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Fallons has recently started providing a free bus service to the community that is giving those without cars (or li-
censes) a great opportunity to get around the district. Even those of you who'd prefer to save money with fuel
prices the way they are or help the environment can benefit from the new service.

Free Bus Service

Narbethong – Marysville – Alexandra

New timetable commencing May 4th 2009

Monday to Friday

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Black Spur Inn	9:30 am	Alexandra	2:10 pm
Marysville (bakery stop)	9:45 am	Taggerty V Line Stop	2:25 pm
Buxton V Line Stop	10:00 am	Buxton V Line Stop	2:35 pm
Taggerty V Line Stop	10:10 am	Marysville (bakery stop)	2:50 pm
Alexandra	10:25 am	Black Spur Inn	3:05 pm

Enquires: Contact Fallons Bus Service Ph: 5772 1768



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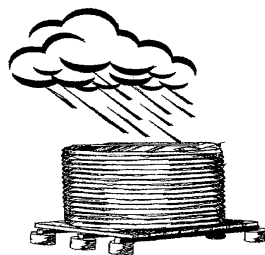
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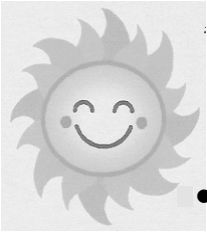
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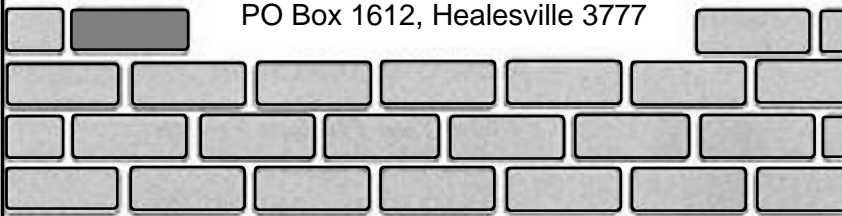
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MAYORS CHAIR

The Premier John Brumby and the Chair of the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction & Recovery Authority (VBRRA), Christine Nixon were in Kinglake last Friday to announce the provision of three new dedicated rebuilding services. Rebuilding Advisory Centres will be built in Marysville and Kinglake and the third (as a visiting/mobile service) will take in the communities of other bushfire impacted areas.

Basically, these complexes will be a "one-stop-shop" for almost all your needs in the rebuilding process – planning, architects, finances and legal services. Once we are way down the recovery track and the use of the Rebuilding Advisory Centres' services have been exhausted the buildings will be handed over to the local communities. This is a wonderful idea and a sure sign of further commitment from the State Government and VBRRA.

Last weekend, we were all delighted to hear that Russ James, from Eildon was a recipient of the Medal of the Order of Australia for his services to the community. A well deserved award and congratulations from us all at the council Russ. We are all proud of you and share the rest of the community's best wishes.

More good news with the announcement that the Department of Sustainability and Environment is on track to reopen its damaged offices in Marysville by the end of October. Many staff, a number of who lost homes, have been working out of the Alexandra office since 7 February. We look forward to welcoming this office back as soon as possible.

With winter biting in harder and harder these days, it's a good idea to be vigilante with open fires and outdoor fires. Also, it's a good idea to set up some sort of routine to check on elderly, or frail neighbours - not too hard to do. Stay warm.

Three hundred and fifty well deserving women from our shire and

surrounds will be heading down to Lorne on the weekend of 10, 11 and 12 July in a co-sponsored "get away" Bush to Beach Retreat. Held at the Cumberland Resort in Lorne at the minimal cost of \$80, transport, food and accommodation are being provided. Registration is essential – telephone enquiries to 0414 255 384 or email bush2beachretreat@hotmail.com. This wonderful weekend is being coordinated by KANDO, VBRAA and The Cumberland 5 Star resort. (If more than 350 women apply, don't worry we'll probably hold another weekend later in the year!)

A "Did you Know" fact! Eighty-one percent of Murrindindi shire women are Australian born and those who are born overseas mainly come from England, New Zealand, Germany and the Netherlands.

During the fires, eight major and sixteen minor bridges suffered damage. The Hazeldene Bridge has possibly been the bridge receiving the most attention and I am pleased to say that council and the community are looking at various ways or repairing/rebuilding or possibly upgrading this historical asset.

Councillor activity this past week included MBRRC meetings, ATTA meeting, Killingworth Road Community Consultation meeting; number ABC Kinglake and UGFM radio appearances, meeting with Christine Nixon and Premier John Brumby.

"We should not let our fears hold us back from pursuing our hopes" John Fitzgerald Kennedy.



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MARYSVILLE ART SHOW

Yes, it will be on again over Melbourne Cup weekend; this year we shall have it in the Taggerty Hall, as our normal venues are no longer here! Letters have been sent out to all our artists who have previously exhibited, so we are looking forward to a good response once again. We shall be asking for people to look after the entry to the show so, if you can help it would be great to hear from you – contact Andrew on 5963 4441. The show will be held on Friday night 30th October and then on Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 10am to 4pm. We have had a positive response already from artists, so it looks like being a wonderful event.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Anyone wanting to have a stall on a permanent basis in the marquee that will be set up in the main street, and hopefully operating by Monday 31st until 31st October,

Please call Billie on

0408 926 970

Australian Children's Trust

Your Health and Well-Being

From Community Health

Men's Health

Five men die every hour in Australia from potentially preventable illness. It's time for Australian men to get out of their comfort zone and start thinking about their health. Even when feeling healthy, a simple yearly visit to a GP can often save a man's lifestyle and maybe his life. Men can live longer if they keep in touch with their health.

Many Australian men find it hard to front up to personal and potentially life-threatening health issues. Small changes to a man's lifestyle can avoid many potential health risks and early death. Early detection is the key to surviving illnesses and knowledge of family health history is important.

Good mental health is as important as good physical health. Aussie blokes are renowned for their 'no worries' attitude yet the rate of suicide in Australia is 4 times higher for men than for women. The most common mental illnesses are depression and anxiety disorders. Everyone experiences stress and sadness from time to time, but when these feelings become so overwhelming that they interfere with daily life, professional help is needed.

It's up to men to talk openly to each other. Men can help each other by sharing their health experiences.

As a start, men can take five preventative steps:

1. Share your family history with your GP.
2. Know your healthy weight.
3. Check your blood pressure.
4. Stop smoking.
5. Maintain a healthy mind and a healthy body.

Men's Health Week 2009 provides an opportunity to increase awareness of important health issues. It celebrates the contribution men make to family, work and the community, but reminds us that men don't need to 'tough it out' or 'go it alone', and they shouldn't.

For more information, phone 1300 300 817.

(Information from www.menshealthweek.com.au)

Community Health at Yea Hospital – phone 5736 0400 and at Alexandra Hospital – phone 5772 0800

"Your Health and Well-Being" articles are available on www.humehealth.com.au/alexandra and www.yeahospital.org.au.



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Seasonal road closures help protect forested areas

The annual winter closure of selected roads and tracks within State Forest throughout the north east will be introduced today, following the June Queens Birthday long weekend.

Roads and tracks are closed seasonally in some areas of State Forest and Parks to protect track surfaces, water quality and the forest environment.

According to DSE North East Land and Fire Area Manager, Alan Dobson, driver and public safety was also an important issue when determining which roads would be temporarily closed.

"The impact of the recent fires and loss of vegetation will increase the potential for land slips and water damage to roads and tracks," he said.

"It's important that during winter, when the forest is most vulnerable to damage, that the environment is protected."

This year the general road closure period will be from June 11 to October 29 inclusive with an option to extend closures if required. Closed roads and tracks are marked by signs and in some cases locked gates.

Mr Dobson said while many tracks and camping ground remain open during winter, some will be closed to allow for rehabilitation, particularly those affected by the bushfires.

DSE advises travellers to check the status of roads and tracks within State Forest by contacting the DSE Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

Information and maps are also available at www.parkweb.vic.gov.au



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Significant progress made on fire ground rehabilitation

Significant progress has been made on the immediate rehabilitation of fire affected areas, according to the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE).

Crews are continuing to rehabilitate control lines and repair damage to fences on private property which was caused as part of the effort to control the Kilmore East Murrindindi North Complex Fire.

DSE Murrindindi Land and Fire District Manager, John Steer, said crews have completed the rehabilitation of about 90 percent of the private property control lines constructed during the fires.

"The primary focus of our rehabilitation program was works required on private property," Mr Steer said.

"This has seen more than 600km of control line rehabilitated and 30km of fencing repaired."

The works have been undertaken in and around the Alexandra, Marysville, Toolangi, Kinglake and Broadford areas.

DSE is working in partnership with the CFA, Parks Victoria and the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) to coordinate the rehabilitation works.

Mr Steer said crews had also made significant progress on the initial rehabilitation of control lines and fire breaks constructed on public land.

"At this point in time around 70 percent of the control lines on public land north of the Great Dividing Range have been rehabilitated, which is a major achievement given the size and impact of the fires," he said.

"The rehabilitation of control lines is important as it assists in the recovery of disturbed areas and helps reduce soil erosion," Mr Steer said.

"The environmental recovery from a natural disaster of this nature will take time, however these initial rehabilitation works are extremely important."

For further information about rehabilitation work on your property, please contact the Alexandra DSE on (03) 5772 0286 or the DSE Customer Service Centre on 136 186. Information is also available at www.dse.vic.gov.au.



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WHEN?

8.30AM WEDNESDAY 24th JUNE 2009

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Murrindindi Shire Council Half Day Council Office/Library Closures



Council wishes to advise residents and ratepayers of a half day closure of all Council Offices, and Libraries within the municipality on **Friday 19 June 2009**.

Closure times will be as follows:

- Kinglake Council Office/Library – 11.30am
- Alexandra Council Office and Library Headquarters – 12.30pm
- Yea Council Office/Library – 12.30pm

For all major emergencies please contact the following after hour's emergency numbers:

Local Laws: 0419 572 425

(stock on roads, dog attacks or situations that pose serious risk to life or property)

Engineering Services: 0407 509 413
(Imminently dangerous road conditions)

ASSISTANCE WITH TAX AFFAIRS

If you've been affected by bush-fire please don't worry about tax matters right now. When you're ready, we will work with you to help sort out your tax affairs.

We've set up a dedicated emergency support info line to make it easier for you. Call **1300 304 975** and one of our officers will discuss your situation and the best way to help.

Our help includes, fast tracking refunds, extra time to pay debts - without interest charges and more time to meet obligations - without penalties.

More importantly, helping to reconstruct your records where documents have been destroyed and make reasonable estimates where necessary.

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