

Medical Imaging at EWHHS

Maryborough District Health Service (MDHS), in conjunction with East Wimmera Health Service (EWHHS), will commence a Medical Imaging Service at the St. Arnaud Campus.

The service commenced on December 2, 2020.

The service will initially operate each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

All examinations will be bulk billed and so there will be no out of pocket charge.

Services available are as follows:

General X-ray.

Orthopantomograph (OPG) – Full mouth Dental examination.

General Ultrasound – Abdominal, Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Musculo-skeletal, Vascular and small parts.

Appointments are able to be made by calling 5477 2241.

When calling to make appointments please state that the examination is to be at St Arnaud as this number will be diverted to Maryborough Medical Imaging Department on the days the service is not in St. Arnaud.

MDHS is very excited to be able to provide this service to all of the EWHHS communities and hope that, with consultation with EWHHS, it will expand to possibly cover another site within EWHHS to better serve each community.



• Pictured in the newly furnished Radiology room at the St Arnaud Campus to celebrate the commencement of Radiology Services are, left to right, Nikola Allan, CEO Maryborough District Health Service (MDHS), David Singhe, Medical Imaging Manager, and Trevor Adem, CEO East Wimmera Health Service (EWHHS).

Silent Suffering

(From Kerrie Allen, Regional Victorians Opposed to Duck Shooting Inc.)

In today's modern society we know that birds feel fear, pain and sorrow and most of us do not tolerate any kind of animal cruelty.

Yet when it comes to our gentle native ducks, many species not only monogamous but unique to our country, we turn their homes into war-zones each year in Victoria, blasting apart their unsuspecting families in "recreational duck shooting".

Ballistics studies show that at least one in four birds shot – even by the best shooters – are not killed outright. Many will flutter away wounded to die a slow painful death over days or weeks. Others will live, only to suffer permanent injuries.

Shotguns fire a spread of pellets, greatly reducing accuracy but increasing the probability that something will be hit.

What Vets Say

When a bird is shot, unless the brain, heart or a major blood vessel are struck, the animal will die in one of the following ways.

- Torn muscles / broken bones / damaged wings – the bird falls from a height at speed causing impact damage, extensive bruising / internal bleeding / more broken bones. If the bird lands in water it will likely drown.

- Birds have unique respiratory anatomy; large multiple air sacs not lungs. This increases the chance that the respiratory system is hit leading to slow asphyxiation or the bird drowning in its own blood.

- Damage to the bill/gastrointestinal tract causing it to die of starvation.

- Damage to anywhere else on the body – infection, maggots and a slow painful death.

Many shooters wouldn't consider that because a bird doesn't fall from the sky, doesn't mean it wasn't hit. A bird can be shot and continue flying, dying a slow painful death elsewhere.

Birds have a large silhouette compared to the area where their vital organs are and they travel fast. The likelihood of an effective kill shot is hence reduced and the chances of an animal being severely maimed increase.

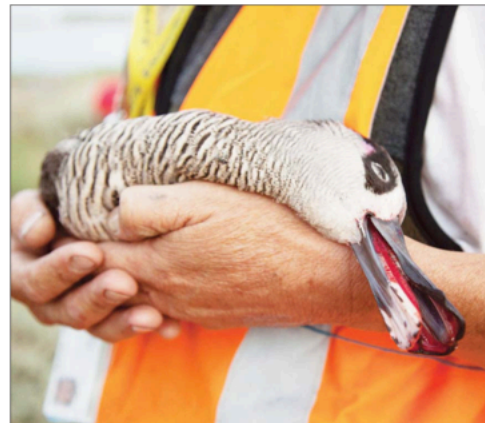
It has been put another way "Using a shotgun on ducks is as flawed as using a bus to run over a flock of chickens as a method of slaughter. Death is not guaranteed and there will most

likely be heavily maimed individuals that will die a slow agonising death."

Apart from the destruction of a range of species that are important to local ecosystems,

this is a cruel and ineffective way to end any animal's life.

Duck shooting is condemned by RSPCA, vets, the government's own Animal Welfare Advisory committee and others.



• Freckled Duck, Australia's rarest native duck, thought to be one of the world's rarest, illegally shot in Victoria's recreational duck shooting season. — Photo courtesy Sue Jeffers.



• An injured little pink-eared duck held by a rescuer is courtesy of Coalition Against Duck Shooting.

Animal Health Role for Former Donald Student

Animal Health Australia is an independent national animal health body, made up of Commonwealth, state and territory governments together with livestock industry organisations. It deals with animal health and biosecurity problems.

On November 27, the AHA issued a press release under the heading "A fresh face".

"Animal Health Australia (AHA) is pleased to announce that Malcolm Letts (pictured right) has been appointed to the Board, bringing with him considerable experience as a senior government executive in agriculture and primary industries. Chairperson of AHA's Board, Mrs Sharon Starick, welcomed Mr Letts to the team.

"Malcolm's wide range of experience will be valuable. He is a strategic thinker and innovator," she said.

Malcolm currently serves as Deputy Director General and Chief Biosecurity Officer in Queensland, and has held a variety of leadership roles with Queensland's Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The son of Goff and Joyce Letts, Malcolm was born in Darwin. Having survived Cyclone Tracy on Christmas



• Malcolm Letts

Eve, 1974, he completed his secondary education at Donald High School in 1975.

After graduating in environmental science at Charles Sturt University, he joined the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, rising to the level of Deputy Director General. He married Kerryn Chirgwin (Ballarat). They live in Brisbane and have two sons, Tom and Alex.

Trash to Treasure

One person's Trash is another's Treasure!

Turn your Trash into Cash by advertising it for sale in the "Times" classified pages.

Phone the Donald office (5497 1222), or Birchip (5492 2735); Fax direct (5497 1407); or email advertising@buloketimes.com