Corryong Courier

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Community backs hospital protest

Towong Shire mayor, Cr Andrew Whitehead, has said that the strong show of support at last week's rally in Corryong was further evidence that communities in the North East know they are currently being shortchanged on healthcare if the current proposal to redevelop Albury Hospital proceeds.

"I want to thank the people of Corryong and the wider community in and around Towong Shire for showing up in such large numbers at the rally," he said.

"Seeing the Memorial Hall in Corryong full on a Sunday in winter shows the level of worry, despair and anger people are feeling in the North East about being treated as second class citizens when it comes to healthcare delivery.

"The community now feels like it is simply out of sight and out of mind in the eyes of the Victorian and New South Wales governments.

Cont. on page 5.



Community connects through hardship



The Upper Murray community gathered in solidarity at the Corryong Events Centre on Friday night to support one another and those who have suffered loss and hardships since the 2019-20 bushfires.

The fourth Corryong Spirit event carried the

message of 'Shining a Light into the Darkness' and the guest speakers reinforced that sentiment.

Corryong-born James Greenshieds, a former Australian Army Officer with 17 years of service, told of his experiences that led him to co-found and facilitate Leadership and Men's Wellbeing at the Emergent Leaders Foundation. His powerful address held the audience enthralled.

Actor and comedian. Nick Steain, put smiles on people's faces while also

speaking of how he lives his life on the philosophy that nothing lasts but nothing is lost'.

Local author, Sarah Harris, also shared her uplifting poem 'Bittersweet' which was received with a lot

Funding secured for blackberry management

The Murray Region Forestry Hub (MRFH) is proud to announce the approval of funding from Forest and Wood Products

MJD WALK

FOR A CURE

HIGH COUNTRY EDITION

with support from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), for a critical research project aimed at tackling one of Australia's most costly and invasive weeds blackberry. The project 'Novel and Targeted Biological Control of Blackberry Invasions in Forest and Tree Plantations', will be led by Dr Rae Kwong in collaboration with the

Sunshine Coast. The research will focus on blackberry genomic mapping in Murray region including the Corryong and Tumbarumba areas, a vital step toward the development of an effective and targeted biological control.

and the University of the

Blackberry is a 'Weed of National Significance', causing millions of dollars in lost productivity and management costs annually.

The MRFH has been instrumental in preparing the advice to government which led to multiorganisation collaboration supporting research to deliver long-term,



A collaborative approach is being taken to blackberry control.

landscape-scale solutions for forestry, plantations and the wider community.

Dean Anderson, Chair of the Murray Region Forestry Hub, has welcomed announcement.

"This funding represents a significant step forward in our fight against blackberry," he said.

"The genomic mapping research will provide the foundations for developing a targeted biological control that can be deployed across landscapes for longterm impact. It's a prime example of how the hubs can connect industry needs with innovative science."

Carlie Porteous, Hub Manager of the Murray Region Forestry Hub, added "The approval of this funding highlights the power of collaboration tackle persistent challenges.

proud to "We're have played a key role in bringing together the right people and expertise to make this project a reality."

The Murray Region Forestry Hub takes in about 3.5million hectares in the area east of the Hume Freeway, west of the Great Dividing Range, south of Gundagai and taking in the plantations of NE Victoria down to Lake Eildon

CUC Ovens Murray (Corryong) is

ring an Education Co-ordinato

A STATE OF

POST-WALK CELEBRATION 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM AT TALLANGATTA BOWLING CLUB

Register by 5th of September and receive a FREE drink bottle

★ 22 km - Ebden Reserve to Tallangatta (08:00am)

↑ 13 km - Huon Reserve to Tallangatta (10:00am)

Check- in opens 30mins before each walk

Free bus to start point (registration required)

\$100 per person | Kids under 15 walk free



WALK FOR

Saturday 20 September 2025

High Country Rial Trail (Victoria)





"Every step brings us closer to a cure for MJD"



REGISTER NOW

\$20 entry for non-walkers

www.midwalkforacur.com or scan the QR code

WHY WE WALK

Machado-Joseph Disease (MJD) is a rare, inherited condition that slowly robs people of movement and independence. There's no cure - yet. Every step you take take helps fund vital research, raise awarenes, and support families facing MJD.

No dogs at this event.



DEATRS



this year.

Police are out there to keep our roads safe. If you've been drinking, don't drive. Getting caught with a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) of 0.05 and over will result in loss of licence and significant fines. Chances are you will be caught. **Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.**







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Walk supports vital research

The Upper Murray community is being encouraged to join people from all around Australia and the world to increase awareness of Machado-Joseph Disease (MJD) and raise funds to find a cure.

MJD is a condition that results in significant, permanent physical disability and there is currently no treatment or cure.

In 2018, former Corryong resident Bec Lyons (nee Hickox) organised the original 'Ten Summits Challenge' to create awareness of MJD and this year she is inviting locals to join in the High Country edition of the walk next month.

"I walk because my

life has been deeply impacted by MJD," she said.

"From a young age, I watched my Mum progress through the stages of this cruel disease. I saw her gradually lose her independence and at just 54 years old, we had to say goodbye far too soon.

"I've watched other family members face the same struggles and in recent years, I've seen my little sister Naomi bravely fight as MJD has started to affect her life.

"I walk to raise awareness of MJD. Too often, the symptoms of MJD are misunderstood. People mistake unsteady movements for being drunk, when in reality it's this devastating disease.

"I walk to grow community. One of the hidden battles of disability is social isolation and walking together reminds us that no one fights this alone.

"Most of all, I walk in hope. Hope for a cure and hope for a future where families like mine don't have to go through this."

The walk will be held on Saturday September 20th along the High Country Rail Trail, starting from either the Ebden or Huon Reserves and finishing at Tallangatta (either 22kms or 13kms).

For more details or to register go to www. midwalkforacure.com.



Funding recognises volunteers | Nominat

Member for Indi, Helen Haines, has announced funding of almost \$60,000 for 18 community organisations in her electorate to share in the latest round of the federal fovernment's Volunteer Grants Program.

Dr Haines personally phoned each organisation to share the good news including the Corryong Amateur Basketball Association (\$3,000) and Upper Murray Community Radio Inc (\$5,000).

The successful applicants were recommended to the federal government for funding after being assessed by a panel of local community leaders.

"Throughout the year I regularly visit community organisations and almost always, their existence is possible because of one common factor -volunteers," Dr Haines said.

Grants will enable community groups to support their volunteers by funding the purchase of equipment, covering fuel and transport costs or providing access to training.

"The funding delivered will enable these organisations to continue their vital work, supporting those who offer their time, expertise and energy for the benefit of our communities," Dr Haines said.

Nominations open for council awards

Nominations are being called for the 2026 Snowy Valleys Australia Day Awards, celebrating the outstanding individuals and groups who make a difference in their communities.

Snowy Valleys mayor, Cr Julia Ham, encouraged residents to get involved by nominating local community heroes.

"The Australia Day awards are an opportunity to celebrate the people who make the Snowy Valleys such a strong, vibrant and supportive community," she said.

"Whether you're nominating for a council award, a local award or both, these awards are a chance to say thank you and recognise their efforts."

This year introduces an exciting new category - the Arts and Culture Award - which celebrates significant contributions to the cultural and artistic life of the community including achievements in visual arts, music, performance, literature, heritage, film or cultural preservation.

The 2026 award categories are:-

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Sports Achievements
- Environmental Initiatives
- Arts and Culture Award

Corryong Neighbourhood Centre

Opening Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 11am - 3pm

<u>UMCC</u> – Keep up to date with local events or post your own! Search: *'Upper Murray Community Calendar'* into your browser/ scan the QR code below. To post create an account & send us a msg.

<u>CNC Phone project</u> – The CNC is collecting unwanted devices to repurpose them into usable ones. This initiative also aims to helps reduce the number of batteries ending up in our landfills.

Wodonga Eye Care - Visits CNC fortnightly. Book appointments on 02 6056 4000.

<u>Youth Space</u> – 12–25 y/o welcome. Open hours: Mon-Thurs 3:30 – 5pm. Located @42 Hanson Street, Corryong. Pool table, consoles, art supplies, board games, kitchen, toilet & more!!

Walwa Garage - Taking bookings via appointment only - 02 6037 1587

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CNC

Bank passes on savings

In response to last week's announcement that the Reserve Bank of Australia has reduced the official cash rate by 0.25% p.a. to 3.60%, BankWAW has confirmed it will be passing on the benefit directly to its home-loan customers.

"We understand the financial pressures many families face, especially in regional Australia," said Michael Mack, CEO of BankWAW.

"That's why we're committed to reducing our variable home-loan rates by 0.25% p.a., ensuring our customers experience tangible savings where it matters most."

According to data obtained from Canstar on 15 August 2025, BankWAW's Back to Basics Home Loan will continue to offer one of the lowest ongoing variable rates in in Australia and well below the basic variable rates offered by each of Australia's four major banks.

"We encourage our current and prospective home-loan customers to review their loan arrangements and explore refinancing opportunities by visiting their local BankWAW service centre," Mr Mack said.

"As a community-focused, customer-owned bank, BankWAW is proud to continue delivering value and support to our customers, helping ease mortgage stress and fostering regional prosperity."

Further information is available online at bankwaw.com.au or by calling the bank's contact centre on 1300 368 555.

The system has let us down

Cont. from page 1.

"The community feels so let down because the governments in Melbourne and Sydney keep saying that the redevelopment will meet the future needs of the community, yet they will not come here and explain how themselves," Cr Whitehead said.

"If we are getting it so wrong, come and explain to us why. Instead, so correspondence unanswered remains and invitations remain completely ignored.

"Towong Shire Council invited the Victorian Treasurer and Member for Northern Victoria Region, Jaclyn Symes, Victorian Health Minister, Mary-Anne Thomas, and NSW Health Minister, Ryan Park, to the rally and we received no responses from them or their offices.

"Personal experiences shared at the rally painted the picture of a healthcare system that has let us so many of us down, me included.

"It also unveiled data that confirms this and that paints a grim picture of the future if the current deeply flawed redevelopment goes ahead.

"Despite all of this, the rally confirmed how admired and respected our North East doctors, nurses and other medical professionals are - but they are forced to work in suboptimal facilities."

Guest speaker at the rally, Stan Stavros, Director - Better Border Health. shared data that proved that Albury Wodonga is missing out on its fair share of healthcare funding.

"Albury Wodonga Health is not a small country hospital," he said. "It is the largest

Melbourne, serving one of the biggest inland populations in Australia, equal in size to Bendigo and Ballarat, and behind only Canberra and Toowoomba. It is the largest in-land community in Australia. "However,

despite its size and importance Albury Wodonga Health has far fewer hospital beds, operating theatres, and dialysis chairs, comparable and than significantly smaller centres.

between Sydney and

"Every single day, Albury Wodonga Health is short between 30 to 70 beds which means it is currently running at 110%-125% capacity. When there are no beds, patients cannot be admitted and ambulances are ramped outside for hours, unable to unload patients and return to their towns.

"Ramping ambulances at Albury Hospital has become an all-too-common occurrence and the effects of this ripple deeply into the entire North East region.

"For example, in Corryong, one ambulance crew covers the whole area. A return trip to Albury takes four hours without delays. If ambulances are ramping at Albury Hospital that could result in at least six hours or more and that's six hours with no ambulance in Corryong and if it happens overnight the town can be without cover for up to 16 hours.

"People in our region have stopped calling 000 altogether, instead driving loved ones with seizures, chest pain or trauma to hospital themselves because they simply do not believe an ambulance will get there in time.

"Directly because of this lack of beds, we have seen elderly patients from Corryong discharged from Albury Wodonga Health in the middle of the night with no transport, no money and no plan," Mr Stavros said.

"These patients often have no other options other than to call volunteers in desperation, who are doing an incredible job to scramble and find them a bed in a motel or drive dangerous rural roads in the dark to get them home safely. Others are taking risks on those roads themselves, driving to Albury between 1am and 5am just to avoid long ED

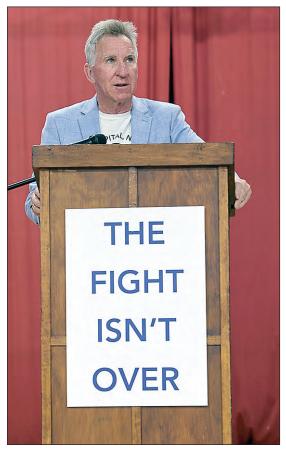
"This is the level of desperation we have reached here in the North

"The current proposed redevelopment of the existing Albury Base Hospital that will add just 35 beds in four to five years' time and it will not even come close to cover the current shortfalls. An additional 150-200 beds is what is required to meet our needs in that time, not

"We need proper investment that reflects our population and our role as a major inland health hub. It should come as no great shock that our local doctors have called it 'a shinier version of the same' and the same means continued bed block, ambulance ramping and longer waits."

Cr Whithead added that "The truth is the real solution has already been identified.

2021 comprehensive masterplan, underpinned by the 2021 Clinical Services Plan, was developed. It involved



Albury mayor, Cr Kevin Mack, speaks at the rally in Corryong.

clinicians, state govofficials, ernment Albury Wodonga Health executives, and community members.

"That overwhelmingly recommended a new hospital on a new site, a greenfield development that would finally give our community the capacity, flexibility and future growth we need.

"Each of the speakers at the rally added to already overwhelming evidence that the North East is getting short changed on healthcare and will do so for a generation to come if the current redevelopment of Albury Hospital goes ahead.

"Our community now

feels like the real border up here is not the one on the map between NSW and Victoria but one between the communities here and the governments of Victoria and NSW.

Other speakers at the rally included Cr Michael Gobel, Mayor Wodonga City Council; Cr Kevin Mack, Mayor Albury City Council; Dr Lachlan Deputy McKeeman, Secretary of the Border Medical Association; Pastor Carol Allen, Corryong; Kate Wheeler, Corryong; and Russell and Robyn Kelly, Mitta Valley.

Letters from local politicians Bill Tilley and Helen Haines were also read out at the rally.

Drought aid must be expanded

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) says Victoria's record-breaking drought is far from over and is warning farmers are facing mounting pressures including soaring costs, depleted pastures and plummeting farm finances that could spell increased prices at the supermarket checkout.

VFF President, Brett Hosking, said farmers in every region of the state are under pressure as they approach the critical spring growing season.

"Pasture levels remain critically low, fodder prices are high, and the cost of getting feed onto farms has never been greater," he said.

"Some areas have been experiencing record-low rainfall since 2023 and even the best-prepared farmers are feeling the pinch."

The VFF is calling for expanded and longterm funding from both the federal and Victorian governments to help

ensure increased support for primary producers, including:-

• Zero per cent interest loans with no repayments for two years to give farmers breathing room;

• Extending drought support beyond the South West region to the entire

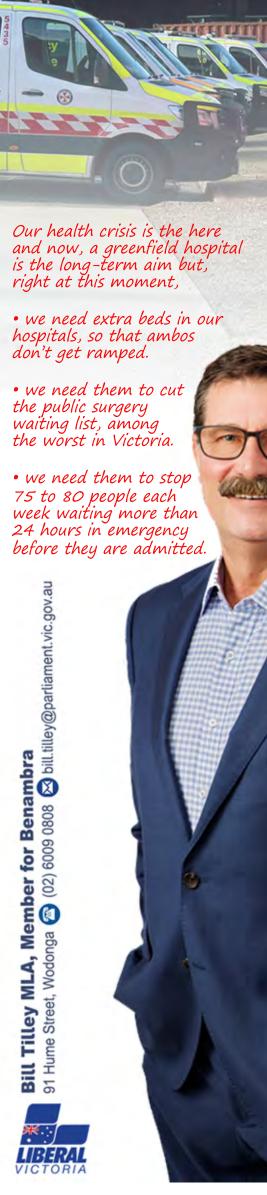
Expanded Local Government rate relief for primary producers;

Assistance to help bring in fodder from greater distances and cover associated costs.

Mr Hosking said the impacts of the drought are beginning to be felt beyond the farm gate.

"If farmers can't feed livestock or keep herds productive, red meat prices will rise, milk volumes will fall and ultimately consumers will feel the price-pinch at the checkout," he forecast.

"Even if significant rain arrives soon, the recovery will last years. This isn't a quick fix, we need long-term funding."





regional health service Crisis needs fixing now

Member for Benambra, Bill Tilley, was unable to attend the hospital rally in Corryong last week but he sent a letter stating his current position on the issue, saying that more urgent action needs to be taken in the interim.

"Our health crisis is the here and now" he said

"We can argue about e shape of a greenfield site and that is the longterm aim but right at this moment we need extra beds in our hospitals so that ambulances don't get parked out the front of Albury Base and Wodonga Hospital for hours on end.

"We need them so those ambulances are back on the road, dealing with life and death emergencies

"We need them to make in-roads into the public surgery waiting list as almost one in four on the public surgery wait list have been there for more than 12 months – the worst in the state for this metric.

Aabout 1-in-10 surgeries are cancelled largely due to the lack of beds - the 3rd worst in the state.

"Each week we have between 75 and 80 cases of people exceeding the benchmark of more than 24 hours stuck in emergency, waiting for a bed in a hospital ward.

"So, in the long-term we must work towards a greenfield site but with the advancement of the current project that is being pushed through come hell or highwater that might be 10 or 15 years away.

"In the interim we must make that tower that they're going to build at Albury Base, the best it can be and that means it delivers on what was promised in 2022/23 and that includes but is not limited to the following:-

• A paediatric ward, not a ghost floor that hasn't been fitted out.

Ten operating theatres, not a shell of one because the budget can't manage the cost of the fitout.

• A helipad.

• A multi-storey car

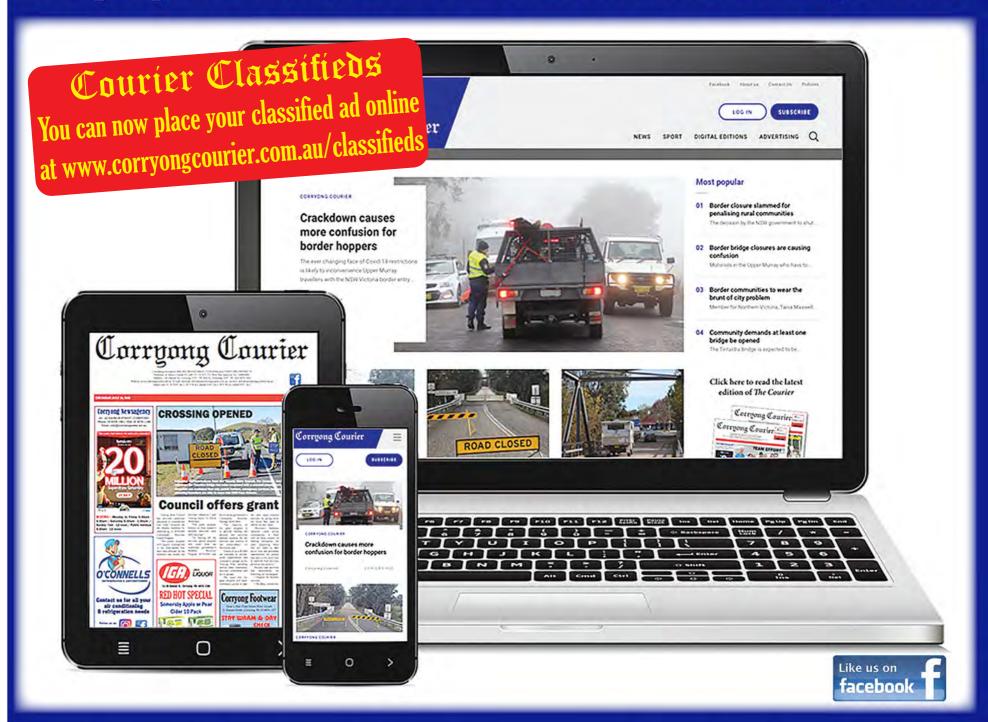
• 17 dialysis chairs.

"We know that the NSW and Victorian governments have refused the funding for 20 hospital beds at Mercy Health in Albury and have ignored calls to deploy modular wards, often used by Defence, to provide additional ward beds. They have only provided operational funding for 9 of the 16 short-stay beds at Albury base.

"Just one of these initiatives could ease the pressure on our ED, help reduce the waiting list and cut the wait times for ambulances.

"We need to keep calling for a greenfield site but don't lose sight of the fact our health crisis desperately needs a more immediate fix."

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Wildlife isn't our biggest killer

Club Corner:- The jackpot at The Club Corryong on Friday is \$1300. Last week's winner was Trevor Best (\$50).

Claiming the Date:-Cudgewa Hall Fundraiser on Saturday September 20th - Market Day & Town Garage Sale. Contact Tracy Paul to book your site and register garage sale address on 0448 760 774

The Corryong Spirit committee is seeking feedback, comments or ideas on how to make the event better. Find them on Facebook @ Corryong Spirit - send a message through messenger.

Items of local interest for this column can be emailed to editorial@corryongcourier.com.au.

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You won't hear it. You won't see it. Not until it's too late.

Australia's deadliest predator isn't found in the wild. It's on our roads.

Speeding is the killer.

A confronting new exhibit popped up in central Melbourne last week, the centrepiece of a Transport Accident Commission (TAC) initiative aimed at changing relaxed attitudes to the deadly consequences of speeding.

Australia's Deadliest Predator takes a novel approach to highlight the vastly higher number of speeding-related fatalities in Australia, compared with deaths caused by commonly feared wildlife - and leaves no doubt over what poses more risk to our health and safety.

Speeding is the leading factor in around one third of fatalities in Victoria and nationally, claiming 400 lives across the country last year and 4,100 in the past decade. By comparison, according to the most current available data, there were an average of six deaths a year caused by sharks, crocodiles and snakes in Australia between 2001 and 2021.

Despite this disparity, a survey of more than 1000 Australians conducted as part of the new TAC

initiative, revealed that the majority of respondents perceive dangerous wildlife as more lifethreatening than speeding.

When asked what found to be 'extremely dangerous', 74.5% of respondents said venomous snakes followed by crocodiles (68.8%)and sharks (61.8%). In comparison, only 11.2% of respondents felt that driving 5 km/h over the speed limit was extremely dangerous. That figure rose to 29.8% when considering driving 10 km/h over the limit.

The exhibit at the heart of the initiative, situated on the plaza between Melbourne Museum and the Royal Exhibition Centre, replicates a dangerous zoo animal enclosure to challenge common perceptions of danger and prompt visitors to reflect on their own driving behaviour.

Behind the enclosure's ominous black fence and jungle façade lies a powerful reenactment of a car that has crashed after losing control due to travelling over the speed limit. Signage highlights the speed limit and a digital display shows the vehicle's speed at the time of the crash, alongside other sights and sounds synonymous with an

ndents gerous lifeeding. what be



accident scene.

TAC CEO, Tracey Slatter, said its research showed that too many people continued to have a casual attitude to speeding, despite hundreds of speeding-related deaths and many more injuries every year.

"Australia's Deadliest Predator unapologetically calls out the social acceptance of speeding in a novel way, which we hope will encourage road users to slow down and stay within speed limits," Ms Slatter said

"The data and research are clear - speed kills, and the only way we can prevent the tragic loss of life is to drive within the speed limit every time we use our roads.

"We will continue to use thought-provoking initiatives such as Australia's Deadliest Predator to drive home the dangers of speeding until we realise a future where no one dies or is injured on our roads," Ms Slatter said

It has been a tragic year on Victoria's roads, with 186 lives lost compared with 180 at the same time last year. Speeding has continued to be a contributing factor in around a third of fatalities in Victoria this year and the state's road safety partners are urging all road users to play their part in

preventing further tragedy by slowing down.

Going 5 km/h above the speed limit won't save much time but it will double the risk of a crash. Simple actions such as setting cruise control, regularly checking speed signs and allowing extra travel time can all contribute to safer driving.

Australia's Deadliest Predator is open to the public for free until Sunday 24 August.

We do let facts get in the way of a good story.

Because that's what facts do. They get in the way of wild theories, sensational headlines, and stories that are just too good to be true. And that's the point.

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We believe facts make stories stronger, not weaker. That's why everything we publish is grounded in independence, integrity and an unwavering commitment to accuracy and the community we are part of.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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MEETINGS

Corryong Youth Club Hall Annual General Meeting

Wednesday September 3, 2025

6.30pm at the hall All interested most welcome.

DEATHS

SEYMOUR, Frank Passed away on August 3rd, 2025 in Sydney.

Aged 97 years. Frank was born in Corryong in 1928, brother to Tom, Sidney,

Winifred, Enid and Ian

(all dec.). Loving husband to Margaret and father to Julie and Richard (dec.). A treasure to his many nieces and

nephews and a loyal

Frank was a kind, generous man with a lovely smile and sense of humour. A gentleman in the truest sense of the

> Forever missed. Rest in peace.



Frank's funeral service was held at All Saints Church Hunters Hill where he and Margaret years ago, followed by a private burial at Corryong Cemetery.

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Upper Murray Sport (cont.)





Among the prize winners at the Welaregang tournament were (I to r) Rob Cox, Teresa Waters, Mick Hardwick and Mark Winnett (with an envious Joe Hardwick in the background!).

Corryong

August

5.30pm.

Tournament

Results

R15 18/8/25

High Rollers 12.

Bacash's56

Thougla 54

Courthouse46

Lucyvale.....42

Cafè 3707.....40

Young Guns......38

Attackers36

Cudgie Kings 28 High Rollers 28

Costello Rural 24

Hoppers 24

Sassy Strikers.....20

Cudgie Pub......16

Bacash's v Cudgie Kings

Courthouse v CNC

Attackers v Hoppers

Cafè 3707 v Lucvvale

Thougla v Surts & Co

Young Guns v St George

Culture Club v Super UCG

Championship results

Winners of the Mixed

Winners of the Men's

Pairs were Cheryl Smedley

and Mitch McInnes (13)

over Pip and Col Brown

Pairs were Ken Sheather

(sub for Bill Sheather) and

Rohan Whitehead (15),

defeating Craig McKimmie

and Ron Pyn-appels (6).

Cudgie Pub v Sassy Strikers

Costello Rural v High Rollers

R16 25/8/25

Super UCG......18 -178

Surts and Co...... 12 -193

Culture Club....... 8 -121

St George.....

Ladder R15

Coming Up

Thurs 21st - 2 person

Sun 24th - Monthly Medal

Wed 27th - 4BBB /

Committee meeting @

Thurs 28th - 2 person

ambrose @ 3pm, 9 holes

Sun 31st - 18-hole

Stableford / Tumbarumba

Indoor Bowls

ambrose @ 3pm, 9 holes

Mon 25th - Social golf

/ Thurgoona Sprint

Welaregang

A good field of 52 golfers enjoyed the now lush fairways competing for honours in the club's annual MDGA sponsored tournament.

Vaughan Saunders, on his first visit to the course, took out the A Grade Scratch event with 74, four clear of Justin Knott. Regular visitor Mark Winnett's 33 points was just enough to win the A Grade stableford division from Greg Kent on 32.

A countback was needed in the B Grade with Mick Hardwick edging out Dave Castles, both carding 35 points. Local veteran Rob Cox made sure of his win in the C Grade section, racking up 39 points, five clear of runner-up Pat McAlister. Another regular visitor, Teresa Waters, was steady all day, carding 27 points to win the Women's prize.

Nearest the pin winners

were Ron Canlin, Mick Hardwick and Janai Holland. Dave Burke placed his drive closest to the string, while the big hitters were Janai Holland, Rob Cox. Steve Read and Vaughan Sanders.

The club extends a huge thank you to Meralyn Fage for her very efficient behind the scenes work on the cards and prize lists; Dixie Coutts and her team for producing another traditional Welaregang spread; and the other volunteers who helped out during the day.

The club acknowledges tournament sponsors: Damms Auto & Diesel, Corryong Tyre & Auto, Costello Rural, Agmate - Yenda Producers, Mildren & Kiewa Mitta Covsh. Murray Community Enterprises (Bendigo Bank), MDGA, IGA Corryong, Ag Warehouse and Tasco Oils.

POSITIONS VACANT



Project Officer

Upper Murray Producer Plus (UMP+)

Part-time (0.6 FTE - 0.8 FTE) for 6 months, with potential to extend.

Upper Murray Inc (UMI) is seeking to employ a Project Officer for the Upper Murray Producer Plus (UMP+) project. UMP+ is a newly created producer-led innovation group focused on shared learning, local on-farm experimentation and strategic partnerships to support future facing agriculture production systems and regional prosperity.

This role will support the Project Lead to deliver the first phase of UMP+ and work closely with the pilot farms. With the potential for the role to extend into the next UMP+ phases, this is an exciting opportunity to work with a small, motivated team to drive and deliver impact for the region.

See UMI website (https://uppermurrayinc.com. au/projects) for further detail, including Position Description and application process.

Enquiries to uppermurrayinc@gmail.com or call the Project Lead (Karensa) on 0438 831 083.

Applications close: 5:00pm on Thursday September 4, 2025.

Loyalty trumps cheap trophies

An open letter to sporting coaches of

I speak to you not just as a parent, nor even as a player myself, but as someone who believes in the true spirit of team sport - commitment, teamwork and the lessons that last far beyond the scoreboard.

I believe in the value of belonging to a club and being part of something bigger than yourself.

I've seen something that breaks my heart and the more I have spoken about it the more it has come to light this is nothing new.

Young players turn up every single week, put in the hard work and play every week, sometimes travelling more than 100 kilometres one way for away matches.

They've supported their teammates and helped get their side to the finals, only to be told they won't be stepping onto the field or spending the entire game sitting on the bench.

Why? Because they've been replaced by players

who, at best, have been casual participants.

Letters to the editor:-

Players who've turned up for a handful of home games are suddenly given their spot because they're seen as giving the team a better chance to win.

Think about message that sends.

The ones who show up every week in the rain and freezing zero degree mornings, purely for the love of the game and their teammates - they are the

They are the reason the team made it to the finals in the first place.

They've earned the right to play, to finish what they started. You play as a team, you win as a team and you lose as a team.

If your team wins the grand final with these last-minute players, then your team hasn't won the season, they've won a single game.

And in doing so, they've taken away a moment that rightfully belongs to the ones who fought for it all year.

We talk endlessly about mental health, resilience, teamwork and

sportsmanship, yet far too often, when the pressure is on, these values are tossed aside for the sake of a

cheap trophy.

Decisions like this can crush a young person's confidence, break their sense of belonging and destroy their trust in the game they love.

The real victory isn't in the trophy or medals. It's in standing by your players, honouring their commitment and showing them that hard work and loyalty truly mean something.

It's in building a generation who value dedication. loyalty, perseverance and who know what it feels like to be respected and valued.

Showing our kids that we respect and value them is how we teach them to do the same.

So, to every coach making the tough calls, please remember the kids who got you there.

Whether they win or lose, let them do it together.

Let them play, they've earned it!

Anna McKee, Corryong.



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Upper Murray Sport

Around the local clubs

Blues notes continued from page 11: After halftime the Blue boys dug deep to pile on four goals in the slippery conditions.

The final term was an even affair but thanks to our inspirational third term we come away with a comfortable victory.

Captain Gus was well suited to the conditions and played a great game in defence along with Dusty, Aiden and Ryland.

U12s:- In the wet greasy conditions our under 12s got off to a great start, kicking the first of the day to lead at first change by seven points. It was a hard contested game from then on without either team giving an inch. At the main break the Demons had clawed their way back to lead by one point.

We had the scoring end in the third stanza but could only manage the one goal on a day that they were hard to come by.

At the final change the Dees were still clinging on to a one point lead. The Blues gave it everything in that last term but both teams' defence were too good and neither team troubled the scoreboard in the last, meaning the Demons just held on by one point to go straight through to the grand final.

Our guys get another chance this week but they should hold their heads high as they nearly got over a team that had beaten them by 10 goals early in the season.

Best: Ryder, Jack, Miller, Jody, Tom, Lenny, Trixv.

Netball

Grade:- This Α game was certainly one to watch, a spectators delight.

From the first whistle it was an aggressive but clean game, both teams hungry for the win.

The game was a rollercoaster of skill and strategy with both teams trading the lead but in the end it was Corryong who took the win putting an end to the Cudgie girls undefeated run.

Unfortunately, a few Dees converted well and the Cudgie girls just couldn't pull back the

The awards could have gone to anyone but it was Charlotte Star, Charlotte Sutherland and Mal Nankervis sharing Players' Player with Shonny Green and Starry also scoring a cash award.

B Grade:- Both teams started of hungry and a touch erratic in the beginning minutes of the game, the cold weather and maybe some finals nerves playing a part.

Before long both teams settled into their straps, displaying a much cleaner, skill level of netball. Bullioh came out with a strong start but once the Cudgie girls found their game there was no stopping them sneaking away to a 14 goal win in the last half.

Awards:-Players' Player - Pip Brown, Bella McKimme and Fleur; Sportspower - Eylish Thompson.

C Grade:- The finals nerves were certainly present, ending the first quarter down by four goals but our team work and determination, combined with a few position changes saw our ladies play their game and we caught up to take the lead in the second, third and fourth quarters to come away with a seven-goal win.

Our shooters Brie, Quinn and Ruby-Jean had their work cut out for them with Corryong's tough defenders but they settled and found their play to make a comeback in the second quarter.

Our centre court players Izzy, Taylor and Tayla worked tirelessly to feed the ball to our goalies and our defenders Chloe L and Chloe M worked beautifully together to shut down the very tactical and accurate Corryong shooters.

Awards: Izzy Cottrell, Chloe Land and Ruby-Jean Klippel.

U15s:- Both teams came out firing, gunning for that grand final position. The game could have gone either way early

Down in the goal end Belle, Lola, Pip showed goals got away and the patience and skill not forcing the ball into the goals and converting some beautiful shots.

Charlotte and Tilly



through centre giving 100 per cent every time they hit the court. Billie, TJ, Claire and Indi worked tirelessly in the midcourt and defence getting many intercepts from the tall Tumba

Amelia and Liv were thrown in the mix in WA and did a wonderful job driving to space and showing some great defensive skills despite being a foot shorter than their opponent.

However, it was Tumba's well drilled defence throughout the court which caused us a few turnovers which were goaled from and they snuck away for an eightgoal win. We welcome the extra game this week to tidy up a bit of our own defence.

Awards: Coach - Lola, 2nd - TJ, 3rd - Pip.

U12s :- The girls knew the game against Tumba would be a challenge, and the finals nerves were definitely present, with girls almost double their size which was quite intimidating but they adjusted their play seeing more bounce passes then usual. It was certainly a game to learn from, seeing the need for space creation, good passing and the ability to get in front of their players. Unfortunately the goals just weren't going in, with every effort from our shooters and our defenders getting finger tips to many

They took positives away from this loss and understood they get another chance this week.

Awards: Players' Player - Ruby McVean, Grill'd - Trixie and Claire.



DEMONS DEN

Netball

A Grade:- It was a momentous game to end Cudgewa's unbeaten run and secure our spot in the grand final with a 33-26 victory.

I am so proud of all the girls as we came to win and everyone gave it their all and didn't stop until the final whistle.

whole-of-court Our pressure allowed our defensive end to produce multiple turnovers and even in some trying conditions we were able to stick to our game plan and work the ball into

our attacking end where Tahnee Thorpe and Meg Greenhill were able to convert at an amazing rate of 100 per cent.

It is so good to see all our hard work coming together and we can't wait to show just how good we are in the grand final.

C Grade:- While it wasn't the final result we were hoping for, our Demons girls dug deep and worked hard to the very last whistle. The weather was tough and unfortunately, Cudgewa was able to convert off loose balls, giving them the win and a path straight into the grand final.

The whole team should be so incredibly proud of their effort and performance. Everyone put in 100 per cent with defensive pressure and attack on the ball.

Bring on the prelim final this weekend against Tumbarumba!







Corryong's Sallie Findlay makes the intercept against Cudgewa shooter, Harriet **Photo: Maisie Pilli** Mackinnon.





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Corryong Courier

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Police: Corryong	02 6076	1666
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Tumbarumba		02 6932 2840
Emergency		000
Ambulance:	Emergency	000
Hospitals:	Corryong 02 6076 3200	
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Fire Brigades:		

000

02 6056 3022 Non-urgent Towong Shire: Corryong 02 6076 2160

02 6071 5100 Tallangatta 02 6948 9100 Snowy Valleys Council:

(WHAT, WHEN & WHO)

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Winter Hours 1pm-4pm

22/8: R Waters 23/8: G Humphreys 24/8: G Bennetts

25/8: S Briskey 26/8: G Humphreys 27/8: G Bennetts

28/8: D Yule

OP SHOP

Aug 22: am Gwen McNair, pm Lyn Duhig; Aug 23: am Kimb Heycox & Kav Hamilton:

Aug 25: am Di Brennan, pm Sandy Green;

Aug 26: am Daff & Gwen McNair, pm Ashleigh Dowton;

Aug 27: am & pm Hazra & Suz;

Aug 28: am & pm Lisa Greenhill,

Aug 29: am Emma Dempster, pm Lun Duhig.

MEALS ON WHEELS

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Aug 25: R Schiers & R Beaumont:

H&R Aug 26: McCormick;

Aug 27: R&C Knight; Aug 28: T&T Newton;

Aug 29: P Davis & T Zerella.

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CORRYONG неаг+н

Care Centre Urgent (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

Reception - 02 6076 3200 Nurse on Call - 1300 606 024 (anytime)

GP Helpline - 1800 022

Pathology - Mon. to Fri. 8am to 12pm.

Community programs:-

- Blokes Night 18+ Last Thursday of the month. Meet at Upper Murray Pizza shop at 7pm (catered
- Mums4mums 3rd Monday of the month at the Toy Library 10-12pm (morning tea provided).

COMMUNITY CAR

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

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

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 Recovery Centre Thursday: 3pm - 5pm

Sunday: 12 noon - 4pm Public holidays - Closed **Waste Collection Days:** Tuesday: Corryong -Thowgla side of Hanson St

(Towong Upper, Thowgla, Nariel Valley etc) Thursday: Corryong -Cudgewa side of Hanson Street (Granya, Bullioh,

Murray River Road etc) For more information visit www.towong.vic. gov.au or phone 1300 365

Snowy Valleys Council Khancoban, Jingellic & Tooma

Wednesday - Yellow or Red Lid Bin

Thursday - Green 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 8.30am-2pm

Last Thursday of every month: CP Clinic - free health checks and free morning tea 9am-1pm

> For out of hours assistance call 0427 762 051

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
- St Joseph's, Khancoban -1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday of the month at 5.30pm.

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

Khancoban at 10.15am followed by lunch - 5th Sunday

Enquiries: Rev Dr Peter Pocock 0428 232 441 / E: anglicancorryong@gmail.

BAPTIST CHURCH

89 Hanson Street **Enquiries:**

Graeme Brummelen - (02) 6076 1468 / 0488 269 393

Services: Sunday Morning Worship Service 10am

Evening Youth Service 4th Sunday monthly 5pm Sunday School fortnightly Youth Group 7pm Fridays (fortnightly during school term)

GO Girls: 3.30pm Mondays during school term & monthly 4pm Saturday afternoon

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

UNITING CHURCH

Services are held at 9.30am each Sunday in Corryong (Cnr Donaldson & Wheeler Sts.)

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**

Meets the 1st and 3rd week of the month. Enquiries: 0448 474 357

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Carol Allen - NSW & Vic. (6076 2051); Merv Ward (0439 773 922); Phil Coulston (6071 2746); Tom Newton - Vic (0438 382 140); Terry Forrest (0499 579 502).

Upper Murray Sport



Cudgewa's Kyle Jarvis clears the danger Photo: Wendy Lavis.

Football/Netball review continued from page 12: Goals:- Corryong - B. Johnstone 1, J. Johnstone 1. Cudgewa Under 12s: R. Pierce 1.

Best:- not supplied.

Netball A Grade Corryong 33 d Cudgewa 26

B Grade Cudgewa 39 d Bullioh 26 C Grade

Cudgewa 24 d Corryong 17 D Grade Tumba 37 d Bullioh 21

15 & Under Tumba 34 d Cudgewa 26 12 & Under Tumba 22 d Cudgewa 5

This Week **Preliminary Final**

Cudgewa has beaten Tumbarumba in their four meetings this season and would be raging favourites to easily beat the Roos again on Saturday apart from a blip on the radar a fortnight ago.

In the last regular season game the Roos sent a scare through the Cudgewa camp when they got within 13 points of the Blues who just did enough, booting three goals to one in the last term.

However, this aberraion is offset by the three previous results between the two sides, which the Blues have won by an average of 94 points.

The bulk of the damage has been done by one man - leading goalkicker John Spencer - who kicked 10 goals in each of those games and has a season tally of 35 goals against the Roos.

If he gets off the chain again and Ben Hall wins his share of the Sherrin in attack another drubbing and exit from the finals race is on the cards for the

The Blues were close to full strength against Bullioh when there was speculation that midfield gun Darcy McKimmie would make an early return from a knee injury.

The Blues will still win without him against the Roos but they will be hoping he can take the field in preparation for a grand final appearance the following week.

The surprise match-up is A grade netball where previously undefeated Cudgewa now faces Tumbarumba in the eliminator.

The Blues have beaten

Tumba by an average of 22 goals in their four matches this season but the Roos may have some hope of causing an upset after only losing by seven goals in round nine.

However, the Blues will be smarting from their 2nd semi loss to Corryong and will want to get back to top class form with a comprehensive victory over the Roos.

Top award up for grabs

The league hold its vote count and presentation this Saturday and any number of players will be in contention for the best and fairest award.

The winner is likely to come from either Cudgewa or Bullioh who have been dominant this season, despite the votes likely to be shared around. Neither Tumbarumba or Corryong have had a standout player that could cause an upset.

Selections

1st - Joel Heiner (Bullioh) 2nd - Darcy McKimmie (Cudgewa) 3rd - John Spencer



BLUES NEWS

Football

Seniors:-Another close contested game as expected against Bullioh. With rain and windy conditions it made for tough footy but neither team took a backwards step with plenty of lead changes and momentum swings during the game it came down to the last quarter as usual.

Our boys ca short by 22 points once again running out of legs and Bullioh taking full advantage with only 15 of us on the field for the last 15 minutes.

We're looking forward to another tough game this weekd against Tumba at

Best:- Captain Mitchy, Jack Ross, Brent De Vries, Jake Vinge, Dyl Haycraft.

Under 9s:- The team continued on its winning way, although Bullioh put up a good fight early and were definitely up for the

Continued on page 9



Upper Murray Sport



Dogs draw first blood

The running battle between Bullioh and Cudgewa continued in the 2nd semi on Saturday and the Dogs stuck to the formula that has seen them overrun the Blues in three of their previous four encounters this season.

quarter in wet and windy conditions both sides attacked the ball with ferocity and just five points separated them at the first break but the Blues turned the tables in the second term to lead by the same margin at the long interval.

Murray, was giving the Blues' defence a headache and his seven goals proved crucial in the run home while leading goalkicker, John Spencer, was the focus of the Bullioh backs who restricted him to three goals. However, In a rugged first his forward line ally, Ben Hall, ensured the Blues stayed in touch with a fivegoal haul.

The margin was only three points in Bullioh's favour at three quarter time but in a desperate last stanza, with Cudgewa fielding just 15 players, Dogs' spearhead, Ash the Dogs kicked a series

Upper Murray

Football &

Netball League

Preliminary Finals

Saturday August 23, 2025

Cudgewa Recreation Reserve, Cudgewa

Reserves: Tumbarumba v Cudgewa - 12.15pm

Under 12s: Cudgewa v Bullioh - 10.15am

(Players from all clubs are invited to join in)

Under 9s: Cudgewa v Tumbarumba - 9.15am

A Grade: Cudgewa v Tumbarumba - 2.15pm

C Grade: Corryong v Tumbarumba - 12.00pm

B Grade: Bullioh v Tumbarumba - 1.00pm

D Grade: Bullioh v Corryong - 11.00am

15 & Under: Cudgewa v Bullioh - 9.55am

12 & Under: Cudgewa v Bullioh - 9.00am

(Players from all clubs are invited to join in)

Gates open at 8.15am.

Under 9s: Cudgewa v Tumbarumba - 9.00am

14-17: \$5. Cash or card payments available.

Admission: Adults: \$12 / Concession: \$8 / Child

Under 14s: Tumbarumba v Cudgewa - 11.10am

Seniors: Cudgewa v Tumbarumba

of four goals to one to draw away for a 22-point victory, the largest gap between the adversaries this season.

The biggest turnup of the day was Corryong's seven goal triumph over Cudgewa in the A grade netball clash, inflicting the first defeat on the Blues this season.

In a phenomenal display of goal shooting the respective attack combinations all scored at 100 percent! Corryong's Tahnee Thorpe shot 22/22 and Meg Greenhill chimed in with 11/11 while the Blues' pairing of Harriet Mackinnon (15/15) and Mego Nankervis (11/11) were also on song.

The game was won in the midcourt where the Demons' pressure caused a host of turnovers, leading to a steady supply of ball for their goalers to feast on.

Results

Football - 2nd Semi Final Seniors

Bullioh 4.2, 7.6, 10.10, 14.12 (96) d Cudgewa 3.3, 8.5, 10.7, 11.8 (74)

Goals:- Bullioh - A. Murray 7, J. Wellington 3, C. Brunnenmeyer 2, N. Macaulay 1, K. Wallace 1. Cudgewa - B. Hall 5, J. Spencer 3, L. Whiteley 2, J. Bartel 1.

Best:- Bullioh - J. Heiner, J. Curran, J. Wells, H. Wells, L. Schubert, K. Wallace. Cudgewa - M. Pynappels, J. Ross, D. Haycraft, J. Vinge, J. Lieschke, J. Bartel.

Reserves Bullioh 2.1, 3.3, 5.3, 6.6 (42) d Tumbarumba 2.0,

4.3, 4.5, 5.9 (39)

Goals:- Bullioh - B. Parker

2, B. Simmonds 1, B. Harrison 1, A. Barnes 1, B. Hardisty 1. Tumbarumba -B. Hamilton 2, T. Bennett 1, A. Widdison 1, L. Vogan

Best:- Bullioh - B. Simmonds, H. Nicholls, C. Ried, B. Loy. Tumbarumba - J. Doolan, R. Hulm, B. De Bono, Q. Rooney.

Under 14s Corryong 1.1, 5.1, 10.3, 11.3 (69) d Tumbarumba 1.1, 1.2, 1.2, 3.4 (22)

Goals:- Corryong C. Heinjus 5, O. Davis 2, H. Nicholas 2, J. Yule 1, A. Flack 1. Tumbarumba - H. Clothier 1, A. Bremner 1, L. Nagle 1.

Best:- not supplied. Under 12s Corryong 0.0, 1.2, 2.2, 2.2 (14) d Cudgewa 1.1, 1.1,

Continued page 11

2.1, 2.1 (13)



Bullioh's Clayton Bosman shepherds Craig Lieschke to free up his teammate.

Photo: Wendy Lavis.

HEAD-TO-HEAD IN 2025 Cudgewa v Tumbarumba

R1 1/5/25

Cudgewa 7.0, 10.0, 18.3, 23.5 (143) d Tumbarumba 1.3, 2.8, 4.9, 7.10 (52) Goals: Cudgewa - J. Spencer 10, B. Hall 4, D. McKimmie 3, C. Lieschke 3, S. Bartel 2, A. Ferguson 1. Tumbarumba - not supplied.

Best: Cudgewa - J. McInerney, C. Lieschke, J. Spencer, J. Hill. Tumbarumba - F. Debono, R. Jolliffe, R. Brennan, J. Ryall.

Cudgewa 7.1, 14.5, 19.10, 26.13 (169) d Tumbarumba 3.0, 4.0, 4.0, 6.1 (37) Goals:- Cudgewa - J Spencer 10, B Hall 7, S Bartel 2, D Haycraft 1, J Hill 1, J Bartel 1, L Whiteley 1, J Vinge 1, J Tregilgas 1, C Booth 1. Tumbarumba - not supplied. Best:- Cudgewa - D Haycraft, J Vinge, M Pynappels, J Hill, J Spencer, B Hall. Tumbarumba - not supplied.

R9 5/7/25

Cudgewa 3.1, 10.5, 12.10, 17.15 (117) d Tumbarumba 3.2, 3.4, 6.7, 8.10 (58) Goals: Cudgewa - J. Spencer 10, C. Lieschke 2, J. Tregilgas 2, B. Hall 2, S. Bartel 1. Tumbarumba Seniors: E. Thomsen 2, B. Lane 2, R. Bolton 1, H. Clayton 1, S. Clarke

Best: Cudgewa - S. Bartel, J. Ross, M. Pynappels, C. Lieschke, J. Spencer, T. Bandy. Tumbarumba - J. Waters, S. Clarke, E. Thomsen, H. Waters, F. Kirk, B. Lane. R12 2/8/25

Cudgewa 3.0, 3.5, 6.8, 9.8 (62) d Tumbarumba 2.2, 5.4, 6.6, 7.7 (49)

Goals:- Cudgewa J. Spencer 5, B. Hall 2, S. Bartel 2. Tumbarumba - . Bennett 2, A. Widdison 2, M. Deluca 1, S. Senior 1, B. Lane 1.

Best:- Cudgewa - D. Haycraft, M. Pynappels, B. Whitehead, K. Jarvis, J. McInerney, J. Vinge. Tumbarumba - Q. Rooney, J. Waters, J. Ryall, H. Waters, F. Debono, J.

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The effects of pinkeye:

- Extreme pain and distress to the animal
- Weight loss or a reduction in daily weight gains
- Decline in appetite and overall production
 Stress and labour costs for farm owners/managers
- Significant treatment costs and antibiotic usage
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