

HARCOURT NEWS THE CORE



Edition 115 – May 2024

Produced by:
Harcourt Progress Association Inc

Online: harcourtprogress.org.au/news
harcourt.vic.au/news

ANZAC Day 2024 Lest we forget



Around 90 people gathered in James Park on Sunday 25 April and marched behind the Castlemaine Pipe Band to Stanley Park South to commemorate ANZAC Day.



THE STANLEY PARK CENOTAPH commemorates 44 Harcourt citizens who served in defence of the British Empire in the Great War of 1914-1918.

The memorial gates next to the cenotaph were built to commemorate the 106 men and women who stepped forward to defend Australia when hostile

action broke out, once again, in the Second World War of 1939-1945. Most of them lived on orchards or worked in fruit related activities. They knew the life cycle of the fruit tree from bud burst to picking time. They knew how to grow good fruit, knew when to spray for Codling Moth, for woolly aphid and for black spot. When the weather was dry and the fruit trees

were thirsty, they knew they had to send water down the furrows alongside the tree. Harcourt folk knew when something disastrous threatened, and they knew how to act.

The news that Japan had entered the war brought a swift response from our

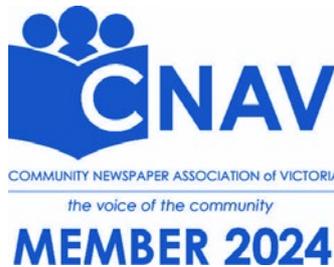
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DEADLINES & PUBLICATION DATES

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.**



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.

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National 20-26 MAY 2024 Volunteer Something for Everyone Week

Volunteering: something for everyone

If you are retired, a job seeker or simply someone with spare time, there is good news. The Harcourt Valley Community House has many volunteer opportunities on offer. We have outdoor jobs for those interested in garden maintenance or setting up a community kitchen garden for experienced gardeners, administrative work (including helping with *The Core*) for those who want to keep up or hone their computer and office support skills, grant writing opportunities and staffing the HVCH Community Pantry to name but a few roles. The opportunities are expanding by the week!

We are a friendly organisation of volunteers who will value your involvement. You will have a job description, be covered by insurance, never be asked to undertake unsafe or unhealthy jobs, and we usually have tea, coffee and the occasional chocolate biscuit on hand.

So, if you are interested in helping the Harcourt Valley Community House reach its potential, use your skills, learn new skills, meet your mutual obligation or find an outlet for your creative side, come and join us. Email Paul on paul.mizzi@harcourtprogress.org.au for further information.

PLEASE NOTE: if you wish to fulfil your mutual obligation through volunteering, the Harcourt Valley Community House is registered with Services Australia (Organisation ID: 42751) which means you can volunteer close to home for a great organisation that could do with your help.

**KEEP CALM
AND
VOLUNTEER
Harcourt
NEEDS
YOU**

THE CORE



HPA Update

This month we have been busy planning for our Annual General Meeting (see notice), writing reports to government, and fitting out the kitchen at the railway station with a new stove and rangehood, microwave, and fridge. We desperately need some good condition secondhand cupboards and bench tops to complete the fit out. If anyone is renovating and wants cupboards taken off their hands please let us know.

The community house hosted a very successful Songwriters' Circle on Sunday 14 April, and is getting closer to having a fence to make the area finally safe for public events. As we are nearing the end of the financial year, we wish to acknowledge the invaluable and much appreciated support we have had from Community Bank Maldon and District, the Victorian Department of Family, Fairness and Housing, Maree Edwards, the Mount Alexander Shire Council, the Country Women's Association and VicTrack without whose support we would have no community house. And as we near National Volunteer Week, we also thank all the volunteers who have helped with the community house, cleaned up its gardens, made donations and attended committee meetings.

Above all, we sincerely thank the volunteer contributors, proofreaders, roving reporters, designers, printers, folders and deliverers who, month after month, make *The Core* a fantastic community newspaper. Thank you too to the advertisers, gold coin donors and the readers who keep the paper alive.

Sha Cordingley
HPA President

THE CORE Invitation

Have you ever wondered how *The Core* is produced, who does what, and why? Have you got proofreading, photography, writing, or admin skills that you would like to put to good use? Then join us at our monthly editorial meeting at the Harcourt Valley Community House for a national volunteer week morning tea and find out what we do and how you can be involved.

We are celebrating National Volunteer Week (20-26 May) in the best way possible with a diverse group of people who are the living proof that volunteering provides: **Something for Everyone.**

Morning tea

11 am 24 May 2024

Harcourt Valley Community House

23 Station Street Harcourt

(Old Harcourt Railway Station)

RSVP news@harcourt.vic.au by 20 May



You are cordially invited to the Harcourt Progress Association Annual General Meeting 2022/23

Venue: Harcourt Valley Community House
23 Station Street, Harcourt
(the old railway station building).

Date: 30 May 2024

Time: 7:00 pm

Light refreshments served.



Gather Harcourt Winter

Gather Harcourt Winter is rapidly approaching. This event takes place on Saturday 29 June 2024 between 10 am and 2 pm. As with other Gathers it will be mainly held in James Park, but we are hoping to have some vendors along High Street as well, to link James Park with Stanley Park South (opposite the BP service station). This gives us the opportunity of using flatter ground and introducing new start-up businesses to Harcourt.

Gather Harcourt Winter is a free event and is all about food, drink, and live music. With quality local produce and craft, it promises to be both a great social event and a gateway to the local producers and makers of the region. If you are a potential vendor please email market.gatherharcourtvic@gmail.com for an application form. The deadline for applications is 15 June 2024.

ANZAC Day 2024

Continued from page 1.

people. Of the 106 names on the memorial gate the majority enlisted in the months after Japan entered the war and made stunning advances down the Malay peninsula.

Today we honour all who left familiar scenes, all who suffered the loss of a loved one. We honour those who returned with injuries, or illnesses that they could not shake off, tortured by what they had seen, subject to bouts of jungle diseases. We honour those who endured years of imprisonment and malnutrition as POW's and those who did not return. We honour them all. We know what happened to the men and women serving in the two wars and in the later conflicts for others. On this day of solemn commemoration, we salute the memory of those of our own communities and families who served in uniform.

George Milford

On this day we pay tribute of proud and grateful remembrance to those of our armed forces who died that we might live. We remember too those comrades who have passed on since, many whose lives were shortened by their war service.

Let us never forget that we honour their memory best not by ceremonial rites but by promoting the rule of justice, of understanding, of goodwill – in short integrity and sanity. Today we lay wreaths and poppies in proud and abiding remembrance. On April 25 each year we remember them all.



Harcourt Lions Club

Late last year, the Harcourt Lions Club sponsored an exchange student from Germany. She spent some time with Harcourt Lions Club members Katrina and Grant Victor-Gordon, who showed her various places around Victoria and introduced her to the Australian way of life.

At our April meeting, the Club was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by Gerry Monahan (Youth Exchange and Camps). After a shared meal, Gerry gave a very interesting talk on the Exchange Program and thanked the Lions Club of Harcourt for, “being a Host Club to an exchange youth, sharing in each other’s culture through conversations and cultural activities while showing them what Lions International is all about.”



Harcourt Lions Club meets at VMR on the third Thursday of each month at 6.30pm for a shared meal followed by a general discussion to organize our next event.

Repair Café

THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH FROM 10AM TO 1PM

Castlemaine Community House
30 Templeton St
(enter via back door/garden)

For Information phone Chris 5470 5508

First in first served, so be prepared to wait.

WE WILL TRY TO REPAIR ALMOST ANYTHING
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TOYS - BICYCLES - etc

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Castlemaine Repair Cafe



castlemainerepaircafe.wordpress.com



Draft Stage 2 Biodiversity Report received for proposed Township Development Areas in Harcourt

What follows is a press release from Council about the Biodiversity Study which has taken place in Harcourt. This study took place in response to a pushback from Harcourt Valley Landcare at Planning Panels Victoria when development was proposed in areas which Landcare believed were either bio-diverse or had potential if protected. There were two stages to the report: the first stage involved a “desktop review” of existing biodiversity studies completed over the years in Harcourt for various other projects, as well as visiting a small number of sites for a broad overview of biodiversity potential. The second stage

included detailed assessment of selected areas identified as having potential biodiversity. This has been done over a number of months in order to include seasonal variations, particularly in areas of seasonal drainage causing intermittent flourishing of species.

Council has sent submitters the information in detail, with maps outlining a suggested new town boundary, a detailed assessment of biodiversity assets and areas to be protected where proposed development should be modified or where it should not occur. It has also given the go ahead in certain areas where biodiversity values

were deemed low. Feedback is available via www.shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au from Friday 10 May and submissions can be made up to Monday 10 June.

Landcare President Terry Willis said, ‘We welcome the report and are pleased to see some recommendations that could help to protect our precious native species, if they’re taken on board by Council. I encourage people to have a look at the document and to remind Council that this community cares about nature. Now is the time for Harcourt people to have their voices heard.’



Mount Alexander Shire Council

Mount Alexander Shire Council is taking steps to increase the protection of flora and fauna in Harcourt.

Council recently undertook field work in and around the township which identified high biodiversity values.

To help ensure that those values are protected now, and into the future, Council is planning new planning controls.

These planning controls will result in a change to the Mount Alexander Planning Scheme, referred to as Amendment c94malx.

The proposed changes to the planning scheme will:

- Protect plant and animal species identified as significant and identifying ‘habitat corridors’, along roadside and waterways in Harcourt.

Council commits to protect biodiversity in Harcourt

- Correctly applying the necessary provisions, including the Environmental Significance Overlay and Vegetation Protection Overlay on land in the Harcourt township.
- Rezone land to Rural Conservation to protect larger areas of significance.
- Revise the township boundary to account for the findings in the Strategic Biodiversity Assessment.

These updates apply to public and private land in Harcourt, ensuring the preservation of high biodiversity values and preventing significant disturbance to specific areas.

If land is identified as being in an area of the draft planning controls, the landowner may be required to seek a planning permit before undertaking works on the biodiversity assets identified.

Council estimates that there are up to a few dozen private properties that will be potentially impacted.

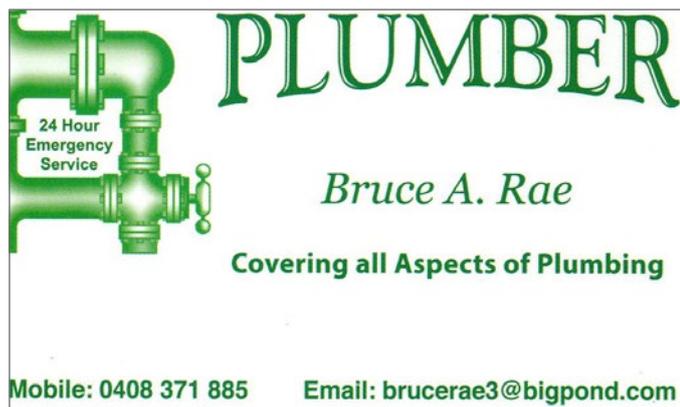
Community members can find out more about what’s being proposed by visiting www.shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au from Friday 10 May.

Community members can make a submission in support of or against the proposed changes before Monday 10 June. Submissions can be made via the Shape page or can be sent to:

- strategicplanning@mountalexander.vic.gov.au
- Strategic Planning Mount Alexander Shire Council (attention: Strategic Planning), PO Box 185, Castlemaine VIC 3450.

For more information about the planning scheme amendment process, visit the ‘Planning Scheme and Amendments’ section of Council’s website at www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au

From a Press Release



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Harcourt Uniting Church

Despite the current world problems, we have much to be thankful for within our Harcourt area.

Recently, Harcourt Uniting Church celebrated our Harvest Thanksgiving service with a table laden with a great variety of food. Although our summer garden crops have finished, there were bags of Chaplin apples, a box of fresh vegetables, a jug of water and a loaf of fresh bread as well as many packaged foods. After the service, the food was donated to St Vinnies in Castlemaine to be given to those struggling in today's economic climate.

Happy 90th birthday to Grace Jenkin, one of our church members, who celebrated her special milestone with a party at the Harcourt Leisure Centre.

Kate Nannestad, another member of our Harcourt Uniting Church, is a well-known, award winning children's author. At our recent concert, More Stories in Words and Music, Kate read excerpts from some of her books, which captured her gift of writing for children. I suggest you type her name into your search engine to learn more.

George Milford then related the story of the Burke and Wills monument which was carved from Harcourt granite on Mount Alexander and transported to Melbourne after an arduous trip. At the Heritage Centre there is a large photo of the bullocks pulling the granite section of the monument up Collins Street Melbourne – there were no sealed streets in those days!

Sue Proeve sang some beautiful songs by Purcell, Bononcini, and Handel, reaching some very high notes.

Terry White then had us in fits of laughter relating stories of his brothers showing silent movies in the 'White House' backyard in the late '50s. A halfpenny to watch the reel either forwards or backwards just for a bit of fun.

Afternoon tea was then enjoyed by all with thanks going to Solway Nutting for organising this wonderful concert. She promises another one later in the year.

Harcourt Uniting Church welcomes everyone to join us any Sunday at 9am followed by morning tea and time for a chat.

Knowing how her husband had a habit of sampling everything she baked, the wife left a note on a dozen mince tarts reading: "Counted - 1 dozen" When she returned, two tarts were missing, and the note had been altered to read: "Think metric!"

Jan Jenkin



Harvest Thanksgiving service



After the concert.

Groups GP's Links
Services Health
 Activities Support **Get Connected**
 Improvement **Wellbeing**
 Community Social connection
 Social isolation **Live well** Social prescribing
 Loneliness Remedy Volunteering
 Mental health Mount Alexander Shire

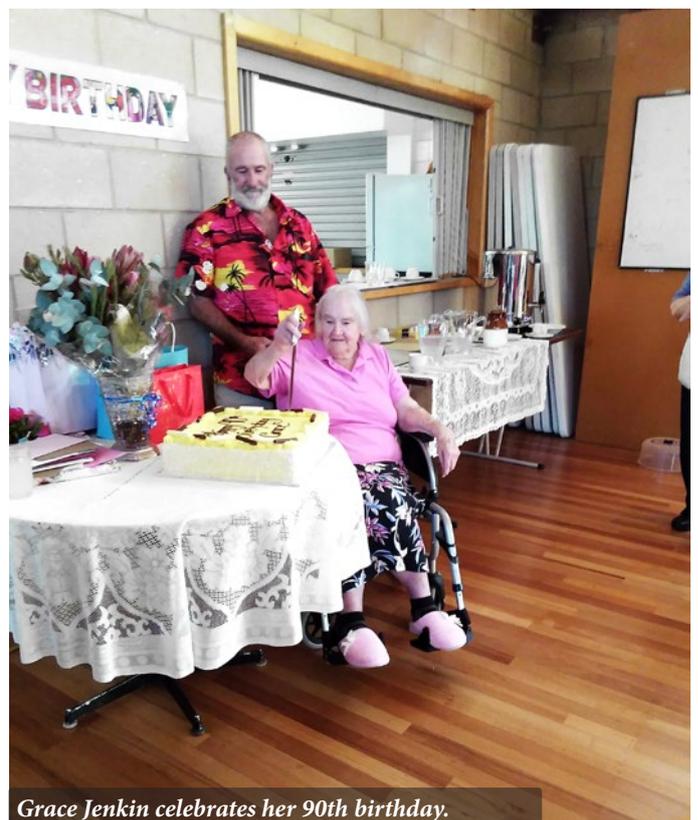
Get Connected Mount Alexander

Get Connected is a free service to residents of Mount Alexander who are over 25 years and would like support to find and access community activities.

For more information and how to go about getting some support to connect with your community and your passions go to:

cch.org.au/getconnected

Supported by Goldfields Medical Group; Community Wellbeing Unit, Mount Alexander Shire; Castlemaine Library; Dhelkaya Health Counsellors and Dhelkaya Health and Family Services Team.



Grace Jenkin celebrates her 90th birthday.

Just Say NO!

Granted: Exploration Licence Application EL007218 – Cygnet Resources Pty Ltd

Cygnet Resources Pty Ltd announced its decision to search for gold in and around Harcourt in 2020. Harcourt Valley Landcare, Harcourt Progress Association and individuals in the community sent in objection letters which were acknowledged. Nothing more was heard until the end of April 2024 when objectors received a letter from Stephen Adamthwaite, Director Statutory Authorisations, Earth Resources Regulator, saying the application has been approved.

In 2020 Landcare protested on a number of grounds including:

- loss of amenity caused by exploration or resulting mining,
- long-term impact on the environment, biodiversity and water-quality,
- inconsistency with Harcourt’s plan for sustainable growth,
- impact on tourism,
- lack of community consultation, inadequate information and

advertising

- and lack of transparency about the mining company.

The licence area now excises the Harcourt township and no future minerals licence applications can be made in that area.

The licensee intends to explore for gold using the following types of exploration activities:

- Desktop analyses of available geological mapping and other data;
- Field surveys to collect soil/rock/groundwater samples using hand tools;
- Field surveys to collect new data on rock formations using non-intrusive equipment; and
- Low impact exploration field surveys to collect rock samples using authorised drilling equipment.

The exploration licence does not confer any right to commence mining activities.

If you are approached you can say, ‘No’

There is a long list of licence conditions

including that the company must obtain consent from the owner or occupier of land to enter their land, or enter into a compensation agreement with the owner or occupier of land for any loss or damage.

If an agreement is not reached, the land owner or the licensee can lodge a dispute with the Mining Warden for mediation between the parties or apply to the Victorian Civil Administration Tribunal (VCAT) for a hearing and decision on the matter.

Having done some research, Landcare has been told that if a landholder does not consent, it is unlikely that the matter will be pressed. It appears that it is 20 years since a holder of a mineral licence took a landholder to court.

Further information can be found at:

resources.vic.gov.au/about-us/victorian-mining-warden

www.vcat.vic.gov.au

You are welcome to contact our Licensing team at licensing.err@deeca.vic.gov.au if you would like more information. Alternatively, further information is available on our website at: resources.vic.gov.au

The full text of the letter will be included on the Landcare and HPA websites.

The original map with the initial proposed exploration area. The poor quality of the map is as it was received.

Government subsidy breaks 15-year treatment drought for early breast cancer

Australians with an invasive form of early breast cancer that is at high risk of returning after initial treatment will have affordable access to the first additional type of medicine for their condition in more than 15 years

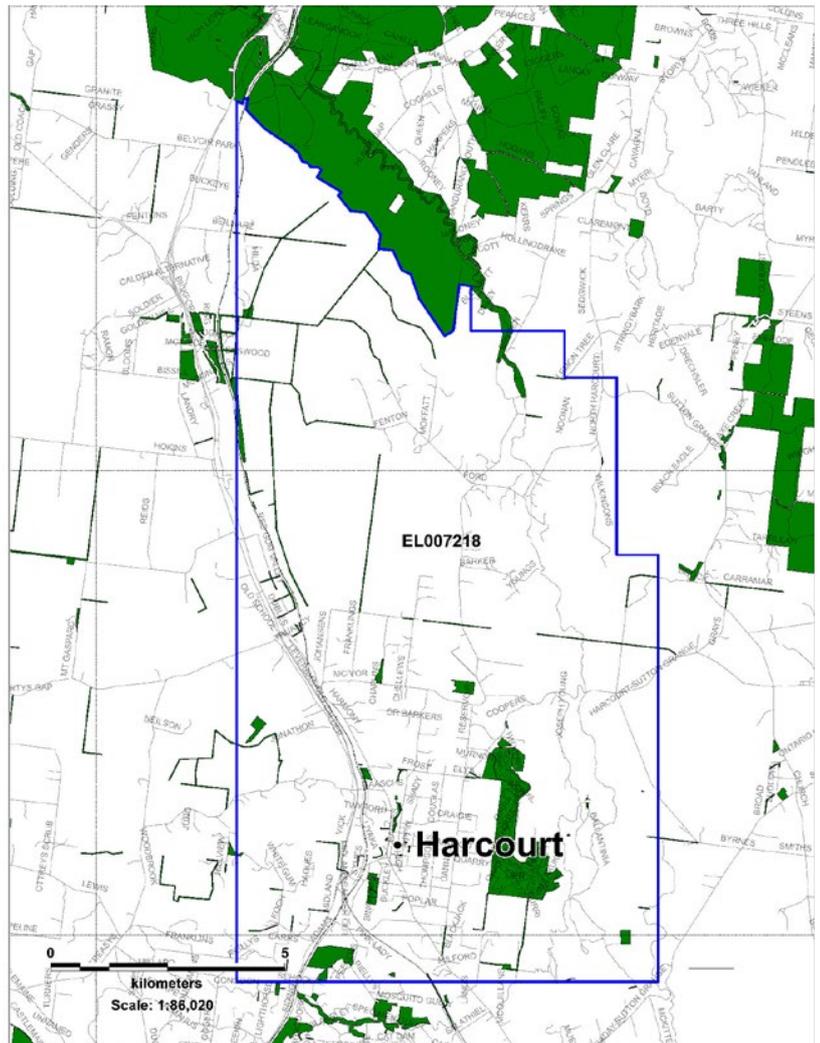
From 1 May 2024, VERZENIO™ (abemaciclib) will be made available through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for approximately 1,8003 Australians with hormone receptor positive (HR+), human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 negative (HER2-), at high risk of recurrence after early breast cancer.

Currently, these patients face a one-in-three chance of their cancer coming back despite surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy and ongoing hormone therapy.

“Nobody wants their cancer to return. Unfortunately, for around a third of all patients with early breast cancer, it will come back,” said Professor Fran Boyle AM, Medical Oncologist at Mater Hospital North Sydney (and an investigator in VERZENIO clinical trials).

Eligible patients will pay just \$7.70 (concession) or \$31.60 (general patients) each month for VERZENIO.10 Without the subsidy, the medicine would cost more than \$100,000 for the two-year course of treatment, after which time the treatment is ceased.

From a press release by Eli Lilly Australia





Harcourt CFA

Summer is over

The first frost has descended on the Harcourt Valley indicating the change of seasons. Fire restrictions ended in the Shire of Mount Alexander, Greater City of Bendigo and many other shires around us on Monday 15 April. Forest Fire Management Victoria has been doing controlled autumn fuel reduction burns at Muckleford, Taradale and the Glenluce / Irish Town areas. These burns are part of an overall ongoing strategic plan to reduce the impact of fire in these areas. Up to four years of planning can go into these burns and sometimes they have to be delayed if weather conditions are not right for the burn. The same applies to private burns. These should not be conducted ad hoc. It is important that not only do you prepare and plan for a private burn as well as register the burn prior to commencing, but also check the weather forecast for changes, especially in regard to predicted wind changes that could occur after lighting up.

In April the brigade attended two fires that were the result of a burn-off getting out of control. The first was to support the Sedgwick brigade and the second was at Faraday where a burn pile in a paddock had spread to the roadside vegetation. While the brigade was in attendance dealing with the road side fire, an ember from the initial burn set fire to a second fire on the other side of the road. This is why all burn-offs should be fully monitored for the duration of the burn.

There were eight turnouts for the brigade for the month of April of which four were primary incidents for our brigade. As well as the two already mentioned, there were two motor vehicle accidents. One with a petrol leak and one reported with smoke issuing from the vehicle which, once again, turned out to be steam instead of smoke. There was an attendance to a campfire (false alarm), a tent fire, and another fire which was a permit burn. The last one for the month was to a smoke alarm operating. While there was no fire, it appeared that the location of the newer and more sensitive smoke alarm was set off due to its close

proximity to the ducted heating vent on the ceiling. Positioning of smoke alarms is an important part of any installation. Please refer to the manufacturer's recommendations in the instructions for installation provided with the product.

Annual Reporting

April is the month for the AGM for our brigade. In this year's captain's report, the statistics for the previous twelve months show that the brigade had 50 turnouts, which was one less than the preceding period. This now seems to be the new lower average for our brigade which transfers to around one per week. The breakdown shows that there were 23 primary and 27 support calls. In the breakdown of primary calls, the greatest category with eleven was MVA's (Motor Vehicle Accidents). This also included five grass and scrub fires, four false alarms and one structure (shed) fire. It is worth noting that the majority of vehicle accidents occurred on or around the Calder Freeway. While the actual breakdown of reasoning for this statistic may require an in depth study analysis, the sheer volume of traffic on the freeway must be a contributing factor, as well as the number of incidents involving kangaroos. Hopefully, we will see a decrease in these types of incidents in the future.

Product recalls involving potential fire

There continues to be product recalls based around the potential risk of fire due to product design or failure. Recent recalls include:

- 1. The Hyundai Kona (SX2) 2023** which is due to a manufacturing defect. The bracket retaining the engine control unit could interfere with the vehicle's wiring in the event of a collision, causing a short circuit resulting in a vehicle fire.
- 2. BIG W – Contempo Handstick Vacuum.** Components on the circuit board may overheat and catch fire if the vacuum short circuits because an incorrect charger is used. There is a

risk of serious injury and property damage from fire.

3. Cygnett MagMove 5K Power Bank.

The power bank may overheat and catch fire. There is a risk of serious burn injury and/or property damage if the battery overheats and catches fire.

As can be seen from these three examples, fire can start anywhere and at any time for a variety of reasons. Being aware of these risks is an important first step in the prevention of fires starting. This is why it is important to ensure all electrical appliances and equipment is in good working order, electrical cords are not damaged and rechargeable batteries or alternative power sources are not damaged, leaking or bulging. The incidents involving lithium-ion rechargeable batteries continue to be an area of concern for all firefighting agencies throughout Australia. Don't risk it! 'If in doubt, throw it out' was a theme used in the past, but also the way we dispose of these items can lead to a fire starting. Garbage trucks also catch fire from batteries that have been put into rubbish bins instead of being disposed of through recycling collection programs.

Stay safe and stay warm as we move into the colder months, and ensure that chimneys, flues, clothes dryer, ducted heating and reverse cycle air conditioner filters are all clean and in good condition.

Tyrone Rice
Brigade Community Safety
Coordinator



Councillor Comment



Hi all,

I hope this finds you well. A busy time here working outside and enjoying the weather.

It was great to see so many of you at the Harcourt ANZAC day ceremonies. They are wonderful events, and it is important to reflect for a moment on those that have served our nation so we can enjoy our quality of life.

Our April Council meeting drew a big crowd in the gallery. Most were there to voice concerns about the extension of the speed limit to the east of Chewton. Although it is not a road that most of us frequent, I imagine it would be annoying if you travel that route frequently. Let's face it, if you had to choose between travelling via Chewton or Harcourt it would be Harcourt every time.

At the meeting, council approved the new church in Blakely Road for the Brethren community. From a council perspective it is important to note that it was a planning decision and not about which faith or religion. The other point about churches is we need to support our local church if we want them to continue to survive.

On the home front, I am sowing a wheat crop at present. I have not grown wheat before so it will be interesting to see if I get a decent crop. Costs are going through the roof for our farmers, so the economics probably don't add up. Its back to the tractor for me. Nice work if you can get it!!

Best regards to all.

Tony

AG Cordy
0439 742 434



Live at The Camp is a music festival to be held at Camp Reserve, Castlemaine on Saturday 25 May 2024 with gates opening approximately 4pm and music running until late.

Run by the Castlemaine Football Netball Club, Live at The Camp is a festival to commemorate the 2023 passing of Under 18 footballer Dallas Keogh-Frankling.

Dallas passed away following an on-field injury sustained during an Aussie Rules football match for his home club Castlemaine against Kyneton Football Netball Club. This tragedy sent shockwaves through the local sporting community, including Dal's beloved Harcourt Cricket Club, the Castlemaine Secondary College, and wider town.

Live at The Camp will take place on the one-year anniversary since the loss of Dal, and is an opportunity to come together as a community and remember him.

The line-up is co-headlined by Castlemaine local and 2018 Triple J Unearthed winner

KIAN, and Gold Coast pop-rock-soul artist Logan. Fresh from Idyll the Castlemaine Idyll Band will also feature, as will 2023 Castlemaine Battle of the Bands winners Fryer, a punk-rock outfit with personal connections to Dal. The line-up is completed by music producers Tentendo and YAOB who will have you on your feet all night long.

CFNC hopes that Live at The Camp creates a legacy for Dallas and his family, and an ongoing opportunity for the community to come together joyfully. Profits from the event will go toward building Live at The Camp for future years, whilst profits from merchandise sales will be provided to Dal's family and go toward a cause of their choice in his name.

More information about this event, including tickets for sale, can be found at www.liveatthecamp.com.au

*Kind Regards,
Live at The Camp team*



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Chatting with Harcourt CWA

I went for a walk in the Oak Forest last week. The leaves are just beginning to turn and I thought how lucky we are to have this treasure of a place to explore and enjoy throughout the seasons. I

think that my favourite season is Autumn; summers seem to be lasting longer now, my tolerance for the heat is decreasing and then suddenly the deciduous trees start changing colour and the nights grow cold. It is time to think about soup.

I made this soup last week and it really was extremely good. Don't be put off by all of the ingredients; everyone plays its role to perfection.

Lentil, Bacon & Vegetable Soup

- 1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- Middle Streaky Bacon rashers, trimmed, finely chopped
- 1 brown onion, finely chopped
- 4 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 1 tbsp finely chopped fresh rosemary
- 250g butternut pumpkin, peeled, cut into 1.5cm pieces
- 1 large carrot, cut into 1.5cm pieces
- 300g Desiree potatoes, peeled, cut into 1.5cm pieces
- 1 celery stalk, cut into 1.5cm pieces
- 3/4 cup dried red lentils, rinsed, drained
- 1.5 litres Massel salt reduced chicken style liquid stock
- 3 sprigs fresh thyme
- 400g can brown lentils, drained, rinsed
- 400g can borlotti beans, drained, rinsed
- 75g chopped kale and spinach mix
- 2 tbsp lemon juice
- Shaved parmesan, to serve

Step 1

Heat 1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add Middle Streaky Bacon rashers, 1 brown onion, 4 garlic cloves and 1 tbsp rosemary. Cook, stirring, for 5 minutes or until onion softens.

Step 2

Add 250g butternut pumpkin, 1 large carrot, 300g Desiree potatoes, 1 celery stalk and 3/4 cup dried red lentils. Stir to coat. Add 1.5 litres Massel stock and 3 sprigs fresh thyme. Bring to the boil. Reduce heat to medium low. Simmer, uncovered, for 25 minutes or until red lentils are tender and beginning to break down. Add 400g can brown lentils and 400g can borlotti beans. Cook for 5 minutes or until beans are heated through. Discard thyme.



Step 3

Stir 75g chopped kale and spinach mix and 2 tbsp lemon juice into soup. Cook for 5 minutes or until kale just wilts.

Step 4

Sprinkle soup with shaved parmesan cheese to suit. Serve with toasted bread.

I hope that you enjoy this soup as much as we did.

We meet on the first Thursday of the month at the Harcourt Leisure Centre at 1.30 PM and on the third Thursday of the month for Craft and a Natter. Do pop in and say hello.

Lyn Rule

Harcourt CWA Publicity Officer

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Labor

25 Years of Service: Heather Braid

A description of twenty-five years in the Australian Army could simply be a list of appointments and places, but for Heather Braid those years were full of meaningful service to her country. Heather was one of those highly trained individuals who worked in the background, and on whom those in the field rely in times of emergency or conflict.

Heather's awards include a Service Medal for 25 years, the National Medal, and in 1996 she received an Australia Day Medallion recognising her '... outstanding achievements in the development and maintenance of Defence information systems over several years ... displaying a high level of technical expertise ... which contributed to the success of a number of projects ...'

Heather retired in 1996 as Warrant Officer Class Two. As a Private, her first appointment after joining in June 1971 was as a driver in Sydney, driving vehicles, including Land Rovers, trucks and buses. Having spent her growing-up years in country Tasmania, she left the bush for New South Wales at the time of the Vietnam War. This was a time of growing recruitment for women as many replaced men who were sent on active service.

She said of her time in the army, 'I worked in many places from Sydney to Puckapunyal to Kapooka (Wagga Wagga), Townsville and Melbourne. As I moved up the ranks in the Corps of Transport, I was in charge of soldiers, plus the allocation and maintenance of many types of vehicles. One of my postings was for two years at the School of Mechanical Engineers in Sydney. During that posting I was involved in the coordination of equipment at the site of the Granville train disaster in 1977.

'On my last posting I was sent from Townsville to HQ Logistic Command in Melbourne. This happened at the time of my promotion to Warrant Officer Class Two, as a Transport Inspector. This role gave me the opportunity to travel all around Australia checking and auditing the documentation for our military vehicles. My role broadened when I moved into computers and I developed my skills in computer analysis and programming. I helped create a computer system for tracking all cargo on tri-service

vehicles. I then became a computer installer and trainer, which included maintaining a hotline. I found myself once again travelling all around Australia and went anywhere there was a base that used our system, except Tasmania. This was a very challenging and rewarding job.

'I retired to Muckleford in 1996, and happily moved into Harcourt with my partner in 2017. I have played bowls at the Harcourt Bowls Club since 2006. I enjoy living in Harcourt because I love the community, lawn and carpet bowls. Also, in my retirement, I am enjoying travelling.'



Jazz in the Vines

Dozens of Harcourt residents enjoyed a delightful afternoon at Harcourt Valley Vineyard on 28 April. For several hours patrons appreciated the good company, sublime weather, and a delightful afternoon of listening. Pip Avent's Mouldy Jazz, which everyone agreed provided just the right mix of swing, ragtime, blues and a little touch of ooh la la, was the perfect accompaniment with which to enjoy the wonderful backdrop of Harcourt's landscape. What a fabulous place we live in.



This is the final of the award recipients in the 2023 *The Core Writing Award*. Jorja's writing was highly commended.

I felt the fire licking my skin as if I was a lollipop. And My Mum telling me, "No THE FIRE PEOPLE ARE COMING. THEY CAN DO MUCH MORE THAN A 12-YEAR-OLD CAN!"

CHAPTER 1

"Happy birthday, Betty!" my family said as I blew out the candles on the pancake my Mum and Dad made me for breakfast in the shape of a 5. They had their own pancakes and they sat down with me. "So Betty, what do you want to do today?" Mum asked with a grin on her face. Without hesitation I said, "I want to go to the Animal shelter."

The animal shelter is different than what you're probably thinking, it is a happy place. In our town, Bushla, you can't get a fence because of the very limited supply of resources. So in the animal shelter it's like you have lots of dogs and cats that you share with everyone. Everyone loved and cared for the animals. The animals are ALWAYS Really bright and bubbly. Shhh! Don't tell the others, but my favourite is a silly, goofy one, goofier than the goofy hyena on the Lion King. Her Name is Lexi. I felt bad for her. She was always in the corner. That was until she saw me. She ran out and her face lit up, like she was a lightbulb. I love her to the moon and back 22 billion times.

I screamed at the top of my lungs, "WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? I AM READY TO GO!"

I jumped in the car. The car ride felt like four hours, even though it was only ten minutes. We saw all the animals and they had a surprise birthday party planned and all my friends from kinder were there. That then became an annual thing.

I already knew that they were having a surprise party, but that was until this year, my 12th birthday, I fell sick with the flu. After that, my parents then got promoted with a new job at their work. I was so proud that they got promoted. I then got over the flu.

"Mum, can we go to the animal shelter to see Lexi? PLEASE?"

"No, I am flat out at the moment. Ask your Father." Dad overheard our conversation, so before I could ask he said, "Betty are you out of your mind, not everything revolves around you!"

I went to my room crying. I looked out the window and saw my bike. I could ride my bike to the animal shelter

myself, why do I need Mum and Dad to take me?

The next day I went to school on my bike. After school I then rode straight to the animal shelter, Mum and Dad would be too busy looking at their computer screens to notice I wasn't there. I got home and Mum and Dad weren't in the office, they were in the lounge room. Tears of joy streaming down their faces.

"What's happening?" I asked confused. They pointed me to the wall, revealing balloons that said, "You're going to be a big sister!" I was excited and nervous at the same time. If they don't have enough time for me, an independent 12-year-old, than how will they have time for a screaming baby?

"I am sooo excited to be a sister," I exclaimed, trying to keep the conversation going.

Mum smiled at me, and Dad went back to the study to complete his work.

"Were you worried that I was gone for two hours?" I asked Mum.

"No, I always know that you are an independent girl, Darling. There was no reason to be sad," said Mum, still grinning ear to ear.

"I was just with Lexi," I told her. I walked off, and Mum muttered underneath her breath, "Ugh, that Lexi." Why didn't she like Lexi? I asked myself.

CHAPTER 2 Run away

Six months had passed and it was the day of the gender reveal. Nana had stayed last night and I kind of got a taste of all the questions everyone will ask. I was not excited. I mean I am excited about having a baby brother or sister, but not people asking me what I think the gender will be. I knew it was going to be wildly exhausting. So, in the morning I ran away on my bike to see Lexi. I stayed there for six hours. I knew that it would be over, so I left. I got home and Nana was speaking really loudly and fast, she was inaudible to hear like she was speaking gibberish.

"Slow down," I said.

"Where were you? I was worried

sick!"

"I was visiting Lexi. Mum and Dad don't care when I don't tell them."

She yelled at Mum. I walked into the dining room and there was pink confetti everywhere.

"Yay, it's a girl," I said. Mum was looking at me, smiling. She was upset that Nana yelled at her.

CHAPTER 3 Burning red

It was month nine of my mother's pregnancy and she was getting harder to deal with every day. Her due date is tomorrow. It was a 40-degree day today and I was dying from the heat. We had to drive to the supermarket to get groceries. On the way home we drove past Lia, the girl who works at the animal shelter walking the dogs. Lia said she just left, and she would be at the animal shelter in 30 minutes and we could visit then. We got home within 10 minutes. I sat on the couch while Mum unpacked groceries. I looked outside and saw a thick cloud of black smoke.

"MUM, THERE'S A FIRE!" I screamed.

"What do you mean?"

"Come and look!"

"Jump In the car!" We were on our way to the fire to see if there was anyone there. We called the fire department. There were no other dogs or cats there because they went for a walk around the block. Lexi was the only one in there.

Fire woman: "Hello what is your emergency?"

Mum: "There's a fire near the animal shelter."

Fire woman: "Is there anyone there?"

Me: "No, but there are animals."

Mum: "Yeah there are animals."

We drove past the animal shelter, and I remembered Lia said that Lexi was still at the shelter.

"STOP THE CAR! I'M GOING IN LEXIS IN THERE!"

I got out of the car and ran for the door.

"IT'S LOCKED, MUM!"

"I have keys," called Mum. I reached out to grab the keys.

Sparks Fly

Jorja Colquhoun

“What do you think you’re doing?”

“I’m going in there to get Lexi,” I replied.

“I’m going in,” she said. I sighed as I just let her do her thing. I heard her coughing as she went further in there. It had been a solid ten minutes she was in there for. All of a sudden I saw a woman looking figure emerge. It was Mum.

“Mum, where’s Lexi?” I say as tears start rolling down my face.

“Betty, I couldn’t go in there. I tried.”

At that moment I ran for my life to get Lexi. I felt the fire licking my skin as if I were a lollipop. And the deafening screams of my Mum yelling, “Don’t go in there. Wait for the fire department. Or your dad’s on the way, he can go in!” I stepped out the door.

“No. I’m going in, and that is that.” I emphasised the I’m to let her know that I’m going in. I’m not waiting for Dad to get here, or the fire department. At that moment I heard Lexi let out a cry. I walked back into the shelter.

I saw her. Well, I didn’t exactly see her. I heard her collar cling clanging around.

“Lexi, I’m here and I’m coming.” She then bolted towards me.

“Hello,” I said. She looked at me with a tilted head.

“No time for pats, darling. We have to get out of here fast.”

We got out and I patted him and put him in the back of the car. It was all busy and I didn’t even realise that the other car door was open. At that moment the fire department got there. I left Lexi in the car.

CHAPTER 4 It’s over. Or is it?

It took about two hours for them to control the fire. I went to go to the car to retrieve Lexi when I realised that the door was left open.

“LEXI ... LEXI ... LEEEXII!!” I say as my voice starts breaking.

“Mum, please tell me you have Lexi!”

“So sorry Darling. You put him in the car, didn’t you?”

“No, the door was left open.”

“Well, I don’t know”

At that moment Mum let out a big scream.

“What?” I asked.

“My water just broke.”

“What?” I dialled triple-0.

ME: “Hello. My Mum is about to give birth.”

The ambulance came, but just

in time. They couldn’t make it to the hospital, she gave birth in the ambulance.

A couple of days passed, endless days of trying to find Lexi. We were getting ready to go look at a new house, because we wanted a bigger house for the baby. Her name is Lilly. When we drove past the shelter I saw a dog whimpering. It was Lexi.

“Mum, it’s Lexi!!!”

“Are you sure?”

“Just stop the car and I’ll go in and see.”

I jumped out and called out, “LEXI.”

It was her. She ran to me, and I gave her a massive cuddle and put her in the car. She was so excited to see me, and my family.

CHAPTER 5 Rebuilding

A couple of months had passed, and the mayor of the town brought a truckload of fences for us to put up as a yard. So, we can get our own pet. I got Lexi of course. Lexi and I go for a walk every day. And there was never a fire again.

For my fifteenth birthday, Mum and Dad threw me a surprise with Lexi. Like when I was five.



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Weather & Water

In April we had generally good weather with some lovely warm days early in the month.

Following a fabulous fall of 63 mm on April 1 which 'broke the drought' of February and March, rainfall was disappointingly low, and at intervals through the month we had to do a thorough watering of all the trees and garden beds. A total of 78 mm for the month was received over 6 days. Because we received 123 mm in January and 78 mm in the month just gone, the total rainfall for the year (204 mm) appears reasonable, however, the pattern of rainfall seems to be either boom or bust with February and March being dry.

The total for April appears to compare favourably to last year's total of 169.5 mm at the end of the month. As it turned out, the rainfall total of 605.5 mm for 2023 was about on average.

Temperatures for April were about

half a degree below the April average, according to the BOM.

The Bureau's forecast for May is for lower than average rainfall, with some areas receiving higher rainfall in June. The Bureau has reported that ocean surface temperatures are significantly warmer than usual and have been since April 2023. The Southern Oscillation Index has moved to neutral, that is: neither El Niño nor La Niña.

I have determined that April is the month of the year when birds fly into our north facing window due to the angle of the sun. Sadly, one pardalote died as a result. The rosella that crashed into the window at full speed took a good while to recover. After that we decided to put up some netting across the most likely area of impact. This was successful – no more collisions.

April also seems to be the month when pardalotes continually call from the surrounding trees and come close

to the house to forage beside the wrens and fantails. On sunny days, the bird baths have been crowded.

Reservoir levels in the Coliban system:

Upper Coliban:	83%	as at 23 April, 2
Lauriston:	91.5%	"
Malmsbury	44.7	"
Barkers Creek	44%	"

Data sourced from Bureau of Meteorology.



New Lighting at Harcourt Recreation Reserve

Hundreds of locals and visitors turned out at the Harcourt football and cricket ground on April 13, not only to watch the first round of football and netball, but also to celebrate the first official use of the new lights at the ground. On the day the seniors' game was the first to be played under the lights against Carisbrook. Four new 30-metre-tall 100 lux LED lighting towers have been installed around the grounds, giving the more than 250 players greater opportunities to perfect their kicks, handballs and fast bowling. The new lighting will enable programs and rosters to be expanded, giving more people the opportunity to get into their game of choice.

Member for Bendigo West Maree Edwards MP joined representatives from the clubs and Council officials at the reserve to officially launch the new lighting, made possible thanks to a \$250,000 investment from the Victorian Government's Local Sports Infrastructure Fund.

Maree said, 'Harcourt Lions footy, netball and cricket players and the Mount Alexander Women's Sports Club, Mount Alexander Falcons, will be scoring goals and taking wickets well into the evening at Harcourt Recreation Reserve, thanks

to a lighting upgrade financed by the Allan Labor Government.' Maree also acknowledged the Mount Alexander Shire Council for their commitment to the project and the more than \$102,000 contribution they made. In addition the Harcourt Football Netball Club kicked in \$5,000 to the project.

Football Netball Club President, Kathy Teasdale said that the significance of the new lights should not be underestimated. 'For many years the practice matches were played in two dim pools of light, which resulted in restricted play and many lost footballs. We thank the Allan Government for adding to the excellent facilities already at the site.'

Benefits from the new lighting will also extend to the wider community, who will have more time to get together with friends and family to use the facilities for casual sport and play. The new lighting complements the recently completed female friendly pavilion at the ground made possible by a more than \$372,000 in funding thanks to the Allan Labor Government.

Over the past decade the Allan Labor Government has invested more than \$1.9 billion in community sport and recreation infrastructure across the state.

From a Press Release



Let's celebrate: Maree Edwards officially turns on the lights in the company of Councillor Tony Cordy and Harcourt Football Netball Club President Kathy Teasdale.





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Harcourt Carpet Bowls

With an attendance of thirteen and a number of apologies, the members voted to reform the association for another year.

The executive for the next two years is as follows:

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

Winter Competition

Start Date: Wednesday, 8 May 2024

Arrival time: 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

Where: Harcourt District Leisure Centre,
Binghams Road, Harcourt (the hall is heated).

Registration: Adult \$5.00 U/17 \$2.50

Nightly game fee: Adult \$5.00 U/17 \$2.50.

Hope to see you there.

Life Member Celebrates 90th Birthday.

On Sunday 21 April, there was a surprise party at the Harcourt District Leisure Centre for Mrs Grace Jenkin to celebrate her 90th birthday with family and friends from various organisations that Grace had been a member of over the years.

Grace played for many years with the Harcourt Carpet Bowls taking on various executive positions at various times. Grace was awarded a Life Membership in 2015.

Photo - Grace and her son Norm who also plays Carpet Bowls.

Scottish Terriers A FORGOTTEN BREED

The Core received this piece from Manda Appleyard who is a fan of the Scottish Terrier. She wrote, 'I have lived in rural Australia for most of my life. I love my local community publications and always find something interesting to read in them. That is the reason I thought I would reach out to *The Core* and hope that a little reminder article might inspire others to consider this blast from the past survivor, who is surely most relevant for modern lifestyles.

'I have had Scotties in my life since 1969. Scotties have brought me so much joy in my life; I struggle to understand why the Scottish Terrier has been listed as an endangered species. There has been a significant global decline in Scottish Terrier numbers. The Scottie was once very popular here in Australia. Everyone at least knew someone that had one of those funny little Scots with the big beard, big eyebrows and huge character.

'Since the introduction of designer breeds developed by crossing smaller breeds together, it seems that everyone has forgotten what great family members and mates Scottish Terriers are.

'The Scottish Terrier is a big dog in a little body. This compact, short legged, sturdily built terrier of good bone and substance is very intelligent and is quite a sensible dog. They mature very quickly and are a lot less destructive than many other breeds. They are great guard dogs because they don't bark without reason. They have a deep bark which makes them sound like a much bigger dog. The Scottie is a robust breed requiring little or no veterinary intervention, and their versatility is unsurpassed. They adapt to any environment and are equally at home from the farmhouse to apartment living. They even make great travel companions and love caravan holidays. They are couch potatoes that suddenly spring to action



Photo: Cymontuy

whenever there is anything afoot.

'The Scottish Terrier is loyal and does not suffer separation anxiety. When left alone they will just laze about and wait for your return.

'The Scottish Terrier is hypoallergenic as they do not shed hair. A medium level of grooming is required, but a good brush once a week and a trip to the groomers every three months is all that is required. They are truly worthy of consideration when you are next considering a new addition to your family.

'I always say, "If it isn't a Scottie it is just a dog..."

Bid to turn vacant dwellings into homes

As the housing crisis continues to bite across Mount Alexander Shire, more owners of vacant dwellings are being encouraged to release them as affordable rental properties.

My Home Network (MHN) is driving the initiative in a bid to give more people access to safe, secure and affordable housing while benefiting the owners of vacant dwellings at the same time.

MHN spokesperson Margaret Griffin said the Shire had a shortfall of nearly 700 affordable rentals, including social housing, and one of the lowest private rental supply rates in Victoria.

“It’s not just about increasing the availability of rentals but also their affordability,” Ms Griffin said.

“Rental affordability is defined as 30% of your income, so a staggering 87% of our local tenants are paying more than 30% of their income on rent.

“This is having a devastating impact across the Shire.

“Increasingly we are hearing how renters, including elders in our community, are leaving their homes — away from family, supports and community — to find affordable rentals elsewhere.

A vacant dwelling is defined as one that is vacant for at least six months of the year. According to ABS data, Mount Alexander Shire has more than 1,100 vacant dwellings. Approximately 200 of these are utilised as Airbnbs, leaving more than 900 under-used vacant dwellings.

Ms Griffin said releasing some of these as affordable rentals could relieve some of the rental stress experienced by an increasing number of local community members.

“Eight vacant dwellings have been released as affordable rentals so far.

“This is a great start and we’re building on that.”

Owners of vacant dwellings in the Shire interested in discussing the release of their property as an affordable rental are invited to get in touch with Kaz Neilson via cneilson@castlemainehealth.org.au

My Home Network is auspiced by Dhelkaya Health and is made up of passionate community members, locals with lived experience of the housing crisis, and representatives from local housing initiatives, community, and government organisations. Read more about My Home Network’s work at dhelkayahealth.org.au/my-home-network

FARADAY EVENTS

Entertainment for a Cause

One of our Faraday community members is involved in a project to assist refugees within the Castlemaine community. Two activities that may be of interest to you are coming up.

See the details below.



Dunstans Flat Working Bee

You are invited to join the Faraday Association Committee for a working bee to clean up the Dunstans Flat area in preparation for our winter activities. BBQ refreshments will be provided at the conclusion.

WHEN: Saturday, May 4.

TIME: 10:30 am.

BYO: Safety equipment, e.g. gloves, goggles, etc and a chair.

Hill Walk

Come and join the Faraday Community Association committee and community members on another walk, this time discovering the views and hidden valleys of the southern slopes of Leanganook (Mount Alexander). This walk will be quite strenuous.

DATE: Sunday June 2.

TIME: 11:00 am.

MEET AT: 271 Faraday Sutton Grange Road.

BYO: Nibbles, drinks etc, for a debrief at the end of the walk.

Winter Bonfire at Dunstans Flat

We had a great bonfire last year so we thought you might like to do it again...to warm ourselves before the winter blues set in. BBQ facilities will be available for you to cook up a storm. Hopefully the weather doesn't do the same!

DATE: Saturday, June 22.

TIME: 5:00 pm.

BYO: Food, drinks, chairs, and warm clothing.



Harcourt Football Netball Club

Reviews Round 3, 27 April:

Harcourt Lions V Dunolly Eagles

Football

Top of the ladder Harcourt made it 30 wins in succession with a 28-point win over a gallant Dunolly at Harcourt Recreation Reserve.

Dunolly certainly had their chances in the first quarter, enjoying five scoring shots to four, but could only manage one goal, while the Lions kicked four goals straight to lead by 14 points at the first change.

An entertaining second quarter saw seven goals kicked as both teams traded blows. But the Lions seemed to have all the answers when Dunolly asked some good questions, and, after kicking four goals to three, extended their lead to 19 points.

A dour third quarter followed, with both teams looking to make their move, and just one goal was scored apiece, as Harcourt again won the quarter, extending their lead to 21 points at the last change.

The last quarter was much like the second, with another seven goals scored between both teams. But it would be the

Lions who would eventually coast home, scoring four goals to three to eventually win by five goals.

Jed Rodda was the key difference-maker for the Lions, kicking four goals, and was rightfully voted best on ground by the Lions, while Jordan Gartside, Dan Chaplin, Kaleb McBride, Mark Noonan and Luke Anderson provided good support.

It was an encouraging effort by the Eagles, despite not getting the win, and they'll be buoyed knowing they are right in the frame against quality opposition. They were driven by Seth Galvin, Bailey Wingrave, Lachlan Tranter, Bailey Goodwin, Jack Merrin and Mitchell Goodwin putting in good performances.

Netball

It was a determined struggle of attrition, but Dunolly were able to get their first win of the year after defeating Harcourt by two goals.

It was a power struggle throughout the game, with just 54 goals scored, but at the end of it, the Eagles kept in touch with the top eight.

A good start allowed them to lead by

three goals at the opening change, 8-5, even though Harcourt had the better of the play with 17 shots to 13. Zoe Aldridge scored five goals for the Eagles, with Samantha Cheetham adding three, while for Harcourt, Tegan McKay scored four times, and playing-coach Jess Chaplin once.

The Lions were able to increase the pressure in the second quarter, closing the gap to a goal by the main break, with Christine Webb moving to the goal shooter position, scoring three goals, while McKay added six. For the Eagles, Aldridge scored six times, and Cheetham once.

Coming up in May

Round 4: May 4

Trentham v Harcourt

Round 5: May 11

Harcourt v Maryborough Giants

Round 6: May 18

Maldon v Harcourt

Round 7: May 25

Talbot v Harcourt



FOOTBALL RESULTS			
ROUND 3			
SEN	85	57	
RES	116	39	
14.5	160	8	
11.5	16	8	

NETBALL RESULTS			
ROUND 3			
A	26	28	
B	36	16	
C	40	6	

JUNIOR NETBALL RESULTS			
ROUND 3			
17&U	25	12	
15&U	26	8	
13&U	2	21	
11&U	1	14	

Linda Newton



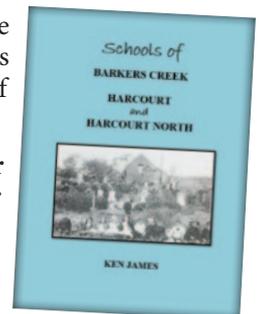
Jenny Wren

INVITATION

BOOK LAUNCH: *Schools of Barkers Creek, Harcourt and Harcourt North* by Ken James, on **Sunday 19 May at 2.00 pm** at the Harcourt Valley Heritage and Tourist Centre.

The number of copies printed will be determined by the number of pre-orders received. There will be a limited number of copies available to buy on the day.

Refreshments will be available after the launch. A donation to help cover catering costs would be greatly appreciated. Please let Ken know if you will be attending: Mobile: 0457 600 668. Email: knjames47@gmail.com





Harcourt Bowling Club



Girls on the Green

We were blessed with perfect weather on the fourth and final night of Harcourt Girls on the Green on Wednesday 27 March. It was a very successful program with the women enjoying themselves, getting into the bowls and bonding, and with much fun and laughter.

The winning team overall for the four weeks was the Wrens team, with Ruth's

Robbers second and Floozies third. An average of 20 women attended each week, and feedback was very positive. Another round of Girls on the Green will be held in spring.

Thanks to Kaye Grant and her team for the food, and to all the other volunteers assisting with organising the program.

Men's (Nominated) Champion Pairs

On Saturday 30 March the final of the Men's Champion Pairs was played out between the teams of John Kays and Seth Bird and Darren Cunningham and Alf Manallack.

Darren and Alf got off to a strong lead; John and Seth picked up with some good bowling, but too late to catch their opponents. The winning team was Darren Cunningham and his father-in-law, Alf Manallack. Runners-up were John Kays and Seth Bird.

Highlighting the diversity in ages, this final had one of Harcourt's oldest players, Alf against the youngest player, Seth. Well done!



The oldest and the youngest competitors in Mens Pairs: Alf Cunningham and Seth Bird.

Ladies' Nominated Pairs

On Wednesday evening 10 April, the Ladies' Pairs final was played out between the teams of Carrol Frost and Judi Miles and Judy Ewing and Wendy Chaplin. Although the night was cold and it was played under lights – so, some trying conditions – the gallery was treated to a tight game and great bowling by both teams over 2½ hours. The winning team was Judi Miles and Carrol Frost, with runners-up Wendy Chaplin and Judy Ewing. Congratulations!



Ladies Pairs Winners Judi Miles and Carrol Frost.

Award to Ronald Douglas

At the Bendigo Campaspe Goldfields Region Presentation night on Monday 15 April, Harcourt Bowling Club member, Ronald Douglas was presented with the Ken Gloster Award for Service to Bowls.

Harcourt Bowling Club applauds the award to Life Member, Ron (awarded in

2017) who has, over 43 years, significantly contributed to bowls in the Bendigo Region as shown in the following list: Committee/board Member 24 years; President 6 years; Vice President 6 years; Secretary 8 years; Greens Director 10 years; Greens Committee 15 years; Green Keeper 10 years; Match Committee 9 years; Selection Committee 5 years; Bar Manager 10 years; Tournament Director 15 years; Club Delegate 10 years; Grounds and Buildings 20 years; Umpire, Marker, Measurer 30 years. An outstanding effort! Well done Ron.



Ron with his award.



Ron Douglas receives Award from Division.

Rice Triples Tournament

The green was full on Saturday 20 April for an afternoon of the club Annual Rice Mixed Triples Tournament. This day is dedicated to former long term members, Ben and Amy Rice. This being the last tournament for the season, it is always well attended and hotly contested, particularly by those who knew Ben and Amy. Teams played 3 games of 8 ends in perfect bowling weather.



Rice Triples Winners Brett, Libby and Rod

Harcourt Bowling Club

Continued.

The winning team – and the only 3-game winners – consisted of Rod Harris, Libby Harris and Brett Jenkinson. Runners-up were the team of Phil Clarke, Moira Straw and Carl Roberts. (See attached photos)

End-of-Season Presentation

Following the Rice Triples, the end-of-season presentations were made to winners and runners-up of Club Championships and gold letter events. The recipients were:

Ladies' Singles Champion

Winner: Wendy Chaplin,
Runner-up: Fran Corstorphan

Ladies' Champion Pairs

Winners: Carrol Frost and Judi Miles(s),
Runners-up: Judy Ewing and Wendy Chaplin(s)

Ladies' Drawn Pairs

Winners: Pam MacGregor and Meg Tucker,
Runners-up: Kay Francis and Judi Miles



Congratulations to Grace Jenkin – Life Member

On Sunday 21 April Harcourt Bowling Club members joined with Life Member, Grace Jenkin and her family and friends at the Harcourt Leisure Centre to celebrate Grace's 90th birthday. Although now retired from bowling, Grace maintains her interests in knitting and crochet of rugs, which she donates for raffles to the Bowling Club and Harcourt Football Netball Club. Congratulations Grace!



Ladies' 100-Up

Winner: Fran Corstorphan,
Runner-up: Wendy Chaplin

Men's Singles Champion

Winner: Brian Leech,
Runner-up: Brett Jenkinson

Men's Champion Pairs

Winners: Darren Cunningham and Alf Manallack,
Runners-up: John Kays and Seth Bird

Men's Gough Drawn Pairs

Winners: Les Harding and Russell Maltby,
Runners-up: John Kays and David Jeffries

Men's 100-Up was not contested this year.

Grant Pairs

Winners: Libby and Rod Harris,
Runners-up: Kathy and Les Harding

Rice Triples

Winners: Rod and Libby Harris and Brett Jenkinson,
Runners-up: Phil Clarke, Moria Straw and Carl Roberts

Following the presentations, members and their partners and friends shared a delicious dinner.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will commence at 11.00am on Sunday 19 May. The agenda will include the presentation of the Board Annual Report, which includes the financial statements and election of five board members.

Friday Social Nights

Friday social nights continue with member's draw at the earlier time of 6.00pm followed by the ever-popular raffle draws. Our Bar Manager, Barry has stocked the fridges with a great range of non-alcoholic drinks, as well as the usual drinks on offer, all at reasonable prices. So come on down and join us.

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

Coming up in May

Annual General Meeting: Sunday 19 May at 11.00am. ALL WELCOME

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Harcourt Heritage Centre

The Mount Alexander Koala Park

Just before he retired, Noel Muller, a local Parks Victoria ranger dropped in at the Harcourt Heritage Centre to present us with the minute book of the Koala Park committee.

In a humble school exercise book (complete with multiplication tables on the back cover) are the minutes of the committee from 1956 to 1972. This is a valuable addition to Harcourt's archival collection. It augments the files of notes and news clippings to provide an insight into the pre-occupations of the Harcourt community more than fifty years ago.

For most of that time, the Koala Park committee met in the office of the Harcourt Fruitgrowers Cooperative in Coolstore Road. The chairman was Alan Koochew, manager of the Harcourt Fruitgrowers, and the committee secretary was Norm Fisher. Norm handled the retail sales of the Harcourt Fruitgrowers. The two men were therefore part of the business hub of the community.

The Koala Park minute book lists the membership of the committee, which included delegates from the Forests Commission and the Fisheries and Wildlife Division, as well as district residents interested in tourism promotion and others dedicated to the preservation of what was considered a threatened species.

Bushfires and hunting had drastically reduced the population of koalas by the 1930s and they were considered extinct over most of their former range. However, they were re-established in much of Victoria by relocating koalas from vigorously expanding populations. Their preferred habitat is in bushland dominated by manna gum. These ribbon-barked gum trees can be found on Mount Alexander.

A 1943 news article reported that there was a distinct possibility that the koala would become extinct in Victoria. It was estimated that there were only 800 of the iconic animal left in the state, and, of that number, about 650 were on Phillip Island. The fate of the animals depended on them being placed in reserves where there was a plentiful food supply.

Councillor Les Stevens and Mr W Macafee of the Castlemaine Tourist Association reported that an expert from the Fisheries and Game Department had inspected Mount Alexander, describing the mountain as the most suitable site

in Victoria for the release of koalas. It appears that forty-seven koalas had been relocated from Phillip Island to a five hectare reserve on the south-east end of the mountain in 1941. In 1943, the Forests Commission was to hand over the control of the Koala Reserve to a local committee of management.

The term 'ecotourism' was not known in 1943, but the local committee saw the potential. They set out to save the koala and to develop the Mount Alexander sanctuary as a tourist attraction.

The minute book of the Koala Park committee reveals a constant pre-occupation with repairs to the fences, clearing pathways, condition of the access road and asking for better signage.

Another ten hectares were added to the park. A brick picnic shelter and toilet block were built. The picnic shelter had tables, seating and a fireplace where you could boil the billy. A stile at the gate afforded entry to the tourists who were encouraged to pop a donation in a collection box welded to the gate. The sanctuary was mentioned in RACV 'where to go' notes as a good place to visit on a Sunday afternoon drive.

The committee ensured that each release of koalas was well publicised, with up to 200 school children and adults on hand to watch. Sometimes, the koalas were a bit bad-tempered, having been captured at French Island or Phillip Island the day before, put in cages and transported to Mount Alexander. Some of the children present were given the privilege of holding one or two of the younger koalas in their arms. However, straight after release, the koalas quickly scurried up trees at their new home.

It was soon found that up to 200 visitors per day visited the Koala Park during school holidays. In later years it was reported that a large percentage of visitors were international tourists. As for the population of koalas in the park, the numbers fluctuated, as low as 26 and as high as 67. You could always see a few, mostly high up in the gum trees. I recall seeing koalas munching on gum leaves or slumbering in the fork of low-hanging branches at the Koala Park when in the 1950s. Many joeys (baby koalas) could be seen clinging to their mothers' backs.

From about 1971 the committee was sending alarm signals to the authorities. The koalas were defoliating the trees. The

BENDIGO NEWS

KOALA SANCTUARY

Some months ago a movement was initiated by the Castlemaine Tourist and Publicity Association to establish a koala sanctuary at Mount Alexander. The Forests Commission has made available 50 acres at the mount for the purpose. The general inspector of the Fisheries and Game Department has reported it to be a most suitable site, and has agreed to supply 50 koalas to establish a colony as soon as the area has been fenced. The estimated cost of fencing is £270, and subscriptions are being sought in Bendigo to carry out the work.

From The Argus 5 June 1941

trees were dying. The koalas were at risk of starvation.

In 1975/76 a new area of eighty hectares was set aside, with five kilometres of two-metre-high fencing. This new park was south-west of the original reserve, on a west facing slope. In due course, the koalas were relocated from the old park to the new.

By this time the committee had serious doubts as to the suitability of the new park. The fence had been erected by the Forest Commission with no consultation with the committee until after the new site was surveyed. In the committee's view, the new park would be too large for the public to walk in and as there were so few koalas, the public would be lucky to see any. Given that about forty percent of visitors were over forty years of age, the committee felt that they should not be expected to walk long distances to see the animals. A smaller area, away from the prevailing westerly winds, would have been adequate.

In the meantime, the koalas made up their own minds as to the suitability of their new home. In 1978 it was stated that there had been an escape rate of seventy percent over the first eighteen months after relocation. Evidently the koalas did not like the new park.

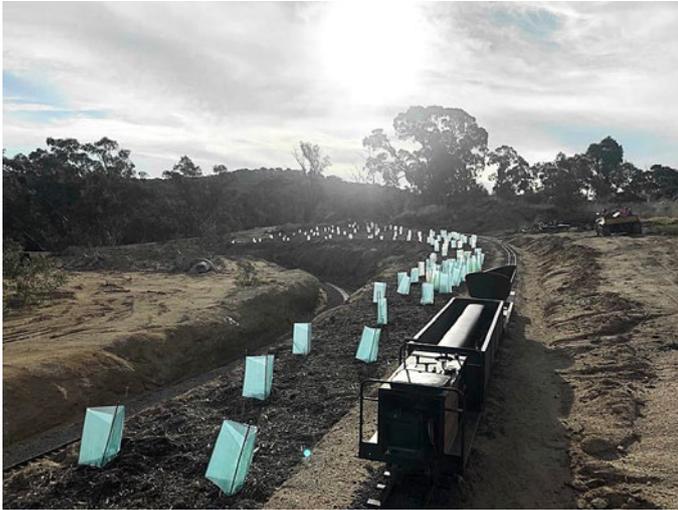
The minute book is silent as to the outcome. Maybe the committee lost heart. All that remains today is the Leanganook picnic/camping area. Visitors today would be very fortunate indeed to locate a koala on Mount Alexander, once considered to be the most suitable site in the State for the preservation of koalas.

Compiled by Harcourt Heritage Centre, with thanks to Noel Muller, the late Alan Lang and the late Lynette Allen (nee Henderson).

George Milford

VMR Update

Dressing up the VMR site



What better way to spend a Saturday in late April? The gardening team at VMR has continued to beaver away over the summer, preparing the site by removing acres of weed and spreading tons of mulch. This was our first planting for the year, bordering the first loop. We spent the whole day planting out a phenomenal 270 local beauties. This now totals some 700-plus new plants on the site, complementing our project.

With another big day scheduled for next month, the site will surely be grand. Sarah Qualtrough, Landscape Designer is leading the team.

At the main station the 160 metres of platform roof line is now fully painted. The centre section vent detail, roof sheets and flashing are being fitted. The local renderers have put the finishing touches on our external styling of the station building and the paint is currently being applied. Once



Andrew Mierisch, President of VMR, proudly shows off the new addition to the station building. The date 2016 is the year that VMR was established in Harcourt and the year that Harcourt Progress Association and The Core began its support of this unique venture.

the scaffolding comes down from around the station building and the plantings pop, the township will surely notice the outstanding efforts from our team!

Andrew Mierisch
VMR President




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If you're near a helicopter landing site or smaller aerodrome without a control tower, you can fly your drone within 5.5 kilometres. If you become aware of manned aircraft nearby, you will have to manoeuvre away and land your drone as quickly and safely as possible.

Fly in open spaces, away from other people or populous areas. This includes avoiding beaches, parks, events, and sports ovals where there is a game in progress.

Always keep your drone within visual line-of-sight. This means always being able to see the drone with your own eyes (rather than through a device, screen or goggles).

Keep your drone away from emergency operations. This includes floods, bushfires, law enforcement and rescue operations. Flying your drone over or near an area where emergency operations are underway could affect public safety.

If you intend to fly your drone for or at work (commercially), there are extra rules you must follow. You will also need to register your drone and get a licence or accreditation.

Keep your drone clear of aircraft, people and property, to avoid creating a hazard.

Respect personal privacy. Photographing or recording people without their consent may breach other laws.

Only fly one drone at a time.

Only fly during the day and not through cloud or fog.

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SUDOKU **Difficulty: Medium**

Fill the grid so every row, column and 3x3 frame contains every number from 1 to 9.

			2	4		6		
9								3
1					3		4	5
5	6			7		1		
		4	8		5	9		
		1		6			5	2
6	9		5					1
4								9
		8		9	6			

Grace Church

This is a statement of faith from Grace Church.

The Parable of the Hidden Treasure

Jesus told many parables. Tucked away in Matthew's gospel we find this one:

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.”

Now, with parables, symbolism is to the fore. The field is the world – Jesus says so in the preceding parable of the wheat and the weeds. The man is Jesus. The treasure is you.

Jesus is saying I became a man and came into this world and found you. Jesus gave up everything – his very life – to get the treasure – you! Jesus found you, you didn't find him. And Jesus didn't steal you, he bought you with his shed blood. This introduces another bible verse, this time from the Apostle Peter ...

1 Peter 1:18,19

“For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.”

The highest price that's ever been paid was paid for you, and that's the blood of Jesus.

Jesus hides you, the treasure in the field
Colossians 3:3

“For you died and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.”

Jesus rejoices over you
Hebrews 12:2

“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus Who, for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

What was the joy set before him? The joy of finding you, buying you, hiding you – his treasure – and keeping you safe until the day of redemption. Praise God!

Ps Roger Thurecht

Grace Church

Service: 11.00am Sunday
All Welcome

Pastors: Roger & Glenise Thurecht
0422 605 897

gracecastlemaine.org.au

30 Buckley Street, Harcourt



Katie Finlay's Fruit Growing Tips



Hi everyone,

It's hard to believe, but it's already time to be thinking about which new fruit trees you want to plant this winter. And yes, we're assuming everyone can squeeze another fruit tree in somewhere :).

We encourage everyone in Harcourt to plant heritage apple varieties! We're trying to preserve as many old varieties as possible, before they completely disappear. This year we have lots of fabulous double- and triple-graft apple trees, which are a great way to add diversity to your garden. Here's the link to see the full list and place an order: openfoodnetwork.org.au/carrs-organic-fruit-tree-nursery/shop#/home

You'll be able to collect your trees from our Nursery Open Days on the last weekend of June and the first weekend of July (all the details are in the checkout section).

If you're not sure what to plant, start by reflecting on your crop this summer - did you pick as much fruit as you wanted from your garden? Did you buy fruit that you could have grown yourself? If you've got even a little bit of a green thumb and a bit of time to give your fruit trees, it's not that hard to harvest some fruit from your garden. And you can be sure that the fruit you grow yourself will be more delicious, healthier, and cheaper than fruit you can buy in the shops.

It's too early to be planting yet, but if you are thinking of planting trees this winter it's ideal to do some soil preparation first. This helps to give your trees the best possible start in life. One of the best ways to improve your soil is to plant a winter-active green manure crop. New research shows that best practice is to include a representative of 5 different plant families in the green manure, including grasses, cereals, brassicas, chenopods, and legumes. The choices are endless, but here's a list to inspire you: Alfalfa (lucerne), Amaranth, Beetroot, Broad bean, Buckwheat, Butterfly pea, Chia, Cocksfoot, Corn, Dill, Endive, Fenugreek, Kidney beans, Lablab bean, Linseed, Medic, Millet, Mung bean, Mustard, Purslane, Quinoa, Radish,



Rocket, Sesame, Soybean, Sunflower, Turnip, Vetch.

The rule of thumb is the more types of seed the merrier. You can either buy an autumn green manure seed mix from a nursery or buy the individual seeds to make up your own mix. Try to use organic, untreated seed if possible. It felt like we had the autumn break, but if we don't get any follow up rain soon you may need to water the seed to get it started.

Go ahead and plant the seed wherever you intend to plant your fruit trees, but you need to do it ASAP. The best time to plant your new trees is when they're dormant, usually from late June right through until about mid-August. That means there should still be enough time to get a green manure crop growing and tall enough to be fit for purpose, which is solely to add organic bulk and nutrients back into the soil. The longer the crop has to grow before it's turned in, the better. Once it's grown you can either dig the green manure into the soil (which is best), or just cut it down and leave it lying on the surface. If you're digging it in, you need to leave a gap of at least a couple of weeks before planting the trees, because the green manure can get quite hot as it breaks down.

If you don't have the time or capacity to plant a green manure crop, it doesn't matter at all! Don't let your lack of soil preparation stop you planting trees this year. You could add some well-made

compost or aged manure when you plant the trees. If you can't manage that, it's much better to just plant trees into whatever soil you have and work on the soil improvement later, rather than miss another year of getting your future fruit supply started.

If you'd rather try growing your own trees from scratch than buying them from a nursery, then now is a great time to collect fresh apple, pear, and quince seed. The seeds will produce large seedling rootstocks that are tough and resilient, and perfect for grafting your favourite variety on to. Once you've collected the seed, store it in damp sand over winter, ready to plant out next spring.

And finally, this month, a little reminder that we offer free fruit fly resources in our online shop. To download a copy, go to growgreatfruit.com/online-courses and choose "FREE STUFF" under Product Categories on the right hand side of the screen. It's up to all of us to become fruit fly experts!

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

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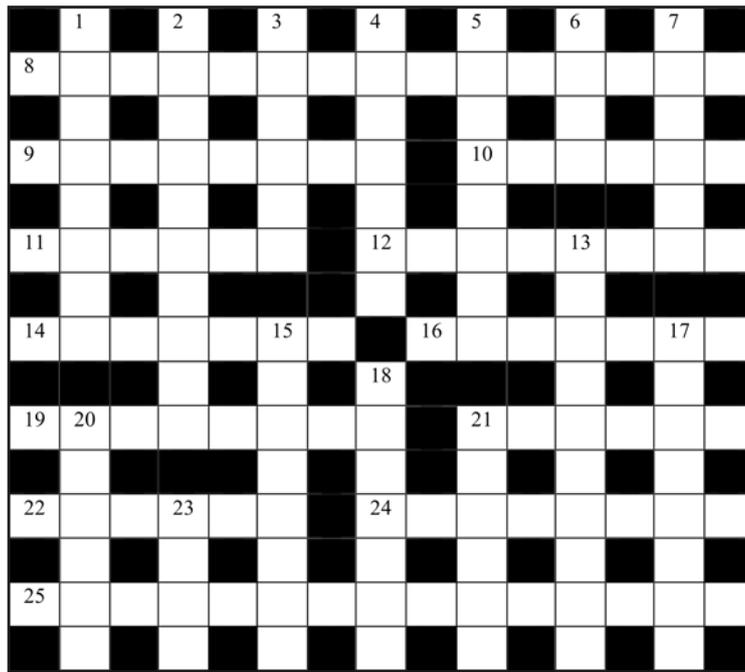


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May 2024 Xword

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Down:

1. A pre-game precaution might be to check that this is steady rather than fluctuating in this way. (8)
2. Recent maps don't show it (will publisher repent scam?) but we owe that man respect who found it and climbed it. (10)
3. Thing that's never about me? (6)
4. Redactive process not done in-house? (4,3)
5. About as deeply committed as is recklessly possible? (4-4)
6. Dragon gets rid of a central character and becomes complacent. (4)
7. We only catch a fragment of the chants. (6)
13. Outcome of heavy steam-engine standing in for combine harvester? (6,4)
15. Not an arid bone in Biro dean's makeup, but there's an idea born that this rabid one could not do-in bear in a bed or be anything but cheerful and self-assured. (8)
17. At Red Hills, the drill he's been using often sounded like birds' stridulous calls. (8)
18. We could bag eats at the kiosk, and then come back and use these to make cheap drinks. (3-4)
20. A vegetable, or a cheese? Too green for cheese... (6)
21. Reed, MP (call me Fiona) went to Mr Deep Wave's hairdressing outfit, and came away like this. (6)
23. Online agent to see something... (4)

Across:

8. What state am I in if I want seven for the Camira (according to Kerrigan)? (1,4,2,8)
9. Ten years when Darwin is showing moral deterioration. (8)
10. Walk it to the tax office in a smooth, flowing manner... (6)
11. Even an earlobe could be one of those animals that sit on your knee... (6)
12. Spade is brought near: thus it discovers stuff. (8)
14. Noted for their great feet? (7)
16. Baffled beside fiscal hole? (2,1,4)
19. Schoolhouse for a snail? (8)
21. Use screwdriver as opener and get toe chopped in what could be averse! (6)
22. Surrendered in vain; e.g. donated after pestering? (4,2)
24. Birds to warn slob—all over the place, silently. (4-4)
25. The focal points of retail therapy? (8,7)

April 2024 Xword Solution

© McW April '15



Down:

1. Upper-crust Leonardo? [Well?]
2. For purl and curettage once—that's plain. [Well?] (sorry...)
3. Dapper? [Then clock] the cravat!
4. [Please, sir] make a couple of frames for me to train plants on.
5. To collect and refine ptomaine to poison the PM would be butterfingereed at heart...
6. Road junction T to possess small city.
7. New French Kitchen Rules? [Well?]
8. Long rule [em-] and study ship.
14. [Put gnomie] question to IT staff—it won't be solved by this!
15. One way to enter a pet (Neater pet) perhaps?
16. [Let's alarm] the Australian public—will they see through it?
20. Drinking vessel cup and the dark part of the soul are redolent of love's arrows and their source.
22. Back precursor to IVF [AI] and yeasty item under the Aswan dams.
23. First man on reference list, or first woman? Let's be non-sexist and say 'author'...

Across:

1. Half-hearted attempt to neither let your disc-ration be your tooter nor use those discs [tokens] in supermarket trolleys... [ref. Frank Muir or Denis Norden in "My Word"—1960s: "Let discretion be your tutor"]
9. Primary element resides in cripple
10. After bandage has been this around, it covers this under... [©...]
11. [cure latte] set by dividing them into a network.
12. Tell how to get the bird around?
13. Looking this way, one could partially clean up. [Well? Win some, lose some...]
14. First part of 20dn [also] goes into making these domes.
17. Where I go when my sweetheart (baby?) smiles at me? [Well?]
18. Second-rate [B-] versions of these farms would be top-of-tree or bank components.
19. Spotless mother [clean, ma] goes to embrace prisoner.
20. What to do with a Choo-Choo Bar? [Well?]
21. Strength of working-class short black [Well?]
24. The [only] silent [P] structure remixed to bear the current.
25. DLP chap [Gair] mixes it with [bride] for army chap.
26. Amend, in gentlest way, this nested alignment when you've smelt neat ending. (And lo! You will have achieved it!)



Council news

Have your say on Council projects and initiatives

Draft Budget 2024/2025

We've released our draft Budget 2024/2025 and we want to know what you think.

Initiatives to increase flood protection, install public art and take climate action are some of the highlights of the proposed budget.

How are we doing?

We're developing our first ever Customer First Strategy. This means we want to hear from you about what we're doing well and what needs work so we can get better at serving our community.

Find out more about these projects and have your say at shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au.

Listening posts are back!

Listening posts are a great way to meet your Councillors, tell us what matters to you, ask questions, learn more about local government and have your say on projects, policies and plans.

Find a listening post near you at shape.mountalexander.vic.gov.au.

Thank you, volunteers

A warm thank you to volunteers across the shire for your hard work and generosity.

National Volunteer Week is a time to celebrate and acknowledge the profound impact volunteers have on the lives of others.

Find out what volunteer opportunities are available at mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Volunteer.

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

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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

Thursday May 9: 7 pm Landcare meeting, Heritage Centre High Street Harcourt

Sunday May 19: 10 am Landcare Working Bee, Harcourt Valley Primary School.

Sunday May 19: 2 pm Book Launch, Schools of Barkers Creek, Harcourt and Harcourt North, by Ken James at the Harcourt Heritage and Tourist Centre.

Friday May 24: 11 am Morning tea with the volunteers of *The Core* at Harcourt Valley Community House. All welcome; please RSVP by 20 May.

Saturday May 25: 4 pm until late. Live at the Camp Music Festival. Venue: Camp Reserve, Castlemaine. For tickets and information go to: www.liveatthecamp.com.au

Saturday June 29: 10 am – 2 pm Gather Harcourt at James Park

Carpet Bowls: 7.30 pm Wednesdays, Leisure Centre, Bingham Road, Harcourt.

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.

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

Harcourt Bowls Club: See page 18

Harcourt Lions Club: Third Thursday of the month at the Victorian Miniature Railway, Harmony Way at 6.30 pm. Gathering 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.

Harcourt's Little Library

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





Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.

Police are out there to keep you safe. If you still choose to take risks while driving and break the road rules, chances are you will be caught.

TAC  VICTORIA
State
Government



Gather

Harcourt Winter June 29th, 2024 10am - 2pm

- **Market Stalls**
- **Food Trucks**
- **Beverages of all types**
- **Local Entertainment**



James Park, Harcourt