

# Community News

Winter 2025 – Edition 56



On Thursday 15 May, the past and present members of our CLRS Fundraising Committee gathered for a special morning tea at the Murray River Tea Rooms to celebrate an incredible fundraising milestone, raising more than \$1 million since our first Annual Fundraising Dinner in 2007.

The group enjoyed a delicious morning tea and reminisced about how far the organisation has come and the incredible impact the money raised has had on our Opening Doors Projects - building homes for people with disability.

To date, these projects have built 3 homes and 12 units, supporting 22 people with disability to live with greater independence and inclusion within their community. To hear from clients and families that have benefited from these projects, please watch this beautiful video ['Opening Doors to Independence'](#).

# A Message from our CEO

Welcome to our Winter 2025 Community News.

I hope everyone is keeping warm and adjusting to the change in temperature after quite a warm Autumn.

Michael Maloney has recently resigned as a member of the CLRS board. Michael joined in December 2023. The CLRS board would like to thank Michael for his service.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah Hoff".

CLRS is seeking board members with experience and knowledge in risk management, corporate governance, financial management and accounting, asset management and/or ICT strategy & governance.

If you have these skills and would like to support the delivery of our vision of empowering individuals and families to live the life they choose in a community enriched by the inclusion of all, please reach out to Gillian Noelker, Executive Assistant, on 03 5480 2388 or email [ea@clrs.org.au](mailto:ea@clrs.org.au). Our board meet monthly on the first Wednesday of the month, rotating between in person meetings and online.

**Run Echuca Moama 2025**, our second major fundraising event for the year, has been officially launched and you can register here – <https://clrs.org.au/get-involved/runechucamoama/>

We are very excited to be adding something new to the course this year. We are closing the old Echuca Moama Bridge so that our participants get the unique experience of running across the old bridge as they come towards the finish line and event hub area. We have made some changes to the 21.1km and 10km events to reduce course congestion for participants. Both events will start together at the same time, and we are capping participant numbers this year to ensure we can manage this event well.

We are also asking people to volunteer their time to support the running of the event. If you have volunteered before with us or would like to volunteer for the first time, please register here <https://raceroster.com/events/2025/104665/run-echuca-moama-2025/volunteer/register> and our team will get in touch.

As you can see from our front page and the story later in the community newsletter, we recently celebrated a significant fundraising milestone, raising more than \$1 million since our first fundraising dinner in 2007. This is an achievement that has been made possible thanks to the people who volunteered their time over the 17 years we have held Annual Fundraising Dinners, the people who attended, our event and major sponsors, corporate sponsors, general sponsors and those businesses that donate items each year.

We really do live in a generous and supportive community.

Thank you!



# 2025 RUN ECHUCA MOAMA

Building homes for people with disability

SUNDAY 3 AUGUST 2025



Kerrabee Soundshell,  
Moama

21.1KM, 10KM OR 5KM  
&  
FRINKLE JUNIOR BOLT  
(400M FOR 5-7YRS AND 800M FOR 8-10YRS)



SCAN TO ENTER



[www.cirs.org.au/runechucamoama](http://www.cirs.org.au/runechucamoama)

EVENT SPONSOR MAJOR SPONSORS



# Run Echuca Moama 2025

## Sunday 3 August

21.1km, 10km, 5km

Run, walk or wheel (mobility aids only)

**Frinkle Junior Bolt** (400m 5-7yrs 800m 8- 10yrs)

### To register

<https://clrs.org.au/get-involved/runechucamoama/>

### Merchandise

We have a wide range of merchandise for Run Echuca Moama 2025, including different coloured t-shirts, singlets, black hoodies, fleecy jumpers, caps, visors, stubby holders and fitness towels.

All merchandise is being managed by one of our major sponsors – Worklocker Echuca.

To view or buy merchandise visit here

<https://runem.worklocker.getworkgear.com/guest/list-products>



All volunteers get a **FREE Egg and Bacon roll and a donut** from the Beechworth Bakery Echuca pop-up stall and a **FREE drink - hot or cold** from either; Beechworth Bakery or Lets Do Coffee.

**Saturday 2nd August 1pm to 4pm - Early Collection Race Bibs**

**On the day Sunday 3 August**

- **6am to 7.45am** - Setup the Race hub area and Start/Finish line area
- **6am to 9am** - Race HQ Support - completing on the day registrations & handing out race bibs
- **7.45am to 10.45am** - Marshall on course - direct participants in the right direction
- **7.45am to 11am** - Start/Finish Line Support - direct people to start lines / hand out medals and fruit/water,
- **10.30am to 12pm** - Pack down the start/finish line area and Race Hub

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August 8am to 9.30am** - Return Picket Fencing to Campaspe Shire Rochester Site

**Register to volunteer** - <https://raceroster.com/events/2025/104665/run-echuca-moama-2025/volunteer/register> or contact us on 5480 2388.

# Celebrating \$1 Million raised

Over the past 17 years, our Annual Fundraising Dinners have raised an incredible **\$1 Million** in support of our **Opening Doors Project - building homes for people with disability**.

To mark this milestone, past and present members of our **CLRS Fundraising Committee** gathered for a special morning tea at the Murray River Tea Rooms to celebrate their dedication and hard work.

Our very first dinner kicked off in 2007 with **John Kennedy Sr.** as the guest speaker, raising \$34,052. This year, we welcomed **Curtis McGrath OAM** — a 4-time Paralympic gold medallist — who shared his inspiring story, helping us raise an amazing \$83,197 from the night.

Over the years, we've been honoured to hear from these incredible speakers and entertainers; General Peter Cosgrove, Janine Shepherd AM, Greg Champion, Steven Bradbury, Anh Do, Raymond Crowe, James Castrission and Justin Jones, Ben Price, Tim Mc Callum, Peter FitzSimons, Anna Meares OAM, Gill Hicks AM MBE FRSA, Tim Ferguson and Peter Rowsthorn.

Thank you to all of our incredible sponsors and the businesses that donate items for our auction every year. Thank you to everyone who has supported us and attended our dinners over the years —your generosity is opening doors and changing lives.



Meaghan Broom, Della Nelson, Beth Kimball, Di Huber and CLRS Life Member Jan Rankin



Suzanna Barry, Kim Boland and Leah Taaffe (CEO)



Liz Rowsell and Sheryl Campbell



Peter Gilmour, Wayne Jenkin and Leanne Cuffe



Gill Noelker and CLRS Life Member Kathy Kostoglou

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

at the  
**Murray River Tea Rooms**  
and  
**Recyclability Op Shop**

## Benefits

- ✓ Expand skills and experiences
- ✓ Meet new people
- ✓ Give back to the community

To learn more or apply

<https://clrs.org.au/job/volunteer/>



## 2025 Active Living Census

Quick & easy survey (only 15–20 mins)

Win your share of \$10,000 in prizes!

Open Monday 26 May to Sunday 6 July.

Open to everyone aged 3+

**ECHUCA MOAMA COMMUNITY**  
**COAT & BLANKET DRIVE**

**Do you NEED a coat, blanket, doona, beanie or scarf?**

Clean Winter warmth has been donated by your community so we invite you come to St Mary's Parish Hall and collect some free winter items to help you through the coming months.

**Collection Days: Thursday June 5, 12, 19 & 26 - 10am - 2pm**

If you have clean coats, blankets, scarves or beanies to donate, please drop them off to St. Mary's Parish Hall, Riverine Herald, Echuca Neighbourhood House, Moama Grammar, Twin Rivers School & Echuca East Primary School.

**Echuca Moama Community Projects Team**  
Proudly coordinated by the Echuca Moama Community Projects Team  
All queries to Julie on 0418 120 133 or julie@emprojects.org

St Mary's Parish ECHUCA  
Community Projects  
Supported by Riverine Herald

To complete the survey, visit -  
[go.healthyloddoncampaspe.au/alc](https://go.healthyloddoncampaspe.au/alc)

**2025 Active Living CENSUS**

Live in Greater Bendigo, Campaspe, Central Goldfields, Loddon, Macedon Ranges or Mount Alexander Shire?  
We're calling on **YOU** to have your say!

**What is the Active Living Census?**  
The ALC is a community survey that asks about:

- ✓ Physical activity participation
- ✓ Fruit and vegetable consumption
- ✓ Barriers to being healthy and active

**Participate, don't wait!**

- ✓ Quick and confidential
- ✓ WIN your share of \$10,000 in prizes!
- ✓ Open to everyone! No matter your health or activity level, we want to hear from you

**Why does your voice matter?**  
Your input will help guide decisions about programs, recreation spaces, and services in your community. Whether you're active or not, it's your chance to shape the health and wellbeing of your community – and it only takes 15-20 minutes.

Help shape a healthier tomorrow, one answer at a time!

**Opens MONDAY MAY 26**

Scan here!

Complete the census at [go.healthyloddoncampaspe.au/alc](https://go.healthyloddoncampaspe.au/alc)