

THERE ARE SOME LEGENDS IN OUR COMMUNITY

When Edge FM asked listeners to nominate people who make a difference in their life and in the community, they had no idea just how blown away they'd be with some of the responses. With 2020 being a tough year, it's great to hear some good news stories. And they've now awarded their first custom-made firepit from Frasca's Steel - and the winner is....

Stefan from Scoop 21 in Yackandandah!

Scoop 21 is "Yackandandah's first and only ice creamery and cafe employing people with disabilities. Showing the world how gifted and talented they are."

Stefan has been working tirelessly through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic to keep his staff employed, prompting Cheryl Webster, the mother of one of his staff members, to nominate him saying:

"Recently Stefan started a business (Scoop 21) in Yackandandah. He employs only staff with disabilities as he says 'to give them a go'. He planned this meticulously. Not an easy task to coordinate, not only the families of the staff but the staff members themselves with their awesome gifts, but some of the huge challenges that come with it. Stefan pays his staff full wages, while teaching them skills and the professionalism to front up to customers taking orders, money & preparing food. My son Tom who has autism, is one of his lucky staff members. Just over a year ago I could not have



imagined Tom looking someone in the eye without huge pangs of anxiety let alone being confident to take a customer order; make coffee and prepare food for sale. Stefan has really made a huge difference in my son's life, embracing his uniqueness. We have always seen this in Tom, but Stefan has a special gift to be able to work and bring out the best. The whole time battling the outside influences of the aftermath of the bushfires and now COVID-19. I know how difficult it must be to make ends meet, but still Stefan does not want to let his staff down to the point of missing out himself. Stefan is an amazing man who deserves full recognition for making dreams come true."

Stefan plans to put the firepit in the courtyard of the cafe, for both himself, his staff and customers to enjoy.

When you are in town, check out Scoop 21 for yourself. They are at 10 High Street in Yackandandah opposite Gum Tree Pies.

DID YOU KNOW?

That there is a plan afoot to look at the likelihood of replacing the Beechworth Swimming Pool with a new indoor pool?? No – and neither did we. According to their website, and their Swimming Pools Development Plan 2020:

"Indigo Shire Council is currently beginning initial feasibility studies and options analysis works into the future aquatics provision in Beechworth. The proposed scope of works for the facility planning includes:

Undertake a detailed feasibility study of aquatic options in 2020/21 including community engagement, concept designs and financial modelling for the following:

- Replacement of pool structures at existing site;
- New outdoor facility at existing or alternative site, and
- New indoor pool facility at existing or alternative site.



Beechworth's Swimming Pool as currently is. Photo Credit: Heliocol Solar Pool Heating

- Undertake a detailed project and develop tender specifications in 2021/22 in preparation for a construction project."

Community engagement? Oh dear. We don't recall any mention of this plan coming to Yackity Yak's sensitive antenna, but of course, we could have had our ears pinned back in the direction of the Planning Department at the time...

Concerned? Well, yes, we rather think we are. What would a new indoor pool facility cost the Shire ratepayers? And what are the implications for the pools of Yackandandah, Chiltern, Rutherglen and Tangam if such a major piece of infrastructure was to be constructed?

You can hop on to the Shire website and look at their plan. It does not make scintillating reading which is perhaps why it has crept in under the radar, but stick with it – Page 36 of 42 has the pertinent details. <https://www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/About-your-Council/Council-documents/Plans-and-strategies/Swimming-Pools-Development-Plan-2020>

And if you are concerned, you can raise your voice to Christopher McKnight, the Shire Recreation Officer, the CEO – Trevor Ierino as it's impossible to work out which Director looks after the Recreation portfolio, or to your Councillors, but with the local elections coming up on 24th October, it may be better to keep your power dry until after the results of that come out. The Shire's telephone no is 03 5728 8000. Emails: cmcknight@indigoshire.vic.gov.au and tierino@indigoshire.vic.gov.au or as a last resort, info@indigoshire.vic.gov.au

WHAT THE??



This rather cute display can be seen between the Rusty Bike and the Museum, nestling into one of the lovely barrels that our great Garden Club members maintain in the Yack High Street.

On doing a bit of sleuthing, it seems that the village of Winnersh in Berkshire, UK has created a novel way of helping their children through the COVID-19 pandemic by asking them to dress up spoons for "Spoonyville". This has taken off in a major way, and many towns and villages all over the world are now joining in.

This has followed hot on the heels of the teddy bear hunt that was started in various Shire townships.

Nice to see something cheering and fun and colourful. Thank you whoever has done this!

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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2020/21 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 |
|---------|-----------|------------------------|------------------|
| 93 | Dec/Jan | Friday, 13 Nov, 2020 | Wed, 25 Nov |
| 94 | Feb/March | Friday, 15 Jan, 2021 | Tues, 26 Jan |
| 95 | April/May | Friday, 19 March, 2021 | Tues, 25 March |
| 96 | June/July | Friday, 14 May, 2021 | Tues, 25 May |
| 97 | Aug/Sept | Friday, 16 July, 2021 | Tues, 27 July |
| 98 | Oct/Nov | Friday, 17 Sept, 2021 | Tues, 28th Sept |
| 99 | Dec/Jan | Friday, 19 Nov, 2021 | Wed, 30 Nov |

Page 27 shows the results of some trail bike riders "having fun" in the Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park. With the push to actively increase trail bike participation in the local area, we can only hope that we don't see more of this happening. Perhaps we could put it down to COVID frustration and the curtailing of individual freedoms, but the amount of bikes and 4WDs seen coming out of the bush plastered with mud from tyres to roof makes you wonder about the whole thing and what we might have left behind after the rev heads have departed.

We will also have a new Council by the time the next Yackity Yak is on the news stand. Details of the candidates are on page 29 and include some familiar names. Good luck to all the candidates.

Let's hope that the rates of the virus continue to fall, and we are able to keep it away from this community. What a great job everyone has done so far - keep it up one and all.

Ali



Yackandandah & District Historical Society Inc.

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Would you like to advertise in Yackity Yak?

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

* Visitor Info Centre

*Doctors' Surgeries

*Indigo Shire Council

*Yack Community Centre

*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

October, and still we find ourselves albeit slightly less restricted, but living very much day to day with COVID-19. There have been far fewer mentions of the virus in Yackity Yak this edition, which leads one to believe that we are finally becoming slightly more accustomed to a reduced freedom. It will be interesting to see what people's expectations are when/if life returns to pre-COVID conditions. Perhaps life WILL never quite be the same again...

Well, in spite of lockdowns and lack of social events, we have had to add 4 pages to the paper this edition, and have had an unprecedented amount of advertising - many thanks to all our advertisers. It is you that keeps the paper afloat as we survive on advertising revenue only, and it's a great way to provide information about the services that Yack and district support. With a lot of other papers folding in the regions, it's great that Yackity Yak receives such incredible support from its readers, contributors and advertisers - thank you one and all. Inevitably with such an avalanche of contributions, the odd article has to be pulled out, but we would rather have it that way than be scratching around for something to put in!

Congratulations to Stefan and Scoop 21 who are fighting the odds and doing such a great job with this young business. Well done everyone connected with it.

Winter having apparently departed, has made a bit of a return with 10C today and blustery rain showers squalling down the Indigo Valley as I sit typing this, but then the sun comes out and the birds start singing again. Typical Spring weather and we hopefully are due for a cooler wetter Spring than we have been experiencing over the past few years, which will be great for the flora and fauna of our wonderful area. Our lambs are busy growing away and it's been a great start to the season with lots of grass. A new foal is due at the end of October, and the Arab mare is swelling fast and bagging up - who can resist all this lovely young life?

Despite this being such a lovely spot, we still get instances of idiots who cannot respect it for the unique and glorious part of the world we are privileged to live in.

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LITTLE YACKS LEARNING YEARS

Indigo Shire has been chosen by the Victorian State government as one of fifteen Council areas to roll out a funded 3-year old kinder programs. Our Shire has been chosen

because they already have the physical capacity to meet increased local demand.

The Victorian Government is investing almost \$5 billion over 10 years so that children across the state will have access to 2 years of funded kindergarten programs.

This means that two years of play-based learning will be added to Victorian children's education, led by a qualified teacher. Victoria will be the first state or territory to introduce this program.



Little Yacks Learning Years (LYLY) daycare centre have been involved in discussions with the Indigo Shire, Department of Education and

Yackandandah Primary School over recent months to increase places in our district for 3-year old kinder. Funded kindergarten places are already available for 3 and 4-year olds at Yackandandah Kindergarten.

2021 will see a new and exciting program at LYLY which will cater for children in a small, intimate learning environment. It will offer an alternative option to mainstream sessional kindergarten, where small groups will be involved in an intergenerational program supported by Griffith University.

The children will be engaging in programs involving environmental awareness, sustainability and greater connections with their community.

Research indicates that small group sizes enhance outcomes for all children, particularly children with additional



needs. If you feel your child would benefit from our program and you have not already enrolled, please feel free to contact LYLY on 02 6028 0187. LYLY looks forward to growing its family in 2021!

REVAMPING OUR INDOOR/OUTDOOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

As a result of the increase in young families to the Yackandandah area and surrounds, LYLY has seen an increase in enrolments. To be receptive to the needs of the community, Yackandandah Health has begun enhancing internal and external learning environments, with a focus on grant applications to support these projects.

If our first grant application is successful it will fund shade sails, trees, children's hats, and sunscreen. We are in the process of collating data from a community survey which will guide the development of this project.

The children already love exploring the new plants and climbing on top of our one-of-a-kind tunnel!

Yack Health article continued on page 4



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Yackandandah Community Centre

The doors to the Community Op Shop in High Street, Yack may have been closed for a while due to COVID, but that hasn't stopped a host of activity inside. The Op Shop and the Community Centre were required to close for some time due to restrictions. Adding to that a hot water service burst, flooding much of the building just as the Centre was about to reopen following the first lock down. It meant most of the carpet in the building had to be replaced along with furniture and some fixtures.

With all that work being carried out, the committee made the decision that it was an ideal time to give the Op Shop a much-needed face lift in preparation for a grand re-opening once restrictions were eased. YCC manager, David Thorpe said the flooding had been unfortunate, as it meant the Op Shop and Community Centre were forced to remain closed for the entire time of the lockdown. However much of the repair and refurbishment was complete and he was looking forward to having the Op Shop open again.

"We have done a lot of work inside the building over the past few months," he said. "It took quite a while for the building to dry out and to get floor coverings back in most of the rooms. The kitchen cupboards

have had to be replaced due to water damage, as has some of the meeting room furniture."



Op Shop volunteers, Lyn Buerckner and Lyn Cameron are getting ready for the Grand Reopening.

With the building out of action for repairs, the YCC Committee decided to redecorate the Op Shop with fresh paint and new carpet. Other major work has included removal of the dilapidated ceiling at the entrance to the Op Shop and eaves on the exterior of the building. Then installing new material prior to painting.

"With the needed repairs completed and then the areas we have refurbished finished, the building is looking better than ever," David said. "We have a terrific bunch of volunteers who open the Op Shop and they are keen to get back in, so it will be great to have the building looking good and ready to serve the Yack community." He said the challenge for the Op Shop had been stocking the shelves with clothing suitable to the season. "It's been tricky as we have had a lot of winter clothing ready for sale for weeks now, but summer is right around the corner and we need to restock the shop. So, we are going to have a Grand Reopening sale to celebrate the new look Op Shop. All our winter clothing will be on sale at really reduced prices so we can make room for summer stock. It's been a big job, but our volunteers have done a terrific job of sorting and arranging stock

for when we reopen in the next week or two. We will announce our reopening date on Facebook so keep a lookout so you can come in and find a bargain."

For more information contact the Yackandandah Community Centre on 02 6027 1743 or email manager@yyc.org.au.

GOLD STAR FOR YACKANDANDAH HEALTH

The Victorian Aged Care Response Centre prevention team undertook a COVID-19 preparedness visit to Yack Health on 7th September, 2020 as part of the state quality review.

Representatives from the Army, Navy and Airforce from three states and territories toured our aged care facility, analysing all aspects of our Emergency plan in relation to COVID-19 and infection control measures.

Areas covered in their visit included an audit of our Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) stocks and our plans in the event of an outbreak.

Designated rooms have been set up specifically on site (using the old hospital rooms) for use should an outbreak occur.

Nominated care Staff were included in an education session involving the correct donning & disposal of PPE.



At the conclusion of the visit Yackandandah Health were congratulated on their readiness and the systems they have in place should an outbreak occur.

VACRA awarded Yack Health a gold star for their robust and quality plans and congratulated them on their leadership, and their dedicated and skilled team.

CFA REPORT Continued

Another activity we are holding is a Virtual Open Day at **8pm on Thursday, October 15.**

We would like to invite you to join us for a Zoom meeting with a panel of experienced brigade members and ask your questions, seek information, have a chat...just like our usual Open Days at the station, only on-line.

To access the Zoom link please either go to the Brigade's website, cfa.yackandandah.com, and choose Virtual Open Day from the Community menu, or go directly to the Open Day page, <https://cfa.yackandandah.com/virtual-open-day/>

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OUR MEMBERS.... KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY!



Brinley O'Brien and his mum Kim in front of the truck they usually turn out on, the new Tanker 2 which is housed at the Flaggy Creek Substation

Brinley O'Brien was only seven years old when he and his family experienced Victoria's deadly Black Saturday fires in February, 2009. The family's home was destroyed by the fires. Originally, they planned to rebuild on their 8ha property on the slopes of Mt. Disappointment at Clonbinane, near Kilmore but it never happened. "After the fires, we did build a shed and lived in that for a while," says Brin's mum, Kim. "But we'd lost so many trees it just wasn't the same anymore."

Instead the family packed up and in June 2010 began travelling around Australia. Six months later they "ended up in Yackandandah." Kim and her husband, Mick, bought the Yackandandah Caravan Park which they ran for three years before selling it and moving to a small property at Bruarong.

In November 2018, once he'd turned 16 years of age, Brin joined the Yackandandah CFA, motivated by his memories of Black Saturday and wanting to help others "so that they wouldn't have to go through the same thing."

"It was the best decision I've ever made," says Brin who became an operational firefighter at the end of February last year and has already attended several fires and incidents. "I'm a part of the community now and it's good to be able to help the community like we [the brigade] do."

Brin, who is completing Year 12 at Tallangatta Secondary College, is keen to stay with the Brigade and the CFA. "Hopefully wherever I go after school I can still stay around here," says Brin who recommends that other young people who are considering joining the CFA do so. "It's given me a lot more confidence, both as a person and in what I can do."

His mother echoes that sentiment. "I've watched Brin really grow as a person and gain confidence," says Kim. "Probably the biggest thing for him is the ability to communicate with older people. When he first joined, I think he was a bit intimidated whereas now he's quite happy to put his opinion forward...he's even directed me on a few occasions. In the Brigade I'm not his mum, I'm just another firefighter."

Kim, 46, joined the Brigade in February last year. "To be honest I took Brin to the station one night and I really liked the atmosphere of what was going on," she says. "I liked the way people were working together...it just seemed to really gel. Brin had been pestering me to join for two months but I kept

saying no, I'm not interested, but then something just shifted and I joined the following Saturday." Kim is now also an operational firefighter. She also has a multi-combination licence – a legacy of her years as a young woman driving road trains in SA and Queensland. While she is allowed to turn out as a driver, she's not able to drive "Code 1, with the siren and flashing lights" something she is looking forward to after she does the necessary training that has been delayed because of COVID-19.

"I like the atmosphere of the Yack brigade," says Kim. "While I haven't had any experience of other brigades, it seems to be a really good brigade to be part of. There's no sexism, everyone is really helpful... it's just like a family I guess in a way. And I also love doing something with Brinley. There's not many things he and I can do together so this is one thing that we can."

Brin's sister Montana, who is 15 and in Year 9 at Wodonga Middle Years, is also planning to join the Brigade once she turns 16. "I want to stop what happened to us in the Black Saturday fires



Brin, Montana, and Kim O'Brien

happening to other people," says Montana, who was only four at the time.

And then there is Harlan but he's only nine years old "However, Brinley takes him on pretend firefighting exercises such as climbing the ladder to 'rescue' a cat from a tree," says Kim.

LIGHT TANKER FOR SALE



Mitsubishi Canter - now for sale after offering sterling service to the Yack CFA

In the market for a nifty little fire truck? The Yackandandah Fire Brigade is selling what was known as the "Yack Kid, a 20 year old light tanker purchased by the Brigade using a substantial bequest from the late Billy Newton (aka the Yackandandah Kid and ex captain of the Yackandandah Urban Brigade).

The Mitsubishi Canter Single Cab Light Tanker has only done around 37,000kms, is a 4 X4 Manual,

and comes with a 1200 litre water tank and diesel pump, hose reel & hose, crew and vehicle sprinkler protection system....all the requirements of a firefighting appliance (less CFA and UHF radios, alerting devices and sirens).

Bought by the Brigade new, and then fitted out to suit the Brigade's needs, this is a very handy and versatile little truck in excellent condition. Presently registered to the Brigade, it will be sold without a roadworthy. (Vin No. JMFFG637COKJ40029.)

Expressions of interest are invited. Please contact the Brigade's Captain, Yves Quaglio on 0419 991 746.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW FIRE?



With summer just around the corner, we're asking people to start preparing their properties.

Yackandandah residents have a range of summer fire risk – we've got bushland, scrubland, grasslands with many homes built in or interfacing these high risk locations.

If residents are unsure of their bushfire risk, they can contact Brigade's Captain Yves Quaglio on 0419 991 746 in the first instance, or the local CFA Prepare Your Property team on 0437 247 199.

The CFA website has a good section <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property> which includes a link to a PDF of the brochure on "How to prepare your property".

Some of its key messages are:

- Keep your grass around the house short-around 10cm in height
- Remove flammable items from decks and verandas such as boxes, furniture and doormats
- Keep gutters free of leaf litter
- Keep woodpiles away from the house
- Store flammable liquids away from the house
- Get rid of dry grass, leaves trigs and loose bark
- Cut back overhanging branches – no branches within 10m of building
- Remove dead branches from trees

While hopefully (according to the seasonal outlook) we will not see the extreme fires of the 2019/20 season, it does not mean we can become complacent. Short duration fires in grasslands and drier forests/woodlands are still likely to occur by late spring, depending on fire weather conditions and grassland curing.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Because of the COVID-19 restrictions, the Brigade has been looking at alternative ways of engaging with the community in the lead up to the summer fire season. This will include a once fortnightly information session on various fire-related topics presented by a brigade member on the daily "Yack Chat" program on our local community radio station on Yackandandah Indigo FM, 88.0FM. The 1st session will be from **10am to 11am on Tuesday, October 13**. We will cover what you can do to prepare your small rural block or lifestyle property for summer. So we can prepare, we are asking that if you have any questions to please email us beforehand on cfa@yckandandah.com. Podcasts of these sessions will be available.

Continued on Page 4



To report a fire:
Burn-off Notification
Vic Emergency Hot Line
CFA Website:

000
1800 668 511
1800 226 226
cfa.vic.gov.au



Yackandandah Health Medical Centre celebrated Women's Health Week on the 7th-11th September

Women's Health Week is a Jean Haile for Women's Health initiative that started in 2013 and has now become a nation-wide campaign of events and online activities that all centre around improving women's health and helping women to make healthier choices.

There are so many topics pertaining to women's health that women should be encouraged to talk about in the community and also with a health professional. Some of these topics include, but are not limited to, fertility, sexual health, contraception, mental health, pregnancy, menopause, bone health, heart health, continence, pelvic pain, family domestic violence and periods.

Yack Health Medical Centre (YHMC) celebrated the week by decorating the Centre with colourful bunting and set up an information board with lots of information referring specifically to women's health.

An online Webex event was also held on Tuesday, 8th September, where YHMC's Nurse Practitioner, Vanessa Page, facilitated a general discussion around women's health and explained the current recommendations



Yack Medical Centre decorations

with regards to routine women's health screening. Midwife, Louise Thornton, also provided information about the Midwife Care Program at YHMC that offers antenatal and postnatal care in collaboration with our GP Obstetrician, Dr. Tess Goodwin.

Yackandandah Health Medical Centre offers, along with our many other GP services, a comprehensive women's health service to the community of Yackandandah and surrounds. We now have a nurse practitioner-led Women's Health Clinic every Tuesday with Vanessa, and our GP Obstetrician, Dr. Tess Goodwin and General Practitioner, Dr. Emma Polkinghorne both offer women's health consultations. And, of course, the Midwife Care Program facilitated by Louise Thornton has pregnancy well covered. This Program is held every Thursday morning.

Please consider booking a women's health consultation at YHMC and start **your** conversation about women's health.

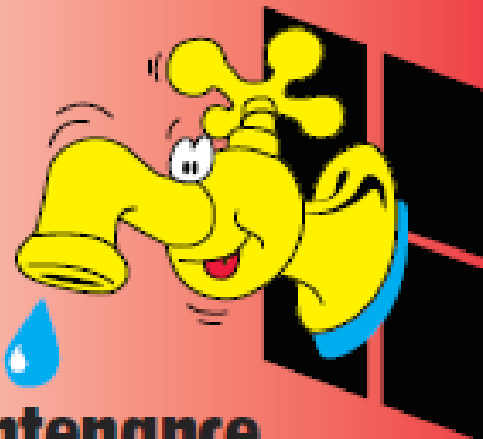
Phone Yackandandah Health Medical Centre on 02 6028 0130 to speak to our Reception Team, Brooke and Maddie, or book via HotDoc on our webpage <https://www.yackandandahhealth.com.au/medical-centre-surgery-yackandandah.html>



Nurse Practitioner - Vanessa Page with the Women's Health information board

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- I hope to be re-elected to continue the work of creating opportunities and outcomes that can be celebrated within our region.
- I'm an Indigo Valley farmer, teacher, mother, grandmother and member of an amazing, large, local family.
- I married a local and moved here 40 years ago and have been involved and invested in community driven decision making ever since.
- I am hard working, responsible and accountable.
- I believe that good communication and engagement with the community leads to better decisions and outcomes.
- I enjoy working collaboratively and respect difference of opinion as a reflection of our diverse community.
- Transparent decision making and clear processes build trust and accountability and I work to uphold these on behalf of the community.
- I have been a committee member of Arts Yackandandah, Yack Kindergarten, Totally Renewable Yackandandah, Yackandandah Folk Festival, Love Yack Placemaking and am a YCDCo and Indigo Power shareholder.
- As a councillor, I have represented Yackandandah community concerns and advocated on your behalf.
- Together, we can work towards a more liveable now and a shared vision for the future.

This competition is eligible only for students attending schools in Wodonga or Albury council areas, but that probably includes a fair few Yack and District children. Full details and information on this competition are available at the following website
<https://wodongalandcare.org.au/go-wild-art-competition/>



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\$50 Dymocks Albury voucher (11-14 yrs)

\$50 Officeworks Albury voucher (15-18 yrs)

Third prizes: Regent Cinema tickets (x4)

**Entries
close
30 Oct**

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HOW DO WE CREATE TRULY LOCAL ELECTRICITY SUPPLY?

TRY is seeking spaces to scale up efforts to achieve 100%

As your local community energy group, TRY has worked hard at getting solar systems onto Yack rooftops with the awesome result that we now have Victoria's leading solar rooftop density at a little under 60%. The next step is scaling up to reach our 100% renewable energy goal, but in a way that's local, with local ownership, and respecting Yack's unique environment and heritage. Achieving the 100% goal will give Yack greater

resilience and the many benefits of a renewable energy economy.

Yackandandah recently received funding from the Federal Government to undertake a feasibility study to set up a community-scale micro-grid, including energy generation and storage systems.

This will result in a masterplan for Yackandandah that sets out how, and with what mix of installations, we can achieve the 100% renewable goal. In terms of generation assets, we are looking mainly at solar photovoltaics, though wind is possible. For energy storage, we are looking at battery technologies and pumped hydro as options.



Total energy imports to the Yack township and surrounds on a typical winter's day. The Masterplan will identify how we can meet these needs. Credit: Mach 2 Consulting

As part of this project, we want to identify potential sites where a community-scale (small) solar farm (2-4 MW) and battery installation could be located.

Can you help us find potential sites? Do you own land that you think might be suitable – or know someone who has land that might fit the bill.

Sites need to satisfy a number of criteria, including:

Orientation – ideally with a sunny, northerly aspect.

Area – about 3-8 Hectares, preferably cleared (depending on site availability, we may end up going with multiple smaller sites rather than one larger one).

Location – needs to be reasonably close (say within 500m) of major 22kV power lines on major roads (the 22kV lines are shown on the AusNet map at <https://dapr.ausnetservices.com.au/>).

Terms –negotiable- the land needs to be available for use for renewable energy on a long-term lease or purchase basis.

'Spring Conversation' about Renewables

TRY is committed to continuing to engage with the Yack folks about the study, plans and options as the project matures. We are infinitely conscious that people are very determined not to damage our great local landscape.

To describe plans and hear where people's concerns and wishes lie, we are also proposing a 'Spring Conversation' about our renewables plan in October or November (COVID-19 restrictions permitting). So, watch this space for dates...

Confidentiality

In the meantime, if you own or know of land you think may be suitable (as per the criteria listed) for solar generation and that is available for this purpose, you can contact us on a CONFIDENTIAL/ NO COMMITMENT basis.

Please contact Mark McKenzie-McHarg on 0417 556 979 or email info@totallyrenewableyack.org.au by Tuesday, 20th October, 2020.

Matt Charles-Jones



A Local Power Plan for the Regions

A few months ago in June, we described how TRY and other local community energy stakeholders were participating in a community energy

co-design process with the office of Dr Helen Haines MP. Over 8 weeks Dr Haines engaged with hundreds of people and received 99 submissions from all over Australia, and all types of people and organisations, including farmers, investors, health and training organisations, and community energy groups.

The purpose of the process was to ensure that regional Australia drives and benefits from the coming boom in renewable energy. As more large-scale solar and wind farms, and eventually storage facilities such as batteries and pumped hydro pop up around the country, how do we make sure that regional Australia participates in the benefits that flow from them?

And when extreme weather events and bushfire disasters more frequently disrupt power supplies, as they did in Corryong and Walwa last summer, how can we make our towns and regions more resilient? How do we ensure that large (and small) projects are not done *to* the regions, but *with* the regions? These were the underlying questions that occupied the expert panel and the many submissions that Dr Haines received.

Over the last 6 years TRY has experienced many of the challenges and benefits of undertaking a 100% renewable energy transition and we are uniquely placed to identify things that would improve and accelerate the journey. We're proud of our efforts and achievements that show the

benefits and possibilities of a renewable energy transformation.

We participated in the consultation process, helping to formulate the discussion paper, and also made our own submission. It and the other 98 submissions were incorporated into the discussion paper and have become the *Local Power Plan*,

a roadmap of initiatives to involve, benefit and empower local communities via renewable energy projects. The *Plan* suggests different levels of policy that will facilitate community and commercial projects and provide incentives for investment, regional development and resilience.

Dr Haines commented that "for everyday people in regional Australia, if we do renewables right, it means lower bills, stronger energy security, and new jobs and industries". Along with reducing emissions, this is what TRY has been working towards since we started our journey, with a focus on making sure that initiatives benefit all levels of the community, not just those that can afford to make changes. It's about equity, resilience and community.

The *Local Power Plan* is now complete and was launched online on the 23 September as well as being presented to the energy minister, Angus Taylor MP. TRY and many others will be watching to see what happens as we continue working on a 100% renewable transition for our town.

— Juliette Milbank



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ASTRONOMY IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

HOW I GOT INTO ASTRONOMY WITH MY DAD

It was last year when my dad and I got into astronomy. I had a school project on planets. I chose Saturn (6th planet from the sun), which made my dad do some research. However, when our friend lent us a 4-inch Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope, my dad became interested enough in astronomy to purchase a 12-inch Dobsonian telescope. We quickly learned that there was a lot of information needed to operate a telescope: we had to cool the primary mirror down with a fan so the mirror image wasn't distorted. At the same time, we needed to warm the secondary mirror so it didn't fog up. We also had to purchase a laser collimator and a Cheshire collimator to align the mirrors correctly. It took a few nights of practice to finally view nebulae, galaxies, and globular clusters. An app you might want to use that we recommend is Star Walk 2. It's a free app and you can use it to locate where things are.

Getting serious

If you want to have a good night with a telescope, you must have these conditions: clear skies (it's okay to have 2 or 3 clouds as long as they're not big), good atmospheric conditions, no dust, no smoke, no light pollution (an app or a website to use is called Light Pollution Map).



Orion Nebula

What to look for (Orion Nebula)

The Orion Nebula is the best one for beginners as it's located near the belt of the Orion and is beautiful. It rises from the east at 10:30 pm in October and at 8:30 pm in November. And it sets at 9:00 am in October and at 8:00 am in November.

Andromeda

Another object to look for is the Andromeda galaxy located in the Andromeda constellation, easily visible to the naked eye. It rises from the north-west at 3:00 am in October and at 11:45 pm in November. It sets at 8:00 pm in October and sets at 5:00 pm in November.



Andromeda Galaxy

Centaurus Globular Cluster

As well as the above, a good thing to look at is the Centauri Globular Cluster which is also visible to the naked eye. It rises from



Centauri Globular Cluster

the south-east at 3:00 am in October and rises at 1:00 am in November (located near the Southern Cross in the constellation Centaurus). It sets at 9:30 pm in October and at 6:30 pm in November.

| October | Rises | Sets |
|---------------------------|----------|---------|
| Orion Nebula | 10:30 pm | 9:00 am |
| Andromeda Galaxy | 3:00 am | 8:00 pm |
| Centauri Globular Cluster | 3:00 am | 9:30 pm |
| November | Rises | Sets |
| Orion Nebula | 8:30 pm | 8:00 am |
| Andromeda Galaxy | 11:45 pm | 5:00 pm |
| Centauri Globular Cluster | 1:00 am | 6:30 pm |

Note: These times are roughly what they will be, but may be a few minutes off

ZAC DAVIS is 9 years old and a student at YPS



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HARD UP?

To call those who are in financial straits "hard up" is to employ a nautical term from the days of sailing ships. In severe weather, special measures had to be taken to keep a ship afloat. Most important among them was to turn the ship's head away from the wind. To do so, the tiller, which controlled the rudder, had to be put over as far as possible and be kept in this position, demanding much effort on the part of the crew. In fact, it necessitated the combined strength of the maximum number of men. In an emergency of such a kind the command was "Hard up the helm!"

Metaphorically speaking, the situation paralleled that of people who were in desperate need to weather the storms of economic adversity. With the original meaning of the words forgotten, "hard up" was transferred from the sea to describe their condition.

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Dear Ali,

Thank you so much for sending me a very, very informative paper to me, also for putting one of my poems in your paper, which you always do for me.

I was interested in your mule that you have acquired. My father was a Mule Skinner in the First World War (a muleskinner or mule skinner is a muleteer or mule-driver - possibly an American term - *Wikipedia*). I remember him telling me when I was a kid about the Turks having the water wells well and truly covered under fire. He used to have to ride an outrigger mule at full gallop, after dark with a team of about 8 mules hitched up to a water tank on a cart, get as much water as he could under fire. Then flat out back to the camp. I remember him telling me it wasn't unusual for one of the mules to be wounded or killed, but he had a by-pass sort of hitch up that he could undo that would leave the dead mule there, and then get the hell out of it. Poor animals copped it whichever way. Dad was in that Beersheba Charge at Palestine etc. and all over parts of Europe.

I have been a horse breaker all my life until lately due to age, eyesight etc. I broke in thousands of horses from the Northern Territory, Queensland, NSW and Victoria. I broke in a lot of racehorses worth thousands of quid at the time. I also

castrated thousands of horses – I still have my old emasculators etc. I broke in horses and was Horse Breaker for King Ranch Australia, Sir William Stevenson of the Dam Busters fame in NZ and Mr. Tucker, who at the time, trained Rising Fast, the 1954 NZ bred winner of the Melbourne Cup. I broke in the first ever Quarter Horse to be broken in Australia for King Ranch Texas USA. But as you will have noticed by my writing etc my eyes are finished, I am giving my utility to my son as this is my last driving license before I kill myself or someone else. I remember once out near Birdsville on the Stock Route, I was hobbling out our 80 head of horses when a drover appeared with about seven or eight mules as packhorses. All my horses bolted as they had never ever seen mules before, even upset the cattle. Sorry to bore you with these stories of a long ago past that I cherish very, very much.

I do hope you never ever take offence at anything I may write. I have too many enemies now so I do not wish for anymore. Please keep up the good work with your paper. I have enclosed a couple of poems you may print. Thanking you once again, I remain yours faithfully,

BILL & MARLENE WHITHAM,
Tallangatta

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hi Ali,

In reference to the letter you published by a local resident. We all love our beautiful township of Yackandandah, with all of its facilities, and we all must manage its growth to keep it that way. The reality is though, without tourism it is unsustainable.

The statistics are available at Council if you want to be accurate about the financial status of our shire. Last financial year 2019/20 the visitor economy figure was \$128m. Council's tourism budget is \$1.7m.

So let's manage our beautiful Township with a level head.

Yours sincerely,
Greg Porter
Yackandandah
* * * *

Dear Madam,

SEEKING BETTER COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION AT COUNCIL

A recent Letter to the Editor of the local Yackandandah community newspaper, *Yackity Yak* Aug-Sep 2020 titled *Place Plan VS Tourism Strategy* illustrates the folly and lack of adequate planning for the

implementation of appropriate procedures and protocols in developing local place plans, masterplans and similar projects for Indigo Shire townships and wider communities. It also clearly demonstrates the lack of adequate leadership and wisdom by Indigo Shire executive and elected councilors in the pursuit of goals related to Victorian state government initiatives and the related misleading honey pot of money that dictates the direction of heritage and tourism funding they impose on their communities.

The *Yackity Yak* letter is a wake-up call for all Indigo Shire communities, but particularly for Beechworth Citizens, as the Indigo Shire implements Masterplan processes that appear to be designed to prioritise their tourism agenda of *Gamechanger* and the Victorian Government's Dept of Regional Development's *Ned Kelly Alive Project* which has not been scrutinized by a community consultation process. In doing so, Indigo Shire Council has chosen to neglect the advice of the Beechworth Independent Heritage Review Committee 2015 and the recommendations of the Beechworth Burke Museum & Historic Precinct Advisory Committee which they stood down in Oct 2018.

Whilst the community respects

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the complicated task of elected councilors to judge issues on the advice given from all appropriate sources when endorsing executive drafted motions for implementation, elected councilors, unlike the executive, remain accountable to their constituents at the ballot box. The upcoming Council Election process provides the opportunity for citizens to examine the public record and identify the legislative actions taken by individual councilors and the effects their decisions have made on their communities over the past council period.

Indigo Shire communities are entitled to expect better representation from their elected representatives.

John Baines

Beechworth

* * * *

To the Editor

“Real Life” by George Montbiot (Yackity Yack August 2020 reproduced from the Guardian March 2020) should have been titled “Exaggeration that invokes violence”

I wonder how many members of the Yackandandah community are unaware that George Montbiot is a leading activist in the Extinction Rebellion movement and whether they would be unhappy, like I am, that this Guardian article “Real

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Life” was published in Yackity Yack as “gospel” without any explanation. Followers of this Extinction Rebellion movement are told to blindly accept without question or doubt that the world is facing an imminent climate catastrophe and they are encouraged and supported to engage in activities that deliberately create chaos in the community and threaten the survival of businesses and the livelihood of employees. We can see this mirrored in the recent Black Lives Matter activities that escalated from virtue signaling to murderous looting in the United States. When people are turned into sheep by such movements and our press and education system supports them, watch out!

Like many other readers of Yackity Yack, I hold views quite different from Montbiot. First; climate change has not happened anywhere near to the extent or speed predicted by climate activists, we should not act in panic. Second; studies based on modelling and forecasting are based on data, algorithms and assumptions that are unreliable, yet climate change predictions have been thoughtlessly adopted by huge numbers of activists as justification for imminent and increasingly aggressive actions. Third; activist groups including Extinction Rebellion and their compliant followers have already spawned

divisions in our communities that I believe will almost certainly lead to violence and threaten the good things in our lives.

George Montbiot’s description of the risks of climate change, pandemics, food shortage and antibiotic resistance is alarming but exaggerated. Such risks are widely known and readily identified but they need to be assessed in conjunction with the likelihood of them happening. Montbiot’s insistence that the impact and synergism of these risks is imminent and our very existence is threatened in the short term is a gross exaggeration. The problem is that his views will doubtless attract followers looking for meaning in their lives who can be easily led into mindless activism that will trigger violence.

I don’t agree that we, as “rich nations”, are just complacent, selfish, materialistic and greedy or that we are doing nothing to address these risks. For example, our status quo has developed advanced technology, growing knowledge and attitude change that will help us overcome viruses and stay healthy, minimise the impacts of regular climate-driven disasters and help to reduce poverty. We need to retain and build on these strengths, not attack and destroy them. We need to be strong to ensure that we can

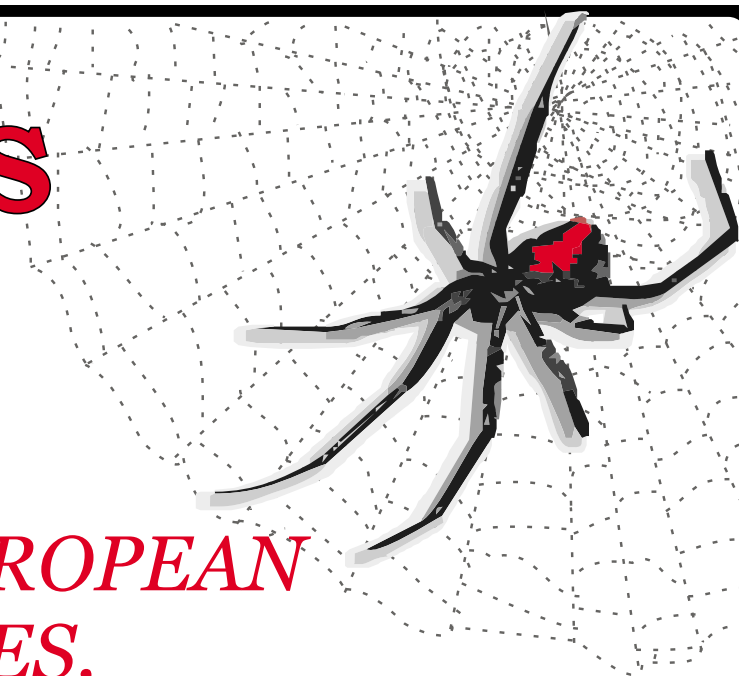
protect what we have and avoid declining into virtuous weakness. We need to defend our nation and our way of life from external and increasingly from internal enemies. Our Australian society is not perfect but it’s a rare gift to us all and we cannot risk throwing the baby out with the bathwater by over-reacting.

Yackity Yack is a great contributor to our local community but should not promote minority activism that is strongly rejected by the silent majority of our community. Surely this sort of article is not in line with the original purpose of Yackity Yack. Or is it.

Don McEwan, Yackandandah

Well - very happy to re-open the argument on this subject and happy to receive your comments. I know that we will never reach consensus, however with such horrendous weather and fire events happening all over the world, not to mention the COVID-19 pandemic, the time gap when we can affect this is rapidly closing. I have no immediate offspring coming up after me who are likely to point the finger at me for inaction, but I, personally, feel a very real moral obligation to do the very best that I can in what ever way for this world that is collapsing under the weight of humans and their wants and desires. Happy to receive your letters on the subject. Ed.

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A REAL MULTI-PURPOSE PLACE

An interpretive sign has been installed at the Golf and Recreation Reserve, aka golf course. It tells the story of Yackandandah's first, genuinely multi-purpose space. Since its designation in 1863, it has been a venue for horse races, the showgrounds, an athletics, football, cricket and school sports venue, a car-racing track and air landing strip, a place for brass bands, a place to celebrate a king, and the peace won in 1918, a place for communities to gather, and now, of course, it is a place for golf.

You will read elsewhere in this edition of Yackity Yak about events at the Reserve (see the Yack Golf Club's report on page 31): the interpretive sign does not go into the same detail. It provides a chronological glimpse of activities which have taken place over some 157 years.

For example, there's a note about the Everton-Beechworth-Wooragee-Yackandandah train, which delivered a crowd for a Back to Yackandandah Fete, and an image of a biplane which landed on the Reserve in 1922. The Osborne's Flat Imperials, a football team which contested the Craven Trophy Challenge in 1892, get a mention, as do the erstwhile Mother's Club, who served ice cream and refreshments at the Yackandandah Primary School Sports one Saturday in 1939.

A feature is a grainy aerial photograph of the site, circa 1946. Another is this photo of the grandstand, from a half page feature on the Yack Show in 1906. It was published in the Weekly Times, and retrieved from TROVE.

The sign resulted from work which the Reserve Committee of Management has been doing for a couple of years. It began with an exhaustive search of

resources held in the Yackandandah & District Historical Society collection, and input from Marian and Colin Barnard. Marian's critical reflections on the work were invaluable. Dennis Matthews produced the map – there are markers on the map which will help you locate some features. Corresponding markers will be placed on the golf course.

The Department of Premier and Cabinet awarded a grant for the project, for which the Reserve Committee is immensely grateful! The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning provided gazetted maps and details on request. Yackandandah and District Historical Society provided access to newspapers, photographs and concert programs. Yackandandah Golf Club provided an initial map showing the layout of the course. Tim Knight provided expert advice, and solved many problems before he even began the manufacturing process.



*The Grandstand at the Yackandandah Reserve, showing the media technology of 110+ years ago!
Photo Credit: Trove*

Ponder your predecessors – the story of the Reserve is also a story of countless volunteers who raised funds, planned events and made things happen in Yackandandah. Their story is very, very familiar in Yackandandah 2020.

The sign is there now. When you are having a look, a read and a reflection please do remember you are on a golf course ... if there are golfers around, they should be approaching from the right! If you have thoughts of walking the course, the golfers could be approaching from anywhere!

Trevor Matthews

Secretary, Yackandandah Golf and Recreation Reserve Committee of Management

A letter to Kath Bragge of Yackandandah, who died on 20th July, 2020

Along the Creek

23 July, 2020

Dear Kath,

Mild winter is already yielding along Yackandandah Creek. The first Silver Wattle flowered on June 30, very early this year, well ahead of others along the western track where frosts lie heavier. Ovens Wattles anticipate their own golden display when the Silvers fade, before Blackwoods subtly enhance the colours of spring. A fortnight since, a spectacular Eastern Spinebill, yellow and black, white and cinnamon, hovered while feeding from pink Grevillea flowers beside the eastern 'bush track', a lovely sight - quite special. Hardenbergia will soon add purple there. Magpies were then weaving nests of instinctive pattern; and, as you know, Wombats are renovating. Joining Yellow Robins, a couple of Grey Shrike Thrushes have returned, minus the wonderful melody of the same in East Gippsland - no bird in the world is more musical - though Whipbirds and Whistlers add sound, and yesterday a superb Grey Fantail firmly stood its branch against further encroachment.

Courtesy of recent rain, the plantation survives. Wallabies love its variety. Even the creek seems animated - rarer these days. Duos of Wood Ducks and Sugar Gliders have lately contemplated furthering their species, while happy wetland Frogs continue proclaiming Yack Creek Landcare's progress from the 'Friends' you began.

Thank you. Col Barnard

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More information is available by calling us on 1800 413 828 or by going to the website at www.smallbusinessbushfire.org.au

www.smallbusinessbushfire.org.au

'Capturing History – Bruarong Stories Remembered'

The exquisite Bruarong Community Centre situated on the site of the old Bruarong school, serves as a hub for the people of this tiny hamlet situated on the road between Yackandandah and Myrtleford.

An ideal location for telling the story of Bruarong, it is planned that the 'Capturing History – Bruarong Stories Remembered' project will bring the past of Bruarong to life.

Following a successful FRRR grant application, members of the Bruarong Community Centre Committee have created a small research team that aim to uncover the history of Bruarong, Hillsborough, Sutton, Tunnel Gap and Back Creek (The Bruarong Area). In pre-COVID times, the project plan was very much focused on bringing past and present Bruarong area residents together in the beautifully renovated Bruarong Community Centre for a series of information (and cake) sharing events. However, with social events (and cake) now on hold, the project team are inviting anyone with, stories and/or images connected to the Bruarong area to be part of the project in a different way.



The 'life in the time of COVID' new plan is to deliver invitations to roadside mail boxes throughout the Bruarong area; to send invitations to any people with known connections to the area, and to put a call-out via a range of newspapers and online platforms to anyone with information about the history of Bruarong.



This coordinated operation may not be without hitches, so should there be the odd missed mailbox, please be sure that everyone is invited to participate.

The research team are keen to gather information from community members which will then be recorded and/or

transcribed. Precious photographs and documents will be carefully collected, scanned, digitised and then returned. All research material will be stored electronically so that the stories are not lost to future



generations with any donated items held safely at the Yackandandah Museum.

Selected stories and images from the body of research collected will be used to tell the history of the Bruarong area through a permanent display at the Community Centre. It is envisaged that the project will greatly add to the knowledge about Bruarong and ensure that the story of this small hamlet will not be forgotten.

Research Team:

Annette Bowers - bannette@y7mail.com 0407 288 873
 Heather Hillas - hphillas@activ8.net.au 0458 118 234
 Ross Martin - hawks853@gmail.com 0400 211 603
 Ruth Yule - rwyle@hotmail.com 0423 335 580

Curator:

Ali Rowe - ali@saveourstories.com.au 0422 922 091

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2020 Annual General Meeting

The 2020 TRY Inc. AGM will be held on Wednesday, October 21st, at 7.30pm.

The meeting will be held on-line, via Zoom, in line with the current restrictions on public meetings.

All members of TRY Inc are invited to attend, and anyone wishing to become members will be welcome to join the meeting.

The positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary/Public Officer will be declared vacant, and a vote will be taken to fill those positions for the next 12 months.

If you wish to nominate a person for one of these positions, and/or are unable to join the meeting but wish to vote, Nomination Forms and Proxy Forms can be found on our website totallyrenewableyack.org.au.

These should be completed and emailed to info@totallyrenewableyack.org.au by Oct 19.

PLEASE NOTE: in order to co-ordinate the meeting, an RSVP is required in all instances by email to info@totallyrenewableyack.org.au and the link to the meeting will be provided by return email. An agenda will be included in this email.

It is anticipated this meeting will conclude at 9.00 pm. If you have not used Zoom for online meetings previously, and need help to set up the meeting on your computer or phone, please let us know and we will endeavour to help.

Please RSVP to TRY Inc by Oct 19, or direct any enquiries to info@totallyrenewableyack.org.au

YACK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Everyone at Yackandandah Primary School is looking forward to all children learning on-site in Term Four. For most of third term children were learning from home, in line with health and education authority directions. Lessons were conducted via video conferencing and other electronic media. As this was the second time around with remote learning, we were all more skilled with the technology and children were able to adapt to new routines. We were impressed with the dedication and hard work of students (supported by families), especially given the self-motivation and self-management required. We are very grateful for the support of families during the remote learning period – particularly given the extra challenges that families were facing during the COVID-19 restrictions.

In Term Four, we will welcome children from Yackandandah Kindergarten for a series of transition visits. The children will meet teachers, become familiar with 'big school' and get to know their Yr. 6 buddies. The senior buddies are just as excited as the kindergarten children about the transition days. With restrictions lifting, it looks like we can carry out the transition visits with some minor adjustments. If you are still yet to enrol your child for school next year, please contact us (or your school of choice) to start the enrolment process.

Despite the unusual year of schooling so far, I'm confident that our students have still advanced in their learning. I'm sure the children will be very keen to spend time reconnecting with their friends and getting back to a normal school routine. I know the teachers are very much looking forward to having the children at school and interacting in the classroom. It has certainly been a year of schooling that we will all remember.

Michael Edwards, Principal

HOGGY'S FARM SERVICE

Slashing – Clean up that long grass for summer

Harvesting – Small Square or Round Bales

Multicrop Liquid Fertiliser Supplier

Tractor Hire with Operator



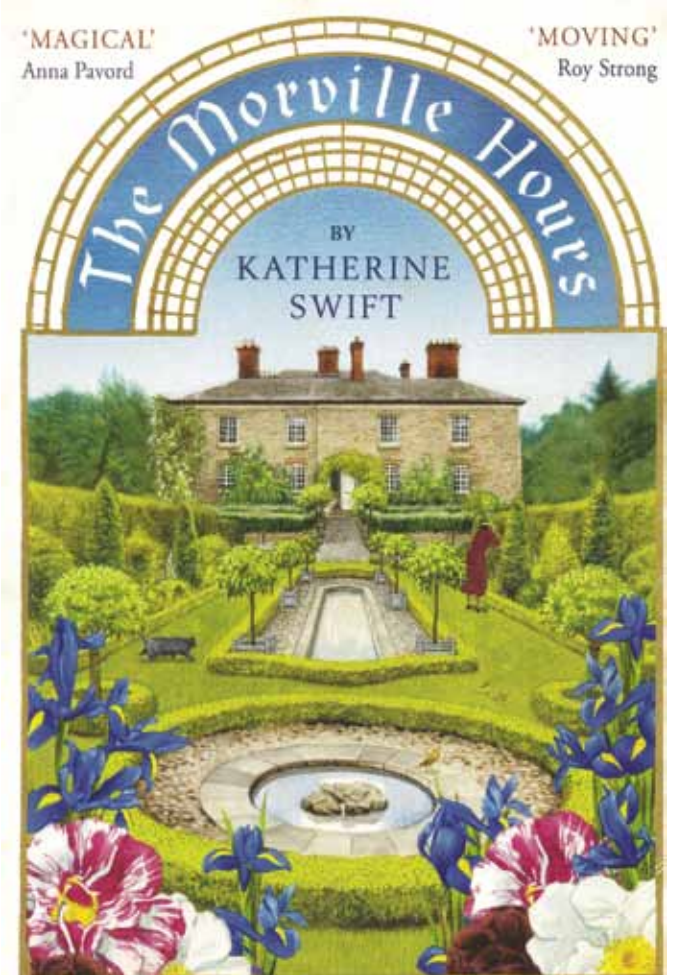
Contact OWEN HOGG 0407 424 501

An extract from "The Morville Hours" by Katherine Swift

"Perhaps we gardeners underestimate ourselves for what else are our twenty-first-century gardens – with their passion for wildlife, their refusal to denude foreign ecosystems by stripping them of rare plants, their rejection of fossil peat as a growing medium, their turning away from chemicals as a means of controlling pests, their emphasis on water-recycling, solar power, composting – if not a critique of modern consumer society, the very society that has brought our planet to the brink of catastrophe?"

'MAGICAL'
Anna Pavord

'MOVING'
Roy Strong



'THE MOST BEAUTIFUL BOOK I HAVE READ IN YEARS' Nigel Slater

SQUARE AZ

ABN 15 435 34 020

Maintenance Carpenter

Andrew Young
Yackandandah

Mobile: 0419 908 688
Phone: 02 6027 1962





“Think about who you love, then think about them in ICU.”

For Sarah, who’s been battling coronavirus for nearly 8 weeks, being separated from her two little boys, has been heartwrenching. On top of coronavirus attacking every one of her body systems, intense pain and acute breathing difficulty, she still has no idea when she will be well enough to see her boys. Sarah’s hope is that by us all doing the right thing, no one else will have to experience the heartache her family has.

Please, play your part and help stop the spread of the virus. If you have symptoms - please get tested. Payments of \$450 are available to help you stay home and wait for your test result.

**To learn more of Sarah’s story
go to vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS**



Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



Annie's Retreat Outdoor Event Centre

Viewings (Fri-Sun) for bookings Sept '20 to March '21

Annie's Retreat outdoor centre offers 360 degree valley views, undulating hills, roaming cattle, horses , catering kitchen and more! Come and walk our beautiful gardens/vineyard. Just use your imagination for your own event, and come and visit with your ideas! We will adapt your ideas to the site

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website www.anniesretreat.com*



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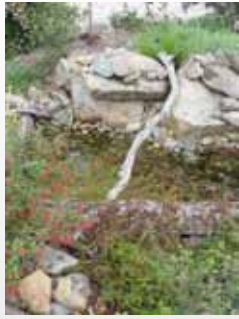
Gavin King

Phone: 0423 075 385

Gardens 4 Wildlife 2020-21 activities

Information subject to change, please check details on:
facebook.com/G4WAW/ or ecoportal.net.au

* Possibly a virtual event



Saturday 12 September 2020

How to build a frog pond

Tips for locating and making frog ponds, selecting plants and attracting frogs

Where: Table Top garden*



November 2020

Virtual open gardens

Be inspired by our video of beautiful, local habitat gardens

Where: G4W Facebook page and Wodonga Landcare website



**28 Sep - 30 Oct 2020 (entries)
9 Nov - 4 Dec 2020 (exhibition)**

Go Wild art competition

Create a picture of an Australian native animal in a garden setting to win great prizes (school students only)

Where: Exhibition at Albury Library



March 2021

Propagating shrubs from cuttings

Hands-on workshop to propagate shrubs from cuttings for your garden

Where: Venue TBC*



Saturday 17 October 2020

Backyard birds

Join a walk and talk on local birds and get enthused about the Aussie Backyard Bird Count

Where: Venue TBC*



April 2021

Insect safari

Discover the world of bees, beetles and other critters on a garden walk and talk

Where: Venue TBC*



Sunday 8 November 2020

Growing native grasses and forbs (herbs)

Learn about the best native grasses and forbs for suburban gardens

Where: West Albury garden*



Date TBC

How to make a cat enclosure

Experts show you how to make catios for keeping cats safe and wildlife happy

Where: Venue TBC*

Development Plan - Twist Creek Road, Yackandandah

Indigo Shire Council has received a draft Development Plan relating to a proposed subdivision in Twist Creek Road, Yackandandah.

The draft Development Plan has been submitted by Tomkinson Group for approval under the Development Plan Overlay provisions of the Indigo Planning Scheme. The purpose of a Development Plan is to ensure that developers and Council give consideration to the layout and integration of future development with the surrounding areas.

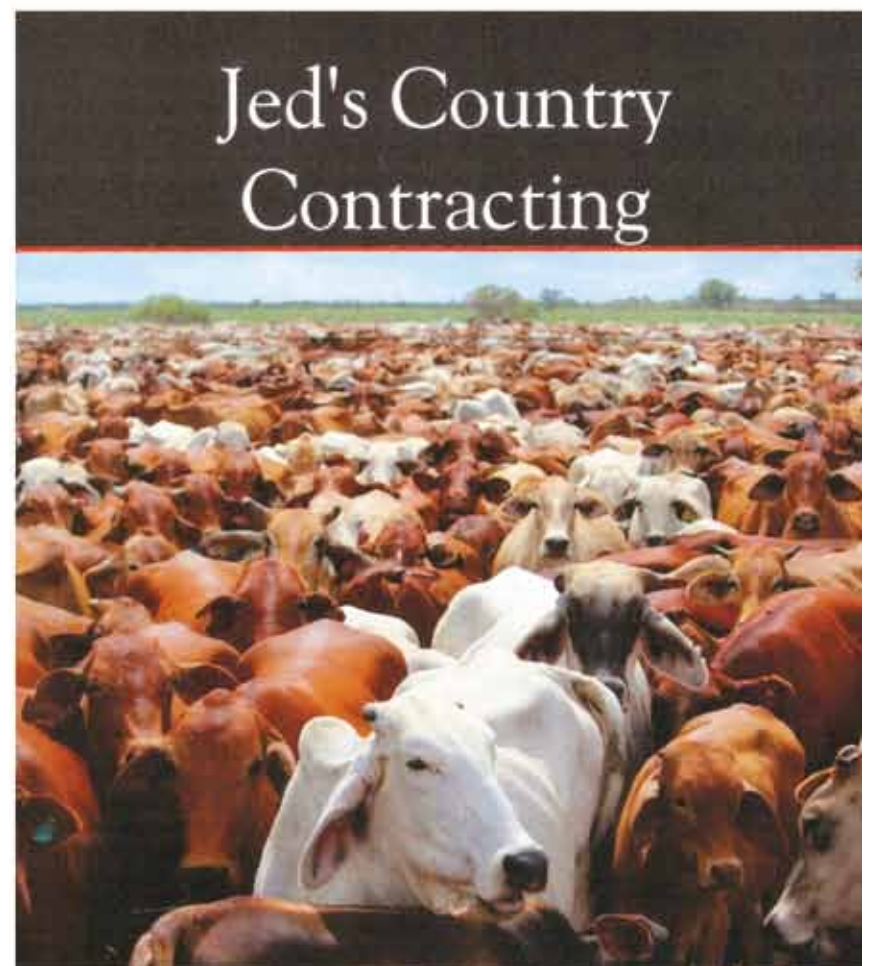
Supporting information

You can view or download the draft plan and supporting documents at <https://www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/Have-your-say/On-Exhibition/Development-Plan-Twist-Creek-Road-Yackandandah>

How to provide comment

While there are no statutory requirements for public consultation regarding Development Plans, Council invites comments on the proposal prior to considering whether or not to approve the plan. Please note that there are no specific third party appeal rights against a Council decision regarding the approval or refusal of a proposed development plan (unlike a planning permit decision).

Comments should be lodged in writing and addressed to the Manager Planning and Statutory Services and sent to PO Box 28, Beechworth VIC 3747 or via email to planning.enquiries@indigoshire.vic.gov.au, and be received by the close of business, Monday 12 October. All submissions received will be considered before a decision is made.



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YACK GARDEN CLUB

SPRING

While it may feel as if we are being held back from celebrating life as fully as we'd wish, nature feels no such constraints and is pushing ahead with new growth, buds, blossom and birdsong. Mary Oliver's poem off eleven quatrains says it beautifully.

Such Singing in the Wild Branches

It was spring
and I finally heard him
among the first leaves—
then I saw him clutching the limb

in an island of shade
with his red-brown feathers
all trim and neat for the new year.
First, I stood still

and thought of nothing.
Then I began to listen.
Then I was filled with gladness—
and that's when it happened,

when I seemed to float,
to be, myself, a wing or a tree—
and I began to understand
what the bird was saying,

and the sands in the glass
stopped
for a pure white moment
while gravity sprinkled upward

like rain, rising,
and in fact
it became difficult to tell just what it was
that was singing—
it was the thrush for sure, but it seemed

not a single thrush, but himself, and all his
brothers,
and also the trees around them,
as well as the gliding, long-tailed clouds
in the perfect blue sky—all of them

were singing.
And, of course, so it seemed,
so was I.
Such soft and solemn and perfect music
doesn't last

For more than a few moments.
It's one of those magical places wise
people
like to talk about.
One of the things they say about it, that is
true,

is that, once you've been there,
you're there forever.
Listen, everyone has a chance.
Is it spring, is it morning?

Are there trees near you,
and does your own soul need comforting?
Quick, then—open the door and fly on
your heavy feet; the song
may already be drifting away.

Mary Oliver, American 1935-2019, Pulitzer Prize winner

SOIL

Every gardener knows that the quality of your soil dictates the quality of your plants. It's not enough to simply provide water, any more than drinking water alone will feed you and keep you healthy. It's the nutrient value that enables things to grow. I used to believe that keeping water up to plants, proportionate to their needs and the climate, would be sufficient – but it's not. They wither and die and are lost to us.

In the September edition of Gardening Australia, Tino Carnevale writes an

interesting article about the soil biome in "What Lies Beneath". Microbes and macrofauna, fungi and nematodes, together with hosts of micro-organisms bring about chemical degradation and nutrient cycling. Soil biology is critical to the success of plants, besides supporting, anchoring and protecting them from the roots up.

It's often said that organic material in soil consists of "the living, the recently dead and the very dead." This is a helpful way to understand the processes that shape soil and make it fertile.

The *living* portion of soil is made up of plant roots, and of the numerous microbes and other living organisms that improve soil structure by breaking down organic material.

The *recently dead* components include deceased soil organisms, green plant material and fresh manures. They decompose readily, and release nutrients quickly.

The *very dead* portion is humus, the final residue of organic matter breakdown that's important for soil structure and disease suppression.

For fertile soil, all three forms of organic matter should be present at all times

HOW TO CREATE RICHER SOIL

Some basics:

Compost: The July edition of this newsletter gave some tips on creating compost. Once it's well broken down (or has become older or 'stale') it's worthwhile adding organic matter such as chicken, cow or horse manure to refresh the nitrogen content. Adding coarser (less decomposed) material keeps the mixture friable, speeds the formation of soil humus and improves water retention (because it can penetrate deeper).

Earthworms: *Vermicomposting* and the



resultant worm castings feed plant roots, carry beneficial microbes and boost soil organisms.

Rich, healthy compost can be dug into depleted soils before planting or can be added to soil around plants and then covered with mulch.

Mulch: one needs to beware of high carbon mulch that will leech nutrients from the soil. It's there to protect shallow roots, retain moisture and can be gradually dug in once it's done its job and breaks down.

Planting: Mixing one's plantings is an important way to prevent competition for nutrients. Deep rooted plants interspersed with shallower rooted groundcovers provides plenty of above-ground interest and variety while keeping the earth beneath them all healthy.

Seaweed stimulants: When plants are obviously struggling, they can often be resuscitated with liquid seaweed supplements – mostly derived from kelp – such as *Seasol*, *Charlie Carp* or *Powerfeed*. There are dozens of eco-friendly variants. These seaweeds both enrich the soil and are also helpful to stimulate root growth when planting out new seedlings or shrubs. Seaweed meal and granules are also available.

STREETSCAPE

In observation of the current guidelines/precautions relating to social distancing and COVID-19, the monthly Streetscape Working Bees have been postponed. Jim Ralston writes the following:

"I would like to take this opportunity again, to thank our team of willing volunteers for their dedicated work during the year and hope we can all be "back into it" in October. In the interim, Chris and I will manage the tubs and address any emergency maintenance issues as they occur. If there are any questions do not hesitate to contact me on 0414 317 059 / 02 6027 0672. Take Care and Stay Healthy." We thank Jim and Chris for their dedication and continued work.

The Streetscape team was busy (pre-Stage 3 lockdown) restyling the Community Centre garden bed. Old and bedraggled ground cover was removed as well as plants that have run their course. The new look will fit in more with the far end of the bed where Council have planted natives and laid coloured woodchips to top it off. Grant money received from the Community Centre will help with the re-vamping costs. We are all looking forward to ongoing maintenance being a lot easier for the team.

GARDEN CLUB RESCUE

Sally Meakin approached the Club with a request for help in caring for her parents' garden of which she is now the custodian. She aims to restore it to its former glory surrounding the original miners' cottage. This is part of her response:

"Thank you SO MUCH for taking such quick action on my email. What a great club! I am overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity of everybody, how wonderful your club has been in sending out offers of support. Especially when everybody would have been so busy pruning, weeding with all the rain and preparing their own gardens for spring."

Most of you would be happy to give gardening a little break for the moment, I am sure. THANK YOU ALL!

Neil Arnold has offered to have a look at the work for me and Jill Whitford has kindly referred me to Rod Klein and as well, I am more than happy to pay them to do what is needed until the borders open.

Thanks to Chris for her offer of help and Jan, for Darren Hubber's details. Now I have somebody else to call upon if needed.

I look forward to meeting up with you all when I get back down for a nice afternoon tea to thank you all for your support. With the situation surrounding COVID that might take a while.

Please take care and stay well. God bless you and your families and keep you all safe. Happy Gardening!"

CEMETERY ROSE PRUNING

Acting under Covid rules, Rose, Jill and Eileen and a friend of Eileen's have over the past few days pruned the cemetery roses. Dave and his trusty ute have removed the prunings to the burning pile and Dave will spray the weeds in the near future. We worked between showers in teams of two, so let's hope we can all gather in December for the dead heading at the annual working bee there.

MORE HANDY TIPS FROM JILL

The Chelsea Chop: In Britain, around the time of the Chelsea Flower Show which is in May, corresponding with November here, it is advised to give perennials such as salvias, catmint, and sedum, a prune

to about half. This causes the plant to be more compact and produce more flowers and be less likely to go flop when it reaches its full height. The RHS calls it the Chelsea Chop. If you are a doubter, you might like to try it on say half of your plants, or half a plant and see the result.

The saying in agriculture goes, 'the best fertilizer is the farmer's footprints' and the same can be said for gardens and gardeners. It means the most important aid you can give your plants is to regularly observe them, walk around your garden and see how your plants are faring. Are they being attacked by nasties, do certain plants need a nip and tuck, a deadhead or some water? Take a daily therapeutic walk and tune in to your garden. It will repay you.

COMING EVENTS

In the current climate it's difficult to say exactly what will happen and when. The best we can say is restricted to:

- October Streetscape (TBC)
Possible Garden Club Trip
Helping Hands (Yack Health)
- Nov Streetscape (TBC)
Come and See My garden (TBC)
Christmas End of Year function (TBC)
Helping Hands (Yack Health)
- Dec Streetscape (Tues, 1/12 @ 8am)
Cemetery rose pruning / working bee (Saturday 5/12/20 @ 8am)
General Club meeting (Thursday 10/12/20 @ 7pm)

Michael Metzger
(Communications & Media Secretary)

YACK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

As you walk down High Street Yackandandah, you could very well walk past two very tall, wooden panelled doors without giving them a cursory glance. The cream coloured building is substantial with little embellishment, whilst commanding a significant presence, a relic of bygone architecture. If you choose to stop and contemplate what lies beyond and then take that step inside, you will be stepping back over one hundred and forty years in time. Let's go back to where it all started...



The entry to a very special part of Yackandandah's history

On the site where the Bank of Victoria building now stands, it is supposed there stood Yackandandah's first hotel operated until 1857 by Archibald Osborne. When a survey of the street was taken, it was revealed that the building was out of alignment and the building was demolished. In 1858, Edward Chatterton bought the allotment and built a humble, slab and shingle hut to use as a butcher shop and most likely as a dwelling. Around the end of June 1860, Chatterton returned to America and the property was purchased by the Bank of Victoria to use as an Agency. The Bank made reasonable renovations to the premises making it more suitable to use as an office and living place;

internal walls were erected and a floor and a ceiling were also added. With the gold rush came the growth of the town and it was believed that spending money to build a larger bank was worthwhile. The house was removed by lever power to the rear of the intended site of the new building, to where it rests today.

The Depression that rocked Australia between 1890-1894 saw the closure of the Yackandandah branch of the Bank of Victoria in 1893. An enterprising resident, Mr Thomas Haig, a tailor, negotiated with the Bank to buy the property and with his wife Margaret Jane and their six children moved in. Modest alterations were made to the home, possibly at this time the walls were clad with wallpaper and a sleepout built to house the ever-growing family of by then, eight children.

Thomas Haig died in 1921 and his widow Margaret, entered into an arrangement with Benjamin Boyd (also a tailor) to lease the shop and carry on the business. Margaret died in 1944 leaving everything she owned to her daughter Isabella. Benjamin continued the tailoring business until his death in 1957, aged eight-four.

In 1969, Isabella, elderly and in failing health, sold the premises to the newly formed Yackandandah Historical Society, the contents of the two buildings being left as a gift. Isabella died shortly after the arrangements were put in place.

The Yackandandah and District Historical Society (YDHS) undertook restoration of both the Bank Building opening two years later, and the cottage which opened ten years on. The 'Bank Museum' had a large Chubb safe donated by the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney. The significant safe is a highlight for visitors; being made by Chubb in St Paul's Churchyard, London suggested between 1815-1830. Built to last and fire-proof, it was one of a few pieces on display that survived the fire that swept through the building in 2006, destroying many of the exhibits in its path.



The surviving Chubb safe, one of very few surviving items following the 2006 fire

Restoration of the 'Bank Manager's Cottage' put emphasis not only on what could be saved, but also on allowing visitors to experience the joy of discovering this delightful piece of local history. With the interior being remarkably intact, the plans allowed for as much of the original as possible to be kept on view. Essential new wallpapering was done using the original *paste on calico* method with the new paper being imported from England using authentic templates and dyes to match the old wallpaper. The cottage was used by the Haig family for sleeping and kitchen use, with a more formal parlour and dining room located in the rear rooms of the bank building. A main bedroom, child's bedroom, nursery, kitchen and lean-to form the cottage. The original external slab walls can still be seen in places and the original timber shingle roof can be viewed from the lean-to.



The main bedroom in the Manager's Cottage - showing a fine example of paste on calico wallpapering



The kitchen in the Manager's Cottage - a wonderful example of how life was in years past

WHAT'S HAPPENING

When life post-COVID once again enables us to open our own front doors, we invite you to take that step inside and discover a beautifully preserved chapter of Yackandandah's history.

While in lockdown, our wonderful volunteers have also been preserving making the most of winter seasonal fruits. We have an abundance of jams, marmalades and chutneys just waiting to be taken home. If you would like to purchase any produce while the doors are still closed, feel free to email us or put a message on our webpage and we will arrange pickup.

Once those two very tall, wooden panelled doors re-open, you will

also discover inside our latest exhibition "From Top to Bottom" which depicts the history of the Star Hotel, the Yackandandah Hotel and the Bridge Hotel (Windham Street). Another event in progress is our Christmas raffle with three Christmas hampers to be won. You will see us in the High Street selling tickets or you can also drop into the Museum to purchase them.

We can't wait to greet our local friends, visitors and YDHS members once business is back to normal. We appreciate the wonderful support we have received from you in the past, and we look forward to your continued support.

If you would like to join the Historical Society family as a Member, please contact us; \$20 single and \$35 for family membership.

OPENING HOURS: Wed-Sunday 10:30am – 3pm

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS: 7 days 10:30am – 3pm

CONTACT:

Email: museum@yackandandah.com
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/yackmuseum>
 Website: Yackandandahmuseum.wordpress.com
 Phone: 02 6027 0627

STAGHORN WILDLIFE REFUGE

Yackity Yak first met Jo Mitlehner at Harrierville in March (see the article on page 16 of edition 89, April/May) when we followed the release of Harriet the Wedge Tailed Eagle, and we promised to visit Jo at home to follow up on the Refuge.

Jo started the Staghorn Wildlife Refuge in 2001

and specialises particularly in birds of prey. The time and energy that is expended on looking after wildlife is huge - Jo works mainly on her own, but has a volunteer that comes in once a week depending on restrictions. Jo's husband Pete builds all the enclosures and aviaries. Jo also breeds rats and mice for raptor consumption on the property, and when she's not busy with the Refuge, her day job is as a personal carer at Yackandandah Health.

As a child, Jo's father and uncle had bird aviaries, so she has had a long interest in our avian friends. When training as a foster carer locally, Jo had the privilege to have Anne Fowler as her local vet at Melrose. Jo learnt about birds generally and then specialised in birds of prey, her real love.

Facilities at Staghorn Wildlife Refuge include various enclosures and smaller cages for birds requiring regular handling, then an introduction into the flight area - a long fully covered aviary giving the birds

much needed space to exercise their muscles for rehabilitation and flight. Pete's next task is to build a circular flight tunnel.

Amounts of birds that Jo has in the Refuge at any one time varies enormously. When Yackity Yak visited, there were two boobooks and a peregrine falcon needing antibiotics and speciality treatment in residence, plus a couple of parrots nearing release. Birds are always released from where they were found, so keeping accurate records is a very necessary part of the program. Jo said that she spends a lot of time driving around the countryside releasing the rehabilitated wildlife or returning baby birds back. Spring was the time when many young birds get picked up and brought into the Refuge.

Whilst Jo specialises in raptors, the Refuge will take any native bird or animal. Mammals then are transferred to Kangaloola where Glenda takes over their care, and platypi are sent directly to the Healesville Sanctuary where they specialise in this monotreme.

The local vets are all fantastic with assisting Staghorn Wildlife Refuge. Nadine Miller and the team at Family Vets, Rowan Goynne and the team at Melrose Vets, Leanne Bailey and the team at Murray River Vets, Tiffany Ellis and the team at River Country AEC and not forgetting Jo's local vets at Kiewa and Tallangatta. All vets will take in wildlife with no charge. Jo gets a great deal of assistance from other carers and wildlife organisations including Peggy McDonald at Higher Ground Raptors in the Southern Highlands, NSW, and Ange Anderson at the Roaring Beach Wildlife Rescue, Tasmania. Hazel Cook at WIRES, NSW is a bird of prey expert and a great source of knowledge. Jo also has a fair bit of contact with the Beechworth Correctional

Centre, a minimum security prison, where they have had a raptor rehabilitation program running since 2006.

Staghorn Wildlife Refuge is a registered shelter with DELWP, and Jo has three foster carers under her wing at the moment who assist her. DELWP monitor all the annual paperwork which includes significant details about where the bird was found, the nature of its injuries and whether the bird was kept, released or died or euthanised.

As you can imagine, running a refuge costs a significant amount of money, and donations are always very, very welcome. BSB - 013920, A/C #: 289 2706 09, A/C Name: Staghorn Wildlife Refuge.

If you are interested in wildlife rehabilitation, DELWP recommends that you volunteer with an experienced authorised shelter prior to applying for a Foster Carer Authorisation. There is a great deal of information on their website <https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/sick-injured-or-orphaned-wildlife/wildlife-rehabilitation-shelters-and-foster-carers>

Jo would be delighted to talk to anyone who has a question about injured wildlife especially birds. She can be contacted anytime on 0401 272 786.



A beautiful Boobook owl in rehabilitation at the Refuge



Jo with one of her Wedge Tailed Eagle visitors

THANK YOU
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Helen Haines MP

INDEPENDENT FEDERAL MEMBER FOR INDI



The easing of restrictions in regional Victoria is a huge relief for our communities, businesses and for everyday life. I love seeing tables and chairs appearing again on our streets and the smiling eyes behind the masks of café owners and customers. There was cautious optimism when I met shoppers in Wodonga, Benalla and Indigo Shire recently, and fresh hope among hospitality businesses that they'll soon be welcoming visitors from regional Victoria.

But I'll have to watch the continuing return to daily life from behind my home fence. I must quarantine for two weeks from September 19 ahead of returning to Canberra and Parliament for the delayed 2020 Budget on October 6. The latest figures reporting how many people in Indi are relying on JobSeeker and the Youth Allowance show why we need to maintain these programs as the impact of COVID-19 continues to affect us. And why the government needs to invest in shovel-ready projects identified in my Budget submission to create and maintain jobs in our communities.

TOGETHER, LET'S BRING ON DEBATE

In October, I'll be inviting you to join the next step in our community-led campaign to establish the **Australian Federal Integrity Commission**. I'll be introducing two bills in Parliament to bring accountability and good conduct to government.

Cathy McGowan AO started this work when she was the first Independent Federal Member for Indi. It's work I promised to continue if I was elected to succeed her. With your support, and that of esteemed former judges, legal academics and other MPs, I'm now ready to take the next, formal steps to bring on debate in Parliament.

I ask you to keep an eye out for more information early next month or check back at helenhaines.org, or @helenhainesindi on Facebook or Twitter

EIGHT HUNDRED DIG INTO GRANTS

I'm thrilled more than 800 people took part in my four recent online grant workshops. Participants are stopping me in the street to tell me how useful the resources are and how engaging they found them.

Building people's skills and confidence to write grants delivers so many benefits for our organisations, communities and the region.

You can find out more about the tips and tricks of writing a successful grant application from experienced grant-makers and successful grant recipients at helenhaines.org/resources/grants. At the same link you'll also find the **Indi Funding Finder** which you can use for free.

We are back!
During COVID-19, Yackandandah SES ceased face-to-face training and began online skills maintenance. We are beyond excited to be back maintaining the essential skills and capability required to respond to assist the community. COVID-19 sure has changed the way we do things this year. Although we are back training, we are doing so in small groups, wearing masks and of course adhering to social distancing procedures.



Emergency services are permitted to undertake this training, as endorsed by the Victorian Chief Health Officer and we will continue to monitor this advice as we move into the end of the year. Yackandandah SES is following all the COVIDSafe principles that are in place to keep us, our families and the community safe.

This July, we have had a wonderful addition to our SES family with the birth of our Training Officer's beautiful baby girl, Penelope. Congratulations to Louise and Jacob.

Prepare for strong winds



Check that loose items such as outdoor furniture, umbrellas and trampolines are safely secured.

ses.vic.gov.au | FLOOD STORMS EMERGENCY 132 500 | Emergency 911 (talking 000) (at 911 use 000)

At the beginning of the year, Yackandandah SES gained a new member. We are happy to welcome Daniel to our team and congratulate

him on achieving his truck license during this pandemic. We would also like to congratulate Tory on getting his truck license - what a crazy time!

As we come into warmer weather, the chance of flood and storm increases. Please remember to be safe and ready. **NEVER** drive in flood water even if it looks safe - you never know what may be under the surface. In strong winds, tie down loose items, tidy your yard and be sure to check on your pets.

Remember to check on your family, friends and neighbours. Stay connected, stay safe and social distance.

Thank you for your continued support and an especially big thank you to the \$100 that was recently donated to us! Thank you, we truly appreciate it.

Like our Face book page for regular updates @YackandandahSES.

In an emergency please call 000.

For storm or flood assistance please call 132 500.



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Russell on

0492 974 070

This year has been a challenging and busy one for the Kinder and our families, as we all have adjusted to the constraints placed on us by COVID-19. Home learning for 3yo and 4yo children was an absolute first for our staff and children, and our parents were so committed to supporting their child's learning.

On-site learning resumed in Term 3 and the children thoroughly enjoyed returning to their Kinder. Friendships re-established over bush cubby building and sausages in bread cooked over the fire in our Bush Kinder. New friendships formed through the freedom to once again interact and explore our indoor and outdoor learning spaces.

We are very much looking forward to Term 4 and what new adventures this will bring. No doubt excursions and incursions might still not be a possibility, so we shall be creative in providing alternative experiences in-house. If restrictions permit, we would very much welcome parent skill-sharing in our classrooms and garden.

Fast-forward to 2021 planning and we continue to be delighted by the high level of interest in our 2021 funded 3yo and 4yo programs. We are very excited to be rolling out funded 3yo program Kinder next year and being able to offer our community the opportunity to enrol their child in a government-funded program, just as our 4yo families have been enjoying. The number of 3yo enrolments received has allowed us to offer 15 hours over three 5-hour days and also over two 7.5-hour days, thus catering for different child age maturity and working parent needs.

We think our Kinder is pretty special, as is our community who support us greatly in working together to strengthen curiosity, kindness and independence in our children.

If you or someone you know has not yet submitted their 2021 enrolment form, please contact the Kinder for further information on

(02) 6027 1560 or visit our website www.yackandandahkinder.com.au

WELCOMING A NEW PLAY EXPERIENCE



Now installed in the playground, much to the children's huge delight is a truly amazing, super spectacular timber water spillway hand-crafted by parent Aaron Scobie. This natural crafted, open-ended spillway

is perfect for the children to investigate and experiment with water flow outdoors. When the children are finished using the spillway with water for the day, we also have the option of using marbles.

Such a simple concept will provide so much stimulation to the children's learning as they experience engineering the spillway to create slopes, bends and differing heights whilst problem solving through trial and error. Their patience will be tested and rewarded as they persevere and co-operate to create. There will be no limit to their imagination and probably no dry shoes either! We look forward to sharing photos of some of the amazing feats of engineering from our children.



KINDER'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MANGO FUNDRAISER

It's that time of year again: the Yackandandah Kindergarten's annual mango fundraiser. A tray of mangos is \$30.

The Mangos are *Kensington Pride*, grown in QLD and come directly from the farm, with no long periods in storage and minimal use of chemical pesticides and soluble fertilisers. Numbers per tray may vary from 12 large up to 23 small mangos. Depending on the size of the mangos this year, the cost per mango works out to between \$1.20 and \$2.50 each.

Orders are due to the Mango Co-Ordinator or the Kinder Office by 26th October and delivery will be between 7th – 11th December. The Yack pick-up point to be at the Yack Public Hall and a drop-off point in Beechworth is currently being arranged.

Individual and Group Order electronic order forms can be obtained from the Mango Co-Ordinator via email at

yackmangos@outlook.com.

Questions can also be asked via this custom email. Paper order forms can be obtained from the Kinder Office on (02) 6027 1560.

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Terri Manderson

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supporting our local community*



By the time you are reading this our Favourite Australian Songs Since 2010 Poll will be almost closing. You can vote for up to 5 songs - simply head along to our website and follow the link on the right-hand panel. We will be conducting a radio show special for this event on Sunday, 25 October from 2pm onwards from our Yackandandah studio. Make sure you get your votes in and then tune in on 88.0 FM.



Indigo FM is excited to announce that we are now streaming with an internet radio station! You'll find the player at our website www.indigofmradio.com in the top right corner of our home page. Having this option will enable those would-be keen listeners who live outside of the current reception range to tune in via the internet. At this stage this is an internet radio station, as distinct from a live stream which we will be working on throughout October. You can head along to www.indigofmradio.com/listen/streaming/ to find out more including a program guide.

Our Radiothon kicks off on October 1 and runs for the duration of October. There will be various activities - one of which will be a 24-hour live Radio Marathon on the weekend of October 17-18. Our Radiothon is your opportunity to join up as a member or as a presenter. We are always looking for new presenters and themed shows with a difference. Just drop us a line at indigofmradioyack@gmail.com with your program idea or send us a message via our website www.indigofmradio.com/contact/.

We are delighted to be back in our studio at Yack Community Centre and wish to thank YCC and Manager, David Thorpe for their work to get the Centre through a tough but successful recovery phase. We are especially excited by the number of new programs on offer as well as returning presenters. Harvey Ballantyne's *Asleep At The Wheel* rolled into gear back on Sept 13 very smoothly and was followed a few days later by Chris McGorlick's new show, the funky and brassy *Horn Chowder*. YCC are presenting *Yack Chat* from 10-11am each weekday with Karen, Phil, Bill and David in the chair. You can call in to *Yack Chat* via the number 0419 881 566.

A big shout out to Yack PS students Mary and Stella who we had trained up ready to go back in March before the lockdown came into place. Their show *Mellow* hit the airwaves back on Sept 16, and can be heard each Wednesday from 4-5pm.

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.



The #AussieBirdCount is a great way to connect with the birds in your backyard, no matter where your backyard might be — whether it's a suburban backyard, a local park, a patch of forest, a farm, down by the beach, or the main street of town.

All you need to take part is 20 minutes and your favourite outdoor space - you don't even have to leave home, making it the ultimate COVID-safe activity! As well as contributing to BirdLife Australia's knowledge of Aussie birds, you will have the chance to win some great prizes! Head to the website and register as a counter today. <https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/>

Water bill help for new concession card holders



North East Water is aware that many customers are experiencing significant financial hardship as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Since the start of the outbreak, the Corporation has seen a steady rise in the number of people applying for assistance in paying their account.

Manager Customer Services, Deb Mackinlay, said for those experiencing financial difficulty, we want their water bill to be the least of their concerns. "Many people who are new to unemployment might not know that concession card holders are entitled to reduced utility bills", Ms Mackinlay said. "A concession reduces a water bill considerably, however it needs to be registered on the account before it can be deducted. It's an easy process – it can be done on our website or by calling our contact centre."

Ms Mackinlay added, "We also have a number of other ways we can help through our hardship programs." "For instance, the Utility Relief Grant scheme is funded by the Victorian Government and allows customers to access up to \$650 to go towards their bills. The scheme is available to concession card holders, but customers can also apply if they are part of a low-income household. Additionally, we may be able to offer flexible payment plans or put people in touch with free, locally based financial counsellors. During this period, we have also stopped all supply restrictions measures for customers who cannot pay their bills. The most important message for customers is to let us know if they are having difficulty paying their account so we can work out the best way to help."

North East Water's support team is available via web chat at www.newater.com.au/help, where customers can also request a call back. Or people can contact the team on 1300 361 633.



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

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THE ARTS IN YACKANDANDAH

ARTS YACKANDANDAH IS STITCHING THREADS TOGETHER

In this time of coronavirus confinement, we are all forced to look at other ways and means of promoting the arts. Perhaps many of us are reading more, listening to radio and podcasts and watching screens. Maybe even writing. Arts Yackandandah, like other arts' organisations, cancelled many scheduled events. However, we haven't been silenced and have begun to plan some alternative events.

The Yackandandah Theatre Company has set a few projects in motion:

Many of you will remember the

2016 production of *"From Here to There"* about the lives of five people buried in the Yackandandah Cemetery, and performed in the grounds of the Anglican Church. Only fragments were recorded. A full recording will now take place after restrictions are lifted.

Also, Indigo FM will play *"Living Memory"*. This set of monologues, inspired by the residents of Yackandandah Health, was performed in 2017. The production was recorded at the time and will be played on Indigo FM in October as part of Seniors' Week.

A radio play, *"The Clog in the Wheel"* by Bev Lello, will be recorded and aired on Indigo FM.



2021 PERFORMANCES

A new project for performances in 2021 is also in the pipeline. **The Yackandandah Theatre Company** and **Yackandandah Writers** will collaborate on this. Yackandandah Writers has already been producing pieces with a theme of 'Home'. Several have taken the angle of impressions and emotions about arriving in Yackandandah to live. (Short excerpts from a few of these pieces appear opposite.) The full text of these pieces has been added to a digital story map created by the Write Around the Murray team under the banner of Neighbourstories. It was launched as part of the Write Around the Murray

Festival on Wednesday, 9 September. You can access this map by going to <https://neighbourstories.com/map/#>

The Yackandandah Theatre Company is keen to bring some of these stories to life and is encouraging others to contribute to this project. Do you have a story about arriving in Yackandandah or about leaving? A writers' workshop, with a dramaturg to help turn these into performances, is being planned.

If you would like to contribute to Arrivals and Departures/Comings and Goings then keep an eye on our Arts Yackandandah Facebook Page or contact Margie Gleeson at margiegleeson@bigpond.net.au or Bev Lello at beverley.ello@gmail.com.

Bev Lello

Yackandandah

Yackandandah, village of destiny,
Township of dreams to an incoming soul,
Spacious and vital, by regional verity,
Vistas of mountains and bushland unfold.

Spawned by the fever of gold in the sixties,
Two centuries back when the nation was young,
An oasis in time with a labyrinth of history,
A jewel in the land with its worth yet unsung.

All through the years since the gold made it prosper,
A location oft sought for its space and its charms,
The views of the hills, and the creek's subtle whisper,
So firmly were etched that no mortal could harm.

This was the view of most who have lived here,
Enchanted by all in the past they have known,

But demand for more dwellings on land yet uncleared
Fed the planner's mad thirst for a thousand more homes.

With little concern for the views of the locals
So often expressed in surveys without end,
The building of houses is seen to be focal
By those with no will to adjust or amend.

The vision of life in this town's shady valley,
The hope of residents present and gone,
Is denied to them all by developer's sally
To cover the hills with harsh Colorbond.

A developer's dream, with its wide open spaces
Yet to be filled with allotments galore,
Where goes the Yack of the heavenly places
So common in dreams, in days now of yore.

A township of buildings and densely packed people,
Where once was a view of the hills and the sky,
Gone are the mountains and local church steeple
With these all replaced by new buildings on high.

This wasn't the vision of past populations
And residents present who make this town work,
Its future is planned by outside congregations
With allegiance so far from this town that they hurt.

With steely resolve, we all step to the future
Through a jungle of houses with landscape torn down,
And the hope, sense and reason may finally suture
The wounds of bad planning we see in our town.

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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**

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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.

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YACKANDANDAH WRITERS Celebrate 'Home'

Arriving in Yackandandah - Ada Cambridge

One of the first people to write about arriving in Yackandandah was English born Ada Cambridge. She married the young curate George Cross in 1870 who conducted pastoral work at Wangaratta, Yackandandah, Ballan, Coleraine, Bendigo, Beechworth and Williamstown. Below is an account of their arrival by horse and cart.

But, oh, how tired we were when at last we sighted our destination! That is the moment that I remember best, when we crawled down that break-neck "gap" which was the gateway to our valley, and saw across it on the other side, sitting on a soft slope, with a great blue mountain behind it, the little stone church and parsonage-house which were our bourne. In pity for our worn out horse, we three elders were afoot, hobbling stiffly and uttering involuntary moans of exhaustion; only the dear baby, from whom we had not had a cry, lay fast asleep in the bottom of the buggy, in no way upset by his adventures.

The picture is before me now, bathed in the last lights of the summer day. It is one of the most beautiful that Australia can show. The little township nests in its fertile valley, and from the top of the gap you look down upon it and see no prosaic details, only that it is in itself a detail, completing the charm of the natural scene, the scheme of colour of which the lovely mountain blue is the dominant note—that blue which flames celestial pink in parts when the sun goes down.



Ada Cambridge



Joanne Metzger - First Impressions

Donna Picton – I am in love

Here, in my new home and true love Yackandandah, the rustic charm of the equivalent entries leaps out in contrast. The main theme appears to be errant livestock. Darling entries such as "brown cow loose in our lane," "lost dog visiting" and entreaties to 'be careful of wandering ducks across such and such road" hold me enthralled in delighted rapture. The rustic innocence of these posts affirms my decision. Here – good, there – bad.

I am in love with my country lane access to our property. I do not mind in the least having to wait while grazing cows ruminate as to whether they will move from the road or not. This to me, seems the quintessential experience of living in the country and here am I living it! I almost laugh out loud with the awareness of how blissfully happy this thought makes me. I learn to recognize and name some of the creatures. The cuteness of the babies gives me the warm fuzzies. I have no idea now, what breed they are, but will learn that fact in time. For now, I just play word games, trying to give each one its own name to pinpoint its individual colour on the brown spectrum. Caramel, taupe, beige, cream, caramel, butternut, sable, milk, nutmeg, chestnut, chocolate. They look good enough to eat. Their coats are shiny and their bellies and rumps rounded. They are on good pasture. This is good land. I stop often and get out of my car and leave it idling in the lane. I am confident there will be no need to move it any time soon as the lane is quiet and remote. I make attempts to pat the babies. I photograph adorable mother-baby combinations. I stand there in bovine rapture and take in the scent of cow dung. Ah, what it is to be in love.....

The Yackandandah Writers meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the Yackandandah Courthouse at 2.30pm (or on Zoom under the current restrictions). For information about joining the group, please contact Bev Lello: beverley.ello@gmail.com

Marian Robinson – A Memory of Blair's Lane

We (my friend Rob and I) approached Yack from the Beechworth Road, driving down the long hill overlooking the town with Mount Big Ben in the distance. There was something enchanting about that view and the towering English oaks that lined the main street. I could live in this place, I thought to myself.

Time passed. I met Chris, the man with whom I would spend my life. Over the next eight years I moved from Wangaratta to Bendigo and then Melbourne, but the memory of that village had captured my imagination and wouldn't be dislodged.

Chris and I bought land in Blair's Lane in 1981. Eleven acres plus frontage on Kinchington's Creek. A bargain at \$20,000. It even had a house of sorts; a three-gable weatherboard miner's cottage, desperate for demolition.

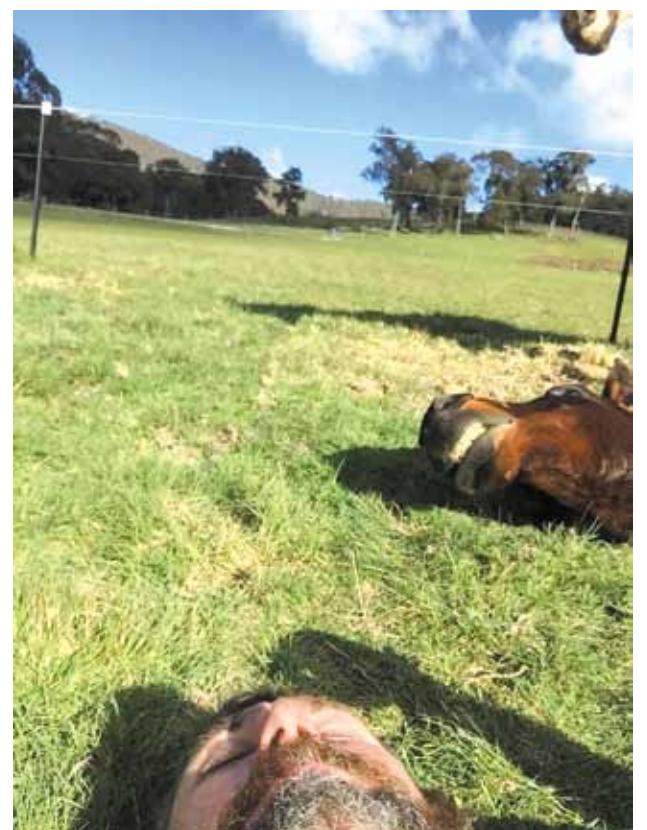
The stables were fairly new; two fibro-cement sheet horseboxes and a tack room. The boxes were solidly lined with six-inch wide, by one-inch deep hardwood planks. There were gaps between the boards and the spaces behind were filled with big black spiders and runaway hay. The sweet smell of horse sweat, manure and leather filled the space and, in my mind, is almost as real today as it was then. The stables would be our home for the next twelve years...



Marion Robinson - Blair's Lane

Joanne Metzger – First Impressions

Faded signs above the shop read, "Memorials, Funeral Director, Heatane Gas, Taxi, Gifts, Footwear"! A bewildering collection of services wouldn't you say? What's all that about? Ridiculous, quaint or quirky, not sure which. One could conjure up all sorts of scenarios but maybe a local bloke just needed to be resourceful to make a living. Could turn his hand to anything to make a quid. They are the necessities of life after all. Certainly talented, or was it a family run business? Can't wait to learn more. Now I see below it has reinvented itself as two shop fronts packed full of collectables and second-hand wares. Shame it's not open, but I'll be back for sure. Just love to rummage about in those sort of junk (or should I say vintage) shops. You never know what treasure you'll find and that one looks like a beauty! ...



Donna Picton - I'm in love

WALKING THE DOG

Users of the Yackandandah Golf and Recreation Reserve, aka the golf course, may have noticed two new signs in the last couple of months. As the photo shows, they are about dogs, leashes and shall we say organic matter!



The Reserve Committee of Management has designated the Reserve as an “on leash” site. Dogs must be kept on a leash, and people walking dogs are responsible for cleaning up after their dog/s should the need arise.

In making this decision

the Reserve Committee was responding to a concern raised by Yackandandah Golf Club, whose members have for many years dealt with the unpleasantness of dog droppings, around the course and clubhouse. The Golf Club is the Reserve’s principal licensee.

To all users of the Golf and Recreation Reserve, thank you for your positive response to date, please keep dogs on a leash, please clean up after them should the need arise, and enjoy your walk on the Reserve!

The Sports Park and Butson Park are designated off-leash areas for dogs within Yackandandah.

*Trevor Matthews, Secretary
Reserve CoM*



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COMMUNITY FUNDING - GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER

YCDco is keen to hear from local organisations who are seeking funding for community projects. Part of YCDco’s Constitution is to put 50% of its profits back into the community, and we are really keen to see what is needed out there, and how we can help you.

Hop onto our website and check out the details - <https://ycdco.com.au/community/community-commitment/>. There is a form to complete and send off to our Board Member, Rex Little.

With COVID-19 curtailing community events lately resulting in them being almost entirely abandoned, it is a great time to have a think about what your organisation needs, and get an application to us.

BECOME A PART OF THE YCDco FAMILY

Shares are nearly always available, and if you are new to Yack or about to move here, then it’s a great way to feel part of the Yack family. You will also get a 2 cents/litre discount on our very competitive fuel prices which is an even nicer bonus. Details are available at <https://ycdco.com.au/shareholders/shares/> and it’s a really easy process.

GREAT PRODUCTS FOR SALE - COME AND SEE US

We always hold a great amount of stock for the farm, the garden and the house, and if we don’t have it, we can get it in. Just phone us and discuss your requirements. Would rather not venture out at the moment? We are more than happy to deliver. Please contact our obliging staff to discuss on (02) 6027 1901.

THOSE PESKY BOWSERS

They WILL be arriving - honestly! But sadly not in the immediate future, unless we have some good news very shortly with the lockdown continuing to relax somewhat. But they will eventually get to Yack, and won’t we all be pleased?!

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| 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 | | 53.0 | 10 |
| June | | 86.2 | 12 |
| July | | 55 | 11 |
| Aug | | 85.8 | 16 |
| Sept to 17th | | 15.4 | 5 |
| TOTAL | | 683.6 | 87 |
| 2018 to 17/9 | | 472.8 | 74 |
| 2019 to 17/9 | | 541.6 | 75 |



This WAS a small single footpath in the Chiltern Mt. Pilot National Park. Courtesy of some trail bike riders who clearly are lacking any grey stuff between their ears, they have turned this into a ferocious mess at the very wet beginning of August.

It may look really tough to come out of the bush with your vehicles covered in mud from top to bottom, but honestly - the damage done to our struggling parks and wild areas is beyond the pale.

Do these people have no other way of getting an adrenalin fix? A couple of hours with a shovel and rake might sort that out....

BE HAPPY WITH WHAT YOU HAVE, BE EXCITED ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT

YACKANDANDAH LIBRARY

What's available at your Yackandandah Library?

Welcome to Indigo Shire Libraries! Your library membership is free and gives you access to over 27,000 items in our collection, plus loads of other great services.

Loans - You can borrow up to 50 items on your library card for a period of 4 weeks. Browse the online catalogue at www.indigoshirelibraries.com.au or download the Libraries Victoria app.

The Book Valet - Order your books, DVDs or magazines through the online catalogue or we can help you choose. Collect them from the branch, or we can deliver them to any house in Indigo Shire.

Borrow Box - Get the BorrowBox App on your phone or device and you can access library eBooks and eAudiobooks without even leaving the house! Log in



Harvey Thornton aged 3 with his completed Grab and Go craft activity. Harvey is the youngest of Midwife, Louise and Colin Thornton's children

with your library membership number and PIN.

Story Box Library - Story Box Library is the best place to watch celebrated stories read aloud by your favourite storytellers. Add a Grab and Go craft bag to your next order and keep the kids busy!

Ancestry - Explore your family tree with Ancestry Library Edition. Now available for you at home using your library membership.

We are here to help - If you need any help with your library membership including finding your membership number, ordering online or recommendations of what to read, you can contact one of our staff members. We love to help!

Visit www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/libraries or call Yackandandah Library on 02 6028 1180.

WHAT WILL IT LOOK LIKE?

YACKANDANDAH COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2020!

As with everything 2020 there is currently some uncertainty surrounding our annual community Christmas lunch. Unfortunately, like everything else, we may not have a clearer picture until closer to the date. However, be rest assured that everything will be done to make this event a reality! Even though it is likely to be different to what we've experienced in the past.

At this stage we are working towards holding the event as close to normal as possible. The main issue we need to consider will be the number of people able to attend. Previously we have taken numbers and people up to, and including, on the day, ranging from 50-85. This is quite likely to have to be capped this year. The current thought is for a "first-in, first-served" basis and no walk-ins on the day (unless there are seats available). We have the ability to spread our tables out under the verandah, as well as inside, which will hopefully allow us to cater for up to the 50 people envisaged with that stage of restrictions.

In the event that we are unable to have our normal lunch, we are also considering the possibility of being able to deliver a meal to those who would've attended if allowed. This would require quite a bit more discussion to consider the viability and process before being guaranteed.

I realise there are a lot of possibilities and "what-ifs" at play at present. Hopefully we will be on track in our recovery and the day can proceed as in the past. At this stage I'd welcome any other thoughts that people may have to ensure the day happens.



In the meantime if you'd like to **register your intent to attend** please email carmelkelley@bigpond.com or message on 0418 242 105. Please provide the number of people wanting to participate and a contact email or phone number so you are kept up to date with what's happening.

Fingers crossed we can proceed with:

Date: Friday 25th December, 2020

Time: 11.30am for a sit down hot lunch at Noon

Venue: Butson Park Football Function Room

Cost: Gold Coin Donation

Note: Alcohol Free Event

Anyone who would like to help in any way is more than welcome to contact me as well on 0418 242 105.

HotHouse

HOT HOUSE THEATRE - Waiting to welcome you back

Earlier this year, we were hopeful that we would be able to present at least three shows from our 2020 Subscription season. However, the Border closures across the country and the restrictions on gatherings due to the rise in cases in Victoria has meant that we are no longer able to present any public facing work at the Butter Factory Theatre in 2020.

This has not been an easy decision. We miss having audiences in the theatre. We miss being inspired by our local and visiting artists. We miss the telling of stories. We miss the gathering at Bobby's Bar and the Cocktail Bar. But it is the right choice for these times. It is the way we can all continue to stay safe and ride this pandemic out.

As for 2021, we don't quite know what it will be. There are so many different elements that need to be taken into consideration. When and how can we safely welcome you back to the Butter Factory Theatre. What productions will we be able to share with you, and what are the stories we want and need to hear? Weighing these considerations is both exciting and terrifying, so we are giving ourselves till early 2021 before we release the plans for the year. One thing we do know is that there will be live performances at the Butter Factory Theatre in 2021.

So we will keep the light burning for Theatre here on the Border until we can welcome you back and to keep the Theatre ghosts and dreams alive.

BOOKING THE PUBLIC HALL OR COURT HOUSE?

Yack has some amazing venues for concerts - the Public Hall and the Court House are the standouts. They are tried and tested venues, and to make booking easier, these Yack venues have their own website at:

publichall.yackandandah.com

Information about both the Public Hall and the Court House can be found here. Each venue has a calendar showing details of existing tentative and confirmed bookings and allows you to make your own booking on-line.

The hire rates are extremely reasonable and haven't been increased for a number of years. If you are looking at putting on a concert, theatre production or wedding, you won't go far wrong by booking the Public Hall. The Court House is a smaller, more intimate venue.

Ali Pockley, the Booking Officer can be contacted by email at: publichall@yackandandah.com or by mobile on 0448 803 411

Chris Lello, Treasurer, Yackandandah Public Halls Committee of Management

YACK LIONS CLUB MARKETS

The Yack Lions Club's famous weekend markets will hopefully be held from 9 am - 1 pm on the following Sundays in 2020.

18th October

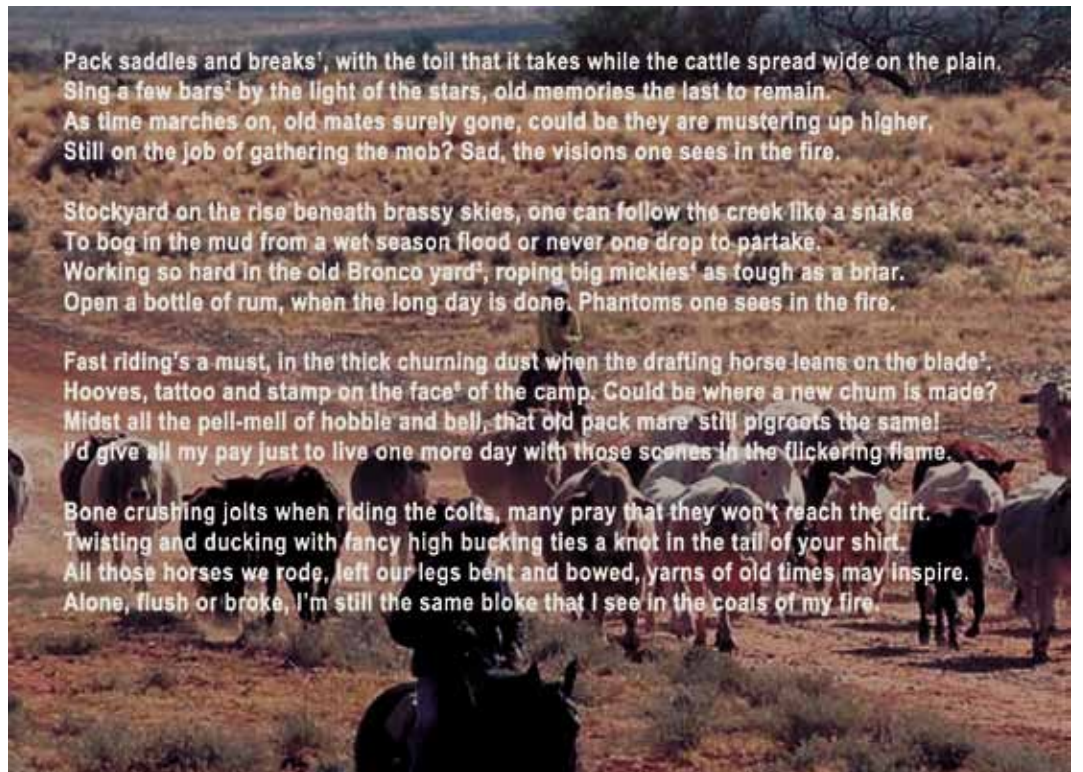
15th November

20th December

The Lions Club happily donate a free site to a Yack community group at each market. So if you're a community group wanting to do a fundraiser - this is a great way to do it.

Please check what's happening via their Web page: yackandandah.vic.lions.org.au

VISIONS ONE SEES IN THE FIRE



Bill Whitham, Tallangatta

¹ breaks – cut bush placed around part of the fire so that shadows from movement won't spook cattle.

² When riding around cattle on watch at night, one must sing to let cattle know where you are.

³ Bronco yard – where cattle are earmarked and branded, pulled up by a bronco horse with rope and breastplate.

⁴ Mickies – bulls, not branded or earmarked.

⁵ Blade – shoulder of bullock etc. when being drafted out of mob, to be sent on road droving.

⁶ Face of Camp – part of mob where cattle come out after being drafted by horse etc.

⁷ Nearly all pack saddles have a "breaker girth" that goes well back behind the main girth, and it makes a lot of pack horses buck around for a while when first packed. It's called a "Wind Breaker Girth" and stops the pack from shifting around.

WAW

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OSBORNES FLAT PRIMARY SCHOOL

During Term 3, the students from Osbornes Flat Primary School have completed a second round of remote and flexible learning. This has meant that many of our usual Term 3 activities including the Book Week Parade, Grandparent's Day, Whole School Disco and the Small School Athletics Carnival have not occurred.

We are so pleased that students are now able to return from the start of next term. Schools are strange places without the sounds of students play and laughter. In lieu of a usual recount of all our school events, I have asked Maydee and Annika to tell us about what they love and miss about our school.

1. What makes Osbornes Flat Primary School a great place to go to school?

Maydee: I like the school because it is small so the teachers can spend more time helping us when we need it. We also get to do other activities like Science, Art and Italian each week.

Annika: There's a lot of things that make OFPS a great school because of how it helps kids learn and the teachers make sure kids can follow their dreams and have a good future.

2. What is your favourite area of our school and why?

Maydee: My favourite part of the school is the playground area because we can play on the bars. The bars have been at the school for a long time.

Annika: My favourite part of the school are the outdoor spaces because they have lots of plants around you and you feel like you belong there.

3. What is your favourite subject at school and why do you enjoy it?

Maydee: My favourite subject is Art because we can be creative.

Annika: My favourite subject is also Art because you can let your creativity go free and you can have fun and just relax.

4. What have you liked or disliked about learning from home?

Maydee: I have missed school but I have enjoyed learning from home because you can play when you have finished your schoolwork for the day.

Annika: I have missed all my friends and teachers a lot, but I have liked home

school because you can sleep in later than if you were at school

5. What extra school activities are you excited to do again when restrictions ease?

Maydee: I can't wait to go on our school camp to Philip Island.

Annika: I would love to come back to school and have a swimming fun day like last year, go on school camp and I can't wait to just see my friends.

The transition dates are set for Foundation students starting with us in 2021. The dates are:

- Wednesday, 14th October, 2020
- Wednesday, 28th October, 2020
- Wednesday, 11th November, 2020
- Wednesday, 25th November, 2020
- Tuesday, 8th December, 2020

For enrolment information, please call the school on 02 6027 1415.

Sarah Kohne
Principal



YACKATOON RETIREMENT VILLAGE

3 Butson Street,
Yackandandah

Offers independent living in comfortable, refurbished, affordable and unfurnished two bedroomed units.

Pets allowed (conditions apply).

Set amongst beautiful lawns and gardens with security lighting, maintained pathways & internal road.

The village is managed by a resident manager.

Inspections invited.

For further details, please contact:

Gary Sassella, Manager
02 6027 1720

Candidates for the forthcoming Indigo Shire Council local government election have now been declared, and they are listed below in alphabetical order, not necessarily as they will appear on the ballot papers:

- CROUCHER, Peter
- DILLON, Troy
- FUNSTON, Neil Gerard
- GAFFNEY, Bernard
- GOLD, Sue
- GOLDSWORTHY, Larry
- HARVEY, John
- HORNE, Roberta
- LENAZ, Carol
- McLOUGHLIN, Frank
- O'CONNOR, Jenny
- PALMER, Geoffrey
- PARENTE, Remo
- PRICE, Sophie
- RADEMAN, Sheila
- SHEPHEARD, Diane
- SUTHERLAND, Kate
- TEISSL, Emmerick
- WATKINS, Peter

Interesting to see some current councillors re-electing and a couple of retired ones re-standing. Great to have such a good number of candidates to vote from. The election is to be conducted by postal vote and will occur on Saturday, 24th October, 2020. The ballot paper envelope must be posted no later than 6pm on the day before election day and be received by 12 noon on the Friday after election day.



The Reconnect program is designed to help people turn their life around for the better and to assist you into training and employment. Teaming up with a mentor you are assisted with developing a plan to help you reach your goals, gain motivation and possibly enrol into study and find employment.

WHAT DO WE DO TO HELP?

- Work closely with you to determine your goals whilst looking at your strengths and interests
- Help you develop a plan to overcome barriers you face and deal with whatever it is that's holding you back. You're in the driver's seat!
- Provide individual help and ongoing support to assist you to achieve your goals and problem solve if issues arise
- Help you if you're struggling with confidence and taking the first step
- Access other support you may require including: careers counsellor, job seeking services, assistance with reading and writing skills
- Help with paying training fees for approved courses

GET THE HELP YOU NEED, TO GET YOU WHERE YOU WANT TO BE

Contact our friendly reconnect team and find out your options today
P: 1300 MY TAFE (1300 698 233) | E: info@wodongatafe.edu.au



RTO 3097 | Funding for the Reconnect grant program is being provided by the Victorian Government, through the Department of Education and Training | All information is correct at time of publication and is subject to change

RECIPES OF THE SEASON

I have been asked for my recipe for Rock Cakes having cooked loads of them over the winter in the Esse stove. Here it is, Karen!

Rock cakes are simply the easiest British baked goods to make. They are also known as rock buns, depending on what part of the UK you are in. The recipe is always the same, however. Children love to make them and may like that they're one of Harry Potter's favourite treats!

TRADITIONAL ROCK CAKES

225g self-raising flour
 ½ tsp baking powder
 110g butter
 55g sugar (I use a light brown sugar)
 110g mixed dried fruit
 55g currants
 1 egg
 1-3 tbs milk
 Demerara sugar for sprinkling



Preheat the oven to 175C. Have two lightly greased baking sheets or muffin tins to hand. Sift the flour into a large bowl, add softened butter and lightly rub together. Add the sugar and dried fruit and mix to incorporate all the ingredients.

Add the egg and 1 tbs of milk and mix to create a stiff dough. If the mixture is too dry, add more milk until the correct consistency is reached. Divide the mixture in 12 and space evenly on the baking sheets. Sprinkle with demerara sugar.

Bake in preheated oven for 15 minutes or until gold brown and well risen. The rock cakes should be firm to the touch and will harden once cooled. I tend to put my mixture into small paper cases or use muffin tins as I have found that the cakes can flatten out and look more like Rock Biscuits – still edible but not so pleasing to the eye!

We have just got some chooks after several years of not having any fowl at all, so we suddenly have a huge influx of eggs (thank you Myrlong Farm, Bruarong) and limes (not connected!). So, I thought my favourite Lime Curd recipe would be the go. Don't stint on the raw ingredients - get the best you can, and you will go weak at the knees with the results!

A COUPLE OF POTS OF LIME CURD

Finely grated zest & juice of 4 unwaxed limes
 Caster Sugar – 200 g
 Butter – 100g cut into cubes
 Eggs – 3 plus 1 egg yolk

Put the zest, juice, sugar and butter into a heatproof bowl set over a pan of simmering water, making sure the bottom of the bowl doesn't touch the water. Stir with a whisk from time to time until the butter has melted.



Mix the eggs lightly with a fork, then stir into the lime mixture. Let the curd cook, stirring regularly for about 10 minutes, or until it is thick and custard like. It should feel heavy on the whisk.

Remove from the heat and stir occasionally as it cools. It will thicken a little more too. Pour into spotlessly clean jars and seal. It will keep for a couple of weeks in the fridge. Makes 2 small jam jars, but the recipe doubles or triples nicely.

Nigel Slater, the author of this recipe says "Despite the delights to be had from a warm tartlet of lime curd and sweet pastry, or a slice of sponge cake filled with the limey ointment, I often eat it just as it comes, on thick, perfectly fresh white bread. But it is worth mentioning that you can make any number of quick desserts with it too. On a summer's day, I fold it into whipped cream and freeze it for an instance ice. The canary-coloured paste is heavenly in a pancake, or as a filling for an éclair, for slathering expensively on roughly torn toasted teacakes or for breakfast on a Sunday morning, spread on a thin, crackling baguette or floury white loaf. But it may also end up held between two meringues or stirred into whipped cream as an instant lime syllabub." You can also use lemons or oranges here instead of limes.

YACK GOLF CLUB

STOP PRESS!!

Upgrade to the 6th and 7th Tees

That illusive hole-in-one could be closer for golfers hitting off the 6th tee. A significant upgrade has taken place with the mound being raised and grassed.



The Sixth Tee

Thank you to all the volunteers who put a lot of work into getting this job done, to Richard Ashman for donating his earthmoving machinery and time and to Michael Cheshire whose Wodonga Sand & Gravel supplied the topsoil.

The 7th has also had a make-over improving conditions for the golfer to get that all

important drive up and over the slope. Adam Ross of MURRAY TURF has donated the grass to cover this tee. The Club wishes to thank Adam for his generosity and also his advice on which turf would best suit the conditions, going for TifTuff, it sounds like the right product for the job!



The Seventh Tee

Come and join me in a Virtual Cooking Experience

to see the Thermomix in action from the comfort of your own home!



THERMOMIX COOKING EXPERIENCES

are now available online or face to face.

Take advantage of this offer.

Thermomix Consultant: Frances Dryden

0407 533 802

YACK GOLF CLUB

There is not a lot to report in terms of golfing activity over the past two months, due to 'competition' golf being a restricted activity under COVID-19 regulations. Playing in pairs and keeping social distancing foremost in mind, members have been playing challenges which has been an incentive to turn up weekly as well as a good chance to hone in on practicing that elusive perfect shot! The course is looking fantastic, thanks to the band of ground maintenance volunteers, led by Terry Glass. I would also like to acknowledge the work carried out by the ladies who volunteer their time ensuring the facilities are always kept clean (including the public restrooms) and tending the garden areas. Keeping the course and facilities in such great shape is an added incentive for visiting golfers and walkers to enjoy the surrounds.

Recently I have had a chance to look at the history of the golf course and I would like to share some of the more prominent history with you.

In 1863, the area was temporarily reserved for racing and any other forms of outdoor recreation including cricket, football and athletics. From the late 1800s, agricultural shows were held at the Recreation Reserve and golf was first introduced in 1910. (Excerpt from 'Yackandandah Golf Club 1910-2010' by Marian Barnard.)

It has also been the site of many festivities, the most memorable of these being what is colloquially known as *The Roasting of the Bullock*; organized in honour of the coronation of Edward V11, on the 26th June 1902 (the coronation itself was delayed to November due to HRH's ill health). A purpose-built pit was dug, measuring approximately 9ft x 6ft, with relays of men working through the night to tend the spit and baste the beast in readiness for the feast to take place the following morning. The local ladies and one gentleman, baked a total



Yackandandah Showground, from the collection of the Yackandandah & District Historical Society

of 108 plum puddings which were served hot from a ring of coppers temporarily installed near the fire pit. Pits were also dug to cook potatoes and damper to round off the menu. Celebrations included a street parade with store owners decorating their shop windows and the local brass band led a procession to the Reserve from the High Street, taking an hour to walk while some travelled in finer style in their buggies and carts. (Excerpts from 'Yackandandah's Coronation Festival 1902', Yackandandah Museum.) The Yackandandah Museum has comprehensively detailed the 'Coronation Festival' with display boards and also showcases the Bullock Hide, a frame made from the carcass of the said roasted bullock. Encasing photos of the Festival committee, it is a story of its own and worth visiting the Museum to read in detail.

On a sadder note, another event that took place on the course, was the death of fifteen-year-old William Anderson. Against the wishes of his mother and advice of his brother, he accepted a ride on "the brown horse", a horse it was feared, he was unable to handle. As reported by another jockey in the race, William Ryan, 'the horse did not take the whip and ran off the course to the right, about two hundred yards past the grandstand and among the trees which were very thick at this point. Both William Anderson and the horse fell, knocking down some saplings.' William was unable to be saved and died at the scene. (Excerpts from 'William Anderson', Yackandandah Museum.)

Back to the present and on a lighter note, the Golf Club welcomes golfers and walkers to the course. Dog walkers, please note (if you are not aware already,) the course has been made an "On Leash" site by the authority of the governing body, the Reserve Committee. Signs are in place in various locations and for the benefit of all users of this historic site, we ask that this new regulation is adhered to.



For more information, visit YGC web page – <https://golfclub.yackandandah.com>
Email: yackgolfclub@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook: [Yackandandah Golf Club](#)

Chris Zerbst

YACK TENNIS CLUB

Yackandandah Tennis Club

What a strange year 2020 has been - we are patiently waiting for restrictions to change and allow tennis to start up again. Things are looking good for a start shortly which is great news, so keep an eye on our Facebook site for updates.

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

Tuesday night social doubles tennis (intermediate to advanced level) runs throughout the year. Play when you want, with 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.

The Kiewa and Talgarno District Tennis Association competition is due to start shortly as well, but we are waiting on updates from the Association regarding start dates. This competition includes everyone from young kids (10 years approx.) who can competently play a rally, to senior players. Yackandandah fielded two Section 4 teams, two Section 3 teams, one Section 2 team and one Section 1 team last year. Contact Bec Stamp if you are interested in either yourself or your child(ren) being registered to play. Bec Stamp: rjstamp@hotmail.com

Free access to the courts for members, and casual court hire is available for \$10 by arrangement. Please contact Geoff Simmons on 0427 271 742 or email gsimmons3@bigpond.com for bookings.

Coaching is available through our professional tennis coach – Paul Sykes on 0447 359 023.

We are also looking out for businesses who would like to sponsor the Yack Tennis Club. We will be sending out letters, but please feel free to contact us. There is great signage space available on the court side visible to all playing and passing. Please contact Ian Greenwood: ian.greenwood@travelmanagers.com.au for more details.

Finally, a huge thank you to Anna Hession, who is stepping away from the Treasurer role, for all her help and support over the years.

Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/YackandandahTennisClub

YACK COMMUNITY BOWLING CLUB

Members of Yackandandah Community Bowling Club are patiently awaiting the news that we can recommence using our green in earnest and enjoy fellow members' company again.

Maintenance has continued on our green and surroundings and the renovations are slowly proceeding inside our clubhouse. Thanks to all involved.

Our Pennant Season is still in the planning stages due to the Pandemic.

We will commence Social Bowls as soon as we can and posters will be displayed on the notice boards in the High Street and a message will appear in the Community Facebook page to advise when this event will commence.

Anne Corcoran
Secretary

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!

Summer Opening Hours from 4/10/20

Mon-Friday: 7 am to 7 pm

Saturday: 8 am to 5 pm

Sunday: 8.30 am to 5 pm

Spring is sprung, the grass is riz...

We have all you need to keep those chooks, sheep, cattle, horses, ponies, dogs and cats fed. If we haven't got it, we can get it in some quick, phone us now to place your order.

With the Spring weather well and truly with us, Yfuel has a great selection of all your gardening needs. Come and check out all our great products to keep your garden in tip top condition.



TIME TO RENEW SOME FENCING?

For all your fencing needs, drop into YCDCo and have a chat with us. We can supply everything you need.

Don't waste time chasing into town. Give us a buzz and we can get everything you want to complete that job, from fencing tools, spinners, strainers, star pickets, staples, wire - plain and barbed, to gates and gateposts.

Yfuel is looking for a senior casual worker. Weekends principally with the possibility of the occasional extra shift.

For details, please call into the servo and collect information on the position or visit our website for further details:

ycdco.com.au/about/employment

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Phone: 02 6027 1901 Website: ycdco.com.au

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