews over the new surface.

Cont on page 8

Tell me what is important to you

I want to hear from you.

What current challenges are impacting you and your family?
What are the key issues in your community that I need to know about?

Scan this QR code to answer my **Community Survey**.
I look forward to working with you on what is important to Indi in 2024.



Helen Haines MP

Wangaratta / 117 Murphy Street
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Wodonga / 79 High Street
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PUBLIC NOTICES

CHIROPRACTOR IN CORRYONG
Dr Rowan Daniel
 Visiting weekly on Fridays 9.30am-5.30pm
 Next appointment: January 19th, 2024
 81B Hanson St., Corryong
 Ph: 6056 2185

Ken Bailey Mechanical Repairs
 46 Donaldson St Corryong
 Phone 6076 1119

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BIRTHDAYS



Greg Albert
 I wish you a very special 70th birthday Greg for January 9th, 2024 and may we share many more to come, enjoy this special day.
 Love, Alice.

Dad,
 We wish you a very special day, thanks for all the help you have given us and enjoy your birthday party.
 Love Grant, Elise, Danny, Sarah, Lisa and Adrian.

Poppy,
 We love you very much and thanks for taking us for rides in the buggy.
 Love your grandkids Hayley, Madelyn, Ryan, Cooper, Billy, Hughie, Jayden and Wyatt.

TENDERS

Request for Quotation

Towong Shire Council is seeking quotations from suitably qualified contractors for the construction of a carpark and a steel structured lookout platform at Towong Gap Lookout.

Submissions close at 5pm Tuesday 30 January.

Visit tinyurl.com/request-for-tender for more information.

[towongshire towong.vic.gov.au](http://towongshire.towong.vic.gov.au)

LOOKING FOR WORKERS?

Advertise in the Corryong Courier
adverts@corryongcourier.com.au

Year in review continued...

Cont from page 7
 After being closed for the past seven years, a new committee successfully re-opened the Khancoban Country Club.

- The Ambassador of Poland, Professor Maciej Chmielinski, along with Towong Mayor, Cr Andrew Whitehead, unveiled a memorial on Towong Hill Road to explorer, Sir Paul Edmund Strzelecki.
- The fledgling Corryong U16 girls representative team

competed in Division 2 of the Wangaratta Tournament taking a 3-1 record into the finals before losing to eventual winners Wodonga 27-46 in the semi-final. They went on to win their next tournament at Shepparton.

- Cr Andrew Whitehead was re-elected mayor of Towong Shire for third consecutive term.

December
 • A group of concerned citizens started a community petition to have Stage 1 of the

Corryong streetscape project put on hold while safety changes are negotiated to the design.

- Nicola Costello was named Dux of Corryong College, attaining an ATAR of 95.95. The school's results ranked it in the top ten in the state.

- The defunct Border Walwa Football Netball Club (BWFNC) merged with the Walwa Recovery Committee to fulfil the role of support, advocacy and event management for the local community.



With the Bias

One of the club's major events, O'Connells Triples Tournament, was held on Sunday with 12 teams competing, coming from as far away as Toora and Corowa.

Winning on the day was the Corryong team of Simon Dunadon, Col Smedley and Mal Jarvis.

The Lions Club of Corryong catered for the day and provided an excellent lunch.

Results
 Wednesday 03/01
 Men's Social: Winners – Nick Barlee, Ken Carson & Paul Land (4 x 2 games winners so names drawn out of a hat).

Thursday 04/01 Ladies Social: scrambles winner was Wilma Hill.

Upcoming events
 Wednesday Men's Social Bowls starting at 1pm, names in by 12:30pm.

Thursday Ladies Social Bowls starting at 10am, names in by 9:30am.

Club phone number: 02 6076 2907.

Business Bowls
R10 Ladder
 Thoughla Triers..... 24 71
 Truckies..... 22 27
 Demons 21 68
 Ring-ins..... 21 59
 Fire Brigade 21 44
 Feds..... 18 25
 Post Office..... 17 52

Emerg. Lads 16 13
 IGA..... 15 7
 Tintaldra..... 15 7
 Legends..... 12 16
 Pin Hi 12 -59
 College..... 12 -77
 Rotary..... 9 -39
 Cudgewa Hotel..... 3 -112
 Costellos..... 0 -102

Draw
R12 - 18/01/24
 Tintaldra v Post Office ... 1
 Legends v Thoughla..... 2
 IGA v Cudgie Hotel 6
 Ring-ins v Demons 4
 Pin Hi v Rotary 5
 F/Brigade v Emerg Lads 7
 Costellos v Truckies..... 3
 Feds v College..... 8
Happy bowling, Dolly.

Blues add another gun to the arsenal

Cudgewa has left no stone unturned in its quest for back-to-back flags after

signing Tallangatta league veteran Cam McNeill.

The 35-year-old Barnawatha champion has won four league best and fairest awards and three with the Tigers along with another one at Rand-Walbundrie. He is also a Life Member at Barnawatha.

The classy midfielder resisted overtures from O&M clubs throughout his career but only won the single premierships with the Tigers and his motivation in switching to Cudgewa is the opportunity for another flag.

The Blues will once again be the benchmark for the 2024 season after appointing premierships player and league best and fairest winner Josh Bartel and teammate Dayne Carey as co-coaches.

The Blues have lost 2023 coach Drew Cameron and best and fairest winner Darcy McKimmie but retain the bulk of last year's team which went through the season undefeated.

The future of Bartel's brother Jason is unclear at this time.

Tumbarumba & District Cricket

Results
R11 6/1/24
 All Stars 3/51 off 16 overs
 d Falcons 47 off 23 overs
 (Samuel Hohua 3/15, Dayne Perry 3/7)
 Tooma 145 off 35 overs
 (Matthew McCullum 48, Ben Parker 32, Michael Peel 3/22) d Batlow 139 off 38.4 overs (Floyd Cross 83, Nathan Lattanzio 4/21)
Draw
R12 13/1/24
 Batlow v Falcons
 All Stars v Rosewood
 Tooma - bye

MEETINGS

towongshire

2024 Council Meetings

Time	Date	Location
10.30am	24 January 2024	Corryong
10.30am	28 February 2024	Tallangatta
10.30am	27 March 2024	Corryong
10.30am	24 April 2024	Tallangatta
10.30am	22 May 2024	Corryong
10.30am	26 June 2024	Tallangatta
10.30am	24 July 2024	Corryong
10.30am	28 August 2024	Tallangatta
10.30am	25 September 2024	Tallangatta
10.30am	23 October 2024	Tallangatta
10.30am	27 November 2024	Tallangatta
10.30am	18 December 2024	Corryong

The agenda and requirements for Public Question Time can be found prior to the meeting on our website or by calling 1300 365 222.

Visit towong.vic.gov.au

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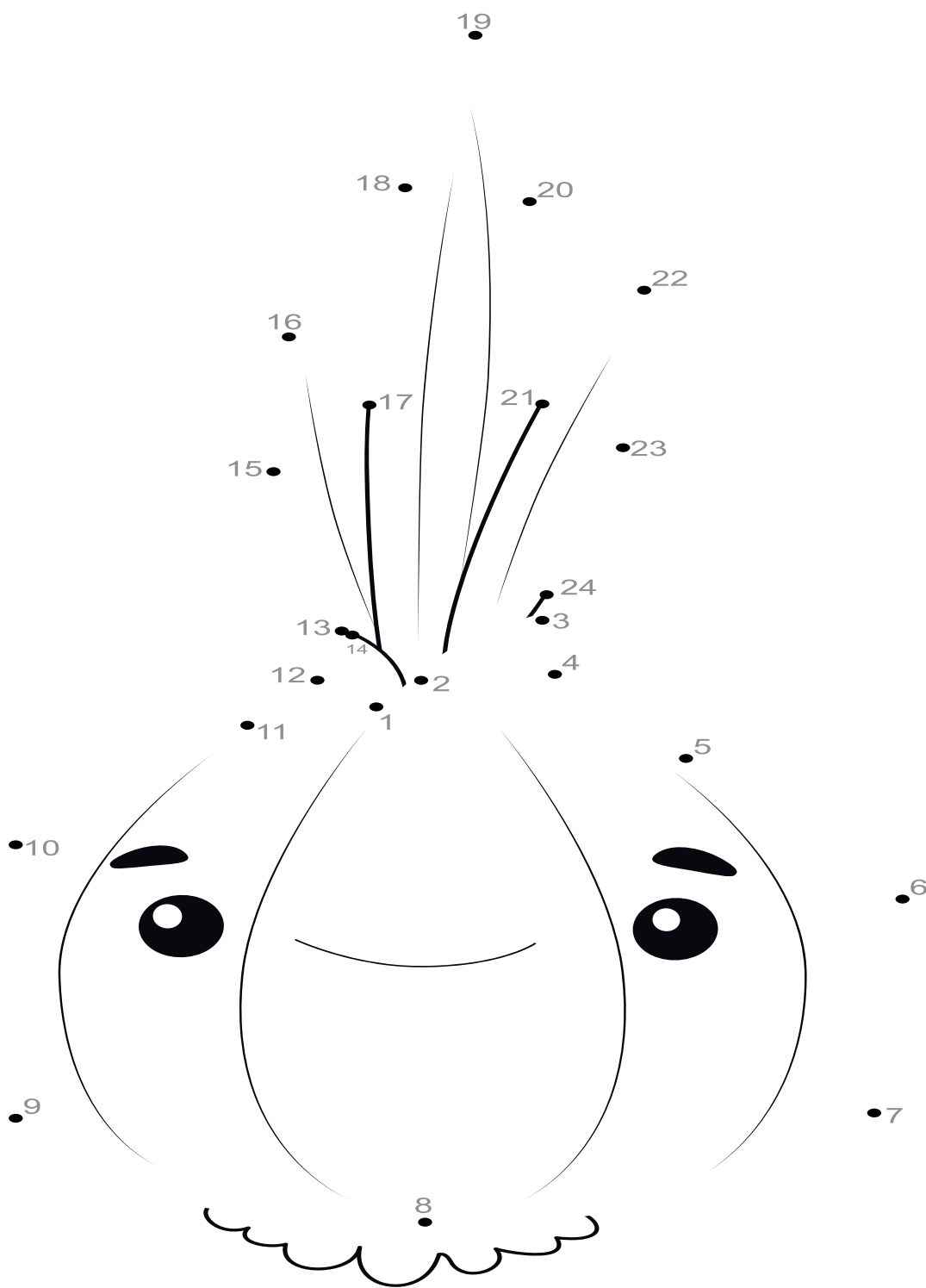
12 hours a week, Monday to Friday, 4pm start
 Experience not necessary but a good attitude and good sense of community is.
 Expected start date 29th January, 2024.
 Email your resumé to john@newsopes.com.au

kids' puzzles



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Dot to dot



Word find

Can you find all of the words listed?
The leftover letters will spell out a message.

O	R	T	S	I	B	T	K	R	G	O
R	E	N	I	D	R	I	E	F	T	T
I	N	G	A	E	T	S	F	N	O	A
U	T	L	S	C	I	A	E	B	C	B
F	A	S	H	T	T	M	E	O	U	L
S	E	E	S	I	V	E	T	T	E	
D	N	P	T	D	E	E	T	B	L	R
R	P	I	N	R	R	E	R	D	E	E
A	A	O	A	T	R	E	N	A	R	D
W	C	G	N	M	A	A	M	E	Y	R
A	E	E	L	D	C	B	O	W	L	O

- CANDLE
- CONDIMENT
- CUTLERY
- DESSERT
- DINER
- ENTREE
- KITCHEN
- MAIN
- ORDER
- SALAD
- TABLE
- WAITSTAFF

- APPETISER
- BEVERAGE
- BISTRO

- BOWL
- BREAD
- BUTTER

Secret message: Going out for a meal

Spot the difference

Can you find five differences between these images?

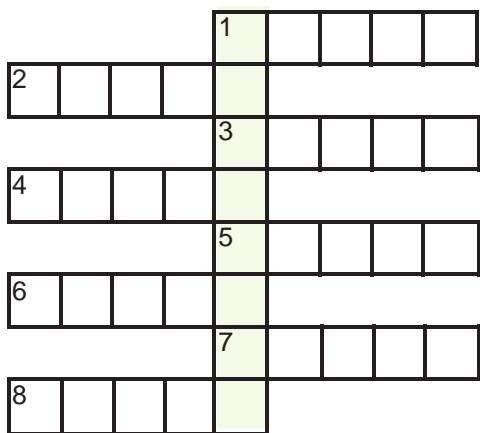


ANSWERS: 1. No wing on blue bird 2. Missing step on ladder 3. Tulips turned purple 4. Frog eyes turned blue 5. Extra butterfly

Junior crossword

Solve all the clues and an eight-letter word will be spelled out.

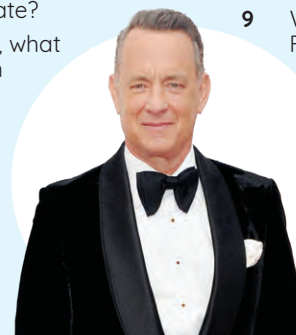
- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 The <i>Orient Express</i> is a famous one of these | 5 This waits under a bridge for goats to trip-trap across |
| 2 A shelter made of snow | 6 Something you can pin onto your clothes |
| 3 You would walk down this to get married in a church | 7 The Mississippi and the Yarra are both one of these |
| 4 First name of secret agent 007, Mr. Bond | 8 Wiggly creatures living underground |



ANSWERS: Train, Igloo, James, Trolly, Badge, River, Worms (TOASTERS)

Quiz

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 What is the closest planet to the sun in our solar system? | 6 True or false: Australia has a larger population of sheep than people? |
| 2 Was the flush toilet invented in (a) 1592, (b) 1692 or (c) 1792? | 7 Tom Hanks (pictured) voices which character in Pixar's <i>Toy Story</i> films? |
| 3 The red and green kangaroo paw is the floral emblem of which Australian state? | 8 In Australia, the currency is the Australian dollar; what currency is used in Japan? |
| 4 In December, what season is it in the northern hemisphere? | 9 Who wrote the <i>Artemis Fowl</i> series of books? |
| 5 Including Rudolph, how many reindeer pull Santa's sleigh? | 10 What international tennis tournament takes place in Melbourne every January? |



ANSWERS: 1. Mercury 2. (a) 1592 3. Western Australia 4. Winter 5. Nine 6. True 7. Woody 8. Yen 9. Eoin Colfer 10. The Australian Open



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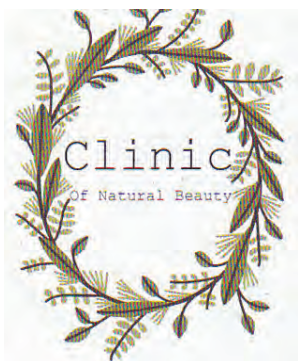
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Cudgewa.....	7.45am
Tintaldra.....	8.00am
Walwa Store (6037 1291).....	8.20am
Jingellic Store (6037 1320).....	8.45am
Mount Alfred.....	9.00am
Granya.....	9.30am

Arrives:

QEII Square (Albury).....	10.15am
Water Tower Park (Wodonga).....	10.30am

Departs:

Water Tower Park (Wodonga).....	1.30pm
QEII Square.....	2.00pm

Arrives:

Granya.....	2.50pm
Mount Alfred.....	3.25pm
Jingellic.....	3.35pm
Walwa.....	3.45pm
Tintaldra.....	4.00pm
Towong.....	4.15pm
Corryong Newsagency.....	4.30pm

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Corryong Courier

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For sport: sport@corryongcourier.com.au
Postal Address: PO Box 32, Corryong 3707

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Sports Results: - 12 noon Monday

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WHAT, WHEN & WHO

MUSEUM ROSTER

Spring/Summer Hours
10am-4pm daily

- 12/1: am R Waters, pm S Briskey
- 13/1: am G Bennetts, pm S Ross
- 14/1: am J Murphy, pm G Bennetts
- 15/1: am M Kneddy pm M Jarvis
- 16/1: am & pm S Briskey
- 17/1: am L Tomalin, pm - help wanted
- 18/1: am - help wanted, pm M Kennedy

MEALS ON WHEELS

- CNC
- Jan 15: J Wilson & helper;
 - Jan 16: H&R McCormick;
 - Jan 17: R&C Knight;
 - Jan 18: M Reiners;
 - Jan 19: P Davis & T Zerella.

OPSHOP

- Jan 12: am Hazra, pm Lyn Duhig;
- Jan 13: am Suz;
- Jan 15: am Di Brennan, pm Hazra;
- Jan 16: am Daff, pm Jeanette McInnes;
- Jan 17: am Lyn Duhig, pm Chris Harrison & Jane Spilsbury;
- Jan 18: am Greenhill & Melissa, pm Lindy O'Connor & Barbara Woodhouse.

CORRYONG HEALTH



Urgent Care Centre (UCC):- Present to the UCC / Be assessed by a highly trained nurse / If required a doctor will be contacted

Other Services:-
Emergencies - 000
Corryong Medical Clinic - 02 6076 3290
Corryong Health Reception - 02 6076 3200
Nurse on Call - 1300 606 024 (anytime)
GP Helpline - 1800 022 222
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TOWONG SHIRE & PUBLIC LIBRARY

76 Hanson St., Corryong
Council customer service and library staff are available Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm. Council office and library are closed on weekends and public holidays. Ph: Shire: 6076 2160 / Library: 6076 1639

Email changes to these notices to adverts@corryongcourier.com.au

UPPER HUME HEALTH SERVICE

Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs support - drug withdrawal nurses and counsellors from Wodonga will visit on an outreach basis as required. Ph: 1800 657 573.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Corryong Tip

Thursday: 4pm - 6pm
Sunday: 12 noon - 4pm
Public holidays - Closed

Waste Collection Days:
Tuesday: Towong, Tintaldra, Walwa, Lucyvale, Colac Colac
Thursday: Cudgewa Valley, Cudgewa, Nariel, Thoughtla, Biggara, Bunroy
Friday: Corryong Township, Khancoban.

For more information visit www.towong.vic.gov.au or phone 02 6071 5100 or 1300 365 222 (local call cost).

Snowy Valleys Council
Khancoban, Jingellic & Tooma
Thursday - Green Lid Bin
Friday - Red or Yellow Lid Bin

LOCAL POLICE

For all emergencies call Triple Zero - 000
For non-urgent matters call the Police Assistance Line (24/7) 131 444
Corryong 02 6076 1666

CENTRELINK

Retirement: 132 300; Disability/Sickness & Carers: 13 2717; Multilingual Service: 13 1202; Customer Relations: 1800 050 004; Appointments: 13 10 21. Carelink: 1800 052 222.

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT

National Breastfeeding helpline 1800 686 268.
Info at www.breastfeeding.asn.au.

CORRYONG FOODSHARE

Open Wednesday and Thursday 9am-1pm
Call in and pick up what you need or call Carol on 0427 762 051 for home delivery.
Water & household items - call Douglas on 0427 014 935.

CATHOLIC PARISH

Mass Times:- 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month
• Christ the King, Walwa - Saturday Vigil at 4pm
• Sacred Heart, Corryong - Sunday at 8:30am

COMMUNITY CAR

A service for those without transport to access appointments in Alb-Wodonga. Ph: 6076 3200.

BAPTIST CHURCH

89 Hanson Street

Enquiries:

Pastor Graeme Van Brummelen - (02) 60761 468 / 0488 269 393
Service time: 10am
Kids church: 10.30am
Youth Group: during school term Friday nights at 7pm
'Mainly Music': a program for babies to preschool children and their carers - Wednesdays 10.30am
Ring Kirsty for details 0411 524 442

ANGLICAN PARISH

Eucharist at All Saints Corryong 9:30am - every Sunday
Eucharist at Biggara 2pm - 1st Sunday
Eucharist at Holy Trinity Cudgewa 11.30am - 3rd Sunday
Combined Service at All Saints Corryong 10.30am followed by lunch - 5th Sunday
Enquiries: Rev Maryann Leonard on 02 6076 1057 or 0439 066 553.

PENTECOSTAL

Ambassadors of Jesus
59 Donaldson Street
Sunday: 10.30am Worship & The Word followed by Fellowship Lunch.
Wednesday: 7.45pm: Alternate Fellowship - Ladies, Prayer, Men's, Family.
Enquiries: Pastors Douglas & Carol Allen 6076 2050 / 51. Fax 6076 2052. E-mail: (aoj@corryong.net).
Catch The Fire Ministries & Rise Up Australia Prayer Meeting: 7.45 pm Sunday: First of the month at Council Chambers, Corryong
Enquiries: B Cadle 6948 4468

UNITING CHURCH

Services are held at 9.30am each Sunday, except 5th Sundays, which are at Walwa 11am.
Cnr Donaldson & Wheeler St., Corryong
Regional Minister: Rev. Andrew Delbridge 0410 663 194
Church Council: Linda Nankervis 0488 339950
Pastoral Enquiries: Sandy Hill 6076 8273, Catherine Ross 0408 648 467, Linda Nankervis 0488 339950
Hall Hire: Pamela Menere 0408 767 327

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Saturday Service:
Uniting Church Hall, Corryong at 9.30am.

LOCAL JUSTICES OF PEACE

Carol Allen - NSW & Vic. (6076 2051); Merv Ward (6076 1369); Phil Coulston (6071 2746); Tom Newton - Vic (0438 382 140); Terry Forrest (0499 579 502).

For information about advertising in the Business Directory please email: adverts@corryongcourier.com.au or phone 02 6076 1045

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Pennant hunt hots up

Welaregang's 5-0 drubbing of Adelong in round five of the Hills Zone pennant competition at Holbrook on Sunday has left it in top spot on the ladder with eight points.

The chasing pack of Tumarumba, Holbrook, Khancoban and Corryong sit two points adrift with two rounds to go before the final.

Results R5

Holbrook d Walwa 3-2, Corryong d Tumarumba 3-2, Batlow d Khancoban 3-2, Wellaregang d Adelong 5-0.

Ladder

Welaregang.....	8	16
Khancoban	6	15
Tumarumba	6	15
Holbrook	6	15
Corryong	6	13
Batlow	4	11
Walwa.....	2	10
Adelong.....	2	5

Draw

R6 21/1/24 @ Walwa
7:30 Walwa v Tumarumba
8:00 Holbrook v W/gang



The new greens have had plenty of traffic over the holiday period.

8:30 Adelong v Khancoban
9:00 Batlow v Corryong

Corryong

The course has proved popular with locals and visitors alike over the holiday period who have made good use of the new Vendi online cart booking system and tap 'n' go green fees terminal.

A vending machine will also soon be installed in the cart area, providing the club with a virtual pro shop for all golfing needs.

A full club program of events for 2024 will be available shortly. In the meantime, the following is the calendar for the next few weeks.

Sunday 14/1/24: 18 Hole Stableford (Monthly Medal) - 8am for 8.30 hit-off.

Saturday 20/1/24: Men's Foursomes Championships (2023) - 8am for 8.30 hit-off.

Sunday 21/1/24: 2 Person Ambrose (SOP) - back 9 at 8.30am for 9am hit-off / Pennant @ Walwa.

Friday 26/1/24 (Australia Day): Stableford - back 9 at 10am for 10.30am hit-off.

Saturday & Sunday

27-28/1/24: Stableford - front 9 anytime / 27/1 Walwa 500 3-Person Ambrose.

Notes: For 9 hole comps put \$5 entry and scorecards in the green fees box. Saturday & Sunday comps and 18 hole monthly medals are for men and women.

Welaregang

The 9 @ 9 summer competition over the Christmas period was dominated by 'Bills' with veteran Bill Sheather posting two wins and Bill Bond hitting good form in the new year carding 22 points to win last Saturday

from Paul Land. Paul's overall lead in the competition has been cut back to just five points.

The club's pennant team continued their good form on Sunday at Holbrook, defeating Adelong 5-0 and moving to the top of the pennant ladder. The next round against Holbrook at Walwa will be crucial to their chances of making the play-off in February.

The summer competition continues this Saturday with names in by 8.30am for a 9am hit-off and visitors are most welcome to join members for these events.

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Results & Draw

Ladder

Cudgewa	28
Corryong	24
Biggara	22
Khancoban	22
Cudgewa Nth	14

Draw R12 13/1/24

Biggara v Cudgewa
Cudgewa Nth v Corryong
Khancoban - bye



R6 Results

Possum Pointers d Tooma Ringers 5-2, Koetong d Bottoms Up 4-3, Biggara d Walwa 6-1.

Sharpshooters:- Highest score: Men - Brendon McCallum & Greg Wheeler 140 / Women

High Country Darts

- Shelley Henry 134; Highest peg: Men - Peter 'Pockets' Kasuba 118 / Women - Shelley Henry 58.

Ladder	P	%
Biggara.....	20	223.1
Koetong.....	16	147.1
Ringers.....	12	110.0

P/Pointers.....	12	82.6
Bottoms Up.....	8	68.0
Walwa.....	4	44.8

Singles Championships 16/1/24 @ the Corryong Hotel Motel - text nominations to Lance on 0419 927 470

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