

# URBAN COMPETITIONS 2023/24

ORGANISATION	DAY & DATE	VENUE	START	ENTRY	CONTACT	PHONE
Greater Midlands District 17	Sun Nov 19	Kerang	0930	Juniors	Greg Murphy	0429 955 122
	Sun Nov 26	Horsham	0900	Snrs/jnrs	Sarah Simmons	0439 499 131
Western Districts	Sat Dec 2	Stawell	0900	Juniors	Myles Gellie	0412 410 152
Western Districts	Sun Dec 3	Stawell	0900	Seniors	Myles Gellie	0412 410 152
Greater Midlands	Sun Dec 10	Kyneton	0900	Juniors	Harold Jochs	0428 352 933
Western Districts	Sat Jan 13	Colac	0930	Snrs/jnrs	Andrew Bath	0419 557 439
Greater Midlands	Sat Jan 13	Swan Hill	1000	Juniors	Harold Jochs	0428 352 933
Greater Midlands	Sun Jan 14	Swan Hill	1000	Seniors*	Harold Jochs	0428 352 933
				(*no reel events)		
Western Districts	Sat Jan 20	Hamilton	1300	Snrs/jnrs	Nathan Appledore	0448 186 904
Greater Midlands	Sat Jan 20	Melton	1200	Juniors	Harold Jochs	0428 352 933
Greater Midlands	Sun Jan 21	Melton	0900	Seniors	Harold Jochs	0428 352 933
Combined Gippsland	Sat Feb 3	Morwell	1000	Snrs/jnrs	Helen White	0428 329 233
Greater Midlands	Sat Feb 3	Bendigo	0900	Junior	Harold Jochs	0428 352 933
Greater Midlands	Sun Feb 4	Bendigo	0900	Senior	Harold Jochs	0428 352 933
District 17	Sun Feb 4	Stawell	0900	Snrs/jnrs	Sarah Simmons	0439 499 131
Combined Gippsland	Sat Feb 10	Morwell	1000	Snrs/jnrs	Helen White	0428 329 233
Western Districts	Sat Feb 10	Osborne Park	0900	Juniors	Terry Mann	0412 516 184
Western Districts	Sun Feb 11	Osborne Park	0900	Seniors	Terry Mann	0412 516 184
Eastern Districts	Sat Feb 17	Morwell	0900	Snrs/jnrs	Brad Miller	0400 876 325
Combined East Central	Sat Feb 24	Hallam	0900	Snrs/jnrs	David Baptist	0459 283 174
Western Districts	Sat Feb 24	Warrnambool	0930	Juniors	Tom Woodhams	0406 778 692
Greater Midlands	Sat Feb 24	Tatura	0900	Juniors	Harold Jochs	0428 352 933
Greater Midlands	Sun Feb 25	Tatura	0900	Seniors	Harold Jochs	0428 352 933
Western Districts	Sun Feb 25	Warrnambool	0930	Seniors	Tom Woodhams	0406 778 692
Greater Midlands	Sat Mar 2	Echuca	0900	Snrs/jnrs	Harold Jochs	0428 352 933
Combined Gippsland	Sat Mar 2	Morwell	1000	Snrs/jnrs	Helen White	0428 329 233
District 17	Sun Mar 3	Warracknabeal	0900	Snrs/jnrs	Sarah Simmons	0439 499 131

URBAN STATE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS – MOORoopna – 16-17 MARCH, 2024  
 URBAN STATE SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS – MOORoopna – 23-24 MARCH, 2024  
 RURAL STATE SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS – MOORoopna – 23 MARCH, 2024  
 RURAL STATE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS – MOORoopna – 24 MARCH, 2024

## Bruce celebrates 90 years

Bruce Bartlett recently turned 90 and celebrated on October 7 with afternoon tea at Iona Nursing Home in Nhill with wife Una, children Wendy, Peter and Glenda, their partners, grand children and great grand children as well as family and friends, many whom had travelled some distance.

Bruce was an active member of Nhill Fire Brigade for many decades and was well known and extremely popular in competition circles in his formative years and competed in many Championships, both State and local, with a great deal of success.

An outstanding competitor Bruce won two State Ladder titles. He has many fond memories and made many great friendships through his involvement in Nhill Brigade and State Championships.

Having led an active sporting life both playing and coaching football in Nhill and surrounding areas, playing both pennant and social bowls over many years for the Nhill Bowling Club, sport has

been a large and fulfilling part of his life and he gave back to the community by being heavily involved in Little Athletics and the Under 18s Teal Cup football squads for many years.

Bruce, an avid Collingwood supporter proudly wore his Pies premiership polo top and celebrated with a beer; the 2023 win being the only Collingwood Grand Final that he had missed in almost 60 years.

During Bruce's working life he was a builder specialising in cabinet making with many homes in the Nhill area displaying his skills.

It was a wonderful afternoon celebrating and remi-



niscing Bruce's 90 years and all look forward to many more.

Below: Bruce (pictured front row, second from left) with his family at his recent 90th birthday celebration.



## 75 years for Rye

Rye Fire Brigade celebrated its 75th anniversary of serving the local community at its presentation dinner last month at which Captain Eddy Matt, on the brigade's behalf, accepted a 75 year certificate from CFA which was presented by Assistant Chief Fire Officer Jamie Hansen (pictured below).

During the evening a Brigade Life Membership was presented to former Captain Glenn Diamond, who originally joined the brigade in 2003 and served as a DGO of Peninsula Group from 2021-2022.

Glenn, who has contributed in many others ways to the brigade including as an operational firefighter, junior leader, group delegate, and strike team leader, was thanked for his wonderful contribution to Rye Fire Brigade.

There was also a presentation of flowers to retiring member Dawn Hind, for her invaluable contribution to the brigade spanning 54 years.

Numerous brigade awards were also presented during the evening.

Winner of the coveted firefighter of the year award was Rob Thompson with Lieutenant Tim Griffiths and Lieutenant Locky Yanner taking out the runners-up awards.

The encouragement award was shared by Owen Yanner and Drew Cole whilst Rob Thompson and Bob O'Toole shared the Captain's award.

Recently awarded with the Australasian Fire Authorities Council Industry Award for fostering resilient communities was Kelly Stoner, who was also recognised during the evening.

There were also special awards for tunouts presented to Lieutenants Tim Griffiths (1073) and Rob Thompson (1063), former Captain Peter Ellis (1530) and Captain Eddy Matt (1712).

Rye Fire Brigade was originally formed in 1945 but was not registered with CFA until 1948. The first fire station was

Left: Dawn Hind received a retirement certificate and flowers and is pictured with ACFO Jamie Hansen and Captain Eddy Matt.



located on the foreshore before it later relocated to the current site.

The early equipment of the brigade was mainly privately owned including knapsacks, 44 gallon tanks on utes and a member's truck and the foreshore committee trust purchased knapsacks and hand beaters.

The initial station was a small weatherboard shed provided by the foreshore trust to house the new truck and was the brigade's home until 1967 when the brigade built a new station.

Rye Fire Brigade has played an important role in many fire events locally and further afield including the Black Saturday fires and more recent Black Summer fires.



Glenn Diamond was honoured with Brigade Life Membership.

## EMERGENCY SERVICES EXPO SUCCESS

An Emergency Services Expo was held at Yarck Recreation Reserve last month. The weather was fine and the community turned out in droves and were impressed with the latest CFA training tools and training techniques.

The Expo was also well attended by first responders, some of whom had not previously witnessed some of our high tech training modules. CFA's Terry Ouroumis ran the CFA SIM Table which is an engaging and interactive 3D simulator used to demonstrate bushfire behaviour and suppression options. Terry projected the local terrain onto the SIM Table so the community could see just how quickly fire can travel so easily across the landscape. The SIM Table is available for brigade training.

The Fire Extinguisher Virtuality Reality Unit was also popular particularly with the kids but it is an excellent training tool. The more comprehensive Virtual Reality Unit will be used for more serious training and will be at Alexandra Brigade till early November and can be booked by other brigades after that.

The Smoke House was also used for BA demonstrations.

The car fire prop was a real attraction (pictured below). The highlight of the event was a multi-agency MVA scenario using the car fire prop. The scenario began with a simulated call to 000 explaining what information 000 would require and the importance of staying calm and providing precise, correct directions.

First on scene were SES and CFA to secure the scene and extinguish the fire before the dummy passenger was extracted. SES provided immediate first aid until the ambulance arrived, then continued to help the Paramedics to stabilize the patient in readiness for transport to hospital. The announcer, Paul Tierney, explained that the area must be preserved to enable the Police to investigate the cause of the incident. After the investigation CFA

was engaged to clear the road of debris and spilled fuel. There was a lot of positive feedback from the community, all members who left with a much greater understanding of the huge task involved during any incident.

CFA, SES, AV and VicPol worked well together as one competent, unit.

There were a number of other organisations providing safety information as well, AV's Shocktober campaign, Forest Fire Management, Game Management Authority, Murrindindi Council, Army Signals along with CFA's Com Ed Unit and Rehab Unit. There was plenty to keep the kids entertained, providing the opportunity to engage with the adults.

All in all, the Expo proved to be a great community event full of valuable fire safety information.



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