

# HARCOURT NEWS THE CORE



Edition 110 – November 2023

Produced by:

Harcourt Progress Association Inc

Online: [harcourtprogress.org.au/news](http://harcourtprogress.org.au/news)

[harcourt.vic.au/news](http://harcourt.vic.au/news)

## VMR Invitation Day



### INSIDE

- Who won a CNAV award?–3
- HPA–3
- Nalderun–4
- Harcourt CWA–5
- VMR continued ...–5
- Harcourt Lions Club–6
- Linda Newton–7
- Councillor Comment–8
- Shire's Aged Care Services–8
- Harcourt CFA–9
- Harcourt Uniting Church–10
- Poetry–11
- Harcourt Carpet Bowls–12
- Community Banking–12
- HVPS–13
- Pioneers of Harcourt–16
- Harcourt Bowling Club–17
- Grace Church–18
- Weather & Water–18
- Harcourt Valley Landcare–19
- Gardening–20
- Shire News–21
- Crossword–22
- Community Diary–23

### DEADLINES & PUBLICATION DATES

We aim to publish online 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.**



COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

the voice of the community

**MEMBER 2023**



**T**HE VICTORIAN MINIATURE RAILWAY finally got to hold another Community Groups of Harcourt Invitation Day with more than 260 Harcourt community volunteers present for the invitation only open day.

Along with VMR members and other close friends from other train clubs, there were over 350 in attendance on Sunday October 29.

VMR President, Andrew Mierisch said 'It's been a very long time coming. We held one in November 2017 which included showcasing

our engines in the storage shed and explaining our goals. We were thrilled to be able to finally share a greater experience with the number of people who visited. Many turned out in their club colours or uniforms. VMR volunteers ran the gate, the barbecue and the trains as well as having an eye out to oversee the smooth running of the event.

'I am also delighted because a number of engines which have been on loan around the state have "come home".

*Continued page 5*

# Storytelling in Words and Music

Another delectable concert is coming up at the Harcourt Church, on Sunday afternoon 12 November. Beginning at 2:30, it will feature local musicians and story-tellers, with afternoon tea to finish.

With songs from Fay White, a Solomon Islands quartet, stories from George Milford and Terry White, and a baroque interlude on flute and gamba by Solway Nutting and Victoria Watts, it's not to be missed!

Any donations will go to the Asylum Seekers Welcome Centre, which was established 21 years ago in the wake of the Tampa affair. The centre, an arm of the Uniting Church, responds to people's basic needs, empowers people to learn to navigate the Australian context, and provides social connection and mental health support.

Book early, as the church has limited capacity.

Phone 0410 799 297

email [solway@mmnet.com.au](mailto:solway@mmnet.com.au)

## Combating Ageism in Employment in Regional Victoria!



At VirtualCC, we're on a mission to challenge ageism in the workplace and create opportunities for people aged 50 and above in Regional Victoria. We're thrilled to share that we've been recognized as an AMP Foundation Tomorrow Maker for 2023, and we're looking for dedicated volunteers to help us make a difference.

### Volunteer Opportunity

(2 weeks starting 13th November)

Details at [seekVolunteer](http://seekVolunteer)

[www.volunteer.com.au/volunteering/201802/Over-50-s-Contact-Centre-Agent](http://www.volunteer.com.au/volunteering/201802/Over-50-s-Contact-Centre-Agent)



## A gift from one community house to another

Harcourt Valley Community House (HVCH) is grateful for the donation of three refurbished laptops from Castlemaine Community House (CCH). As it is said, 'But wait, that's not all...'; CCH has assisted the Harcourt Progress Association in getting the Harcourt Valley's own Community House up and running right from the time it was confirmed that the railway station refurbishment was to be completed. CCH Manager Martin Shaddick and his team have been 'on call' not quite at all hours, but have been readily available 'at the drop of a hat' with advice and support.

Our recent very successful community lunch during Seniors Week was the sign that Harcourt has now come of age as part of the local Community House network.

There is still much work to be done in getting programs started at HVCH, however, the first program which is Qi Gong, is off the ground with sessions offered of a Thursday evening. The first lesson is free! Contact Johannah Ashley via the Hardcore Harcourt Facebook page or for more information about Qi Gong see Joanne's website: [www.iyashi.com.au/qi-gong](http://www.iyashi.com.au/qi-gong)



*Kerrily Jennings, Community Development Manager of CCH presents the gift of three laptops to HVCH representative Paul Mizzi.*

ALTERNATIVELY CREATED

BOWEN THERAPY

Carole Kernohan

Qualified practitioner since 2004

Relieve back pain, chronic fatigue,  
improve general wellbeing & more.

Suitable for all ages.

Homebased practice near centre of Taradale

Phone: 0407 372426

Covid restrictions apply Member of BAA & BTAA

# Remembrance Day

## November 11, 2023



# HPA Update

Remembrance Day also known as Armistice Day will be marked in Harcourt on Saturday November 11 at 11 am at the Cenotaph in Stanley Park.

The day marks the end of World War I, but it also recognises all service people in the Defence Services who have served Australia in conflicts.

Community members are invited to attend the service and lay wreaths or flowers.

At 11 am, the brief service begins with the Last Post followed by the Minute of Silence, Reveille, The Ode of Remembrance and the National Anthem.



This month has been extremely busy for HPA, but most of our activities have been reported upon elsewhere in *The Core*. We did, however, receive the much anticipated grant of \$50,000 from the state government to put towards developing the Harcourt Valley Community House. We are very grateful to Maree Edwards for making this possible and to Sam Kane from her office who has been so helpful to us during the whole process.

We are now eagerly waiting to see if Harcourt received the MASC Small Town Christmas grant so we can put on another BBQ in Stanley Park this year (17 December). Fingers crossed. In the meantime, we hope you have a great Cup Day holiday and drive safely to and from events. Until next month...

Sha Cordingley  
President

Harcourt Progress Association

## Who has won this award?



The Community Newspaper Association of Victoria (CNAV) was established in 2005 and membership is available to any community newspaper in Victoria. As a body, it provides support, information and opportunities to more than 70 community newspapers to enhance their professional growth and culminates at the Annual CNAV Conference and Awards event.

The 18th Annual CNAV conference was recently held in North Melbourne, the first time close to the city and attended by more than sixty delegates from over thirty newspapers.

As host, Anne Burgi, from the *North & West Melbourne News*, painted a wonderful picture of North Melbourne's history – from the gold rush days when hotels abounded on each street corner and more recently during the pandemic when residents endured the stressful ordeal during lockdown in the North Melbourne towers. Anne entertained us with stories of the filming of *Underbelly* in iconic venues such as the Meat Market, the Town Hall and St Mary's Church, and the TV series *Fisk* in Errol St.

James Poyner, from the *Warrandyte Diary* and the President of CNAV, spoke on the state of community media and how it has evolved since colonial times when all newspapers were edited and censored by the government. Interestingly, in 1824, Andrew Bent an ex-convict, published the *Hobart Town Gazette* without government authorization, the first person to do so. For his efforts he spent some time in prison.

We were able to attend three workshops

- Reporting on mental health issues
- Cybersecurity: practising and writing about it
- Editing: dealing with people's submissions

These were extremely interesting and relevant to considerations of how community newspapers prepare for, report on, and preserve and protect our data.

During the evening session, awards were presented in several categories. We were thrilled when our entry for the best history story was presented an award as a finalist. The judge of this category, Heather Arnold, is President of the Koo Wee Rup Historical Society and for sixteen years has been the local history librarian for the Casey-Cardinia Library Corporation.

Congratulations to George Milford, the author of the article about Ken Eagle,

a Harcourt orchardist. Below are the comments from the judge:

This article is about Harcourt orchardist, Ken Eagle and his role as the manager of the Harcourt committee of the Apple and Pear Marketing Board. It was set up during World War Two to help orchardists market their fruit as the export market, which had taken 80% of all Harcourt fruit had collapsed. It sounds a bit dry, but as the daughter of a potato grower, I understand the role primary production has played in the Australian economy, so it was interesting to read about this industry. The article also had the following stats – in 1941 the Harcourt region had 146 orchards – covering 971 hectares, with an estimated 260,000 trees. They now have about ten orchards with 210 hectares under production, and as trees are now planted much closer there are now 428,000 trees. I feel we don't often see articles on primary production, so I was glad to read this historic look at the apple growing industry.

George's thumbnail sketch of Ken Eagle was in the the February 2023 edition of *The Core* and can be found here: [harcourt.vic.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2302\\_TheCore.pdf](https://harcourt.vic.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2302_TheCore.pdf)



# WALKING TOGETHER Towards Makarrata

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

This month's column entry amplifies local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices more directly. In both the lead up and recent aftermath of the referendum, it has been made clear that it's every Australian's responsibility to listen to and learn from the voices of First Nations people individually and collectively.

We acknowledge the grief held by many First Nations communities in response to the referendum results, and the 'tsunami of racism' that it has unleashed.

Regardless of how you voted, now is the time for us all to show respect, gratitude for, and solidarity with, local First Nations people, who have been tireless in their generosity to walk together for a thriving future for all, despite the ongoing impacts of colonisation.

We encourage readers to find out more about, and support, the amazing work of Traditional Owners - the Djaara Corporation, and local Aboriginal run-and-lead organisations like Nalderun and our neighbours, BDAC in Bendigo.

Here are excerpts of two related public statements made by these local Aboriginal organisations in the lead up to the referendum but which, in its wake, still hold true.

### ***Excerpt from a joint statement by BDAC, DJAARA Corporation, Reconciliation Bendigo and Bendigo NAIDOC Week Committee:***

'This public commentary and abuse have a detrimental impact on the social and emotional wellbeing and safety of members of our community. We write this statement jointly as Aboriginal leaders, to ask our non-Aboriginal friends and broader public to join with us in helping to ensure the safety of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members.

You have the power to ensure racial violence under the guise of political and social debate is not tolerated.

If you see or hear behaviour and words that don't sit well with you against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, please stand up and calmly call it out.

Elevate the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in conversations relating to the constitutional recognition and the Voice to Parliament.

Ensure that conversations you are part of are respectful, informed and not spreading misinformation.

Above all, please remember that the rights, wellbeing and future of our Elders and our families are being discussed.'

### ***Excerpt from Nalderun (All-together) Education Aboriginal Corporation statement:***

'We want to remind everyone in our community to act with love, respect and compassion in the lead up and after the referendum. Whichever way the vote goes the work to address racism and walk together towards a just and thriving future is not over

This campaign has given a voice for people to be more overt with their racism and is having a big impact, especially

on our kids at school. We ask you to please be respectful and loving, and be mindful that the language you use in your home makes its way onto the playground doing great harm.

Please don't pity us. Yes, this is a tough time for our community, but we are strong and proud. We have been dealing with racism for 230 years and will continue to deal with racism into the future. We ask everyone to be on the journey and take a stand against systemic racism, understanding the role we each play, and not be a bystander.'

### ***If you would like more information:***

Djaara Corporation  
[www.djadjawurrung.com.au](http://www.djadjawurrung.com.au)

Bendigo District Aboriginal Corporation (BDAC)  
[www.bdac.com.au](http://www.bdac.com.au)

Nalderun  
[www.nalderun.net.au](http://www.nalderun.net.au)

To learn more about our shared histories, the impacts of colonisation, and how to work together in effective allyship, check out the Goldfields Library ([www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au](http://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au)) for a great collection of books and resources, or sign up for one of the Self Reflection Conversations series ([reflectionconversations@gmail.com](mailto:reflectionconversations@gmail.com)), run by local non-Indigenous people in partnership with Nalderun.

This article has been written by the Friends of Nalderun (FoN). FoN members are guided by Nalderun Education Aboriginal Corporation and are diverse individuals and representatives of many local community networks, supporting Nalderun's visions and work. Nalderun Education Aboriginal Corporation supports the Aboriginal Community and is led by Aboriginal people while providing many learning and cultural opportunities to the broader community. Nalderun is a Dja Dja Wurrung word meaning "all together".



## **HARCOURT HERITAGE CENTRE**

**Sunday 19 November 2023**

### **Exploring the Coliban Main Channel**

**Author and bushwalker Stephen Charman will give a talk on his explorations of the Coliban Main Channel through historical news items and 'then and now' photographs.**

**At Harcourt Heritage Centre  
7 High Street, Harcourt commencing at 1.30 pm.**

**The talk will be followed by afternoon tea.**

**Please bring a plate to share. All welcome.**



# Chatting with Harcourt CWA Fabulous Fundraiser

You know what they say, it's always good to end on a high note, and we certainly did this with Second-Hand Rose, our final fundraiser for the year. What a fabulous afternoon. Many thanks to Peter Bottomley for compering our mannequin parade and for providing a wonderful collection of clothes from the Salvation Army Thrift Shop in Castlemaine.

The clothes were modelled by our CWA members, and we even had Superwoman pay us a visit thanks to Alison Curtis. All the clothes that were modelled, and many more, were later made available to our visitors to buy. With sustainability and recycling playing such an important part in our society today, it's a great feeling to be able to buy good quality second-hand clothing from the Thrift Shop in Castlemaine.



Peter Bottomley and Superwoman Alison Curtis.



Helen Hand looking smart in blue and white.



Robyn McConville making sandwiches.



Our guests enjoying afternoon tea.

Now, as you all know, our fundraisers are deservedly well known and we entertain our visitors in a variety of interesting ways, and we can always be relied upon to provide a delicious afternoon tea. Our final afternoon tea for the year lived up to expectations and, as always, our sandwiches were a great favourite with everyone.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Maxi IGA Castlemaine for their generous donation of eight loaves of sliced bread, and we can thoroughly recommend Gold Max Soft White Sandwich for when you next need a sandwich or two yourself.

You know that if you are having visitors you like your house to look nice, and we at Harcourt CWA like the Leisure Centre to look nice when our visitors attend one of our functions. So, another big thank-you to ASQ Castlemaine for providing beautiful pots of peace lilies and Japanese maples to brighten and decorate our stage. A little bit of greenery makes all the difference.

With the support of the Castlemaine Salvation Army Thrift Shop, Maxi IGA and ASQ, our branch was able to raise a whopping \$1500. At our Allocation of Funds meeting, this and the money raised at other functions during the year will be distributed to local organisations that support women, children and families in our shire.

Finally, a huge thank-you to all of the people and organisations that turned up to our public events this year – it would all have been rather pointless without you.

If you would like to become a part of the CWA family, join us at one of our meetings which are held on the first Thursday of each month in the Harcourt Leisure Centre at 1:30 pm.

Lyn Rule, Publicity Officer

# VMR Invitation Day

Continued from page 1.

'It's so exciting to celebrate our progress at VMR and show other community volunteers what we have achieved here. In the future there will be opportunities at VMR for other clubs to run fundraising activities. We really want VMR to become an asset to the Harcourt community as a whole.

'The completion of the railway station building is our next project over the coming three months. We are now on the home straight. We are grateful for our builder who will also organise the other trades. There will be a full-time crew of three working every day now, plus other trades and VMR members working hard to take full benefit of the better weather.

There are several members who work basically full-time on the project. The support is overwhelming and very gratifying. We expect the construction to be completed by the end of the year, which will be another milestone and a good reason for another celebration.

'Today we have eight engines running – four trains plus our very own "fire train" which carries 600 litres of water. All the engines and carriages in use are a part of the club membership and are all personally constructed by our members as it's not possible to purchase these items. They have been constructed by us, we start by making the wheels and work our way from there.

'We don't have a full loop of track laid yet, so we place an engine with a driver at each end of the train. We call this "push-pull to dead ends". When the train gets to the end of the track, the people in the carriages get out and hop back in facing the other way. The trains have been running all day, with many folks taking multiple rides. All up, our records indicated over 900 rides were taken.

'I want to make special mention of the VMR members, many of whom who have put hundreds of hours into this project. The gift of their skills and time has made all this happen. We had a dinner in the club house last night and I said, "If you want to see what a good person looks like, just look at the person next to you." I am very grateful to all members of VMR, and with so many volunteers in Harcourt all giving of their time to their interest or club, we couldn't find a better place to locate ourselves.'



# Harcourt Lions Club

HEAR YE – HEAR YE – HEAR YE!

Now that I have got your attention, the Harcourt District Lions Club is calling for nominations for Youth of the Year and Community Member of the Year.

With all the confusion over holding an Australia Day celebration, the Lions of Harcourt have decided to make our celebration totally around Harcourt. We will make the presentation of Youth of the Year and Community Member of the Year at the 2024 Applefest celebration on Saturday 9 March 2024 (Labour Day Weekend).

Youth of the Year is someone 25 years and under for outstanding achievement in the last 12 months (their achievement can be academic, sporting or community service). So, please, get your thinking caps on and choose someone in your club/community whom you believe has gone above and beyond in their chosen field. You can nominate for one of these awards. Nomination forms will appear in the December Core, at sites around Harcourt or from Lions Club members.

Our club was spread a little thin when members were called on to barbecue at Muckleford for the Mount Alexander Vintage Engine Club Tractor Pull on Sunday. Four club members and, thankfully, two helpers were kept very busy with a big turnout combined with a beautiful day. This was a great effort by all those concerned – thank you. The rest of the club attended VMR to promote the Harcourt Lions Club.

The president has a new set of wheels so Di, he will now be able to 'Dragon' you off.

The next Harcourt Lions Club gathering will be held on Thursday 16 November at VMR at 6.30 pm for a shared meal followed by time for discussion at 7.30 pm. New members are welcome.



Lions Club members Des, Raymond, Sue and Loretta prepare to set up at the recent Mount Alexander Vintage Engine Club Tractor Pull at Muckleford.



President of the Lions, Raymond Rice has a new set of wheels!



**PLUMBER**

*Bruce A. Rae*

Covering all Aspects of Plumbing

24 Hour Emergency Service

Mobile: 0408 371 885 Email: brucer3@bigpond.com

mainFM is an award winning radio station based in Castlemaine, broadcasting music, community news, talks and specialist programs and events throughout a large area of Central Victoria, serving our community.

With over 100 local volunteer presenters with a passion for radio, our programs are varied and diverse with over 70 shows across the program grid, transmitting 24 hours a day and streaming online via mainfm.net

**94.9 main FM**

LISTEN LOCAL

HARCOURT VALLEY VINEYARD

Visit Bendigo's Most Awarded Winery

- Weddings, events and functions
- 2021 Brides Choice Awards winner

Open Sunday 12–4 pm or by appointment only  
Bookings please call Marie on 0431 996 515  
Harcourt Valley Vineyards  
3339 Harmony Way, Harcourt, Vic 3453  
P: 03 5474 2223



**KNIGHTMOVES**

R n B – 4 Piece Band

60s 70s 80s +

BOOKINGS

Trev: 0421 957 168  
Tony: 0439 742 434  
Lou: 0416 146 417  
knightmovesband@gmail.com



# Halloween a hit in Harcourt

From Carly Bauer on Hardcore Harcourt's Facebook page



I would like to thank everyone who participated in last night's Halloween event in town. It was a great night!

Thank you to the homes and the locals who had lollies or tricks for the local children. We know it can be overwhelming but without you it's not the same. It is the part the children love the most!

Thank you to the adults who supervised not only their own children but others as well while walking around and assisting children to cross the roads safely in town.

Thank you to all the well-behaved and well-mannered children who participated.

Thank you to my friends who helped organise the entire event. It was a massive thing to organise and without you it wouldn't be a success.

We know not everyone celebrates Halloween but it is a perfect event to bring the community together and get to know your neighbours.

See you all again next Halloween!

**Thank you to the organisers of Harcourt's Halloween from Harcourt News/The Core.**

(Apologies to the parents of the three little girls whose photo I took! I somehow deleted it. Robyn Miller, Editor.)

**HARCOURT**  
**CFA**

**DO YOU KNOW YOUR  
FIRE RISK?**

**FIRE SAFETY ESSENTIALS**

CFA North West Region Community Safety invites you to come along to a free Fire Safety Essentials session to assist you about how to be best prepared for this fire season.

**Harcourt Fire Station  
High Street  
Harcourt  
Date: Monday 13 November 2023  
Time: 7:00 pm**



For further information on how to prepare your property for fire scan QR code or visit [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

Bushfires happen every year. Spending time now and learn how you can keep you, your family and your friends safe from fire this season.

- Could a fire reach my place?
- What if the road is closed?
- Will someone knock on my door to tell me to leave?
- What about the kids?
- What about my pets?

## Linda Newton



Hello.

# Councillor Comment



Hi all,

As I write this it's a fabulous day outside! Paddocks are starting to dry out, and fire season approaches. I have been doing some slashing on the tractor. Nice work if you can get it.

Last week I attended the Municipal Association of Victoria annual conference and general meeting. The MAV has representatives from each of the 79 councils across Victoria. The conference had some great speakers and was very informative. Topics covered included, financial sustainability of councils, cost effectiveness of doing road maintenance and a presentation from the auditor general's office, to name a few.

At October's council meeting some important matters were discussed. In the main meeting, council agreed to go out for public comment on the proposed lease of two parcels of council land to the Winteringham Group. The concept is, Winteringham would build social housing units on the land and rent them to older community members that need housing.

The lease would be for 49 years and then the units come back to council. Sounds too good to be true, but council is working hard to do something in the social/affordable housing space. If you support this idea, please provide a letter of support when you see the details in the press or on-line.

## Stop press!

In a confidential meeting of council we unanimously agreed that council would continue to provide in-home aged care services to our community – this is against the backdrop of numerous councils getting out of aged care services. Councillors understand the support and need for these services in our community. Council media will provide a community wide update.

It is another example of our staff and councillors working together in the best interest of our community.

A big shout-out to our team that produces *The Core*: well done all!

Best regards Tony

AG Cordy, 0439 742 434

Lmct:10769



· EST 1955 ·

WRECKING ALL MAKES & MODELS

We buy most cars and utes  
**Free** old car removal

**5474 2432**  **HARCOURTAUTO.COM**

# Council commits to providing aged care services to community

Mount Alexander Shire Councillors unanimously resolved to continue to provide and expand Council's aged care services at a confidential meeting of Council on Tuesday 17 October.

Mayor, Cr Rosie Annear said the decision came following an extensive review of Council's aged care services in response to national reform of the aged care sector.

'During our review, current clients and their families overwhelmingly told us how much they value the aged care services that we offer', said Mayor Annear. 'Older residents told us they feel cared for and respected by our staff – and that's really important to us.'

All councillors had positive comments to make about the quality of the shire's aged care services after substantial feedback from the service's users.

Council has approximately 50 staff members who deliver aged care services to more than 800 residents in the shire. These services include personal care, home care, shopping, delivered meals, respite care, social support programs and more.

- In January 2023, Council began a formal review of its aged care services.
- The review involved hearing from current clients and their families, consultation with staff and volunteers, benchmarking with other local government areas, financial analysis, risk analysis and more.
- More than 350 current clients provided feedback with key findings revealing:
  - ✓ 76% of respondents reported that the service they are currently receiving from Council fully met their needs.
  - ✓ 86% of respondents stated their willingness to stay with Council for care services.
  - ✓ The familiarity and professionalism of care staff was consistently raised as a key value proposition of the service.

Mayor Annear said that while the council has been delivering these services for many years, the Commonwealth-funded aged care programs delivered by Council will now transition to the new model of care called the In Home Support Program.

'For current clients, the service is not going to look any different in the short-term,' said Mayor Annear. 'Down the track, we'll explore delivering extra services as well, and any expansion will be done in a sustainable way and in line with client demand.'

Council will continue to keep current clients, staff and the local community updated as the transition to the In Home Support Program progresses. Letters have been sent to all clients with more information, and staff information sessions have been held to discuss the decision.

**For more information, call Council's dedicated Home Support Hotline on 5471 1768 (business hours).**

**To find out more about the background to this decision, read our Frequently Asked Questions: [www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Community-and-Wellbeing/Aged-care-and-home-support-services/Update-on-Councils-aged-care-services](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Community-and-Wellbeing/Aged-care-and-home-support-services/Update-on-Councils-aged-care-services) or pick up a hard copy from the Civic Centre, Cnr Lyttleton and Lloyd streets, Castlemaine.**

**For details on Council's aged care and home support services, visit [www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Community-and-Wellbeing/Aged-care-and-home-support-services](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Community-and-Wellbeing/Aged-care-and-home-support-services) or email [info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au)**

**For information on the Commonwealth Government's aged care reforms, visit [www.health.gov.au/our-work/aged-care-reforms](http://www.health.gov.au/our-work/aged-care-reforms).**

*From a Shire Press Release*





# Harcourt CFA

## KNOWVEMBER – (Made up word meaning Gaining of Knowledge in November)

'Knowledge is power. Sharing knowledge is the key to unlocking that power.'  
*Martin Uzochukwu Ugwu*

### Fire Safety Essentials

Do you know what to do in case of fire? Do you know how to prepare your home and property for the coming fire season? Do you know what steps to take for your safety on those hot summer days?

The CFA North West Region Community Safety Group, in conjunction with the Harcourt Fire Brigade, invites you to come along to a free Fire Safety Essentials session to assist you with how to be best prepared for this fire season.

It will be at the Harcourt Fire Station in High Street Harcourt on Monday 13 November commencing at 7:00 pm.

This is the perfect opportunity to get your questions answered and gain valuable knowledge.

Bushfires happen every year, and already there have been significant fires in Gippsland, New South Wales, Queensland and the Northern Territory. Spending time now will not only assist you in preparing your property, but also in ensuring that the safety of you, your family, friends and pets is at the forefront of your fire plan this fire season.

### MOWVEMBER – (Mowing grass in November)

Spring weather has created prolific grass growth in our district and there is plenty of grass around keeping us busy with mowing. It may seem like an endless chore, but a lot of the grass types are now going to seed and will soon stop growing and dry off providing the perfect fine fuel for any fire that starts. Maintaining the battle against this growth will provide the buffer zone between a fire and your property. Look at opportunities to increase the area around your home that you mow, slash and whipper snip. Linking your zone with your neighbours will also assist in reducing the height of the flames of any fire that approaches.

### Free Green Waste Disposal

Once again the Mount Alexander Shire is providing a free Green Waste drop off service for residents of the shire at the Castlemaine and Maldon transfer stations. The disposal period is from Saturday 25 November to Monday 11 December. Note that the green waste must be free of contaminants such as rubbish and declared noxious weeds. Further information and requirements can be found at [www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Waste-and-recycling](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Waste-and-recycling) or call 5471 1700.

### October Activity

The start of October was quiet for turnouts, but this changed on October 17 when we were paged to a fire in Barkers Creek, which turned out to be a registered burn. This does happen sometimes, generally due to a location discrepancy or if the caller states that the fire is out of control, but this was not the situation, so we put our trucks away ready for the next call.

October 22 proved to be busy. At daybreak a vehicle was observed crashed into a tree on Black Jack Road. As the crash had occurred sometime earlier, all emergency services were cancelled a short time later. At the other end of the day, there was another single vehicle crash on Harmony Way not far from the Black Jack Road site. This did require a response, and all emergency services dealt with the situation quickly and efficiently.

Two days later, again at night, we were paged to assist the Lockwood brigade to a car emitting smoke after hitting a kangaroo on the Calder Highway at Ravenswood. After arriving on scene, it was quickly determined that what was thought to be smoke, was actually from the deployment of the air bags. This gave us four turnouts within a week, three of them being car accidents.

There were also four additional turnouts for the brigade at the end of September after the article I submitted for the October edition. The first was to support Castlemaine to a smoke alarm operating, but we were not required. There was also a car fire on the Calder Freeway at Faraday, which had a very 'black' ending; another car emitting smoke (again on the freeway), and a washaway as a result of a car hitting a trailer jockey wheel (yes, on the freeway) before it could be removed by police.

One might think that the freeway is an unsafe place to drive, but there have also been a lot of incidents on local roads around the district attended by neighbouring brigades. Quite a few of these have involved accidents caused by cars hitting kangaroos.

### Expo Success

The Emergency Services Expo was a successful event again this year with a very good attendance from not only the public, but also with good support from all emergency services, as well as other support organisations. Hopefully, you were able to get along for a look.

### Summer Fire Restrictions

It has been announced that the fire restriction period for Mount Alexander Shire commences Monday 13 November 2023. Restrictions in areas of North Harcourt that lie in the City of Greater Bendigo start Monday 20 November 2023.

**STOP PRESS:**  
 Fire Danger Period for Mount Alexander Shire commences Monday 13 November

We hope to see you at our Fire Safety Essentials session on Monday 13 November at 7 pm at the Brigade building in Bridge Street, Harcourt (see the note on page 7 for more information).

*Tyrone Rice*  
 Brigade Community Safety Coordinator

ADVERTISEMENT

## Lisa Chesters MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BENDIGO

5443 9055

lisachesters.org

Authorised by Lisa Chesters, ALP  
 16 Myers St, Bendigo



**Labor**



# Harcourt Uniting Church

## Thanks to the Furies

As we approach summer here is a prayer, originally written by Pam Scott of the Kerang Uniting Church, and modified for Harcourt Uniting Church - with Pam's permission.

Jesus said: 'Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' The fishermen dropped whatever they were doing and followed him.

The fire siren sounds; the volunteers stop whatever they are doing and rush to the Harcourt Fire Station to serve our community as volunteers. *And we are thankful.*

We are thankful for the first brigade formed in Harcourt in 1944. From that time on we have been blessed to have had men and women who have dedicated their lives to protecting our homes, properties, farm, crops and human lives. *And we are thankful.*

We remember the Ladies' Auxiliary of the past. Thoughts go back to when the ladies would head to the fire station to make sandwiches and a cuppa, and then drive out to the fires with the Esky of food and the multi pots of tea to feed the hungry fire fighters. *And the fire fighters were thankful.*

Along with many hours of training and fighting fires, we remember the State Demos where our running teams would compete for trophies, using some of their fire fighting skills, competing against other brigades in the state. What excitement when Harcourt brigade won the Stationary Tanker at Ararat in 1982.

With time, change comes and now women work side by side with the men on the fire ground. *And we say thank you.*

We say thank you to members who have taken the fire truck to the preschool or the school to help educate the children on fire safety. Many a young child when asked what they want to do when they grow up will say 'a fireman' – and many have become just that. *And we are thankful.*

We give thanks to all brigade members whose keen observations have saved someone's crop, haystack, livestock or home. We thank them for their many hours dedicated to training in skills necessary in the use of equipment whilst keeping themselves safe.

Times continue to change. Modern technology, equipment and trucks play

an important part in the way brigades function these days. We remember the recent severe bush fires that scarred the land, destroyed homes, disrupted communities and took the lives of brave volunteers. *We remember them all in silence.*

We also thank employers and business owners who have given our furies the freedom to leave their place of employment to attend a fire. Without their support, protecting our community would be so much more difficult. *We are grateful and we say thank you.*

To the families left at home when fire fighters head to a fire: they are often the forgotten ones, left to finish off whatever was being done, to organise the family and to worry, especially when there are severe fires burning in other regions. TV news shows the flames leaping and the utter destruction.

Help us never to take these special people for granted. Help us to be ever mindful of the sacrifices and service that they give to our town, our district and even fellow Australians interstate.

*And we say thank you.*

Amen.

## Courses at Harcourt Valley Community House in 2024


We are starting to plan our calendar for 2024 and we are interested in hearing from anyone interested in conducting courses at the Harcourt Valley Community House.

As a guide, 70% of the respondents to our survey conducted in 2023, indicated interest in training and workshops including skills development, hobbies, languages, qualifications, information sessions etc. If you have something that you can share, please send your expression of interest to: [paul.mizzi@harcourtprogress.org.au](mailto:paul.mizzi@harcourtprogress.org.au) with EOI Harcourt Courses in the subject line and include:

- Name of Course
- Outline of Course (just a paragraph or two)
- Any prequalification needed (eg: Familiar with Microsoft Office)
- Equipment needed (eg: White board, tables, projector, etc)
- Duration of course (eg: 9:30 am to 3 pm or 5:30 pm–8:30 pm)
- Preferred day of the week
- Number of sessions
- Estimated number of attendees

- Cost per attendee
- Short bio of trainer and any relevant qualifications and experience delivering this or any other course

Please note: Classes usually run within school term dates. Rooms at the Community House can be booked for meetings or functions at all times of the year. For all enquiries contact Paul Mizzi as above.



**Property Plus**  
REAL ESTATE

**Di Selwood**  
0488 148 358  
Harcourt - Castlemaine - Maldon

# POETRY

[extract] – heart. felt. GLORY.

Heel

The “end’s” crust. The end’s meet ~ Heart’s crust, to the end’s piece.  
THE ENDING – The END of the loaf.

to  
restore [to the original purity] ~ “integrity”.  
make free [from] injury or disease.  
To resuscitate, the sounds of one’s soul [dying tragically] - by it alone.

Dig deeper, dear Douglas.  
Find, and you shall weep newness.  
Dig your heels ~ into the sand.  
Beg nothing more than the END’s piece; the art to pride’s conversation.  
, [it] digs its own dwelling upon you.

Find that end piece, dear Douglas. To the Heart’s baffling.  
Remind us of how and when a dying end shall meet ~ in Love’s conversation, once again.

Dear Douglas,  
What drives your heart?  
,  
What is the “point” of any of “this”?  
Is life worth living? And if so, what makes you feel “alive”?...  
Being - trapped and unruly, inside your web of empty’s disappointments.

You ‘become’ an un-raveling ~ a sheer will [to] live, or die?

What drives your heart? man of too afraid to~ breathe.  
What is the “point” of anything?

His cowardice coughs on ‘Time’ – reveals smoke infested lungs.  
The heart is weak.  
Pumps rusted, shaky blood. Artery veins are clogged. Time to see a doctor.

The “end’s” crust. The end’s meet ~ He seeks shelter from a dying collapsed lung.  
His lost soul weeps. Groans for a new beginning.

Dear Douglas,

Where is your courage?  
Your roar is uninspiring to watch. Faded and bleak. The lack of self-care provokes cheap bantering - cruel chanters against you.

Step – heel. Step – heel.  
Point upwards, to speak nobility. Set a new precedence ...for yourself.

To the end’s piece; a decision to fade away is the end of your story.  
, or  
To reveal past’s wretched caricature and no longer ‘be’ sad’s dying clown.

13th October 2023.



*Co-editor of the Core, Robyn Miller, hands George Milford his award for being a finalist in the category Best History Story at the recent Community Newspaper Association of Victoria Conference Awards.*

# Harcourt Carpet Bowls

## SUMMER BOWLS

This year is really flying. Summer carpet bowls is commencing on Wednesday 8 November 2023.

### Summer Carpet Bowls information.

**When** 8 November 2023

**Where** Harcourt District Leisure Centre,  
Binghams Road, Harcourt.

**Time** 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. Finish by 9.00pm.

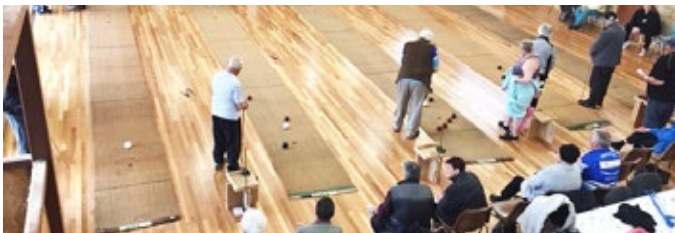
**Who can play** Anyone 8 years old and upwards.  
Families are most welcome.

**Cost** Registration is \$6.00 for new adult members and \$3.00 for under 17s  
Nightly games fee is \$5.00 per adult and \$2.50 for under 17s  
Nothing more to pay  
All bowls and equipment is supplied.

Those interested in playing are most welcome to come. You will be put in a team and will receive instructions on how the game is played. Before long you will be hooked.

### Vale Brian Cornish

It was with sadness we learned of the passing of Brian on the 10 October 2023. He was looking forward to returning to play Summer Carpet Bowls and will be missed by all the members.



## SHUT THE BOX

### HOW TO PLAY

If playing with two or more people, decide which player will go first. This can be done by rolling the dice – the highest number goes first.

The player rolls the dice and either adds the sum to make one number, keeps the numbers separate, or breaks them into three numbers. For example if the player rolls a five and a three:



This can be added to 8. The player closes the number 8.  
OR

They can close the 5 and 3.

OR

They can close 4, 3 and 1.

The player continues rolling the dice and closing numbers until they can't close any more tiles and their turn ends. They add up according to the preferred scoring style (see page 1), then it is the next player's turn. The player with the lowest score after a certain number of rounds wins.

If a player closes all tiles, they have 'shut the box' and win outright. This is harder to do than you might think!

Community Bank  
Maldon & District  
Bendigo Bank

## Scholarships open soon for 2024 study and training

As customers continue to choose to make a difference by banking with Community Bank Maldon & District, we are able to make a difference to others through our 2024 Scholarship program.

Community Bank Maldon & District are once again offering scholarships of up to \$2000 each to people undertaking study in 2024. Scholarships are awarded to cover costs associated with education, such as course fees, rent, purchasing computers, books, equipment and other resources associated with your course/ training.

### To be eligible for these scholarships you must be:

- Attending university or TAFE in 2024
- Undertaking training that is nationally accredited
- Live in Maldon, Newstead, Harcourt, Dunolly or the greater Mount Alexander region

We encourage school leavers, mature age students and those from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island backgrounds to apply.

Application forms and guidelines will be available on the Community Bank Maldon & District website soon at [www.maldoncb.com.au](http://www.maldoncb.com.au).



Last year's scholarship recipients - L-R:  
Hannah, Jacinta, Christy & Alec

[maldoncb.com.au](http://maldoncb.com.au). For more details or further questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to our executive officer, Jane Hoiting on 0478 435 110. Jane can help guide and support you with your application.



# Harcourt Valley Primary School

Did anyone miss my article in last month's *Core*? For various reasons, my monthly *Core* article could not be submitted at the time. During the school holidays I had planned to interview several students who had performed in the *The Big Bang Theory* concert on September 11 and write up a story about the concert. This was not possible. I did, however, attend the concert and can report that it was very entertaining and delightful.

The students had a band to accompany them and sang their songs with great enthusiasm and expression, and the audience enjoyed participating in a few old favourites.

It was a lovely evening and was well attended by families and community members. Any production like this always involves so much behind the scenes work. Congratulations to all involved in the production.

HVPS is well into its final term for the year. Arrangements are being made for **Prep transitions**, the first of which begins on **Tuesday 21 November**.

**Grade 6s** are getting ready for their **graduation**, which will be held on **Monday 18 December**.

Meanwhile, all the other school activities continue. I am under the impression that Grade 2/3/4 and Prep/1 students have been enjoying maths! They have been learning how to play a great maths game called 'SHUT THE BOX' and are now teaching other classes how to play it. It looks like a great game for parents, grandparents and carers to play with their primary school children. With the school's permission, I thought it would be a great idea to include details about the game for families to play at home ... (← See previous page).

As usual, students continue to enjoy learning in a variety of settings. Grade 5/6 has enjoyed their urban camp, which took place from October 11 to 13. They caught the train from Castlemaine to Southern Cross and then used trams and trains to navigate the various city locations they visited. During their three days in Melbourne, they visited the Eureka Skydeck and the MCG and participated in a role-play at Parliament House. They also enjoyed catching trams and eating gelatos on Southbank. Their accommodation was at the Department of Education's Urban Camp in Royal Park, Parkville. It all sounds like a lot or organising for Mrs Maddaford, Ms Rowlands, Ms Stearne and Ms Rice who accompanied them and



ensured that the excursion was a success. The students thoroughly enjoyed each day and their behaviour was, I gather, exemplary.

On 19 October, Preps/1 and 2 had a less adventurous camp; a sleepover at the school. The following morning, they travelled by bus to the Bendigo Discovery Centre and had fun playing with all the different gadgetry there. I can recommend a visit as there are many incidental embedded science and technology lessons to be learnt from engaging with the equipment in the centre.

Did you eat a referendum BBQ sausage or buy some mini apple pies at the HVPS referendum stall? I bought some apple pies. Our family loves the HVPS pies. This time the baking of the pies was organised by Jason and Fletcher McAinch with some input from grade 6 students. The stall was also organised by grade 6 students and was supported by Mr Blake and a number of parents. They raised \$705.80 which will assist in covering the cost of the grade 6's Big Day Out.

Grade 5/6 students were also actively involved in supporting Kickball activities undertaken by Preps/1 and 2 at the Harcourt Oval on the morning of October 27. It gave grade 5/6 students an opportunity to demonstrate their leadership skills and have fun with the school's junior students. Reportedly, it was a very enjoyable morning.

On Referendum Day you may have also noticed the school's productive vegie



patch. Students have been doing a great job taking care of the school gardens and were thrilled to be able to present parents with bouquets of spinach and parsley at assembly several weeks ago.

Staff and students are delighted that work on their outdoor classroom began on October 26. Holes have been dug to locate the poles which the sails will be attached to. The sails will be providing shelter for the area, which is located near the flag pole. It is hoped that work will be completed by the end of the year.

*Lois Denham*

## A Gift from CWA



Representatives from Harcourt Progress Association were thrilled to receive a cheque of \$500 from Harcourt CWA which was presented by CWA President Robyn McConville. The money will go towards kitchen equipment for Harcourt Valley Community House. The gift will be used towards bringing the kitchen up to scratch for event catering. The recent very successful Seniors Lunch held at the Community House gave the volunteers a challenge but also resulted in plenty of ideas about what is required to make the kitchen practical and workable.

*From left to right: Alison Curtis, Bronnie Dean, Robyn McConville (CWA), Paul Mizzi and Robyn Miller.*

# Spring is in the air at Mica Grange

Spring is in the air. The flowers are blooming, the sun is shining and the scent of roses is everywhere. Yes, it is time to spread your wings and enjoy the beauty of garden, the wonders of art and good food at the Mica Grange Open Garden Sculpture Exhibition.

The spacious gardens are full of creative ideas to enjoy or enhance the beauty of your own garden. There are 15 sculptors exhibiting plus a wide array of garden art, plants and preserves for sale.

Morning tea, light lunches and afternoon tea are served on the spacious decking overlooking the Sutton Grange valley or around the garden between 10 am and 4.30 pm. Entry is \$9 (free for children under 18).

Whether your interest be in traditional gardens, rose walks, proteas, Australian natives, rockeries, vegetable gardens, fairy gardens, or simply meandering through

beautiful scenery and relaxing with good food, you will find something to spark your imagination at Mica Grange.

**What:** Mica Grange Spring Open Garden Sculpture Exhibition

**When:** Each weekend from Saturday 28 October to Sunday 10 December between 10 am and 4.30 pm

**Where:** 373 Faraday Sutton Grange Road Sutton Grange.

**Phone:** 0499 897 242 OR 0409 322 413

**Email:** [www.micagrango.com](http://www.micagrango.com)  
[micagrango@gmail.com](mailto:micagrango@gmail.com)

**Entry:** \$9 (Children U18 free)



## Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme Launches in Central Victoria

The Allan Labor Government has launched Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme – **CDS Vic** – which will reduce the state's litter by up to half while putting money back in the pockets of Victorians.

Member for Bendigo West Maree Edwards MP visited a depot in Bendigo on November 3, where people can return their used drink cans, bottles and cartons for a 10 cent refund. Depending on the type of refund point, people can choose whether they want to receive the refund in the form of cash, a retail voucher, or an electronic refund. Ms Edwards said, 'This is a great opportunity to help clean up our environment, while helping local charities and community groups to raise valuable funds.'

People in Mount Alexander Shire currently have access to two sites while those living in Bendigo currently have access to three refund points. More sites are set to be rolled out in the coming months and through 2024.

### Refund points in Mount Alexander

- SP Machinery Maldon – 14 High Street, Maldon, VIC 3463 (Over the Counter)
- Chewton Service Station – 37 Pyrenees Highway, Chewton, VIC 3451 (Over the Counter)

### Refund points in Bendigo

- Envirobank Recycling Kangaroo Flat – 10 Phillips Drive, Kangaroo Flat, VIC 3555 (Depot)
- Envirobank Recycling East Bendigo – 23 Wellsford Drive, East Bendigo, VIC 3550 (Depot)
- Bendigo Foodshare – 2/43 Havilah Road, Long Gully, VIC 3550 (Over the Counter)



**Harcourt, with 1038 residents as at the 2021, census will eventually have its own Container Deposit and Refund Point.**

The plan is that within nine months of the scheme starting, the Zone Operators will be required to have a minimum of one collection point per 14,500 people in metropolitan areas, at least one per town of 750 people in regional areas, and at least one per town of 350 people in remote areas.

VicReturn is the Scheme Coordinator, while Zone Operators Return-It, TOMRA Cleanaway, and Visy will establish and oversee the refund points and refunds to customers, as well as ensuring proper recycling of the containers.

CDS Vic is part of the Labor Government's \$515 million investment to transform the state's waste and recycling system. This includes the new standardised four-stream waste and recycling system, supporting our target of diverting 80 per cent of all material away from landfill by 2030.

To learn more about CDS Vic and to find the nearest refund point closest to you, visit: [cdsvic.org.au](http://cdsvic.org.au)

*From a Press Release*

# Harcourt Flood Study reveals vital information for community preparedness

Mount Alexander Shire Council, in partnership with the North Central Catchment Management Authority (CMA), is pleased to announce a significant development in the ongoing efforts to enhance flood resilience and preparedness in Harcourt.

Harcourt has experienced several significant flood events, notably in 2010, 2011, 2016, and most recently in October 2022, underscoring the need for comprehensive flood data and preparedness measures.

'The Harcourt Flood Study is a vital initiative for the community and has reached an important milestone with the completion of draft flood mapping. The project aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of flood levels and extents for various flood events within the study area,' North Central CMA Waterways and



Photo provided by John Baldock.

Manager Engineering, Paul Diss said, 'The Harcourt Flood Study represents a crucial step forward in enhancing the safety and resilience of the Harcourt community in the face of potential flooding.'

'The data generated will serve as a critical resource for emergency management response, community education, updating planning controls, and informing future land development planning.'

'I encourage people to come along to the drop-in session or visit the online portal to review and share your feedback on the draft flood mapping. Community input is vital in shaping our future preparedness efforts.'

**For any enquiries or further information, please contact Nick Butler at:**

**[nick.butler@nccma.vic.gov.au](mailto:nick.butler@nccma.vic.gov.au) or by phone at 0408 277 016**

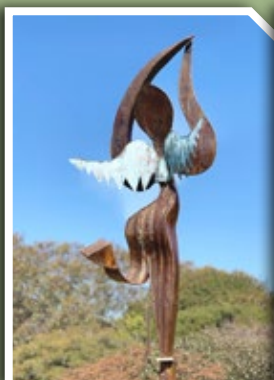
Floodplain Officer, Nick Butler said. **Have Your Say by Friday November 10.**

Community members can access an interactive mapping tool to see the predicted flood extent, provide comments and upload photos, at Council's online engagement platform ([shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/harcourtflood-study](http://shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/harcourtflood-study)) from Friday October 13 to Friday November 10.

Mount Alexander Shire Council's

## MICA GRANGE Open Garden Sculpture Exhibition

~ Each Weekend to 10 December ~



*Morning Tea, Light Lunch, Afternoon Tea, Morning Tea,  
Garden Art, Plants, Preserves. (See Website for Menu.)  
Entry: \$9 Children U18 Free*

373 Faraday Sutton Grange Road ~ Sutton Grange

For further information:  
web: [www.micagrangecma.com](http://www.micagrangecma.com)  
phone: 0499 897 242 / 0409 322 413  
email: [micagrangegarden@gmail.com](mailto:micagrangegarden@gmail.com)



# Harcourt Heritage Centre

The spotlight falls on ...

## Cobb & Co and the Talbot Inn

When you enter the museum at Harcourt Heritage Centre, your eye is drawn to a large painting of a Cobb & Co coach, and to a diorama of Harcourt's Talbot Inn in its heyday, enlightening us to what may otherwise be forgotten aspects of our history.

In the Heritage Centre painting the horses are cantering along. But that is not how ten-year-old James Lang remembered it. He was never to forget his first visit to this district. The coach fare, the timetable and the changing stations were all impressed on his young mind. Cobb and Co's coach was packed with passengers. The journey was crammed with new experiences and an exhilarating sensation of speed. The coaches were as punctual then as the train is now. Cobb's method of changing horses was accomplished with all the speed of a pit-stop at a modern-day motor racing grand prix. Passengers who stepped off the coach for a moment were likely to be left behind.

Changing stations were established every eight or nine miles. Ostlers would be ready with fresh horses. As soon as the bugle sounded from some distance away for the changeover of horses, the four harnessed horses became restive to take their turn in the traces.

With hardly any delay the coach would be off again. The horses would start off at a great pace. To cover the eight- or nine-mile stages in the time allowed by the timetable, the horses needed to be whipped to an all-out gallop for at least part of the way.

Picture, then, ten-year-old round-faced James, crammed into a corner next to his older brother, the scenery rushing by. Picture, also, the four horses galloping along – the body of the coach rolling and lurching on its ox-hide thoroughbraces, the rims grinding on the gravel, the warm summer wind in their faces, the driver's whip being plied rhythmically to the backs of the horses, the coach rolling onwards, onwards at such speed that it seemed as if it might not, ever, be able to be stopped....

This idea of the unstoppable forward motion of the coach was a very real consequence of the design. Instead of metal springs the body of the coach was mounted on thoroughbraces, long leather straps of six or eight thicknesses of bullock hide.

According to the book *The Lights of Cobb & Co* by KA Austin, the pliant nature of the



thoroughbraces reduced road shock and passenger discomfort, but of even greater importance was the fact that, when the wheels encountered a rut or a ridge, the flexibility of the suspension allowed the body of the coach to obey the law of inertia by riding forward and upward, easing the weight on the wheels and reducing the strain on the horses, assisting the vehicle over the obstacle and propelling the coach ever forward.

James Lang always remembered his 1856 arrival in Harcourt. The Talbot Inn lacked for nothing. There was a cellar, accessed from the verandah. Inside was the saloon and the bar where the thirsty traveller could partake of spirits, wines, liquors or cordials. There were three kitchens, a lounge and dining rooms, a room with a billiard table, seven ground-floor bedrooms, a huge laundry and, upstairs, an attic with ten dormer windows. The landlord, Joseph Williamson, had constructed a bowling green 'equal to any in Victoria', and in the garden, there were seats and tables, alcoves and summer houses.

The large stables at the north end of the hotel were impressive. A mention of these stables in the *Mount Alexander Mail* informs us that twenty-two horses could be stabled. The horses were tethered in a line, with a partition between each horse and the horse at a ninety degree angle to the wall. A loft ninety-feet (27.4 metres) long stored the fodder. Inside, the clatter of horseshoes on cobblestones mixed with the occasional neigh and the sound of chewing. Outside was turmoil, noise and dust and dogs aplenty.

There was every type of horse-drawn vehicle coming and going on the road between Bendigo and Melbourne. The Talbot Inn was popular with the teamsters and bullock drivers. Young James must have been wide-eyed at the to-ing and fro-ing,

of men and women, of horses and riders, of every breed of horse.

James Lang's experience of the Talbot Inn in 1856 was but a brief visit; his older brother could only think of gold mining at Campbells Creek. But the brothers had a good look at Harcourt, and two years later, in December 1858, the family took up an area and settled here permanently.

Sixty years later, James Lang recalled that the countryside in 1858 was primitive forest, and 'my bed was a sheet of stringybark nailed to four posts'. There were few fences. A small paddock of ten acres (at 229 Blackjack Road) was the only fenced area between Harcourt and Faraday.

There was a new landlord at the Talbot Inn, as Joseph Williamson had died after being thrown from his spring cart while on his way to collect supplies. The Cobb and Co coaches continued to use the Talbot Inn as a stopping place, having been awarded a lucrative Royal Mail contract to carry postal items from Melbourne to Bendigo. The contract continued long after the opening of the railway and ensured that the coach line was still operating in the 1870s.

In an era when most people were on the move, and for thousands of men and women Australia-wide, their memories of Cobb & Co were sharpened and glamorised through the circumstances in which they first saw the thoroughbrace coach in action.

For people in remote communities, the arrival of the coach each day, with all its dash and excitement, was their only link with far-off 'home'.

Freeman Cobb was the restless, energetic founder of the great coaching era. His name is a legend in the eastern Australian colonies where he demonstrated how a coaching business should be run. It is doubtful that he thought of his efforts in any way other than that he was running a business – a complex, long-distance business. But he earned his place in history by running coaches bearing his name, to the gold diggings of Bendigo and Forest Creek.

Through the eyes of ten-year-old James Lang we can visualize Harcourt's pace in that success story.

**This is another in a series of Thumbnail Sketches of the pioneers written for *The Core* by Harcourt Heritage Centre.**

**James Lang's reminiscences were widely reported in June and July 1918.**





# Harcourt Bowling Club

It is all systems go at the Harcourt Bowling Club. The Midweek and Weekend Pennant has commenced; the Friday social nights have taken on a new look with occasional meals also on offer, and Sunday afternoon social bowls is also on offer when tournaments aren't on.

## ***Pennant***

The Weekend Pennant line-up has slightly changed from last advice and the club is now fielding teams in Divisions 2, 4 and 7 (Blue) and 7 (Gold). To date, all are being competitive having a few wins, although the selectors are being stretched with several regular players currently unavailable.

Midweek Pennant Divisions 2, 4 and 5 have started the season well and we now see more men able to play.

## ***Club Championships***

The men's and women's club singles championships have commenced and are already being hotly contested. These need to be completed by end of year with the club champions going on to compete in the Regional Championships next year.

## ***Harcourt Bowlers' Tournament Success***

Four Harcourt bowlers enjoyed success at Golden Square Mixed Fours tournament recently. Diane Marsh, Fran Corstorphan, Barry Marsh and Mary-Anne Doyle are all keen bowlers, and were delighted to come home with an outright win on the day over stiff competition.



Winners at Golden Square Diane, Fran, Barry, Mary-Anne

## ***Another win for Harcourt Junior Bowler***

Harcourt bowler, Seth Bird bowled with Bendigo Dragons in the under 18's Doug Kneebone Tournament in September at Sunbury. They had a very successful day, becoming winners for the second year in a row. Bowlers in the winning team were Bailee Randell, Brock Keenan, Lachie Robertson and Seth Bird. Well done Seth!

## ***Kidman Mixed Fours Tournament***

Results of the last of the Annual Kidman sponsored Mixed Fours tournament, which was held on Sunday 29 October, will be in the December edition of *The Core*.



Bendigo Braves Bailee Randell, Brock Keenan, Lachie Robertson and Seth Bird.

## ***Annual Ladies' Triples Tournament***

The date of the Annual Triples tournament was moved to Thursday 23 November. We will have the results of this also in the December *Core*.

## ***Friday Social Nights***

An invitation is extended to anyone who would like to join us – New social and bowling members are always welcome.

## ***Memberships***

New social or playing members are always welcome at Harcourt Bowling Club. Applications for membership can be collected from the bowling club or downloaded from the website at [www.harcourtbowlingclub.com.au](http://www.harcourtbowlingclub.com.au)



**MARK THE DATE**

# Grace Church

*This is a statement of faith from Grace Church.*

## Announcement

On Sunday November 5 at 2 pm, Grace Church will be launching a program which we are calling 'Foundations.' Under this heading we will be running various bible studies over time. Initially we will be running Andrew Wommack's Discipleship Evangelism Program as a course for those wanting to explore Christianity or to know more about Christianity from a Pentecostal point of view.

All members of the general public are welcome, and the course is free.

Some of the topics covered at Level 1 are Eternal Life, Salvation by Grace, The Nature of God, Water Baptism, Identity in Christ, The Integrity of God's Word, How to receive the Holy Spirit, and the Power of a Spirit-Filled Life.

By the time this edition of *The Core* is published we will be underway. But no matter, if you are interested you can join belatedly, and we will endeavour to catch you up.

### *God's kind of Wisdom:*

I have a friend whose ministry it is to send out a Bible verse each day to various recipients by text. Here is a verse that was recently received, and which spoke to me. It was written by the Apostle James and it says:

'But the wisdom that comes from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity.'

So, the next time some well-intentioned person offers you some 'advice' you might like to run it past these criteria: Is it pure? Is it going to lead to peace? Is it gentle, as opposed to being harsh? Is it reasonable? Does this piece of advice exhibit mercy? If I follow this advice what will be the fruit thereof? Will it be good? Has the advice been offered impartially and sincerely?

*Roger Thurecht, Pastor at Grace Church*



## Weather & Water

While October is often recorded as the wettest month of the year, the early promise in the month was not fulfilled. Rainfall in October was a total of 42.5 mm. 40 mm of rain was received on October 3, with .5 mm received on 12 October and 2 mm on 15 October. No recordable rain fell for the following 19 days to the end of the month. Readers will no doubt remember the October of 2022 when 283.5 mm of rain fell and resulted in flooding in Harcourt and many areas across Victoria. The cumulative total of rainfall at the end of October 2022 was 902 mm. So 2023 is a very different year and while reservoirs are full, bushfire warnings for our state are beginning. Considering the early fires in NSW and Queensland occurring now, the trend is worrying.

Temperatures for October varied with a few mild days with cool nights at the beginning of the month. This trend was broken on the 12 October when a cold front with strong southerly winds came through and we were back to wintry conditions for a few days. Nights were mostly cool to cold, but we had some warm still days later in the month to compensate. There was a light frost towards the end of the month. The saying in Harcourt: 'Don't plant your tomato seedlings until after Cup Day', has held true again this year.

### *Reservoir Levels*

Upper Coliban	100% as at 5 November
Lauriston	96% as at 5 November
Malmsbury	87% as at 5 November
Barkers Creek	97.6% as at 29 October

*Data sourced from Bureau of Meteorology and Coliban Water web sites.*



*Miles Geldard and Dr Lawton checked a number of boxes using a pole camera linked to an iPad.*

## Grace Church

Service: 11.00am Sunday  
All Welcome

Pastors: Roger & Glenise Thurecht  
0422 605 897  
gracecastlemaine.org.au

30 Buckley Street, Harcourt

## Harcourt's Little Library

Harcourt's Little Library is outside the ANA Hall  
It's available any time.

Leave, Borrow  
or Take a Book



# Phascogales the focus of Landcare get-together

Harcourt Valley Landcare and Barkers Creek Landcare and Wildlife Group joined for a much anticipated event on Sunday 29 October at the Harcourt Flora Reserve. We were fortunate to have phascogale expert Dr Jess Lawton as a guest to lead camera inspections of the nesting boxes in the reserve (see photo previous page), supported by Miles Geldard who makes and supplies nesting boxes in this area.

Prior to setting out to view the nesting boxes, Dr Lawton described the breeding cycle of the phascogale and why Central Victoria is important to their survival. She said, 'Mating takes place in autumn with up to eight young being born per female in spring. The males survive only one year and die in winter after a frenetic mating



*Dr Lawton shows the phascogale nesting box. It is also suitable for sugar gliders.*

food. They use strips of bark in their nests and will 'borrow' feathers and wool as well to line the nest to insulate the babies. They are a mammal with a small pouch. Newborn joeys climb into the pouch and stay until they are about 7 weeks old, after which they move into the nest where they remain until they are about 5 months old.'

The nesting boxes in the reserve were put in place a few years ago in a joint project between Harcourt Valley Landcare and Harcourt Valley Primary School. Camera inspections revealed eggs, most likely those of an owl night jar, a ringtail possum and a sugar glider. One empty box revealed evidence of phascogales.

The Flora Reserve is a popular area with wildflower enthusiasts. A number of groups have visited this season and identified a wide range of plants throughout September and October. While moving through the reserve, Landcare members collected rubbish including rusty iron, much of which was dumped years ago.

At the delicious morning tea which followed the camera inspections, Dr Lawton and Miles Geldard were thanked for their time and expertise. It had been the practice before COVID for Harcourt Valley and Barkers Creek Landcare to share at least two joint activities per year. Members of both groups expressed interest in reviving these and the commitment has been made on both sides to reinstate these in 2024.



*The specimen box contains a phascogale which has been preserved by taxidermy.*

season. This reduces the population by 50%, which leaves more resources for the newly born young.'

'In my PhD study I found that Mount Alexander is a stronghold for phascogales. The area is very important for the preservation of the species. Their range has shrunk from across Victoria to limited areas, with this shire showing significant activity. The phascogale depends on large areas of open forest as well as small linking areas of forest. They prefer slopes rather than gullies and they like an area with lots of leaf litter and logs for foraging. The phascogale prefers trees with stringy bark, which they can climb to find insects and other invertebrates for

## Second stage of Harcourt biodiversity assessment underway

Mount Alexander Shire Council has commenced the second stage of a strategic biodiversity assessment for Harcourt to help manage future growth of the town.

Council completed a stage one biodiversity assessment earlier this year to help inform its strategic plans and changes to the planning scheme. The stage one assessment found that while the plans protect higher value biodiversity in certain ways, such as rezoning areas for development with limited biodiversity values, a stage two assessment is required in order to confirm higher biodiversity areas. This will help to identify suitable planning controls to protect and manage identified

biodiversity values.

These findings reinforce the independent Planning Panel's key recommendation that the planning scheme amendment should not proceed until further work is completed to strategically plan for biodiversity protections.

Council has been working with the Department of Transport and Planning's Regional Planning Partnerships team for funding support to deliver stage two, and has been successful in getting dollar for dollar matched funding from the Department.

Council has engaged Ranges Environmental Consultants to undertake



this second stage of the biodiversity assessment. Ranges has hit the ground running, and has been doing fieldwork across Harcourt over recent weeks.

It is expected that the assessment will take about nine months to complete to ensure that fieldwork occurs at different seasons of the year.

**For further updates and to view a copy of the stage one biodiversity assessment, please visit: <https://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Building-and-Planning/Planning-for-the-future/Strategic-planning-projects/Plan-Harcourt>**

*From a Shire Press Release*



# Katie Finlay's Fruit Growing Tips Farm Shop Open for Fruit Season



Hi everyone,

I thought I'd start this month with a bit of news about our orchard, which is called The Orchard Keepers. We're pleased to tell you that after a shocking couple of seasons, we'll be opening for pick-your-own and fruit sales this year! The farm shop will be open every Friday and Sunday from 10.00 am-4.00 pm (once the fruit season starts). We've got a great crop of apricots, and lots of plums, apples and pears.

We're also trying something new which is called PYO-CSA. This stands for 'Pick-Your-Own - Community Supported Agriculture'. It's a way of pre-buying your fruit for the season and will also give you a big discount! We're also running a new Volunteer Exchange Program called Fruit Crew. If you'd like to find out more about any of those things, please head to the website [theorchardkeepers.com.au](http://theorchardkeepers.com.au) and sign up for the newsletter.

After a couple of wet springs it's so nice to have had a 'normal' spring this year. Everyone with stone fruit trees is probably breathing a huge sigh of relief, as there's much less disease around this year than in a wet season, having said that, there has still been quite a lot of leaf curl in peaches and nectarines. If you have any leaf curl, there are three things you need to know: (1) once you've got it, you've got it this season and there's nothing you can do about it now. (2) It will miraculously disappear from your trees very soon as the weather warms up, and then your trees will look much better! (3) You need to take preventive action next winter to make sure you don't get it again next year (we'll explain what to do in a *Core* edition closer to the time).

If you have curly leaves in your plum trees it's a different problem! There are lots of aphids about this year and they're the probable culprit. If you spot a patch of aphids you can wash them off, spot spray them with an organic spray (or even just soapy water), or cut the bunch of leaves off. Also check if your tree has ants. They 'farm' the aphids and protect them from predators, so it's a good idea to exclude the ants from the tree with some sort of sticky barrier around the trunk.

## Thin your fruit trees

Now that flowering has finished, it's definitely time to start thinning your fruit.

Thinning is the process of pulling some of the tiny fruit off, and it's one of the most important jobs in spring for all deciduous fruit types except cherries (i.e. apricots, peaches, nectarines, plums, apples and pears). There's no need to thin your cherry trees. It can be a hard job to do! It feels wasteful to be throwing all that fruit on the ground, but rest assured, if you do it early (i.e. now) you won't reduce the overall size of your harvest (or not much anyway). In theory, you'll get almost the same volume of fruit, but in fewer pieces.

## Here are four excellent reasons to thin:

- 1 Most fruit trees have a natural biennial bearing cycle – a heavy crop one year, followed by a light crop the following year (sound familiar?). Thinning makes the tree react as if this is its 'off' year, so it will set another full crop next year. Once you understand that, it's obvious why you have to do it every year!
- 2 To protect the structure of your tree, and make sure no branches or laterals break from carrying too much fruit.
- 3 To grow larger fruit, because the tree's energy is put into fewer pieces of fruit (you get more delicious juicy flesh and less core).
- 4 It helps control pests and diseases by allowing the fruit to dry faster

after rain (so fungal disease has less opportunity to spread), and removing habitat for pests in the lovely dark spaces where fruit hangs in bunches.

In deciding how much fruit to remove, first assess whether the overall crop load (heavy, medium or light crop), the age of the tree, how healthy the tree is, how much water you have available, how long the growing season is, and the ultimate size of the fruit. We have charts inside the Grow Great Fruit program that help you work out exactly how much fruit to remove.

## Set up your fruit fly traps

And finally, it's also definitely time to get your fruit fly traps out. Some fruit flies will have overwintered as adults, so it's important to start monitoring early in the season so you can spot if they turn up or start to get active in your garden. Then you can be ready with your next line of defence (e.g. netting, female traps, or an organic spray).

Happy growing!

Hugh and Katie Finlay are certified organic orchardists and teach the Grow Great Fruit organic fruit-growing courses. They're also founding members of the Harcourt Organic Farming Co-op. Head to [growgreatfruit.com](http://growgreatfruit.com) to sign up for their free Weekly Fruit Tips newsletter and register for one of their free online workshops.

**Grow Great Fruit**

More than 50 Ways to Take the "Bad Luck" Out of Your Organic Fruit Growing



[growgreatfruit.com](http://growgreatfruit.com)

**FREE WEBINARS**

"5 Key Steps to Quick Success with Fruit Trees"



"Organic Pest & Disease Control for Fruit Trees"



**READY FOR NEW SKILLS?**  
50+ short courses  
Grow Great Fruit home study program



You Can Help

...

If you know someone who would like to get a copy of *The Core*, either in print or online, but is having difficulty accessing it, let us know. We can make sure they get their preferred version – we can have it put in their letterbox, or we can send a copy by email.

Let us know by sending the person's details to: [news@harcourt.vic.au](mailto:news@harcourt.vic.au)



### Drop off green waste for free

Residents and ratepayers in the shire can drop off their green waste for free at one of our transfer stations between Saturday 25 November to Monday 11 December. Bring proof of shire residence on entry.

For information on transfer station hours and locations, visit [www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au).

### Australia Day Awards open

Is there someone in your community who's made a positive impact in the lives of others? Nominate them now for a 2024 Australia Day Award.

Visit [www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/AustraliaDayAwards2024](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/AustraliaDayAwards2024) for a nomination form, or call 5471 1700 and request a form be mailed to you. Nominations close 1 December.

### Funding for community groups



A toy library, an online plant library and tools for a tradie trailer are some of the local projects funded through our latest round Council's Community Grants program. Sixteen community groups will share in almost \$50,000 to deliver their projects. To read the list of recipients, visit

[www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Grants](http://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Grants).

### Be part of the conversation

Want to have your say on Council projects and initiatives? Sign up to our online engagement platform [www.shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au](http://www.shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au). You'll find information on plans and projects, surveys, community consultations, and more.

**Working together for a healthy, connected shire** [mountalexander.vic.gov.au](http://mountalexander.vic.gov.au) (03) 5471 1700

ADVERTISEMENT

# Maree Edwards MP

STATE MEMBER FOR BENDIGO WEST

Listening Posts are postponed until further notice.  
My office is still available for assistance, please  
contact us on 5410 2444 or  
[maree.edwards@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:maree.edwards@parliament.vic.gov.au)

Address: 16 Lockwood Road (PO Box 1238), Kangaroo Flat, Vic 3555

[www.mareeedwards.com.au](http://www.mareeedwards.com.au)



## SJK EXCAVATIONS Pty Ltd

Commercial, Industrial and Domestic Earthworks



**Stuart King**  
Owner/Operator  
[sjkexcavations@yahoo.com.au](mailto:sjkexcavations@yahoo.com.au)

**Call Stuart for a free quote**  
**0407 514 797**

Equipment includes 5 ton, 8.5 ton & 14 ton excavators all with rubber tracks & tilt buckets, tipper truck & large tag trailer. Attachments for all excavators include rocker breakers, a grab (ideal for clean-ups), auger - several sizes. Posi track with laser grader blade attachment, (ideal for driveways, shed & house site cuts). We can provide all general earthworks including driveways, trenching, site cuts, land clean-ups & drainage works.

ABN: 63708909385

## Level Heading

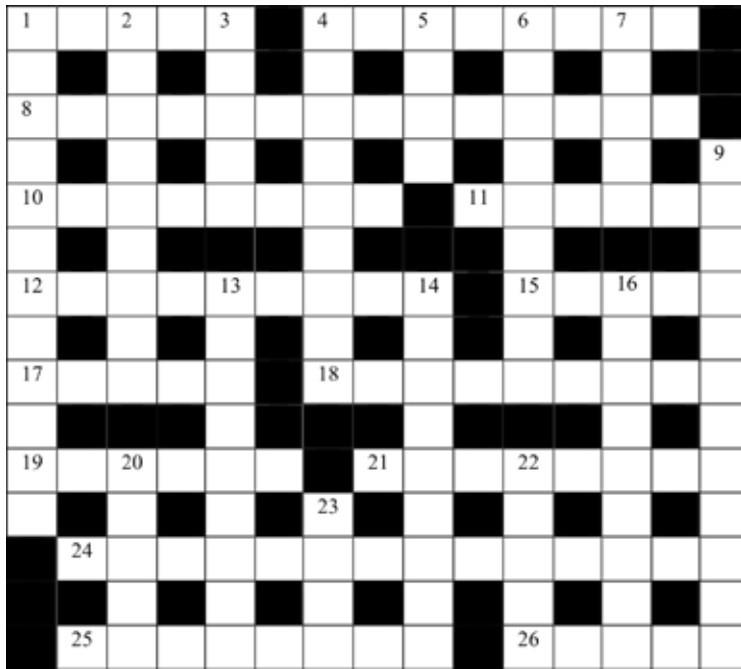
Proofreading • Copy Editing • Book Layout

*memoirs, family history, oral history  
novels, short stories, anthologies, e-books  
negotiable prices*

**Bernie Schultz**  
p: 03 5472 3952  
m: 0409 52 43 54

e: [bernsch@gmail.com](mailto:bernsch@gmail.com)  
w: [levelheading.com.au](http://levelheading.com.au)

# November 2023 Xwd © McW January '19



**Down:**

1. Stopgap mates provide the wherewithal to ride the Snail... (7,5)
2. What Rolf probably wanted before he became Jake the Peg? (5,4)
3. You say it's complete bosh? OK. Um... maybe it is... (5)
4. Dare to not provide the means to terrorise the plaza. (9)
5. Fleece castle bird? (4)
6. She's 3D-round? If you grasp her, I call that 3D-round... (9)
7. Aphrodite is the 22 name. (5)
9. Waterboarding? (12)
13. Rats! I gits pretty annoyed comin' down with this! (9)
14. Cute field provides fetid clue, but it's shifty... (9)
16. Eric works out in Essex. (9)
20. Dorothy got up, saying it is what it is! (5)
22. (See 7.)
23. William ends his sermon half-way. (4)

**Across:**

1. Black wicket? (5)
4. Amin, scoffing, gets a serve... (8)
8. Won't persevere with anything, but won't let anything—even morality or the law—get in the way? (5,2,7)
10. (See 15.)
11. He claimed he was just being playful, but #MeToo found him guilty of risky behaviour, and hiding it. (6)
12. Musk fence opening stretched out? (8)
- 15, 10. A cuter mangler of logic might beat a glum recanter, but a cruel mega-rant surely does not constitute a simple, reasoned case? (5,8)
17. Aggressive vehicles stink in past from first to last... (5)
18. Crucial point for someone: is witness about to gather facts? (9)
19. Graeme's contribution was slight... (6)
21. I covered for the bloke who ditched the missus! (8)
24. Backside of underwater trench? (6,2,3,3)
25. When Gandhi lapsed it was public, but when Ron had a lapse it was private... (8)
26. Neglected by O2? (5)

# October 2023 Xwd Solution © McW January '19



**Down:**

1. Participate, but *not* by going *out* to sign up...
2. [**Chevy**]Chase Auckland nag?
3. [**Grills porn**] for hand-held oral indulgence...
4. Clouds take any *number* from hippie heaven [= **Nimbin**].
5. Illumination for ten? [**Well?**]
6. Bovine [**learner hoodie**]—or a hundred [**C**] on learned bird? (4)
7. [**I dabbled**] in the subject, so **did** this for the talk... (2-6)
8. The [**lads stay**] with Plato, who [**sat sadly**] during Socrates' endgame.
13. What hi-vis does? [**Well?**]
15. Those [**ruffs Eric**]wears are a bit more down-at-heel these days.
16. Defrost [**fridge to**] eliminate unwanted.
17. Racy novel by 5,1? [**Well?**]
19. Fabric about [**Ca**] these points [**loci**], roughly.
20. Drowsily [**peels**]back the bedclothes—quite **drowsy**, really...
23. **Instruct** steak for every one.
24. *One quieting sound* [**I 'sh'...**] **off** whirler [**Dervish**] for diesel oil. [**Diesel Engined Road Vehicle**]

**Across:**

1. (See 5)
- 5,1. Identity known for 10, with possible help from **5dn**... [**Well?**]
9. [**I**] remake Asian grain[=**rice**] much colder.
10. Buzz [**Aldrin?**] about 5,1 fame?
11. The **unstoppable** puts [**Clive in bin**]...
12. Short [...**for Obadiah**] minor **prophet** with **n0** evil in him.
14. **Iron** artless **journos** in Canberra?
18. Taking an [**'elixir oath**] the right way might lead to a **huge rise in spirits**.
21. Headless bear [**bruin**] is a wreck.
22. 5,1's position in Berlin? [**Well?**]
25. The [**vital code**] of the [**act I loved**] is the **sweetest way to live**...
26. Ipress five [= **Michael**]?
27. [**Fever**, or] eternity?
28. Her tale makes **it** a contested site these days... [**Well?**]

**Harcourt News/The Core  
is published monthly by the  
Harcourt Progress Association Inc**  
(ABN: 22 887 254 268)

For inclusion in *Harcourt News/The Core* contact the Editor Robyn Miller on [news@harcourt.vic.au](mailto:news@harcourt.vic.au) or 0467 670 271. Contributions of news items, articles, photos, stories, poems and letters are welcome, as are advertisements which help to cover production costs.

For placement of advertising please contact *The Core* via email at: [advertising@harcourt.vic.au](mailto:advertising@harcourt.vic.au)

Circulation is 400 hard copies which can be obtained at the Harcourt Service Station, Harcourt Post Office, Harcourt Produce Store, The Little Red Apple, and various outlets in Castlemaine.

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](http://harcourtprogress.org.au/news/sub) The Core is also available at the Harcourt Community website at: [harcourt.vic.au/news](http://harcourt.vic.au/news)

**The views or remarks expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editor, nor of the Committee of the Harcourt Progress Association. No endorsement of service is implied by the listing of advertisers, sponsors or contributors.**

**Harcourt News/The Core is a member of the CNAV, the Community Newspaper Association of Victoria.**

Advertising rates			
Business Card Size (55x90mm)		Larger ads	
pre-paid for:		invoiced monthly	
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**

**Thursday November 9:** 6.30 pm Harcourt Valley Landcare Meeting at Heritage Centre, High Street.

**Friday November 10:** Last day to have a say on Harcourt's Flood Study see page 15.

**Saturday November 11:** 11 am Remembrance Day Service at the Cenotaph.

**Sunday November 12:** 2.30 pm Concert at Uniting Church for details see page 2.

**Monday November 13:** 7.00 pm Fire Safety Essentials at Harcourt CFA Fire Station, High Street, Harcourt.

**Thursday November 16:** 6.30 pm dinner, followed by discussion at Victorian Miniature Railway clubrooms.

**Carpet Bowls:** 7 pm Wednesdays, Carpet Bowls, summer and winter, Leisure Centre, Bingham Road, Harcourt. Summer season commences Wednesday November 8.

**CFA:** Brigade meeting night is the third Monday of each month starting at 8.00 pm; Sunday morning equipment checks and maintenance runs starts at 9.00 am; siren is tested at 9.15 am. Contact: Captain Andrew Wilson for further details 0428 387 339. CFA is located in Bridge Street, Harcourt.

**CWA:** First Thursday of the month, 1.30 pm at Harcourt Leisure Centre, Bingham Road, Harcourt.

*Note new time*

**Grace Church:** Tuesdays at 10.30 am: Morning tea and prayers; Sunday Service at 11.00 am; 30 Buckley Street, Harcourt. Tuesday evenings at 7.30 pm: Zoom Bible Study: A Christian discipleship course covering the basics of the faith. All welcome, you can commence at any time. Please contact the Pastor for a link:

[pastor@gracecastlemaine.org.au](mailto:pastor@gracecastlemaine.org.au)

**Harcourt Bowls Club:** See page 17

**Harcourt Lions Club:** Third Thursday of the month at the Victorian Miniature Railway, Harmony Way at 6.30 pm for dinner (something to share) followed at 7.30 by general planning and discussion.

**Heritage Centre:** Every Wednesday at the ANA Hall from 9.00 am-3.00 pm or by appointment: 0400 916 527.

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

**Uniting Church:** Sundays at 9.00 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 9.00-10.00 am or contact, Jan 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, and new members are always welcome.

*Gather*  
Harcourt  
**SUMMMER**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**December 30, 4pm–9pm  
James Park, Harcourt**

**Street Food      Market Stalls  
Drinks              Live Music  
Children's Entertainment**

