

HARCOURT NEWS THE CORE

Edition 93 – May 2022

Produced by:
Harcourt Progress Association Inc

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VMR Plays Trains, Not Construction: A Welcome Weekend Away



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DEADLINES & PUBLICATION DATES

We aim to publish by the 6th of the month. The deadline for submissions is the 24th of the month prior. Advertisers and community groups will be sent reminder emails. **There is no edition in January.**



Brian Nunn (Pop) is beaming from ear to ear with his precious cargo on board.

VICTORIAN MINIATURE RAILWAY MEMBERS had a great Easter weekend getaway when they attended the Australian Association of Live Steam Annual Convention in Wagga Wagga.

VMR Club President Andrew Mierisch said, 'This has been our first opportunity to share the hobby with some of the newer VMR members who reside in Harcourt. Brian Nunn certainly enjoyed the experience and was truly impressed with what awaits the VMR. He enjoyed driving several models, including taking his daughter Sarah, partner Ben and his two new grandkids for a ride. Don't tell

anyone, but we are pretty sure Buzz is hooked!'

Like most clubs and associations, the miniature trains fraternity also has national annual events. At Easter the governing body, Australian Association of Live Steam (AALS), holds an annual convention. This year it was NSW's turn to host the gathering, which was held at the Wagga Wagga Society of Model Engineers facility in the town's Botanic Gardens.

Andrew said, 'With COVID rules relaxing, it was exciting to get out again.'

Continued on page 7.

Can You Help?



The Harcourt Heritage Centre has been given this photo. Unfortunately, there are no names or particulars on the picture.

The volunteers at Harcourt Heritage Centre are appealing to readers of *The Core* for help in identifying the men in the photo, the probable location and the occasion.

The photo seems to have been taken at a workplace or group outing.

Do you recognise any of the men? If you can put a name to any of the people, or the location of the photo, please call in at Harcourt Heritage Centre on any Wednesday between 9 am and 3 pm, Or phone 0400916527.

We hope you can help.



Community Grants Program Round 2 opens 18 July 2022

Council is very pleased to announce that 18 projects have been successful in the latest round of Community Grant funding.

Round 1 recipients in 2022 will share in almost \$50,000 to the benefit of the community.

Round 2 will open on Monday 18 July 2022, and we are encouraging anyone who has an idea for a community-based project, program or initiative to consider applying. It would be great to hear from groups that are new to community grants.

Please do not hesitate to call the grants team to have a chat to see if you are eligible or to discuss project ideas and the application process.

2022 Round 2

OPENS – Monday 18 July 12am

CLOSES – Monday 8 August 4pm

Our Community Grants provide support to new, innovative and emerging local community development projects and initiatives that align with Council's strategic objectives.

The Program is made up of two funding streams: small grants up to \$3,000 and partnership grants up to \$10,000.

From a Shire Press Release

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Harcourt Progress Association on Track

With the Plan Harcourt process and the Roundabout Redesign almost completed, the HPA continues to proceed at a quick pace. This month we have been occupied by preparations for the Gather Harcourt and the Railway Station Project.

Gather Harcourt will take place on Saturday 28th of May, 1 pm to 4 pm, at James Park. The event will broadly follow the same format as the previous edition with live music, the HPA Bar, fantastic food and market stalls. There will be a seasonal aspect this time – with apples currently being harvested there's sure to be some mulled cider and other autumn treats.

VicTrack generously extended the opportunity of a site inspection at the Harcourt Railway Station to the HPA this month. Three HPA subcommittee members attended with representatives from Mount Alexander Shire Council.

The site was a hive of activity when we arrived with tens of tradespeople busily repairing flooring, walls and paving, plumbing,

hanging doors and much more. The site foreman, chief architect and builder brought us around the site on a tour speaking to their work as we went. The group was very impressed. A huge effort has been put into the research and careful preservation of the original architectural features from the station's opening in the 1860s. At the same time, modern technologies such as insulation, cabling, and air conditioning have been discretely added. The building has great character and charm; no doubt it will be a wonderful addition to Harcourt's community infrastructure.

The operating model which will be pursued at the railway station post construction is the Community House model. This is a well understood and successful model for such buildings across Victoria and is compatible with the lease terms from VicTrack. The Railway Station Working Group, with members from HPA and Council, continues to work on finalising the lease agreement and management structure for the project.

See www.harcourtprogress.org.au for more information.



This will be the main entry to the station building and will be a disabled access.



Left to right: Architect, Fraser Brown; Structural Engineer, Mark Hodgkinson; Foreman, Jordan Lang of BLR Provincial Builders; HPA President, David Foley; Shire Manager Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities, Karen Evennett; Shire Manager Economy and Culture, Merryn Tinkler; Project Manager VicTrack, Denis Cronan; HPA Committee Member, Bronnie Dean; Jean Parson, VicTrack Community Building Program Manager, Property Group.

NEW VOLUNTEERS AT THE CORE THANK YOU

Thank you to those who have offered to assist *The Core* team with production – that is the time after the news has been gathered. We now have three extra people to call on! It is early days yet, so I won't mention names, as our volunteers need to settle in and feel confident about their roles.

Roving reporter needed

Where we still need assistance is on the reporting and editing side of the process. We are looking for a roving

reporter who will cover events and stories in Harcourt. This position will work closely with the Editor.

If you have an interest in our community – sports/ events/issues etc, please consider joining us.

Training and support will be on hand and paid for when needed.

Attendance paid for the annual Community Newspapers Association of Victoria Conference – learn more about community newspapers!

Contact the editor, Robyn Miller: 0467 670 271 or by email: news@harcourt.vic.au

The Core online has live links – Click a link to go to the website or to open your email software.

ANZAC Day 2022

We are fortunate that in Harcourt our ANZAC Day ceremony begins with traditional music from the Castlemaine Highland Pipe Band. The pipes and drums never fail to move those in attendance. They set the scene for the sombre ceremony as residents march behind the band from the Heritage Centre to the Stanley Park cenotaph.

The crowd was larger than in previous years, while the message was the same: sorrow over loved ones lost in wars, particularly WWI and WWII, but also subsequent wars, and the honour paid to those who gave their service and sometimes their lives. George Milford led the service and he also mentioned those who have returned home from service unwell, with physical and mental scars. Reference was made to the current war in Ukraine.

The wreath laying was followed by a Lament played by the Highland Pipe Band. The Ode to the Fallen was led by the president of the Castlemaine sub-branch of the

RSL, John Whiddon. The gathering observed the minute's silence, bookended by the Last Post and Reveille. The words, 'Lest we Forget' were spoken in hushed voices. The ceremony concluded with the New Zealand and the Australian National Anthems.



Janine Culgan wears her husband's medals with two clasps and one bar. From the left is the Kuwait Clasp above the Australian Active Service Medal (AASM Australian Active Service Medal), secondly the medal also with a Kuwaiti Clasp is the (ASM-Australian Service Medal), next the Defence Force Service Medal with a bar is for service of 20 years and fourth from the left is the Defence Medal for over 6 years' service. On the right is the Liberation of Kuwait Medal presented by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which struck the medal for those Australian servicemen and women who served in the Persian Gulf War 1991. In 1998 the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia officially offered their medal to the Australian Government which accepted the offer. The Saudi Arabia medal for the liberation of Kuwait is the only foreign award recognising this conflict which has been officially approved by the Australian Government, for wear by eligible defence recipients of this medal.



Harcourt resident, Kirshy McAinch served in the Australian Navy. Her longest deployment was as part of the UN Peacekeeping Force to East Timor, where she was in the war zone for over 42 days. Her medals and clasp from the left: the clasp for service in East Timor, which is above the Australian Active Service Medal. Next is the UN medal for the International Force (in) East Timor and lastly is the Defence Medal for service over six years. On her lapel Kirshy has the Returned from Active Service Badge. Kirshy said, 'At 19 years of age, while serving in East Timor, I was on the bridge of HMAS Adelaide with the Captain present, when we identified an Indonesian submarine. The Captain contacted Australian government officials and made some careful judgements about the situation. Thankfully, we avoided any engagement with the submarine.'



Members of the Nicholson family stand at the Vietnam Memorial. Ed Nicholson (centre) is a Vietnam veteran. The extended family took the opportunity to get together on ANZAC day for the first time in two years.

In Vietnam, Ed was involved in the Battle of Coral Balmoral which began on 12th May 1968 and lasted until 6th June 1968. It was the longest engagement of the war. The 50th anniversary was marked on May 13, 2018. To mark the anniversary, The Unit Citation for Gallantry was awarded to the veterans who were engaged in the Battle of Coral Balmoral. Ed is wearing the Citation on his lapel above his medals.



Principal Andrew Blake and students presented a wreath during the ceremony.



Harcourt CFA Burn-Off out of Control

The end of fire restrictions in April throughout most of Victoria saw brigades turning out to numerous 'Burn-off, Out-of-Control' incidents. This culminated in the CFA sending out social media messaging on Easter Sunday advising against commencing any planned burning, due to a spike in private burns getting out of control during that day.

**When burning off,
it is vital that your burn-
off is safe and legal. Proper
planning is the first step
before lighting up.**

- Have you checked council local laws regarding when and where you can burn off?
- Have you checked fire restrictions and registered your burn-off by calling 1800 668 511 or online at www.firepermits.vic.gov.au?
- Have you checked the current and forecast weather?
- Do you have an adequate water supply?
- Are sufficient adults present to monitor and assist in the burn-off?
- Have you cleaned up around the burn site?
- Have you notified your neighbours?
- Have you put it out properly when finished?

The answers to these questions will assist you in planning for a safe and legal burn. And remember that if it does go wrong, do not hesitate in calling 000. If you are thinking, 'Is my burn-off out of control?', it probably is!

After a relatively quiet fire season, April saw the brigade respond to six callouts. The first two responses for the month were to burn-offs out of control; one was in our

brigade area (re-ignition from a previous burn) and one to Sedgwick brigade's response area in Sutton Grange. We also attended an abandoned campfire on Mount Alexander where a large log had been left burning. It is very dismaying to have to attend this type of fire. It exemplifies a number of problems: not only was the campfire bigger than required, but also, those responsible were not prepared or able to put the fire out when they had finished. In hotter weather, this fire could have had disastrous effects to Mount Alexander and surrounds.

The brigade attended an accident on the Calder Highway at Ravenswood South where a small truck had become entangled in the wire rope barrier after veering off the road.

We were called to support the Castlemaine brigade to a possible structure fire. The smoke alarm was operating at the premises. On entry, the Castlemaine crew did not find fire but, instead, found flooding from a malfunctioning toilet, which had been broken for quite a few hours. This would have gone on unnoticed and for longer except that the water eventually found its way to the fire alarm and set it off. Ultimately, our brigade was not required to attend.

Our last turnout was to another motor vehicle accident on the Calder Highway at Ravenswood South.

Remembering the Fallen

Anzac Day is when we stop and remember those who have lost their lives defending our country in the various wars fought throughout the world. Similarly, each year there is an Annual Firefighter Memorial Service held in Victoria, when we pause, remember and honour the 80 firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty. The service is held on the closest Sunday to International Firefighters' Day and is a global event started by CFA members

in 1999, following the tragic death of five firefighters in Linton the previous year. This year's memorial service, held in Churchill, marked the thirty-fourth event.

As the weather is changing to cooler temperatures, remember to prepare your home for winter: practice your Home Evacuation Plan and stay safe.

Tyrone Rice
Brigade Community Safety Coordinator



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Art Auction and Trek to Support Refugees

I have organised an Art Auction on 14 May to raise money for an organisation called Act for Peace, which supports refugees and displaced people around the world. (Please see the poster on this page.) There is a group of us around Australia doing this. In August, we will meet up in Alice Springs where we will begin our six-day Trek for Refugees along the Larapinta Trail in the McDonald Ranges, west of Alice Springs. We will be walking in solidarity with refugees and displaced people who often have to walk hundreds of kilometres to find refuge and safety. We will be doing a supported walk of just over fifty kilometres. Walking this trail is something I have always wanted to do. I am doing the trek with a long-time friend who also had this walk on her 'bucket list'.

The walk has special significance for me because a number of my relatives lived and worked in and around the area from the 1930s to the 1970s on what was the Hermannsburg Mission Station. In 1937, my maternal grandmother, Bertha Pech walked part of the trail with my grandfather Hans, accompanied by a few other people and an Aboriginal guide. It is said that she was the first white grandmother to climb what was then known as Mount Sonder, now called Rwetyepme. We will be walking on Arrernte Country and will be told stories about the country we pass through from both Indigenous and white perspectives. My plan is to share my experiences of this special area of Australia in an article for the September *Core*. In the meantime, if you can support Act for Peace with your attendance at the Art Auction you will be most welcome.

Lois Denham



Date: Saturday 14th May from 2pm to 5pm

Auction@4:15pm Prizes & raffles tickets drawn@4:30pm

Place: Castlemaine Community House,
30 Templeton St, Castlemaine

Entry Fee: \$5 per adult

students and concession holders gold coin donation
children free

Complementary tea, coffee, and biscuits

Lucky door prizes and a fundraising raffle



All money raised will be donated to Act for Peace an organisation that supports Refugees and displaced people throughout the world

<https://bit.ly/MargieandLoistrekforrefugees>

Come and Learn Horse Riding



2 till 4 Saturday afternoon – Come for an hour or the full 2 hours on the 7, 21 & 28 May

Activities include being assigned a pony to 'own' for the session.

Please book to make sure that there are enough ponies for everyone.

I will keep the program running if there's enough interest!

My phone number is 0417 334 009

Elsa Haebich

The Trig Point on the Mount

There is a well-built circular granite cairn at the highest point on Mount Alexander. It is 744.5 metres above sea-level at the base.

This is the trigonometric point. The dictionary defines a trigonometrical point as 'a fixed point, often a point on a hilltop, whose position as the vertex of a triangle is calculated astronomically and which is used in map-making.'

The *Mount Alexander Mail* of 24 May 1876 reported that the geodetical survey mound, known locally as 'the flagstaff' had been erected on the top of Mount Alexander about twenty years previously, in the centre of a mound of stones. It was replaced by a solid granite cairn, with Miss Richards and Miss Matthews assisting to lay the first block, on the Queen's Birthday 1876. Evidently, Miss Richards and Miss Matthews were picnicking nearby to celebrate the holiday. The centre of the cairn is a Permanent Mark under the Survey Coordination Act. There is a similar, but very much taller, masonry cairn on the highest point of Mount Macedon. When our local cairn was first used for survey purposes, it had a centre pole supporting sighting discs and was of great importance in the accurate survey of the district roads and landholdings. The eastern boundary of Harcourt Parish is 180 metres due west of this Permanent Mark.

George Milford





Councillor Comment

Hi all,

I hope this finds you well.

As I write, we are experiencing beautiful rain. Our farmers will be happy. When the farming sector is going well, all businesses seem to do well.

At the April meeting of Council there was a lot of interesting things on the agenda. Refer to the website for the minutes of the meeting.

I will mention the following: The successful Community and Events Grants were noted by Council. There are two grants rounds each year and they are a great way to get financial support for your group or event.

Council voted to support the renaming of Jim Crow Creek to Larni Barramal Yaluk.

I supported this as I see it as something Council can do to create a more inclusive and harmonious community going forward.

Of the planning matters referred to Council, one that caught my attention was the approval of a dwelling on a small block in the farming zone in Conlan's Road Taradale. There are many of these blocks around, so it will be interesting to see if more of them get approved in the future.

As mentioned previously, our 2022/23 budget is now out for comment. I look forward to seeing plenty of comments.

Best regards, Tony.

AG Cordy
0439742434

Upcoming Council meeting

The next Mount Alexander Shire Council meeting will be held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 17 May.

To raise a question at the Council meeting, email governance@mountalexander.vic.gov.au or write to the governance team at PO Box 185, Castlemaine VIC 3450. Messages must be received by 12.00 pm on the day of the meeting.

The meeting will be live-streamed to Youtube.

From the Shire News for May

VMR Plays Trains ... continued from page 1.

Wagga Wagga, in particular, is close to the hearts of many VMR members. 'It's been an institution for our family and many of my lifelong mates who are also key supporters at VMR.' Andrew went on to say that his circle of friends has been going since 1992, proof of which can be seen in the photo below.



VMR Club Founder Andrew Mierisch, in the same place and pose, 30 years apart: 1992-2022.



New Harcourt resident and strong supporter of VMR, Damon Gundry, advises Brian Nunn on how to operate the T Class locomotive that Damon built from scratch.

Enjoy a Game of Carpet Bowls

The Harcourt Carpet Bowls Association held its Annual General Meeting on 20 April 2022 with the following members being elected:

President – John Jenkin
Vice President – Peter Henderson
Secretary – Loretta Rice
Assistant Secretary – Val Penrose
Treasurer – Tyrone Rice
Home & Away Draw – Tyrone Rice

Congratulations to all on your election!

Winter Carpet Bowls will commence on Wednesday 4 May 2022.

All games are played at the Harcourt District Leisure Centre (the Hall is heated.)

The arrival time is 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Finish is by approximately 9.00 pm.

Registration for members is \$6.00 per adult and \$3.00 for U/17.

Nightly game fees are \$5.00 for adults and \$2.50 for U/17s. (Families are most welcome.)

All those interested in playing carpet bowls from eight years old and upwards will be made most welcome. So, just come along, introduce yourself and be prepared to have an enjoyable evening. The game is easy to learn and, from there on, you simply hone your skills to become a winning team member!

Players are put into teams of four

for the season, playing a 20-end game each week. The season runs until early September.

Carpet Bowls has been played for 68 years in Harcourt, having commenced in 1954. However, with declining numbers, we are looking at possibly disbanding in the near future if we are unable to attract new members. If you are looking for a social outing or to meet new people over a friendly game, come along.

If you require further information, please contact:

Loretta: 5474 2453,
John: 5474 2226 or
Tyrone: 5474 2126.



Chatting with Harcourt CWA

Harcourt CWA Upcoming Events

It's a good time to sit and chat as it is raining, and my plan for today was to drive to Bendigo to return a couple of items I bought before Easter, but it doesn't have the same appeal as it did when the sun was shining.

Which brings me to mention the Maldon Easter Parade; did you go? I have looked at the 144 photos taken in Maldon on Easter Monday and been very moved by the people who decided that a bit of rain wasn't going to spoil their parade, which was led by Jaime Thompson on her beautiful Clydesdale Jinny. Following were horse-drawn carts, vintage cars, belly dancers, a brass band, a penny farthing bicycle, lots of vintage cars, an Easter Bunny and umbrellas of every colour covering the heads of smiling people as they walked in the parade, cheered on by the enthusiastic crowd that sheltered under the shop verandahs. It really goes to show that it is up to each and every one of us not to let the falling rain spoil our own parade. But I still won't drive to Bendigo today.

So, what's happening at Harcourt CWA? Our next event to be held is the Creative Arts Exhibition – a not-to-be-missed opportunity to see what talented ladies we have in our Central

Victorian CWA branches. Come along to see for yourself on Friday 13 and Saturday 14 May at the Campbells Creek Community Centre.

And we all know the saying: 'third time lucky'. So, here we go for the third time: an afternoon talk for our Association Day with Jenny Steiner, our well-known local artist who lives at North Harcourt.

Jenny will tell us of her journey from working in graphic design and as a muralist, to the established artist she is today. Jenny's art is installed in over 50 public places, and one of her best known works in Central Victoria is her statue of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop at the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bendigo.

Statue of Saint Mary MacKillop at the Bendigo Cathedral.



Hand-knitted goodies. Does it get much better than this?





Federal Member for Bendigo

LISA CHESTERS MP

PO Box 338 Bendigo 3552
Cnr. Williamson & Myers Sts, Bendigo 3550

T: 03 5443 9055 • F: 03 5443 9736
E: Lisa.Chesters.MP@aph.gov.au

Twitter: @LMChesters • Facebook: /LisaChestersBendigo



Come along and hear Jenny's story on 16 June at 1.30 pm at the Harcourt Leisure Centre. Your \$10 entry pays for afternoon tea, a trading table and lucky door prize.

We decided at our last Craft Day to crochet poppies for the CWA ANZAC Day wreath. On 25 April, I joined with other Harcourt locals and CWA members to pay our respects to those who served in the Australian Armed Forces in times of war. Thank you to Judi Kent for assembling the poppies into such a beautiful floral tribute. Lest we forget.

Here are some dates for your diary.

Creative Arts Exhibition

Friday 13 May: 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm

Saturday 14 May: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

See the poster below ...

CWA Harcourt Association Day An Afternoon with Jenny Steiner

Thursday 16 June: 1:30 pm

Harcourt Leisure Centre


\$10 Entry

Lyn Rule



Publicity Officer, Harcourt CWA



Judi Kent and Dot Farley admiring the wreaths at the Harcourt Cenotaph.




**Country Women's Association
Central Victoria Group
Creative Arts Exhibition**

Campbells Creek Community Centre
45 Elizabeth Street, Campbells Creek

Friday 13th May 2022, 12 noon - 4pm
Saturday 14th May 2022, 10am - 3pm



Admission : \$5.00
Children under 16 free

Refreshments available
Stalls & Raffles

Enquiries: Group President 0401 031 014
Craft Leader: 0476 527 911
facebook: @cwacentralvictoriagroup



WALKING TOGETHER

Towards Makarrata

Makarrata is 'coming together after a struggle, facing the facts of wrongs and living again in peace.'

First Nations and Christianity

The early missionaries to many Aboriginal nations, in keeping with the 19th century view of Indigenous people as inferior, failed to distinguish between the gospel and European culture, which to them was 'civilisation'.

Within a few years of white settlement, settler society exhibited brutal and immoral treatment of Aboriginal people, and gross contradictions between Christian values and the whites' lifestyle. These and other factors, like dispossession and ill-health, led to the missionaries expecting little of First Nations people and distancing themselves from them socially.

This seriously undermined their efforts to communicate Christ's love to the First Nations people. There were exceptions of course, missionaries who not only believed in their essential humanity, but acted accordingly.

The first fleet did not transport God to Australia. Aboriginal people already knew God, under different names such as Bunjil or Baiame in south-eastern Australia, and were religious peoples who sought to relate to their environment in spiritual terms.

It was not in their nature to believe the white man was better than themselves, or to suppose the moral and religious laws imposed by them to be better than those of their own tribe.

Few of the early missions and protectorates achieved their goals, and in Victoria were replaced by Government-funded reserves or stations, particularly after the passing of the Aborigines Protection Act in 1886. Some stations were

later handed back to the clans belonging to those lands, after generations had been moved from one reserve to another away from their traditional lands.

The list of converts to Christianity starts very soon after colonisation, with Thomas Bennelong, son of the famous Bennelong who was captured and Europeanised by order of Governor Phillip. Thomas learned to read the Bible in about three months, and immediately set about evangelising his own people.

Another Aboriginal evangelist was James Unaipon. He had been a translator for an itinerant missionary and later joined with other Aboriginal evangelists on missionary journeys.

His son, David Unaipon, whose face is on the \$50 bill, was in his own way a spokesperson for Aboriginal advancement, proclaiming that his abilities and passion to evangelise were proof of what the Bible can do.

The activist William Cooper moved his mother and younger siblings for safety to Maloga Mission near Echuca. He learned the alphabet in only three days. He continued to learn Bible stories and hymns at prayer meetings but went across the Murray River to work on a pastoral run, as there was no employment at the Mission.

A modern day Christian, Vince Ross, founder of the Narana Aboriginal Culture Centre near Geelong, was 12 years old when he met the Salvos and encountered Christianity in its true sense, the provision of food and practical help. In essence it

was already very familiar to him, from the spiritual awareness his grandparents and aunties had imbued in him. They called God Bunjil, the great creator spirit, and respected Bunjil's creation.

The Torres Strait Islanders still celebrate the Coming of the Light in 1871, when the first Christian missionaries arrived. Their culture informed their understanding of the Christian God, and the new integrated religion informed – and continues to inform – all aspects of their lives.

Their old people, holders and custodians of the culture and history and knowledge, had taught them how to monitor, observe and respect nature, so they could rely on and live in harmony with land, sea and sky.

Since colonisation, a good deal of innovation, change, development and adaptation of beliefs, myths, rites and ceremonies has been happening in Aboriginal religious systems, which are all embedded in their local individual culture and language.

Today nearly 75 per cent of Aboriginal people are Christian, which is a much higher percentage than in the non-Indigenous community, according to the Australian Board of Statistics.

Nalderun Education Aboriginal Corporation is a service that supports the Aboriginal Community, led by Aboriginal people. Many people and organisations in the Mount Alexander Shire contribute to Nalderun; the name is a Dja Dja Wurrung word meaning 'all together'.

More information can be found at www.nalderun.net.au

Join Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week Activities

Come along to one of the many events being held in the shire to acknowledge Sorry Day (26 May) and National Reconciliation Week (27 May–3 June).

To start the week, we are hosting an event to commemorate Sorry Day on Thursday 26 May from 10.30am at the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens.

To find out more about events planned throughout Reconciliation Week, which include an art exhibition, children's storytime at the Castlemaine Library, a cultural tour, films at Theatre Royal, and more, visit our website, or pick up a flyer from Council's Civic Centre or the Castlemaine Library.

From the Shire News for May



Gather
Harcourt

James Park, Saturday 28th May 2022, 1 - 4pm



A Warm Welcome at Harcourt Uniting Church

April has been a busy month with school holidays, Easter and Anzac long weekends. For many it has been a time for families to enjoy time together and for chocolate lovers to eat lots of Easter eggs! The weather was great for the children on holidays and no doubt the parents thought so too!

However, for some people it can be a lonely time. Our Harcourt Uniting Church Adult Fellowship group visits older people in our community each month. Our visiting includes those who are unable to come to church anymore, people in hospital as well as any local

folk who simply look forward to enjoying some company and a chat. If you know of anyone who would like a visit you can contact me, Jan Jenkin on 5474 2226, and we can include them on our roster.

Easter was celebrated with a combined church service in Castlemaine on Good Friday, followed by walking the 'Way of the Cross', stopping at the different churches to read passages from the Bible telling of the Easter story. As part of our Easter Sunday church service at Harcourt, we decorated a cross with flowers; you may have seen it outside our church during that week.



The men of our church are going to be busy baking for a special morning tea after the service on Mother's Day. In recent years they have excelled themselves with their tasty cooking, the lace table cloth, a vase of flowers and by even doing the washing up.

All are welcome to join us at Harcourt Uniting Church any Sunday at 9.00 am. As winter approaches, 9.00 am can seem very early, however, we promise a warm welcome from us, as well as the welcoming warmth from the split system heating!

Little Billy was just 6 years old. One evening his mother asked him to get the mop from outside. Billy looked worried and said, 'But I'm afraid of the dark.' His mother told him not to be afraid because Jesus was everywhere and that he would protect Billy. Timidly, little Billy opened the door and, looking out into the dark he called, 'Jesus, please pass me the mop.'

Jan Jenkin



Harcourt Walking Group

Harcourt Walking Group welcomes anyone who wants to join them for a leisurely walk on Monday and Thursday mornings.

Local, Wendy Barron, is a Castlemaine Health volunteer who leads the group.

'We meet at the Harcourt ANA Hall and Museum each Monday and Thursday morning at 9.30 am and then walk for approximately an hour', said Wendy.

'We have fun exploring Harcourt and then have a coffee and chat afterwards.'

'The walk is great for our health and also improves mental wellbeing for all involved.'

Bookings are not necessary. Interested participants can meet at the Harcourt ANA Hall and Museum at 9.30 am on Monday and Thursday mornings.

For further information, please call CHIRP on 5479 1000.



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Harcourt Heritage Centre

Pioneering Efforts to Boost Tourism

JH Lang and the Mount Alexander Tourist Road

It was only in 1930 that a tourist road was constructed along the crest of Mount Alexander. The road was made because of a 'push' by the Castlemaine branch of the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria (RACV) at the insistence of Club Vice-President, Colonel JH Lang of Harcourt.

From the time of its formation in 1906, the official objectives of the RACV included the requirement for the Club '...to promote and encourage the improvement, construction and maintenance of roads ... to the interests and advancement of automobilism.'

In early June 1928, Mr Lang persuaded some of his colleagues in the RACV to accompany him on a pioneering excursion across the mount. To prove that it was possible, Mr Lang exhibited a photograph of his car at the trig station at the top of the mountain. His son, 24-year-old Alan Lang, accompanied by Alan's cousin, Keith Henderson, had driven his father's car to the top of the mountain, where the photo had been taken. It was considered particularly bold to attempt to drive a car through the rock-strewn bush to the mountain top. Up to that time, the summit of Mount Alexander had only been reached after a long Sunday walk.

Undeterred by the prospect of encountering a rocky outcrop or a fallen tree, and heedless of the potential to spike a tyre on a dead branch hidden in the bracken, the party was assembled. The vehicles chosen for the adventure were Mr Lang's Buick (piloted by Alan Lang, who had driven over the ground once before) and a Chevrolet (probably a 1927 Chev) which belonged to the Mayor of Castlemaine, Cr JR Duggan. With their high clearances, both types of vehicles could be driven through the bush with ease.

The intrepid men who made up the pioneering tour group were Col JH Lang, Mr AJ Lang, Mr William Eagle, Councillor JR Duggan, Mr AS Collings (Borough Surveyor) and the Hon HSW Lawson MP, former premier of Victoria. Col Lang had packed a basket of apples and afternoon tea in the back of the Buick.

Leading the way, Alan Lang turned the Buick off the road into the rock-strewn bush at the North Gap. The cars then proceeded without difficulty in a zig-zag fashion until Lang's Lookout was reached. Here the men ate the apples. Then a winding course was taken over rough forest debris between trees until they encountered a 5-wire fence. There was no gate in sight, so Col Lang uprooted a couple of posts and laid the fence on the ground. The cars drove over

the fence, which was then restored to its upright position!

After a stop at Shepherd's Flat Lookout and a scramble around some granite boulders, the men drove across to the summit at the Trigonometrical Point, where afternoon tea was enjoyed.

No difficulties were encountered on the drive to Dog Rocks, although great care had to be exercised. (We assume that the cars kept to the top of the range. The present line of bitumen is somewhat to the east of the original track.) From Dog Rocks, the road was nearly level for a considerable distance until, swinging around to the south-east, the cars were able to join a track that had been constructed – amidst some controversy – fifty years earlier. This track meandered down from the Sericulture Reserve to the Faraday-Sutton Grange Rd. The cars stopped at a T-intersection at the southern end of the trek. Here, relieved to have accomplished their object, the party held a small conference. The cars were examined, congratulations were exchanged and the drivers were thanked. The party separated near the Faraday school.

In the aftermath of this daring drive, a committee was formed, called 'The Mount Alexander Improvement League' to set out the ways and means of constructing a road across the top of the mountain range. The secretary, of course, was JH Lang. In due course, the borough surveyor organised the taking of levels to ensure that the gradients would be within the capabilities of motor vehicles. At first a pedestrian track was laid out. It was felt that the proposed improvements were sure to attract motorists and holiday makers.

In the following autumn, the Improvement League staged a picnic with car races on the lower slopes of the mountain. During the next year, committee meetings were held, negotiations were conducted with the Forests Commission, and working bees cleared away a few trees.

Reports in the *Castlemaine Mail* and the *Argus* of 15 December 1930, tell us that, at the summit of Mount Alexander, in the presence of a large assembly of members of the RACV, Col JH Lang announced that five miles of road had been completed by the committee at a cost of just £23. Col Lang then welcomed the premier, Mr EJ Hogan, who officially declared the road open for traffic. The premier, standing at the foot of the granite cairn marking the summit, with a smile on his face, said that he had inaugurated several roads in his official capacity, but he now had the proud distinction of having opened the



most economically constructed road ever opened.

The billy was boiled, and the ladies of Harcourt then provided afternoon tea for all present. The line-up of vehicles would have been impressive; doubtless, most of the talk over the tea and sandwiches was about the cars.

We may wonder to what extent 'the road' had been 'made'. A clue is given at the end of the December 1930 news article, which says that 'the Premier returned to Castlemaine by the track leading off the Mount to the southern end.' A lot of the clearing of fallen timber must have been carried out in a voluntary capacity. The track was unsealed for a long time after the official opening.

By way of footnote, JH Lang was a leading figure in Harcourt in the first half of the 20th century. He had been a colonel in the Militia. Langdale, the family orchard, was the premier orchard in Harcourt. JH Lang was chairman of the Harcourt Cooperative Coolstores Ltd and was a noted local preacher in the Methodist Church. As vice-president (and ultimately life member) of the RACV, JH Lang wielded real influence and achieved much in the opening up of the district to the activity which is now seen as the life-blood of the economy – tourism.

George Milford

This is another thumbnail sketch compiled for *The Core* by Harcourt Heritage Centre. It draws much information from the June 13, 1928 and December 15, 1930 issues of the *Castlemaine Mail*.

Radio Waves

The story of Community Radio in Central Victoria

The book *Radio Waves, 40 years of Community Radio in Central Victoria*, by Ian Braybrook, was launched on ANZAC Day at the Harcourt Bowls Club. The 'station at the station' was located at Harcourt railway station after passenger services ceased. 3CCC went to air on ANZAC Day 1982. The book celebrates and records the personalities, the challenges and achievements of the early days in community radio through to the present. The event drew a huge crowd of people who had in some way been involved with 3CCC in Harcourt or the community FM stations that followed, including KLFM, Phoenix fm, Fresh fm, and Main fm.

Maree Edwards launched the book. Given her wealth of knowledge of Central Victoria and of many of the people featured in the book, she was able to relate the talents of those involved and the history of radio in the region with a personal touch. She congratulated and thanked Ian and Marilyn for their contribution to community radio and their efforts in creating this valuable record of local radio history.

Justin Shortal as emcee put his acting skills to use and brought the house down with an original 3CCC jingle, before telling some of his personal story at 3CCC. Justin's introduction was followed by Jeff Langdon (photo below), the first station manager at 3CCC, who regaled the gathering with tales of disasters, near disasters and amazing successes achieved with very basic equipment and a huge amount of initiative and effort. He noted

that many people had gone on to media and public careers, having started at 3CCC. Other speakers included Gerry Pyne, the second manager at 3CCC, Brad Geier, who began at 3CCC when he was 14 and who was instrumental in establishing KLFM, Robyn White, who was the treasurer at WMAfm, Mike Lowther from Fresh fm, Samuel Harrison from Phoenix fm and the manager of Maine fm, Steph Riddell.

The Core spoke with Marilyn and Ian after the event. Marilyn said, 'It was far bigger than expected. It brought so many friends and associates together – the room was buzzing, so we are very pleased that it was such a success.'

The number of people in attendance attested to the passion and engagement of those involved with community radio. If you want to know more about the history of local radio and the delights and challenges of volunteering in the many roles associated with radio, grab a copy of *Radio Waves 40 Years of Community Radio in Central Victoria*. The book is available from Marilyn Bennet: radio88@castlemaine.com, at local bookshops and at radio stations KLFM, Phoenix fm and Main fm.



Marilyn Bennet and Ian Braybrook. Marilyn opened proceedings with assistance from Ian. While Ian is the book's author, Marilyn did much background work, culminating in the production of the book through her publishing company. Ian acknowledged Marilyn's support and said, 'Without Mazza this book could not have been produced, she has looked after all the details and has been largely responsible for organising today. I can't thank her enough.'



Graham Turpie (left) and David Kennedy. Graham Turpie is currently an announcer with KLFM. He has worked professionally in commercial radio at 3BO and also in journalism at the Bendigo Advertiser where he was chief of staff. David Kennedy has been presenting classical music on community radio for 36 years. Having started at 3CCC, he is now presenting his show on Phoenix Radio. In his other life, he was a teacher of Latin and Politics at Bendigo Senior Secondary School and was a state Member of Parliament for Bendigo West and the Federal Member for Bendigo.



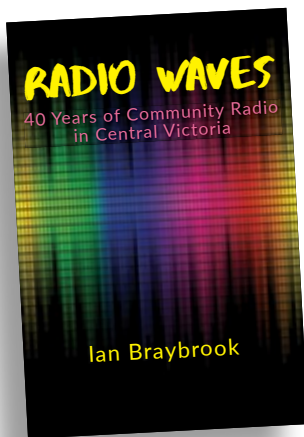
Veteran hot rodding couple, Rod and Carol Hadfield are fans of community radio and friends of Ian Braybrook and Marilyn Bennet. Between Rod and Carol, is John Jenkins whose time in community radio began in 2007 as a technician for WMAfm. John is now the technical assistant for Radio88fm, the station Ian and Marilyn are now broadcasting with. In *Radio Waves*, Ian praises John's generous donation of time and talent and says he is '...an unsung hero of Castlemaine community radio.'



Book Review: *Radio Waves*

by Ian Braybrook

Marilyn Bennet Publishing, 2022, 200pp.



Ian Braybrook, a former resident of Harcourt who became involved in community radio early, tells a story that is part autobiography, part historical record, and a rollicking serial of community life:

In the late nineteen-seventies, local community radio aficionados recognised that Harcourt, nestling beneath Mount Alexander was an ideal site to set up the now-legendary radio station 3CCC in the disused Harcourt railway station.

The words of volunteers describe permits to build a transmitter atop the Mount, sourcing equipment, installing it, obtaining a broadcast band and a licence. And it continued: a disused transmitter for a frequency change was found in Mildura. Phil Rice, a driving force is quoted: 'It must have come from up that way judging by the amount of red sand in it!'

Arguments between members who objected on environmental grounds to trimming trees interfering with the microwave link are resolved by a member who in his own words, 'Armed with a chainsaw, entered the forest just on dusk ... and solved the problem.'

Music never heard over Central Victoria airwaves was presented from treasured cassettes, LPs and even volunteers' own voices. Jeff Langdon tells a tale of a volunteer presenting a whole four-hour band program using just two CDs.

Upsets occurred. Solicitors recommended a local presenter should be stood down for her on-air finding of guilty, defendants who were currently being tried for a criminal offence.

The station had a love-hate relationship with football. Later, local footy broadcasting was introduced onto radio by beloved (late) Geoff Morris, a blind broadcaster whose commentary of on-field play was astonishing.

Outside broadcasting provided hilarious and courageous accounts, including a piece of equipment almost falling off a truck as it made its way to a venue.

Two local kids living near the radio station told a neighbour on the phone that \$10,000 was to be had by simply shouting, out the front of the old railway building: 'Who do you love? ... Elvis!' As it was soundproofed, the shouters had to barge inside. But, Elvis had left the building, taking the \$10K.

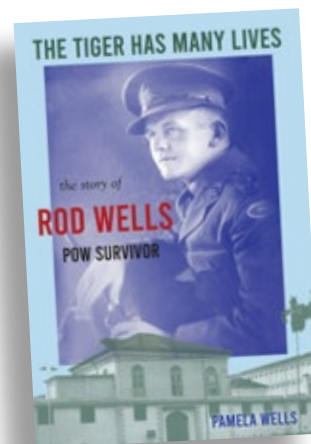
Community radio flourished in Central Victoria after 3CCC with KLFM, Phoenix FM, Fresh FM, and the still-comprehensive Main FM. Their stories are generously relayed.

Like any local activity, community radio has its dramas off-air. *Radio Waves* deals enigmatically with some. Others are still in the laundry. Ian has acknowledged many people and their roles in Community Radio. As it says on the back cover, 'You'll find it informative and enjoyable – a different approach to recording history.'

Stephen Carthew

A Story of Survival

**The Tiger has Many Lives:
The Story of Rod Wells**



Harcourt writer and editor Katherine Seppings of Sevenpens Publishing contacted *The Core* saying, 'Thanks for your interest in this POW biography I edited, designed and published for a writer in Tatura who contacted me three years ago with the beginnings of what I could see would make a great book.'

'The biography, compiled by Pamela Wells, is a remarkable tale of survival in WW2. It was a privilege to bring Lynette Ramsay Silver AM on board as the military historical adviser. After much shaping and thorough fact-checking, this story has resulted in a substantial historical work and was launched in Tatura by Tim Bowden AM.'

The Story of Rod Wells is a remarkable tale of determination, endurance and survival in WW2.

From an early age in the Goulburn Valley in Victoria, Rod Wells had a passion for wireless technology. He served in WW2 in Malaya and Singapore as an officer with 8 Division Signals. As a prisoner of war in Borneo's Sandakan, Rod joined a local underground movement. Using his ingenuity and skill he built a wireless radio and also a transmitter virtually from scratch. Arrested by the Kempeitai in 1943, Rod was subjected to brutal torture before being tried and sent to the notorious Outram Road Gaol in Singapore.

After the war, Rod Wells became a world expert in electronics and nucleonics. His story is one of extraordinary inspiration and exceptional achievements, highlighting his ability to overcome extreme hardship by never giving up.

To Purchase – Available to order through local book stores and online through Sevenpens Publishing: sevenpenspublishing.com
RRP \$34.99. ISBN – 978-0-9954144-9-5



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NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

16-22 MAY 2022

Better Together

Writing for The Core

Are *Core* readers aware that our December issue this year will be edition 100? The fact that *The Core* has survived since it began in 2013, and has thrived, is in no doubt because of the dedicated *Core* editorial and layout staff and, in particular, Robyn Miller. This year, we are looking at easing her work load and are very pleased to have relatively new Harcourt resident Michele O'Brien join our team. Nevertheless, more helpers are always appreciated even if it is just on a one-off basis. So, if you feel like you can, and want to, contribute to the production of *The Core* in some capacity, it will be appreciated.

I joined 'the team' in 2019 uncertain about how I could contribute. Since then, as well as writing a monthly article about events at HVPS, I have enjoyed interviewing local residents, finding more about them, their work and contributions to our community.

There are many Harcourt residents who I know have interesting stories to tell. Can you assist by helping someone write their story? It may sound like too much of an effort, but it need not be. I have conducted quite a few interviews of an hour, to one-and-a-half-hours, either face to face or over the phone. I take notes as I do the interview. A few days later, I send a draft of an article back to the interviewee to check and change the article as they feel necessary. After the alterations are made, off it goes to the editor usually for inclusion in *The Core*. If that's not for you, but you know of someone who would like their story told, please contact *The Core* and request a team member to conduct an interview.

Maybe you would like to share something *you* are doing that could be of interest to *Core* readers?

Please share your stories and/or offer a hand to our editorial committee.

Lois Denham

In our small community we fared somewhat better through the COVID-19 pandemic than our friends, relatives, and fellow citizens in the city. We had more freedoms and significantly less infections per head of population. But like everywhere in Australia coronavirus limited many of our social and community activities, including volunteering. In 2019 Victoria had a proud record of volunteer involvement with 42.1 percent of the population over the age of 15 volunteering their time and skills for the benefit of the community. The time spent volunteering was averaged at around four hours per week and the monetary value was estimated to be a staggering \$58.1 billion.

In 2020 and 2021, however, a different picture of volunteering emerged; numbers steadily declined and the volunteer rate dropped to around 1 in 4 people. The State of Volunteering 2020 (Victoria) report states that

'Volunteering in rural and regional Victoria is not only a way of life but essential to maintaining a variety of services. Issues for volunteering in rural towns and regional cities differ from issues in the Greater Metropolitan Melbourne area. Some of the known issues for volunteerism, in rural areas in particular, include ageing and declining populations, the higher cost of transport, lower levels of service provision and the tyranny of distance. Further research is needed to better understand how volunteering has been affected in regional and rural communities in recent years, the consequences of declining volunteerism and what the obstacles are to rebuilding or reshaping volunteering.'

This is an interesting observation in that many of the volunteer statistics now include 'informal volunteering' a phenomenon that round here we would simply call good neighbourliness! And whilst it is a given that some of the population is ageing, I certainly am for example, our town is also growing. We have many young families engaged in diverse forms of volunteering and given the events of the past two years we seem to be doing OK. So, if your volunteer group is back up and running and raring to go you may be interested in this year's theme for National Volunteer Week – *Better Together* and some of the available collateral, including an editable certificate of appreciation, an on-line certificate suitable for emailing, or the selection of logos. Happy NVW!

- www.volunteeringaustralia.org/wp-content/uploads/NVW2022-A4-Certificate_orange_editable.pdf
- www.volunteeringaustralia.org/get-involved/nvw/online-certificate/#/
- www.volunteeringaustralia.org/get-involved/nvw/nvw-resources-2/

Sha Cordingley



Supporting Volunteers

Volunteers don't always just happen. We know that it takes time, energy and sometimes money to recruit, train, monitor and retain volunteers. So, once you have them, you want their tasks and roles to be as efficient as possible. Community Bank Maldon & District can help with that.

Not only do we offer community grants and partnership funds for a range of different projects and programs, but we also have a number of items available to not-for-profit and community groups to try and make the life of a volunteer easier!

Our marquees (with or without wind-break walls), our hand sanitising stations and the Community POS (portable eftpos machine), are offered free to local community groups and not-for-profits. Shane Renfrey, Treasurer of Barkers Creek Cricket Club said, 'We are grateful to Community Bank Maldon & District as we have taken them up on the offer for a hand sanitising station, which has been ideal for events and regular sports

meetings at the Barkers Creek Hall. We have used it, not only for our cricket game days, but also, it has been so good to have it available for functions like funerals and parties. It looks so much more professional than just having a bottle of sanitiser on the bar and means that you can move it around to where it is needed.'

The Community POS is a portable, fee-free eftpos machine that we make available. Maldon Primary School has borrowed the Community POS several times for the annual Shopping Spree. Debra Watson, Maldon Primary School Business Manager, said 'Our school doesn't have an eftpos facility, so the ability to borrow one for fundraising

events is awesome. It enables volunteers to collect money on the spot rather than waiting for attendees to go and get cash or do a bank transfer. It also means that the school inevitably makes more money on our silent auction items as attendees have the ability to pay using a card rather than cash – after all, who carries cash these days? Thank you Maldon and District Community Bank for making the lives of our volunteers easier!'

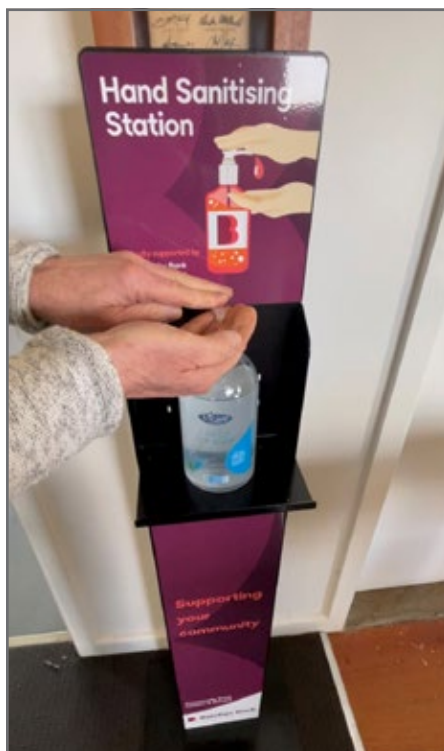
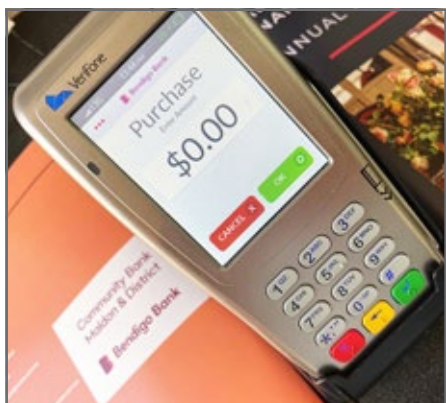
Free marketing resources

If you are a volunteer who is responsible for marketing your club or not-for-profit you should consider downloading the free e-resource available from the Community Bank. This resource was put together by the Communications team and has a range of helpful information in it from software and online platforms for designing flyers and social media posts to tips for taking good photos. You can get this free download by scanning the QR code here:



[maldoncb.com.au/marketing-resources]

If you think your organisation could use any of these items, please contact the staff at any of our Community Bank branches – Maldon, Newstead or Dunolly.



Thank you, Volunteers

It's National Volunteer Week on 16–22 May, and we want to thank all the wonderful volunteers who do so much for our community.

They help to plan and coordinate events, are trusted companions to some of our most vulnerable community members, help us to manage sports and recreation reserves, improve our environment, and welcome visitors to our shire with a smile.

We're partnering with Volunteer Central Vic to hold a free community forum, 'Volunteering is for Everyone', which aims to understand and address the barriers to participation.

Forum: Friday 20 May, 9.30am–12.30pm, Castlemaine Senior Citizens Centre.

Find out more at Volunteer Central Vic .

From the Shire News for May



HARCOURT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

MEMBERSHIP FORM



The Harcourt Progress Association is an incorporated association, governed by Rules which comply with the Victorian Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. It is a member-based organisation which encourages active participation and contribution and conducts regular public meetings to further a variety of goals and projects. Members are able to join working groups and sub-committees and pursue specific areas of interest or initiate projects which align with the organisation's goals.

Harcourt Progress Association Inc. aims to:

- Support and encourage initiatives which benefit and strengthen the Harcourt community.
- Strengthen community connections by promoting local sporting, educational, recreational and cultural activities.
- Encourage, support and acknowledge the role and contribution of volunteers within Harcourt.

Membership of the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. is open to all residents and landowners in Harcourt and the surrounding areas of Barkers Creek, Ravenswood, Faraday, and Sutton Grange – some exceptions apply, do enquire. There is no joining fee for the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. but an annual subscription of \$20 per person / \$10 concession is payable to become a financial member who is then able to formally vote and join the Steering Committee. Annual subscriptions fall due on 1st July each year. Any renewals or new memberships paid in 2021 will be valid until the end of June 2022.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

I request to become or renew my membership of the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. (please circle one). I agree to be bound by its Rules of Association and Codes of Conduct. I understand that only financial members have voting rights.

☐ Financial member: full fee \$20 ☐ Financial member: concession fee \$10 ☐ Non-financial member: no charge

NAME:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE: EMAIL:

SIGNED: DATED:

☐ I enclose the sum of \$20/\$10 concession for Annual Membership

Please mail this completed form and payment to HPA Inc, PO Box 135, HARCOURT, VIC 3453

OR

☐ I have deposited \$20/\$10 Concession into BSB 633-000, Account: 151 337 409.

Please indicate your name and state 'Membership' when paying online.

This application will be submitted for determination by the Harcourt Progress Association Committee and the applicant will be advised of the outcome of their application pursuant to the Rules of the Association.



Harcourt Football Netball Club

Strong start to the Season for the Lions

Harcourt Lions footy and netball outings for April/May are:

- April 23 Lions v Dunolly (Home) See scores opposite.
- April 30 Lions v Rovers (Away) See scores opposite.
- May 7 Lions v Newstead (Away).
- May 14 Lions v Lexton (Home).
- May 21 Lions v Avoca (Away).
- May 28 Lions v Natte Bealiba (Home).

We hope you can get along to some games, especially home games at the Lions' Den. Particularly to what will be a huge day on 28 May, when our teams meet the always strong Natte Bealiba and we celebrate the 50-year Premiership Reunion Day.

After two COVID-interrupted seasons, realistic hopes are held across a few netball and football teams for success. By the end of May, more will be known.

Please see anyone at the club if you can help out in any way with our community-focussed sports club.

We support and comprise around 80 junior and 90 adult male and female players, and we aim to promote a healthy and positive influence in the Harcourt community.

Don't forget there's always an invitation to the club teas/selection night each Thursday evening at the Den. Lions Roar!

Daryl Gale

LOVE YOUR PET?

Send a picture of your pet to the editor:

news@harcourt.vic.au

and tell us why you love your pet.

Round 1 Results vs Dunolly

FULL TIME			
NETBALL	U11	1	18
	U13	23	8
	U15	28	17
	U17	29	14
	C	77	4
	B	49	7
	A	63	21
FOOTBALL			
U11.5	NO	RESULT	
U14.5	17.8.110	2.2.14	
RES	22.12.144	4.3.27	
SNR	17.15.117	6.9.49	

Round 2 Results vs Maryborough Rovers

FULL TIME			
NETBALL	U11	NO	RESULT
	U13	25	15
	U15	41	3
	U17	25	41
	C	50	7
	B	40	26
	A	66	39
FOOTBALL			
U11.5	6.11.47	1.0.6	
U14.5	5.3.33	4.14.38	
RES	23.16.154	3.1.19	
SNR	25.18.168	3.0.18	

Taken from the club's Facebook page; what a great way to display the scores!



Gather
Harcourt

James Park, Saturday 28th May 2022, 1 - 4pm



Harcourt Valley Primary School

End of Term 1 Wrap Up

Students and staff at HVPS had a very busy last week or so of first term. On Tuesday 29 March, the House Cross Country Carnival was held at the school. Families were able to attend this event. At the event, 17 students aged from 8 to 12 years qualified to be part of the Goldfields/Sandhurst Cross Country Championships and Fun Run, which will be held in Bendigo on 4 May.

In the afternoon on Tuesday 5 April, Ms Parkhill organised for students to meet a number of community volunteers from around the district to hear them relate the crucial role they play in our community. Members of the SES, CFA, Lions Club, RSL and Mount Alexander Shire were in attendance.

On the 6 April, students supported Ms Rowland's efforts to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation. She had her hair shaved as part of the World's Greatest Shave fundraising day. Students showed their support choosing to wear casual clothes and/or have crazy hair. They also contributed to the fundraising effort by donating a gold coin to the Leukemia Foundation.

Term 2 - Outside School Hours Care Service to Commence

The school is pleased to announce that an Outside School Care Service (OHCS) will be available to families at the school from 16 May. Enrolments are currently being accepted for this service. (See the school website for more details.)

Students will be able to choose and purchase books to take home from the books that Scholastic Books will be bringing to the Book Fair, which will be held at the school on 3 and 4 May.

Mothers and grandmothers of students are invited to a Mothers' School Breakfast, which will be held at the school from 7.45 am to 8.50 am on Friday 8 May.

We wish grades 3-5 students well in their NAPLAN tests, which will be held on 10, 11 and 12 May.

Lois Denham

Grace Church

The Significance of Easter

Undoubtedly, the most significant event on the Christian calendar each year is Easter, closely followed by Christmas. Easter is all about the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Each year, Grace Church joins with other churches from Castlemaine in a procession known as 'The Way of the Cross.' The procession proceeds from St Mary's Church and winds its way around the Castlemaine CBD. Each of the churches in Castlemaine is deemed to be a station of the cross and, additionally, some civic sites.

This year, the procession was ably led, music wise, by Rev Ian Howarth of the Anglican Church. Thus, we found ourselves singing well known standards such as 'Amazing Grace' in addition to the Catholic Church's chant 'Jesus, remember me,' which is based upon the utterance of the penitent thief crucified with Jesus, who uttered the words 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' Jesus replied, 'I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.'

There was one particular song that stood out for me this year. It was the American spiritual, 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord?' I found myself tearing up on both of the occasions it was sung, as I sensed the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon that song at that moment.

You see, metaphorically speaking, I was there when Jesus was crucified. As a Christian, I believe that at that moment he paid the price for all sins that have ever been committed in the past, are being committed at present, and shall be committed in the future. It is as we receive that sacrifice with a penitent heart, by grace and through faith, that we are 'saved.' The forgiveness of sins and eternal life is ours for evermore. Happy Easter!

Ps Roger and Glenise Thurecht @ Grace Church

Do you have a Big Idea for a Small Business?

We love to support local businesses and we have a great range of resources to help businesses of all shapes and sizes.

Highlights include:

MindFit at Work workshops

Tuesday 31 May, 9.30am–1.30pm

Maximising Your Marketing

Monday 6 June, 9.30am–11.30am

Small Business Workshop Bus

Wednesday 22 June–Thursday 23 June

Find out more and book now on the Business Resources page of our website.

From the Shire News for May

Create a Happier and Healthier Workplace Environment

Mount Alexander Shire Council is presenting three workshops for businesses that explore mindfulness, wellness and resilience in the workplace.

Castlemaine-based company, Mindfit at Work are facilitating the workshops, which will focus on helping people be healthier, happier, and more efficient at work.

The three one-hour workshops will take place on Tuesday 31 May and aim to help small businesses navigate the impact of current world events on the day-to-day lives of their employees.

Mount Alexander Shire Council's Manager of Economy and Culture, Merryn Tinkler, is excited to see workshops addressing the widespread stress and fatigue experienced as a result of the pandemic.

"Looking after the mental health and wellbeing of ourselves and our staff is more important now than ever," said Ms Tinkler.

"We're excited to bring you a series of workshops that focus on both caring for yourself and those around you."

Date: Tuesday 31 May

Time: 9.30am–1.30pm

Location: Castlemaine Goods Shed, 11 Kennedy Street, Castlemaine

Cost: \$20 (inclusive of all three sessions)

Catering: nibbles and light refreshments provided

Compassion Fatigue (one hour)

Compassion fatigue is physical and mental exhaustion that many employers are experiencing after caring for their anxious employees over the past two years.

In this session, MindFit at Work will teach you how to:

- identify signs that others are not coping
- support your teammates and clients
- practice self-care by setting personal boundaries.

Managing Burnout Fatigue (one hour)

Burnout fatigue, like compassion fatigue, leads to physical and mental exhaustion. The global pandemic has left both employers and employees in need of rest and workplace flexibility.

In this session, MindFit at Work will teach you how to:

- restore enthusiasm and energy in your teams
- set aside time each day to replenish yourself
- implement fatigue-busting hacks.



#Hack Your Performance (one hour)

Bursts of energy come for different people at different times of the day. Sometimes one hour is enough time to finish an entire project, and sometimes only a few emails can be sent in that time.

In this session, MindFit at Work will teach you how to:

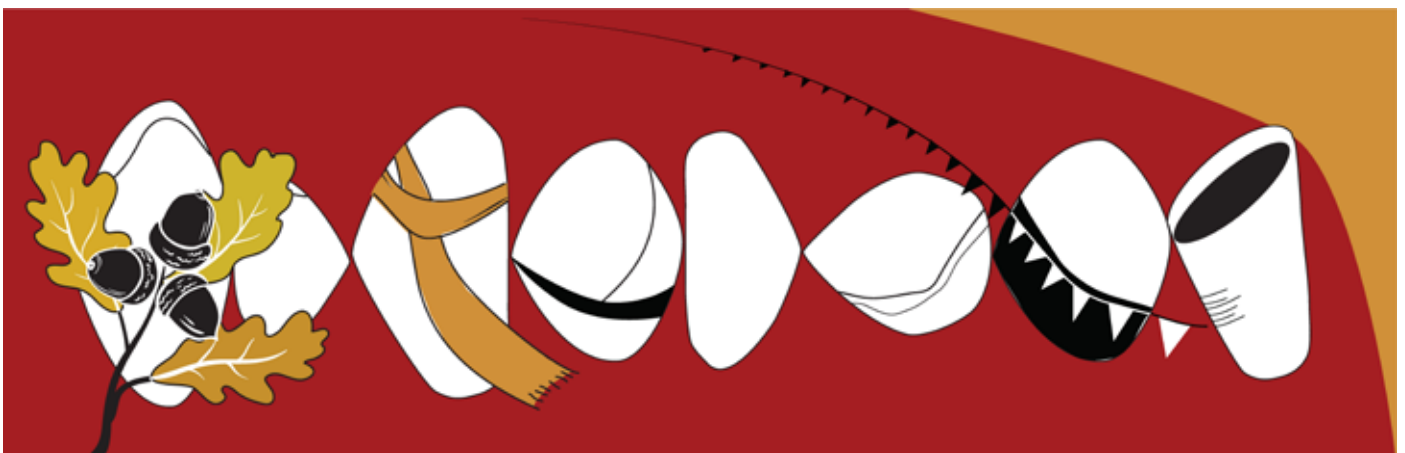
- create a schedule that utilises your most productive working hours
- replenish your brain at regular intervals
- manage your time more effectively
- use the Pomodoro technique.

Book now at bit.ly/MindFitMay.

Council's next business workshop, Maximising Your Marketing, is on Monday 6 June; and Castlemaine and Maldon will host the Small Business Bus from 22 June–23 June, which will offer face-to-face business advice and mentoring.

Find out more about Council's support for local businesses at: www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/BusinessResources.

From a Shire Press Release





Harcourt Bowling Club

Top Bowls Season for 2021 – 22

As the bowling season winds down and the cooler weather draws in, the club is preparing for the Annual General Meeting to be held on Sunday 15 May.

Apart from the presentation of the Annual Report and Audited Accounts, of particular note will be the election of new board members for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 seasons.

Prior to the AGM, nominations for the board and various committees will be sought from members.

With fifty-nine positions to be filled, members are asked to consider nominating to help run the club for the upcoming seasons and, most importantly, spread the workload.

Nomination forms are available at the club or can be downloaded from the website: www.harcourtbowlingclub.com.au

Other events that have occurred this past month are listed below:

Ladies' Championship Pairs (Nominated)

On the afternoon of 29 March members were treated to an exciting Final of the Ladies' Champion Pairs, between Judi Miles and Carrol Frost versus Kathy Harding and Libby Harris. This



Championship Pairs Winners 2022 Carrol Frost & Judi Miles.



Championship Pairs Runners Up Kathy Harding & Libby Harris.

was a close game all the way and on the fifteenth, and last end, the scores were even, requiring an extra end to be played. The deciding end kept the gallery in suspense, with eventual winners being Judi Miles and Carrol Frost by one point. What an amazing game! Thanks to the four ladies for a great display of bowling.

Sponsors' Challenge Final

On a perfect evening, the final round of the Sponsors' Challenge was held on Tuesday 29 March. Sponsors compete each year for the perpetual Chappy's Shield held in memory of former club member and sponsor, Rob Chaplin. The Mitsubishi crew won on the night with Brian Nunn's team runners-up. The overall winners of the Chappy's Shield - held over two nights - were Brian (Buzz) Nunn's team of Trevor Peeler, Brian O'Connor and Gary Selwood. Runners-up - defending the title from last year was the Castlemaine Mini Diggers team. The club again extends our thanks to those businesses which sponsor us each year and to all those that join in on the Chappy's Shield.



Chappy Shield Winners Brian Nunn Earthmoving Gary Selwood, Brian O'Connor, Brian Nunn, Trevor Peeler.

Men's (Gough) Championship Drawn Pairs

On the evening of Thursday 31 March, the Men's Championship Drawn Pairs were played. Winners on the night were Brett Jenkinson and Brian Smith. Runner-up was the team of Brian Leech and John Kays.

Rice Triples Annual Tournament

The club Annual Rice Family (mixed) Triples Tournament held on Saturday 9 April marked the formal end of the season and was well attended. The usual good humour and vibe prevailed at this event held in memory of Ben and Amy

Rice. Wayne and Heather Rice were present to join in the celebrations and award the trophy. This year's winners were Kaye Grant, Daryl Normington and David Frost with three ends won on 45 points – well skipped Kaye! Runners-up on 40 points was the team of Tony Olsson, Moira Straw and Sheila Oxley.

Presentation Night

Following the Rice Triples, the club celebrated the end of season with the Annual Dinner and Presentation Night. After a delicious two-course



Gough Pairs winners Brett & Brian.



Rice Triples winners David, Darrell & Kaye with Wayne Rice.



Rice Triples runners-up Sheila, Tony & Moira with Wayne Rice.

Harcourt Bowling Club

meal, President Ken Tribe officiated over the presentation of awards for club championships and events held throughout the season. He reiterated earlier congratulations to club members for a successful season, noting especially that four of the five pennant teams contested finals this year with one bringing home the pennant trophy – Midweek Division 3.

Ken also thanked the various committees for all their work throughout the year, making special mention of the green keepers, the selection committees and the catering committee and concluded by reminding members of the Annual General Meeting on 15 May. He then presented the following awards:

Ladies:

- Singles Champion: Carrol Frost; runner-up: Judy Ewing
- 100-Up Winner: Wendy Chaplin; runner-up: Judy Ewing
- Drawn Pairs Winners: Wendy Chaplin and Chris Anderson; runners-up: Kathy Harding and Kay Francis
- Champion Pairs: Judi Miles and Carrol Frost; runners up: Kathy Harding and Libby Harris

Men:

- Singles Champion: Tony Olsson; runner-up: Rod Harris
- Drawn Pairs (Gough) Winners: Brett Jenkinson and Brian Smith; runners-up: Brian Leech and John Kays
- 100-Up: yet to be finalised
- Champion Pairs: yet to be finalised

Mixed:

- Grant Pairs Winners: Jean Pogue and Brett Jenkinson; runners-up: Libby and Rod Harris
- Rice Triples Winners: Kaye Grant, Darrell Normington and David Frost; runners-up: Tony Olsson, Moira Straw and Sheila Oxley



Award recipients Carrol, Wendy, John, Darrell, Jean, Moira, Sheila, Kaye, Kay, & Chris.

Jackpot Bowls:

Jackpot Bowls has been well attended over the past month. Those present have played either 3-bowl pairs or 2-bowl triples over two games of ten ends. It is hoped to continue Jackpot Bowls while the weather holds up.

Names are to be in at the club by 11.30 am and be present at the club by 12.00 pm for a 12.30 pm start.

Some Time Ago

HARCOURT DISTRICT.

(SEE PICTORIAL SECTION.)

Travelling by rail or highway to Bendigo few travellers realise that they are passing through the largest apple-growing district of the State. One can safely say that no better or finer flavoured apples are grown in Australia. Harcourt is about five miles from Castlemaine, and situated in a valley surrounded by hills. From Mount Alexander on the east side and the Rockies toward the north-east a magnificent view is obtained of the Goulburn Valley, and in the other direction the view extends toward Ballarat. Harcourt township is not imposing, and the passing tourist would easily miss it, but a visit to the station on a working day would convince one that it is a very busy centre. At the present time a special train daily is needed for the transport of export apples.

The record season this year will reach nearly 1,000,000 cases, of which 500,000 cases will be exported. Most of the fruit is packed in the two packing-sheds situated near the station, and adjacent to the cool stores, which hold 80,000 cases. The Fruit-growers' Association shed is the largest apple-packing shed in Australia; the expected output is 60,000 to 80,000 cases. There are 30 packers and 40 shed hands employed. All cases are made up in the shed, and 90 per cent. of the Canadian standard cases are used. Packers' earnings are averaging from £1 to £1/5/ a day.

When the s.s. Ballarat left it took a record shipment from Harcourt—20,000 cases—but subsequent loadings have reached 26,000 cases. Heavy crops this year have made it necessary to provide the trees with props to hold up the laden limbs, highly decorative with their brightly coloured fruit. Branching off the main Bendigo road, passing through miles of orchard country, the granite quarries are reached from which the famous grey Harcourt granite is obtained. Beyond is a State pine plantation; some of the trees have been thinned out and used for cases. A number of the younger orchards are just coming into bearing. Within a few years, and given good seasons, Harcourt will be a valuable asset to Australia, and should possess great attraction to tourists. Some of the old pioneers who came to the district over 80 years ago, carting their young fruit trees by dray from Melbourne, least expected to see the district make such great progress.

The Australasian Sat 29 Apr 1933 via Trove

A woman with curly hair is shown from the chest up, wearing a light blue button-down shirt. She has a very angry expression, with her mouth wide open in a shout and her eyes narrowed. She is pointing her right index finger directly at the viewer. The background is a blurred public transport station with tracks and overhead lights.

**Public transport workers
face this every day
It's never OK**

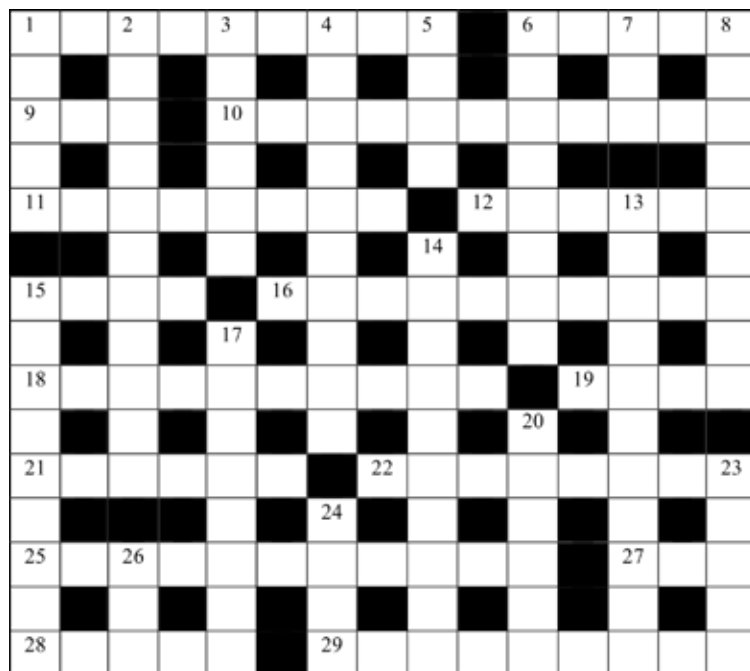


ptv.vic.gov.au



May Xwd 2022

© McW May '18



Down:

- An old 10c harbouring Kim's final solution? (1-4)
- Blokey talk a version of evil eye? (11)
- Furious, I turn red and just leave. (6)
- Rude men sob at the weight of this load. (10)
- Other half for Chinese ladies? (4)
- Hafta possess wild celebration (just gotto own it...!) (2,2,4)
- Brown vowel-change for 26. (3)
- If we could get a decent rep in the house it would certainly set something up! (9)
- Bill-taunter calls Bill a nutter for suggesting a fast one, to put it real blunt... (6,5)
- Smooth W. A. Harvey? (4-6)
- Expect high-flyers at raptors' do. (4-5)
- Justin has the job on a long term loan, at least here. (8)
- The Iceman Cometh, and then in cometh Mr M. Caine to put him on screen... (6)
- Summer is i — in, spically? (5)
- (See 27ac)
- Pull little Australia off Pommy car for scrap metal. (3)

Across:

- Barmy, laid out in crowd-pleasing style. (9)
- Fancy costume to protest in? (3-2)
- See 19. (3)
- Get an example from foreign stance. (3,8)
- Makeup laid on with a trowel, she goes for gold between bunks. (8)
- Bleats emanating from seemingly horseless housing? (4)
- Drop (10ac) rarely seen these days. (4)
- Coward lies to please his dad and puts him in gaol. (5,5)
- Anything but roll own couture... (6-4)
- Tidy 9 used to dress leather? (4)
- Let me paint a picture for you: the kids' party will simply destroy it! (6)
- These days it can be modular. 'Tis tickling the fancy of gallery-goers... (8)
- Orchardist might plan tree-top spraying to get the corrupter off the case. (6,5)
- 27, 24dn. Dark history wear for some. (3,4)
- Jewish trans film gently beheaded and turned tail. (5)
- He was grand at an old sport, one of three who were... (9)

April Xwd 2022 Solution

© McW May '18



Down:

- Where the total was when it was derived? [Well?]
- Perhaps Soviet Vinci would have used this technique? (11)
- Pamper with lettuce [cos] in aspic? (6)
- The spy dressed as a plumber to fit latrine, to find a way in... (10)
- Honourable man, and you as well? [Brute...]
- Backward 24 town shows its liveliness. [Well?]
- Modern commentary on the trashing of sentiment? [Well? No longer "Lots of love"...]
- You can speed-peel a kiwi-fruit to induce it, apparently. [Sorry: they're apparently sporific...]
- To succeed pejoratively? [Well?]
- Good king looking absolutely equal on a feast-day. [Well?]
- Will El Toro jam murderous percussion back for him? (4-5)
- Universal diurnal is too often infuriatingly joined as usual... [Well? Two meanings... now lost.]
- Personal attendants can sound a little down in the dumps, geologically speaking... (6)
- Are these the athletes that doctor [Dr] e.g.s of sediment in their samples? (5)
- Tell to lose a beginner here. (4)
- I have a bee-box without aspiration. (3)

Across:

- Don't think I won't come up with diatribes on twitter just because I've "vic.net" on my email, okay? (9)
- All men are pigs
All pigs are women,
Therefore, All men are women.
Despite everything being false, this argument is logically sound, and therefore... [Well? Phil 101]
- [Old...] Opposition leader's reference to common glass receptacle [sauce-bottle...], and what its contents could conceivably be poured upon... (3)
- A savvy fleet knows just how important shore leave can be! [Well?]
- Even the least dim can occasionally be given the wrong cards. (8)
- Read horizontally... [Well?]
- Avoid tough white strides. [Well?]
- Green Penguin mag? [Well?]
- Gutter-language for A.B. [Paterson...] (10)
- Full-on flirt defuses Transylvanian anger.
- Manipulate fertiliser by moving [manoeuvre] without 4th, 5th and 7th letters. (6)
- What might have been enclosed in 1970? [Well? Come on... we don't use snail-mail any more...]
- Derive Bon Jovi from his ebullience. Is that good, or not? (3,2,5)
- She was the first [woman] in, before Jan 1st.
- Thin voice from the swamp? [Well?]
- Lady disappears with the right for those who put her there. [Well?]



Katie Finlay's Fruit Growing Tips

Autumn Tasks in the Orchard



Hi everyone,

It's time to be thinking about whether you'll be planting any new fruit trees this winter and, honestly, why wouldn't you? (There's always room for one more, right?) It's too early to be planting yet, but it's definitely time to be doing some soil preparation if you want to give your trees the best possible start in life. One of the quickest and most effective ways to improve your soil is to plant a winter-active green manure crop. Consider using a mix of a legume, for example peas, broad beans, fava beans, sub-clover etc (to add nitrogen to the soil); a grass, such as oats, wheat or barley (to add bulk organic matter) and a few herbs or other plants, like mustards, brassicas or fenugreek (to add more nutrients). You can either buy an autumn green manure seed mix from a nursery or buy the individual seeds to make up your own mix. We seem to have had the autumn break (fingers crossed), so as long as we keep getting bits of rain you shouldn't have to water the crop.

Go ahead and plant the green manure seed wherever you intend to plant your fruit trees, but you need to do it ASAP. New trees don't actually get planted until winter, when they're dormant. Planting usually takes place from late June or the start of July in Harcourt, right through until about mid-August. That means there should still be enough time to get a green manure crop growing and for it to be tall enough to be fit for purpose, which is solely to add organic bulk and nutrients back into the soil. You need to get your skates on, because the longer the crop has to grow before it's turned in, the better. Once it's grown you can either dig the green manure into the soil (which is best), or just cut it down and leave it lying on the surface. If you're digging it in, you need to leave a gap of at least a couple of weeks until you plant the trees, because the green manure can get quite hot as it breaks down.

If you don't have the time or inclination to plant a green manure crop, it doesn't matter at all! Don't let your lack of soil preparation stop you planting trees this year. You could add some well-made compost or aged manure when you plant the trees. If you can't manage that, it's much better to just plant trees into whatever soil you have and work on the soil improvement later, rather than miss another year of getting your future fruit supply started.

Heritage Trees Aid Biodiversity

Carr's Organic Fruit Tree Nursery (one of the businesses here on our farm) is once again selling trees grown right here in Harcourt, to suit Harcourt soil and conditions. We have our best range ever, with more than 250 different varieties and combinations available this year. We specialise in heritage varieties, multigraft trees (with more

than one variety of the same fruit type) and fruit salad trees (more than one type of fruit on the same tree).

We're aiming to bring back and preserve as many old heritage varieties as possible, before they completely disappear. You can help to save this important biodiversity by adding a variety you've never heard of to your garden this year! Here's the link to see the full list and place an order: openfoodnetwork.org.au/carrs-organic-fruit-tree-nursery/shop. You'll be able to collect your trees from our Nursery Open Days on the first two weekends of July (all the details are in the checkout section).

As fruit fly has been found in Harcourt again this season, here is a reminder that we offer free fruit fly resources in our online shop. To download a copy, go to growgreatfruit.com/online-courses and choose 'FREE STUFF' under Product Categories on the right hand side of the screen. It's up to all of us to become fruit fly experts!

Growing Seedlings from Seed

If you'd rather try growing your own trees from scratch than buying them from a nursery, then now is a great time to collect fresh apple, pear and quince seed. Choose seeds that are dark brown and plump. Granny Smith apples or Packham pears are usually a reliable source of seed, but it's fine to use whatever varieties you can get your hands on. The seeds will produce large seedling rootstocks that are tough and resilient and perfect for grafting your favourite variety on to. Once you've collected the seed, store it in damp sand over winter, ready to plant out next spring.

Hugh and Katie Finlay are certified organic orchardists and offer Grow Great Fruit organic home fruit growing courses. They're also founding members of the Harcourt Organic Farming Co-op. Head to growgreatfruit.com to sign up for their Free Weekly Fruit Tips newsletter and register for free online workshops.



25 Years of Landcare in Harcourt



The Tollgate Park sign (opposite the CFA) marks the entry to a walk beside Barkers Creek leading to the picnic area. Harcourt Valley Landcare was responsible for funding and organising the construction of the bridge which leads to the walk. The area has historical significance in that it was the original crossing into Harcourt over Barkers Creek, and a toll had to be paid.

Landcare President Bonnie Humphreys is shown cutting the ribbon for the Tollgate Park sign in May 2017. The design and production of the sign was done by past member Trevor McKay, who also created the logo for the group as well as designing other signage and construction work.

On Sunday September 25, Harcourt Valley Landcare will celebrate 25 years of projects and fellowship in Harcourt with a get-together of current and past members at Leanganook on Mount Alexander. A guest speaker and activities will be a feature of the morning. If you are interested in Landcare or

Coming Events

May	
Composting Awareness Week	1-7 May
World Migratory Bird Day	14 May
World Bee Day	20 May
International Day for Biological Diversity	22 May
World Turtle Day	23 May

From North Central Chat May 2022, Published by NCCMA



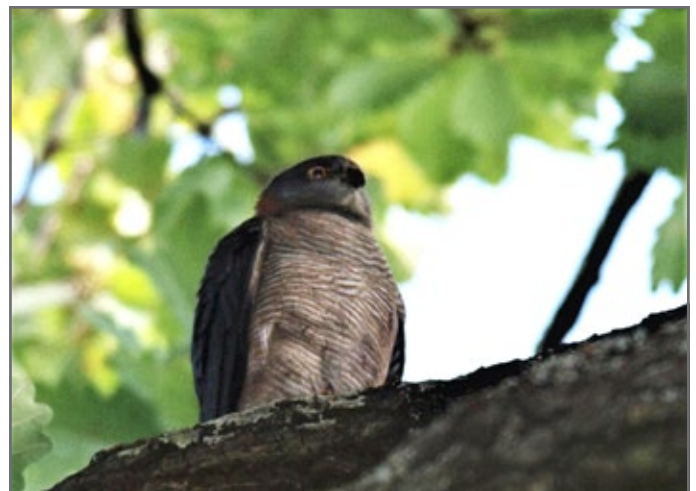
have been a past member, keep your eye on our Facebook page for more details.

Sunday May 22, will see Landcare members head to the Barkers Creek 'picnic area' once again. This time members have their eyes on an area where new plants have struggled. The plan is to deploy an improved tree cover system, used in other areas of the picnic ground. Wallabies and kangaroos are being kept away from these young plants, and significant growth is taking place with this new protection.

If you would like more details about the group contact Secretary, Robyn Miller on 0467 670 271 or simply come to our next meeting on Thursday, May 12 at 7.30 pm at the Heritage Centre, or come to the working bee on May 22 from 10 am to midday (see map below). We pride ourselves on our delicious morning teas!



The Killer is back



Readers may remember that in 2019 I wrote a story about a young goshawk taking over our garden during summer. The parents were there initially, but left, and the young goshawk learnt to fend for itself.

The last time I saw it and photographed it in 2019, it was on the ground with a kill. This week I have again seen a goshawk in the garden. I saw it on the ground near the house with a kill one day. The next day, on going outside, I heard the clamour of frightened small birds. There was the goshawk perched in a tree next to the house, with the little birds, on the fringes of the tree, making as much fuss as they could. The goshawk sat unmoved, by the birds or by me, as I photographed it.

Robyn Miller

Mount Alexander Shire Council Council News



Listen to Pride Across the Ages

We're proud to support Pride Across the Ages, a new podcast that shares generational stories of pride from LGBTIQ+ people who call central Victoria home. It is a collection of incredibly moving stories from our community.

Learn more and listen now at bit.ly/PrideAcrossTheAges2022.

Thank you to our amazing volunteers

It's National Volunteer Week on 16–22 May, and we want to thank all the volunteers who do so much for our community.

They help to plan events, are trusted companions to some of our most vulnerable community members, improve our environment, and welcome visitors to our shire with a smile.

We're partnering with Volunteering Central Vic to hold a community forum on volunteering on Friday 20 May, from 9.30am–12.30pm at the Castlemaine Senior Citizens Centre.

Come along or find out more at volunteercentralvic.com.au/events-workshops/.

Have your say! We're listening.

It's easy to share your input on projects and initiatives happening in the shire.

1. Visit shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au to register
2. Browse the project list and choose one that interests you
3. Share your ideas and comments!

Review the 2022/2023 draft budget

Council's proposed budget for 2022/2023 is now on public exhibition. Community members are encouraged to review the draft and make a submission.

Copies of the document and a budget summary are available at the Civic Centre and library in Castlemaine, the Castlemaine Library or online at shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/budget2022-2023.

Submit your feedback by 5.00pm on Wednesday 11 May. Submissions will be heard at a Special Meeting of Council at 5.30pm on Tuesday 24 May.

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P.O. Box 185 Castlemaine VIC 3450

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w www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au



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For placement of advertising please contact Pauline Wilkinson via email at: advertising@harcourt.vic.au

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A full colour version of *Harcourt News/The Core* is available on the Harcourt Progress Association website and readers can receive a free copy by subscription at: harcourtprogress.org.au/news/sub The Core is also available at the Harcourt Community website at: harcourt.vic.au/news

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3 months	\$50	1/6 page	\$40
6 months	\$80	1/4 page	\$60
12 months	\$120	1/2 page	\$80
		Full page	\$160

Castlemaine Bus Lines Harcourt Services Monday to Friday

	am	pm	pm
Market St/Harmony Way (Harcourt)	8:55	12:10	2:25
Coolstore Road/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:56	12:11	2:26
Coolstore Road/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:57	12:12	2:27
Blackjack Rd/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	9:03	12:18	2:33
Halford St/Barker St (Castlemaine)	9:05	12:20	2:35
From Castlemaine to Harcourt Monday to Friday			
Castlemaine RSL/Mostyn St (Castlemaine)	8:45	12:00	2:15
Wimble St/Barker St (Castlemaine)	8:48	12:03	2:18
Blackjack Rd/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:53	12:08	2:23
Coolstore Rd/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:54	12:09	2:24
Market St/Harmony Way (Harcourt)	8:55	12:10	2:25

Community Diary Dates

Wednesday May 4: Carpet Bowls Commenced, new players wanted; see p 7.

Thursday May 12: 7.30 pm Harcourt Valley Landcare Meeting, ANA Hall.

Friday May 13: CWA Creative Arts Exhibition, details see p 8.

Saturday May 14: Act for Peace, Art Auction Fund Raiser. 2–5 pm, details p 6.

Monday May 16 – 22: National Volunteer Week see pages 14 & 15.

Sunday May 22: 10 am to 12 pm, Working Bee, Harcourt Valley Landcare, Barkers Creek, see page 25.

Thursday May 26: Sorry Day, 10.30 am Castlemaine Botanical Gardens, see p 9.

Friday May 27 – 3 June: National Reconciliation Week, see p 9.

Saturday May 28: Gather Harcourt – see details on the back page of this issue of *The Core*.

Saturday May 28: 50 Year Premiership Reunion, Harcourt Lions Football Netball Club, Leisure Centre, Harcourt.

Thursday June 16: CWA Harcourt Association Day, see p 8.

Carpet Bowls: 7 pm Wednesdays, Carpet Bowls, Leisure Centre, Bingham's Road, Harcourt.

CFA: Brigade meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month at 8.00 pm. Sunday morning equipment check and maintenance run at 9.00 am. Siren tested at 9.15am. Contact: Captain Andrew Wilson for details 0428 387 339. CFA is in Bridge Street, Harcourt.

CWA: First Thursday of the month, 1.00 pm at Harcourt Leisure Centre, Bingham's Road, Harcourt.

Grace Church: Sundays 11 am, 30 Buckley Street, Harcourt.

Harcourt Bowling Club: See page 20.

Harcourt Lions Club: Meetings every third Friday of the month at 7.30 pm at the Victorian Miniature Railway, Harmony Way.

Heritage Centre: Every Wednesday at the ANA Hall from 9 am–3 pm or by appointment: 0400 916 527.

Pony Club: Second Sunday of the month. Contact Peggy Mills, 0419 902 400. The Pony Club is next to the swimming pool.

Uniting Church: Sundays at 9 am in the Uniting Church, Buckley Street, Harcourt. The service is followed by morning tea. All welcome. Donations of food and other household needs for St Vinnies can be left at the Church door on Sunday mornings 9–10 am or contact Jan on 5474 2226 to arrange for collection.

Walking Group: Monday and Thursday at 9.30 am. Meet at the ANA Hall. The one hour leisurely walk is usually followed by morning tea. New members are always welcome.

Harcourt's Little Library

For some years now, Harcourt's Little Library has been inside the ANA Hall and only available when the Hall was open. Now, the Little Library has grown up, so to speak, and moved outside, into a repurposed office locker. And it's available any time.

Leave, Borrow or Take a Book





Gather Harcourt

James Park, next to the ANA Hall
Saturday 28th May 2022, 1 - 4pm

Come and join a celebration of our region
Live Music, Food, Cider, Wine & Market Stalls

Find out more

www.harcourtprogress.org.au

