

THE Loddon Times

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Local news and information

Milestone celebrated

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Second place maintained

SPORT



Show to celebrate Year of the Farmer

Farming focus

OLIVER CAFFREY

THE municipality's remaining agricultural show will celebrate the 126th running of the event on Saturday.

Large crowds are anticipated to attend the Boort Agricultural Show, which will be opened by 2011 Australian Farmer of the Year, Rob Ruwoldt.

There will be something on offer for all residents at Boort Park, from the traditional events to novelty competitions and show rides.

Mr Ruwoldt will be given the honours of officially opening the show.

He will also give a special presentation at 2pm on the day, detailing his experiences in the farming sector.

The Horsham farmer has more than 30 years' experience in the agricultural industry.

Mr Ruwoldt said he has always had a passion for farming.

"I grew up on a family farm and it was always my passion since early in life to be a farmer," he said.

Mr Ruwoldt has been referred to as a pioneer in his industry, experimenting with various techniques to bring out the best from his crops.

With 2012 being hailed as the Year of the Farmer, Mr Ruwoldt's presence fits in perfectly.

A marquee will be set-up on entry into the show celebrating the Year of the Farmer, which will include farm displays and portfolios.

Boort Agricultural and Pastoral Society secretary, Kathryn Lanyon

encouraged all community members to come along for Mr Ruwoldt's talk.

She said the society was pleased to have secured Mr Ruwoldt for the 126th annual show.

"I would love to see a big crowd both at the show and at Rob's talk," she said.

Society president Alan Wilson said preparations for the show have been progressing well.

"It will be much the same as last year, just with a few additions," he said.

Mr Wilson said it was a positive that the show is not running at the same time as the Elmore Field days, which has happened in recent years.

"We probably can't get any more

people coming along from inside the town, but with Elmore on a different week this year, hopefully that will encourage a bigger crowd," he said.

Mr Wilson said the crowds have been increasing during the last few years, with a 40 per cent rise during his time as president.

Proceedings on the day will begin at 7.30am with the dog trials, while the pony and horse rides will run from 9am.

New competitions this year include scarecrow and cupcake decorating.

The traditional showgirl competitions will commence at 1.15pm with registration for the events opening at 11am.

The Country Fire Association, the

Community Emergency Response Team and the State Emergency Service will hold a mock emergency at 3pm, which is expected to be spectacular.

It is hoped the Boort Urban Fire Brigade will unveil their new field command vehicle on the day.

After the success of the Boort Harness Racing Cup coming back to the town in March, exhibition trotting races will be staged on the track throughout the day.

The evening's entertainment will be provided by The Love Shack.

Entries for the various competitive sections close today.

The show office is located at Boort Information and Resource Centre. For further information, phone 0427 554 240.

Gold hunt continues

A MINERAL exploration company commenced a drilling campaign at its Tandarra site near Dingee last week.

Navarre Minerals is seeking the next big gold find and believes its local site will help them achieve their goal.

The Tandarra Prospect will see Navarre workers carry out 13,000 metres of air-core and diamond drilling.

Victorian Energy and Resources Minister Michael O'Brien visited the site with Member for Northern Victoria Donna Petrovich last Thursday.

"The Victorian Coalition Government is committed to the responsible development of a strong mining and exploration industry in Victoria that works cooperatively with other industries, with respect for landholders and the environment," Mr O'Brien said.

"Victoria has a proud history of gold production and projects like this show that there is a strong future for gold exploration."

Navarre managing director, Geoff McDermott said the current site is the "best gold prospect" in Victoria.

"We believe that Tandarra is the highest quality new gold discovery in Victoria in the past 100 years," he said. "We have high hopes for this stage of drilling."

There are early indications from the Tandarra site that a potential gold rush is not far away.

Mr McDermott is optimistic that this current stage of drilling will lead to further discoveries.

According to a Department of Primary Industry report, it is estimated there could be as much as 32 million ounces of gold yet to be discovered in the region.



RESOURCE. Navarre Minerals managing director Geoff McDermott, right, showed Victorian Energy and Resources Minister Michael O'Brien and Member for Northern Victoria Donna Petrovich some of the gold found at the Tandarra site near Dingee last Thursday.

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Night in for a cause

FOR the rest of October, Cancer Council Victoria is calling on women in Loddon to register to host a Girls' Night In and show their support for the seven local women who will be diagnosed with breast or gynaecological cancer this year.

The premise of Girls' Night In is for women to register as hosts, invite friends over for a fun night in and ask them to donate what they would have spent on a night out to the Cancer Council. Funds raised are channelled to the women's cancer projects that need them most. The campaign hopes to raise \$1.4 million this year and recruit 4735 Girls' Night In hosts - one for every single Victorian woman that will be diagnosed with breast or gynaecological cancer this year. So far, there are five registered in Loddon, so the Cancer Council is urging more local residents to get involved.

logical cancer this year. So far, there are five registered in Loddon, so the Cancer Council is urging more local residents to get involved.

Cancer Council Victoria spokesperson, Deb Stringer, said time was running out for Girls' Night In hosts to register.

"We're calling on the women of Loddon to register to host a Girls' Night In before the end of October and show their support. By hosting an event, you can make a real impact on the lives of the 4735 Victorian women who will be diagnosed with breast or gynaecological cancer this year," she said.

"With more than seven of those women living in your local community, you certainly don't have to look far to find the inspiration."

Last year 3358 Victorian women registered to host a Girls' Night In event and raised more than \$1.2 million. The funds they raised directly benefited the thousands of women who called the Cancer Council Helpline and went towards important research into women's cancers.

Ms Stringer said Girls' Night In events were also a perfect opportunity to raise awareness about women's cancers.

"One of the best defences women have against cancer is themselves. By living a cancer-smart lifestyle and participating in recommended screening programs women can significantly reduce their risk of devel-

oping cancer and also increase their chances of discovering it early," she said.

"We know, for example, that in Victoria 90 per cent of women diagnosed with cervical cancer have never had a Pap test or did not have them regularly in the 10 years before diagnosis. Girls' Night In is the perfect forum for women to encourage their friends to have regular cancer screenings".

Register your Girls' Night In now, call 1300 65 65 85 or visit www.girlsnightin.com.au.

Cancer Council Victoria is a non-profit organisation and has been leading the fight against all cancers for 75 years. It focuses on cancer research, patient support, cancer

prevention and advocacy. For further information, please visit www.cancervic.org.au or to speak to experienced cancer nurses, please call the Cancer Council Helpline (13 11 20). This is a confidential service for anyone with questions about cancer.

Remaining key 2012 fund-raising campaigns:

- Monday, October 22 - Pink Ribbon Day
- Throughout December - Christmas Media Appeal
- All year-round - Relay for Life (local relay events across Victoria)
- All year-round - Call to Arms (football-inspired fund-raising events)

Fleece, flower show planned

THE Wedderburn Uniting Church will hold its community Fleece and Flower Show on October 19.

The 85th annual show will take place at the town's Mechanics Institute Hall, starting at 1pm.

An array of different competitions including flowers, fleece and vegetables will be on display.

The show of this type in Wedderburn was first organised in 1927, when it was called the Flower Show and Industrial Exhibition.

When the Presbyterian Church combined with the Methodist, the tradition was carried on by the Wedderburn UC.

Church secretary Janice McEwen said it is hoped this year's event will be as successful as the first.

Mrs McEwen recently discovered a newspaper article about the first event in 1927.

The Wedderburn Express reported on November 4, 1927 that "no one doubted that the affair would be successful, but the result must have exceeded the expectations of even the most optimistic".

There were awards for a range of flowers, photography, needlework and farm produce.

The first staging of the Fleece and Flower Show was an evening event, with the Wedderburn Jazz Orchestra playing during the night.

Mrs McEwen is looking forward to this year's event, with additional categories being introduced.

For the flower section, it is recommended all entries be grown from around the Wedderburn district.

Presentation of awards and drawing of the raffles will take place at 4.30pm.

Last year's major winners were Fay Lockhart and Val Thiele

The stalls on display include cakes, produce, lucky envelopes, plants and children's lucky dip.

Afternoon refreshments will be available. Admission is \$3 for adults, with children going in free of charge.

All entries including Fleeces must be lodged at the Wedderburn Mechanics Institute Hall between 3pm - 5.30pm on October 18.

For further information, contact Janice McEwen on 5494 3001.

Gold hunt continues

From Page 1

There could be as much as six million ounces mined in the top 100 metres of the surface.

Geological data has played a key role in helping find the current site for exploration.

Breakfast initiative

THREE local schools will host a Sunshine Breakfast this month to mark this year's Mental Health Week in Victoria.

The breakfasts are an initiative of the Loddon Healthy Minds Network, aimed at focusing the thoughts of young people on issues of mental wellness and the resources that are available if needed.

Mental Health Week runs from October 7 to 13, with World Mental Health Day celebrated every year on the same date, October 10.

East Loddon P-12 College will hold the second of its Sunshine Breakfasts tomorrow - the same day as Wedderburn College's event.

Boort College will host a Sunshine Breakfast early in the new school term.

All are welcome at these free community events.



Members of The Singularity Choir have chosen 'The Mikado' as their Gibert and Sullivan work for 2012.

Performance to assist organ works

ONE of the most frequently played musical theatre works in history will have another outing in Inglewood this weekend when St Augustine's Anglican Church hosts an unusual performance of *The Mikado*.

The two-part comic opera, the ninth of 14 pieces by Arthur Sullivan and W.S. Gilbert, will be staged at 2pm on Sunday by Melbourne's Singularity Choir.

The 30-member choir, which is based in the Dandenong Ranges, is coming to Inglewood to support the church's efforts to restore its

rare and historic Fincham organ.

Organ expert Ian Wakeley expects to start working at Inglewood early next year.

Singularity was formed in 2003 as a four-part a cappella choir under musical director Cecily Woodberry.

The group has a wide repertoire of music, ranging from madrigals, Scottish folk music, classical works such as Faure Requiem, Vivaldi Gloria, Handel's Messiah, church music and Gilbert and Sullivan.

With around 20 performances

a year, the choir is able to raise significant funds for the various charities it supports, including Oxford Houses, TEAR Australia, Oxfam, motor neurone disease research and school chaplaincy.

Singularity has also toured a range of country venues with Gilbert and Sullivan's *Pirates of Penzance*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Iolanthe* and *The Gondoliers* as charity fundraisers.

Entry to the Inglewood concert costs \$10 (\$5 concession), which includes afternoon tea. For more details, phone 5437 3258.

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Editorial

Phone: 5452 1733

Facsimile: 5452 1603

E-mail: editorial@northernnewspapers.com.au

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News coverage

Requests for editorial coverage of scheduled community events outside normal office hours should be directed to the editor, 5452 1733, at least 10 days prior to event. Journalists are on call for unscheduled news events after hours, but are rostered to cover scheduled events.



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