

THE PHOENIX

Free Newspaper For The People of The Bushfire Affected Areas

Incorporating the tradition of the 'Evelyn Observer' (Est. 1873), 'Kingleake Advertiser', 'Whittlesea Advertiser', 'Diamond Valley Advertiser', 'Yarra Ranges Advertiser' and 'Yea Advertiser'

Dedicated to the memory of the victims and survivors of the 'Black Saturday' fires: February 7, 2009

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ABOUT THE PHOENIX

There is no better symbol for the spirit of the people of this region than the Phoenix. The phoenix is a mythical sacred firebird with a tail of beautiful gold and red plumage (or purple and blue).

It has a 500 to 1,000 year life-cycle, near the end of which it builds itself a nest of myrrh twigs that it then ignites; both nest and bird burn fiercely and are reduced to ashes.

From those ashes, a new, young phoenix or phoenix egg arises, reborn anew to live again. The new phoenix is destined to live as long as its old self. The bird was also said to regenerate when hurt or wounded by a foe, thus being almost immortal and invincible — it is also said that it can heal a person with a tear from its eyes and make them temporarily immune to death. The phoenix is a symbol of fire and divinity

OUR REGION

Online Edition
 Available across the globe on the World Wide Web at www.thephoenix.com.au

Print Edition
 Covering the communities of Acheron, Arthurs Creek, Bend Of Islands, Beveridge, Black Spur, Break-o'-Day, Broadford, Buxton, Bylands, Castella, Cathkin, Caveat, Christmas Hills, Chum Creek, Clonbinane, Coldstream, Cottles Bridge, Darweit Guim, Diamond Creek, Dixons Creek, Donnybrook, Eden Park, Eildon, Eltham, Eltham North, Fawcett, Glenburn, Glenvale, Gobur, Gruyere, Healesville, Heathcote Junction, Hidden Valley, Highlands, Homewood, Humevale, Hurstbridge, Kalkallo, Kangaroo Ground, Kerrisdale, Kilmore, Killingworth, Kilmore East, Kingleake, Kingleake Central, Kingleake West, Lilydale, Limestone, Marysville, Mittons Bridge, Molesworth, Morand, Mount Disappointment, Murrindindi, Myers Creek, Narbethong, Nutfield, Panton Hill, Pheasant Creek, Plenty, Reedy Creek, Research, Ruffy, Smiths Gully, St Andrews, St Helena, Steels Creek, Strath Creek, Strathewen, Sunday Creek, Taggerty, Tallarook, Terip Terip, Thornton, Toolangi, Trarool, Tyaak, Upper Plenty, Wallan, Wallan East, Wandong, Warburton, Waterford Park, Watsons Creek, Wattle Glen, Whittlesea, Whanregarwen, Willowmavin, Yan Yean, Yarck, Yarra Glen, Yarrambat, Yea.

YOUR NEWS, YOUR ADS

The Phoenix Newspaper is committed to bringing the latest news to the people of the bushfire-affected areas. We aim to be a positive assistance. The support being offered is in no way in competition with any existing newspaper, government, council or support agency efforts.

Your News: Contribute your news by phone, fax, mail or e-mail. We want your stories of how you, family and friends are going about the recovery from the fires.

Your Photos: Contribute your photos by e-mail. We prefer clear 300 dpi photos, in jpg format. E-mail to: editor@thephoenix.com.au

Absent Friends: You can remember 'Absent Friends' with a tribute which will be published online and in the print edition. Go to our website for our guidelines.

Free Ads: We provide free advertisement listings for all businesses in the bushfire affected area. (Paid display ads are also available). See www.thephoenix.com.au

IMPRINT

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Responsibility for election and referendum comment is accepted by the Editor, Ash Long.

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MARYSVILLE VILLAGE OPENS



● **Christine Nixon**

■ Premier John Brumby and Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority chair Christine Nixon were special guests at yesterday's official opening of the Marysville Temporary Village.

Radio Murrindindi (Marysville) 98.5 FM had its first three hour broadcast. The station is being supported by UGFM, Regional Arts Victoria and funded by the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation.

Host Jill Singer's guests included Greg Champion. State Governor, Professor David de Kretser, attended the annual general meeting of Regional Arts Victoria, hosted by Marysville Cultural Community.

Jack Munday, Director of the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team, gave an address at the Golf Club marquee. He worked with 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina victims, Lindy Allen reports.

LONG SHOTS



editor@thephoenix.com.au

with Ash Long

*"For the cause that lacks assistance,
 'Gainst the wrongs that need resistance
 For the future in the distance,
 And the good that we can do"*

1912 building goes



● **Remains of the 1912 Hurstbridge station**

■ Four-time Eltham Shire President Robert Marshall sends this photo of the remains of his home at Buttermans Track.

"I have fared better than many, but I did lose my St Andrews home of 30 years, the 1912 heritage classified Hurstbridge railway station and adjacent three-storey mudbrick tower."

We last heard from Rob when we ran his weekly column in the *Diamond Valley Advertiser* prior to his election as a Nillumbik Councillor in the late 1990s.

Kinglake, loud and clear



● **Simon Rogers of ABC Radio interviews Jo Vendra, Vice-President of the Community Newspapers Association of Victoria, which is holding its October conference in Kinglake**

■ *The Phoenix Newspaper* is a fan of the ABC Kinglake Ranges radio station, which will go into community hands later this year.

The bubbly Louise Fitzroy presents the weekday breakfast program (from the ABC's Southbank headquarters in Melbourne) from 6.15am, following the 6am news broadcast.

The station can be heard on 94.5 FM. We listen to the station via the streaming service on www.abc.net.au/kinglake

Simon Rogers, who normally presents a local morning program from the little studio at the Kinglake Neighbourhood House, last Wednesday swapped roles and presented the 6.15am-7.45am session, prior to the national news bulletin and AM program.

The audio volume from Southbank was far superior to the programs that Simon presents from Kinglake.

Hey, baby!



● **Emma Louise Isobelle Long**

■ We reckon we have a pretty good reason for not publishing our May 11 edition of *The Phoenix Newspaper*.

Your Editor was in Townsville, Far North Queensland, for the birth of Emma Louise Isobelle Long, our first grandchild.

Emma was 8lb 15ozs, 53 cms, and was born at 6.37pm on Friday, May 8. She is the daughter of James and Sarah Long.

Sarah and baby are doing fine.

James, 26, is an Australian Army soldier, and spent his childhood in Murrindindi, Flowerdale and Yea, from 1985 to 1993.

He was a student of Yea Primary School, and Ivanhoe Grammar School - Plenty Campus at Mernda, graduating in 2000.



● James Long with daughter Emma

For the record

■ Historians of the future may appreciate this short note recording the issue dates of *The Phoenix Newspaper* produced so far.

- Saturday, March 7,
- Wednesday, April 1,
- Monday, April 20,
- Monday, April 27,
- Monday, May 4,
- Monday, May 18.

We now plan a solid weekly publication schedule, barring unforeseen events.

Fun day at Kinglake

■ **Simonne Minett of Fitnessworx, Melbourne firm, Fitnessworx, tells of great success with a gala day attended by 250 children at Kinglake. More pictures on Page 10 in this week's Phoenix.**



● **Kirsten Ploog of Fitnessworx. Glenn Singleton from the Victorian Institute of Sport looks on. More on Page 10**

Short Shots

Horror

■ **Cr John Walsh, Murrindindi Shire Councillor, was horrified at the car accident at Mertob where a teenage girl was orphaned.**

"Each year we lose and injur far more people on the roads than we did in our worst fire in history.

"With the fires we are rightly striving to do everything from a Royal Commission down to revising personal fire plans to try to ensure as a community, or as individuals, we never suffer as greatly again.

"But with the road fatalities we seem to accept the status quo," Cr Walsh said.

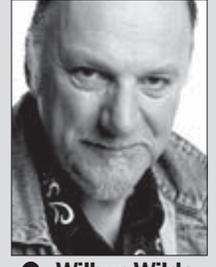


● Cr John Walsh

Cancelled

■ A fund-raiser concert, with the aim of helping with replacement of musical instruments in bushfire-affected schools, was cancelled on Saturday.

Wilbur Wilde and Red Symons had agreed to reform the *Hey Hey It's Saturday* band for the concert which was scheduled to be held at Ivanhoe Grammar School, which continues to offer bushfire relief in other ways.



● Wilbur Wilde

Rescue

■ We were interested to see the story of Stella and Alan Reid of St Andrews who lost their Wildhaven property on February 7.

Our family's last contact with the Reids was when they took over the E.S. Purcell & Co store at Yea in the late 1980s. We wish them well.

Advertising Sales. Part-Time. Work From Home.

The Phoenix Newspaper is a popular free weekly publication circulating in the municipalities of Murrindindi, Nillumbik, Mitchell, Whittlesea and Yarra Ranges.

The Phoenix is unique. One of its community service projects is to offer a free \$2000 annual package to each and every business in the bushfire-affected region. More than \$350,000 worth of assistance has been donated to date by the publishers.

The Phoenix Newspaper also provides a powerful medium for businesses to reach an important readership area with paid display advertising campaigns.

The Phoenix Newspaper is now recruiting two Advertising Sales Agents to work part-time from their own homes to assist businesses with their advertising requirements.

The positions will most likely involve the Agent working from their own home, contacting clients by telephone. All leads are provided. We envisage a part-time role, perhaps from 10am-3pm on Thursdays and Fridays.

You will require your own home office with landline phone, fax, e-mail and ABN. Sales flair will be a distinctly advantage. Each position is that of a contractor. Payment is weekly. All phone call costs are reimbursed.

THE PHOENIX

For an information kit, please send an e-mail to the Editor, Mr Ash Long, at: editor@thephoenix.com.au

Kinglake Gala Day



● **The Fitnessworx Cheerleading Crew at Kinglake. Back: Lisca Schramm, Lisa O'Hara Front: Kirsten Ploog, Stephanie Markovska.**



● **"Shake those Pom Poms": Lisa O'Hara shows the kids a cheer**

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At Flowerdale on Friday

■ There will be a special Flowerdale community meeting at the Rec Reserve Club Rooms at 8pm on Friday (May 22) to discuss the structure of committees and future community needs, reports local correspondent **Julie Bateman**.

Y.Glen-Yea footy

■ The Round 5 football clash between **Yarra Glen** and **Yea** in the **Yarra Valley Mountain District Football League** Second Division was postponed on May 10 due to vandalism of **Yarra Glen's** Ground.

The ground surface was affected and deemed unplayable by both the **Shire of Yarra Ranges** and the **YVMDFL**.

The game has been tentatively rescheduled for Saturday (May 23) with a venue still to be determined as we went to press.

Community Day success

■ A special community day service was held at **Flowerdale** yesterday (Sun., May 17) at the **Moore Rd** reserve, behind the hotel. The day was held in conjunction with **Chaplaincy Australia**. After the service there was food, music and entertainment.

Charity Golf Day

■ The **Northern Football Club** Charity Golf Day will be held on Friday (May 22) at the **Yarrambat Golf Course**, with a 7:30am start.

Clubs and sponsors are being encouraged to enter groups of four, with a cost of \$50 per player.

The day is being held in aid of the **EPIC Centre**. To enter, contact the **League** on 9435 8228 by today (Monday, May 18).

EPIC provides specialised early childhood intervention programs for young children with a range of developmental delays and disabilities

Children's Centre opens

■ **Kinglake Early Learning Centre** commences long day care today (Monday, May 18), from 7.30am to 5.30pm, caring for up to 15 children.

The **Centre** will operate temporarily from the **Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House**.

The child care centre building donated by **Investa** is expected to be relocated to **Kinglake West Mechanics Institute Reserve** within the next two weeks, and be operational by mid-June.

Works at Hazeldene

■ A temporary bridge offering 24-hour access will be erected at **Flowerdale** to offer access to the **Hazeldene Store**, whilst works are underway at the existing bridge.

Murrindindi Council says the works will involve replacement of the existing timber deck and railing with a new concrete deck and new steel barrier rails.

Horse workshops

■ Free workshops for people with horses will be held at **Wandong** and **Kinglake** this month. The sessions promise to share ideas to "ensure your horses, land and your bank balance remain healthy".

Wandong Community Centre, LB Davern Reserve, Dry Creek Cr, Wandong is the venue for the Saturday, May 30 session, 9am-4pm.

The Sunday, May 31 workshop will be held at **Kinglake Community Centre, Extons Rd.**, 9am until approx. 4pm. Contact: **Louise**, 5430 4690, 0400 854 939.

Sally helps businesses

■ **Sally MacDonald** of **Pheasant Creek** has been appointed, part-time, to work with **Murrindindi Council's** Economic Development Department to assist in business recovery in an area from **Toolangi** to **Yea**.

Pages From The Past

From Our Files
25 Years Ago - May 1984

Belle of the Ball



● **David Webb Ware presents flowers to Jenny Lawson at the Yea Deb Ball held in May 1984**

Couple 'naturalised'

■ **Mr and Mrs George Stratourides** were 'naturalised' as **Australian** citizens in a ceremony conducted at their **Murrindindi** property by Shire President, **Cr Ian Sharp**, 25 years ago. **Melanie** had been in **Australia** for 22 years, and **George** for 29 years. Their children were all born in **Australia**.

Fashion parade success

■ The **Woolmark Fashion Parade** held in the **Yea Shire Hall** was a great success socially and financially. Guest comperes **Celia de Burgh** and **Steve Bisley** gave a 'magical star quality'. **Celia** had starred in **Phar Lap** and was nominated for a **Logie** award in the **Sound of Love**. **Steve** played the role of 'Goose' in **Mad Max** and "is currently filming **The Flying Doctor**, we reported in 1984.

Past President passes

■ **Gerald John Tehan** of 'Flowerdale Estate', **Strath Creek**, died peacefully on May 12 after a long illness, we reported on May 24, 1984. He was 73.

"**Gerald** came to **Strath Creek** in 1939 and immediately became deeply involved in community life. He was a Councillor on the **Yea Shire** for 13 years (1946-59) and served as President in 1951-52. Farming was his great love and in this he was innovative and extremely hard working."

He was survived by his wife **Emily**, six sons and two daughters and many grandchildren.

Football return visit

■ Following weeks of football which have included easy victories and a week out of action, **Yea** football supporters are promised something different on Saturday when the undefeated **Belgrave** teams pay a return visit, we reported in 1984, a quarter-of-a-century ago.

"On the first day of the season, **Belgrave** at home, won the senior and Reserve games narrowly and the Under 17s rather comfortably.

"But Senior wins of late have not been as clear cut as **Yea's**.

"However, the locals will miss **Haydn Drysdale** (honeymooning in **Hong Kong**) and **Glen McMaster** whose football feature is in doubt because of a badly dislocated ankle sustained in the **Powelltown** match.

"**Yea Reserves** are playing well enough to win and the Under 17s are training solidly.

"A disco (preceded by a steak sandwich" will be held in the evening."

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