Skipton Community News

A Project of Skipton Progress Association Inc.
Volume 49 Issue 35 ~ 4th November 2026

FREE
WEEKLY



—This is an A.I. generated graphic—

JOIN US AT SPRING FESTIVAL THIS SUNDAY!

Join the residents of Skipton town and district this Sunday 8th November, celebrating the 2026 Spring Festival.

Enjoy free entertainment, live music and kids activities, fun for the whole family! Be sure to catch a shearing demonstration too!

Indulge at the food vendors and pick up some early Christmas gifts from the market stalls.

Bring along some gold coins and support the wonderful volunteers and organisations!

Pop in to see the art exhibition in the hall, as well as the mural being painted at the pump station on the main street.

Don't forget to stop in the Bluestone Café and the Community Op Shop while you're in town, and support our wonderful businesses. The Skipton Country Grocers are also a great place to grab some snacks before you head back home!

See you there!



THE SKIPTON PROGRESS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

SKIPTONAUSTRALIA.ORG.AU

COMMUNITY NOTICE

NOTICE OF SFNC AGM

18th November 2026, 7pm at the clubrooms. Nominations to the Secretary by 11th November via skiptonfncsecretary@gmail.com.

All members welcome.

—Skipton Football Netball Club —

COMMUNITY NOTICE

NOTICE OF SKIPTON CEMETERY TRUST AGM

The Skipton Cemetery Trust Annual General Meeting, followed by the Ordinary Meeting will be held:

When: 7pm on Monday 9th November

Where: Meeting room at Skipton Mechanics Hall, Anderson Street, Skipton

Anyone interested in joining the Trust is welcome to attend.

Contact for queries: Myra Thornton (Acting Secretary)
Mobile 0414 766 979

—Myra Thornton, Acting Secretary, Skipton Cemetery Trust—

SKIPTON CEMETERY TRUST

The Skipton Cemetery Trust is seeking help from the community with the replacement of trees that were cut down.

All donations of $100 or more to replace these trees will have the donors name placed on a board near the front gate.

Please make direct debit donations to:

Bendigo Community Bank
BSB: 633 000 Account Number: 163398050
Account Name: Skipton Cemetery Trust
Reference: Trees + family name

For more information, contact:

Myra Thornton (Acting Secretary) on 0414 766 979
OR email skipton.cemetery.au@gmail.com

—Myra Thornton, Acting Secretary Skipton Cemetery Trust—

COMMUNITY NOTICE

SKIPTON COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Skipton Community Christmas Party will be held on Thursday 17th December 2026 at the Skipton Recreation Reserve.

The extras this year will be a shooting gallery and battery operated animals, as well as the usual activities. Looking forward to seeing you at this FREE EVENT!

—Stan Foote—

Rustic Kitchen
AT THE SKIPTON GOLF & BOWLS CLUB
26 ROKEWOOD-SKIPTON ROAD, SKIPTON, 3361

OUTREACH LIBRARY COMING TO STREATHAM WEEKLY

The Ararat Rural City Library Outreach Van attends Streatham Hall every Monday from 2:30pm to 3:30pm.

All are welcome.

Guests can browse a selection of reading and listening materials, have any requested items delivered, and learn about upcoming events.

For further information, please contact the Ararat Rural City Library on 03 5352 1722.

—Ararat Rural City Council—

STREATHAM & SURROUNDS FIRE RECOVERY HUB

The Fire Recovery Hub is open every Friday from 1pm to 3pm at Streatham Hall.

Afternoon tea is provided. The Fire Recovery Officer from Ararat Rural City Council is in attendance every week for residents to discuss available support, catch up with local residents, and share upcoming events & plans.

FREE TECH HELP AT THE HUB from 16th OCT

This is a free service for residents of Streatham and surrounds who may have questions about technology - whether it is how to use their phone, laptop or tablet; accessing online services; staying safe online; avoiding scams; resetting passwords; or any other concerns about our increasingly digital world.

Ararat Library's Digital Literacy Support Officer will be at the Streatham Fire Recovery Hub on the following Fridays:

- 16th October
- 30th October
- 13th November
- 20th November
- 4th December
- 11th December

Please bring the device you would like assistance with along.

For more details, please contact Moya on 03 5355 0232.

—Ararat Rural City Council—

COMMUNITY NOTICE

COMMUNITY WORKING BEE AT SKIPTON COMMUNITY GARDEN

The next Skipton Community Garden working bee is coming up on Saturday 14th November, from 11am-1:30pm, at 32 Beaufort Rd, Skipton.

Come along and help out as we continue to build a space for the whole community to benefit from. Tools and equipment are provided, but please bring a set of gloves, a good hat, and remember to wear sturdy shoes.

Summer crop seedlings are going in and many hands make light work. The garden is to benefit everyone, and you are welcome to share in the returns come harvest time.

Everyone is welcome, all ages and abilities. Come out to meet your neighbours and get involved!

Light refreshments are provided, but please remember to bring a water bottle and stay hydrated!

Hope to see you there!

—Skipton Community Garden—

MEET THE CFA SKIPTON BRIGADE

The CFA Skipton Brigade will be holding their Get Fire Ready Event this Sunday, 8th November, at the Skipton Spring Festival.

Residents of Skipton town and district are welcome to Meet the Brigade and talk about fire preparedness. They will be giving advice and talking about how to prepare your property, how to create a fire plan, how to use the VicEmergency App, and what to do in the event of an emergency or where to go if you need to evacuate.

Everyone is welcome to attend and find out more about how to Get Fire Ready this season.



PUBLIC OPINION

SKIPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CLOSING

Very sad news that after more than 150 years the church is to be closed.

The Presbyterian hierarchy in Ballarat have decided to close the Skipton Church and the last service will be held on 27th December 2026.

The current renowned structure (Gargoyles adorned spire) was built by money and labour donated by locals in 1872 and added to over the next 15 decades. There was an earlier brick building built for the congregation in 1857 near the cemetery.

It will be interesting what the Ballarat Presbytery and the Victorian Presbyterian powers decide to do with the substantial assets of the Skipton Presbyterian Church. There is a whole half block of land including the cream brick manse, Russell Hall, Saint Andrews and all the land.

In my opinion, it should be handed back to the Skipton community and used as a community hub. Given that the Skipton folk built and provided all the finances for over more than 150 years, I think it would be fitting for our community to benefit from the community built assets rather than sold to the highest bidder.

Interesting times ahead.

—Ian Moyle—



—This is an A.I. generated graphic—

FIRE BOOK AND FILM ORDERS READY FOR PICKUP

The following orders of the *Flaming Hell* book, and *After The Flames* film, are ready to be picked up from Gorst Depot in Skipton.

Amanda Brady	Sharon Cuthbertson	Kelly Cass	Peter Glover	Jake & Tamsin Gerdes
Jake Grundell	Simone McAuliffe	James Kinnersley	Justine Ellis	Troy & Emma Smith
Russell Pitcher	Luke Jackson	Faith & Mark Howie	Kay Richardson	John Rowland
Patricia Wynd	Graham Walter	Flora Sharp	Liz Phillips	Bill Fay & Pam Kilgour
Jamie & Danielle Hinton	Scott & Margot Barr	Chris Heywood	Una Allender	Robert Fraser

Copies of *Flaming Hell* and *After The Flames* are still available for purchase now at the Beaufort Newsagency, the Skipton Roadhouse, Bluestone Café, and the Skipton Country Grocers.

Books are $30, films are $10.



Painting by Sandy Joy Wilson, donated to the Skipton Community. The painting will be cared for by the Skipton Historical Society.

The reprinted Skipton Flood Book is available for purchase from the Skipton Historical Society at $100 per copy.

Any queries, please contact Pat Gabb on 0473 421 802.

My sincere thanks to these businesses for supporting us.

—Pat Gabb—

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Anglican Parish of Beaufort & Skipton

Contact Marilyn Ellis on 5340 3515 for enquiries
Usual Service times
9:00am on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month

St Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Contact Stewart on 0437 495 553 for enquiries
Service Times: Presbyterian Congregation Skipton/Lismore
10am at Skipton each week



St John The Baptist Catholic Church, Beaufort

Service Times

- Week One Sunday LLA 10:00am
- Week Two Sunday Mass 8:30am
- Week Three Sunday LLA 10:00am
- Week Four Sunday Mass 8:30am
- Week Five Sunday LLA 10:00am

St Aloysius' Redan
St James' Sebastopol
St Peter's Linton

(Encompassing Skipton, Smythesdale & Snake Valley)

Parish Priest: Fr. Con Bagaoisan OSJ
Presbytery: 508 Leith St, Redan
Telephone: 0435 494 472

Assistant Priest: Fr. Eladio Lizada OSJ
Telephone: 0450 017 007

Parish Coordinators & Safeguarding Officers
Redan: Bernadette Lynch
Telephone: 0455 212 123
Email: redan@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9am - 4pm

Sebastopol: Pauline O'Brien
Telephone: 0428 699 624
Email: sebastopol@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Office hours: Tuesday & Friday 9am - 3pm

For Linton Parish enquiries, contact Fr. Con Bagaoisan

The parish acknowledges that the Aboriginal people of Australia are our first nation people and the traditional owners and custodians of this land.

Parish Mass Times
St Aloysius, Redan & St James, Sebastopol: Thursday 9:30am, Friday 9:30am, Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 9:00am, Sunday 10:30am
St Brigid's, Snake Valley, St Peter's, Linton & St John's, Skipton: Saturday 6:30pm, Sunday 9:00am, Sunday 10:30am

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

3 Lyons St, South Ballarat
Telephone: 5331 2933
Email: ballarat@ballarat.catholic.org.au
Web: stpatscathedral.weebly.com
www.facebook.com/patricks.cathedral.9/
Office hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10:00am - 3:00pm

The phone will be transferred to the on-call priest so that Hospitals, Aged Care facilities, Funeral Directors or others seeking the services of a priest may be responded to.

St. Patrick's Parish, Ballarat

****

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather, the Wadawurrung People of the Kulin nation.

We are a child safe Parish following the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government, implementing procedures and standards as directed by the Professional Standards Office of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE

Skipton Community News Banking Details
Bendigo Community Bank Beaufort
Account name: Skipton Progress Association Inc.
BSB: 633 000 Account number: 146 795 687

SKIPTON TRANSFER STATION

Beaufort Road, Skipton

Skipton Transfer Station opens fortnightly on Wednesdays and Sundays from 1-5pm

Wednesday 21st October
Sunday 1st November
Wednesday 4th November
Sunday 15th November
Wednesday 18th November
Sunday 29th November
Wednesday 2nd December



Skipton Kerbside Bin Collection

Red waste bins collected weekly, yellow recycling fortnightly, purple glass on first recycling week each month
Green bin collected weekly between October & December

Tuesday 20th October:	Red, yellow & green bins
Tuesday 27th October:	Red & green bins
Tuesday 3rd November:	Red, yellow, green & purple bins
Tuesday 10th November:	Red, yellow & green bins
Tuesday 17th November:	Red & green bins
Tuesday 24th November:	Red, yellow & green bins

SKIPTON FOOD BANK AT JUBILEE CENTRE

10 MONTGOMERY STREET, SKIPTON

NEW OPENING HOURS

MONDAYS	**1PM-4PM**
WEDNESDAYS	**12PM-3PM**
THURSDAYS	**9AM-12PM**

An emergency community pantry providing free food, toiletries and hygiene products, cleaning supplies and other necessities to those in need, no questions asked.

Please consider a financial donation to:
SKIPTON COMMUNITY SHOP
BSB 633 000 Account number: 230967804

SKIPTON OP-SHOP OPENING HOURS

The after-hours phone number for Stan has changed to **5340 2478**

Monday - Friday	10am - 4pm
Saturday	10am - 3pm
Sunday	10am - 2pm

SKIPTON LIBRARY AT THE MECHANICS HALL

Corangamite Moyne Library Service

5 Anderson St, Skipton

Open Tuesday 10am-12pm
Friday 3pm-5pm

Fiction, non-fiction, Large Print, DVDs, eBooks, children's books & DVDs, biographies, and more.
Free membership, all welcome.

Publish your meeting or events dates in the Skipton Community News each week!
Email details to the Editor to skiptonscn@gmail.com
Post us a flyer to PO Box 60, Skipton VIC 3361
Or drop us a note into our drop boxes in either the roadhouse or the Skipton Country Grocers.
The deadline for inclusion is 4pm every Friday, to be printed in the next week's newsletter.
Story contributions are also welcome.

Beaufort & Skipton Health Service

To be a vibrant provider of care

BOARD DIRECTOR OPPORTUNITIES AT BEAUFORT & SKIPTON HEALTH SERVICE

The Department of Health is seeking applications for part-time Board Director positions at Beaufort & Skipton Health Service. Appointment terms start on 1 July 2027 and are for up to three years.

These roles offer a unique opportunity to contribute to Victoria's public health system by providing strategic leadership, oversight and accountability to support safe, high-quality and effective healthcare for Victorians. As a board director, you will hold an important position of trust, helping ensure health services operate with integrity and with a strong focus on patient outcomes.

Appointments are based on capabilities and the professional and lived experience applicants can bring to the strategic leadership of Victoria's public health system.

We encourage applications from people of all backgrounds and experiences, including First Nations people, people living with a disability, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, LGBTIQA+ people, and those living in rural and regional Victoria. Living in Victoria, or in a border community near Victorian health services, is preferred.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate the capabilities identified in their applications.

Applications close Sunday 22 November 2026.

Further information about Victorian health service boards and how to apply can be found at www.health.vic.gov.au/board-applications

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bshs.org.au


Check your gear before you hit the road.
Find out how safe your gear is.
MotoCAP.com.au
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COME AND TRY WORKSHOPS

THREE CHEESE WORKSHOP WITH CRAIG CASTREE



A relaxing and enjoyable afternoon was had by all at our Three Cheese Workshop with Craig Castree.

Participants had the opportunity to learn about, and taste, some delicious fresh cheeses, while Craig generously shared his knowledge and experience.

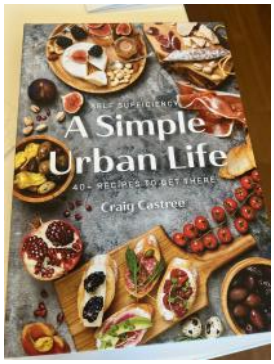


There was plenty to learn, not just about cheese making, but also self-sufficiency, growing your own food and all things horticultural. Craig's enthusiasm and willingness to share his knowledge made the afternoon both informative and inspiring.



This event was made possible through the generous support of the **Corangamite Shire**, for which we are very grateful.

The afternoon concluded with a lovely afternoon tea, giving everyone the opportunity to char further with Craig, ask questions and perhaps purchase a book or some supplies to take home and have a go at making their own cheese!



A big thank you to Craig and the Corangamite Shire for helping make this such an enjoyable community event.

—Skipton Art Trail Group—

PHOTOS FOR THE NEW BOOK ON THE ICONIC AUSTINS OF BORRIYALLOAK

My brother Des, a Skipton boy who has written 11 books, has just completed his latest book, *The Austins of Borriyalloak*. This well researched and finely crafted volume, which has been four years in the making, is the only book ever written on the Austins of Borriyalloak and has resources an extensive bibliography.



Borriyalloak Homestead, built by Francis Ormond and later added to by E G Austin. It was destroyed in the fires of 1944 and never rebuilt.

The book, consisting of 148 pages and complemented by over 200 historical photos and maps, is superbly presented in hardcover format and the internal pages are produced in full colour on an attractive and durable gloss paper. Many of the historical photos had survived in a very poor condition. Thanks to modern technology, they have been restored and are now crisp and clear without losing any of their historical authenticity. The raft of historic photos includes 31 of Skipton's early days, stretching back to the 1850s.



Chauffeur, Hugh Trainor, beside the Austin's Tourer. The rear seat passengers are most likely Borriyalloak owners, Ernest (R) & Emily Austin (L), and their daughter Phylis, seated between them (c.1915)

Books can be purchased for $50 each and must be paid for prior to printing. Orders will need to be lodged and paid by the 12th of November.

Please contact Ian Moyle to discuss payment arrangements: phone 0419 680 444 or email ian.moyle@outlook.com.

—Ian Moyle—



SKIPTON GOLF & BOWLS CLUB

UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

Come in for a fun evening, good food, and great atmosphere!

Skipton Golf & Bowls Club

26 Rokewood-Skipton Rd, Skipton

- Darts & Pizzas - Wednesday nights from 6:30pm
- Meat raffle draw every Saturday night at 6:45pm

Tickets sold from Wednesday night till Saturday night.

- Golf tournament/Barefoot Bowls Day coming up on **Sunday 22nd November**. Details to come.
- The next Club Working Bee - **Sunday 6th December**, 9:30am-12:30pm.

We are looking at putting in a sand scrape as a trial. We would like help and constructive opinions.

Rustic Kitchen also open for dinner. Check the Skipton Golf & Bowls Club Facebook page for what's on specials and to see the menu www.facebook.com/thebaratskiptongolfandbowlsclub

—Skipton Golf & Bowls Club—

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Tuesday	8.00am - 5.30pm
Wednesday	8.00am - 5.30pm
Thursday	8.00am - 5.30pm
Friday	8.00am - 5.30pm
Saturday	9.00am -12.00pm

CVC CAMPERDOWN VETERINARY CENTRE

Please note:
NEW OPENING TIMES

59 William Street Lismore
Every Tuesday 9.00am-12.00pm
To book an appointment for your pet, please call (03) 5593 1077

Routine on-farm visits from 12.00pm onwards every Tuesday.

For all emergencies, please ring (03) 5593 1077 and follow the prompts to talk to a vet on call.

www.camperdownvet.com.au team@camperdownvet.com.au

WELLBEING AND INCLUSION.
OUT AND ABOUT



movie a month



TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER, 10.30 AM
SKIPTON MECHANICS HALL

Breakfast at Tiffany's
1961 | 1h 55m

SHIRE MOVIE MORNING

featuring

BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S

1961 Comedy/Romance

Starring Audrey Hepburn, George Peppard, Patricia Neal, Buddy Ebsen, Martin Balsam and Mickey Rooney

WHERE: SKIPTON HALL

WHEN: TUESDAY 10th NOVEMBER, 10:30AM

FREE ENTRY

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
PLEASE CALL 5593 7100 ASK FOR BELINDA OR LESA

BELOW ARE SOME EXTRACTS FROM 1936 FROM THE SKIPTON STANDARD & STREATHAM GAZETTE FROM 90 YEARS AGO
LOCATED IN THE SHS POLICE HOUSE MUSEUM, MONTGOMERY STREET, SKIPTON.
These extracts are researched and provided by:
Terry Gosling (President/Treasurer of Skipton Historical Society)

The "Marcel Wave"

Marcel, who invented the Marcel-Wave, has recently died in Paris at the age of 84.

The description he coined made him world-famous, and countless hair-dressers are in his debt. On his 70th birthday the barbers of France presented him with his bust modelled by a fashionable sculptor.

Marcel was his Christian name. He was really Marcel Grateau, and nearly 50 years have passed since he introduced his great effort. Son of a French stonemason, he was apprenticed to that trade; but his health proved too delicate, and he was sent to the village hairdresser as an assistant.

When 17 he went to Paris, but was actually dismissed for supposed awkwardness. He was reduced to curling the hair of young women for twopence when his great idea, the "Marcel Wave," came. This was in 1887, and since that time women all over the world have spent millions of pounds on hair-dressing. At the beginning the price of one of his whole-head waves was about £40.

The hairdressing trade has always recognised a great debt to Marcel for his discovery, which opened a new commercial and technical channel. He always refused to patent his famous irons, but simply passed on his knowledge to his early disciples. He made one official visit to London in 1908, but visited England several times subsequently.

THE BUTTON-HOLE.

Its Regal Beginning.

Do you know how the button-hole had its beginning? If you don't, well, here it is.

At a State gathering Queen Victoria—at that time scarcely out of her 'teens — presented Prince Albert (afterwards her consort) with a flower from her bouquet. The Prince, momentarily at a loss how to wear it, had an inspiration. Borrowing a nearby Highlander's dagger, he slit a small hole in the lapel of his coat, and the tailors most promptly provided for the fashion thus set up.

RUSSIAN WEATHER CONTROL.

Russia's newly-established weather control department, the Institute of Artificial Rain, has discovered a practical system of protecting Moscow from snowstorms. The city is surrounded with captive balloons, discharging at intervals powerful electric currents into the atmosphere. Old Man Weather evidently wilts under such a bombardment, for the impending snowstorms promptly unload the greater part of their white cargoes on the outlying hillsides. Hailstorms were once the terror of Swiss wine growers, smashing their vines to pulp and causing incalculable havoc. Nowadays hailstorms are not allowed to occur. Immediately the suggestion of one comes up on the horizon, flights of high-calibre rockets are fired into the black clouds. Down comes rain, but not a single pulverising hailstone.

To discover more about Skipton's past, drop into the Old Police House at 35 Montgomery Street between 2pm and 4pm on the third Sunday of every month. All are most welcome.



Sound Bath with Shelley from H.O.P.E.
Saturday 21st November from 10 - 11:30am
at the Skipton Golf & Bowls Club

proudly sponsored by SKIPTON FOOD BANK

Tickets $10 - bookings essential!
https://events.humanitix.com/rest-and-reset-sound-healing

SCAN ME

Alternatively scan QR code
or contact Tash on 0435894546 to book.

Bring yoga mat, a cushion, blanket, water, journal & pen







Write a Will

A New Year's resolution you should keep

Writing or updating your Will should be at the top of your 'to do' list in 2026. Contact our experienced team to get it started. We can also assist with:

- Power of Attorney
- Asset protection
- Trusts
- Structuring
- Superannuation
- Taxation Law

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Skipton | 2 Blake Street | 5340 1100

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THE AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRATS ARE BACK: HISTORIC RETURN TO VICTORIAN STATE POLITICS AFTER 20 YEARS

"Keep the bastards honest" - the Australian Democrats officially return to the Victorian ballot, clearing the way to contest the November 2026 Victorian State Election.

The Australian Democrats have officially returned to Victorian state politics after successfully completing the Victorian Electoral Commission's (VEC) registration process, clearing the way for the party to contest the November 2026 Victorian State Election.

The milestone marks the first time in approximately 20 years that the Australian Democrats have been registered to contest a Victorian state election.

Importantly, the Australia Democrats have continued to contest federal elections throughout this period, with only one exception. The party has therefore remained a part of Australia's federal political landscape, but November's Victorian election will mark its first state-level contest in Victoria in two decades.

The Victorian registration represents a remarkable political resurrection for one of Australia's most recognisable political movements - and comes as the party experiences an extraordinary resurgence in membership across Victoria.

Over the past six months, the Australian Democrats have more than tripled their membership base, with Victorians from across the political spectrum joining the party.

Victorian & Tasmanian State President Ryan Parris said the successful registration marked the beginning of a new chapter for the Australian Democrats.

"The Australian Democrats are officially back in Victoria politics," said Ryan Parris, Victorian & Tasmanian State President.

"We have achieved something that many people simply didn't believe was possible. We have rebuilt our membership, mobilised an incredible group of volunteers and successfully navigated the VEC registration process.

"But this isn't about looking backwards. It's about looking forward," he said.

Victorians are looking for an alternative

The Australian Democrats' resurgence comes at a time when the party says voters are increasingly disenchanted with the major political parties and are searching for an alternative.

Mr Parris said the rapid growth in membership demonstrated that Victorians were prepared to look beyond traditional party politics.

"People are tired of political tribalism. They are tired of being told they have to choose between one major party and another," said Mr Parris.

"What we're hearing from our members is simple: they want an alternative.

"And importantly, they don't want an alternative that is untested. The Australian Democrats have a proven history of standing up for transparency, accountability, human rights, good government and parliamentary scrutiny."

The Australian Democrats established a reputation as an independent political force during their decades in the Australian Senate, frequently using their balance of power to scrutinise governments and influence legislation.

The party says that independent approach is needed now more than ever, and will be focused on the upper house in the upcoming Victorian election, to hold power to account.

"We don't exist to blindly support Labor, Liberal, National, Greens or anyone else," said Mr Parris.

"Our job is to represent the public interest, scrutinise government and, where necessary, keep those in power honest."

A 50-year legacy - and a slogan that still rings true

The Australian Democrats' return to Victorian politics comes as the party prepares to celebrate a major milestone.

In May 2027, the Australian Democrats will mark 50 years since their formation in 1977.

For a political party returning to the Victorian ballot after two decades, the timing is significant.

And as the Australian Democrats approach their 50th anniversary, one of their most famous political slogans remains as relevant today as it was nearly half a century ago.

"That slogan has become part of Australian political history. It was cheeky, it was bold, and it captured exactly what the Australian Democrats were about," said Mr Parris.

"Nearly 50 years later, the fundamental principle behind it hasn't changed.

"Governments need scrutiny. Opposition parties need scrutiny. Political institutions need scrutiny. And most importantly, voters need representatives who are prepared to ask the difficult questions and hold power to account.

"That's what the Australian Democrats were created to do - and that's what we are coming back to do," he said.

A new chapter begins

The successful VEC registration means Victorian voters will once again have the opportunity to vote for Australian Democrats candidates at a Victorian state election.

The party says it will now turn its attention towards selecting candidates, developing its election platform and building its campaign organisation ahead of November.

Mr Parris said the registration campaign had demonstrated the strength of the party's renewed volunteer base.

"This achievement belongs to our members and volunteers.

"Hundreds of people have made phone calls, sent messages, contacted members, checked records, and worked tirelessly behind the scenes to get us across the line.

"We didn't buy our way back into Victorian politics. We rebuilt this movement from the ground up.

"And what we've achieved in six months gives us enormous confidence about what we can achieve over the next six months."

—Media release: Australian Democrats Victoria—

LAKE BOLAC BUSH NIRSING CENTRE
NOVEMBER MONTHLY CALENDAR



Beaufort & Skipton Health Service

To be a vibrant provider of care

SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUPS

Our Social Support Groups provide an opportunity for community members to remain connected to one another while participating in a variety of activities.

Skipton Out and About Bus
Skipton Day Centre Room
Third Tuesday of the month
10am-3pm

Beaufort Out and About Bus
Beaufort Library Carpark
Third Tuesday of the month
10am-3pm

Skipton Walking Group
Skipton Day Centre Room
Every Thursday
12pm-12:45pm

Beaufort Walking Group
Beaufort Library Carpark
Every Wednesday
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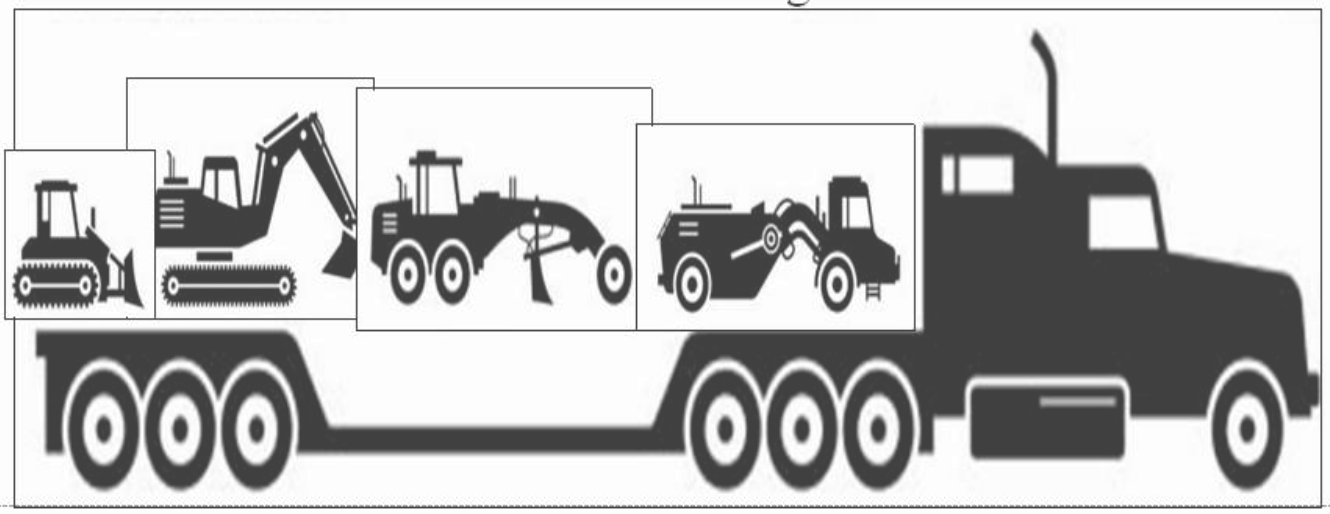
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Parking is located in the back of the premises.



Moreton Hill Wind Farm

The proposed Moreton Hill Wind Farm is located on Wadawurrung Country, about 35 kilometres southwest of Ballarat. The wind farm will have up to 62 turbines, producing enough electricity to power around 260,000 homes and prevent almost 350,000 tonnes of emissions annually.

The wind farm is proposed to connect to the electricity network via a new underground 220kV powerline to the Berrybank terminal station about nine kilometres south of the wind farm.

For the latest updates on Moreton Hill Wind Farm and to sign up for our community updates, please scan the QR code or visit: www.moretonhillwindfarm.com.au

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SKIPTON FOODBANK CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

This year the Skipton Food Bank will once again be putting together hampers for families in need. These will be filled with pantry staples, and hopefully a few seasonal treats to help make this time of year a little brighter.

This is where YOU come in!

We are launching our Christmas Food Drive NOW!

Yes it's early, but with the rising cost of living we want to get a head start. For some it might be easier to add an item to their regular grocery shop now, rather than waiting until December.

You'll find collection bins at the Skipton Community Shop and Country Grocers on the main street of Skipton, as well as at Skipton Primary School. You can also bring items into us at the Skipton Food Bank at the Jubilee Centre, 10 Montgomery Street, during our opening hours (Mon 1-4, Wed 12-3, Thurs 9-12).

We are particularly looking for 'treat' items that could really help create a joyful and nourishing Christmas. These don't need to be expensive, and no alcohol please!

Some suggestions are:

- *Tinned Ham or Chicken*
- *Stuffing Mix*
- *Gravy Mix*
- *Christmas Cake or Pudding*
- *Mince Pies*
- *UHT Custard*
- *Jelly Crystals*
- *Cookies or Shortbread*
- *Boxed Toiletries Packs - men's, women's & children's*
- *Christmas Bon Bons*
- *New Toys or games for a variety of ages*

We are also seeking donations of some everyday items:

- *Breakfast spreads like Jam, Peanut Butter, Nutella or Vegemite*
- *Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate or Milo*
- *Cooking Oil*
- *Sugar*
- *Toilet paper & Cleaning supplies*



Every donation helps, whether big or small. If you'd like to make a financial donation to help support our community pantry, Christmas Food Drive and Christmas Hamper Project, please get in touch with us for bank details by calling Helen on 0437 014 633.

To request a hamper, please call in and chat to our friendly volunteers during our regular opening hours. Hampers are limited to one per household and we will do our best to tailor them to your family's needs.

Thank you all for your continued support! You can follow us on Facebook for updates: www.facebook.com/skiptonfoodbank.

—Skipton Food Bank—

SKIPTON FOOD BANK
OPENING HOURS

Monday	**1pm-4pm**
Wednesday	**12pm-3pm**
Thursday	**9am-12pm**



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The Skipton Community News is a project of the Skipton Progress Association Inc. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we create and publish, the Wadawurrung People of the Kulin Nations, and we pay our respect to Elders past, present, and emerging.

The Skipton Community News is a proud member of the Community Newspaper Association of Victoria. Find current and previous issues online at the National Library of Australia/TROVE: ***https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-2816369293***

DISCLAIMER: All information in SCN is from sources believed to be accurate and current at the time of publication. The Editor reserves the right to withhold publication of anything deemed inappropriate, including any anonymous contributions. Views expressed in SCN are not necessarily the views of Skipton Progress Association Inc. —Kathy Leewai, Editor, SCN—

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AND MEETINGS

Skipton Senior Citizens Club
Every Monday at Skipton Mechanics Institute Hall

From **2pm till 4pm** on Monday, and on the **fourth Monday** have an earlier start of **12 noon** for Lunch. Committee Meeting follows at 2pm. "Seniors" is a fantastic way to enjoy a weekly outing and to make new friends. Play Cards, Bingo, Carpet Bowls, and "lots of Other Stuff"!!

- Seniors also have trips and outings throughout the year.
- Just come along, you will be happy you did.

Euchre Card Group
Meets on Wednesdays at 1:30pm. In the Billiard Room, Mechanics Hall. All welcome. All ages will enjoy cards.

Skipton Library in Mechanics Hall
Opening times:
Tuesday 10:00am to 12:00pm
Friday 3:00pm to 5:00pm
Fiction, non-fiction, LARGE PRINT, DVDs, eBooks, Children's books & DVDs, and biographies.
Free membership, all welcome. Come and check us out.

Skipton Food Bank
An emergency community pantry supplying food, toiletries, and other necessities for those in need, no questions asked. For cash donations, please deposit to: Skipton Community Shop
BSB: 633 000
Account number: 230967804

Skipton Historical Society
From 2pm-4pm, the third Sunday of every month, in the Court House Museum and Old Police House, in Stewart Park, Montgomery St, Skipton. All visitors welcome. Further enquiries, please call Secretary on 0407 310 990 or email skipton.history.au@gmail.com.

Skipton Community Market
The community market is held on the **second Saturday of each month, 9am-1pm**. If you are new in town, or haven't been to the market before, come and enjoy a free morning tea and browse the interesting stalls. For stall bookings, call Jan on 0422 785 017.

Beaufort Art Trax Gallery
Is Open:
Friday & Monday 11am - 3pm
Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4pm
Phone: Heather 0427 492 082

Beaufort Historical Society
9 Livingstone St, Beaufort
Open hours every Wednesday 10am-4pm, and last Sunday of the month from 12pm-3pm. Except for the months of June, July & January. All welcome.

November, SKIPTON FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE BEGINS Check page 22 for more details on what you can donate to make a the festiva season special for a family in need. Please get in touch with Helen if you are in need of a hamper this Christmas, contact details on page 22.

Wednesday 4th November, 5:30pm, FINAL BINGO NIGHT FOR 2026 in the Supper Room, Skipton Mechanics Hall, Anderson St, Skipton. THEME: CHRISTMAS!! Come as Santa or Mrs Clause, an elf or a pixie! Doors open at 5:30pm, eyes down at 6:30pm. Free tea and coffee available, light supper at interval. Great prizes to be won, everyone is welcome!

Sunday 8th November, 10am-3pm, SKIPTON SPRING FESTIVAL at Smythe Street, Skipton. FREE ENTRY!! Live music, children's entertainment, petting zoo, country market stalls, food vendors, classic car show, sheep shearing demonstration and more! More information on the Facebook page: www.facebook.com/events/2142355616718645

Monday 9th November, 7pm AGM of SKIPTON CEMETERY TRUST followed by the Ordinary Meeting of the Trust, in the Meeting room at Skipton Mechanics Hall. For queries, please contact Myra Thornton on 0414 766 797.

Tuesday 10th November, 10:30am-12:30pm MOVIE A MONTH at the Skipton Mechanics Hall. Featuring *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (1961) Comedy/ Romance, starring Audrey Hepburn, George Peppard, Patricia Neal, Buddy Ebsen, Martin Balsam and Mickey Rooney. Free entry, bookings essential, please call 5593 7100 and ask for Belinda or Lesa.

Wednesday 11th November, 11am REMEMBRANCE DAY 2026 SERVICE mounted by the Friends of the RSL Skipton Branch at the Skipton War Memorial. **Lest We Forget**. Contact President Graham on 0408 838 261 or Secretary Gail Ward on 0403 530 293 for further information or support.

Saturday 14th November, 9am-1pm SKIPTON MARKET Almost Summer, and Christmas is round the corner, visit the Skipton Market in the Skipton Mechanics Hall and browse our stalls offering plants, produce, craft, bric-a-brac and jewellery and much more for gift ideas. Catch up with friends and neighbours in our friendly Supper Room for a snack and a chat. For more information and stall bookings, contact Jan, Market Coordinator for the Skipton Progress Association on 0422 785 017.

Wednesday 18th November, 7pm, 2026 SKIPTON FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING in the SFNC Clubrooms. Nominations to the Secretary by 11th November via skiptonfncsecretary@gmail.com. All members welcome.

Saturday 21st November, 10am-11:30am SOUND BATH WITH SHELLEY FROM H.O.P.E. at the Skipton Golf and Bowls Club. Places are limited, bookings are essential, tickets $10 at events.humanitix.com/rest-and-reset-sound-healing. More information, please contact Tash on 0435 894 456.

Sunday 22nd November, GOLF TOURNAMENT & BAREFOOT BOWLS at the Skipton Golf & Bowls Club, 26 Rokewood-Skipton Rd, Skipton.

Friday 27th November, 6:30pm-8:30pm, GRAZE THE DAY LAUNCH EVENT at Keayang Maar Vineyard. 18+ event, $30pp, includes grazing platters and pizza. Drinks at bar prices. Info: www.grazetheday.com.au

Saturday 28th November, 2026 VICTORIAN STATE ELECTIONS

Friday 4th December, 4pm-8pm, GOLDEN PLAINS TWILIGHT MARKET at the Bannockburn Heart. Family fun & Free activities., 100+ stallholders, live music, tasty eats & drinks, fine crafts, visit the art precinct!