

The Chronicle

YOUR SOURCE FOR COMMUNITY NEWS IN LUCAS | ISSUE 12 | SUMMER 2024



Community Shines

Run for a Cause raises 30,000 in first year in new home of Lucas

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Lucas Hockey Club

and more!

For more information visit

www.lucasballarat.com.au/community/news

We acknowledge the Wadawurrung people and their ancestors who have been custodians of the Ballarat area for thousands of years performing age old Cultural ceremonies, celebrations and traditions. We would also like to acknowledge and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

This edition of
The Chronicle

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO
YOU BY
Integra
a better lifestyle

This newsletter is compiled by Integra with stories from our community – many community organisations and individuals work together to contribute and you can too – send your stories for consideration to community@integragroup.com.au



Mondays

Ageing Well Dance Class

10.30am Lucas Community Hub
Booking Required call 5320 56 37

Tuesdays

Library Outreach

Tuesday from 10am to 12pm at
the hub - Storytime at 10:30am

Thursdays

Playgroup

10am-11.30 at the Hub - \$20 per
term or \$5 per week casually

Thursdays

Dog- Friendly Walking Group

10am-11am
Meet outside BCH Lucas in rear
carpark at 10am

30th March

Giant Easter Egg Hunt

Grange East Park
Off Blomeley Drive

Coming Soon

Lucas Little Aths

Hairdresser moving in!

Introducing Carmen Co Hair Studio! Lucas welcomes a new business to the Coltman Plaza strip. Offering an array of hair services for men, women, and children, Carmen's studio is poised to offer a blend of expertise, and personalised care.

And the woman bringing this exciting new venture to Lucas is the namesake of the salon Carmen. Originally hailing from the picturesque island of Malta, Carmen brings with her a unique perspective shaped by her journey through the world of hairdressing.

Engaging with locals during the salon's setup has been a heartening experience for Carmen and her family. The warm reception and positive feedback shows the community's eagerness for a local salon, marking a significant addition to the Lucas business offering.



What sets Carmen Co Hair Studio apart is not just the commitment to service, but also its dedication to quality. Carmen has meticulously picked a range of Australian-made hair products, prioritising sulfate-free formulas with no ammonia and PPD. This conscious choice reflects her belief in offering not just style, but also care for her clients' hair and health.

Carmen's venture is not just a professional pursuit but a family affair. Supported by her husband, George, who has contributed his expertise to the salon's design, and her daughter, who is set to embark on a hairdressing apprenticeship and join Carmen on the floor, Carmen's studio embodies a spirit of collaboration and family values.

While the salon is still a construction zone at the moment in the middle of fit out Carmen hopes to open the doors in early March, we are sure Carmen Co Hair Studio will establish itself as an integral part of the Lucas community and after meeting her we know any new clients will also feel comfortable in her kind and warm presence. We are excited for Carmen and her family and wish them all the best in this exciting new venture!

Welcome to Lucas!

For appointments and inquiries with Carmen Co Hair Studio

PHONE: (03) 4331 9524

EMAIL: carmencohairstudio@gmail.com

INSTAGRAM: [@carmencohairstudio](https://www.instagram.com/carmencohairstudio)

ADDRESS: 20 Coltman Plaza, Lucas

(Formerly the site of Own Your Game Fitness Gym which has relocated to Merz Street, Lucas)

Lucas turns it on for Run for a Cause

The streets of Ballarat were alive with the spirit of giving and the pounding of runners hitting the pavement on Sunday 19th November!

Run for a Cause 2023 was a fantastic day with about 800 runners and walkers hitting the streets of Ballarat to raise funds for the Ballarat Christmas Appeal. Together we raised over \$30,000 to go towards the Ballarat Christmas Appeal which will have a tangible impact on the lives of those in need. These funds will provide a special Christmas meal, ensure a child won't go without a gift and provide connection for those who are isolated. This in turn will create a ripple effect of positivity that will continue long after the cheers have faded.

The day began with the 12km run which included the Skipton Rail Trail, greenspaces around Lucas and Sturt St. "It was a good course with a little bit of elevation and it was nice running down

Remembrance Drive," David, 12km participant.

"I liked it a lot, especially getting to run down Sturt St and through the arch as its not something you can normally do. The rail trail section was good too - so nice to include it as its a popular running and walking track," Liz, 12km participant.

The Y Kids' Dash was a quick 1km loop with kids of all ages getting involved. It was fun to see Santa at the start line and giving out medals and drinks at the finish line.

The 6km run was the final event of the day with runners and walkers making their way down Sturt St, through the Arch and back to the event village at Lucas. "I really liked the new course and enjoyed the walking the 6km. The whole event was really well organised and enjoyable," Helen, 6km participant.

All the fun at the Event Village at Coltman Plaza, Lucas.

The event village was a buzz of activity as families arrived for the Y Kids' Dash and the 6km run or walk. There was plenty of things to do at the village with Lucas Community Garden, the Furals, face painting, the Y Games and of course Santa, all providing different activities for kids to participate in. And there was plenty to eat with food vans and the local coffee shops opening their doors wide on such a beautiful day.

Ballarat Business Owner, Leroy Hand stated, "What an incredible event for Lucas! Everyone at the The Orchard Cafe Lucas thanks the Ballarat Foundation for once again creating an incredible event that was enjoyed by over 800 competitors. Not only was the event a success for the entrants and recipients of the fundraising it was a huge success for the entire Lucas community."

Thank you to the Volunteers!

Thank you to the many generous volunteers who helped ensure the smooth organisation of this event. We greatly appreciate the individuals who volunteered plus the school groups from Loreto College, Ballarat Grammar and Ballarat Clarendon College.



Scan for results



From Rail Trails to Marathon Trails A Triathlete's Journey to Lucas

In recent years, the allure of regional living has grown exponentially, fueled by factors such as lockdowns, workplace decentralisation, and affordability. For Leslie and her family, the decision to move from Inner Suburbs Melbourne to Ballarat, specifically to the vibrant suburb of Lucas, was driven by a unique blend of lifestyle considerations and professional opportunities.

Their move, prompted by work commitments, turned out to be a serendipitous relocation that has brought them joy in their new regional home. Lesley, having a clear vision of what she sought in a residence, prioritised walkability to shops for everyday needs, proximity to scenic tracks and trails for her passion for biking, and easy access to childcare services. As fate would have it, Lucas checked all these boxes for the family.

A paradigm shift in work habits, particularly the ability to work from home while still maintaining swift access to the CBD, further sweetened the deal for the family. The decision to settle in Lucas proved to be more than just a change of address; it became a gateway to a lifestyle that aligns with Lesley's love for the outdoors and physical activities.

Lesley wasted no time in immersing herself in the local community. When the Run for a Cause event unfolded in Lucas, she eagerly signed up. A seasoned participant in organised running events, Lesley took the 12km challenge in her stride, clinching the Women's 2024 Run for a Cause victory just a week after completing the grueling 70.3 Melbourne Ironman.



CONTINUED: In a conversation with Lesley, it becomes evident that outdoor recreation is integral to her life, and the accessibility of the rail trail and Lucas tracks has been a game-changer for her and her 2-year-old son. The vibrant community spirit during the Run for a Cause event resonated with Lesley, who appreciated the welcoming atmosphere and the diverse range of activities for families. The icing on the cake was having her parents from Scotland visiting at the time, adding a special touch to the community engagement.

We wish Lesley luck later this year when she takes on the Cairns 70.3 in June and World Championships in Townsville in August for the long course world champs. Her story encapsulates the balance that many seek between the conveniences of city life and the enriching experiences that regional living can offer. We extend our best wishes to Lesley and her family as they continue to thrive in the heart of Lucas, embracing a lifestyle that seamlessly blends work, recreation, and community spirit.



Over 60's Catch Up

Our Group has now been established for the past 18 months, and has been a wonderful success. It has been a great connection for Lucas residents, with many strong friendships having been developed.

We meet at The Ballarat Golf Club, Sturt Street, Alfredton, at 10am, every second Tuesday. There is always interesting conversation, with plenty of laughter, in a relaxing environment. From time to time, we have speakers from the Ballarat Community, with very informative subjects.

We are always welcoming to new residents who wish to join in, and would love to see some new faces. For further information, please contact Jan Brodie on phone: 0413496032

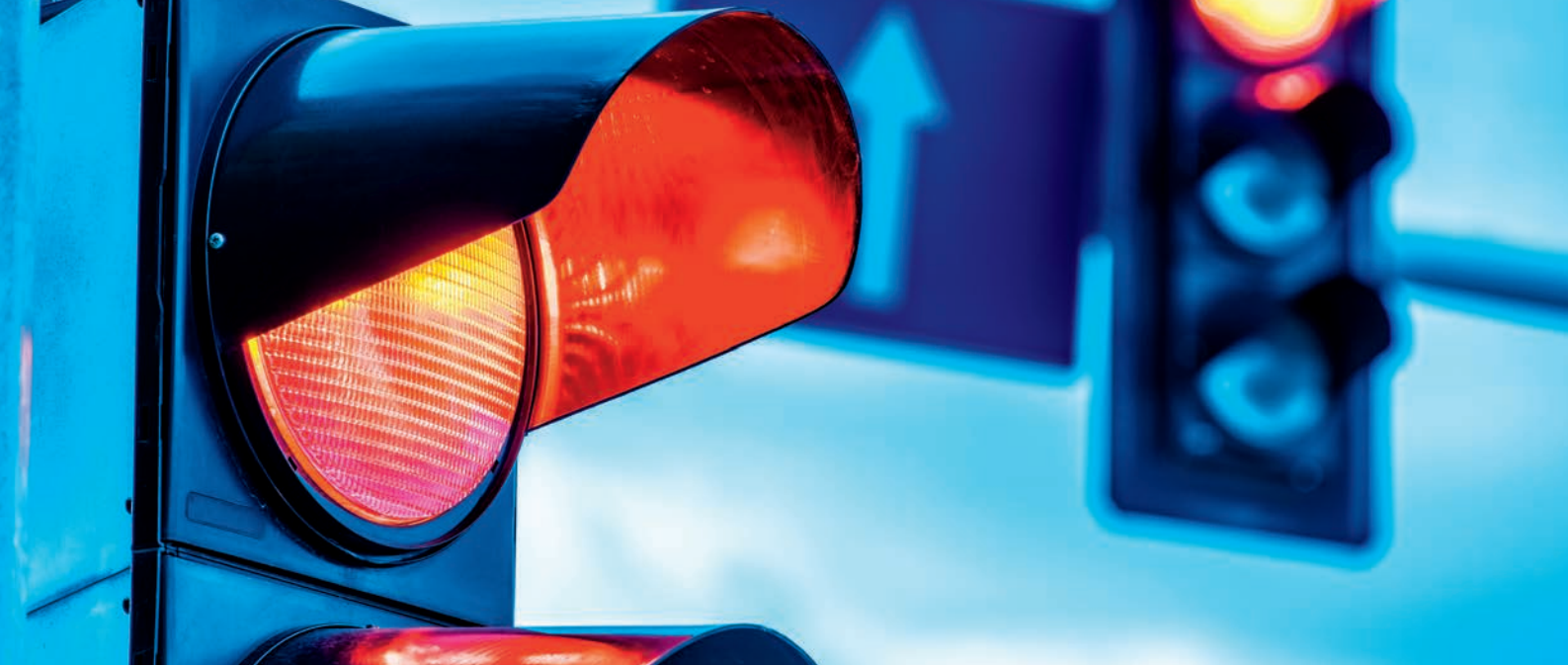


Dog-Friendly Walking Group

Thursday 10:00 – 11:00

Meet outside BCH Lucas (12 Lilburne Street) in rear car park at 10 am

Dogs on leads are very welcome



Securing Safe Roads: Federal Funding Boosts Road Safety Initiatives in Lucas

In a significant stride toward bolstering road safety in Lucas, the Federal Member for Ballarat, Catherine King, has revealed an allocation of \$978,050 from the Albanese Labor Government. This funding is dedicated to addressing four black spots in the Ballarat region, with a keen focus on Lucas. Ms. King underscored the significance of the government's Black Spot Program, a pivotal initiative aimed at elevating road safety in areas with a history of incidents or those identified as potential risks.

Among the priority safety measures are the introduction of traffic signals and roundabouts at identified locations prone to accidents. The emphasis is on proactively addressing recognized danger spots to ensure the well-being of road users in Ballarat and facilitate a secure journey home on every trip.

One of the approved projects in Ballarat involves the Lucas Intersection of Dyson Drive and Coltman Plaza, with an allocated \$50,000 for a traffic light upgrade.

The Black Spot Program employs Consultative Panels, fostering community engagement in the project selection process. This approach ensures that nominations align with the highest priorities and are of utmost importance to the local Lucas community. Ms. King underscored the program's inclusive nature, stating, "Anyone can suggest an intersection or a section of road they believe should be considered for a safety upgrade."

Did you know?

Anyone can suggest an intersection or a section of road they believe should be considered for a safety upgrade...

For additional information on the Black Spot Program or to nominate a black spot in Lucas, community members are encouraged to visit investment.infrastructure.gov.au/funding/blackspots.





Meet
Juanita

In the heart of the real estate market in Ballarat, Juanita's name resonates with experience, leadership, and a passion for creating lasting connections. As the newly appointed Senior Property Manager at Integra, Juanita brings over a decade of expertise to the dynamic team, making her mark in an industry that has undergone significant transformations during her career.

Juanita's journey in the world of real estate began 13 years ago, right here in her hometown of Ballarat. Growing up and completing her high school years in Beaufort. Her initial desire to become a police officer took a detour when Juanita, through connections in the local football club, landed a job as an admin trainee in the real estate sector.

Completing her Agents Representative and Full License on the job, she quickly found herself immersed in the dynamic world of Real Estate in Ballarat. Over the years, Juanita has witnessed the ebb and flow of the real estate landscape in Ballarat. From her early days managing trust accounting for two years before transitioning to property management she has become a prominent figure in the Ballarat real estate scene.

In her previous roles, Juanita managed a large team and oversaw a remarkable threefold increase in listed properties. Her impact on the industry has been significant and now shares her knowledge at industry training seminars.

For Juanita, the best part of her job lies in the ever-evolving nature of customer service. No two days are the same, and she revels in building enduring relationships with clients that span a decade or more. "The relationship built isn't just with the owners; "I've had the privilege of guiding and assisting tenants across various chapters of their lives. There's an incredible sense of satisfaction in not only finding someone a home but in understanding their evolving needs and aspirations over the years.

It's not uncommon to have the same tenant returning, seeking a new residence that aligns with the shifts in their lifestyle, family size, or preferences."

Now, as a Senior Property Manager at Integra, Juanita is set to manage a growing portfolio of properties, including commercials. Her excitement about joining Integra stems from the prospect of collaborating with a highly skilled and experienced team.

Reflecting on the changes and challenges in the industry over her tenure, Juanita highlights the dramatic shift in vacancy rates from 5% when she started out to what we face now at 1.3%. This scarcity of available homes has transformed the landscape, influencing and challenging property managers across the industry. With population growth and increased rents shaping the market, Juanita's adaptability and expertise have become invaluable assets.

When asked about the most crucial aspect of her job, Juanita doesn't hesitate to point out tenant selection. Ensuring that tenants' expectations align with their financial capacity is paramount in her role. In a market where demand is high and availability is limited, making informed decisions becomes the cornerstone of successful property management.

Beyond her professional pursuits, Juanita finds joy in the charm of Ballarat. Alongside her husband Lachy and their two children, she cherishes the city's abundant resources. From sporting facilities to retail outlets, Juanita emphasises how fortunate the community is to have such amenities. She believes these factors contribute to why many people choose Ballarat as their home.

As Juanita steps into the next phase of her career we welcome her to Integra, her journey serves as an inspiration for aspiring professionals in the real estate industry. Her dedication, leadership, and love for the Ballarat community continue to shape the narrative of real estate in this thriving city.

You can contact Juanita on 0400 747 862



How to build a thrilling playground! From the playground experts

Excitement is on the rise! Get ready for an adrenaline-pumping adventure as we unveil the Lucas Grange neighborhood park's most thrilling feature - Lucas' first-ever scooter track! Whether you're a young adventurer or young at heart, this park promises endless fun for all.

The 5th neighborhood park for Lucas will offer so much. It's a playground of possibilities! Kids of all ages will discover an array of exciting play spaces catering to various interests and abilities. Grange Park beckons with its enchanting plans, including enlarged road reserves. Towering trees dotting the landscape, providing ample shade and creating a perfect setting for outdoor enthusiasts to relax and connect with nature. The 2.5m wide concrete shared paths will make strolling and biking a delightful adventure.

Stay Active, Stay Fit:

Grange Park has something special for health-conscious adults - a well-equipped outdoor gym! Stay active, stay fit, and enjoy the picturesque surroundings as you work out amidst lush greenery.

Hoops, Rings and Sports Galore:

Hold on tight as we unveil a brand new multi-sport court with not one, not two, but three basketball and netball rings. Get ready to unleash your inner athlete, dribble with delight, and shoot for the stars in friendly matches that bring the community together.

Plus an Australia first the thrilling Cliff Rider ! This playground piece is as unique as they come and kids will be lining up to try this innovative play piece out!

Join us as we embrace the joys of adventure and wellness in this thriving neighborhood - call and speak to Brett Simpson on [0475 111 162](tel:0475111162)



A strong sense of community and a brand new place for connection

Selling your family home and downsizing in retirement can be an empowering choice for people looking for low-maintenance living in a safe and secure community. For the residents at Ingenia Lifestyle Parkside Lucas, the best years of their life are about to get even better, with a brand new state-of-the-art Community Clubhouse set to open on 20 April.

Parkside Lucas is already home to over 90 residents who enjoy regularly socialising at their temporary clubhouse. With plans in place for more new homes, having plenty of gathering and activity spaces to keep the community healthy, active and happy is an important focus for the development.

The \$11 million Community Clubhouse will provide a plethora of new gathering and activity spaces, including a heated indoor pool and yoga studio, hair salon and art studio, a large function room, and even a cinema.

The Community Clubhouse precinct will be a vibrant addition to the community - and most importantly, a space for interaction, connection and friendship. "It's just that sort of wonderful feeling of community and the friendships we've made already are going to be lifelong," said one Parkside Lucas resident.

Parkside Lucas' Community Clubhouse Grand Opening event will take place at 11am on Saturday, 20th April, and to join the festivities, or to take a private tour of their beautiful display homes, call Karen on 0467 946 339 or go to liveinlucas.com.au

Home Exteriors: Unveiling the Top 5 Façade Styles of 2024

Choosing Your Dream Home's Façade in Modern Australian Architecture, here we look at some homes from the Lucas Display Village on Blomeley Drive

When embarking on the journey of building a new home, the front façade is the initial impression that sets the tone. It's no surprise that selecting the right façade stands out as one of the pivotal decisions in the home-building process. With a multitude of exterior styles available, builders provide options to align with personal preferences and complement the neighborhood aesthetics. This article delves into the heart of Australian home design, shedding light on the five most popular façade styles that homeowners are gravitating towards right now.

Modern Minimalist

Modern minimalist homes embody a stripped-down design that eliminates unnecessary embellishments, emphasising clean lines and functionality. From monochromatic facades to uninterrupted flows, these homes create a canvas for residents to express their personalities without the burden of clutter.



Modern Minimalist: GJ Gardner Banksia 278 Design - Lucas Display Village

Scandi-Barn

Rooted in Scandinavian simplicity and blonde timber tones, the Scandi-barn architectural style blends the classic barn shape with modern design principles. Internally, rustic-meets-Scandi aesthetics thrive, featuring pale timbers, a minimalist color palette, and an abundance of natural light.



Modern Minimalist: JV Dodd Building



Scandi Barn: Hudson Ridge Builders Byron Façade Lucas Display Village

Mixed Materials

The trend of mixing materials in modern homes allows for creative exploration, combining weatherboards, stone, bricks, and steel. These homes, with their austere ornamentation, focus on showcasing organic materials, providing homeowners the opportunity to customise their home without deviating too far from contemporary norms.



Mixed Materials: Highmark Homes Lucas Display Village Facade: Burrumbeet



Mixed Materials: Sherridon Homes - Camden Facade Lucas Display Village

Timeless Hamptons

The enduring popularity of Hamptons style in Australian homes reflects its timeless, elegant design. Characterised by gables, verandas, and timber trims, Hamptons façades exude sophistication while maintaining a relaxed and laid-back lifestyle, making them a perennial favorite among homeowners.



Hamptons Charm: McMaster Aura Lucas Display Village

Coastal Vibes

Inspired by seaside locations, coastal design emphasizes natural tones and textures, incorporating materials like timber and stone. These homes prioritise a connection between indoor and outdoor spaces, employing generous windows and a monochromatic palette to capture the light, breezy aesthetic of the coast while staying true to modernist principles.



Coastal: Highmark Homes Lucas Display Village Facade: Lonsdale

As the desire to build the perfect modern home continues to thrive in Australia, understanding and choosing the right façade style becomes crucial. Whether drawn to the simplicity of minimalism, the rustic charm of Scandi-barns, the eclectic mix of materials, the timeless allure of Hamptons, or the coastal elegance that embraces natural elements, homeowners have a plethora of options to customise their dream homes.



lucas

OVER 2,700
HOMESITES
SOLD

9HA LUCAS
CENTRAL PARK



2 SCHOOLS
ON-SITE

OVER
30 SHOPS AND
BUSINESSES



LAND SALES

03 5322 5902 | 25 Lilburne Street, Lucas
8am - 5pm Mon - Fri | 11am - 4pm Sat



REMURANCE DRIVE (AVENUE OF HONOUR)

N RAIL TRAIL

TOWN CENTRE

CENTRAL PARK

DYSON DRIVE

ROAD





Lucas Cricket Club Junior Season Success!

It has been a fantastic season of junior cricket so far for the Lucas Cricket Club. The Junior Club continues to grow with the addition of an Under 15 open team and an U14 Girls team. It has been marvelous to see these new teams bond so well, increase skill levels and win some terrific matches this season. Some of the Under 15 boys had the opportunity to try out for the Victorian Sub District Cricket Association JG Craig Shield U15 competition, with three of our players being selected to play for Williamstown and Port Melbourne Cricket Club's this January.

Craig Shield is the premier representative competition in Victoria for U15 cricketers so getting selected for one of the Melbourne teams is a great achievement, well done boys!
(insert photo of Craig Shield reps) Riley McNeight, Lyndan Frazer (Williamstown) and Eddie Lane (Port Melbourne).

A number of our Under 15 boys players were also selected to play representative cricket during Country Week for the Grenville Cricket Association in early January. The boys had a terrific week playing cricket, making new friends, and challenging their skills with the bat and ball. Two Lucas boys, Lyndan Frazer and Tyler VanderWert had particularly good Country Week carnivals earning them selection in the Central Highlands U15 All Stars team to play in Bendigo in February.



LUCAS CC U15 COUNTRY WEEK REPRESENTATIVES:
TOM SHARP, LYNDAN FRAZER, RILEY MCNEIGHT,
SULLIVAN HORWOOD, EDDIE LANE, ARCHIE WEBB, TYLER
VANDERWERT, ANDREW GITTINS, HARVEY GITTINS.

The Lucas Under 14 Girls team have had a great season with 3 of our girls being chosen to play Under 14s representative Country Week cricket in Hamilton during January, representing the Ballarat Cricket Association (BCA). This competition is an amazing opportunity for young girls and young women to play cricket in an all-female regional representative competition. Our girls had plenty of game time, improved with their skills and enjoyed the cricket carnival activities.

On 17th January, Lucas CC hosted the Malayalee Association of Ballarat at Victoria Park for a one-day school holiday program. Nearly 70 children from the Malayalee community aged 3 to 14 participated in some fun cricket blast activities facilitated by members of the Lucas Cricket Club.

The younger children joined in cricket blast activities teaching them to bat and bowl through obstacle courses and group activities, while older children enjoyed playing an interactive, modified game of cricket lead by our volunteers.

If you are interested in our Junior Cricket Program, go to www.lucascricketclub.com.au (Junior Cricket) for more information.



LUCAS U14 GIRLS PIPPA WEBB, ZOE SHARP AND ELLIE BYRES REPRESENTING BALLARAT DURING COUNTRY WEEK.



CRICKET BLAST SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES WITH THE LUCAS CRICKET CLUB



Things get underway at Siena Catholic Primary School thanks to a very generous donation of 20 tons of a mix of cow and chicken manure and straw from Stanley Stables and Nick Lloyd.

Siena Introduces 'Earth Care' Subject in 2024

With our inaugural intake of Preps graduating in 2023, Siena Catholic Primary school is well established in the Lucas community. Previous years have seen multiple building programs take place. This year, ground works were completed on the Harris Drive/O'Shannassy Parade end of the school, opening up the remaining acreage for access to all of the learners.

With a focus on environmental understanding, connection to country, utilising space and increasing learner knowledge, a new subject has been introduced in 2024, titled 'Earth Care'. Siena will be developing vegetable gardens, orchards and frog bogs, involving ourselves in programs including River Detectives and Resource Smart Schools.

Having already ventured out with Integra for tree planting, 2024 will see us heading further afield with the Integra team on another planting project. Siena will take an in depth look at the waterway which passes our school in order to give a broader view of how we connect with those downstream through our actions around Lucas.

Our learners are very excited about the opportunities 'Earth Care' provides and have already delved into the aquatic invertebrates to be found in Mullawallah Wetlands. We will soon be partaking in Waste Week, with the help of one of our generous parents, who Project Manages, together with Ballarat City Council's landfill site, at Smythesdale.



Community Garden

The Lucas Community Garden is located beside the Lucas Kindergarten carpark and provides the opportunity for locals to connect with their community and learn about growing food. It is maintained by a friendly group of locals who meet on a regular basis. Vegetables, herbs and berries are free for anyone to pick. Many of the garden beds have recently been upgraded thanks to grants from The Ballarat Foundation and Central Highlands Water.

For more information please visit facebook.com/lucascommunitygarden or call Matt: 0409 169 357 or Peter: 0417 541 889.

Ballarat Miners season 2024

The Ballarat Miners 2024 Mitsubishi NBL1 South Season campaign will tip off on Wednesday, April 3rd right here in Ballarat at Selkirk Stadium against arch-rivals Bendigo.

With two new coaches Kennedy Kereama and Luke Brennan leading our teams, plus a number of players already committing and a couple more to come it's looking to be an exciting season ahead.

Our season consists of 22 games with 11 of those being at home in Ballarat. So, there are plenty of opportunities to come on down and watch the Miners Men and Women in action. With great basketball and entertainment it's a night the whole family will enjoy.

If you would like to join the Miners family and witness all the season's action, sign up now as a 2024 member. Not only will you save on ticket prices, but you will have first access to finals tickets should we host any as well as a membership pack that includes an exclusive membership beanie.



Lucas Welcomes Grampians Health Early Parenting Centre

Anticipated to open its doors in early 2024, Lucas is set to welcome the Grampians Health Early Parenting Centre. This facility is designed to assist parents with children aged 0-4, focusing on crucial aspects such as sleep, settling, child behaviour, and the overall well-being of both parents and their young ones.

Comprising 10 residential units and four day stay units, the centre aims to offer day stay programs and residential stay programs, aiming to positively impact the health and overall wellness of children throughout the Grampians region. In collaboration with the Queen Elizabeth Centre, Grampians Health is bringing this facility to Fawcett Road in Lucas, ensuring that more families in the community can access care in proximity to their homes. This initiative is poised to benefit hundreds of families annually, offering practical support and resources for parents navigating the early years of child rearing.

The Grampians Health Early Parenting Centre in Lucas signifies a practical and valuable addition to the community, catering to the specific needs of parents with young children. As it takes shape, this facility embodies a commitment to providing accessible and meaningful support for families, contributing to the overall health and well-being of the Lucas community.

The Library Outreach Service



Did you know Lucas now has library visits to the Lucas Community Hub every Tuesday 10am-12pm at 17 Coltman Plaza, Lucas.

The truck has eight trollies, featuring a variety of adult and children's materials including books, magazines, talking books and DVDs.

Residents can borrow and return Library items and can also request items from other Central Highlands Libraries and selected libraries across Victoria.

We run a Wriggle and Rhyme session from 10.30am with stories and songs for pre-school aged children, running during school term.

We have two laptops available for public use whilst the library is in session.

Exceptions apply during extreme weather conditions. Please check the Community Hub website for more details.



City of Ballarat

Ageing Well Dance Class

Over 55's | \$5 per class

Lucas Community Hub	Brown Hill Hall
17 Coltman Plaza, Lucas	375 Humffray Street North, Brown Hill
Mondays 10.30-11.30am (starting 29 January)	Tuesdays 10.30-11.30am (starting 30 January)

For bookings and accessibility
Please contact the Social Activities Team
Call 5320 5837 or email socialconnections@ballarat.vic.gov.au



Community Room Hire

Are you looking for a space to run a community event or hold a meeting for your community organisation? The Lucas Community Hub has two bookable community spaces, for more information, terms and conditions, and how to book head to <https://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/lucas-community-hub-booking>

Direct to Boot Opening Soon!

Construction is in progress on a very impressive direct to boot with plans for it to be operational in mid March.

There are more changes to come at Woolworths Lucas with electronic ticketing being rolled out as well as some shade sales for the car park being earmarked as a future project.

The direct to boot is a very impressive extension with a lot of under cover space and lots of parking bays. You also will have noticed lots of works going on in Lucas Woolworths with a new Deli set to open in coming months also.



Lucas Little Aths call out for volunteers

Lucas Little Athletics extends a warm invitation to anyone interested in joining our vibrant Lucas Little Athletics community as volunteer. No experience is required. Whether you have experience in athletics, coaching, administration, wanting to make friends in the community, or simply have a passion for supporting youth sports, there is a place for you at Lucas Little Athletics Club.

Your time and dedication will make a significant difference in the lives of our athletes and contribute to the positive atmosphere we are trying to build.

Join us in shaping the future of our community!
For inquiries or expressions of interest in volunteering, please feel free to email pjenes@highview.vic.edu.au



Sunday March 3

10am-1pm

Rotary Centennial Park

cnr Remembrance Drive & Link Rd, Lucas
adjacent to Mullawallah Wetlands

Join members of "Wendouree Breakfast" and other Rotary Clubs for an hour or two to clean up our neighbourhood.
Bags, gloves and safety vests provided.
Dress appropriately and use sun protection.





Alfredton Rotary's Heartwarming Initiative

Buddy Benches Bring Students Together, Supported by Local Community

Alfredton Rotary members are always busy on some project or other. Recently their efforts have been to provide Buddy Benches for local Primary Schools. Having a Buddy Bench in the playground allows students to identify which of their classmates is feeling the need for some company and to be there for them. This helps build empathy and caring in each student and allows friendships to develop, that may not otherwise.

Buddy Benches also allow teachers to quickly identify students who are feeling alone or vulnerable, enabling them to provide appropriate support as needed. After being made aware of the value of Buddy Benches to students and staff by Lucas Primary Deputy Principal Danielle Toose, Alfredton Rotary members set to work asking other schools if they would also like to receive one and sourcing funds to help us provide the benches needed.

The Community Bank Buninyong was happy to help the project, providing over \$4000 to purchase the benches. Club members have donated significant time, funds and effort organising the project, buying the paint, assembling, painting, and delivering the benches. They are really pleased to be supporting our younger community members with this project and love the hands-on nature of the volunteer work.

In addition, club members have also been supporting school communities overseas by organising the collection of surplus materials and equipment from local schools and a school in Horsham to be sent to schools in other countries such as Zimbabwe and Vanuatu.

They are certainly standing by their motto: Alfredton Rotary – Making a Difference Locally & Globally and would welcome anyone who is interested in getting involved in their projects and fundraising, to contact the via the club's Facebook page. Facebook: Alfredton Rotary Club

Join Ballarat Community Health's 'Life!' Program for a Vibrant 2024

Ballarat Community Health, 12 Lilburne Street Lucas, is excited to announce it is continuing to offer the 'Life!' program in 2024, aimed at empowering individuals to take control of their health and well-being. This FREE program offers a comprehensive approach to health management, focusing on nutrition, physical activity, and lifestyle modifications to achieve long-lasting results.

The 'Life!' program is designed for individuals who are at risk of developing type 2 diabetes, heart disease, or stroke. Through a series of structured workshops and personalised support, participants will gain valuable knowledge and skills to make healthier choices and improve their overall quality of life.

Led by qualified Allied Health professionals, the program covers a range of topics, including healthy eating, regular physical activity, stress management, and goal setting. Participants will learn practical strategies to incorporate healthier habits into their daily routine, setting them on the path to better health and well-being.

Signing up is as easy as taking a 3 minute eligibility check via the QR code.

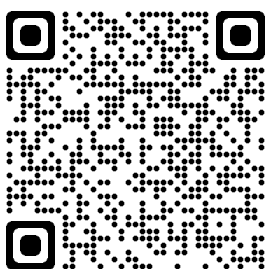
In addition to the 'Life!' program, Ballarat Community Health in Lucas also offers access to experienced dietitians who can provide personalised nutrition guidance and support. Whether you're looking to manage a chronic condition, or simply adopt a healthier lifestyle, our dietitians are here to help you achieve your goals.

With the start of the new year, there's no better time to prioritise your health and make positive changes for the future.

Contact Ballarat Community Health in Lucas today to learn more about our Allied Health programs and how you can get started on your path to a healthier lifestyle.

www.bchc.org.au 5338 4500

Scan for more information



BCH Dietitians

Community Hoops

Holiday Camps

Improve your skills, develop techniques, enhance your Basketball skills and techniques, meet new friends, and ultimately have fun! The camps are perfect for children aged between 4 and 14 years catering for the beginner who has never picked up a basketball to the most experienced 14-year-old in the land!



All Abilities Hoops

All Abilities Hoops is an introduction to basketball aimed at children aged 5-18 years who are living with disability. The program teaches basic skills in a safe and enjoyable environment while also catering for all disabilities with better access to coaches through smaller group sizes.

Next Level

Our Next Level program is a 5-week program suited for current domestic players born 2012-2014 which focuses on learning new concepts of footwork, passing, dribbling and shooting as well as enhancing their current skills.



Aussie Hoops

Aussie Hoops is an introduction to basketball program aimed at 4-11 year old's that provides children with a fun and safe basketball experience while teaching them the fundamentals of basketball such as ball handling, passing, shooting, defence and footwork.

Mini Miners

Mini Miners is a basketball focused program aimed at 2 - 4 year olds. The program will help children develop their General Motor skills and Basic Basketball Movements such as throwing, catching, running, hopping, and skipping through basketball orientated activities.

For More information and Registration Head to <https://www.ballaratbasketball.com/community-programs/>





A word from Member for Ripon Martha Haylett MP

During my campaign to become the Member for Ripon, I door knocked hundreds of doors in Lucas and spoke to many local families about the issues that matter to them most. The number one issue raised was the lack of mobile reception. I fought hard to make sure new mobile towers were a part of the State Labor Government's \$500 million Connecting Victoria Program, and we won. Late last year, I had the pleasure of joining many locals to officially turn on the first of six new mobile towers being delivered by the State Government in partnership with Telstra, TPG and Optus. Located on the corner of Finchs Road and Cuthberts Road, the tower provides over 18 square kilometres of new mobile coverage. Cardigan and Alfredton will also have completed Telstra towers in 2024, and Mitchell Park will have completed Optus and TPG towers in 2026.

Through the Connecting Victoria Program, the State Government is fast-tracking connectivity improvements with more than 1200 mobile projects and 180 broadband projects across the state. All projects will be completed by mid-2026, with many set to finish much sooner.

In more exciting news for local Lucas families, it was announced back in December that the Lucas Community Hub will receive \$1.5 million from the State Government's Building Blocks fund – meaning even more children can get the best start to life with access to reliable and quality childcare, in partnership with the City of Ballarat. I know how important those early years are for our little ones, which is why I'm so proud we are expanding early learning services in the heart of Lucas. As this is my first piece in the Lucas Chronicle, I wanted to let all readers know that if you need assistance with any state government-related matters, you contact my office on 5461 1255 or email Martha.Haylett@parliament.vic.gov.au. I look forward to seeing you around Lucas soon.



Lucas Hockey Club

The 2024 hockey season is fast approaching, with Lucas Hockey Club looking to build further on their first 2 seasons.

The 2023 competition season saw Lucas Hockey Club field their first women's team, with an additional team also being entered at the Under 11 level, taking the total teams entered for Lucas Hockey Club in 2023 to 6.

The 2023 season saw plenty of on-field success for the Club, with 4 teams making it to grand finals. Whilst our Under 16 and Men's teams didn't take home premierships, both groups played with great endeavour. Our Under 11s and Under 14s both capped off strong seasons with premierships – the Under 11s going back-to-back.

In addition to the team success enjoyed during 2023, we also had 3 club members selected to play in state teams at the National Championships. Mason Sutton represented Victoria in the Under 15 national championships held in Darwin. Whilst the Under 13 Victorian Team included 2 Lucas Hockey Club Members, Archer Sutton – who was named captain of the State team, and Jake Robillard.

Off the field, the Club once again saw great contributions from their members and supporters, with several very successful fundraising efforts and social functions being held.

2024 is already shaping up to be another successful year for Lucas Hockey Club, with the Club likely to be entering another 2 teams in the Hockey Ballarat winter competitions – a Men's reserves team and a second Under 14 team.

Pre-season training is scheduled to commence in the first week of March, with the winter season likely to start on the third weekend in April.

New members are welcome at any time. Anyone interested can contact the club via email at admin@lucashockey.com.au or simply attend a training session. Further information can be found on the Club's website – www.lucashockey.com.au or by following the Club's Facebook page.



INTEGRA AND POWER FM'S

EASTER

Egg Hunt

SAT MARCH 30th

at

Lucas Grange Park

Hollioake Drive, Lucas

from 9am



Scan for more details

