

THE BEST OF A COMMUNITY

The whole of Yackandandah was, quite justifiably, stunned and horrified to learn of the recent plundering of some of the beautiful autumn coloured Acers from the front of the Jenkins' property on the Yack-Beechworth Road, just coming into the Yack township.

That anyone would have the smallness of mind to steal or vandalise those 4-5 year old trees particularly when the community was in the middle of a pandemic, beggars belief, especially as the trees were almost certainly stolen in broad daylight.

BUT - as usual, Yack lifts itself to well beyond the norm, and Ian and Lorna Jenkins were delighted to report that "we had a lovely phone call from Melinda Johnson, a former pupil we taught at Yack School in the middle 1970s. She is still great friends with our two daughters. Melinda said that she has arranged with Erin (from Tom and Erin's Nursery in Beechworth) to have our trees replaced. We also taught Erin (McIntyre) at the same time at Yack and she will donate the trees. What wonderful girls..." Yackity Yak also understands that Postie Norman had more than a little to do with the liaising about replacing these Acers.

The Yack Garden Club then arrived en masse to plant the trees and Steve Pearce from the Indigo Shire also assisted to help stake and mulch them on his day off from work. Steve said that he would be happy to help with the future on-going watering.

"We just couldn't believe that people could be so kind and considerate. We were quite emotional about the whole level of support," said Ian.



Lorna and Ian Jenkins, with Steve Pearce at the tree planting site. Photo Credit: Michael Metzger

The trees that replaced the four originals are also Lipstick Maples, *Acer rubrum* "Autumn Red" and Yack residents and visitors will be able to enjoy these trees once again, when they gain their glorious autumnal colours next year.

No doubt, people will be eternally vigilant from now on when they see people removing trees from the roadside verges. Worth taking rego numbers if nothing else!



Members of the Yack Garden Club assist with the replanting of the Acers on the Yackandandah-Beechworth Road. From L to R: John Paull, Melinda Johnson, Steve Pearce, Chris Buttner, (the back of) Jill Whitford, Rose Crook and Jim Ralston.

FOUR WEEKS OF BATTERY SUBSIDIES STILL AVAILABLE

Don't forget - there are still four more weeks of battery subsidies available via Totally Renewable Yackandandah.

The Victorian Government are currently piloting a battery rebate scheme to help identify demand and battery usage.

In 2019-20, there will be 1,000 rebates of up to \$4,838 for a solar battery system. The battery program targets designated postcodes with high PV penetration and population growth, both of which Yack's postcode of 3749 has.

For more details, phone Matthew Charles-Jones on 0457 003 839 or contact TRY via their website: <https://totallyrenewableyack.org.au/contact/> and register your interest NOW.



YACKITY YAK

Yackity Yak is a free bi-monthly publication aimed at providing news, entertainment and information to the people of Yackandandah.

Yackity Yak is published by YCDCo (Yackity Yak) Pty Ltd. and 1,600 copies of Yackity Yak are printed with each release with a minimum of 900 copies distributed free of charge to homes in the Yackandandah and surrounding area via Australia Post.

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2020 DEADLINES:

Forthcoming deadline for submission of advertisements and articles for Yackity Yak are 5pm on the following days:

EDITION	DATE	DEADLINE COPY/ADS	CIRCULATION DATE
91	Aug/Sept	Friday, 17th July, 2020	Tues, 28th July
92	Oct/Nov	Friday, 18th Sept, 2020	Tues, 29th Sep
93	Dec/Jan	Friday, 13th Nov, 2020	Wed, 25th Nov

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We are always keen to attract advertisers for this great paper. It has a circulation of 1,600 copies & is delivered free of charge every 2 months. It's also generally available at the following outlets:

- * YCDCo
- * Doctors' Surgeries
- * Yack Community Centre
- * Visitor Info Centre
- * Indigo Shire Council
- * Yack PO
- * Yack Newsagency

It's a great way to get your message across to the Yack community and doesn't cost an arm and a leg. Speak with Ali if you would like to advertise & we will do our best to accommodate your wishes. Tel. 0448 803 411 or email: yackity_yak@yackandandah.com

A RAMBLE WITH THE EDITOR

Well, we certainly live in interesting times, and as I write this, some COVID-19 restrictions in Victoria are being lifted by the beginning of next week and we will be able to have a bit more freedom in our daily lives.

There's no doubt that it has been a very testing time with civil liberties being restricted to a great extent, and it will be interesting to see how this will go on to affect our lives from now on. It may well change people's perspectives about what they can do without, and what quantum changes we choose to make to our lifestyles generally on the back of this. However, the relaxed restrictions will not change the general health advice to maintain a 1.5 metre distance from others, to avoid hugging and kissing where possible, and give space to those around you.

From June 1, Victorians will be able to have 20 people under the roofs of their homes — but that includes those who live there. The latest easing of restrictions holds good news, with overnight stays at accommodation and private residences allowed from June 1 together with a range of cultural spaces will be allowed to reopen across the month, starting with galleries, museums, drive-in cinemas and historic sites. Zoos, outdoor amusement parks, libraries, youth centres and community facilities will also be given the green light from the start of the month. June 22 is the date Victorians (and anyone from interstate) should be able to take to the state's ski slopes. The limit on funeral attendees has been tough, which may be why it's being relaxed fastest, with up to 50 mourners allowed at funerals from June 1. For weddings, up to 20 people will be allowed, plus the celebrant and couple. The same limit of 20 people will apply to "private worship or small religious ceremonies", in addition to those required to perform the service.

Victorians will be able to get out and about for different kinds of exercise, starting with the reopening of public playgrounds and outdoor gym equipment from 1st June, the same day state schools will welcome back the first wave of students to classrooms. Community sport will be able to run from June 1 provided it's held outdoors or with no more than 20 people in undivided spaces, is non-contact and people are able to play while respecting 1.5 metre physical distancing.

And those who are vulnerable, such as Victorians over 70, or those with chronic health conditions, are still being urged to think carefully about limiting their interactions in order to reduce the risk of infection. The direction for every Victorian who is able to work from home to do so remains, at least for the rest of June.



The pandemic has rather successfully banished almost all talk about the worst bushfires on record during 2019/20 to the back page, but with the Bushfire Commission just starting, it will be interesting to see how many bullets the Government can dodge. One of the questions that should be asked is that if the Government is prepared to take advice from the experts regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and act upon it, then why does it ignore almost all advice from the experts regarding bushfires and climate change?

Something we would all like to know, I'm sure. Keep safe everyone.

Ali

UPDATE ON COVID-19

Yackandandah Health continue to welcome families and friends back into Yack Health in a controlled and measured way, to ensure we maintain a safe environment for our residents and staff. We are continually reviewing the number of visits per week as part of a staged approach and we appreciate the community's continued support and cooperation at this time.

The incidence of COVID-19 in aged care facilities overseas and in Australia continues to be alarming. Some frightening facts relating to residential aged care facilities across the globe:

Canada - In Canada, almost half the deaths resulting from the novel Coronavirus have occurred in nursing homes. (50% of 2,786)

America - Yale professor describes as 'staggering', research that reveals more than half of all deaths in 14 US states were in elderly care facilities.

Nursing homes have been closed to the public for weeks. However, a bleak picture has emerged. In New Jersey, Governor Phil Murphy called in 120 members of the state national guard to assist long-term care facilities, after 17



yackandandah
health

which aims to balance visitor access to aged care homes whilst minimising the risk of infection during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Code creates a nationally consistent approach that ensures residents can receive visitors while minimising the risk of spreading COVID-19.

The Code also acknowledges the work that providers and staff are doing to keep people safe during the pandemic.

WHAT DOES THE CODE MEAN FOR ME WANTING TO VISIT A RESIDENT AT YACK HEALTH?

The Code reminds all residents and their visitors that they can seek to arrange a visit with our office during office hours.

Wishes and preferences of residents will be at the centre of all decision making in relation to who visits them, and their choices will be sought and respected, unless the visitor is prohibited under state/territory directives.

Yackandandah Health are asking visitors to use a booking system to manage the number of visitors in our facility at any one time. This also provides the opportunity for staff to clean two designated visiting areas in between visits.

The visit procedures are as follows:

- All visitors must practice hand hygiene upon entry – an antiseptic hand rub dispenser will be provided.
- All visitors will have their temperature checked on entry with a head thermometer, and anyone with a high temperature will not be permitted to enter.
- Written evidence of flu vaccination will be required – these will be scanned and stored on resident file for future visits. If you wish to speed up this process, you may send your Flu Vaccine copy via email to r.lockhart@yackhealth.com.au
- Two visitors only will be allowed per day for each resident, for 30 minutes.
- Staff members will be present at the start and finish of visits.
- Visitors are requested to only visit their family member in the designated area.
- No children (under 18 years) will be allowed.
- Pets are discouraged from visits.
- No food is to be brought in.
- Social distancing must be maintained (1.5 metres) and will be marked in visiting areas.
- Cleaners will provide a wipe down of table, chair, and other equipment in between visits.

Our pre-screening process remains in place to ensure all visitors and staff:

- can demonstrate that they are well, with no fever or (mild) flu-like symptoms;
- haven't been overseas, or on a cruise ship in the previous 14 days;
- haven't been in direct contact with any person diagnosed with Coronavirus;
- have been vaccinated against influenza (after 1 May 2020); and
- staff screening before every shift, which covers temperature checking, wellness questions and demonstrating strict hygiene practices.

We are cautiously hopeful that we will continue to see a low rate of community transmission of COVID-19 so that we can further ease restrictions. However, we understand some family and friends may choose not to visit to protect the health of their loved ones and

that some might not be able to make it regularly during visiting hours. Maintaining virtual connections for all our residents will continue to be a focus for our care teams.

We have introduced a few new ways to keep in touch including through video calls, private Facebook groups and by sending in letters and drawings.

Yackandandah Health would like to thank the community for their understanding and patience during this difficult time as we continue to care for your loved ones.

More broadly, we are very aware that everyone in the community has been impacted by COVID-19 and look forward to a (limited) loosening of restrictions and a return to a 'new' sense of normal.

COVIDSAFE APP

If you have not done so already, this may be a reminder to download the COVIDSafe app from the Government as it is an important tool to stop the spread of the virus. You can



With a small selection of the letters and drawings are from front - Pen Pals Eril, Judy, Olive, Max, Carol (intergenerational staff member) and Pepita.

bodies were piled up in one nursing home.

Nursing home residents were among the first known cases of COVID-19 in the US. In mid-February in suburban Kirkland, Washington, 80 of 130 residents in one facility were sickened by an unknown respiratory illness, later identified as COVID-19. The CDC investigation into Kirkland was released on 18 March. It contained another warning: "Substantial morbidity and mortality might be averted if all long-term care facilities take steps now to prevent exposure of their residents to COVID-19."

It was not until 19 April that the head of the Centres for Medicare and Medicaid Services promised to track all deaths in nursing homes. That requirement went into effect last Friday, but there is still a two-week grace period for compliance. During the period from 19 April to 8 May, 13,000 people died, according to an NBC News analysis.

In the United States, the virus has claimed at least 7000 lives in skilled nursing facilities. This accounts for approximately one-fifth of the deaths across the nation. Some 36,500 residents and front-line workers in American nursing homes have tested positive for the novel Coronavirus.

Europe - As many as half of all Coronavirus deaths in Europe are residents of aged care facilities, the World Health Organization (WHO) says. (50% of the 32,000 deaths)

Australia - A 16th aged care resident at Sydney's Newmarch House died after testing positive for Coronavirus.

4 aged care facilities in Melbourne have had reported Coronavirus - Assisi Centres in Rosanna, Carlton's Rathdowne Place, Bacchas Marsh and Footscray.

In NSW Coronavirus-related deaths in aged care homes have accounted for more than one-third of the state's overall tally. To date, Australia has lost 27 of its aged care community residents to the virus.

While COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on Australia we need to continue to be vigilant in the hope that we can avoid the tragedies that have occurred overseas.

INDUSTRY CODE FOR VISITING RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE HOMES DURING COVID-19

Yackandandah Health acknowledges the release of the 'Industry Code for Visiting Residential Aged Care homes during COVID-19'



Pictured on Mother's Day are resident Pepita Hodgetts, with her daughters Sandra and Vicki.

download the app at:

www.covidsafe.gov.au

How does the app work?

After you download and install the app from the Australian Apple App store or Google Play store – which you can also access from the government's COVIDSafe app page covidsafe.gov.au or aus.gov.au/app – you'll be asked to register your name (or pseudonym), age range, postcode and phone number.

That registration information is stored encrypted on a government server, and then passed on to state and territory health authorities if someone you've been in contact with has tested positive.

Using Bluetooth, the app records anyone you get close to who also has the app. The two apps exchange anonymised IDs, which cycle every two hours and are stored encrypted on phones and deleted after 21 days.

If someone is infected with Coronavirus, they then get a unique code from a health official via SMS to use in the app to consent to upload the list of anonymised IDs for the past 21 days of contact for contact tracing. It uses signal strength and other data then to work out who needs to be contacted.

Once again, we thank you in advance for your patience and co-operation and we will continue to keep you updated on matters as they evolve.

KEEPING IN TOUCH - FROM A DISTANCE

Recent family visitations have significantly raised the happiness levels for many of our residents. Adhering strictly to rules around social distancing and aged care visits, we have been managing family visits these past couple of weeks and will continue to do so until restrictions are lifted.

Due to necessity, technology has played a big part in the communication over the past several weeks, with lifestyle staff managing many Facetime,



Club Connection - Yackandandah Beechworth Health Service

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Morning Tea/Lunch provided

Please phone Intake at Beechworth Health:
03 5728 0200 for further information

Skype and Zoom catch ups. Please call us on 6028 0100 if you would like to arrange a catch up with your loved one. We are currently offering morning visits at half hour duration Tuesday through Friday.

Visits on the Mother's Day weekend were especially appreciated, with plenty of flowers, chocolates, and virtual hugs on the menu!

Pepita says "I look forward to my visitors coming! I feel very excited when they're here, and I'm looking forward to the virus ending so my family can visit more often."

Vicki says "We love seeing Mum again, and we can't wait to take her out for Friday lunch at the pub soon!"

Sandra says "We love seeing Mum and look forward to visiting her for many more years. We're very grateful for the care she's received in these difficult circumstances."

LETTER WRITING PROVES A BIG HIT PEN PALS ARE BACK @ YACK!

Letter writing is back in style! Our residents are thrilled to be on the receiving end of lots of letters written by a group of Yackandandah Primary School students. – a great initiative during these times of isolation. A BIG thank you to Yackandandah Primary School!

The students, from different year levels, are selecting a resident name from our list and putting pen to paper, with some budding artists amongst them including colourful pictures. A group of our residents have been getting together and responding to their Pen Pals. They are impressed with the standard of writing and content of the letters and are enjoying the process immensely.

HI HO SILVER! AKA PETE DENAHY ON HORSEBACK

What an amazing place we live in here in Yack. Where else would you be lucky enough to have a man on horseback swing by for an impromptu visit to some excited children, social distancing of course. Thanks, Pete and Holly, for dropping by – you sure made the children at Little Yacks' day. Bring your guitar next time?

Article continued on Page 4



Pete & Holly wow the Little Yacks

**YACKANDANDAH HEALTH
continued**

THE DISH PIG WOVES IT WITH KIDS

The Yackandandah community's latest acquisition "The Dish Pig" made a visit to Little Yacks this week. A big thank you to the Yackandandah community for the use of Pig!

The dish pig is a mobile dishwashing facility and will be used to support the town's sustainability philosophy (reducing the need for disposable items).

With Little Yacks needing a new dishwasher – any offers gratefully appreciated - (as part of good practice infection management), the Pig has been a "squealing" success!

The children had a chance to push and prod Pig, hug and hide from Pig, and talk to Pig. Needless to say, Pig was a bit overwhelmed with all the attention and didn't say much!



Pictured L to R with Pig: LY staff members Rachel and Siobhan, with Macy, Patrick and Rory.

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0407 271 724

We have a local Toastmasters group, Indigo Speakers, who usually meet face to face in Wooragee Community Hall on the first Wednesday of the month and 2 weeks later, on the third Wednesday of each month at Yackandandah Community Centre, both at 6.15pm for 6.30pm start. The meetings last 2 hours.

It is an opportunity for anyone in this district to "take the fear away from public speaking", or to be assisted to make a special occasion speech, or simply to improve skills in public speaking.

These skills last lifelong and have assisted many of our members to succeed at job applications, public performances, examinations and even a presentation to Parliament!

Confidence and ability result from attending our small group; it is a friendly and welcoming group of like-minded people.

With the COVID-19 lockdown, we now meet by Zoom; visitors are invited to attend to join our meetings.

The link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/97857208486>



If anyone is interested, please call the Vice President Public Relations, Pieter Mourik.

(Dr) Pieter Mourik AM
0401 387 157 or
email: libpiet@gmail.com

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Monthly Meetings now on!
Where: Yack Men's Shed, 24 Isaacs Ave
When: First Thursday of the Month
What Time: 7.30pm
Need More Info? Phone Debbie on
0417 244 495
Or check our Facebook page 'YackaBees'
For meeting updates



'With you in change'

Local lawyers Helen McGowan and Matt Grogan are here for you.

Please contact us to have a chat about any issues that have a legal component.

We are available during Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons (1 to 5 pm) and at other times by appointment.

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IMPACT OF COVID-19

Like all CFA Brigades in the state, Yackandandah has put measures in place to ensure we are complying with the Chief Officer's instructions re. the restrictions imposed as a result of the Coronavirus to ensure both our members' and the public's safety. The Brigade Management Team has become adept at using Zoom for its meetings and we actually held our first general brigade meeting

(for all members) on Monday, May 12 by Zoom which 29 members attended.

Our Brigade trainers have run the theory component of Minimum Skills training for our new members on-line so that, as soon as there is the opportunity for new members to complete the practical component of the course, they'll be ready to turn out for the next fire season. And while it hasn't quite been "business as usual" we are still responding and supporting our community.



INCIDENTS

Brigade members attended two incidents recently, a house fire at Mudgegonga, and a burn-off on the outskirts of town, both of which serve as timely reminders around home fire safety and registering burn-offs.

Nineteen Yackandandah Brigade members turned out to support our neighbours, Mudgegonga CFA, to tackle a house fire on Tunnel Gap Rd on April 22 which, unfortunately, destroyed much of the home. Some of the Yackandandah firefighters, wearing breathing apparatus, were tasked with working inside the building. "Our various roles at this fire highlights the Brigade's capacity to combat structure fires in addition to grass and bushfires that we are called out to," says the Brigade's Captain, Yves Quaglio.

On 3rd May, fifteen members turned out to a sighting of smoke in the bush on the outskirts of town. As it turned out, it was a landholder

"burning off" some excess wood and debris from collecting firewood, who hadn't registered the burn-off. If someone reports a fire, we are required to respond. Registering a planned burn helps us out by preventing unnecessary brigade response. We also recommend you let your neighbours know. **So please call 1800 668 511 BEFORE you light your burn-off/bonfire.**

Other incidents over the past couple of months include a small grass fire in town, a small grass and scrub fire out of town that spread into a neighbour's property, plus some false alarms.

HOME OFFICE SAFETY

We're many of us now working from home, so here are some key messages on Home Office Safety:

- All electrical appliances should have an Australian Standard or a regulatory compliance mark.
- Power boards should have overload protection and not be covered by pillows, toys, doonas, etc. Maintain a good airflow.
- Only plug in one electrical device per power outlet. Do not piggyback plugs into one socket. Throw away your double adaptors!
- Don't leave laptops or other devices on bedding.
- Charge items on surfaces that do not burn and unplug as soon as they are charged.
- Electrical equipment should only be repaired by a certified electrician.

KIDS AT HOME?

Watch out for kids using their devices while they are plugged into a power point to charge. This is a no-no.

Charge devices in a common area of the home (rather than in bedrooms) and unplug them once they are fully charged.

Ensure that appliances are switched off at the end of the day.

KIDS AND COOKING

And for those that are

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN FIRE SAFE COOKING

- Wear an apron and roll up your sleeves. Make sure a grown-up is paying attention while you cook.
- Make sure the stove top is clean and things that can burn such as tea towels, paper or material at least 50cm away from the stove.
- Be careful of hot and boiling water, have a grown-up help you so you don't get burnt.
- Make sure you open containers slowly and away from you after they come out of the microwave - be careful of hot steam.
- Keeping looking when cooking - make sure you don't get distracted and leave the kitchen while cooking (this includes looking or playing on your phone).
- Make sure pot handles are turned in, away from the edge of the stove top.
- Does your family have working smoke alarms and a home fire escape plan?
- Make sure you know the emergency number for the Fire Brigade (Triple Zero 000).



For more fire safety tips visit:
www.cfa.vic.gov.au



keeping the kids entertained while they are not at school by letting them cook, this poster contains excellent advice!

COLOURING IN SHEETS

The CFA has got some templates available on line that the kids might like to colour in. Check them out at <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/kids-schools/colouring-sheets>

CAPTAIN KOALA AND FRIENDS



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Vic Emergency Hot Line
CFA Website:

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cfa.vic.gov.au



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YACK GARDEN CLUB

AUTUMN

A time of colour, this autumn in the north-east seems more luminous than ever. All the spectrum of red from deep purple to orange through the maples is contrasted with the golden lightness of ash and poplar, and multitudes of camellias are nodding their variety of flowers. In turn, the bird life is abundant with everybody from the nectar feeders to the parrots and finches, besides the congregations of magpies, currawongs and bower birds.

HOW THE COLOUR HAPPENS

Changes in light and temperature signal changes to the way trees convert sunlight energy to carbohydrates and sugars. The green chlorophyll in leaves begins to break down and the other colours of carotenes and xanthophyll pigments, mainly yellow and orange, begin to show through the chlorophyll residue. Low temperatures and overcast days encourage the formation of red anthocyanin pigments.

FROM JILL

"Cosmos are at their peak and this little preying mantis has been living in a rose for the past week. He will have to move soon as the rose is fading." I wondered at the spelling and then did some homework. The mantis is generally described as "praying" because of the way it holds its front legs BUT... this is no angelic predator. If a fly or bee passes within reach, the mantid's lightning reflexes enable it to grab the insect, and sharp spines on the raptorial forelegs enable it to tightly grasp the prey as it feeds. Larger mantids can even capture lizards, frog and birds. "Preying" is definitely more accurate!

Jill has also created something special with succulents, a project she shared with the club, including instructions about how to create this unique garden. "My succulent picture is looking gorgeous at present. I am happy for anyone interested in this as a project to make for themselves to give some instruction and also have plenty of succulent cuttings to share."

STREETSCAPE

Activity has been suspended until further notice, but Jim and Chris are managing the tubs in the meantime. While they're grateful for all the help in the past, we are equally grateful for the care they continue to volunteer.

TIME FOR THAT BIG PROJECT

Now is the ideal time for that big planting project with most people having more spare time to garden, excellent recent rainfall and still lots of nice sunny weather before winter sets in.

7 points to planning your garden:

1. Determine your soil type, climate and what you want to get out of your garden.
2. Look at the environment beyond your property. What can you borrow? What do you want to block out?
3. Design your garden before selecting plants.
4. Use natural, and/or local and/or recycled materials.
5. Select plants that suit the soil and climate and fit your design requirements.
6. Select some indigenous plants and keep in mind that locally grown plants will establish quickly.
7. Professional advice can save you \$\$\$, time and reduce the need to remove and replace plants.

For further details, this link is excellent. <http://anpsa.org.au/design/principles.html>

PLANNING FOR FUTURE EVENTS

As outlined last time, events and gatherings have been on hold. With the potential relaxation

of social distancing guidelines – and subject to infection rates remaining low – we may be able to resume some of our regular activities. In Melbourne, the Botanic Gardens are now open, but with some restrictions in place. In the meantime, we still have the opportunity to be outdoors among the falling leaves and chatter of birds.

UNAUTHORISED REMOVAL OF TREES

Many people will have noticed

and admired the spectacular colours of the lipstick maples on the Yackandandah-Beechworth Road. Five years ago, together with our neighbours, we planted eight beautiful specimens in front of our place, and then Ian and Lorna Jenkins planted another row in front of their property to create an avenue of colour for the entrance to the town. Through hot, dry and unrelenting summers, Ian bucketed water to each precious tree, adding feed and mulch, witnessing their progress, willing them to survive and thrive.

Then someone came and dug them up and took them away. What they couldn't steal, they broke and flung aside. It is barely possible to imagine the heartbreak, the anger and disappointment at such a loss. That it could happen in our town was inconceivable. If someone loved trees, how could they also be so ruthlessly dishonest? Feeling completely gutted, the question of whether to plant again was overwhelming – what would be the point? How could one know it wouldn't happen again?

But this is Yackandandah. The response to Ian and Lorna's loss rallied the family, generated a storm of support on Facebook and through the community. The Border Mail ran an article and people offered their assistance, using their contacts with the local nursery, the Garden Club and the Shire. Out of deep sadness now comes deep gratitude as the trees will be replaced and the vision of good people is kept alive.

A TOWN COMES TOGETHER

The morning of Friday May 15 was particularly significant as four splendid specimens of maples donated by Tom and Erin Powell's nursery on Hurdle Flat Road, Beechworth were reinstated by members of the Yackandandah Garden Club and Steve Pearce from the Shire. Melinda Johnson, a former student and great friend of the Jenkins, had coordinated the operation. She contacted Jill Whitford from the Garden Club who in turn called on Dave and Rose Crook, Chris and Phil Buttner and Jim Ralston. With such an assembly of knowledge and experience, the planting was carried out seamlessly and with great goodwill. Now watered, mulched and protected, (including the addition of security) we can expect another amazing display of colour next autumn and the entrance to the town once more highlighted by the spirit of community

Stay safe and let's take care of each other and the place we call home.

Michael Metzger. Communications & Media Secretary



Jill's magnificent succulent "picture"

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Yack Primary School

Yackandandah Primary School has continued teaching and learning throughout the COVID-19 restrictions. Staff, parents and children have all been working hard to support the remote teaching expected under State Government guidelines. At the school we have been very grateful for the support of families with helping children keep to their learning routines as much as possible. We have seen some fantastic and creative work being done at home. Every family is facing challenges with the restrictions in place and alternative work arrangements – or lack of work. Thank you to all of you.

Children have risen to the challenge of remote learning, developing independence and self-management skills along with their assigned learning tasks. If any positive can be drawn from the experience we have all gone through it is that children – along with the adults around them – can be resilient, can adapt and cope with change and that we can all sometimes put aside our personal wants for the greater good. Having said that, we are all looking forward to school and life in general getting closer to normal.

Usually schools around this time would be conducting Open Days and tours for families enrolling children for the 2021 year. Obviously that has not been an option. I encourage families who looking to enrol their children at school to contact us. By the time you are reading this article, restrictions will hopefully be lifting somewhat and tours – or at least discussions – can take place. To arrange a meeting and/or a tour (if restrictions allow) please phone us on (02) 6027 1431.

MICHAEL EDWARDS, Principal

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For all enquiries please contact either Andrea on 6027 1991 or Lisa on 0439 855 297

HOT HOUSE THEATRE

Like you, we are still navigating how the recently announced 3-Step program out of the COVID-19 restrictions will impact the return to presenting live theatre here on the Border. To give certainty, we have made the difficult decision to postpone the following shows originally scheduled in our 2020 Season:

- *Dr AudiYo's Giant Adventure* 7 - 11 July

- *Lamb* | 15 - 19 September

At this stage we are hoping to share **three** of our season shows at the end of the year. In October we plan to return with the joyous *I've Been Meaning To Ask You*. In November we plan to present Suzie Miller's *Prima Facie*. In the first week of December we hope to bring you one of the postponed shows. Once we can confirm which show this will be, we will let you know.

If you have a ticket to a postponed performance, and you haven't heard from us, please contact us on 6021 7433.

COVID-19 has affected the cultural industries more than any other and our region is no exception. We know our audiences and our artists need to reconnect. We know that our industries will be called upon to help restart tourism and drive visitation to our regions. So that this can happen sooner rather than later, we are busy developing our road map to recovery and planning projects for the other side. We're actively engaging with artists, companies, organisations and governments to ensure we are ready to return.

This is a really tough time for many

in our local creative industries and within our region more generally, but we want you to know that we all stand beside you in solidarity. Border North East cultural organisations have come together with a united mission to build a stronger and more harmonious regional cultural community that will see us through this crisis and into a brighter future.

If you are an art loving member of the public – thank you. Please wait for us. We will return soon. And in the meantime, please check out your favourite local creative's websites or Etsy stores. Buy art! Buy books! Buy tickets to live streamed performances! Support the work you love, by paying the people that make it. It is more important now than it has ever been.

FOR ARTISTS OF THE BORDER NORTH EAST

1000 x 1000 Crisis Cash for Artists

HotHouse Theatre is proud to be collaborating with Theatre Network Australia as a Champion Company for this important philanthropic initiative. With the arts industry across the country being significantly hit and in particular, a devastating percentage of artists falling through the cracks of the government stimulus support packages, the Crisis Cash for Artists is raising funds to provide \$1000 cash support to 1000 artists.

If you are in a position to support this, tax deductible donations can be made through the Australian Cultural Fund.

Currently they are offering to match funds up to \$110,000.



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CHECK OUR WEBSITE ON DATES FOR UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

All meetings whether held in person in the Council Chambers or conducted electronically will be live streamed at:

<https://indigoshire.vic.gov.au/live>

DO YOU NEED ASSISTANCE DUE TO COVID-19?

We're working with local community groups and organisations to connect you to a range of support services.

If you need assistance you can call 1300 365 003 and speak to our dedicated Pandemic Coordination Team which can support you to receive regular updates.

Visit the website for more information on how Council is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

LOVE YAK PLACE PLAN ADOPTED

A 30 year plan to guide the growth and development of Yackandandah has been adopted by Council.

Through extensive community consultation, the Yackandandah Place Plan, Love Yak, has identified a number of key priority areas with an emphasis on a more sustainable future, a resilient economy, a connected town and a growing yet tight-knit community.

You can read more on our website.

ON EXHIBITION

We've got a number of documents on public exhibition, including the 2020-21 Indigo Shire Draft Budget.

Documents are available on our website and submissions are invited from all interested community members.

Details on closing dates and how to make a submission are included on each item.

Indigo Myotherapy and Massage

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In April, Indigo Power launched its first public share offering, reaching our equity crowdfunding

target in just four days and raising \$300,000 from 247 new investors.

The share offer, and the public launch of Indigo Power across the region, came at a difficult time, with the economy essentially shut down. Despite COVID-19 and the current uncertainty, people from across North East Victoria (and especially Yack) backed the vision for regional communities taking the lead on clean energy and keeping some of the money spent on electricity bills in our region.

We know our town and our region supports good local initiatives, and we thought there would be support for a local electricity supplier when we launched Indigo Power. We're glad people agree.



Indigo Power shareholders Russell and Julie Klose.

With the share offer complete, we're now ready to expand, to supply electricity to households right across the region. We will use the funds to keep working to power communities with clean energy

through community energy hubs. This means expanding our electricity plan to more people across North East Victoria and into the Border Region of NSW, and building more community owned, local renewable energy infrastructure.

Community ownership is integral to our company, and we would like to thank and welcome the approximately 250 new Indigo Power shareholders into the Indigo Power community, and especially the 60 new Yack shareholders.

If you missed out and are interested in joining Indigo Power as a shareholder, get in touch through our website or Facebook page and we'll make sure you're notified first for the next offer.

BEN MCGOWAN, Director



Totally Renewable Yackandandah

Community Energy Roadmap

Although things are on hold while many of us are bunkered down at home and minimising our social contacts, there is still some serious work going on out of sight. The office of Dr Helen Haines MP has been working on a discussion paper that looks to chart a roadmap for community energy in regional areas and maximise economic opportunities for communities. Helen says "it's about building more renewables in regional Australia and making sure everyday people benefit".

Several TRY committee members participated in a recent panel discussion (via Zoom of course!) during the development of the paper, along with representatives from other community energy groups across the north-east region. Helen's office then released the discussion paper on Friday, 8th May and it will now have an eight week "co-design" public consultation phase.

Through our efforts of transforming Yack to 100% renewables, we've encountered many obstacles and had some amazing outcomes putting us in a good position to identify what could help towns like ours transition to cleaner

energy. We will put in a submission detailing our thoughts on the best ways of expediting renewable energy projects that directly benefit communities.

After the disastrous fires over the summer and now the crippling pandemic restrictions, regional communities need self-sustaining economic opportunities that build resilience, and provide multiple benefits and a better way of doing things. The discussion paper outlines different policies the Government could use to support renewables in regional Australia, and from the consultation phase Helen will

take a policy proposal to the Government for consideration.

In the meantime, regardless of the outcome, TRY will continue working towards our 100% goal. Despite tumultuous times, we believe

there are many things we can do to recover and build better outcomes. Quoting Helen: "Community energy can make our small towns self-sufficient. It can lower the cost of living and bring benefits to see rural and regional Australia out the other side of this crisis in good shape."

Juliette Milbank



Participants in a recent panel discussion convened by Helen Haines on a community energy discussion paper. Credit: Office of Helen Haines MP

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YACK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Although the Museum has been closed, our volunteers have kept been kept busy attending to the office, maintaining the garden and our wonderful preserves team have been busy making jams, chutneys and sauces. Our range of preserves are all available for purchase on-line, and we are delighted to offer these for sale with a free delivery within a 5 km radius of our local community. See our advertisement on the Yack Community Facebook page.

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Plum & Apple Jelly	3	
Pickled Cucumbers		6
Strawberry Jam	3	6
Tomato Sauce		6
Tomato Salsa		6
Tomato Relish		6
Quince Jelly	4	

If you would like to purchase any of these products, please email the Museum with your order. Don't forget to include your name, address, drop-off point and phone number: museum@yackandandah.com. Payment can be made by bank transfer to: BSB: 640 000 A/C No: 111 121 099, Account name: YDHS and please use your name as the 'reference'.



YACKANDANDAH IN COVID-19

A glimpse of what our town felt and looked like during April.

Streets are empty, car parks have plenty of space, shops are closed, cafes have no tables or chairs, and permanent seating is roped off. It is quiet. The tourists are missing. The beauty of autumn colours and the glorious sunshine is for us alone to appreciate. We walk apart, avoiding close contact as we pass.

We wait outside open shops until the requisite number of people inside allows us entry. We have become familiar with the phrases – social distancing, wash your hands, sanitise, flattening the curve.

The Post Office is busy, the supermarket is busy, and the Pharmacy has customers. We make purchases to keep our local businesses afloat with our meagre offerings.

Our greetings are brief. A smile is valued, a stranger greeting us appreciated. Our virtual skills are improving; we're learning things we never thought we would need to learn; join a Zoom meeting? Yes of course!

We appreciate the value of words, song, physical and mental exercise, gardening, cooking and empathy. We feel blessed to live where we do. We are resilient and we will come through this, maybe different, but certainly wiser.

Susan Reynolds



Did you know?

Jesse Twist's legacy: Twist Creek, Twist Creek Road and the settlement are all named after him.

Jesse was a miner, saw-miller and a publican. He possibly mined on Twist Creek, which was named for him and not its shape, but he set up his hotel between the upper end of today's "Gorge" and on Bell's Flat Road. His

hotel is marked up on the 1856 Survey Map shown above.

Jesse was born in Bolton le Moors, Lancashire, England in 1861. He was 31 when he married 22 year old Hannah Rothwell in 1834. Their first two sons, Jesse and John Blinkhorn, were born in England. John died, aged 3, when they arrived in Sydney in September 1841. Their other five children, including twin girls, were born in New South Wales.

The family arrived in the Yackandandah district around 1854 and a year later Jesse was granted the license for his hotel, the Bridge Inn. Five years later, his eldest son's marriage to Elizabeth Ann Brown, was celebrated on the 4th July 1859 at a ball held at the Bridge Inn.

Then tragedy overtook the Twist family. Three months after the wedding, Hannah Twist, Jesse Snr's wife, died suddenly at the age of 48. Six months later one of the twin daughters, Ann, died of epilepsy while in Prahran.

At the end of 1860, Jesse sold the Bridge Inn to a Mr Robert Henry, and seven months later Jesse died. He and Hannah are buried in unmarked graves in the Yackandandah Cemetery.

Jesse Jr and Elizabeth had two sons who died as children – Jesse, their eldest aged 6 in 1866, and Ernest Jesse, their youngest, aged 5 in 1876. Both children are buried in Yackandandah Cemetery, Jesse with his grandfather.

Twist's Bridge Inn was first licensed in 1855. Jesse sold it to Robert Henry who owned the sawmill in 1860. Robert Henry advertised it for sale in 1867. He died eighteen months later in Little River (Kiewa), aged 46.

Charles McIntyre's Bridge Inn Hotel was opened in 1865. Charles McIntyre had closed the Eureka Hotel in Kirby's Flat which he had owned since 1860.

There were thus two Bridge Inns in Yackandandah at the same time – Twist's at The Gorge and McIntyre's on Windham Street. After Charles' death, his wife Ellen was only granted a wineshop license. When she finally got the liquor license she changed the name to the Bridge Hotel.

Settlement at Twist Creek

Mining activity led to the development of this settlement. In 1865 William Thirloway opened his Victorian Hotel at Twist Creek. Publican Joe Johnson of the Britannia Hotel at The Junction moved to Twist Creek in 1865. The Ovens & Murray Advertiser reported the sale of the Victoria Hotel at Twist Creek in 1866. Johnson advertised his hotel for sale in March 1870.

At no time did Jesse Twist live at this settlement as he had died in 1861.

COVID-19 restrictions may have slowed us down, but when reading the excerpt below, lifted from the Yackandandah Times, 16 November 1911, we should be thankful for the progress we have achieved over the decades.

"The lessening of distance between Europe and the antipodes by fast and cheap sea-carriage, with the practical annihilation of time by the cable service, enables us to keep our finger constantly on the pulse of the foreign markets, and to supply urgent needs in an almost incredible space of time."

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A TRIBUTE TO IDA SCHOLZ

Ida was born on 27th March, 1928 at Henty, NSW. She was the second of seven children born to Walter Richard Schreiber and his wife Selma Ida, née Knobel.

The family lived at Walla Subdivision situated between Henty and Culcairn for 12 years. In 1937 they moved to Victoria, living firstly at Wangandary before purchasing a mixed farming property at Boweya, 25kms from Wangaratta.

Ida enjoyed school. On a report from Wangandary State School dated December 1938, her teacher commented: "An outstanding little girl, most charming and ladylike. Recommend and strongly advise doing professional course at High School." While continuing her schooling at Boweya, she completed Grade 8 by correspondence and gained her Merit Certificate. Opportunity for further education did not present itself so on leaving school, Ida returned to the family farm and assisted in the care of her siblings and general farm work, which included milking 32 cows by hand. When a new baby arrived to neighbouring families she was often called upon to help out in that home. At one stage she was asked to assist in the care of an aunt's young children in Temora, NSW. She spent three months there and enjoyed being able to attend the Lutheran Church Youth Group and also sing in the choir.

On returning home, Ida gained employment in Stassinis' Fruit Shop in Wangaratta where she mastered making the very popular drink of the day - pineapple crush. While working in town she boarded with an aunt and uncle and would ride her push bike 16 miles (25kms) back to the farm for the weekend. Just prior to her marriage Ida worked on the telephone exchange at the Boweya Post Office and also helped sort the mail. As there was no roadside delivery, the children from the nearby school would often collect the mail on their way home.

The Scholz family had an adjoining farm at Boweya. It wasn't long before romance blossomed between Harold and Ida. They were married at Wangaratta on 12th February, 1949. In December, they moved to Yackandandah, having purchased a property 1 mile (1½ Kms) up on the Beechworth Road. Early days were tough, the farm being overrun with blackberries, St John's Wort and rabbits. It was reported that eight hundred rabbits were trapped on the property just two weeks before they arrived. Needless to say rabbit often formed part of the evening meal! Then bushfires in the summer of 1951/52 burnt a hayshed, some sheep and much of the fencing. The dairy cows were saved but had to be sent out on agistment until the farm was workable again.

Three children were born – Marlane (1950), Veronica (1961) and Leslie (1964). All spent their early days in the pram up at the dairy while Ida and Harold milked the cows. The children attended the Yackandandah State School where Ida supported the Mothers Club.

As a woman of faith, Church attendance was a priority with Ida teaching Sunday School and participating in home Bible study groups. Her commitment to the Lutheran Church continued up until her recent passing.

When Ida obtained her Drivers Licence in 1971, she used her new found freedom to help others by taking people shopping, to appointments, delivering a casserole or baked treat to someone in need. For over seventy years, Ida supported the businesses of Yackandandah buying her groceries, meat, bakery goods, clothing, pharmaceuticals, cards and gifts from the local outlets and forming many friendships along the way.

Over her lifetime Ida also contributed to several organisations including Cubs & Scouts, Meals on Wheels, Neighbourhood Watch, Combined Churches Group. She enjoyed many years playing Lawn Bowls, then in later years Indoor Bowls plus Scrabble and Cards at the Senior Citizens where she was made a Life Member. Back in the early 1970s, along with a small band of like-minded horse lovers, she was a driving force in organising the Yackandandah Gymkhana which ran for ten years returning the profits to the Hospital, swimming pool and to the Hall.

Street stalls were a popular way of fund raising for various groups. Ida was an accomplished cook - making many sponge cakes, apple pies, biscuits, jams & sauces which were donated to be sold. Sometimes when she pulled up in her car she was greeted by an eager customer who would purchase the baking before it even made it to the stall!

Like many families of that era, self-sufficiency was key – tomatoes and fruit were preserved in the Fowlers Vacola outfit, jams and sauces made, surplus vegetables stored away and in later times consigned to the freezer. Chooks provided eggs, the excess eggs being placed in a jellied substance called Ovo* made up in a four gallon kerosene tin. A chicken dinner was a special treat usually reserved for a birthday or Christmas. Clothes were mended, socks darned, wrapping paper and containers saved for another use, very little was thrown away.

In 1989 Harold and Ida moved into a new home built below the original farmhouse. A large garden was developed which provided much pleasure. Ida loved her flowers, a vase of blooms gracing the kitchen table where they remained until the last petal dropped.



Having the gift of hospitality, a cup of tea, scones or other goodies were always on offer – food was part of Ida's love language. There were numerous gatherings of family and friends over the years and many birthday cakes baked, filled with cream and iced with various toppings. She also enjoyed a party with gatherings of at least 100 attending her birthdays in later decades plus both golden and diamond wedding anniversary celebrations.

Her care and kindness for others was also evident in the years that she spent voluntarily visiting patients at the Bush Nursing Hospital. Ida's ongoing services to the community were recognised when she was awarded the Yackandandah & District Certificate of Appreciation on Australia Day 2007.

Ida was a people-person, being genuinely interested and concerned about those with whom she had contact. She was loved and respected by many. Her husband Harold pre-deceased her in 2011. She is survived by her 3 children along with their partners, 10 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and two brothers, Peter from Dalby, QLD and Geoff of Wangaratta. Having reached the age of 92 years, hers was indeed a life well lived.

Due to the social distancing restrictions in place at the time of her passing on 15th April, 2020, only ten family members were able to be present at the Committal Service held at the Yackandandah Cemetery. The funeral was taped and has been posted at the e-tribute site: botanical.tributes.com.au/tributes/ida-scholz/

It is proposed that a Community Memorial/Celebration Service will be held around her birth date in March 2021.

MARLANE CROSS

* Historical information - OVO

The egg preservation material offered in this tin was during a period in Australia's history (especially in the rural areas) when the "freshness" of produce was not able to be maintained by refrigeration means. Rural towns did rely on the "Ice Works" providing block ice for prolonging "produce shelf life" however semi remote and smaller communities did not have that facility. It was products such as this egg preserving ability that enabled these smaller rural communities to maintain a constant source of healthy "short life" organic produce. When Made - from mid 1800's to mid 1900's

Significance - This tin which contained egg preservative powder is very significant to a rural region (Kiewa Valley) in the late 1800's to early 1900's. It details the type of food preservative methods that were available to rural areas which lacked proper refrigeration means at their disposal. Basic foodstuff which required "special" preservation means to extend their "shelf" life were sometimes regarded as luxuries by semi remote communities. Kiewa Valley and its regions were typical of these remote communities in the time frame of this egg preservation product. The ability to keep products that deteriorate due to "normal" outdoor temperature (bacteria-prone produce) was a factor of rural living.



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Photo Credit:
Victorian Collections

3D will always be there for you

3D technology, once the domain of movie cinemas and theme park attractions, has been slowly creeping into the property market – minus the blue and red glasses, and holographic Hollywood stars.



But in the recent lockdown conditions across the country, it became a valuable tool to showcasing homes for sale and lease, safely. Many businesses including real estate agencies in Albury Wodonga and the surrounding areas suddenly had to find new ways to connect with their clients, to continue to provide a service, but with minimal contact. Consumers and businesses owners alike turned to social media to communicate, and everyone became more familiar with digital technology use. While some rules have relaxed, there is still a need for social distancing. This increase in accessibility to local businesses online is not only appealing to today's society that expects everything at their fingertips, but it is also a reassuring point of (non) contact with businesses.

For the real estate sector, the technology of 3D tours can completely reduce the need for any physical interaction. It is often a catalyst for successful sales

and leases in the market where buyers or tenants are interstate and cannot inspect on location.

Mark Boehm is the Business Manager at PJ Murphy Real Estate, and they have been using 3D Virtual Tours as part of their marketing for years. "3D Virtual Tours mean buyers can walk through your home, without leaving theirs. It's undoubtedly the safest and most convenient way for buyers to inspect a property." Mark says. He's also noticed that 3D virtual tours create a natural filtering of qualified buyers. "When buyers turn up to inspect a property and say they've seen the 3D tour, that's a good sign. We know we're dealing with a buyer that's a bit further along in their decision making."



According to research conducted by immersive media company Scann3D, property hunters spend at least 52 per cent longer on listings that feature 3D tours; there is four times the engagement than listings with standard video and there is an 80 per cent increase in inquiries for properties with 3D tours. (To 3D or not to 3D: The rise of 360-degree technology, Domain Group, 2020).

Will 3D tours replace the need for in home inspections in the future? Unlikely, although for some it already has. As the technology becomes more adopted, and we move forward as a society that is extra mindful of physical contact, it will surely become more expected and appreciated.

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KNOWING - a project for foodies and storytellers

Margie Gleeson and Don Cameron came to live in Staghorn Flat in 2016. At the same time Margie joined forces with Christine Bottrell, another creative educator, to create Breaking New Ground Learning. These mavens* wanted to do something that combined their passions and interests- community, education, the arts and empowerment. At the heart is arts centred learning for sustainable living. We identify opportunities, activate ethical partnerships and create awesome projects.

In the last 4 years BNGL have created events and partnered with others : Drawing classes (Albury and Yackandandah), Singing with the Elders (4 primary schools and aged care facilities in Albury with support from Albury City Council), Painting with the Elders - a mural project with Lutheran Aged Care and Albury High School students, facilitated the creation of a community garden at West Albury Public School, Strong Young Women - a project to empower young women, Lantern Making and Installation at Upstream Arts Festival, Lantern Making for By the Banks Music Festival, Knitting in the Pub with Company(making squares for blankets for charity) Kids' Creative Holiday classes, Mind + Museum - Changing the Story which gave elders with dementia a chance to visit the Albury Library Museum and have afternoon tea.

Demand for support for teachers has led to Professional Learning workshops for teachers of music, visual arts, textiles, drama and early career educators. It is this area of teacher mentoring of Early Career Educators that has been growing.

Margie and Chris have a new project which may appeal to you. It is called Knowing.

When was the last time you used the word "hobby" to describe how you spent your free time? If it sounds like a foreign term you haven't heard since you were a kid, you're not alone. Hobbies are something of a lost art in our culture today. In a world that celebrates the "hustle" of answering emails until midnight, creativity and hobbies often fall by the wayside.

But, needless to say, our world is changing right now. Coronavirus is keeping us away from our normal schedules, and we now have more "free" time than before. This shift can leave us feeling bored, anxious, and confused — or it can serve as the nudge we need to question the hustle mentality and reconnect to our innate creativity. (*Katina*

one another. Sometimes a hobby, sometimes just a necessity but often linked to what we ate as children. Since lockdown, we have been cooking up ideas to encourage connection. At a time of extreme social isolation, we know that this project will bring joy to you and to us. An opportunity to smile, to cook and to connect. If you step back into memory, marinate yourself in nostalgia, sauté yourself in the sensory experience that is food and stories and family and friends, what would come up for you?

Do you have a recipe and a story to go along with it? Perhaps it was your mother's gingerbread? The pages of the recipe book stained with the mix of brown sugar and butter. Too many fingers dipped into the mixture and then turning pages to check oven temperature required.

Across our multi-cultural island there are stories that began here with the Indigenous custodians and stories that have arrived with eager migrant families. Some are exotic and exciting, others familiar and all usually comforting. They

are evidence of a cultural mixing pot.

At BNG Learning, we are looking for stories and recipes and stories of recipes. We are looking beyond the simple information. We are looking for the experiences and learning. What do you know through these experiences?

'Knowledge' can be simply facts, information, and skills acquired through experience or education; the theoretical or practical understanding of a subject or awareness or familiarity. Intuition is the ability to acquire knowledge without

recourse to conscious reasoning. Knowing combines the two. It requires that we become aware through experience or instruction, but eventually the knowing and the intuition merge until we have an experience that is part of us.

In some cultures women are the custodians of certain knowledge, food in particular. We have always held a certain knowledge, a certain knowing. We invite you to share your knowing, to share your stories. We seek to combine this knowing into a compilation, a digital story, a book, a collection of knowledge.

This is one of our awesome projects.

Do you want to join us? Message us before 30th June to be involved. And start trying out those recipes!

You can follow us on our new website: www.bnlearning.com and send us a message at bnlearning@gmail.com or find us on Facebook or Instagram#bnlearning_for_life_

Margie Gleeson and Chris Bottrell May 2020

*A **maven** (also mavin) is a trusted expert in a particular field, who seeks to pass timely and relevant knowledge on to others in the respective field.



Mountanos)

We've been interested in stories and food for a long time. There's something about the combination of tall tales and the smell of cooking

that sparks nostalgia like nothing else.

Margie says her mother was not the greatest cook but she was a great storyteller. Her main specialty, Monte Carlos. They would be prepared largely with hands in the



biscuit mixture-no Thermomix for her! Topped with the requisite fork marks. And when out of the oven sandwiched with jam flavoured icing, they didn't last long.

At the end of her mother's life, Margie was reminded of how these stories and that food she made, contribute to making us into human beings with beliefs, values, prejudices, biases, passions and knowledge. With every cup of flour, came a cup of confidence. With every spoonful of sugar, came stories of her generation.

All families have stories. All families have knowledge handed down about family history, foibles, legends, journeys and rituals. We tell these stories over home cooked meals, birthday dinners or celebrations like Christmas lunch. Stories and food seem almost indistinguishable from



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Dennis and Pauline Cook



Thank You Victoria.

While some restrictions have eased, limiting our movement everyday means everything. It means we slow the spread of the virus. If we keep working from home and we limit the number of us moving around, we can keep kicking a footy in the park. If we use common sense and keep our distance, we can visit cafes and restaurants. And if we only see those we need to, we'll keep our friends and families safe.

We all have a part to play.
It's up to all of us to make this work.



For details go to vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS

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SHARE PRICING

The current value of a YCDCo share is \$228.76, with an original issue price \$100/share at set up in 2002. This represents a capital growth in share price in excess of 129%. Owners of shares may trade shares privately for any agreed value with specific buyers. For example, some may transfer the shares to family members at an agreed value, but we generally do have shares available for purchase.

SHARE DIVIDENDS - A dividend of \$10/share was declared for the 2019-20 financial year.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING A SHAREHOLDER?

These are many, and if you have made a recent move to Yack, we would seriously ask you to consider joining the YCDCo family. Knowing that you are invested in a local business which plays an important role in supporting the community by distributing a proportion of its profits through a community grant program is just one reason. This financial support provides ongoing resources to local arts, sports clubs, environmental projects, wildlife rescue, and other 'not for profit' clubs & organisations.

Having ownership in a successful local business with a

solid financial foundation is another reason. This includes an ability to provide dividends to its shareholders. Recent dividends represent a return on investment of around 5% based on the current share price far outstripping

current bank interest rates. The share capital value has grown from \$100 in 2002 to \$228.76 today. The dividend returns plus the capital growth of share price and the generous store discounts (at yFuel and Foodworks in Yack) plus the community donations, collectively represents excellent overall value for shareholders.

Shareholders have voting rights, they are eligible for board director positions and they receive a fuel purchase discount of 2 cents/litre making us highly competitive with other fuel outlets. We also have regular shareholder only events or competitions.

You get to invest in a local business which provides incredibly important services and convenience to the community, one that provides employment opportunities including casual employment for our local teenagers outside school hours. We typically employ 12-14 people which makes us one of the few Yack businesses offering our young people local, regular, paid employment.

We offer a vital service for local trades, other businesses, and emergency services with our seven day a week service.

YCDCo has attracted funding for the town with the Yack Creek Recreational Trail and invested in significant town infrastructure including Little Yacks childcare, the Butson Park Netball courts and the YCDCo generator which gives us capacity when there are power outages.

YCDCo oversees the publication and distribution of a truly local newspaper – Yackity Yak - which is published six times a year and is full of local news and information.

We have substantial shareholder assets - YCDCo owns the freehold business situated in Railway Avenue. The site, building assets, stock at hand and business have not been formally valued, but it is estimated that it would easily exceed \$1M in value.

Lastly, YCDCo would not exist without its shareholders. Consider for a moment the convenience for you of having a local fuel station, hardware store and rural produce supplies, and what this means for Yackandandah and the wider local community.

If you are interested in purchasing shares and after reading this we hope that you are, then please register your interest at: <https://ycdco.com.au/wp-content/>

[uploads/Updated-Offer-Notice-2019-2020.pdf](#) and join a vital part of the Yack community.

Ian Fitzpatrick, Chair

BUSINESS PERFORMANCE SINCE 2007



JUST A FEW OF THE LOCAL ORGANISATIONS THAT HAVE RECEIVED YCDCo SUPPORT



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The Yackandandah Community Initiative

Collaboration between many of Yackandandah's leading organisations and businesses is reaping rewards for the community.



A new group, The Yackandandah Community Initiative, was brought together by the Yackandandah Community Centre as a way of fostering collaboration between the town's organisations during the COVID-19 health crisis. The group now consists of representatives from local and State government, service groups, schools, health services, volunteer organisations and private businesses and comes together via regular Zoom meetings.

Manager for Yack Community Centre, David Thorpe said the group had been doing a lot of work behind the scenes to provide services and initiatives which would help the community through the health crisis.

"The response to the initiative has been fantastic, organisations and individuals have been so enthusiastic to be involved for the benefit of the community," he said. "Working together has meant that we can deliver services which would be difficult for individual organisations to achieve. One of the big projects was developing a Business Listing of the businesses which are operating during the COVID-19 restrictions. The group thought it was a really important thing to produce as a way of

supporting businesses.

"We printed 1200 copies which have been delivered to mailboxes in the Yackandandah, Australia Post distribution area. We have also initiated a COVID-19 notice board at the Post Office and recently launched, Yack Chat from indigo FM."

Innovative ways of supporting Yack has been a feature of the Yackandandah Community Initiative group.

The next project to get underway is the distribution of hand sanitiser. Proposed by president of Yackandandah Lions, Jane Moore, the project will see the group purchase bulk lots of hand sanitiser, decant it into small bottles and distribute it throughout town for the price of a small donation.

"I think hand sanitiser is going to be the new norm and will really just be part of everyday life," she said. "We want to make it more affordable for everyone especially those on a low income."

She said while stocks of hand sanitiser were returning to supermarket shelves prices seem to have risen dramatically.

"It's really important that people are able to access it and use it to protect their health," she said. "But prices have gone up a lot and it has become unaffordable for many people. And often the available sizes are too large, people really need a small bottle they can throw in their bag or in the car. I am going to put this forward as a Lions International project."

THE BEECHWORTH TO YACKANDANDAH RAIL TRAIL

The new bridges for the Beechworth to Yackandandah Rail Trail along Yackandandah Creek are under construction and due for completion in June 2020. Please observe all safety signage and stay clear of all bridge sites, as these are designated construction areas. Stay tuned for further updates.

As tempting as it is to keep using the new Rail Trail from Yack to Osbornes Flat, please read all signage and keep away from construction sites.

We hope to have an article about progress in the August/September edition of Yackity Yak.



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LOCKDOWN FROM COVID-19 IN YACKANDANDAH

FOODWORKS DELIVERIES DURING LOCKDOWN

For the record.



A big thank you to FOODWORKS!!

FOODWORKS home delivery. Superb service and excellent quality fruit and vegetables!!



THELMA BUCHANAN

WFH, iso, 1.5, bmw*, social distance??

After this is all over, and we are back to whatever 'normal' will be, will we remember?

Yackandandah Museum is keen to collect your thoughts, your actions, your joys, your despairs, your creativity. You will have seen that all major collecting museums and libraries are making their own COVID Collections. So in Yackandandah Museum, our collecting is about COVID in Yackandandah Community.

Will you help us to remember the things we want to forget as well as the things we want to remember? What you did, how you found things to do in isolation, how you kept your mind active, how your children and families managed, what delighted you and what frustrated you? What anxieties plagued you.

Put it in any form you wish, images, prose, poetry, objects, digital or hard copy, and give it to the Museum, for us to add to our Collection. If you want privacy, or anonymity then tell us. If not, then please give us your name and contact, we may use it in future exhibitions and publications.

Like all major events in our wide and wonderful world, we must learn from this, and not forget it happened.

We would love YOUR story.
(* bmw? Bring More Wine!)

Susan Reynolds
Collections

Yackandandah Museum
21 High St, Yackandandah
museum@yackandandah.com

The Editor has asked for us to describe for the record our various experiences of the COVID-crisis lockdown. Mine has been mostly positive, but in providing my report, I don't mean to be dismissive of the hardship that I know has been endured by many. Although very few of us have encountered the virus itself, many have lost employment, money, travel plans, their football season and other valued outings and social contact.

For me the realisation of looming world crisis only crystallised in the final week of February. It was the day after watching the Sydney Fire Fight concert on TV. (Does anyone remember that there's still an ongoing need for disaster support in that particular realm?) The share market took a significant dive as governments across the world were beginning to report outbreaks of the latest Coronavirus and accompanied this with projections of enforced social lockdown and economic shutdown. At that time, nobody was particularly sure what that would really mean. Will this end the supply of essential goods & services and trigger an apocalyptic breakdown in society?

I felt a bit slow off the mark for not having earlier repositioned financial interests and for also having arranged a suite of travel plans and concert tickets. However, I know that I'm not alone in that.

As people tried to reclaim some control of the situation, we then witnessed the panic buying of such things as toilet paper, rice and long-life milk. In my case I stock-piled hops and malted barley. At least the beer wouldn't run out. I also bought cans of paint considering the prospect of months at home and all shops being closed. At least I could use the time productively. I also know that I wasn't alone in that line of thinking.

It has been said that in crisis there is both danger and opportunity. Indeed, I did try to find the positive side of things, but initially saw only inconvenience and uncertainty. I was annoyed when our Folk Festival was cancelled and even more so when they closed my pub, the final round of chook-run golf and the footy season. At the time, I saw it as over-reaction and I still hold that view with respect to our state-based banning of golf. But then a whole new sport emerged. We won't have the Olympic Games medal tally this year, but instead we can check daily on the figures and graphs that chart the management (or mismanagement) of virus containment

across various nations. Is it some sort of morbid nationalistic pride in taking satisfaction when seeing the data reflect Australia's efforts so far proving more successful than most other countries? I suspect that I'm not the only one viewing from that angle.

As I write this, the Victorian Government has just announced some easing of restrictions. However, there's still a long way to go before we're out of the woods and the world beyond this will be forever different to the one we knew. Some of these differences will hopefully be for the better, resulting from things we have learnt from the lockdown experience. In many instances work practices will progress to incorporate more flexibility for working from home. Some futurists are also suggesting that we will see a change in our cities, with commercial and social interaction focusing more on suburban neighbourhoods instead of people commuting to the urban centre. Renewed appreciation of the importance of family and local community are obvious take-aways from the crisis.

Certainly, for us in Yack, it has been a time to appreciate our rural aspect and community. Let's face it, the weather has been mostly fine and being stuck at home, reading a book in the sunshine against the picturesque backdrop of our environment really hasn't been too tough to take. For socialising, we've had fence-line paddock BBQs and Friday night driveway drinks, complete with pizza delivery. The Yackandandah Blokes Book Club also introduced me to Zoom for our meetings and I know many people have turned to online video conferencing for both work and social interaction. In replacement of concert outings, Andrew Lloyd Webber has each week made one of his shows available for viewing on YouTube. The Yackandandah Community Choir also extended an invitation to join their weekly get-togethers on Zoom. With fifty people online, I clearly wasn't the only one attending those.

I've got most of the painting done, brewed four batches of beer and tuned in to a broad range of webinars, podcasts, TED Talks, movies, shows and documentaries.

Isolation??? Yeah, I guess I haven't really been alone in that.

BRIAN LANNEN



"Magic" mushrooms growing up in Mt Pilot. Left STRICTLY alone.



Freshly ground flour from local wheat. True blue local bread.

ISO IN THE INDIGO VALLEY with the Dale/McGowan family



Our beautiful ISO tracks. This is the Old Coach Road in the Mt. Pilot National Park, perfect for running along, and not a soul in sight except for the black wallabies.

YACKANDANDAH AND COVID-19 - APRIL 2020 - GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Streets are empty, carparks have plenty of space, shops closed, cafes have no chairs and tables. Permanent tables are roped off. The beauty of the autumn colours is for us alone to appreciate. The autumn sunshine and glorious days are for us alone. We sit apart on street benches, to briefly enjoy a coffee and a chat.

Our venues are closed. We walk apart, avoiding close contact as we pass. It is so quiet. We wait outside open shops until the requisite number of people inside allows us entry.

We have become familiar with the phrases – social distancing, keeping space, wash your hands, sanitise.

The Post Office is busy, the supermarket is busy, the Pharmacy has customers. The tourists are gone. We miss familiar faces in the street. We purchase to keep our businesses afloat with our meagre offerings. Our greetings as we pass by are on the move, brief, and concerned for health. A smile is valued, a stranger greeting appreciated. We virtual hug from a distance.

Our virtual skills are improving, we're learning things we never thought we would need to learn. We are appreciating the value of words, song, music, physical and mental exercise, gardening, cooking, empathy. We bless our splendid regional isolation. We value friendship on any level.

We are resilient, we will get through this.

My day in COVID

Yackandandah - Friday April 24, 2020

A greyish day. As usual, I get out of the house during the morning.

Today is International Outrageous Earrings Day so I have investigated the bottom of the jewellery boxes to find clip-on earrings, unmatching of course. To each of these I attach a bracelet also found in the bottom of the box. Several are too heavy, two are quite light, one silver enamelled bells, the other a silver charm bracelet, I wonder if that is Kate's? No pierced ears so a feat of memory to clip them on securely.

In town, I greet Karen in Klimt to show off and remind about the day!! At each stop, the Pharmacy to collect prescriptions from Ros, Newsagency to find that Josh has kept me the last Age, I explain my earrings, mostly to delighted admiration and a laugh.

Outside the Newsagency there are Mary and Wilma, Marilyn, Sonya, and we chat and pass at a safe distance. Bit of work at the Museum then to Gum Tree Pies with my coffee mug, and discussion with Teaghin and Cody about wearing earrings. Pass a group of 5 tradies enjoying their treats, and we discuss the possibilities of "Tradie" earrings – tools, nails...

Sit on a stone seat outside the

supermarket with coffee, and pass the time with greetings, including Catherine and her sister-in-law who have, the day before last, had the tragedy of Catherine's mother's house burning down, where her brother and sister-in-law have been living – losses, photographs, safe retrieval of items, and stocking up. Pam joins the conversation. Battling with inactive NBN box at the Museum.

Driving out of the carpark and stop to greet Janne, wearing fabulous earrings.

Home and straight to a walk, to be greeted by Margaret, about to drive into her driveway. Librarian. With the Shire, working from home as well as she can. Can hear the small children in the house next door.

Home to isolation.

A good morning's work! How many social interactions, how many laughs, how many caring people? Heaps.



*Deserted Yackandandah - a not unusual sight during the day mid-Pandemic.
Photo Credit: Yackandandah Historical Society*

Then at 2.30pm, a Zoom session with a group of Adelaide girls from The Best is Yet to Come, ably facilitated by Kay. We all gave our responses to isolation.

My self-isolation is not greatly different from my life. Few visitors, up to me to make my social contacts personally, so I leave the house every day. I can easily find an essential chore to do – a grocery item, post, papers, chemist, Doctor Tess, or my volunteer job at the museum. Museum is a good meeting place for Janne and me, sometimes others, space, no public, cups to use for take-away. Generally, someone goes past the gate to greet or chat with. Or on the stone seats outside the supermarket, no chairs or sitting in or outside any of the coffee places, there will be people sitting in the gutters, on the few street benches, all at approved social distance. People are getting to have their regular places. Like Mary and Wilma.

Saturday April 25 2020

Anzac Day impromptu ceremony, brief, a few gathered at approved distance, some wreaths. I gather a school wreath. People well dressed as befits the occasion.

Monday April 27th 2020

Invited to morning tea with Blue Pockley at her daughter Clare's home. Their rule is only Clare, Rod and Blue enter the house, so I join Blue outside on a beautiful day, and we chat, have coffee and have a lovely time. Clare has provided rugs and hats if we want them. Rugs not needed!

I get back to Yack at 12.15pm to be met, as arranged, by Anthony, wearing his 'I am at work' MyCar shirt. We share coffee on a street seat, get supplies for him to take home to the family, then go home to select and stack his car with tools from the shed for him to pursue his COVID woodworking of making outdoor chairs for the front porch. Lots of

and run out of tablet power too. Candlelight and bed by 9pm.

Thursday April 30th, 2020

Morning - fire just going with oven open so it doesn't boil. Just enough for a cuppa. No shower.

Into town Thursday to power up phone and tablet, have coffee, and work on getting document on museum computer with my webmail. Some difficulties, but some edits to Trevor. We should try to get it to Robyn today. Trev has responded and all in hand and will be sent today. Document sent and response from Robyn!!! Big sigh from Trev and me.

Saturday May 2

Kate's birthday.

Sunday May 3.

Papers getting thinner each day. The Age has daily chart of COVID progress and vulnerable Melbourne suburbs. Sent it to Ava and Zac to check Hobsons Bay area, pretty good figures. Bushfires started the reporting, over-usage and misuse of the words 'unprecedented', 'exponential' and 'decimated'. Stephanie Daniel would be horrified about 'decimated'. Did jigsaw destined for Ava and Zac, big pieces, colourful, doughnuts, filled the afternoon. Saving them weekday puzzles in Border Mail.

MY COMMUNITY IN THE COVID LOCKDOWN

It is my community, I care about it.

There are many of us who live alone. We may be alone, but we are not necessarily lonely. We have adapted. We have many ways to keep connected. Phones, emails, social media, letters, all good. But personal social interaction is so necessary for our wellbeing. And we still find that within our community which, at the moment, is all we have. So, as always, we find ways to continue. Isolation, lockdown, care - we comply. Our mental health is just as important as not catching the virus, so we find ways.

In the near-empty streets of Yackandandah, there are those who continue the habits of years, by being out and about, albeit in much reduced ways. There are those regularly 'out of the house' sharing coffee with a friend on a street bench, in the gutters, walking. There is always a good reason – a visit to the supermarket, the Post Office, the Pharmacy – but there is also the opportunity for a passing chat, for greetings, for concern for your neighbours, friends, businesses, a comment, as always about the weather, about the autumn colours, about the lockdown, about the future. I counted 25 such interactions, all at a distance, in one visit. It encouraged me.

We will survive this and be the richer for counting small mercies.

SUSAN REYNOLDS

BY WAY OF ROWDY FLAT

For years Rowdy Flat Track has taken walkers along the lower creek. Now, upgraded, it extends the Beechworth-Yackandandah section of rail trail further, to Pettiford's Hill at Osbornes Flat. Rowdy Flat Trail winds along Yackandandah Creek through forest and history via the old Rowdy Flat goldfield. Though no trains ever ran this way, a Huon or Kiewa link was proposed in the 1890s to access Wodonga, southern NSW, and the Kiewa and Upper Murray Valleys. Early maps show considered routes, including one by way of Rowdy Flat. But the 1890s depression ended railway 'mania'; then early 20th century motorised road transport filled in the gaps. In 1863 a road was surveyed through Rowdy Flat, following former tracks. Now, sealed and scenic, an appealing new trail draws walkers and cyclists.

Rowdy Flat Trail begins at the lower end of Whiskey Flat, named Apostles Flat after an 1853 sluicing party of twelve. It passes beneath the Yackandandah-Myrtleford Road bridge then (likely) skirts the site of Yackandandah's first swimming pool, beside today's holiday park which was established in 1934. The pool, opened in 1922, had seats cut into the banks, and dressing sheds. The trail continues to the junction of Yackandandah and Commissioners Creeks where, officially, Carroll and son found Yackandandah's first gold in 1852 – according to David Reid, who saw gold seven years earlier at Staghorn Flat during his flour mill's construction.

It then flattens and straightens out along the former rifle range, first used publicly in 1885, the year after a Yackandandah Rifle Club formed, and nineteen years before a ladies rifle club began. At the far end of the range, water races trace around the adjacent hill on which Yackandandah's main Chinese camp, laid out in 1859, existed to some extent for at least 19 or 20 years. Two years earlier a small camp existed at Rowdy Flat and, by 1863, another at Pike's Flat.

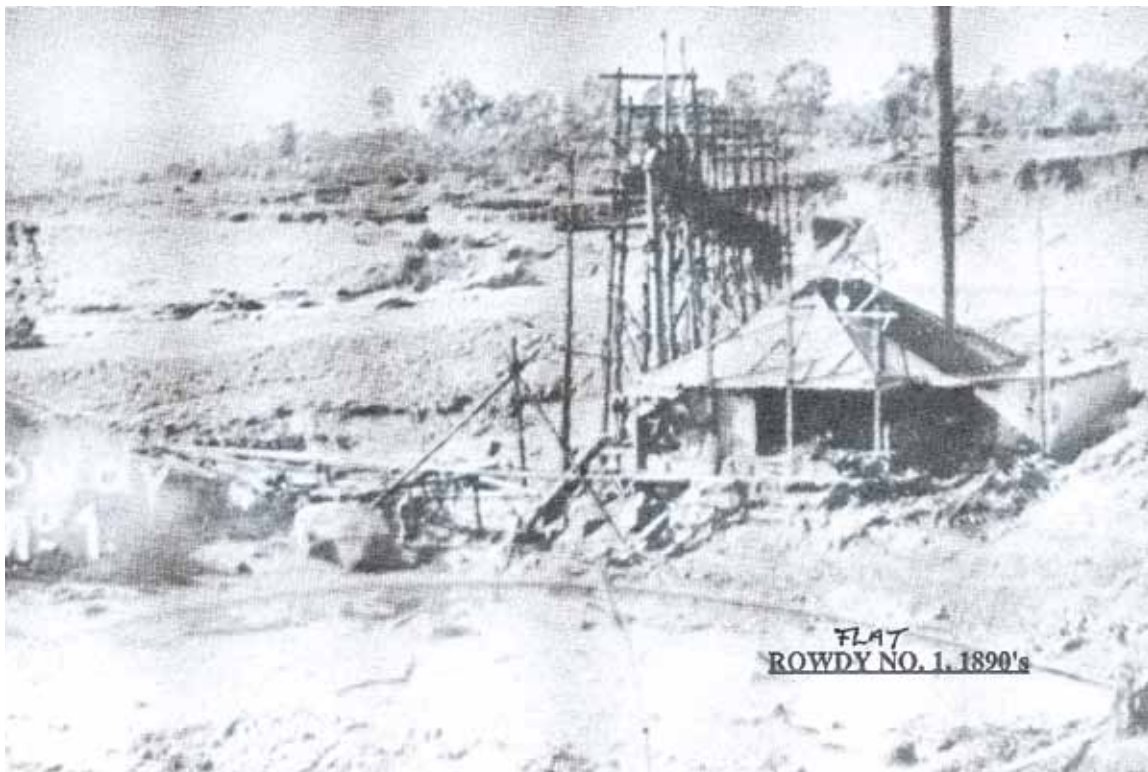


Photo - Rowdy Flat No. 1 Barge ('Ottawa', 'Rowdy Jane'), 1890s. Source: Latrobe Library

A 'Chinese track' was said to lead from the main camp to workings down the creek, including at Rowdy Flat.

Butson Park, soon visible through trees, began as a dam excavated at Target Flat in 1898 to increase water pressure for J. A. Wallace's Rowdy Flat No. 1's gravity-fed nozzles, which lost 'head' from their Lake Harvey supply as the gold barge worked upstream. Also in 1898, Wallace's more powerful 'updated' Rowdy Flat No. 2 barge ('Ada') with pump-driven jets began work. A decade later, Donald Fletcher was filling 'Wallace Lake' with his Whiskey Flat hydraulic sluicing tailings which became the oval. The site was annexed in 1927 to the present golf course, first temporarily reserved in 1863 for racing and public recreation. Around the turn of 1949-50, Butson Park was severed from that older reserve and named after long-time local sporting devotee Ted Butson, prime mover in obtaining the new sportsground.

Further downstream, where Back Creek joins Yackandandah Creek, the site for Yackandandah's sewage treatment plant was acquired in 1985. This locality, known by 1860 as Pike's Flat, and later in the nineteenth century as Lobban's Flat after the family living there, had a charcoal burning business in 1943 in response to World War 2 shortages.

From here to Rowdy Flat the trail curves and undulates interestingly through eucalypt forest, though the Rowdy Flat No. 1 photograph suggests that native vegetation adjacent to the creek must be regrowth. Introduced flora and occasional heaps of remnant stones beside trenches are reminders of early gold digging. But most small miners' marks along the track were obliterated by barges which left large waterholes, high eroded banks, uneven landscape, and

unstructured soils.

Wallace's Rowdy Flat No. 1 mining barge, christened 'Ottawa', was known as 'The Rowdy Jane'. Said to be a world first, its principal ideas were nonetheless derived from other places. The Hon. John Alston Wallace, principal shareholder of Yackandandah Sluicing Co. and, from 1873-1901, MLC for Northern/North Eastern Province, in 1888 began purchasing Yackandandah Creek claims, including at Rowdy Flat, intent upon bringing science to rejuvenate the mining industry by using the floating barge principle. Water pressure from a holding dam, via the plant's jet brought down and dissolved banks of earth which, transferred to a centrifugal gravel pump, was lifted to overhead sluice boxes. The barge's pontoon or foundation contained air chambers, allowing it to ride floods and to float from exhausted workings to new positions where water was drained, and the plant re-settled on the ground. Working day and night, initially with kerosene lamps, later using a generator for electricity, it treated an acre (0.4 ha) per month. Many teething problems and breakages were overcome, notably prevention of pump wear by using hard replaceable steel liners. Wallace had huge costs, among them the wages he paid that largely shielded Yackandandah from the 1890s depression, though barge returns have been put at about 1,000 ounces (29 kg)/acre.

The trail first crosses Yackandandah Creek at Rowdy Flat, then continues through this place that insists upon contemplative revisit. Farmland appears to the west, stream and dense vegetation to the east, towards a rocky second creek crossing. Iron rods protrude from granite, here and downstream at 'The Narrows', hinting of previous bridges. The trail then passes through mixed eucalypt and exotic trees which hide the creek until it emerges from granite tors at the lower end of a small attractive parkland area before climbing away from the water, traversing a mixture of sparser eucalypt trees, some gneissic boulders, farmland and houses, and several reminders of earlier times, towards its end at the Osbornes Flat road.

The first 'reminder', The Narrows, has rarity, aesthetic value, and uncertain origin. This 230-metre length 'eastern' channel with stone-retained walls was cut through granite to take sluice boxes. A western channel, identified in a report over 25 years ago as a possible original creek course, is blocked off and very silted up, with stone-retained sections. However, the polished c400 million-year-old granite and remnants of large potholes of The Narrows today indicate centuries of stream abrasion by Yackandandah Creek using this channel. The report identified four levels of water races along the eastern slope, one cut through rock, a lower one built up and flumed around it. A track was constructed along the western side. The Narrows, known as such by the late 1880s, was blasted through what must have been a beautiful sequence of huge potholes, and its sides built up with rock; but by whom and when? One estimate suggests the 1850s-1870, but Frank Mongan and others were said to have stacked the rock, boxed the lower end, and used horses and scoops to move dirt from upstream into the sluice, which they cleaned up each evening when the creek was running well. A late 1890s article referred to granite boulders on Frank's Pettiford's Hill claim. Though unlikely, could that have referred to here? Anecdotal sources state a barge (Wallace's 'Ada'?) from Osbornes Flat was dismantled and moved above this rock barrier; but a December 1898 newspaper report that the

Rowdy Flat barge had been shifted up the creek, and was then past the worst of The Narrows, did not mention disassembling.

Osbornes Flat Hall marks the end of Rowdy Flat track – at Pettiford's Hill, named after the first surface claim holder there, in 1857. An information board outlines the hall's history, citing a celebratory ball opening in May 1921, and a community committee running it since the 1970s. A century ago, swimming carnivals were held in the dam behind the hall and, across the road, in July 1875 the Bishop of Sandhurst blessed the foundation stone for St. Mary's Catholic Church. Completed in 1876, the church was largely demolished by a December 1886 storm. It was rebuilt in 1889 and sold in 2008.

Back to Rowdy Flat...

In January 1853, the 'continual discharge of firearms' greeted a *Sydney Morning Herald* reporter ascending a hill on his northerly approach to Yackandandah. Was this the raucous behaviour of a largely Irish Catholic community at Rowdy Flat, and the origin of that locality's name? Or was support for Irish-born John O'Shanassy, champion of the miners' cause from 1852, elected Victoria's premier in 1857 and later, and whose followers – probably including diggers of this flat – were labelled 'O'Rowdies'?

Little was heard of Rowdy Flat until 1856, although Ellen Mongan was said to have had a store there in 1853. Beechworth had a newspaper by 1855 to cover local events, and two from 1856 when turbulent Rowdy Flat, with its large share of Yackandandah's goldfield population, was then advancing rapidly – despite setbacks. French-Canadians were constructing a large tailrace, Mr. Morrell

BY WAY OF ROWDY FLAT

was erecting a public house. In 1857 this was 'one of the best parts of the Yackandandah diggings', particularly the bank claims. In 1858 Rowdy Flat was the main area of mining. Business boomed. Thomas Kinchington had the Sydney Arms Hotel, William H. Maxwell a restaurant. Unmack and Katz's slab store with a canvas roof sold drapery, clothing, footwear, groceries and ironmongery. But in December 1857 the store was for sale, and the hotel destroyed by fire which spread rapidly in the calico ceiling. Two more hotels opened in early 1858: David Flynn's 'homely' Miners Arms, and the two-storey wooden National of Gilbert Power and Richard Leonard, 'unequalled ...in the district for



Looking east, across the former Rowdy Flat racecourse and cricket ground site. The grandstand was below the trees, extreme right centre. Rowdy Flat hamlet was on higher ground, over the creek from Wildon Ave. Source: C. Barnard, 2/3/1986

accommodation, desirability and finish'. Alexander McGuire, another storekeeper, bought the Miners Arms in 1860 from William Roper – these social venues frequently changed hands. Maxwell's 'store' was burnt in September.

Rowdy Flat community progressed strongly during 1859-60. A public meeting was held in 1859 towards building a Roman Catholic chapel and, at Power's National Hotel, 'creek man' Robert Ecclestone was elected a member of the Yackandandah Division of the Beechworth Mining Board. O'Connor's Rowdy Flat election address referred to current issues including the land question, Goldfields Act, State aid to religion, Chinese, the water topic and Yackandandah Gap's terrible road.

Formal education arrived in January 1860 when Catholic Denominational School No. 536, Rowdy Flat, opened with 33 pupils. It became a Capitation school in 1874, then closed five days before the brick Osbornes Flat School, SS 1463, first opened, also in 1874. But the children transferred to the new brick Pettifords Hill Catholic Church, which was not completed until 1876 – so where were they for two years? When a storm destroyed all but the church gable ends a decade later, they moved to the state school. At the opening of Rowdy Flat's new Wesleyan chapel in November 1860, Rev. T. H. Jackson preached 'excellent discourses'; 'crowds of all classes and creeds' attended the tea party, including Rev. J. W. Crisp, Superintendent Minister of the Circuit, the first to preach there.

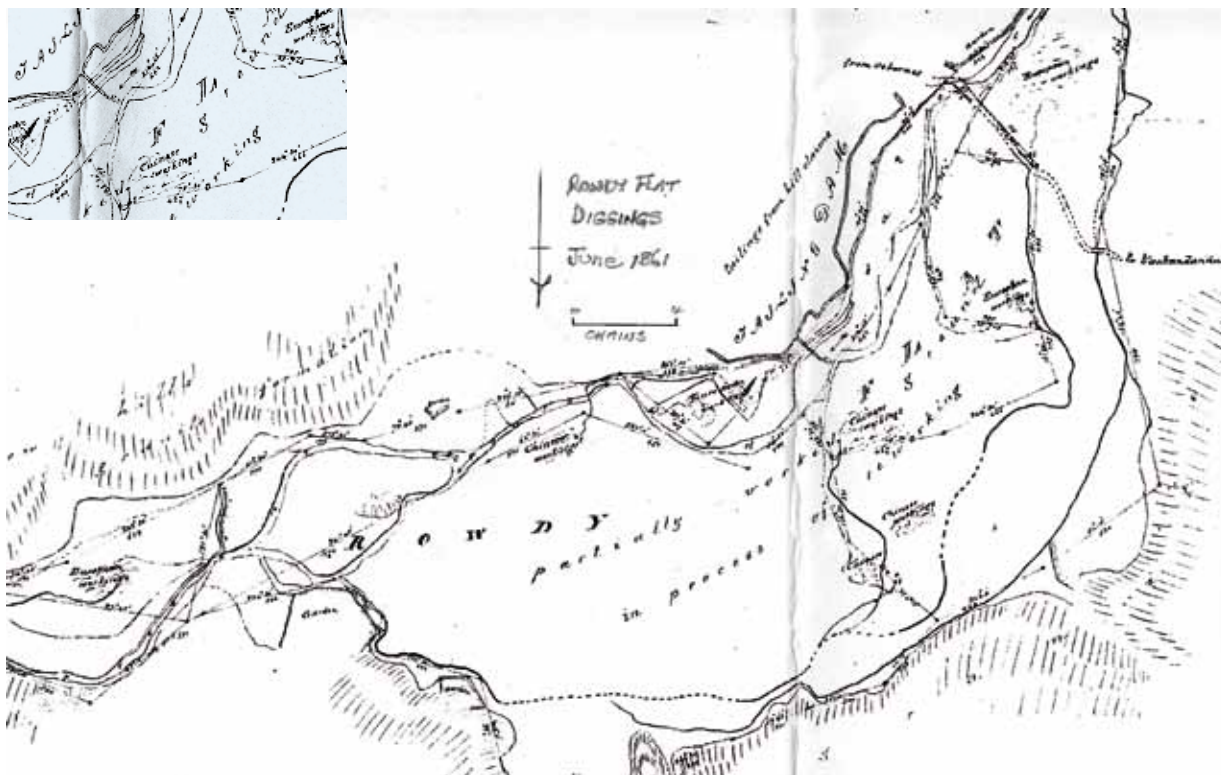
The foundational general meeting of Yackandandah Cricket Club was held in 1859 at Flynn's hotel, Rowdy Flat, where it was decided to call the team 'Emu' because it was inaugurated there, not Yackandandah. About the same time a meeting at the Albion Hotel, Allans Flat, decided that Yackandandah's races should be held on a central racecourse, and decided on Rowdy Flat. Established in November 1860 over the creek, beyond the end of today's Wildon Avenue, the racetrack enclosed the cricket ground. The first annual races held there were on Boxing Day 1860, and cricket against Beechworth in April 1861. But two years later the land was purchased for a farm, cricketers had found it too distant for practice, and horse accidents occurred at a sharp bend in the course just past the grandstand, so all moved in 1863 to the new, temporarily reserved recreation area nearer Yackandandah.

Rowdy Flat also had its sad and unpleasant times. Samuel Harvey, 19, was killed there in 1857 while deepening a tailrace – 20 tons of earth fell on him. Peter O'Donnell died similarly in 1858, as did Patrick Cannon in early 1862 from this too-common form of death and serious injury. Burglaries occurred,

at Breslin's store in 1859 and Mrs. Cannon's store in 1863. Rowdy Flat shared Yackandandah's influx of Chinese in 1859, and the consequent conflict. A European in April that year was chased into a Rowdy Flat hut after he attacked a Chinese miner who encroached on his claim, and in 1865, Ah Wan was shot one night while robbing a sluice box.

Alcohol led to two murders at the National Hotel. In August 1865 publican James Kennedy was stabbed by Patrick Sheehan, who became the first man hanged at Beechworth Gaol. When sober he was a kind husband and good father, when drunk a demon. Emotive scenes in the courthouse and gaol underscored this tragedy. His children were sent to industrial schools in Melbourne and Geelong as his widow, Margaret, could not support them. Fortunately, she obtained employment at the latter. Ellen Kennedy, widow of James, transferred her publican's licence to her New Era Hotel at Hillsborough, opened in 1867.* Two years later Francis Neville, an enormously strong man, transformed by drink into 'a ferocious animal', murdered his good mate Nicholson by kicking him to death and hitting him with a wooden billet. Imprisoned in Melbourne, with floggings he became even more hardened.

In 1861, both Chinese and European claims occupied Rowdy Flat. Beyond the claims were gardens. To the south were large tailings dams, and head races provided water for washing and wheels (Californian pumps). By 1865 Rowdy Flat's population was 250, much lower than earlier days. Businesses were being attracted to Yackandandah from the flats. The day of the small miner was largely over, reef mines in the hills would become important, and capital and technology drove the future of both reef and alluvial mining. Also, people were looking towards the land. Rowdy Flat in 1869 consisted of 'half a dozen houses comprising this hamlet, (and) one two-storied wooden building surrounded by fine specimens of weeping willow'. One night, seeing a glow as she was about to leave for a dance, Ann Mongan (nee Kinchington) exclaimed: 'There goes the pub!' And so it did.



Rowdy Flat diggings, June 8 1861. Unclear at this size, at least 3 areas of European workings and 4 areas of Chinese workings are marked (eg. enlargement), with tailings from hill claims at the top (south). The Osbornes Flat-Yackandandah track crosses at top right. The scale indicates 4 chains (c80 metres). Source: Central Plans Office

Today, giant cacti, and an apple tree with other exotic species just up from the Lake Harvey ditch, near where the National Hotel once was, are the only mementos of stirring times. Amongst forest regrowth and along the creek, diggers and barges have left more permanent marks.

There's an aura about Rowdy Flat, an emanation from history, lingering still along the creek, roaming the trees, across the flat, as of latent energy from boisterous days. Or is it the ghosts, the Rowdy Flat ghosts, like the three-metre white apparition that so terrified a Wallace barge worker one moonless 1890s night, or those blamed for ongoing mechanical problems on the Rowdy Jane? For word has it that spirits of gold-seekers, entombed in premature graves, wake in haunting defiance of those who would benefit from their demise. Avoid walking Rowdy Flat Trail alone at night!

* For more on this family tragedy refer to Colin Barnard, *A Nineteenth Century Village: Yackandandah*, Volume 3, 2013, Index (Kennedy; Sheehan)

Colin Barnard, 12/5/2020

SANDY THE WAR HORSE - NEWS

Due to the COVID-19 Virus we have had to put our fundraising on hold till further notice.

We had started a Wood Raffle just before the shut down and that raffle is still ongoing, so as soon as we are able to sell tickets on the street again we will resume this raffle. You can purchase tickets for this raffle by phoning Louise on 02 6071 2746 or 0428 399 113 or Bryan Smith on 0418 578 009.

We have been very fortunate to have received a generous donation of \$5,000 towards our project from the Tallangatta Heritage Society. The committee wishes to thank the Heritage Society for their support, it is very much appreciated. This brings our total raised so far to approximately \$21,600 and rising.



Richard Crispin with Yuri, the Waler

Sadly, our ANZAC Day service could not be held but I am sure many people in Tallangatta stood in their drive ways to remember our war heroes. At 8pm on ANZAC Day Tallangatta had a visit from Richard Crispin and his horse, Yuri.

Yuri is a Waler, these were the type of horses used in WW1 and many of these horses came from New South Wales hence the name Waler. Sandy

was one of these horses.

In these photos, Yuri is kitted out in WW1 Australian Light Horse tack. The riderless horse with boots reversed in the strirrups symbolises the fallen individual. The boots are reversed to represent a fallen commander looking back on his troops for the last time.

The ANZAC Walers performed their difficult carrying tasks magnificently despite the stress of gunfire and lack of water at Gallipoli. Soldiers slept with their horses to stay warm on freezing nights in the desert and their steeds were often hungry enough to eat each other's tails. They were mostly killed or passed on to the military units abroad at the end of the war because of the cost and quarantine difficulties involved in repatriation.

The following poem was written by Major Oliver Hogue who wrote several books and poems under the name "Trooper Bluegum" and it depicts the bond between horse and rider and how hard it must have been for soldiers to leave their mate behind.

"The Horses Stay Behind"

In days to come we'll wander west and cross the range again;
We'll hear the bush birds singing in the green trees after rain;
We'll canter through the Mitchell grass and breast the bracing wind;
But we'll have other horses. Our chargers stay behind.

Around the fire at night we'll yarn about old Sinai;
We'll fight our battles o'er again; an as the day go by
There'll be old mates to greet us. The bush girls will be kind.
Still our thoughts will often wander to the horses left behind.

I don't think I could stand the thought of my old fancy hack
Just crawling around Cairo with a Gyppo on his back.
Perhaps some English tourist out in Palestine may find
My broken-hearted Waler with a wooden plough behind.

No; I think I'd better shoot him and tell a little lie:
"He floundered in a wombat hole and then lay down to die".
Maybe I'll get court-martialled; but I'm damned if I'm inclined
To go back to Australia and leave my horse behind.

The Sandy Committee is committed to building a bronze statue of Sandy who was the only horse to return to Australia. We will build this monument in memory of Sandy and the horses that didn't come home. This monument is part of Tallangatta's history and the story should be told as Sandy was sent to the war effort by Frank O'Donnell of Old Tallangatta. (See the article about Sandy in the December 2019/January 2020 edition of Yackity Yak.)

We are only a small group so if you would like to join our committee you would be most welcome. If you would like to support our project and make a donation please ring:

Louise Coulston on 02 60712746 or 0428 399 113

Ross Smith on 0418 690 328

Bryan Smith on 0418 578 009

According to "Victorian Collections" (a free, web-based collections management system that allows you to publish your records online), during



World War 1 Australia sent 39,348 Walers overseas to the Australian Imperial Force. Many Light Horsemen enlisted with their horses with a government promise that they would

be able to bring their horses home with them. On the outbreak of peace, costs became important and it was deemed too costly to have horses repatriated to Australia - except for one horse, "Sandy", owned by General W T Bridges who died at Gallipoli in 1915. Quarantine was offered as a reason for not permitting the Walers to return to Australia. However, the horses would have had a long sea voyage, giving time for problems to emerge. Many of the fit horses were sold to the Indian Army.

CARRAMAR

A neigh, soft touch from muzzle, bold eyes that plead with me
Takes me back to carefree times, jewelled with memories.
I stroke old head, pull wisp of mane. I sense the tears not far.
There never stepped a smarter horse than you, old Carramar.
Briefly, for a moment we clear a fallen tree,
Hurtle down a breakaway, that game young colt and me.
Carve a path through wattle, deafening crack of thong.
Swing the leaders for the yard, stragglers tail along.

Long days in the saddle, stifling dust in yards,
Charging bawling melee, scrubbers stand their guard.
Riding back in darkness guided by a star.
How weary bones sought comfort - much the same for Carramar.
Spread your arms old box tree, cast shade around my shack.
Faint gully breeze keeps taunting, beckoning us to bridle track.
But, no more we ride to musters, old cobber, now you see,
Doubt we'd tend to raise a dust - the likes of you and me.

Saddle waiting, lonely, tell-tale signs of rust.
Dust covered gear with bridle, old age is so unjust.
Old mate, you neigh and plead to me, you know it's not unheard.
With shaking hand I stroke old head, vision getting blurred.
We've used up times of used to be, as only true mates can,
Your name was proudly spoken around fires throughout the land.
I am not ashamed of flooding tears, I'm guided by a star.
One final look in wiser eyes, goodbye old Carramar.

EPILOGUE

Should one chance to come that way where once there stood a shack,
Wander down the shady creek beside the bridle track,
The big box tree still reaches out to where some rails are down.
By searching through the weeds and grass, a headstone will be found.
Inscribed upon a faded slab are words to sooth the heart,
Kissed gently blown by angels for two loves that cannot part.
Here lie the greatest mates of all - two guiding stars on course.
Rest in peace old friends at last - a stockman and his horse.

Bill Whitham, Tallangatta



Helen Haines MP
INDEPENDENT FEDERAL MEMBER FOR INDI



Hello,

The crisp and occasionally frosty mornings across Indi bring into sharp focus the contrast between the familiar rhythms of the seasons and the absence of once familiar work, school and social routines of the past weeks.

As our governments gradually and stepwise ease some COVID-19 restrictions, many of us will be meeting in person with small groups of friends or family for the first time since those restrictions came into place. I like you, am so grateful for the incredible work of so many dedicated people that have led us to this point.

I returned late from Canberra on May 14 after a modified sitting of Parliament. A highlight was tabling the Beechworth Principles petition with an accompanying speech calling on the government to introduce its long-promised federal integrity commission legislation. I was very pleased to have a meeting with Treasurer Josh Frydenberg to discuss the results of my recent Indi business survey and highlight the impact of both COVID-19 and bushfires on our communities and local economy. The Treasurer was keen to hear of Indi's regional development aspirations and the incredible shovel-ready infrastructure opportunities we have for targeted spending and future-focused policy, including our ground-breaking work in community energy.

On Monday, May 18, I celebrated the one-year anniversary of my election as your Independent Federal Member for Indi. What an extraordinary year - working with so many of you in facing very major challenges and, importantly, celebrating many, many successes. I am so proud of the communities of Indi and I am filled with more energy than ever to advocate strongly for us.

As always, I welcome your enquiries, ideas and feedback. I encourage you to contact me or my office on 03 5721 7077, or by email at helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au Please visit my website - helenhaines.org and encourage your friends to sign up to the Cockatoo newsletter.

SECRET FOSSIL-FUEL LED RECOVERY PLANS DEEPLY CONCERNING - May 21, 2020

Today we have discovered the Government is engaged in an opaque plan for a fossil-fuel based recovery from the pandemic. This news is tremendously disappointing. The report leaked this morning from the Manufacturing Taskforce inside the National COVID-19 Coordination

Committee (NCCC) has been designed in closed boardrooms around the country without any public consultation.



Helen is a great supporter of renewable and community energy

This plan subsidises a national gas network that would almost certainly end up as a stranded asset and would waste taxpayer money on technology from last century. Moreover, increasing Australia's carbon emissions will accelerate climate change, making our

our people sicker, and our economy poorer. After the Black Summer we just went through, we cannot tolerate such a future.

Astoundingly, the Government's own leaked report shows that the cost of renewable electricity, even with storage, is still lower than the cost of gas - powered electricity. Australians know the economics on this shifted long ago. Two weeks ago, I launched a public, open plan for a community-led renewable-based recovery for Australia. It runs on a similar timeline to the NCCC, but leverages existing community expertise, and empowers groups from across the country to co-design a community-energy renaissance in Australia that the CSIRO estimates could generate billions in annual income by 2050.

Already regional Australia is pushing ahead with building our renewable energy future. The Yackandandah Hospital will save \$1 million over the next 25 years in electricity bills from its rooftop solar developed by community energy groups. Why doesn't our COVID recovery plan allow every regional hospital, school, TAFE and sporting club to access these same benefits? Cheap, clean, local energy well into the future, means we can spend more money on the things Australians really care about - health, education, public infrastructure

These are the opportunities Australians are looking for. Indi stands ready to lead on this. In

the wake of the bushfires, I pitched to the Energy Minister for a proposal to build a mini-grid in Corryong, to ensure it never loses power again like it did in the fires. This is our recovery.

We have groups in Euroa and Yea wanting to build similar mini-grids. Solar farms are going up around Goorambat and Benalla. Yackandandah is looking at pumped hydro and community batteries. This is our recovery.

Over the next six weeks, I have invited all Australians to participate in a community co-design process for a renewable energy policy for regional Australia. Everyday Australians will be able to shape this future. It's transparent. It's democratic. It's honest. This is our recovery.

INDI RECEIVES OVER \$9 MILLION FOR LOCAL ROADS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

I welcomed the recent announcement of over \$9 million for local road and community infrastructure priorities in Indi, which will help local councils support jobs and businesses by delivering priority infrastructure and maintenance projects. I am delighted to announce Indigo Shire Council's portion of \$1,068,549.

PARLIAMENT AND THE BUDGET

Federal Parliament will sit again from June 10 for two weeks. It is then scheduled in August to return to regular sittings. The Budget, usually delivered in May, will be introduced on October 6

To you, your family and friends, please stay safe and well.

Kindest wishes



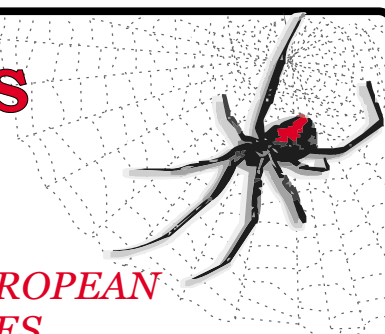
The front page of Yackity Yak from one year ago - amazing how quickly time has flown...

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One of the orphaned joeys - Photo Credit Paul McCormack Photography

Kangaloola and COVID-19

doing a day here or there. Our 100 plus animals, with all their differing needs, plus our 24x7 schedule requires at least 3 people full time. All of a sudden, it was just Glenda and Emma (a volunteer from Sweden), whose visa was about to expire.

We had 2 serious problems - care for the 100 plus animals and to protect Glenda, Ron and Emma from



Emma Westerling feeding joeys - Photo credit Paul McCormack Photography



Multiple suckling - Emma supervising. Photo credit Paul McCormack Photography

An ominous email arrived late February - a volunteer from the US was cancelling her booking because of medical advice about the virus risk. At the time the concern seemed overdone.

One week later, with the escalating crisis, we were forced to request our own booking agent to reschedule pending volunteers from high-risk countries. Just a few days after that, all our volunteer bookings were cancelled and the nation went into lockdown.

Normally, Kangaloola has Glenda plus 3-5 resident volunteers and a small cohort of experienced locals

COVID-19. Kangaloola went into lockdown. We stopped all volunteers and began keeping a distance of one full adult kangaroo apart (from other humans).

The summer of 2019-20 (remember that?) saw a record number of koalas come into the shelter. We had 13 heat stressed koalas at the peak. They are very demanding needing specific gum leaves in large quantities every day. The dry conditions meant leaf-gathering outings every second day. That's tough with a 4 hourly feeding regime and rescue calls coming in all the time.

We began to deal with the lack of volunteers because, unusually, the number of kangaroo

orphans was down thanks to the early March rains and, courtesy of COVID-19, there was a massive reduction in road traffic. At the same time, we focussed on releases to reduce the number of animals in care.

Emma, bless her soul, applied for a visa extension to help Glenda and Ron manage the workload. Now we have just less than 100 happy animals and everyone is safe - so far, so good.

Check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/KangaloolaWildlifeShelter>

Chris Lehmann



THE ANNUAL KERFERD ORATION

Former independent Member for Indi, academic and rural consultant, Cathy McGowan AO, will deliver the 2020 George Briscoe Kerferd Oration in July in Beechworth.

The 2020 Kerferd Oration will be held on Sunday 26 July, 11.00am via live streaming.

Further information will be available at: www.facebook.com/kerferdoration or www.kerferdoration.org



About the NDIS

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has been set up by the Federal Government to provide support for people with a permanent and significant disability.

A permanent disability means your disability is likely to be lifelong.

A significant disability has a substantial impact on your ability to complete everyday activities.

The NDIS provides funding for supports and services to assistance, or products that help a person in their daily life and help them participate in the community and reach their goals.

Plan Management Service

AIIM Choices Plan Management Service is about having your own accountant service to take care of paying the bills for care provided under your NDIS plan. We pay supplier invoices for the services you receive under your plan. Processing of invoices is timely ensuring that your support services are continued.

Our professional Plan Management team focuses on saving the participant's time and relieves the stress that can be associated with managing and claiming payments through the NDIS MyPlace Portal.

This gives you more time to get the most from your NDIS funding.

AIIM Choices

AIIM Choices is regarded as a leader in the NDIS community specialising in Plan Management Services. Based in Wodonga, we pride ourselves in bringing our country values of service and support to help participants achieve their goals.

AIIM Choices approach is to provide services that empower people to develop their potential supported by the NDIS.



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"In this present period of depression and financial stringency, one hears a different theory every day for its alleviation, but after all, theories are of very little value if they are not backed up by practicability and perseverance. All the theorists agree, however, that Australians should be optimistic and loyal to the last farthing, to Australian industries. This is obviously the remedy for many of our financial ills, and so in the town of Yackandandah this applies also — we

are all more or one on the other. possible to make Xmas happy and prove ourselves by purchasing made goods in our We are in the variety of in the local shops should not be



difficultly in acquiring all our Xmas goods — presents and provisions — right here in Yackandandah. Mutual help and confidence in ourselves and our country is going to work wonders for Australia, so just for the Xmas week, let us banish "old man gloom" and by a little cheerful spending assure a happy Xmas in our own town.

An inspection of the shops has revealed some very interesting and high-class goods, with prices to suit all pockets. Practical gifts such as all classes of china, glass and brassware, can be obtained at Robson's in great variety, and sporting requisites, of which Mr. Robson makes a special feature, are particularly attractive this year.

Each year brings forth new novelties to tempt the Xmas shopper and these include many dainty gifts, such as quaint little china animals filled with bath salts, beautiful bottles of perfume, lavender sachets in all shapes and sizes, powder compacts and many other novelties which are displayed attractively at S. McGuigan's, the chemist.

For those gifts of personal adornment which mean so much to the feminine heart, go to Falck's, — for there you can purchase anything in the way of jewellery from a string of beads to a wristlet watch; and for the house there are some beautiful pieces of crystal china and silver — in fact, no end of useful and beautiful articles which make such delightful gifts.

While we are thinking of presents, we, must not forget that E. Simmons stocks all the best brands of tobacco and cigarettes, pipes, cigarette cases, etc., — all of which make, interesting Xmas gifts.

And now for the indispensable part of Xmas. The freshest and best of groceries are stocked in this town. The Co-operative Store offers particularly tempting prices and will supply you with the choicest dainties for Xmas nuts, raisins, biscuits, tinned fruits, puddings, etc. Xmas is not complete without its supply of fruit and sweets for the kiddies and G. Burrige and M. Lorimer are noted confectioners, with fresh and varied stocks always on hand.

In a word— Be Loyal and Shop in Your Own Town."

Provided by Thelma Buchanan

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THE ARTS IN YACKANDANDAH

ARTS YACKANDANDAH COMMUNITY CHOIR

The abrupt cancellation of the Yack Folk Festival earlier this year left the 100+ choir members of the community choir with a repertoire of songs and no way of singing together. After the stress of the bushfires it felt like another cruel blow, especially as this was our largest choir in many years, with more than 130 singers raring to go.

After communicating the sad news of the cancellation, we were inundated by messages of support and gratitude from choir members, many asking if we could find a way to perform together once it was safe to do so. For the choir committee and leaders, reading through these messages was an emotional experience and reminder of the simple joy of singing and its healing power.

"We love bonding every year through this amazing opportunity, being a part of the choir and being surrounded by such beautiful soulful people has just warmed our hearts."

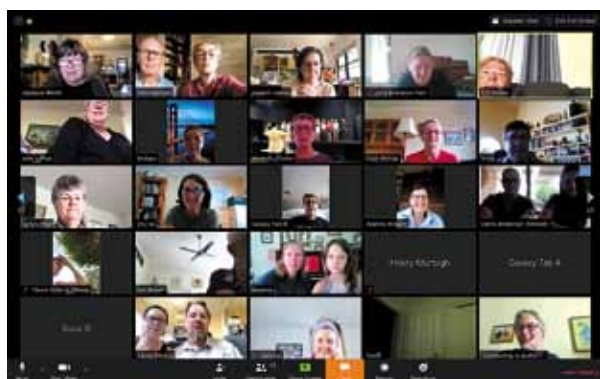
"Thanks to everyone and let's look forward to a time when we can share the beautiful songs we were rehearsing with those we love and our community. In gratitude and appreciation."

"It is just so sad that our festival is not happening, and I think we all feel an enormous emptiness."

"We want to say thanks for a wonderful few week rehearsing our songs. They circulate around our heads and pop out at odd moments when we sing to each other."

"I have so enjoyed the Sunday rehearsals and have felt so uplifted after them. It's been a joy coming back to choir."

"Thank you all who organise, energize and encourage our love of music and community."



Deeply touched by the gratitude expressed and with the knowledge that the coming weeks of social isolation would be tough for many, we decided to reinvent our choir in the virtual realm!

For the past seven weeks, thanks to Arts Yackandandah and our energetic choir leader, Aaron Silver, we've been running a very awesome, short and sweet Sunday singalong that

is open to everyone. We send a Zoom online link via email and at 2pm on Sunday anyone can click the link and join our choir for an hour of singing and laughter.

Each week we invite a musician or two to perform for us and thanks to the generosity of Arts Yack we are even able to pay them a small fee (musicians are doing it tough right now). So far, we have enjoyed performances by Jane and James Rigby, Maggie Rigby from The Maes, Lucy Wise and her mum Louisa Wise, Ben Talbot-Dunn, Paul Dyason and Alex Gleeson from The Northern Folk, Didirri Peters and Rowena Wise and locals Candice McCleod, Merri Greenwood, Fiona Dyball and young Shoir member Zahra Andersen and her mum Kim (for our mother's day special). Special thanks to local violin teacher and choir member David Pietsch for his occasional violin and piano appearances and being our go-to for happy birthday accompaniment.



David Pietsch with his trusty violin

Special guest artists still to come include Hugh Fuschen and Pete Denahy.

Another choir project on the go in the background is an upcoming YouTube performance of one of this year's Yackandandah Folk Festival songs...look out for the release of Mesadorm's "Easy".

Special thanks to our choir leader Aaron Silver for his enthusiasm in leading these projects and helping inject a little musical magic into our Sunday afternoons.

If you would like to join our special virtual choir please email yackchoir@gmail.com to receive the link.

UKE-N-DANDAH

Yackandandah's own Ukulele Club is proudly associated with Arts Yackandandah.

Unfortunately, we are having to take an extended break from our Monday night sessions while the COVID-19 virus is causing concern. We will reconvene later on in the year when we are able to.

For further details, contact Frances on 0417 292 917

At the time of going to print, our studios remain closed to our team of local volunteer presenters to do their live radio shows. There is certainly a strong level of enthusiasm to return to the live radio environment as soon as it is safe to do so.

However, some aspects of our operations remain "BUSINESS AS ...UNUSUAL". Yackandandah Community Centre management are allowed access to their building and have created the program Yack Chat - see separate article in this edition of Yackity Yak. We congratulate YCC for their initiative in getting this program up and running.

You can still tune in on 88.0 FM and we do have the capacity to schedule and update content remotely ensuring we keep our on-air sound vibrant and fresh.

Indigo FM celebrates 10 years of operation in 2020 which is a big achievement. Our actual birthday is 2 June, so Happy Birthday to us!!! Our plans to celebrate in a social sense have, of course, been postponed, but there are ways we celebrate this big milestone on air.

Each Saturday from 2pm onwards for around 24 hours, we dust off some **treasures from our archives** - a playlist that is purely shows, interviews, specials etc from the past 10 years. There are some real treasures in there so feel free to check it out.

We have a group of 5 new presenters from Yackandandah Primary School trained up and raring to go. Mary, Stella, Hayley, Mia and Irena will hit the airwaves shortly after the community lockdown is lifted on Wednesdays from 4-5pm.

Indigo FM Memberships are now available at our pro-rata rates. And if you include an additional \$15, you can get one of our commemorative **Proudly Independent since 2010** T-shirts. See the flyer in Yackity Yak for details or email us on indigofmradioyack@gmail.com.

That's all for now. Remember to keep tuning in on 88.0 Indigo FM and above all stay safe and look out for each other.



VIOLINDIGO ONLINE LESSONS

Learn Violin or Piano

Due to the unique challenges that we all face in the midst of the COVID-19 outbreak, all Violindigo lessons will be conducted online until further notice.

We are committed to helping our students to keep the music alive, especially in these trying times.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact David Pietsch
0400 224 814

music@violindigo.com.au

[f /violindigo](https://www.facebook.com/violindigo)

www.violindigo.com.au



violindigo
SUZUKI VIOLIN & PIANO

YACKANDANDAH WRITERS IN ISOLATION

Writers love isolation. Or do they? This could have been a time when we made a start on that memoir or novel. A polished short story should have been possible. After all, we were confined at home for close to two months. Maybe we will see evidence of these efforts in the future!! Two of our group did manage to produce accounts of their early days in isolation. Many of you will identify with some of their observations.

REFLECTION ON TIME IN ISOLATION

Excitement loomed at our place a few days after Easter. Several weeks into staying safe, social distancing and not leaving the house unless necessary, cracks were starting to show. The dog, overjoyed initially at going for lots of long walks, eventually refused. On more than one occasion, he communicated this by lying down in the middle of the road and refusing to budge. Thirty-five kilos is a lot of dog to pick up and carry.

The cat decided to go in and out several times during the day, in through the sliding door and then out the front door. We decided to ignore her on more than one occasion; this resulted in numerous holes in both screen doors. Note to all cat lovers and haters out there, cats train *you*, never the other way round. Even the chooks, usually a great source of amusement and conversation, had decided to free range at our neighbour's house while they were at work. Were they trying to tell us something?

We have kept ourselves occupied thus far by catching up with all those little jobs around the home: garden beds rearranged and planted, lawns mown, leaves raked, compost bins cleaned out, worm farms emptied and restarted. New recipes tested; the freezer is full. The pantry undergoes an autumn spring clean. Questions are asked, 'Is two-year-old flour still okay to use?' Our decks are now painted, along with the veranda posts, a garden seat, the barbecue. Even the quoits pin has had a makeover. We spotted neighbours cleaning their cars so, not to be outdone, we cleaned ours.

Frequent calls to and from family and friends, whilst most welcome, are becoming somewhat repetitive. We struggle to remember the last conversation, so we do not repeat ourselves more than three times at least. Skype, scoop, zoom and boom have presented further challenges to our befuddled old brains.

Medication for the dog had run out during the Easter break. The vet advised that he would need more. They were unable to deliver, could we possibly pick it up. The vet nurse would have it ready. 'What, drive up to Tangambalanga and pick it up! Was she kidding? Of course we could.' We couldn't get in the car quick enough.

The countryside looked green and lush. The sun was shining. The dog smiling. No need to rush. We went the long way around, up hill and down dale. Everything looked just that bit different this trip. We saw things barely noticed at other times: cows grazing, some geese wandering down to the creek, a horse rolling in sand.

Arriving at the vet clinic, they asked that we go for a walk as there was a Great Dane, a tiny terrier and a chook ahead of us. Up and down the street we walked, a big four-wheel drive police vehicle pulled in just near us. For some inexplicable reason we felt compelled to explain our presence in town. She was not at all interested, smiled and went about police business chatting with the locals in front of the general store.

The vet called our names. A short consultation later and we were out of there. Tired and hungry, we headed for home after our big morning out. We raced over the hills, the trees a blur as we whizzed past. Back to staying safe.

Jeanine Hayes May 2020

MY VIRTUAL LIFE

Text from my friend: "Coping?" Typical. He communicates in two syllables! I counter: "Yes, you?" He's re-reading Camus' *La Peste*. That makes sense. It's what I would do: read about a plague when in the midst of one!

COVID-19 is changing our lives. My son still has a job – for now – and a family to support. National borders are closed. My daughter's visit for her sister's birthday is impossible. The festivity is lost. Friends who would come to the party are not venturing outdoors and everything I usually do is cancelled. We obey the rules; no unnecessary travel, no callers, no hugs.

My children visit by phone, text, email and WhatsApp. I talk with friends and colleagues on Zoom. Occasionally, I lurk on Facebook because my direct line to local gossip is, sadly, severed.

How will we respond to *La peste* without anger, stockpiling resources or resorting to blame? What is resilience and how do we build it into our days? How shall I respond to living in the swamp of history?

I read. I write. I text. I mow the lawn. I walk the dog. And I listen to music.

Today, I have the soundtrack of the French film "Amelie". It reflects my mood; wistful, pensive. It takes me, not to France, but Sweden; to Stortorget, a small cobblestone square in the university city of Lund. It's summer; the students are gone and the city belongs to the locals for a few short weeks in August. I'm heading for Ramklints Condatori where I indulge in coffee and vanilla cake. I listen to Swedish voices chattering and watch the Scandi world go by. I pass the farmer's market in the centre of the square and avoid shoppers moving between stalls, buying new season tomatoes and sweet berries of every kind; their bicycle panniers bulging. I look but do not buy.

There's an open-air theatre at the far end of the square; raked seats in a semi circle. I stop and rest in the sun next to a young mother with a new baby curled in a sling. Beside her is a bent, timeworn gentleman, well dressed, handsome once. He leans heavily on a walking stick, his head permanently drawn to the ground. We listen to a young busker playing something beguiling on a piano-accordion. First, a dance and we watch him laugh, swaying with the rhythm. Next, a ballad. The musician catches my eye. He smiles and I imagine we recognise kindness in each other. I place some crowns in his beckoning hat.

A loud ping of email shatters my reverie. Johathon invites me to a Zoom meeting tonight at seven. "Yes" I say, "Talk to you then".

This is how I spend my time during COVID-19. Safe, privileged, secure income, connected to friends and family through the benefits of technology. It's easy for me to be resilient. I have everything I need. I even have a friend who will hug me when this is done. All I have to do is wait.

But what about the rest? What about my niece who rang last week to see how I am when she, as an ICU nurse, is dressed in a moon suit caring for COVID-19 patients on ventilators? What about the health workers who don't have the medical resources to treat the dying? What about those who lose their jobs, their businesses, their incomes and perhaps their homes; the artists and musicians whose audiences have deserted them; those with mental health issues and disabilities who struggle to cope even in good times? What about the world's poor, the incarcerated, the refugees and those experiencing escalating rates of domestic violence? What will we, our communities and governments do for them?

We've watched death rates soar in many countries because leaders were slow to respond, denied the existence of the virus, fudged the figures or simply didn't care. In Australia we are glad to now see politicians working relatively co-operatively across party lines and taking advice from the more rational and compassionate experts in health and other industries. We've seen acts of bravery by front-line workers and small kindnesses between caring individuals. But we've also noted racism, misogyny and selfishness by the ignorant and malevolent.

La peste demands we reconstruct our lives; discover new ways of living, now and in the future. We can compare Adern with Trump and pit hope against despair; tolerance against blame, calmness against anger and work towards a more equitable and compassionate world. We must be self-reliant; mentally and emotionally durable if we are to chart a course through extraordinary uncertainty for an indeterminate period of time and, as individuals, unless we are a pair, we must do this without even the briefest human touch. My hope is that, like the musician in Stortorget, we will exchange smiles and recognise something decent in each other, across boundaries, across nations, across continents. Meanwhile, I'll bite my tongue before I complain about my virtual life. "Coping?" "Yes. You?"

Mim, 15 April 2020

Our last meeting was via Zoom. Hopefully, we will be able to gather together in the Yackandandah Courthouse on 3 June at 2pm. If this is not possible, we will talk again on Zoom. For information about joining our group, contact Bev Lello: beverley.ello@gmail.com

UNFORTUNATELY DUE TO COVID-19 VIRUS

Many of the usual events happening in Yack are having to be temporarily cancelled. The Poetry Group which meets at the Yack Community Centre on the 1st Sunday of each month, will close until further notice.

Uke-N-Dandah which has regular Monday night rehearsals at the Court House is taking an enforced break as well. If in doubt, phone first to see what's happening.



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How to Get Started in Beekeeping - OVERVIEW

"I think I would like to have a Beehive!!"

Are you having thoughts along these lines??

People have all sorts of reasons for wanting to keep bees. From my experience the best place to start with the idea of 'bee keeping' is to be as sure as you can be that this is something you really do want to do, particularly *before* you spend any money! It should also be mentioned here at the start that there is a gulf of difference between 'owning a bee hive' and actually learning to manage/look after a colony or colonies of bees. It is the latter that will give you the *ongoing enjoyment and satisfaction*. The first may well end in tears and a box of dead or absconded bees.

Bees, like any livestock, need to be looked after. You have a responsibility not only to your own bees but to those hives in your area to 'do the right thing'. This includes regular inspections for pests/disease and general health and wellbeing of the colony and taking any action required. Keeping proper records of inspections is a part of this. You do need **time** to keep bees particularly, in the busy summer spring/season. Things have to be done to their time scale not yours. Please note: There are penalties for neglected hives.

Beekeeping on a commercial scale and even as a backyard hobbyist comes under State Government regulation. Firstly you need to be registered through the Vic Dept of Ag for Victoria or Dept of Primary Industry in NSW. The Australian Honey Bee Industry Biosecurity Code of Practice comes into effect on July 1st. This code needs to be adhered to whether you are a Hobby Beekeeper or a Commercial Apiarist. You can find a copy at www.honeybee.org.au. It's in this Code of Practice that you can find out about your record keeping requirements. Both of these State run organizations have excellent free information on Beekeeping on their prospective websites.

I would also recommend that you find your closest Beekeeping Club and get along to their meetings if possible as they are a resource for information, help with questions, beginner beekeeping courses, mentors, bee sales etc. Their monthly meetings will usually include the requirements of hive management through the different seasons plus other interesting sessions for your learning. This site is handy for 'who and where' in the many areas of 'beekeeping' in Australia. <https://aussieapiaristsonline.net/index.html>

There is no need to race out and buy an arm load of books at this stage. All the info you need to familiarize yourself with keeping bee hives is available at the websites and links I have mentioned. Information like the three different bees that make a colony and their roles in the hive, bee diseases, lifecycle of the honey bee, photos and descriptions of the different stages of brood in the hive, what capped honey looks like and of course good beekeeping practices, etc. The following link is to a copy of "The Australian Beekeeping Guide" which is an excellent resource and will include all of the above subjects and much more. <https://www.agrifutures.com.au/wp-content/uploads/publications/14-098.pdf>

So, I would use the winter time to read as much of the information on the sites above as you can manage and also use this time to organize someone to do inspections with you in early spring. The bee colonies will build up numbers late winter in readiness of the expected forth coming nectar flow in spring. Once this is happening and conditions meet their needs their next instinct then is to swarm (a natural way of continuing the species) so this is a busy time for beekeepers with a lot of regular hive inspections and manipulation to try and prevent this from occurring. Therefore a lot of inspections will be happening that you might be able to get involved in. Having your head over a box of flying, buzzing and maybe stinging insects is quite different to watching someone else do it on video from the comfort of your lounge room or from glossy photos in a

book. And if you feel the need to buy a book, I would start with the "Australian Beekeeping Manual" by Robert Owen. By the time you get to do some inspections you will know what you're looking at and the experience should be more useful to you in making your decision regarding beekeeping i.e.: yes, no or maybe. If you decide Beekeeping is for you here is a little more information....

When do I purchase bees? Late spring, summer and early autumn are the usual times to purchase a hive of bees depending on the season.

Basic Tools I would recommend up front:

- Hive Tool
- Beeco Smoker
- Frame Gripper
- Bee Brush
- Frame Holder
- Bee Suit/Jacket & Glove (It's essential to have a good beekeeping suit or jacket with face covering hood to start off with. You work your bees during the warm to hot months of the year so 'ventilated' gear is appreciated in our climate.) These items above come out under \$340 as a rough guide.

BEES: They can be purchased as a package with a separate queen in a cage, or as a small hive called a nucleus hive (usually about 5 frames of bees in



Cutting comb from a wild hive - to fit a Warre frame

Photo Credit: Ali Pockley

a core-flute box with brood and laying queen) or a full 8 or 10 frame hive of bees (sometimes sold with hive or you collect in your own hive box). I do not like 'package bees' so don't recommend them but of course that is up to you. Price can vary depending on what you buy from \$150- \$350 (and more in city areas). Word of warning, only buy from a recommended source unless you know of a well-run apiary. Owning a lot of bee hives does not necessarily make a beekeeper with good management habits ie. disease inspection practices.

Then there is the cost of a few more boxes by the end of the season and of course your honey extracting gear.

What Will My Bees Eat? I haven't mentioned this as yet but of course if you are not in area where there is good nectar and pollen sources during spring to autumn, then your hives cannot flourish. Please consider this before taking on a beehive. A good

water source is also vital throughout the year. You would be surprised how much water a strong hive will use on a summer's day.

Hive Boxes: Can be made of wood, polystyrene or even plastic, it's your choice. The mainstream hive is a Langstroth size box which can come in different depths. If you go outside the norm then best to talk to people that have them already to be sure it's going to work for you. I recommend new beekeepers to start with the norm, until you have learned some beekeeping skills. BEWARE of second hand equipment. American Foul Brood which is a very nasty virulent

Reg's Rain Report



2020	Millimetres	Days of Rain
January	31.4	7
February	28.8	5
March	155.0	6
April	173.0	15
May to 14th	40.2	5
TOTAL	428.4	38
Highest rainfall for April since 1974 - 227mm		
14/5/2018	173.6	24
14/5/2019	245.4	30

Whether you think you can or think you can't - you're right.

electric. With these types of extractors you uncap the honey frames using an uncapping knife and sit them in the machines drum and spin the honey out. The sticky frames can then be put straight back on the hive to be cleaned up and re filled if the nectar flow is still going. There is also the option of the "Flow Hive" which have become popular in recent times, but just be aware you need a flow box on each hive for honey extraction so just keep that in mind.

I haven't mentioned the phrase "Save the Bees" as yet but feel I should. Here in Australia, we have plenty of healthy bee populations both in managed hives and as feral bees in the bush. We need to be aware of their importance to our lives and do what we can to make a difference where and how we can. Without them and other pollinators our grocery stores would look pretty grim, not to mention no coffee!! Doing the small things en masse makes a big difference, like planting flowers and trees that they feed on wherever we can. Planting and careful management of our eucalyptus forests is more needful for our bee and pollinator population here in Australia than becoming a beekeeper for this reason.

To Summarize:

Beekeeping is not for everyone... nor does it have to be. For those who desire to step into the world of hobby beekeeping, there is great reward in learning to manage them successfully.

There are regulations now that have been put in place. They are there to protect bees and beekeepers alike and they need to be adhered to.

You get stung, a lot sometimes, but you learn to minimize it if it bothers you and you do get used to it.

Knowing nothing about beekeeping (and having a grandfather that kept bees doesn't count) and suddenly having a beehive to look after is a big challenge and the start of a very steep learning curve. I found it tough when I first started on my own. But then I found there were people around that were happy to help and that made a huge difference to my being able to enjoy the hobby (in between the stressy bits). So find a mentor or two.

Beekeeping is about problem solving and continually relearning what you thought you had already learned. They have you scratching your head on a regular basis, just when you thought you were getting a handle on things!! But... this is all part of the charm, that 'something' that gets under your skin (beside their stings).

Bees are pretty awesome! You never learn it all but if you are willing and have their well-being at heart they will continue to teach you and share the amazing intricacies that make up their life of a humming colony of bees..... and give you some honey for your toast! ☺

Debzzz Beekeeping Paradise....a passion not easily explained!

YACK KINDERGARTEN

Term 2 is certainly a challenging time for staff and our Kinder community, requiring our patience, new learning and adaptation as we all adjust to the new concept online learning and curriculum solutions so the children could learn from home this term. We sincerely thank our parents for their



Taking temperatures

patience and for supporting their child to join our live streaming and activity sessions. Our Term started with only 2 children each day and by mid-May when the Victorian Government announced their plans for primary children to return to school on 25th May, we were almost back to full

numbers at Kinder.

In addition to delivering two Webex streaming sessions each morning & afternoon for both our 3yo and 4yo groups, we are supplementing the children's remote learning and parent involvement

by posting activities up on Kindyhub and preparing learning from home packs each week. These *Take Me Home* bags have been very popular, providing a week's-worth of activities, just like the ones being done here at Kinder.



As we continued to make changes around the way we delivered education, in response to the spread of COVID-19, we made adjustments to our drop-off and pick-up arrangements and the children who attended became very diligent about handwashing, hand sanitising and practicing physical distancing. Standing on the red crosses each morning never quite lost its excitement!!

confusion about our fancy infra-red thermometer, the children learnt to stand beautifully still through the process



Lara's nature picture

and at drop-off, even some of our parents are instructed by their child to have their temperature taken too! On the really cold days, we could tell which mums and dads really felt

We have finally found out how to get Rich working independently! He has been having fun doing activities that have been set out for him in the morning on the table, channelling Kinder set up. Today he did threading of matching number buttons, guessing and making animal tracks in kinetic sand, a number puzzle and a shadow puzzle. He was very excited to see that Marisel had written back about his work! The Dino eggs look great too!



Moving colours

Yackandandah Kindergarten

NEW IN 2021

3 YEAR OLD FUNDED PROGRAM SESSIONS

15 funded hours/pw is offered on **Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays** during the Victorian school terms. Children enrol in the 3 sessions from 9.00am to 2.30pm.

2021 - 4 YEAR OLD FUNDED PROGRAM SESSIONS

are held **Monday, Tuesday & Thursdays** during the Victorian school terms. Each child can be enrolled for two of these days per week, 8.30am to 4.00pm.

FRIDAY NON-FUNDED PROGRAM

A stand-alone day of educational learning & school readiness for 4yo children runs 8.30am until 4.00pm.

YACKANDANDAH KINDERGARTEN
30 Isaacs Avenue, Yackandandah
Phone: (02) 6027 1560

2021 ENROLMENTS

OPEN 13TH MAY

Enrolment paperwork from:

- Kinder Office
- Kinder website www.yackandandahkinder.com.au
- Kinder email yackandandah.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

Our five learning Outcomes are:

- Children have a strong sense of identity.
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world.
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing.
- Children are confident and involved learners.
- Children are effective communicators.

Twice a day; on arrival and midway through the program, we take and record everyone's temperature. After some initial

look forward to Term 3 returning to normal or a "new normal", we share some of the beautiful artwork and family stories sent in from our at-home learning families. For information on our kinder and 2020/2021 enrolment enquiries, visit our website yackandandahkinder.com.au

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VALE DAVID (BILLY) HORN

Died 26th April, 2020

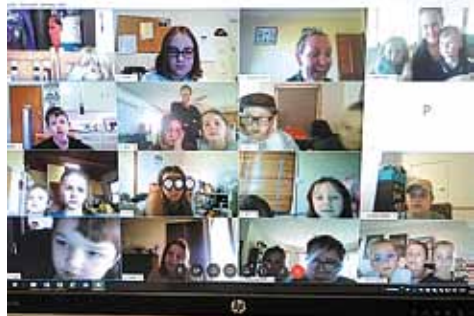
Many may wonder who Billy Horn was, but most will have known Billy if only to wave to as Cleanaway's recycle truck driver. Billy had been Yack's recycler for some fifteen years and an employee of Cleanaway's family and team for over twenty years.

Billy died after a short term illness. He was a very respected employee of Cleanaway and great friends with all the staff and management.

Nothing ever worried Billy and he will be very sadly missed by his colleagues and no doubt the people of Yackandandah.

Middle Indigo Staff and families have been busy over the last month preparing for and establishing distance education in the home. Middle Indigo started classes on the first day of term two with a bit of a bump and a hop before students settled down and got on with their learning.

The school day starts with a live video stream at 8:45 am, allowing the students to have a play and catch up online before the workday begins at 9:00am.



Video Classroom at Middle Indigo Primary School

The lessons are produced daily – with times tables, hand writing practice

and grammar work practiced each day in the first hour followed by reading comprehension and then a daily math class and a unique learning task set for each day – for example creating marble runs for science and a geography project on Africa.

We are very proud of how the students have adapted to the online learning and more importantly the high standard of the work they are producing.

Middle Indigo Junior students visited the Hairy



Middle Indigo Primary visits Hairy Maclary

Maclary, Lynley Dodd exhibition at the Albury Library Museum. The students viewed the original illustrations from many of Lynley Dodd's books and then were read many of the Hairy Maclary collection by the Museum staff. Students then created their own Hairy Maclary pictures for our school wall.

After this, the Museum allowed the students to view the storage area of the museum where there are hundreds of items not on display. Here the



The biggest Marble Run Yet!

students got to see local Aboriginal artefacts, bags and objects from Bonegilla and other olden day's things such as lanterns, drills and a BED PAN!!! (This brought much shock and laughter to the children).

Students also visited the Albury Botanical Gardens,

in particular the dinosaurs in the children's garden. They had an amazing time in Albury for the day with many children asking if they can

go again soon!

Science class at Middle Indigo has set simple experiments which can be done around the home. The marble run challenge in the 3-6 class saw some get super creative, which was fantastic to see.

The F-2 class have investigated gravity by dropping things and creating paper helicopters and parachutes so far this term.

Murray River Life Saving Course

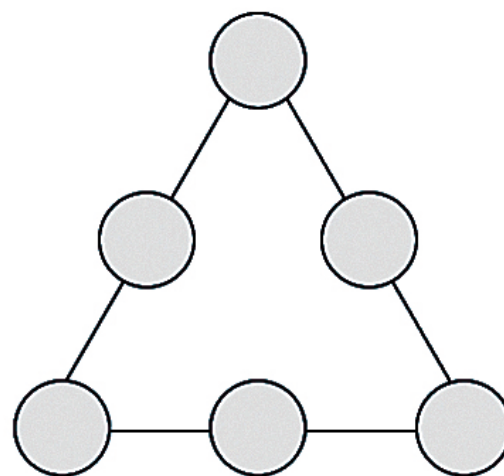
The Senior class at Middle Indigo Primary School participated in the Life Saving Victoria river safety course before the lock down occurred. The students participated in 5 activities both in and out of the water. Students got the chance to



Middle Indigo students 'floating' down the Murray

wear life jackets and float down the river in a safety circle. They practiced saving lives from the shore using ropes and floating devices, and then were able to have a quick paddle on a boogie board followed by activities to enhance their knowledge about water safety.

PUZZLE!



Here's a puzzle that was set as part of our grade three and four maths class

Arrange numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 so that each side of the triangle adds up to nine.

Then try to get each side to add up to ten, then eleven and twelve.

NOW TAKING ENROLMENTS FOR 2021 – CHOOSE THE BEST START IN EDUCATION

Telephone James Farley, Principal on 02 6026 9235 for further details and to arrange a school inspection.

Visit our website at <https://www.middleindigo-ps.vic.edu.au>

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YACK TENNIS CLUB

The Yackandandah Tennis Club - Thursday Night Social Tennis Competition commenced in October 2019 with four teams registered. Two rounds were played consisting of 18 games ending in March 2020. Thank you to all players for their participation and assistance in running such



a fun and social competition for 2019/20. A big thank you to Julie Methven-Kelley for bringing it all together. It was very encouraging to see a broad age range of players including mother, father, daughter and son combinations on court. Final ladder positions were:

- Team Orange - 23
- Team Blue - 19 (on a count back),
- Team Red - 19
- Team Green - 11.

Team Orange included Angela, Matt and Ryan Vincent, Earle and Archer Mason, Jed and Karen O'Brien, Eamon Fergus and Roz McIntyre.

Teams Orange and Blue however, made a mutual decision not to play a Grand Final match due to COVID-19.

We look forward to the 2020/21 Thursday Night Social Tennis Competition season commencing again in October 2020 and encourage anyone interested in a hit of tennis to register. Level of play is intermediate. Contact Julie Methven-Kelley at jmkyack@bigpond.com.

Tuesday night social doubles tennis (intermediate to advanced level) runs throughout the year. Play when you want, no need to commit to play every week. Doubles format. Starts at 7.00pm. \$10 per player, per night. For further details, contact Amanda Walker on 0418 170 835. Coaching is available through our professional tennis coach – Paul Sykes on 0447 359 023. Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/YackandandahTennisClub

Photos show players from the Yackandandah Tennis Club - Thursday Night Social Tennis Competition

STOP PRESS

The good news is that we are able to resume play now the restrictions have been eased. All players will need to observe by the following rules to maintain safe play and abide by ongoing social distancing measures:

Any participants experiencing even mild flu-like symptoms or who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days will be excluded from play. Players in high risk health categories are advised to consider their health status before playing.



Play is limited to a maximum of 10 people at any time.

Do not share equipment (players bring their own racquets, drink bottles, etc.)

Players will wash/sanitise hands before and after play.

Social distancing will be maintained during play (no handshakes or other direct contact).

Only people playing are to be in attendance.

No off-court gatherings. Club house can only be accessed to use the toilets.

It is recommended the court gate be left ajar during play to minimise the need to touch the handle when entering and leaving the courts.

We ask that YTC members observe these rules at all times, in the interests of health and safety and to ensure we can continue to play safely. If you have any concerns or questions, please direct these to Geoff Simmons (0427 271 742) or Amanda Walker (0418 170 835).

Amanda Walker, President



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YACK GOLF CLUB

After seven weeks of being unable to play a golf game in Victoria, members are ecstatic to be allowed back on the course to resume their competition rounds and for social play as well. Our Club is adhering to the guidelines set by Golf Australia to ensure compliance with the Victorian Government's "Return to Sport Plan". The very nature of our sport, with vast spaces of land to accommodate comparatively small groups, has enabled us to get back into our game quicker than other sporting clubs and this privilege is not being taken for granted.

The ladies chose to return by playing their delayed Opening Day, a 12-hole Stableford

match. The winners on the day were A Bishop (22), on countback from L Serpell. Angela Bishop also won nearest the pin. As no rakes are in use, some of the ladies anxious to make the most of their putting, took along a window wiper to smooth the sand, it worked for some, while others could not blame the tool used!

The men are back playing on Sundays, starting with the scheduled Club Championships Round 1. They ended the day leaving the course immediately after their game finished, sadly not with their usual gathering sitting around the

fire, eating a Gumtree pie and regaling stories of what could have been. We will have to wait a while longer before the social side of golf can be enjoyed.

Winner: B Jones (Nett 72) R-U: M Chamberlain (Nett 73)

To all those who have taken to walking the golf course for exercise and who still wish to do this, please be aware that competition has re-started:

Wednesdays
8am-2pm, Friday
9am-12pm and
Sundays 9 am-
3pm (all times
approximate).
Those hitting the
balls will always
be mindful that
the course is
shared; however,
it will be wise to
look out for flying
balls during the
times stated.

Dog walkers,
please be aware
that you are

required to collect your doggy's doo, and it would be much appreciated if you would take the bag home with you and not use the golf club bins. Thank you to all those who have done the right thing over the past weeks. There is nothing worse than putting your golf buggy away in the boot of your car to discover you have picked up a foreign substance!

For all enquiries, please visit the YGC website: golfclub.yackandandah.com

CONTACT: Chris Zerbst

P: 0403 484 944E: chris.zerbst@gmail.com



Photo - MEASURING UP FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING!

L to R: Hilary Hayes, Trevor Britton, John McMaugh, Margo Northey, Angela Bishop, Frances Boehm

LOOKING FOR A VENUE??



The Yack Sports Park is a great venue for weddings, 21st parties, engagements parties, reunions, trivia nights, club presentations, deb balls, music events, funerals, meetings and sporting events. With its beautiful views, heating and cooling, it makes the perfect place for just about anything.

So, the next time you are looking for a venue to hire, consider the Yackandandah Sports Park. More information can be found on our **website**: <https://sportspark.yackandandah.com/>
email: sportspark@yackandandah.com

Contact the Booking Manager on 0439 849 785 to arrange a time to inspect this great venue in fantastic surroundings, and find out about their very reasonable prices!

RECIPE OF THE SEASON

Kasundi tomato relish - Frank Camorra

Time: 1-2 hours. Makes: 1.5 litres

This fiery Indian-style relish is versatile and easy to make. Try it with smoked trout and grilled zucchini, in a cheese sandwich or with dhal and rice. Cook in a heavy-based pot so it doesn't burn. Great to use up those end of season tomatoes.

Ingredients

125g fresh ginger, peeled, chopped
60g garlic cloves
30g red chillies, seeds removed
250ml malt vinegar
125ml vegetable oil
45g black mustard seeds
15g ground turmeric
40g ground cumin
40g smoked paprika
5g hot paprika
1kg tomatoes fresh, tinned, pureed
125g brown sugar
20g salt



Method

Place ginger, garlic, chillies and 50ml of vinegar in a food processor and puree to a smooth paste.

Heat oil, add dry spices and cook on a medium heat for 5 minutes. Add ginger and garlic paste and cook for a further 5 minutes.

Add tomatoes, sugar, salt and remaining vinegar and simmer for an hour. When the oil comes to the top and the relish looks like a curry sauce, it is ready. Pour into sterilised jars and seal while still hot.

YACK COMMUNITY BOWLING CLUB



The rear of the newly painted Community Bowling Club. A great example of what your Community Development Company can do for local groups!

Yackandandah Community Bowling Club wish to say thank you to YCDCo for the recent grant we received. The money has been put to good use as we have painted most of the exterior of the clubhouse.

On a sad note, the club has lost one of its older members in Ida Scholz. Ida was a sponsor of the club for many years, her

sponge cakes were her specialty and she will be sadly missed.

On a brighter note, another member, David Nelson celebrated his 90th Birthday on the 8th May. David is a major sponsor of the club, and indeed has been for many years. We wish David all the best.

Our members are patiently awaiting the end of the restrictions triggered by the event of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We say thank you to the workers tending our assets during this time.

Anne Corcoran, Secretary



A wonderful community sporting facility situated in Railway Avenue

Winter Opening Hours
 Mon-Friday: 7 am to 6 pm
 Saturday: 8 am to 5 pm
 Sunday: 8.30 am to 5 pm

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The newly painted yFuel building



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