



## APRIL NEWSLETTER

### *REDSOX COMMITTEE*

President – John Kus 0401334890

Vice Presidents – Brian Dillon, Brett Sharp

Secretary – Cath O'Kane

Treasurer - Kelli Kus 0402118879

Public Officer - Cath O'Kane

Club senior Coach – John Kus 0401334890

U16 Coach – John Kus 0401334890

U13 Coach – Luke Hornstra 0435775657

Tee ball coordinators - A.Jeffs, C.McMahon

Sponsorship - John Kus

LVBA Delegates - John Kus and Dennis Smith

Data Base Coordination - Nicki Townsend

Food Coordinator - Kelli Kus

Grounds - J.Ziersch, B.Dillon, D.Caulfield

Publicity - Jay Ziersch

General Communications - Dennis Smith

Newsletter - Cam McConville/Indoor Facility - Jay

Ziersch -0423185926 Uniforms- John Kus

0401334890 General Committee - B.Wass,

B.Sharp, D.Cameron, W.Brooker, J.Graham,

J.Neilsen, L.Hornstra, K.Neilsen



## *MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: JOHN KUS*

Welcome to the 2023 baseball season! A lot has been achieved in our preseason this year which all began in January.

This season the committee recognised recruitment of new junior players needed to be a priority with a number of existing players moving up in grades or moving to other sports. Thanks to Baseball Victoria and our club sponsors we were able to provide an attractive 'come and try' program which involved providing all our new kids with a glove, T shirt, hat and a ball so they all had some equipment to keep and practice at home in preparation for sign up day. As a result of the program, the club is very pleased to have signed up many new kids and parents to the club. Thank you to all the parents and our senior group who assisted during the month of March with all the trainings.



Senior recruitment also went well over the offseason with some new faces adding to the list. We managed to retain the majority of last seasons players to give the club the best chance of success. We have changed some coaching structure amongst the senior ranks adding Wayne Beaton as the B Grade coach, and also adding Will Brooker & Austin McConville as assistants to learn the arts of what coaching is about. Our C Grade coaching also had a couple changes adding in Josh Neilson & Dennis Caulfield to assist Ken Neilson who has gone around again chasing some success and developing those in the grade.



Off the diamond our committee and volunteers have been super busy early this season getting the work done to install our new electronic scoreboard. A number of volunteer hours went into this project and I thank all those who contributed and also Latrobe City & our sponsors for their financial contributions the past year.

Work on the ground surface and surrounds was an early priority to ensure the venue is neat and tidy and the ground surface is ready for the season. Once again, many volunteered hours have gone into this to ensure all was ready for hosting the Gippsland Championships. Thank you to everyone who has contributed in one way or another throughout the early parts of the season.

This season all our juniors have returned to playing Sundays with Under 16 @ 9am, Under 13 @ 9am diamond 2, and Under 10 T-ball @ 11:15 am on diamond 2. The club worked hard to ensure these times didn't clash with too much football so kids could play both sports.

Uniforms & merchandise will be taking a new direction in 2023. The senior uniform, which was last changed around 20 years ago, will receive a fresh new look. Along with this we have engaged ([teamstyle.com.au](http://teamstyle.com.au)) to create an online shop with all our old and new merchandise into the future. Players and parents will soon be able to access this and order their own merchandise. This is a significant milestone for the club removing the need to store and hold stock, administer it, and rely on volunteers to manage ordering and stocking. Stay tuned to see the new uniforms in 2023 and juniors in 2024.

I'd like to thank all our current sponsors for returning for 2023 and those who decided to upgrade their sponsorship levels. These contributions have put our club into one of the best facilities this side of Melbourne and we look forward to having all our sponsors hopefully at our Sponsors day in the near future to see for themselves.

### 2023 SEASON DRAW

Round	Date	Home	Away	Bye
1	16-Apr	Churchill	Traralgon	Sale
		Moe/Newborough	Morwell	
2	23-Apr	Traralgon	Sale	Morwell
		Churchill	Moe/Newborough	
3	30-Apr	Morwell	Sale	Churchill
		Moe/Newborough	Traralgon	
4	7-May	Sale	Traralgon	Moe/Newborough
		Morwell	Churchill	
5	14-May	Moe/Newborough	Morwell	Traralgon
		Sale	Churchill	
6	21-May	Churchill	Moe/Newborough	Sale
		Traralgon	Morwell	
7	28-May	Sale	Morwell	Churchill
		Traralgon	Moe/Newborough	
8	4-Jun	Churchill	Morwell	Traralgon
		Sale	Moe/Newborough	
Queens B'day	11-Jun	NO GAMES		
9	18-Jun	Morwell	Sale	Moe/Newborough
		Traralgon	Churchill	
10	25-Jun	Churchill	Sale	Morwell
		Moe/Newborough	Traralgon	
School holidays	2-Jul	NO GAMES		
11	9-Jul	Traralgon	Churchill	Sale
		Morwell	Moe/Newborough	
12	16-Jul	Sale	Moe/Newborough	Churchill
		Traralgon	Morwell	
13	23-Jul	Churchill	Sale	Morwell
		Moe/Newborough	Traralgon	
SWC	30-Jul	NO GAMES		
14	6-Aug	Traralgon	Sale	Moe/Newborough
		Churchill	Morwell	
15	13-Aug	Sale	Traralgon	Morwell
		Moe/Newborough	Churchill	
16	20-Aug	Morwell	Moe/Newborough	Traralgon
		Sale	Churchill	
17	27-Aug	Morwell	Traralgon	Sale
		Moe/Newborough	Churchill	
18	3-Sep	Moe/Newborough	Sale	Churchill
		Morwell	Traralgon	
PF	10-Sep			
GF	17-Sep			
Washout	24-Sep			
AFL GF	1-Oct			

## *GAME TIMES*

### **Seniors:**

A Grade 2:00 pm (Home games diamond 1, KLP)  
B Grade 11:15 am (Home games diamond 1, KLP)  
C Grade 2:00 pm (Home games diamond 2, Liddiard Road)

### **Juniors:**

T-Ball 11.15 am (Home games diamond 2, Liddiard Road)  
U13 9:00 am (Home games diamond 2, Liddiard Road)  
U16 9:00 am (diamond 1, KLP)

**\*Junior games vs Morwell TBA**

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## *TRAINING (KLP)*

### **Seniors:**

Wednesday 6:00 -7:30 pm

### **Juniors:**

T-Ball Monday 4:00-6:00 pm  
U13 Monday 5:00-6:00 pm  
U16 Monday 4.30-6:00 pm (fortnightly) and Wed 6:00 pm every other week

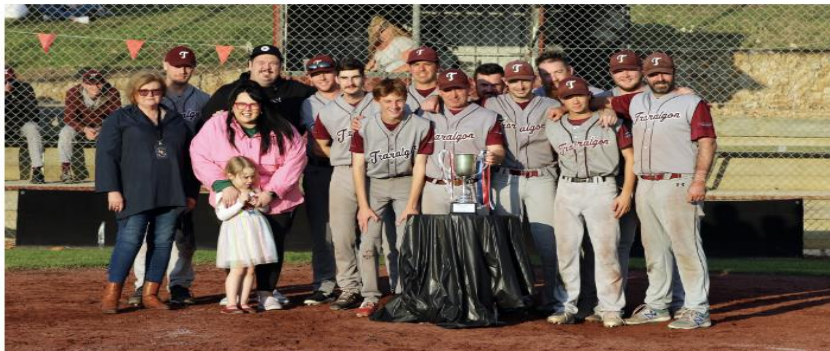
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## *THE McLEAN CUP - SUNDAY 23RD APRIL*

The sun ☀️ was shining on Sunday for the annual McLean Cup, and what a fantastic match it turned out to be! The enthusiastic crowd were treated to a nail-biting 10 inning tussle which saw the Redsox tie with the Rangers in the bottom of the 9th inning (3 all), and then going on to score the winning run in the bottom of the 10th!

Redsox scored a run in the second innings to take an early lead. Sale responded in the fourth with some strong hitting by Bronts, Wrigglesworth and Walters to drive in 3 runs. In the bottom of the ninth Malachi Dillon singled on a 0-1 count, bringing home the tying run. With two out and full count, John Kus struck a hard grounder to force an error at third base for the walk-off (4-3). Hits for the Redsox were shared between M.Dillon (2), Will Brooker (2), Josh Graham (2), Andy Matthews (1), Tom Rynberk and Brad Adams (1).

Also, a massive shout out to all that attended and especially our volunteers who made the day great.



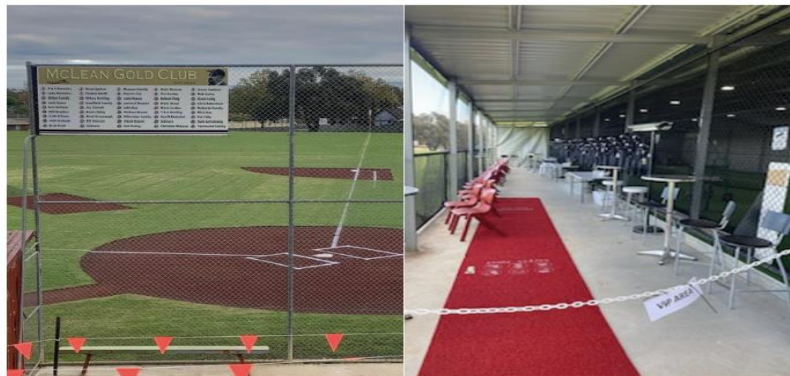


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### ***GOLD CLUB***

The generous support of our Gold Club members has enabled the Club to provide some financial assistance to three of our junior players, Austin McConville, Alex Smith and Morgan McConville who competed in State and Interstate competitions over the summer.

Austin played with the Senior Rangers charter and Alex with the Junior Rangers charter in the State Championships at Geelong, and Morgan was a member of the Victorian Youth Women's State team at the Nationals held over the Easter weekend at Altona. It was lovely to see our future leaders of the Club expressing their thanks to the Gold Club in the pre-game speeches.



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### ***MASTERS TOURNAMENT***

*By Josh Graham*

As March rolled around the annual pilgrimage to Ballarat was untaken by the Redsox Masters team. Competing in their 9th tournament the team was extremely competitive in the Over 35s A Division facing some talent-filled sides who were pushing hard to win. The focus on the Masters side has always been to play some ball with friends both still at the club and some who have moved away, once again this was achieved

With a mix of A, B and C grade players in the squad the ability to hold our own in the premier division against squads that are a combination of different teams is something all members of the Redsox family should be proud of.

The social element of the weekend shouldn't be discounted with the re-telling of past glories and reconnecting with good friends as important as the on-field performances.

A massive shout out to Davis Long for continuing to organise the group as the team manager and Kussy who managed the on-field elements of the squad, both making the weekend enjoyable for everyone with even spread of playing time (no easy feat) and keeping us together off the field (sometimes as challenging as game time).

Those that have played Masters look forward to every year and for those that haven't but are mature enough should ask how they can get involved.



Left to Right Back Row: Dennis Smith, Brett Sharp, Ken Neilson, Brian Dillon, John Kus, David Combridge  
Left to Right Front Row: Josh Graham, Davis Long, Jay Ziersch, Luke Hornstra, Owen Godenzi  
Absent from photo: Wayne Beaton



## ***GIPPY CHAMPS***

*By Cam McConville*

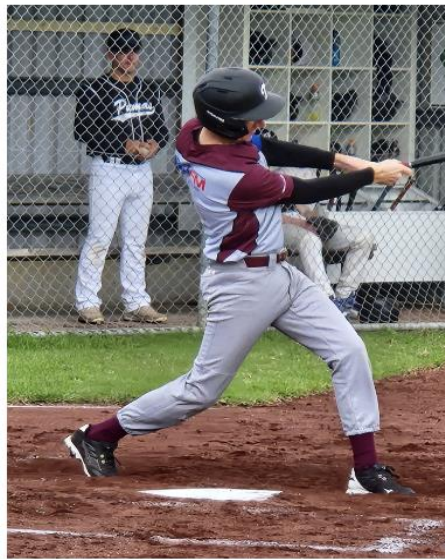
This year the Gippy Champs were jointly hosted by Traralgon and Morwell on the first weekend in April. After a wet and cold week leading into the tournament the weather settled and delivered perfect conditions for what turned out to be a terrific weekend of competitive baseball. A total of 9 teams, which included Mornington, Westgarth, Pakenham, Dingley, Sale, Morwell, Churchill, Moe/Newb and Traralgon competed for the trophy.

After losing to Moe/Newb in our first game Saturday morning, the Redsox then moved into top gear with a strong win against Churchill 3-1, backed up with an impressive performance against Pakenham 6-3. On the Sunday, we fronted up against the reigning champs and in-form Dingley. In an exciting battle, the Redsox had their noses in front for most of the game before Dingley drew level at the top of the final innings (6th). Unfortunately, we were not able to break the deadlock and the game ended in a draw 2-2.

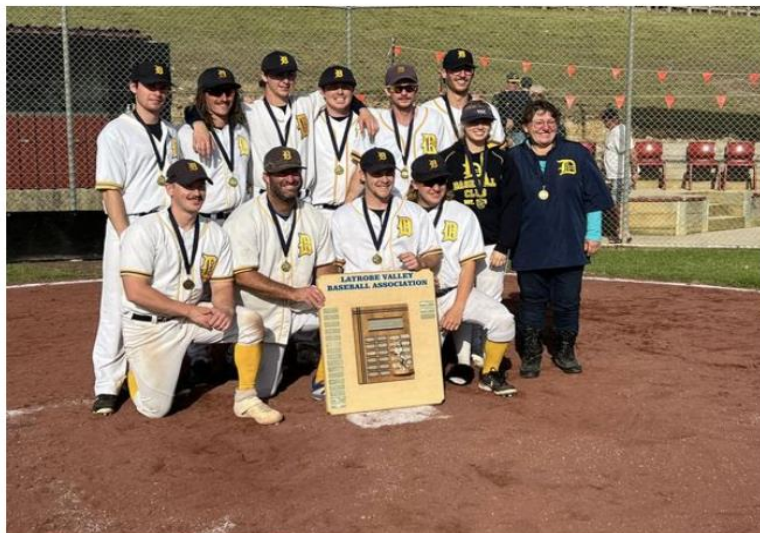
The Redsox met Moe/New in the semi-finals at the Morwell ground. In another nail-biter, we led for most of the game before Moe/Newb levelled in the last inning (bottom of the 5th) to draw the game 1-1, narrowly missing out on progressing to the final. Moe/Newb faced off against Dingley in the final, succumbing 10-0. MVP for the tournament was Michael Fahy from Dingley, and the batting average went to Grant Irving with a very impressive .643.

Over the tournament for the Redsox, Mickey Bentley had 11 plate appearances for 4 hits (.364), Josh Graham had 10 plate appearances for 3 hits (.300). Abbey Jeffs had 5 plate appearances for 2 hits (.400) including driving home the winning run against Pakenham! Andy McConville also had 5 plate appearances for 2 hits (.667).

A shout out to all those who gave their considerable time and effort to preparing the Traralgon ground for the tournament. The ground was in magnificent condition and admired by all visiting teams.



Andy McConville drives over short-stop for a one bagger against Pakenham



Dingley wins the Gippy Champs for the second year in a row

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## PLAYER SPOTLIGHT



**VICTORIAN YOUTH WOMEN'S STATE TEAM**  
**#7 - MORGAN MCCONVILLE**  
**NICKNAME:** Morgs  
**POSITION:** Middle-infield  
**FAVOURITE TEAM:** San Diego Padres  
**FAVOURITE BASEBALL MEMORY:** Coming on to close the game against the top team and getting 3 up 3 down.  
**FUN FACT:** I used to be the fastest breaststroke swimmer in Victoria.  
**MOST EXCITED FOR AT #AYWC2023:** Creating long lasting memories and friendships whilst competing hard against the top girls in the country.



Morgan McConville recently competed at the 2023 Australian Youth Women's Baseball Championships which was held at Melbourne Ballpark over Easter. Morgan was part of the Victorian Youth Women's State Team who finished the 4 day tournament with the Bronze medal. Morgan's highlight was being selected as the starting pitcher for Victoria in the game against WA, in which they won 21 runs to 5.

The AYWC tournament was the culmination of over 40 hrs of training for Morgan, training twice a week with the team in Melbourne. The 16 strong Victorian team was selected following three rigorous try-outs sessions where more than 30 girls aged 13-16 yrs came from around the state to trial for a position. Morgan impressed the selectors with her baseball skills, fitness and athletic strength.

Traralgon Baseball Club is very proud of Morgan's efforts. We look forward to having Morgan return to compete in the U16 winter season.

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## TRARALGON BOYS COMPETE IN LITTLE LEAGU STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS!



Traralgon junior players Austin McConville and Alex Smith played at the 2023 State Championships held in Geelong recently. This tournament is the highlight of the Victorian Summer Baseball League's calendar where the VSBL's five different "Charter Teams" come together to vie for the right to go to the Nationals.

Austin played the summer season with Waverley Baseball Club's U16 Metro and Senior teams. Austin's U16 team finished the regular season tied for top position with 12 wins and only 2 losses. Austin had a terrific season winning the U16 MVP award (Batting Av. 0.727, 32 hits including 2 homeruns). He also pitched 23 innings finishing the season with 40 strikeouts and an ERA of 5.1.

Alex played his summer season with Chelsea Baseball Club's U14 State team. This was a highly competitive league and Alex's team finished 2nd on the ladder with only 2 losses for the regular season. Unfortunately the team bowed out in the semi-final against Moorabbin. Alex had 65 plates appearances with a batting average of .521 for the season. He threw 16 innings pitching with 20 strike outs. Unfortunately Alex carried an injury throughout the season which reduced his pitching until the last 3 games.



*with Catherine Thatcher*



In January, both boys tried out for the Rangers Charter team. Rangers is one of the five Little League Charters and is comprised of the top 12 players selected from 9 different VSBL clubs from across Melbourne's Southeast and the Mornington Peninsula. Following a gruelling try-out on a sweltering hot day, both boys were successful in being selected to the 12 player squad – Alex in the Junior League (U15) team and Austin in the Senior League (U17) team.

The Rangers Senior League team played well against some very strong competition. The results of their first three 7 inning games being decided by just one run, and the third game went to extra innings where they lost by a run after 10 innings and 3.5hrs! Unfortunately, their final 2 games were washed out and they finished 4th overall. The highlight for Austin was driving in the go-ahead run in the final innings against the Mets, who went on to win the Gold medal game.

The Rangers Junior League team dominated the competition going through undefeated with 4 wins and no losses. The Rangers was a brand new charter this year with 6 from Chelsea, 5 Waverly and one Upwey baseballer making up the junior team. Alex had a fantastic tournament with 4 safe hits and not an error in the field at second base. He will now head off with the team to Nationals. We are very excited for Alex and the Rangers team and look forward to hearing how they go at the next level!

Traralgon baseball club is very proud of both boys and congratulate them on these significant achievements. We look forward to Austin and Alex sharing their knowledge and skills with their teammates in the upcoming winter LVBA season.



## REDSOX NEW PROJECTS



*By Kenny Neilson*

In the off season, over Summer, we have had several productive working bees.

We purchased an electronic score board last year. This year we have run electricity to it, had posts fabricated to mount it, poured foundations and erected it. It was all functioning for the Gippy Champs which was fabulous. Many thanks to Hughes Plant for the use of an excavator during the preparation work. Also, to Eastern constructions with help in erecting the score board.

There has been lots of general tidying up around both LRPS and KLP grounds in preparation for our season. We would like to thank all the volunteers who have contributed to making this happen.

The container shed continues to be completed with a few more flashings added. There is still a little bit of work to finish this. Drainage has been improved at the back of the diamond, to remove excess water. Our KLP and LRPS cut-outs were trimmed up in preparation for the season ahead.

An excavator was hired for a weekend and the excess dirt piles on the hill were cleaned up. There was some topsoil added to the area near the container shed and it was seeded for grass. Around the back net, we have excavated another level to add to our seating. This runs behind the scorer's box and is still a works in progress. It will require finishing off in time for hosting of the Grand Final this year.



## *MAJOR LEAGUE SPONSORS*

The baseball club welcomes all our sponsors that return for 2023. To support our sponsors please visit our [website](#) and click on the sponsors logo to be directed straight to them.

### **TRARALGON BOWLS CLUB**

We encourage all our members to check their membership card for the 2022 season by simply attending the venue, scanning your card to see if it needs renewing. If any new members to the club need to know how to gain a membership card, forms are in the club rooms, just fill one out and take it into the venue when you go. We organise dinners, functions, and general outings at the bowls club, but also encourage everyone to use the venue and use their card when purchasing. Book in, take your family, a great atmosphere.



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### **TRFM 99.5**

TRFM 99.5 have also been with our club for many years. We encourage all our members to turn your radio on their channel for some great tunes, and programs. If anyone in the club owns a business or needs to do any advertising, please contact the crew at TRFM and mention you're with the Redsox. Over the years TRFM have helped our club become what it is today, and we thank them.



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## *MINOR LEAGUE SPONSORS*



## ***ALL-STAR SPONSORS***

### **Henry & Hyland Street Cellars Traralgon**



Wine, beer and spirits shop in Traralgon, Victoria have supported the baseball club for many years now and provided great specials and discounts for all our members. Please take the time to drop in have a look at their specials and buy yourself some goodies. The home of the \$10 SIX PACK

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### **Port Albert Fishing Charters**

Let's go Redsox families book your family into a great day out with our Brian. A well-known senior player for our club now running his own charter business. His 2 sons Jordan & Kye are playing at the redsox if anyone has any question. They promise to expose you to the best fishing in our local water, the spots they go and the gear they use and the time we share... You'll soon learn there's no other way to fish. Port Albert Fishin' Charters operate charters in Port Albert and Bass Strait to target the likes of King fish, Whiting and Snapper. If you wish to make a booking with us please complete the booking form to register your interest. Or, if you prefer drop us a line...or give us a call.



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### **Variety Solar**

NEED SOLAR INSTALLED?? Looking to reduce your energy bills, now is a great time. Give Shuey a call and he will help you find the perfect system for your house. Kussy our President has just been through the process recently, so ask him how it went, he is an electrician that selected all the hardware for his install at home. Shuey Diptiman, Solar Specialist – 0430937115 [shuey@variety.com.au](mailto:shuey@variety.com.au)



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### **Vast Automotive**

Redsox players needing a service? Call Travis and book in. Mention you're a redsox player! As a Repco Authorised Service centre in Traralgon, Vast Automotive are committed to high quality workmanship, ensuring the very best in automotive care. Our membership with the Repco Auto Tech education program ensures regular training of mechanics, so our technicians are fully updated with modern vehicle repair methods. We are locally owned and operated and have years of experience under the bonnet. Trust us with anything from repairs to general advice. We are your local reliable motor engineers and know vehicles inside out, so whatever it is that's slowing your car or truck down, we are the ones to book a service with. So next time your vehicle is not running as well as it should, you know who to call.51749855



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### **Glen Maintenance**

For any general maintenance be sure to give Stuart a call. 03 5192 4921



## Electrical Trades Union Victoria



The ETU supports a range of community and non-government organisations, many of which do not receive support from traditional sources. Sponsorship and resources provided to these organisations by the ETU include volunteer time and financial and network support. Supporting electrical workers and local communities since 1902. The ETU provide sponsorship to many small sporting clubs to assist development and engagement in the community.

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## MJM Property

Looking to increase your property's value? buying/selling or renovating a property Get in touch with us at MJM Property. We are your Local, professional, and quality team that can guide you through all aspects of domestic and commercial property maintenance. We specialise in pre-sale packages that maximize your profits and offer a pay on settlement option for a stress-free sale of your property. MJM Property. your Local, quality, and professional property maintenance team. Check us out on Facebook and Instagram. Mick - 0438 660 210 Jimmy - 0416 916 187



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## Smart Choice Building Permits & Inspections



Locally owned, Smart Choice Building Permits and Inspections are your industry experts across Gippsland. Darren, Mel and the team can issue you with a building permit to build that deck, shed, carport or even you dream home. Building permits is not just what we offer. Our services include swimming pool and spa compliance checks, 137b Owner builder defects reports, Pre purchase Inspections and Essential safety measure maintenance determinations and the ongoing compliance checks. Smart Choice Building Permits and Inspections service not only the Gippsland region, but the entire Victorian state. So, if you need a building permit, whether it be as an owner builder or a registered builder we are here to service you.

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## Ausport Superstore



Ausport Superstore is driven to provide the widest selection and best prices of any dealer in Australia. Our 14,000 sqft warehouse is crammed packed full of all the best gear & equipment ready to serve your needs. We are proud sponsors of many local, state, and national organizations across the country. [www.ausport.com.au](http://www.ausport.com.au) (03) 9764 1511 11 Rushdale St Knoxfield VIC, 3180



## CS PHOTOGRAPHY



*with Catherine Thatcher |*

Capturing bumps and babies, family session in studio or on location, and providing Gippslands number one Boudoir photography experience. Anyone wanting photography of the highest level visit CS Photography By Catherine Thatcher to get a Redsox deal on professional photos.

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## ***GOLD GLOVE SPONSORS***

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### **Goodlife Physio**



Specialising in Sports Injury Rehab, Clinical Pilates and Women's Health. Goodlife Physio is a locally owned small business founded by Joelene Gathercole with associate Physio's Tim Green and Courtney Quadrell. Joelene, Tim and Courtney have a wealth of experience in sports injuries- shoulder, back and lower limb injuries and are excited to partner with Traralgon Red Sox to provide sports injury treatment. All members will receive 10% off Physiotherapy services. They are located in Livingstone St, in Traralgon CBD.

You can call 0401 900 909 to book, or book online via their website [www.goodlifephysiotherapy.net.au](http://www.goodlifephysiotherapy.net.au) which also has an online shop for any products you may need. We wish you all the best for the 2023 season.

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### **Davco Pest Control**



Dave Combridge is now a senior player for the redsox. He can come and spray your house to prevent the nasty bugs getting settled in. If you are worried about chemicals hurting your family, you do not need to be. Some of the products we use are Exterra, Termatrac and Home Guard. These products are all family-friendly, and we place them strategically throughout the house to minimise contact with people and pets. It is difficult to feel comfortable when you know there may be a bug or mouse lurking around every corner. If you hire DavCo Pest Control, the owner, David, will personally ensure that your home is free from pests. We are in Traralgon and serve Morwell, Moe, Warragul, Gippsland, and Drouin. Call to get rid of pests today. tel:0402 022 321.

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REAL ESTATE | Latrobe

At First National Latrobe, we recognise that selling or buying real estate is one of the most important decisions you will ever make.

Our philosophy is simple. If you trust us with the keys to your home or business, we'll do everything possible to create competition among genuine buyers and secure the highest price for your property.

We can't be all things to all people but we believe our service and approach to sales is what leads our business to achieve excellent outcomes for our clients.  
Phone 03 5176 0096

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### Hair Co.

In the need of a hair cut? Please feel free to try out one of our own Redsox members Nekeisha Dillon who works out of the Salon on Breed St Traralgon. Give her the support and try out her skills.



- Sale  
- Traralgon  
- Bairnsdale