

HISTORY MAKING IN YACKANDANDAH THE SHINING BEACON



Thursday, 8th July saw a very special day unfold in Yackandandah. The sun even saw fit to shine in what was to turn out to be a very wet and cold month of July.

The great and the good joined forces with locals that morning in Yackandandah and saw the launch of Yack01, a community battery of 274 kWh powered by a 65 kw photo voltaic system, which will power homes in the township when the sun isn't shining, and save residents having to draw power off the grid.



*Dr Juliette Milbank, Cr Jenny O'Connor, Ms Ann Telford, and Dr Helen Haines watch as the Hon. Lily d'Ambrosio throws the ceremonial switch.
Photo Credit: Georgie James Photography*



*Dr Ben McGowan, CEO of Indigo Power and host of the battery tour, watches Matthew Charles-Jones talk about TRY's part in the battery journey.
Photo Credit: Georgie James Photography*

Minister Lily D'Ambrosio from the Victorian State Government came up to launch the battery. She said "Energy is about democracy, it has to serve communities. It is not about ideology. Regional Victoria is the heart and soul of transition to renewables, and Yackandandah is the shining beacon."

Helen Haines, Indi's independent federal MP said "I feel hope here in Yackandandah today. This project is a beacon for the nation – a spectacular result."

Dr. Juliette Millbank, Chair for Totally Renewable Yackandandah said "this is a pivotal moment for Yackandandah".

The five women who stood in front of the new battery at its launch, well and truly spoke about the importance of changing from fossil fuels to renewable energy.

With the very recent unbelievable flooding in Western Europe and now China, it becomes more and more of an imperative to look at every and any way of moving away from the consumption of coal, oil and gas.

See also pages
8, 9 and 10



Visit our Town's Tourist Information website, and call in at the Post Office.
Make sure you take your visitors there.
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exploreYackandandah.com.au



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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2021/22 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
98	Oct/Nov	Friday, 17 Sept, 2021	Tues, 28th Sept
99	Dec/Jan	Friday, 19 Nov, 2021	Tues, 30th Nov
100	Feb/March	Friday, 21 Jan, 2022	Tuesday, 1st Feb
101	April/May	Friday, 18 March, 2022	Tuesday, 29 April
102	June/July	Friday, 20 May, 2022	Tuesday, 31 May

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- *Indigo Shire Council
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- *Yack Newsagency

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A RAMBLE WITH THE EDITOR

Such a blast to see TRY and Indigo Power hitting such lofty goals. It is great that Ben and Tijana have the foresight to let these organisations have access to such a large roof space and land for the project. It really does show what can be done when a community puts its expertise to work. Congratulations to everybody connected with the project. Yack has truly become the "go to" place for advice on how to deal with renewables and this has been recognised by so many organisations in and out of governments.

It is also very fitting that this happened before the massive floods in Western Europe (Germany and Belgium), and now China is reeling from one in a thousand year floods. The footage is truly horrifying, and one can only hope that our Federal government can start showing some caring strategies in the face of this changing climate which is really just starting to show its teeth. It's difficult to know how anyone can deny that the climate is changing in the face of what the world is having to face with such massive disaster events.

As I write this, once again we are locked down and the Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus is gaining more than a toe-hold in Australia. We have had things pretty well our own way up to now, but with minimal inoculation rates amongst our population, we are looking down the barrels of a rather unpleasant reality, particularly when you see what is happening in other countries. The choice between staying at home or getting the virus is not really one I care to argue with.

It must be a very large bundle of worry to carry as our Victorian premier has found on all these occasions, and it's clear that decisions on lockdowns have to be made sooner rather than later. This isn't a virus that's going to be kind and play by any sort of rules, rather it will contaminate as much humankind as it possibly can, as quickly as it can.

Before this current lockdown, things were starting to get back to something a bit more like normal, and it was great to see the Public Hall back in use and Arts Yackandandah putting on some events. Sadly, this has had to cease again, but let's hope that it won't be too long before we are back to enjoying some live music once again.

I guess the weather at present, isn't really very conducive to doing much other than sitting inside with a good book, some knitting or similar! It has been great to have the rain, but it would be nice for the lambs and ponies if they can have a bit of a break and be able to lie down in the sun for a few hours! I'm sure it will be all too soon before we are looking at a countryside dried to a crisp...

We have some new advertisers in this edition, so welcome to you. Thanks to all our advertisers - you are the reason for our existence

as we are funded purely by advertising revenue.

The next edition in October will be celebrating Spring so I'm sure we will all look forward to that.

Ali



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We truly appreciate any donation you can make to Totally Renewable Yackandandah.

Donations can be made via bank transfer to:

Account Name: TRY Public Fund
BSB: 803070
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Please be sure to email bernardowilson@gmail.com to advise of your donation and to obtain a receipt.

Together, let's get Yackandandah to 100% Renewables.

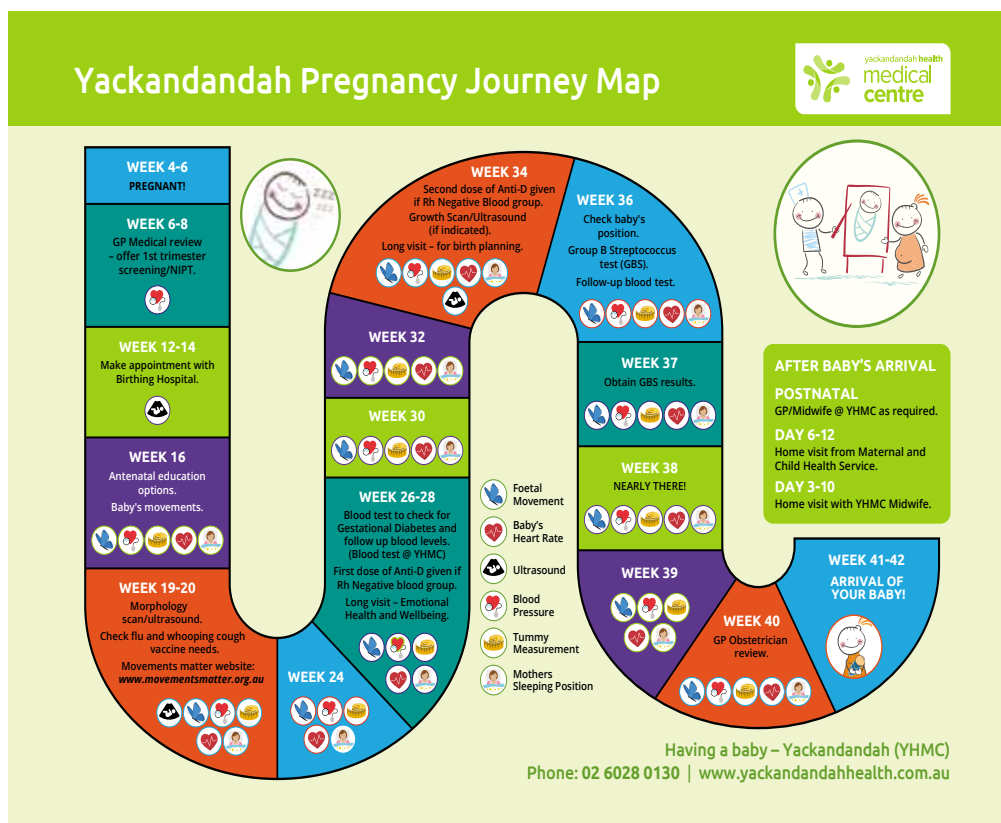


The TRY Public Fund is listed on the Register of Environmental Organisations under item 6.1.1 of subsection 30-55(1) of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

supporting women and families through pregnancy since Dec 2018. We have seen so many babies born already, and we are now seeing mums come through the program again with their next pregnancies. We are planning a morning tea for all of our past and present families in October 2021 to celebrate these families and their beautiful babies, and for everyone to catch up with Louise our Midwife and also meet Andrea our Yack Health CEO. There will be an opportunity for everyone to provide feedback about our service to help us plan and ensure optimal care well into the future of the program. Invitations with more information will be sent out soon.

YHMC continues to provide flu vaccines for our community through our Influenza Vaccine Clinics. These can be administered by our nurses for adults and by Dr Tess for children. Give Maddie or Brooke a call on 02 6028 0130 to book in your flu vax.

Our locum GP, Dr Deborah Houghton, continues to offer phone consults to our existing patients



on a Thursday. This is a very well received service that helps patients seek GP advice, get scripts and referrals without having to wait for the next face-to-face consult available with one of our other doctors.

We are aware that the Covid Vaccine Roll-out has been on everyone's minds lately, and there has been limited information as to where to get the covid vaccine around our area. For a number of safety reasons, YHMC will not be providing covid

vaccines. The Albury Wodonga Health Covid Hub has now opened in the old Coles building on High Street, Wodonga and they will now be administering the Covid vaccinations along with a few of the Medical Centres in Wodonga. For more information, go to their website; <https://www.awh.org.au/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine> or call them on 1800 675 398.

We would like to again, thank our wonderful community for your continued support and patience and appreciate everyone's understanding when it comes to our Covid requirements we still have in place, such as the need to wear a facemask in the clinic.

For all appointment bookings or enquiries please give our friendly reception a call on 02 6028 0130 or book via the HotDoc app or link on our webpage,

<https://www.yackandandahhealth.com.au/medical-centre-surgery-yackandandah.html>



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That our own Yack Pharmacy has been approved as a vaccination provider for the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine? They are limited to vaccinating people 60 YEARS & ABOVE and are only receiving the AstraZeneca COVID vaccine at this stage.

Bookings are essential. To book your appointments to get your first and second doses of the vaccine, please call on 02 6027 1211, or book online at yackandandah-pharmacy.pharmacybookings.com.au

The second vaccination can be given any time from four weeks after the initial injection, if required.



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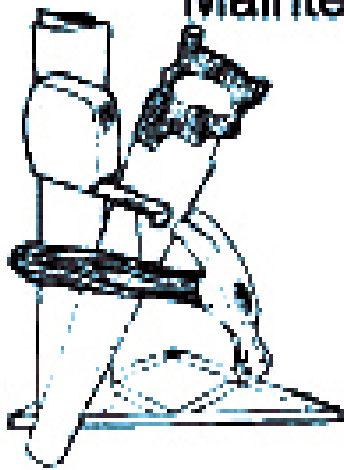
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1 WEBINAR 1
Reduce your house and property risk
7.30pm Wednesday 21 July
• Justin Leonard, CSIRO

2 WEBINAR 2
Get water ready: tanks, pumps and sprinklers
7.30pm Wednesday 4 August
• Justin Leonard, CSIRO

3 WEBINAR 3
Your physical and emotional preparation
7.30pm Thursday 19 August
• Danielle Clode, Flinders University
• Rob Gordon OAM, Clinical Psychologist
• Jim McLennan, La Trobe University

4 WEBINAR 4
Triggers to take action
7.30pm Wednesday 1 September
• Kevin Tolhurst AM, University of Melbourne
• Katharine Haynes, University of Wollongong
• Danielle Clode, resident, Smiths Gully, Black Saturday 2009 and Adelaide Hills 2021
• Raphaelae Bianchi, CSIRO

5 WEBINAR 5
Your sheltering options
7.30pm Wednesday 15 September
• Raphaelae Bianchi, CSIRO
• Katharine Haynes, University of Wollongong
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GOOD-BYE TO ONE OF OUR LONG-TIME MEMBERS

On June 23, 16 members of the Yackandandah Fire Brigade formed a guard of honour at the Yackandandah Cemetery to say good-bye to long-term member Rob Schmidt who had sadly passed away the previous weekend.

“Prior to the last few years of his life when he became ill, Rob was a valuable and very active member of the brigade for many years,” says Brigade Captain Yves Quaglio. “During the 2003 fires Rob used his own truck to provide extra support to the Brigade’s firefighting efforts. We offer



Rob Schmidt receiving his 50 year medal

our condolences to his wife Libby and his family.”

Rob joined the Yackandandah Rural Brigade in 1966, taking on the roles of 3rd lieutenant in 1991, 4th lieutenant in 1993; and following the merger of the rural and urban brigades, 2nd lieutenant in 1999. In his later years he took on the additional role of Peer Support.



Brigade members came to say goodbye to Rob Schmidt

In recognition of his years of service, he received his 35 year medal in 2001; his 40 year medal in 2007; his 45 year medal in 2011; and finally, his 50 year medal in 2017.

Rob’s legacy with the Yackandandah Fire Brigade continues with his son Mark and wife Jacqui, and son-in-law Daniel Suffern, now Brigade firefighters having completed their general firefighting training last year.

TURNOUTS

Over the past two months, the Brigade has responded to 14 incidents including car accidents, a car fire, and three small grass and shrub fires.

OFFICE BEARERS

Following our election meeting in



Nearly all the members of the new Brigade Management Team

May our office bearers and position holders for the next two years are:

- Captain (and Community Safety Coordinator) – Yves Quaglio
- 1st Lieutenant (and Fire Equipment Maintenance – Brigade equipment) - Andrew Padbury
- 2nd Lieutenant Chris Wingard (and Brigade Training)
- 3rd Lieutenant Lauren Padbury
- 4th Lieutenant, and Promotions and Publicity, Margrit Beemster
- 5th Lieutenant – Glenn Mailey (and Asset maintenance)
- Secretary/Treasurer (and Group delegate)– Cameron McKern
- Brigade chairperson – Bryan Smith
- Community Education and Information – Brinley O’Brien
- Vegetation Management (and Group Delegate)- Mark Burbidge
- Brigade Training (returning); Fire Equipment Maintenance – Ruth Yule
- Minute Secretary- Cheryl Lundin
- Station officer (and District 24 Women’s

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Yackandandah Fire Brigade is once again in the spotlight as an example of a community organisation that has a resilient energy supply in case of a power outage - thanks to TRY (Totally Renewable Energy) who supported us

to install 6kW of solar panels, 26 kWh of battery storage, a smart energy controller and a 10 kVA generator.

The Station, together with four Brigade members who were “extras”,



Swapping firefighting for being “extras” in a Clean Energy Council campaign

will feature in a promotional video/TV commercial for a Clean Energy Council national campaign on renewable energy. The video is being produced by the Melbourne-based The Shannon Company. The Yackandandah component of the video was filmed on Thursday, 17 June outside the station. Captain Yves Quaglio thanked the Council for its generous donation to the Brigade....and the coffees to keep the “extras” warm!

Kane Thornton, Chief Executive of the Clean Energy Council said: “We wanted to feature Yackandandah’s CFA in our national campaign because Yackandandah showcases the enormous benefits renewable energy can bring to small communities. We can’t thank the “extras” enough for



Clean Energy Council CEO Kane Thornton catches up with Brigade Captain Yves Quaglio

braving the cold and flying the flag for renewable energy!”

As well we had a surprise visit to the station on 1 July by the Governor of Victoria, the Honourable Linda Dessau. The Governor was in Yackandandah to inspect the new community battery Yack 01 which was officially launched by the Victorian Energy, Environment and Climate Change Minister Lily D’Ambrosio on 8 July. CEO of the Clean Energy Council, Kane Thornton, also in town for the launch, took the opportunity to say “hi” at the station.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community members are encouraged to register for a series of free webinars “Get Bushfire Resilient” organised by Bushfire Resilience Inc that are focussed on providing the latest information on bushfire safety for households in rural areas and on the urban fringe. The webinars will be held Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm

starting July 21 and run until September 15. Topics include Get water ready: tanks, pumps and sprinklers; Your physical and emotional preparation; Triggers to take action; and Your sheltering options. Recordings of previous webinars

held by Bushfire Resilience Inc., a not-for profit organisation, are also available. More details at <https://bushfireresilience.org.au/>

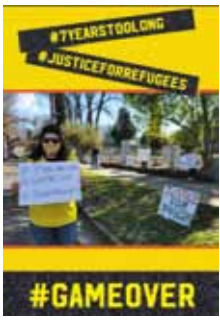
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Why write letters for Amnesty International Australia?

Many of us may think that writing letters complaining about human rights abuses to Governments of faraway places is a bit of a waste of time. Will it make a difference? Will we receive an answer?

Well, the answer is – often it does.

Human rights abuses don't only happen in far off countries. Australia is guilty of initiating and/or perpetuating abuse here in our great land. Amnesty, along with other groups, has been successful in campaigning to prevent the Tasmanian Government from passing anti-protest laws. A proposed Alice Springs youth curfew will not go ahead. Amnesty pushed for this outcome.

LGBTQA + conversion practices are finally banned in Victoria. Again, thanks in part to lobbying from Amnesty members.

However, there is still much to be done. What about the plight of our refugees? No doubt most people are aware of the dreadful treatment of the Tamil family from Biloela, arrested during the night and ending up imprisoned on Christmas Island awaiting deportation. Amnesty is urging the Immigration Minister, Alex Hawke, to secure an Australian future in Biloela for the Murugappan family. In many cases the minister has used his discretion to change deportation outcomes. You too can encourage the Australian Government to come to the aid of this family by joining with Amnesty International Australia and petition for their permanent release into the Australian community.

If you would like to join us and participate in our Amnesty activities, please contact:- Alison Wellard on 0428 504 466 or email rawell@bigpond.net.au or you can go to the Amnesty website – nesty.org.au and participate with petitions, letters and emails.

Alison Wellard

DISCOVER VITALITY

What determines our health? How much is random chance from the genetic hand we have been dealt? And how much depends on the choices we make each and every day? The food we eat? The amount of exercise we get? Our sunlight exposure and vitamin D levels? The toxins our bodies are exposed to? The quality of our sleep, our relationships and our state of mind?

These were among the questions explored by the *Discover Vitality* team during the recent

“that the small choices we make on a daily basis can have a profound long-term effect on our health destiny. We all have genetic or environmental predispositions towards certain diseases, but whether or not that disease will manifest often depends on the lifestyle choices we make. Understanding what these choices are, how greatly they affect us, and most importantly how to easily implement them in our lives, is key,” he concluded.

Geoff Draper provided practical advice on



A receptive Yack audience in one of the first sessions held in the Yack Public Hall

4-week program at the Yackandandah Public Hall. The volunteer team was comprised of locals including physician Dr Justin Jackson,

chef Lisa Goddard, physiotherapist Geoff Draper and cooking and demonstration assistants Maryanne Nixon and Sarah Fry.

At each program, guests were welcomed to a taste-testing of delicious plant-based recipes. This was followed by an informative 30-minute presentation, covering topics including longevity, cancer, the gut microbiome and viral infection. “The evidence is startling,” says Dr Jackson,

movement and exercise, and the evening concluded with an easy-to-implement cooking demonstration. Entry was donation-based.

The *Discover Vitality* program received great feedback from attendees and is planned to recommence on **Sunday, August 8, at 7.00 pm at the Yackandandah Public Hall**, following the same format. The program is planned to run on the second Sunday of each month through to November.

For those interested in personal advice on effective lifestyle therapy as an adjunct for cholesterol management, heart disease, cancer relapse, autoimmune disease, blood sugar management or other health goals the *Discover Vitality* team is also offering an 8-week lifestyle coaching program.

For further information or to book attendance please contact Lisa on 0422 584 966.

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Bright Futures - We Know Your Name Not Your Story

VicHealth's Bright Futures for Young Victorians Challenge provides support for projects which promote community and young people's resilience (12–25 years old), social connection and mental wellbeing and as part of the initiative, Indigo Shire received funding to participate in the program "We Know Your Name But Not Your Story." (WKYNNYS)

We delivered the WKYNNYS project at Yackandandah Primary School in conjunction with Digital Story Tellers, a purpose-centred film making agency.

This engaging program equipped young people with the skills to become 'story collectors': to go into the community and use this process to develop digital media stories whilst building connections with their community. Due to the outbreak of COVID19 we had to pivot this program to focusing on the student's individual experiences whilst in lockdown, in addition to collecting stories from their immediate family.

These stories were combined into a final documentary film. The program was originally founded in the Corangamite Shire in 2016. After a survey of 330 young people, it was identified that there was a large number of young people feeling a disconnection from community life. "Names of people within the community are often familiar, but there is little known of their back story" was one of the responses they received. Indigo Shire recognised the value of this program and successfully applied for a grant to implement the program throughout Indigo Shire.



The key outcomes of this program include:

- Building connections between young people and their community.
- Delivering communication, storytelling and video editing sessions for young people.
- Facilitating the data collection of stories.
- Production of a final documentary film of all the collected stories.

An online launch of the final documentary

There are two short films that can be viewed at <https://www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/Community/Young-people/Bright-Futures> and they are well worth watching.

PEDAL POWER

Panting and perspiring, two men on a tandem bicycle at last got to the top of a steep hill.

"That was a stiff climb", said the first man.

"It certainly was," replied the second man. "And if I hadn't kept the brake on, we could have slid backwards at any time"...

Thank you Reg. Yet to see you on a bicycle!

OVER THE FENCE

A NATURE MAP OF YACKANDANDAH FROM ABOVE, BELOW AND STRAIGHT AHEAD BY YACKANDANDAH PRIMARY SCHOOL

When writing up a grant application for the Creative Workers in Schools program, administered by Regional Arts Victoria in partnership with DET and Creative Victoria, I never dreamt that this idea would be just as inspiring for me, as it is for our students! This unique



Kirsten Coates working with some very keen Yack PS students

experience of looking OVER THE FENCE, through the obscure and 'wonky' lens of an artist is giving our students six months to work with a local creative.

Fast forward three months and we are already halfway through making amazing art experiences happen with Kirsten Coates! Kirsten has inspired our students with her 'let's try that' attitude. She has taught Mandy and I many new tricks of the trade and generously shared her creative expertise to resurrect our neglected etching press. Here's a very small snapshot of what has been happening in the 'art studio'

at Yackandandah Primary School.

«OVER THE FENCE - A Nature Map of Yackandandah from Above, Below and Straight Ahead» is a whole school collaboration of 190 students to create images and 'maps' of the town. While acknowledging that our view of the land and our consideration of "place" will hold different meanings for different people, students are exploring their own understanding of where we live through different media; drawing, painting and printmaking. Our very neglected etching press was the perfect opportunity for Kirsten to dig it out, dust it off and get it running smoothly again.

Kirsten has been asking a series of questions, such as, "Am I a different person when I'm in the natural world?" and "Why do we like being in nature?". Over the coming weeks, we are planning to wander out into the bush, the town, visit the creek and venture out into the school yard to look, listen and draw. As the craft of printmaking is not necessarily to reproduce something but rather to represent something, students will be encouraged to take a different view of their world to inform their art making.

Stay tuned for a planned art installation somewhere in the township of Yackandandah on **Wednesday 15th September, from 7am – 7pm**, where we hope to share the wonders of what can be discovered OVER THE FENCE.

Caz Doyle, Art Teacher



Watercolour by Zachary Spargo and Lachie Korn



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Launching a new stage

It is hard to know what is over the horizon, but if the celebration held at the Agency of Sculpture on the 8th July is anything to go by, we can anticipate great things for local renewable energy, storage and the smart management of electricity.

About 180 people from near and far gathered to welcome in the latest clean-energy innovation in Yack. The switch was flicked for the completion of a community battery titled *Yack01* – 274 kWh of battery storage coupled with 65 kW of solar panels.



Clare Bishop and Frank Dyall, TRY volunteers together with Bec Briody of DELWP

In a triumph of local ownership, customers of Indigo Power will be connected to the battery via the national energy market. The battery will initially charge during the day and release power in the evening. Homes and businesses not yet ready or able to install solar can indirectly be supporting local power by switching to Indigo Power!

Indigo Power have managed the installation process with a team of local installers and tradespeople: Solar Integrity, DH Electrical, Boschetti Engineering, Sherringham Construction and Platinum Electrical, and the patient flexibility of Ben Gilbert – huge kudos to Ben and his family for hosting the battery. Indigo Power own and operate the system and will participate in driving down emissions for Yackandandah and supporting the local grid. Clearly, all involved are exploring new regulatory and construction ground in the area of community-scale assets and the launch of *Yack01* is a testament to their efforts.

Victorian Energy Minister, the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio, gave a speech and pushed the ceremonial switch, and was joined by celebratory words from Dr Helen Haines, Member for Indi, Ms Ann Telford, Indigo Power Chair and Dr Juliette Milbank, President of TRY. All ably orchestrated by Dr Ben McGowan, Managing Director of Indigo Power, and Mayor Jenny O'Connor providing an acknowledgement of country.

As demonstrated by the South Australian 'Hornsedale Power Reserve,' the so-called big battery, electricity storage is key to the inevitable transition to clean energy. *Yack01* will participate in the National Energy Market via the Mondo Ubi smart energy management device. The Ubi is also present in some 210 properties across Yackandandah, creating a virtual power plant (or minigrid) – a



Peter Anfrens of Totally Renewable Beechworth, Yack's Matthew Charles-Jones and Cathy McGowan OA

network of interconnected solar and battery systems capable of working in concert to localise and improve our local supply. TRY's big plans are to get to a point where Yack is capable of powering itself when the mains supply fails... the work continues in all sorts of ways!!

All this is possible due to the thoughtful donations of \$104,000 from locals and philanthropists and with a special mention to Into Our Hands Foundation for start-up research funds of \$30,000.



Well-known locals attend the launch and enjoyed the sun for a change! Bill Dee, Julie Klose and Ian Jackson well rugged up for the launch



Neil Padbury, James Warburton and Denis Ginnivan, TRY members

DELWP have granted a further \$171,000 and Sustainability Victoria have facilitated a low interest loan via WAW Credit Union.

So standby for Yack 02, 03 and ideally 04, 05 and 06!! In the meantime, the quickest way to save the most money is to install solar on your own roof, switch to a CO² Hot Water Heat Pump, and work hard to use less power. More, it is also really easy to transfer your power bill to Indigo Power and become an important part of a clean, local and resilient power supply.

A call to Indigo Power will quickly help you decide how it all works with your household budget!

For more info on Yack01 and the launch, go to *News* on the TRY website: <https://totallyrenewableyack.org.au>

Matthew Charles-Jones



Indigo Power

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Yackandandah's big battery shows the power of community spirit



Helen Haines MP has congratulated the community of Yackandandah on the launch of their community battery Yack01, the first community-scale battery of its kind in Australia. On Thursday, 8th July, the community of Yackandandah, led by Totally Renewable Yackandandah and Indigo Power, flicked the switch on the battery, sending renewable, clean energy to Indigo Power customers in the town.



Cr. Di Shepherd, Peter Anfrans of Totally Renewable Beechworth and Cr. Peter Croucher at the Yack01 Battery Launch

“This battery is the culmination of several years of determined and dogged work and something of which the Yackandandah community should be very proud,” Dr Haines, the Independent Federal Member for Indi, said. “This is a living, breathing example of communities taking control of their future, and is a shining example of Yackandandah’s community spirit. I am so proud of the community of Yackandandah, one of 13 community energy groups working in Indi, here in rural Victoria, to build Australia’s renewable energy future.”

The 274kWh community-scale battery, named Yack01, has been installed at the Old Saw Mill in Yackandandah, connected to a 65 kW solar installation. It will store energy collected by the solar panels during the day and discharge it during the night. Storage is a vital part of the move to renewables, allowing renewable energy to be stored and used even when the sun isn’t shining.

Yack01 has been funded by \$171,000 from the Victorian Government, approximately \$100,000 raised by Totally Renewable Yackandandah and a \$100,000 loan taken out by Indigo Power and underwritten by Sustainability Victoria.



Ann Telford and Ben McGowan of Indigo Power, Minister Lily D'Ambrosio, John Pettigrew and Geoff Lodge of GV Community Energy celebrate the occasion

“While the battery itself may not be big, this is a big step in the push for the town to become 100 per cent renewable and shows what can be achieved when communities and government work together on innovative solutions. This kind of project is exactly what my Local Power Plan is all about – supporting regional communities to harness renewable sources of energy and keep the benefits in their towns. Through cheaper, more reliable power, local jobs and investment, I want every community in Indi and every town in Australia to have access to the same benefits that Yackandandah is realising – cheaper power and energy security.” Said Ms. Haines.

How Yackandandah Residents can power themselves with local renewable energy

The electricity sector is the single largest driver of climate change and takes \$190 million out of our region each year. Together, we are changing that!

The Yackandandah community battery (Yack01) is the first community-owned behind-the-meter solar power system to supply retail electricity customers in Australia.

This project connects Yackandandah residents to locally generated, community owned renewable energy, from the solar panels during the day, and from the battery during the early evening rush and into the night.

Customers of Indigo Power will be able to power themselves with energy from the Yackandandah community battery, as well as share electricity with their neighbours.

To find out more go to indigopower.com.au or call Sandy or Ben on 03 5746 3222.

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Some of the McGowan family including Totally Renewable Yackandandah's youngest supporter!



About 180 people attended the launch at the Agency of Sculpture and checked out the 274 kWh battery and switchboard. Photo Credit: J Millbank

A BIG DAY FOR YACKANDANDAH!

Such a great day for Yack. It has been very inspiring to see Totally Renewable Yack and Indigo Power hit their straps, and get so many runs on the board with the installation of Yack01. There are many small towns and villages in Australia making great progress with their aim of using renewable energy rather than fossil fuel powered electricity, but Yack is being held up as a beacon to follow.

Congratulations to all involved. It has been a long hard struggle from the humble beginnings in 2014 when members of Hepburn Wind came to talk to us about how to craft our way towards becoming powered by 100% renewables...



The Indigo Power Team standing in front of the battery unit



Wendy Kerr in charge of the Dish Pig - an innovative idea put into practice by Plasticwise Yackandandah. Great to see the Dish Pig out and working; she has been plagued by persistent lockdowns over the past 18 months.



Matt Grogan from Indigo Power. One of TRY's inaugural members

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Helen Haines MP
INDEPENDENT FEDERAL MEMBER FOR INDI

Congratulations Yackandandah!

You are leading the country with the installation of your community-owned, community scale battery.

I was proud to attend the launch of 'Yack01' in Yackandandah recently as your federal MP.

It was a living, breathing example of communities taking control of their future, and is a shining example of Yackandandah's community spirit.

helenhaines.org
[@helenhainesindi](https://twitter.com/helenhainesindi)
helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au

Wangaratta / 117 Murphy St. 03 5721 7077
Wodonga / 79 High St. 02 6024 6284

FITNESS4U - WHAT'S COMING YOUR WAY



Thelma Buchanan Zoom exercising whilst camping in Queensland

It has been a crazy and unpredictable year for gyms in Victoria which resulted in a number of unplanned closures and restricted operations for Fitness4U. Despite these closures/restrictions the enthusiasm of those engaging in their fitness through Fitness4U has not dwindled.

Zooms have continued throughout the chaos allowing members to access sessions from their home regardless of the lockdowns or enforced restrictions. This saw the ladies' group (fondly known as the Looking Good Group) to continue with sessions throughout the

turmoil as well as sessions for other members who would traditionally access the 'The Workshop' (the name used for the gym). Thank you to the Indigo Shire Council for their support of the Looking Good Group by granting them funds to continue Zooming for a further twelve months.

Membership has continued to be great at sessions despite the cold weather with big class attendance for our mature ladies group, continued success with the mature men's group and full classes across the week for those accessing other services offered at the gym.

Whilst it has been hard to run events in 2021, we do have a couple of proposed events for the next couple of months including:

- The Great Yackandandah Velocipede which will see the men's group taking the lead on a men's health bicycle fundraiser late September, and
- A Walk the Rail Trail aimed at exploring the newly constructed track from the Sports Park through to the far end of Bells Flat Road.

Both events are subject to Covid restrictions but keep an eye out for these events. We have also offered up the gym space for some other initiatives including:

- Casual Indoor Bowls (learn the basics, have some fun) and
- Friday Night Alpha Hour (aimed at encouraging men to exercise and talk/engage)



Indoor Bowls at the gym

BRUARONG HALL AND YCDCo - ANOTHER GREAT JOINT COMMUNITY PROJECT

With perfect timing, the new acoustic baffle ceiling, funded by Yackandandah Community Development Company, was put to the test at the opening of stage one of the Bruarong Community Centre's local history project. The new ceiling passed beautifully: no more straining to hear because of echoing.

The ceiling of corrugated, perforated metal blends well with the character of the building and significantly improves the function. This work is part of the committee's ongoing improvements to the Community Centre, which is ideal for community meetings and gatherings, parties, workshops etc.

We sincerely thank YCDCo for their generous support of our Community Centre and acknowledge the benefits of such funding as an investment into our local community. Thanks also to Dan Carberry for his excellent work installing the ceiling and to Sidoti Electrical for the electrical works.

To book the Community Centre, please ring the booking officer on 0407 071 338

Ruth Yule



From left to right: Bruarong Hall committee member Ruth Yule, YCDCo Board Member Max Horvath and Dan Carberry of Classical Constructions admire the new acoustic ceiling at the launch of the Bruarong Capturing History Project from beneath the pesky masks


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Yackandandah Community Centre



When it comes time to plan the location for your next meeting, look no further than the Yackandandah Community Centre Meeting Room. With the recent installation of a suite of state-of-the-art digital audiovisual equipment, YCC now has a facility which is second to none in town, where you can meet in person and connect digitally to anyone in the world.

YCC chair, Bill Dee said YCC had updated the meeting room to serve the community's needs into the future by providing exceptional digital connectivity. At the

excited about the potential for connection that such a well-equipped meeting had to offer Yackandandah. "One of the primary functions of YCC is to provide a meeting space and to foster education programs, these additions to the meeting room fit neatly with that brief," Bill said. "It broadens the scope of content and improves the access to material for everyone who uses our room."

Bill said the new equipment would allow the centre to provide expanded services and connections to

Indigo Shire and make programs more accessible. "Indigo U3A believes in working cooperatively with other community organisations," Rosemary said.

"We do have some members in Yackandandah but there could be people who are unable to travel to Beechworth who would like to take part in U3A activities. Working with YCC will give us the opportunity to make our organisation and activities more accessible to those people."

YCC manager, David Thorpe said he was thrilled that the addition of new audio-visual equipment at YCC would give the two organisations an opportunity to work together and bring new programs and activities to town. "Connectivity to our community, between community members and other organisations is a real focus for YCC," David said. "It's really exciting having such fantastic new equipment that will allow us to connect, share and provide new learning opportunities for the Yack community. Being able to work with U3A and offer their activities at YCC is a great opportunity for Yack people."

The partnership between YCC and Indigo U3A will begin with the streaming of Gerry Engwerda's 'Our World: Background Briefings' sessions fortnightly in the YCC Meeting Room from **1pm on Tuesday, July 27th**.

"Gerry's briefings are really interesting and informative and with the new technology, people will be able to take part in them from the YCC meeting room," David said. "Come along and see what is on offer. "These sessions are free and will give people a bit of an idea what U3A has to offer. I would encourage anyone who is interested in getting involved with U3A to come along." He said the sessions were just the first of a series of workshops and programs to be run at YCC as part of the partnership with Indigo U3A.

For more information about Indigo U3A activities and to view 'Our World: Background Briefings' session times and dates visit: <https://indigou3a.weebly.com/>

To ensure your place at the sessions held at Yackandandah Community Centre please contact manager, David Thorpe on 02 6027 1743 or email: manager@ycc.org.au



CC chair, Bill Dee and Indigo U3A president, Rosemary Ryan enjoy a cup of tea and a chat in the YCC Meeting Room. Photo Credit: David Thorpe

heart of the new facility is an 85" smart TV which can be connected wirelessly to a laptop or other devices, allowing the display of documents, video or real-time conferences and webinars.

The latest technology has also been employed to enhance the audio quality in the room, allowing a presenter's voice to project more clearly, making the in-person meeting experience more comfortable for people with hearing difficulties. Bill said he was

local community groups. One of the organisations which will make use of the new facilities at YCC is the Indigo University of the Third Age which typically hosts a wide range of activities in Beechworth. Now, through a collaboration between YCC and Indigo U3A, programs and activities will be accessible in Yackandandah.

Indigo U3A president, Rosemary Ryan said the group was keen to expand its activities into the wider

NEED A MEETING ROOM IN YACK?

Then look no further than the Yackandandah Community Centre for your next meeting.

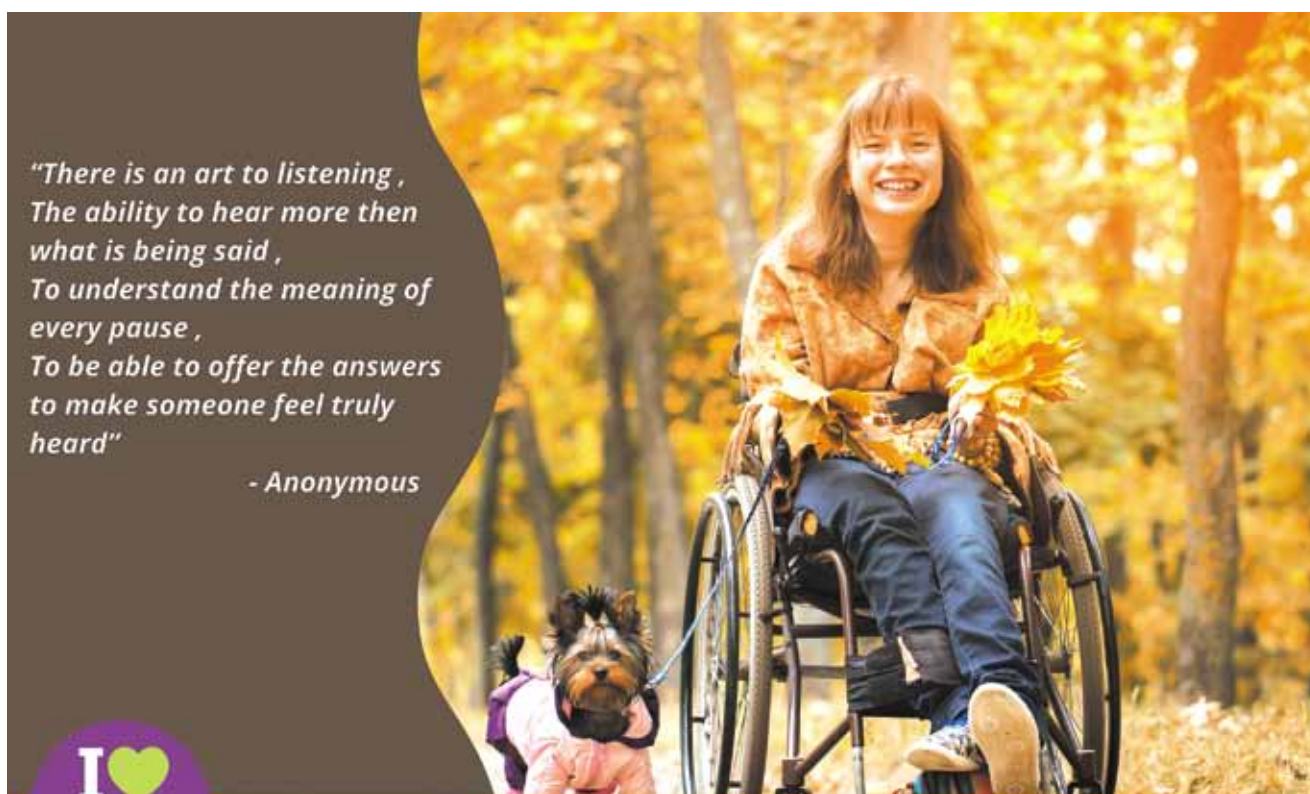
The recent addition of state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment makes our meeting room second to none in Yack.

Whether you are meeting face-to-face or on the internet, we have the equipment to ensure seamless connection and a first-class meeting experience for all.

Connect and share documents or videos with our brand new 85" smart TV. In addition, our new audio equipment ensures everyone gets to hear in-person presenters or online audio with crystal clarity.

Our room hire rates are very inviting, and we also offer free Wi-Fi connection and commercial grade printing facilities.

For more information, please phone YCC on 02 6027 1743 or book the room through the YCC website at www.ycc.org.au



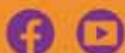
"There is an art to listening,
The ability to hear more than
what is being said,
To understand the meaning of
every pause,
To be able to offer the answers
to make someone feel truly
heard"

- Anonymous



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Yackandandah Community Centre

Yackandandah resident, Gerry Engwerda has a host of information and knowledge to share and has been doing just that as part of his 'Our World: Background Briefings' sessions

run by the Indigo U3A at Beechworth for some time. As of Tuesday, July 27th, the fortnightly sessions will be available to Yackandandah residents at the Yackandandah Community Centre.

Manager, David Thorpe said sessions would be broadcast on the centre's new large-screen, smart TV, giving residents the opportunity to take part in Indigo U3A activities without leaving town for the first time.

Indigo U3A is a membership-based, incorporated not-for-profit, volunteer organisation dedicated to providing opportunities for cooperative learning and social contact for the over-50s residents of Indigo Shire.

The 'Our World: Background Briefings' are just one of the events or activities coordinated by Indigo U3A. To find out more about the organisation and its activities visit: <https://indigou3a.weebly.com/>



Gerry Engwerda - Yack resident and U3A lecturer

Mr Engwerda said the briefings looked at current affairs and what was happening in the world, with each 2-hour presentation providing a host of information on wide-ranging topics. "So, we will start the second semester off on Tuesday, 27 July with a

session on Afghanistan, how it got to be that way and where it goes to from here," Gerry said.

"We will also look at key regional players Turkey, India and Japan and how they are making their mark in international relations as increasingly influential middle level players. Going further afield we will look at how borders and boundaries affect relations between nation states and the movement of peoples; how nations cope with very difficult situations, with a look at Finland and Indonesia, amongst others. And finally, a broad look at the future of population growth and what the effects of declining populations will mean for Japan, China and Russia."

There will also be a number of sessions on the changing nature of the workforce and therefore work, with opportunity for discussion around how well we would adapt to a world increasingly without work.

"Then on a slightly lighter note, and as a bit of a distraction, I will also run sessions on the history of air travel and plants that changed the world," he said.

'Our World: Background Briefings' sessions will be screened at the Yackandandah Community Centre each fortnight, starting from **Tuesday, July 27th beginning at 1pm.**

Yackandandah Primary School

Term Three at Yackandandah Primary School is looking like a busy term! We have skiing trips, Art excursions, sports carnivals and more happening – along with the core business of school, the day to day learning. Our students, staff and families have shown amazing resilience when working through two periods of remote learning this year. Here's hoping we have seen the end of any more COVID lockdowns in our area. If we are unlucky and need to go to remote learning again, at least we have the routine in place to cope without too much disruption to learning.

Last term, our Year 5/6 students travelled to Canberra for a four day camp. They visited a number of venues including the War Memorial, CSIRO, Questacon and met with our local member Helen Haines at Parliament House. It was great to hear from people at all venues that the children from Yackandandah Primary School not only had a strong knowledge but also exemplary behaviours



Yack PS students catching up with our local MP, Helen Haines at Parliament House, Canberra

and attitudes. Well done, kids!

During last term our students faced a big challenge learning to ride unicycles. The children learned the value of persistence and the sense of accomplishment that came with success was well earned. It was a credit to the resilience of the students that no matter how many times they had a less than glamorous dismount from the unicycles, they jumped right back on for another go. This made the successes even more special.

If you are looking to enrol your child for 2022, it is time to complete enrolment forms. Forms can be obtained from the Yackandandah Primary School office or from the school website. If you would like a tour of the school or would like to ask about Foundation in 2022, please call the school on (02) 6027 1431. During Term Four there will be regular transition days where children will meet teachers, new friends, their special big buddies and see all the things that 'big school' has to offer.

Apply for Livestock Biosecurity Grants

Grants are available to support cattle, sheep, goat, swine and honey bee industries through the Livestock Biosecurity Funds – Grant Program. The grants program, now open for applications, has been developed collaboratively between Agriculture Victoria and the livestock compensation advisory committees. Agriculture Victoria Executive Director Sally Fensling said the program aims to fund projects that prevent, monitor, and control diseases, thereby enhancing animal health, biosecurity and market access for the benefit of Victoria's livestock industries.

"Grants are available for projects that provide innovative solutions, use emerging technologies and resolve livestock biosecurity issues, needs or gaps for these local industries," Ms Fensling said. "This program shows the collaboration and shared responsibility between government and industry in biosecurity, and champions projects that aim to strengthen our biosecurity in Victoria."

Funded projects from last year include the Victorian Farmers Federation's producer-led biosecurity extension program for cattle, sheep and goats, the Livestock Saleyards Association of Victoria's 'Managing Transit Stock in Saleyards' project, and HiveKeepers' 'Smart Sentinel Beehives Pilot Program'. Other projects previously funded include the National Livestock Identification System tag subsidy for both sheep and cattle, Significant Disease Investigation programs, animal disease investigation courses, abattoir-based pig health surveillance, and prevention of anthrax.

Applications are invited from private sector businesses, universities and research institutions, co-operatives, government agencies and local government, and incorporated associations. Any organisation looking to apply should consider the guidelines and eligibility criteria, review the relevant Statement of Strategic Intent, and complete the online application form.

The grants are made possible through funds established under the Livestock Disease Control Act, which enable the collection of duties generated by the sale of cattle, sheep, goat and pigs and their carcasses in Victoria, and the registration fees for beekeepers. "This program reinvests duties back into industry, to the benefit of industry and agriculture more broadly in Victoria," Ms Fensling said.

Applications are now open and will close 11:59pm on Friday 17 September 2021.

For more information, visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestockbiosecurityfunds or call the Customer Contact Centre on 136 186.

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YACKANDANDAH LIBRARY

The power of seed saving

We will be celebrating Science Week with a talk “The power of seed saving”. The talk will cover practical advice on how participants can undertake seed saving at home. Topics will include how to save seeds from vegetables, flowers, native plants and the importance of seed banks. People of all ages are welcome including children and there will be an opportunity to ask questions.

This talk will be held at Beechworth Library on Friday 20 August at 6pm and repeated at Chiltern Library on Saturday 21 August at 10.30 am.

For more information about this talk, please visit the “What’s on at our libraries” page on the Indigo Shire Council website www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/libraries

Are you interested in a daytime Book Club?

The library supports many book clubs in the community which are generally held at night. We would be keen to hear from people interested in a Book Club to be run during the daytime.

Please contact Yackandandah Library on 02 6028 1180 to register your interest.

Storytime

Yackandandah Library holds Storytime for preschoolers and their carers every Thursday morning at

9.30 am. There are stories, songs and rhymes and lots of fun. All are welcome and this event is free.

Yackandandah Library is open Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm and on Saturdays from 9.30am to 12.00 pm.

We have books, DVDs, magazines, audiobooks, newspapers, free Wi-Fi, public computers, photocopying and printing.

Give us a call if we can be of assistance on 02 6028 1180 or email yackandandahlibrary@indigoshire.vic.gov.au



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Farmer disqualified from owning livestock and handed a \$25,000 fine

A Springbank farmer, Peter Toohey, received a lifetime disqualification order from being the owner or person in charge of any farm animal following a guilty plea in the Ballarat Magistrates Court recently. Mr Toohey pleaded guilty to two charges of animal cruelty and a charge of aggravated cruelty leading to the serious disablement of two cows. The accused owned five cattle confined to yards on his property, which were observed in poor condition and without access to water or adequate food which resulted in dehydration. The accused also failed to obtain veterinary care for two sick cows.

Mr Toohey had been subject to criminal proceedings previously for very similar offending, at which time he had a conditional Control Order imposed for a period of two years under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986*. In addition to the lifetime disqualification order, Mr Toohey was fined \$25,000 and costs were awarded to the department for the amount of \$149.

The Magistrate said as a repeat offender for similar offences in the past and in respect to this offending that a term of imprisonment must be considered. He further said if Mr Toohey had not pleaded guilty, he would have imposed a term of imprisonment. The Magistrate stated the sentence must reflect to the accused and the whole community that animals are to be protected in our justice system and those who put animals at risk must face serious consequences.

Agriculture Victoria Compliance Manager, Daniel Bode, said the importance of a lifetime disqualification order is significant and will ensure that animals are protected from further pain and suffering at the hand of the accused. "It sends a very clear message that those who continually commit offences against animals should not have the privilege and opportunity to care for them in the future," Mr Bode said. Mr Bode added that apart from the obvious pain and suffering of the animals, animal welfare breaches can jeopardise Victoria's reputation as a humane and responsible producer of food, which can in turn affect all producers. "This is a reminder to all livestock producers that animal cruelty will not be tolerated by the Victorian Government or the community."

Anyone wishing to make a specific complaint in regard to livestock welfare can contact Agriculture Victoria on 136 186 or aw.complaint@agriculture.vic.gov.au

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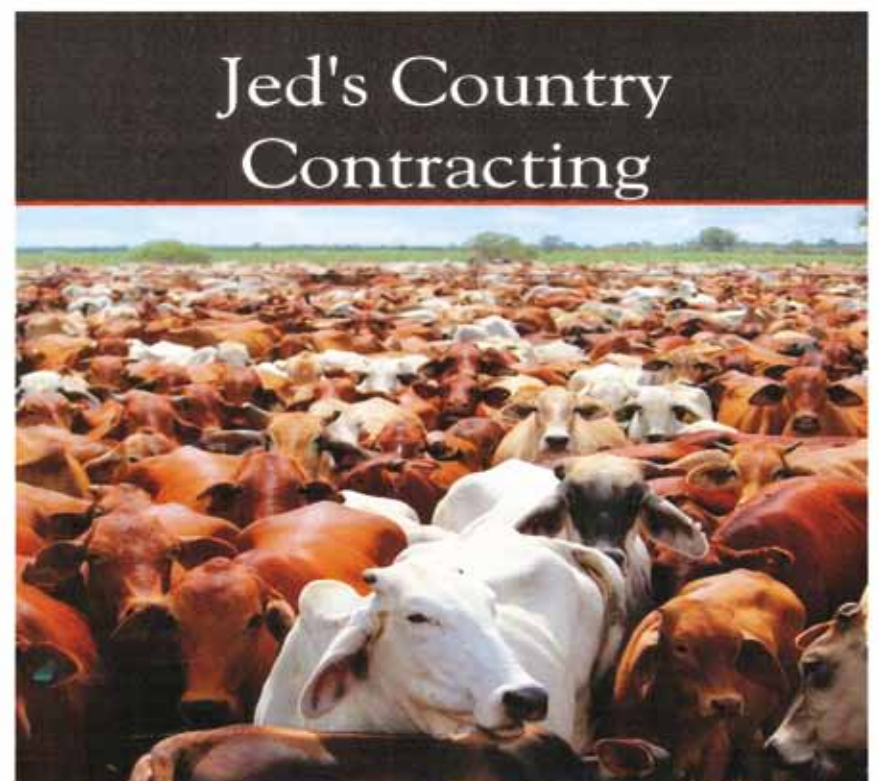
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WEAR ONE'S HEART ON ONE'S SLEEVE

Whoever wears their heart on their sleeve openly displays their innermost feelings. The now puzzling expression can be traced to the medieval days of chivalry. Knights taking part in a tournament wanted everyone to know for whom they fought. Proudly and conspicuously they thus wore something the lady of their choice had given them as a token of her affection. Records of the time tell that "Maydes and gentlewomen gave to their favourites, as tokens of their love, little handkerchiefs, wrought round with a button at each corner." The knight tied or pinned the treasured gift on to his sleeve. it was therefore true to say that contrary to hiding his attachment, he wore his heart (or rather his heart's desire) on his sleeve. Though the days of chivalry have long gone, the knights' practice of broadcasting

their attachment to a lady in so special a way is recalled in what is now merely a phrase.

Not least, it is still used, because Shakespeare immortalised it in *Othello* where Iago professes to Roderigo a devotion which he really did not have:

"For when my outward action doth demonstrate
The native act and figure of my heart
In compliment extern, 'tis not long after
But I will wear my heart upon my sleeve
For daws to peck at: I am not what I am."

*From "The Book of Beginnings" by
Dr. R. and L. Brasch*

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PLASTICWISE YACKANDANDAH LOOKING FOR LOVE

Plasticwise Yackandandah is on the prowl for some new members to join our committee.

We are a community group with a mission to assist Yackandandah (and beyond) to reduce waste and disrupt the disposable culture. You might know us from:

1. The Dish Pig;
2. Sorting the Yack Folk Festival waste with the Green Team;
3. The posters outside Foodworks;
4. Helping Foodworks to go plastic bag free and setting up the bag library;
5. The Proud to be Plasticwise campaign;
6. Our annual clothes swap; and
7. Our famous waste free disco.

We are an incorporated association which means we have a formal committee with a chair, treasurer and secretary, as well as a broader membership base. Our chair is having a baby mid July 2021 and our treasurer is having a baby in November 2021, so we are hoping to engage some supplementary committee members.

If you're looking for love but afraid of commitment, we could be the right group for you. You simply have to Zoom meet with us for one hour per month and help out on events or projects that take your fancy. The benefit to you is that you get to hang out with us (we come in all shapes and ages, currently among our number we count a nurse, a social worker, a librarian, a teacher or two, a lawyer and a florist) and also the whales will love you forever. Please contact Francesca to express your interest – new financial year, new you - 0448 460 792.



Plasticwise Yack - looking for new committee members



WINTER

Winter's chill is here again with frost and fog and freezing rain,
Though frost will mostly bring warm sun when afternoons at last do come.
Robins red, do Winter bring, while early morning magpies sing
To brighten dullness of the day, as kookaburras laugh away
In groups up high on local trees, or road-side poles on cross-arm tees.

Outdoor work is not the go, with tree-top cloud and temps so low,

Thus book-work and internal chores require the days be spent indoors
With warming fire or heater's glow, to take the chill off temps below
The levels which we most enjoy, when costly fires we don't employ
To keep us free from Winter's chill, while temps so low are with us still.

We shudder in the morning breeze as round the block we work our knees,
So aches and pains in them defray and rheumatoid is kept away.
Then back into a heated room to free us from the wintery gloom

That tends to keep the mind depressed, as into warmer clothes we're dressed,
And hope for sunny Spring-time days, to keep the Winter blues away.

Now August's here, the days are longer, but Winter's grip is getting stronger,
With single figures many days, and mornings dank with foggy haze
That hangs about till at least noon, and often joined by rainfall's tune
Upon our roofs and gardens green, where native birds alight to preen
Their plumage multi-hued and bright, to us a feeling of delight.

But in due time, Spring will be here, and gone should be the days so drear,
And sun will meekly poke around the edge of clouds, as from the ground
We hope to feel its warming rays, and shed the layers of Winter days
We were obliged to wear so long, while Spring was slow to come along
Its stellar path around the globe, at last to land on our abode.

John McIntyre

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Winter has well and truly set in with lots of cold and wet days as we start off Term 3.

The school calendar was very busy last term with lots of great learning and lots of extra-curricular activities. To commemorate Anzac Day the students showed their respect for past and present soldiers by attending the local Anzac march, representing the school with pride. The Year 6 students showed strong leadership by carrying the school banner, reading a poem and laying the school wreath at the service.

While the weather was still warm, we had a visit from Kylie from Bunnings, who brought lots of new gardening equipment and seedlings for our students to plant out in the veggie garden. We were also successful in receiving a Woolworths Junior Landcare Grant which we will use to upgrade the vegetable garden and also develop some native bee hotels. Our students entered the Yack Garden Club's school Scarecrow competition for their expo at the Osbornes Flat Hall. Both the F/1 and Year 3 scarecrow's were fantastic, and we were so excited when the Year 3 scarecrow was voted best by those who attended the expo and we also had two winners in the mini garden competition!! Our outdoor



and environmental theme continued with a visit from the educator at Halve Waste, where students learnt about what waste is, which bin it should go in, where it goes after it is picked up and its effect on the environment.

The whole school STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) topic last term was 'Creating Designed Solutions.' This unit of work involved designing and building rafts to help the gingerbread man cross the river. There was a mixture of both senior and junior students in each group, and it was great to see the co-operation and involvement of all students in this problem solving, designing and construction unit to achieve some excellent results.

Margaret from the Yackandandah Library came to the school for National Simultaneous Storytime, reading this year's story, 'Give Me Some Space' by Philip Bunting to the Foundation-Year 3 Class as well as 'They Came from Planet Zabalooloo!' by Sean Taylor. Margaret also stayed and completed related activities including singing and craft. In Literacy, there has been some great work in the Big Write activities and lots of improvement in spelling and writing, hence many of the student of the week awards last term were given for improvements in literacy. This year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, our students who would have been speaking at the Lions Club Schools Public Speaking competition this week, will now be recording their 3-4 minute speeches and sending them off to the judging panel. We wish them all well.

The local small school cross country carnival was held early in Term 2, and it was great that we had 13 students go through to the Division level, which has just been held. Unfortunately, we do not have anyone going through to the next level but considering the dreadful conditions that they had to run in last week, we are very proud of all their efforts. Our whole-school sporting activity last term was tennis, and we utilised some great tennis 'Hot Shot Tennis' resources (purchased using Sporting School funding) to develop and extend their tennis skills.

Our kitchen has been busy with students making yummy recipes such as apple and cinnamon muffins, lemon curd, bread and butter pudding and corn and bacon fritters. It is great to see students having a taste of everything and actually enjoying things they may not have tasted before.

The highlight of Term 2 was the installation of our long-awaited, fantastic playground purchased with funds raised over the past decade from many, many fundraising events. The playground is bright and colourful and has lots of new kinds of equipment and has been well and truly given 110% approval. Our newly refurbished toilet block also got a face-lift with some well-overdue painting by Marco Visentin (Vispaint).

Weather and COVID-19 permitting, we have lots on the calendar for this term with Year 5/6 downhill skiing with Yack Primary at Falls Creek, whole school swimming lessons at the Wodonga Sports and Leisure centre, a visit by the Fruit Fly Circus for a special performance, winter sports carnival, book week and cluster athletics day with Wooragee and Middle Indigo Primary schools. As well as lots of great learning and playing.

Enrolment for Foundation students for 2022 are now being taken. If you would like a tour of our amazing school, please phone the school on (02) 6027 1415.

Jan Cashen



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YACK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The cold winter weather has not deterred visitors coming to Yackandandah. Escaping from the city after extended periods of lockdown, they are delighting in what our small regional towns have to offer. On top of the list for many people has been a visit to our Museum to learn the history of our quaint village. We never know who will drop in and was surprised when one visitor informed us that their great uncle *Jim* (aka PM James Scullen) appointed Sir Isaac Isaacs as Governor General in 1931, after a brilliant career in law, serving in turn as



ISAAC ISAACS AS A CHILD

Governor- General of Australia and Chief Justice of the High Court.

Did you know that Sir Isaac Isaacs was the first Australian born, Governor General of Australia and that he was also the first student enrolled in Yackandandah Primary School in 1864? What a claim to fame we have! To learn more about this learned gentleman, a prodigy of our town, simply pay us a visit.



Governor General Sir Isaac Isaacs

Another identity to have an association with Yackandandah and the Courts but for a very reason, was a person known in the district as *Black Douglas*.

Although there was no such thing as the Guinness Book of Records in the 1850's, if there had been, Black Douglas would surely have rated a mention as a persistent offender.

It is recorded that on the 11th June, 1857, the "notorious vagrant" known as Black Douglas was bought up before the Yackandandah Police Court. He was fined five shillings and a promise was extracted from him that he would immediately leave the district.

Only a week before, he had been let out of Beechworth Gaol, after being sentenced to 3 days for drunken and disorderly conduct.

Black Douglas seemed to be always in and out of Courts and being run out of one town or another.

Whether this was the same Black Douglas who was stabbed by miners down Maryborough way during a robbery attempt, is not known. That particular Black Douglas survived, only to be later hanged in Melbourne.

WHAT'S ON

Our Current Exhibition: "From Top to Bottom" depicting the three remaining hotels in Yack: The Star, The Yackandandah Hotel and the Bridge Hotel.

September 17th: Proposed date for the Y&DHS AGM, YDHS members are welcome to attend.

October 10th: CEMETERY WALK

This will focus on the people involved on the organizing committee of the Coronation of Edward VII event held in 1902.

The walk will feature the following individuals:

Sydney Britton, Alfred Britton, Thomas Lynch, Michael Clune, Charles Falck, Charles Hattersley, Louis Meurant, Alexander Priestly and William Vallance.

Family members and community members are welcome to share their stories and any photographs of these men who made an important contribution to the Yackandandah community at this time. Please contact the Museum staff if you would

like to contribute your story (contact details below.)



The Bullock Hide Frame

The Bullock Hide Frame which depicts members of Coronation Committee, is on display in the Museum. From pride of place in its day, to being found on a rubbish tip, it has its own story to tell, and is well worth paying a visit to the Museum to see this historical masterpiece of memorabilia.

FOR SALE: The Museum has jams, chutneys & sauces for sale all made by our wonderful team of volunteers, come in and browse the range (varieties dependent on seasonal fruit.) We also stock a large volume of pre-loved books and magazines. Donations of books and magazines in good order, are always welcome.

VOLUNTEERING: Have you ever thought of volunteering in a community organisation? Why not come in and talk to us or forward your details to our email.

MEMBERSHIP: Memberships run from 1st May to 30th April each year, new memberships are always welcome. You will receive a bi-monthly Newsletter giving you facts on many aspects of Yack's past, be the first to know about upcoming events and free admission into the Museum. Membership fees are \$20 single or \$35 family. Drop in or email us if you are interested.

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

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS: 7 days a week 10:30am-3:30pm

CONTACT: E: museum@yackandandah.com

Website: Yackandandahmuseum.wordpress.com

PHONE: 02 6027 0627



Yackandandah & District Historical Society Inc.

21 High St Yackandandah 3749 P:02 6027 0627

museum@yackandandah.com

Blog: yackandandahmuseum.wordpress.com

Open 10:30am – 3:30pm Wednesday – Sunday

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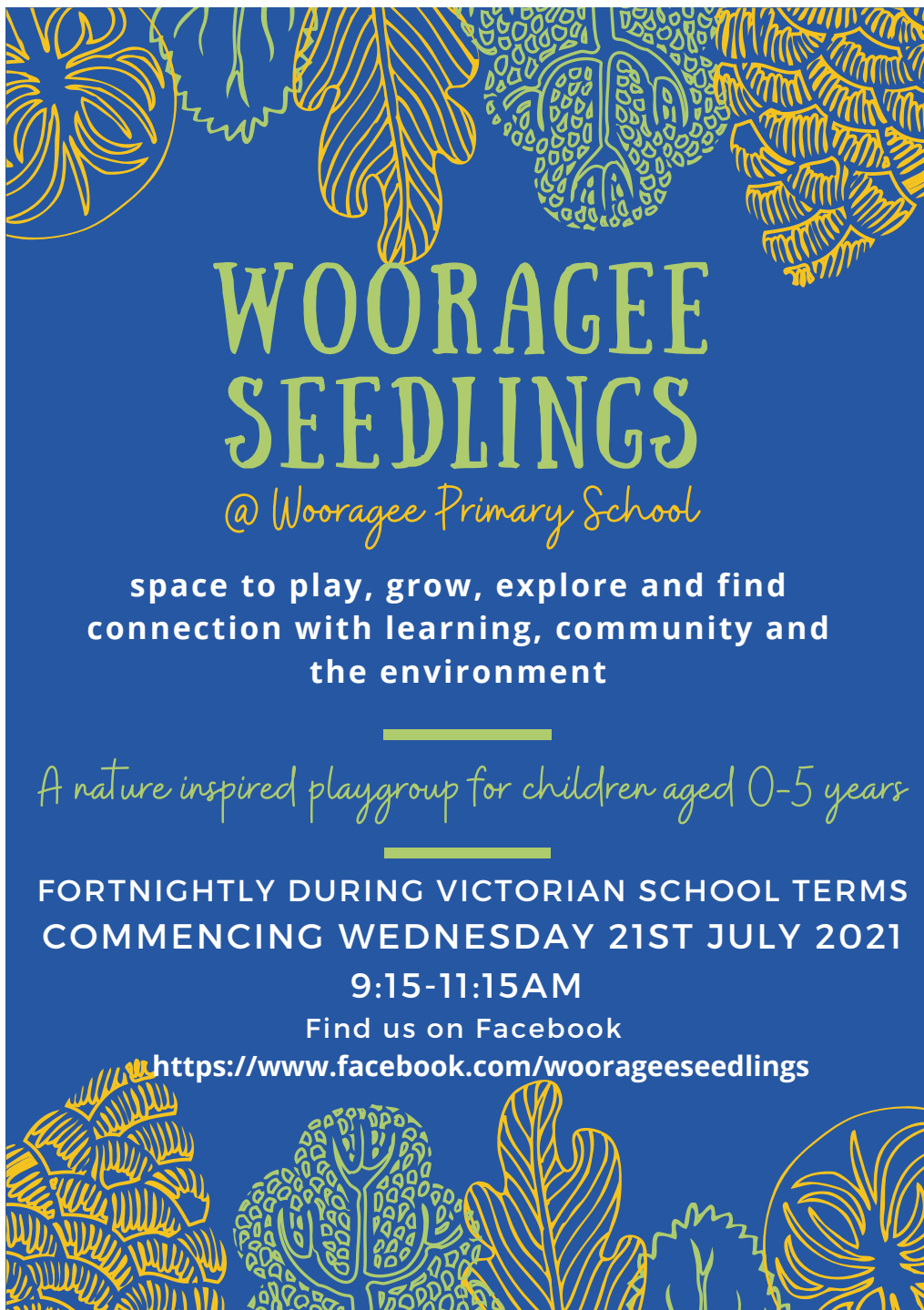
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Find us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/woorageeseedlings>



You will have noticed lots of positive changes at your community owned servo recently. Unfortunately, the final part of the equation (the shelving for the shop) is languishing on a dock in Fremantle awaiting the Maritime Union of Australia to come to the end of their industrial action. We still have all the goods, but just not all on display at present - ask your YCDco staff member if you need something that isn't visible!

YCDco has now to come to the happy position of needing shares to sell! It has taken a few years to get to this point, so if you are wanting to sell your shares in the company, either because you wish to free up some capital or you have moved away from the area, then please let us know. You can complete a form on <https://ycdco.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Transfer%20Notice.pdf> and email it to ycdco.admin@yackandandah.com or drop it into the servo.

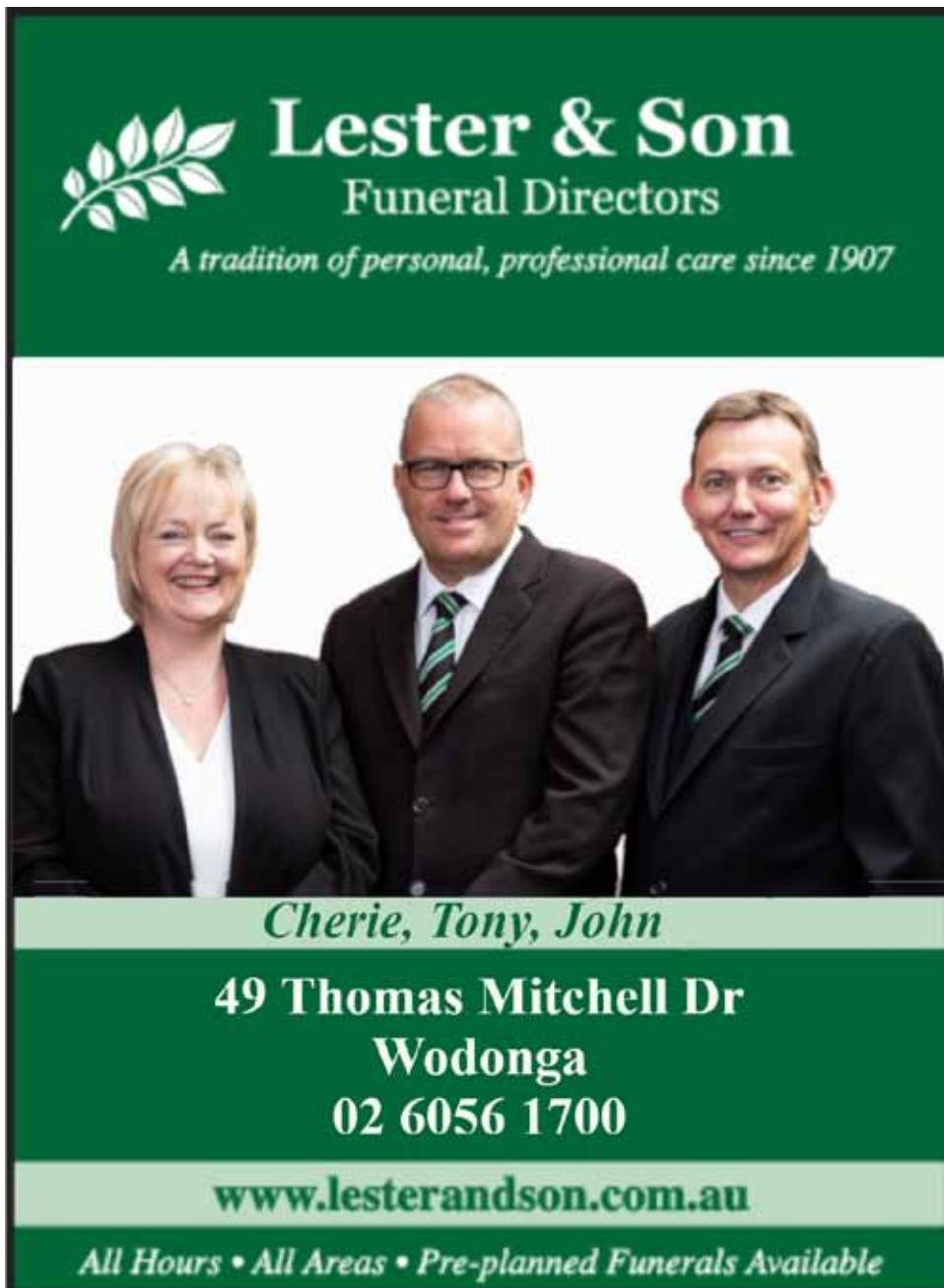
We have recently changed our fuel suppliers, and had our first delivery from TASCOS. In future, all deliveries will be conducted out of business hours. These fuel tankers are absolute monsters and make it difficult for our customers to negotiate when they are offloading fuel.



YCDco's first fuel delivery from TASCOS.
Manager, David Lerch (right) with the intrepid delivery driver checking out the YCDco facilities prior to commencing after hour deliveries in the future

We also will be having 24 hour credit card access to fuel (normal to European servos), so will be letting everyone know when this is a happening event.


2020/21 has been another very good financial year for YCDco and our annual accounts are being prepared as this is written. We will notify all YCDco shareholders of the AGM details in the next edition of Yackity Yak. In the meantime, keep warm and dry in this longest of winters...



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Reg's Rain Report	2021	Millimetres	Days of Rain
	January	128.2	8
	February	63.8	4
	March	55.6	8
	April	6.2	4
	May	98.4	9
	June	106.2	12
	July to 15th	71.8	8
	TOTAL	530.2	53
	2019 to 15/7	424.2	54
	2020 to 15/7	577.8	63

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YACK GARDEN CLUB

WINTER

It would be easy to think not much happens during the cold months of winter, but it's startling to see how much light, colour and movement exists. Light because the sky is constantly changing, from pewter-coloured clouds heavy with rain to peach and apricot sunsets. Occasionally, the sun shines luminous patches on the landscape through breaks in the heavens like a religious painting.



The infinite variety of light on our beautiful landscape

You can't say winter is dull and grey. Look at the camellias too impatient for spring, their reds and pinks against their dark green foliage, the multitude of greens from the cedars, pines and cypress. Bare branches, laid with lichen in yellows and blues laced against the sky. Already there are daffodils, nodding their yellow heads

against the intensity of the nandina's vibrant red. Silver droplets clinging to the leaves, needles and branches after life-giving rain, or the white frost that carpets the grass as we wake to a new day.

And birds, what of them? How astonishing the perfection of every feather? From tiny red-browed finches and spotted pardalotes, so quick, so perfect, to the crimson rosellas and parrots or the magpies and kookaburras calling in the day, birds

that flit through the trees or beat their way across the sky in the evening.

Somebody said to me the other day that winter was one of his four favourite seasons. I can't help but agree.

Winter Jobs

Once the rain lets up, it's time to get outdoors. You'll see what's to be

done clearing out the understory, removing the dead leaves of the iris and tidying up the native Correa, banksia and grevillea with some judicious pruning. On larger trees, it's easy to see what can be cut back to add shape, increase air flow and light so that the plant doesn't waste its energy where it's no longer needed.

If there's a bare fence or wall that needs some cover, try planting *hardenbergia* (happy wanderer).

Before they get away, dig out broadleaf weeds – especially dandelion – so that lawn or grassed areas can recover through the spring growth.

Ferns should be trimmed and tidied. You can go quite hard because they recover well, especially if they need re-potting.

Now is also the time for planting late winter camellias and magnolia.

Once all that's done, it's probably time to ensure all your tools are sharpened, serviced and ready for next season's growth.

Gardening Australia August

magazine has an excellent guide for citrus care now that the fruiting time is coming to an end. It covers pruning for size and shape, feeding and fertiliser, managing pests and



A successfully espaliered lemon tree - truly not as difficult to do as it might appear.

suggestions for trying to espalier a new planting.

Coming event

Although the last general meeting has had to be postponed because of you know what, please save the date **7th August** for our mid-year luncheon at Watch Box Wines.

Michael Metzger

Communications & Media Secretary



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CAPTURING HISTORY: BRUARONG STORIES REMEMBERED

What a great day! Saturday, 26th June, 2021, the culmination of 18 months of work by the Bruarong Community Centre's sub-committee.

The centre now has beautiful visual panels, charting the history of this area: Thillangananga, Sutton and now Bruarong. This all generously funded by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR).



Cathy McGowan OA opens the exhibition, with Cr. Peter Croucher, curator of the project - Ali Rowe and Ruth Yule

More than 80 people, past and present Bruarong families, arrived bearing the traditional country catering (a plate to share). We were honoured to have Cathy McGowan open the permanent exhibition, and Councillor Peter Croucher gave the

Acknowledgement of Country. As Bruarong Community members, past and present reconnected and reminisced, they shared the positivity of the day, in addition to poring over the detail of the panels. It was very special to welcome back the families who had supported the Bruarong Primary School and worked so hard to create our Community Centre when the Bruarong School closed. The current committee is conscious of maintaining the Centre in trust for our present and future community.

The sub-committee project team of Heather Hillas, Annette Bowers, Ross Martin, Ruth Yule and Ali Rowe, our curator, spent many hours researching, developing and creating this exhibition with the support and valuable input from our community. On the opening day, the Community

Centre Committee had the facilities looking fantastic and contributed to the smooth running of the day, especially the parking volunteers. The FRRR have funded the second stage of this history, which allows us to catalogue, index and make available to the public the large volume of material collected. This will take two main forms. Firstly, the material will be catalogued and stored on hard disk and available through the very supportive Indigo Shire libraries.

Secondly, a book is planned to document the history of Bruarong. This will incorporate the information on the panels, additional information collected, plus new information yet to be discovered. We welcome more new stories and photos you may have available. Further information will come to Yackity Yack as the book progresses.

If you have something you would like to share, please contact Heather Hillas on email hphillas@activ8.net.au or Ruth Yule on email rwyule@hotmail.com or any of our above sub-committee members.

Ruth Yule welcomes the large crowd gathered to view the beautiful visual panels - results of the "Capturing History" project.



Ruth Yule welcomes the large crowd gathered to view the beautiful visual panels - results of the "Capturing History" project. Photo Credit: Simon Dallinger

Some of the imaginatively created panels in the Bruarong Hall. Photo Credit: Simon Dallinger



Some of the imaginatively created panels in the Bruarong Hall. Photo Credit: Simon Dallinger

Yackity Yack August/September 2021

Ruth Yule and Heather Hillas

22 Yackity Yak August/September 2021

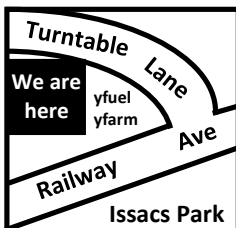
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Our team of Yackandandah Primary School presenters - Emma Pinard, Flynn Creamer, Stella Brinsdon, Irena

Purnell and Ada Tracy - had a big Term 2 and are gearing up to deliver again in Term 3.

In Term 2 their shows, as well as being presented live, also became podcasts for those who missed the live show

and prefer the "listen at your leisure" format offered by podcasts. The team began to express their personality as they settled into the rhythm of a regular radio show and as a result the shows were full of youthful, uninhibited fun.

Their enthusiasm for radio even spilled over to the School Holidays when Irena and Ada did a great



Flynn Creamer (left) and Emma Pinard in the colourful Yack studio

holiday show recently introducing a new segment "Wheel of Colours". You can catch the girls on Wednesdays from 4-5pm.

Emma, Flynn and Stella are rotating on Mondays from 4-5pm.

Regular shows and presenters - Chris with "Horn Chowder" (Wed 8:30am), Harvey with "Asleep at the Wheel" (Sun 2pm) and Scott with "Everyone Deserves Music" (Sat 10am) have been busy exploring a range of themes in recent weeks including 4th July, NAIDOC and others.

We're always keen to add more local shows to our schedule. They can be regular programs - as in weekly, fortnightly etc. or occasional. An example of the latter is Bron and Ange's recent show with a lockdown theme - songs about prisons (Johnny Cash's Live from Folsom Prison) and making a break for it (AC/DC's Jailbreak) were heard as were more ambiguous themes about change (David Bowie). Keep an eye and ear out for more themed

shows from Bron and Ange in months to come.

Getting your own radio show on the airwaves is easy. It's free to be trained as we like to keep it accessible to all. Just email us at indigofmradioyack@gmail.com to find out more.

In August and September, we will be airing

Victorian Seniors Festival content on Tuesdays from 2-5pm. The content of this Festival is very diverse with a strong Arts focus mixed in with some Nostalgia.

You can check out the Yackandandah Program Guide here www.indigofmradio.com/listen/program-guide/yackandandah/

And to check out our podcasts, head to the site www.podomatic.com/podcasts/indigofmradio

Enjoy tuning in on 88.0 FM Yackandandah!



Ada Tracy (left, seated) and Irena Purnell

WHEN LESS IS MUCH, MUCH MORE.

These holidays I had the great pleasure of baby-sitting 8 baby quails for a week. Tiny, fluffy and adorable, they would spend their days scrambling over each other, scratching, exploring or huddling together for warmth. Remove one from the group, however, and instantly they would start screeching distress. Clearly, they relied on each other for a sense of comfort.

This summer has also seen for me the start of a bold new adventure in car-free living, having parted ways with my vehicle late last year, in response to the BIG question; "Is my lifestyle compatible with a safe climate future?" Grappling with this question has been difficult, to say the least.

Upon closer examination, I very quickly realised that my consumption patterns have been dictated

by history, culture, and social forces as much as they have been by my individual choices. Sure, I've been buying the recycled toilet paper, stainless steel pegs, and have solar panels on my house, but I still conceive of progress in the same way Westerners have for generations. I still believe that my work should return more

society, but rather, since the Romans forged an empire. This is a trajectory we need to un-learn, and fast.

My car-free experiment has demonstrated a strong lesson; that humans don't like the idea of difference. Why do we continue consuming and expanding and building and emitting? Because that's what everyone else does. Just like the baby quails, we rely upon each other for our sense of comfort.

I believe that the biggest barrier to individuals changing is the idea of 'usual.' Just like those baby quails, we are distressed by the idea that being different might ostracise us from our groups. And yet, these are the brave heroes that we need right now. A million people prepared to step outside what is comfortable and normal to run experiments in new ways of being, within our ecological limits, building new cultures and new values.

The results of my own experiment have proved my hypotheses. That having less connects me more to the world around me.

Especially my quail.

Chris McGorlick



Author, Chris McGorlick, clearly putting his money where his mouth is - good onya!

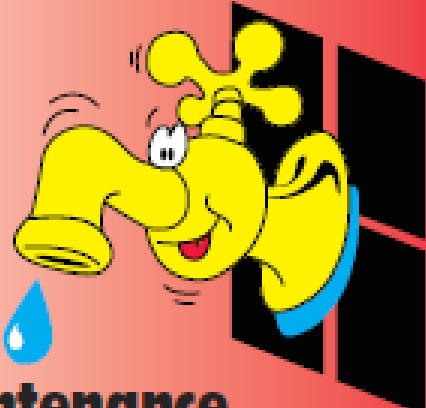
wealth to me than the last generation, and I'm still subject to the same forces that would have me believe individual liberty is the highest ideal.

These historical and cultural forces haven't been shaping our behaviour since Thatcher declared there is no

A piece from "Living Lightly", a weekly column printed in the Border Mail, supplied by local residents concerned with their footprints on this planet. This was written earlier in 2021 we believe.

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Monthly Meetings have started again!

Where: Yack Men's Shed, 24 Isaacs Ave

When: First Thursday of the Month

What Time: 7.30pm

Need More Info? Phone Debbie on 0417 244 495

Or check our Facebook page 'YackaBees' For meeting agendas

Autumn

I love to see, when leaves depart,
The clear anatomy arrive.
Winter, the paragon of art,
That kills all forms of life and feeling
Save what is pure and will survive.

Already now the clanging chains
Of geese are harnessed to the moon:
Stripped are the great sun-clouding planes:
And the dark pines, their own revealing,
Let in the needles of the noon.

Strained by the gale the olives whiten
Like hoary wrestlers bent with toil
And, with the vines, their branches lighten
To brim our vats where summer lingers
In the red froth and sun-gold oil.

Soon on our hearth's reviving pyre
Their rotted stems will crumble up:
And like a ruby, panting fire,
The grape will redden on your fingers
Through the lit crystal of the cup.

Roy Campbell

Supplied by Jill Whitfield

Dragon Love

Hot and intense
Surrender
to the divine flames
of passion.

Warning:
You can get burnt!

Stephen Masters

Really Fresh and still Unframed 2021...

What does it mean to "make art"? Humans are born to dance, sing, write poetry and make marks and to express themselves in different ways and to say to the world "I am unique!" As children we are really good at unselfconsciously making, creating and pretending but, sadly, some of us lose or at least

Unframed (Friday, 29th October to Tuesday, 2nd November) we would like to encourage everyone to put aside the often inhibiting notion of talent and tap into their creative selves and celebrate with like-minded people what it is that makes humans so incredible.

To help you get started we are

happy with the workshop outcome a space will be made available to show the works and enjoy the results with the wider community. More information will be provided on the Arts Yackandandah Facebook page as it comes to light.

As usual, the Haldane Slatter Memorial Art Award will be



suppress that creative urge the older we get. Every now and then however we get to dance at a party, sing in the shower or write down a poem that no one reads and remember how good it feels! Or we dance at the folk festival or sing in a choir and remember how good it feels to express yourself surrounded by supportive, encouraging people.

The focus this year for Fresh and Unframed is to "make some space" and provide opportunity and encouragement for people to create art and experience the joy of doing so.

In the tradition of Fresh and

planning on running a workshop, and have decided to also set a theme for the exhibition. The theme: "To Everything There is a Season" can be taken as literally or as abstractly as you like. It can be a starting point to reflect on the events of the last 18 months or it can be a simple drawing of an autumn leaf. It is totally up to you, the artist.

The workshop will be a free, fun, inclusive group draw, similar to the Big Draw that was held in 2006 (see photo), which was a messy, ephemeral, very big, group activity that required no prior experience or particular skill. If participants are

presented by an independent judge and a People's Choice award will be held. The official entry form with terms and conditions (with information on number of artworks, maximum pricing etc) will be available from the 1st September.

If you would like to go on our mailing list as an exhibitor or volunteer (or both!!) please email helenmaccalman@gmail.com

If you have any queries, need a little more encouragement or want to express interest in the workshop, then please email me at wabisabi@netc.net.au

Kirsten Coates



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MOSAIC MAGIC

FINDING YOUR CREATIVE SPARK WEEKEND

A fun, creative weekend where you will learn new skills and come away with a beautiful mosaic art piece. Over the 2 days we will cover the basics of the mosaic process including how to cut tiles, ceramic plates and cups etc, use of the tools and grouting.

Included in the cost: Basic MDF shapes. Terracotta pots, dishes, pavers and tiles. All adhesives, tools and comprehensive notes.

If you have something you have always wanted to mosaic, feel free to bring it along.

Dates: Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 August, 2021
at a cost of **\$180 per person**
Venue: Bruarong Community Centre

Starting at 10.30am finishing 4.00pm both days with a 30-minute BYO lunch break. Tea and coffee provided. There is a limit of 10 participants so please book early.

Please contact Aly (Mosaic Magic) via email at mosaicaly@gmail.com for bookings, or any questions to do with mosaics via sms only on 0407 790 733

THE ARTS IN YACKANDANDAH

The Yackandandah Arts calendar has continued to ride the waves of COVID restrictions, with events taking place during the month of May, and work beginning on new events, with gritted teeth and optimistic determination.

The Maes rescheduled their visit to Yackandandah for July 3, following the cancellation of their May show. Maggie and Elsie treated Yackandandah to a session of their Melbourne based walk-up choir 'One More Chorus', teaching 40 participants a four-part arrangement of a contemporary folk tune. The rest of the band joined the pair in the evening for a sold-out concert of



The Maes delighted music and art-starved Yack residents with their concert and walk-up choir workshop in early July

The Maes. A feeling of joyful relief was palpable, as many were experiencing live music for the first time in over a year. For others, the opportunity to connect with a band whose long history of performance in this town was welcome.

COMING UP

The arts calendar will be a busy one this Spring! If the restrictions on gatherings allow it, there will be plenty of opportunity to experience some wonderful performances over the coming months.

Maja Puseljc is a young singer songwriter from Melbourne, who performed memorably at the Yack Folk Festival in 2019, and who is returning for an intimate show on **August 28**. Her show brings together her love of the powerful delivery of vintage soul and the poetry and intimacy of contemporary songwriters, such as Laura Marling, Fiona Apple, and Ani DiFranco. Her shows are informed by her formal classical tuition and incorporate spoken word as she tours audiences through a spectrum of emotional shades. For tickets and info head to arts.yackandandah.com.

Unfortunately, the FLICKSIDE screening of the French double feature, Jean De Florette and Manon Des Sources, had to be postponed due to the recent sudden lockdown. The films will be rescheduled,



Maja Puseljc, visiting Yack again

so stay tuned to the Arts Yackandandah website and Facebook page for details of the new date. All bookings for the July screening will be honoured for the new date.

The Melbourne Chamber Orchestra will be returning to Yackandandah this year, not once, but twice! On **September 17**, the MCO will be performing a concert featuring works composed by Mozart in his younger years, and other composers indicative of the period. As a warm-up for the full chamber orchestra, a string quartet drawn from the MCO will be visiting in the first week of September, performing a shorter concert of popular repertoire. Tickets and details of both these concerts will be available soon at arts.yackandandah.com

Mark the **1st of October** in your diaries as the date of the next performance in Yackandandah by Lucie Thorne! Lucie is a contemporary folk songsmith, much loved and revered in our part of the world following many performances in this area over the last decade. Having released an album, relocated to the Northern Rivers, and performed in Tex Perkins Band all since her last visit, no doubt she will have stories to tell.

*Arts
Yackandandah*

YACK WRITERS AT WORK

The Scribblers met again in the Courthouse to discuss a variety of pieces that began as exercises some months ago, writing from a photo or about a place associated with a significant event. The lists of such moments reveal a wealth of connection and experience as well as a variety of writing approaches.

Interestingly, there was some debate about the difference between an 'account' and a 'narrative' and how to generate a 'story' as more than just a sequence of events. Is there a difference? While we didn't reach a firm conclusion, we agreed the objective was to write something engaging, to have the events reveal something larger than the incidents themselves.

The next exercises are about 'Character - Creating Other People' and will be explored at the group's next meeting on **Wednesday, 4 August at 2.30 pm in the Courthouse.**

Beechworth recently ran "Winterwords", a very successful literary festival from 16th – 20th June featuring local and other writers discussing and reading their work at various locations in the town. Inspiration came from local author, Margaret Hickey, in conversation with short story writers Cate Kennedy and Kate Rotherham, as well as poetry readings including the recent work of Frank Prem. While there were many books to buy, Cate Kennedy's short story collection *Dark Roots* and her book of poetry, *The Taste of River Water*, are inspirational reading.

The event also ran a 100-word short story competition across three age groups. The theme was "Into the Light".

Michael Metzger's winning entry in the 'Adult' category is printed here.

INTO THE LIGHT

Peering cautiously from the wings, Beatrice could just make out the expectant faces of the audience. Soon, all eyes would be on her, centre stage. She had practised her lines under the shower, walking in the park, awake at night in the darkness, playing out each phrase, testing the words for dramatic effect. Then a push from behind, "Go!" Startled, she stumbled out, her legs suddenly forgetting how to move, her hands somehow in the way. As she stepped into the light, the audience disappeared, she heard the players' voices far away as if underwater, then silence, waiting. Nothing came.

Michael Metzger

Enquiries about membership of Yackandandah Writers can be directed to Bev Lello at: beverley.lello@gmail.com



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UKE-N-DANDAH



Yackandandah's own Ukulele Club is proudly associated with Arts Yackandandah. Monday night sessions are currently on hold for the time being, but we hope to be back at it before too long.

**To keep in the loop or for further details,
please contact Frances on
0417 292 917**

YACKANDANDAH WOMEN'S SHED



The group is chugging along nicely with the meeting room at the Men's Shed open every second Friday and Sunday morning.

We have now offered three very different workshops and the members who participated were pleased with their results. The first, a Mosaic workshop was held at the Old Jam Factory over two days with tutor, Liz Serpell. The group has decided to meet once a month to continue learning new skills.

The second workshop was Fermenting with member, Angeliza Wanstell. Ladies were taught how to make Kimchi and Sauerkraut and were given great information to be able to make their own at home.

The third workshop, Cloth Dollmaking, was held over two Saturday mornings at the YCC meeting room in High Street. Tutor, Lynne Davies taught the group how to make a jointed elf. The ladies who attended all agreed that the doll was

easier to make than they first thought.

Upcoming workshops will include cheese making with Marilyn Webster, carving a wooden spoon with Peter May from the Men's Shed, how to use hand and power tools by Men's Shed members, permaculture and lots more! We'd like to get a walking group happening.

We presently have 35 financial members, but would love more. If you would like to join our friendly, productive group which will allow you to participate in any or all of our workshops for a fraction of the cost you would pay anywhere else, please contact us at

yackwomensshed@gmail.com

The Women's Shed has agreed to manage the Yackandandah Christmas Fair at the Memorial Gardens on Saturday, 4th December. There will be many stalls selling delightful, quality handcrafted gifts for Christmas. Our members will have a stall showcasing and selling things we have

made during the year. Save the date, but more importantly, if you would like to join in making items, please consider joining the Shed and coming along to our regular 'meetings' where we will share our skills, learn new ones and have some fun.

Membership is only \$25 per year. This money, plus other fundraising will help us to purchase craft materials and tools for us all to use, pay for outside teachers and other fun activities and of course, cover insurance.

A barbeque is being planned for all members to meet each other in the not too distant future. Come along... you will be made to feel very welcome.

Lynne Davies

(on behalf of YWS, auspiced by Yackandandah Community Centre)



Slight increase to water bills from July 2021

North East Water customers will see a small increase to the cost of water and sewer services from the start of the new financial year. Executive Corporate Services, Anthony Hernan said the average residential bill will rise by approximately \$1.78 or 0.2% for the financial year based on average residential usage.

"North East Water is still one of the most affordable water utilities in the country, and the third most affordable in Victoria", Mr Hernan said. "We're reducing the fixed charge component of our bills by 1.25%, while volumetric charges will increase slightly by 1.55%. The increase was approved by the water industry's economic regulator, the Essential Services Commission. Our aim is to make customer bills as affordable as possible and our price path over the next few years is expected to be similarly low. We understand that last financial year was difficult for some customers impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19). Help is available for those finding it tough to pay their bills, including short-term extensions through to long term assistance." Mr Hernan added, "With the new financial year, our major investments continue in local communities. Construction will begin in Beechworth to increase capacity of the towns waste water system, a large scale solar farm will be built to power Wodonga's sewage treatment plant and Tallangatta's sewage water treatment plant will be upgraded. These projects form part of our 2021-22 capital works program where \$44 million has been allocated to be spent throughout the year."

The average annual residential bill will be \$953 based on 214 KL annual usage.



SOCIAL CONNECTIONS COMMUNITY MEAL

You're invited to join us in a community meal and a conversation about how we, together, can strengthen community connections to promote mental and physical health and support healthy ageing.

Facilitated by Dr. Sue Wilson RN, AWH Mental Health Promotion Clinician for Older Persons, please join us for the following session:

When: Thursday 26 August

Time: 11:30am arrival for 12pm lunch

Where: Yackandandah Senior Citizens Club, 14 Wellsford Street

Bookings are essential due to gathering restrictions

Email ageingwellofficer@indigoshire.vic.gov.au or call us on 1300 365 003 for bookings and information

More information: www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/CASI



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Planned gigs for August/September

Sun August 1	Open mic (arvo)
Fri August 6	Paul Wookey
Sat August 7	The Pigs - The Pigs are a Sydney-based band (with one member living in Beechworth) that turn songs from across genres into party-starting, tongue-in-cheek bluegrass songs. They're also slated to play the Deni Music Muster in August.
Sun August 8	banjo player Montz Matsumoto (arvo)
Fri August 13	Monnone Alone, Redspencer, Dodda Rivka & Slim Jim Dinkum
Sat August 14	Mighty Duke & The Lords - this colourful calypso-inspired party band from Melbourne have played Beechworth's Spring Music Festival and High Country Hop, so they have a strong local following. Their latest album is 2020's Caribbean Rollerama.
Fri August 20-	Kelly Country Pick
Sun August 22	Kelly Country Pick
Fri August 27	Girl Friday
Sat August 28	Woodland Hunters
Sun August 29	Maja (arvo)
Fri September 3	Al Matcott. Al has only released one solo single so far (the country-licked deadpan indie ballad "Mediocre") but he's getting serious buzz in the industry. Expect big things from him.
Sat September 4	Beluga Brothers
Sun September 5	Open mic (arvo)
Fri September 10	James Ellis & The Jealous Guys
Sat September 11	Pollyman
Sun September 12	June Jones - June Jones is a transgender singer/songwriter/ producer from Melbourne who released her second solo album Leafcutter earlier this year. This will be a special, intimate show for us.
Fri September 17	Simon Marks
Sat September 18	Terrible Single, Kosmetika & Delivery
Sun September 19	Buddy Glass (arvo)
Fri September 24	Infinity Broke



June Jones



The Mighty Duke and Lords

Doug Wallen, Writer, editor, booker & broadcaster

For more details and to book tickets, go to <https://www.tanswellshotelbeechworth.com.au/music>



Al Matcott



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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

15th August

19th September
21st November

17th October
19th 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

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

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

MASTER PLAN TO GUIDE FUTURE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES



A master plan which will guide the development of new and upgraded recreation facilities at Yackandandah has been finalised following community and stakeholder feedback. The plan aims to increase opportunities for people to enjoy the State forest area at Yackandandah Creek, through upgrades and creation of new camping areas and facilities, improved access and better linkages between facilities.

Yackandandah Creek is located approximately five kilometres from the township and is a popular destination for campers, day visitors, horse riders, and mountain bike and trailbike riders.

Following engagement with the community, visitors, recreation groups and stakeholders, the master plan recommends upgrades to existing campsites, improvements to the mountain bike trail to better cater for beginner riders, protection of historic sites, improved access, carparking, walking trails, and visitor information. The plan has been developed to complement other major tourism related projects in the Indigo Shire Council including the Beechworth to Yackandandah Rail Trail and the EPIC Mountain Bike Trail.

Stage One works include campsite improvements, a beginner mountain bike trail, walking tracks between campsites, improved parking and vehicle flow, and a new information bay. Works are expected to commence later this year. Future

works will be undertaken in stages as funding is available.

The master plan can be viewed on the Yackandandah Community Development Company website via <https://ycdco.com.au/yackity-yak/> until the end of August, 2021.

The project is part of *Victoria's Great Outdoors* which is boosting regional tourism and making it easier for Victorians to enjoy nature by investing \$105.6 million in better walking trails, four-wheel drive tracks, campgrounds and visitor facilities.

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) Hume Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Aaron Kennedy said "Yackandandah Creek is a highly valued area of public land both for the local community and visitors. It offers a diverse range of recreational opportunities which will now be able to be enhanced and improved. Thank you to everyone who has provided feedback and contributed to the plan, which will guide recreation investment at Yackandandah Creek over the next 10 years. Victoria's Great Outdoors is building better walking trails, campgrounds, four-wheel drive tracks and visitor facilities to make it easier for all Victorians to explore our parks and forests, experience nature and support regional tourism."



Minister D'Ambrosio at the launch of the Master Plan with DELWP staff

Catalyst of Chaos (fragment)

We could see the sentinel was watching
Too late to avoid

Being guards
They would not let us pass

The pickets were alerted
Now too close to go around

We were proceeding
Whatever the cost

The soldier ants came running
So we met them on their ground

And so we fought
There was no other way.

In the open
There was no other way

Stephen Masters

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RECIPE OF THE SEASON



SEVILLE ORANGE MARMALADE

To get the best tasting marmalade, you really need to get hold of some Seville oranges. They are sour ones which give the most amazing flavour to your marmalade. They are only available during the winter so you need to speak to your fruit supplier, or schmooze your friends who happen to have a tree, or buy your own tree - they are generally available from the better specialist tree nurseries with a bit of notice.

My method is a tried and trusted one. I wash the fruit, chop it into reasonable sized chunks, cover the fruit in water and cook until the peel is soft. You can then rest the whole thing for a day or two as long as you keep it cold. You then need to take the pulp off the peel and remove the pips. I keep the pips on one side and ball them up in some muslin to cook later on in the process.

Once you have removed all the pulp and liquid from the peel, I then cut some but not all of the peel into thin slices for cooking with the sugar. You don't have to use all the peel, and best NOT to put it through a food processor or you may get a scrambled mess and not beautiful slices of translucent peel which looks so good.

When you have all the juice, pulp and sliced peel together, measure it and add 750 grams of sugar to every 1 litre of pulp. I use the cheapest sugar I can find as I do a massive cook up of marmalade at one time. Oranges are full of pectin and shouldn't need any additives unless it's whisky!

Cook the marmalade to setting point - I use a chilled saucer in the freezer to help with that. Take out the pips in muslin. Bottle in sterilised jam jars, label and then spread lavishly on your breakfast toast in the months to come. Scrumptious!!

NEW ROUND OF COMMONWEALTH BUSHFIRE RECOVERY GRANTS OPENS ON JULY 22

Helen Haines MP is encouraging Indi communities affected by the 2019-20 bushfires to apply for grants between \$20,000 and \$10 million in the latest round of the Bushfire Recovery Grants Program. The Independent Federal Member for Indi said these grants were a great opportunity for community groups, businesses and local councils to get funds for social and economic recovery projects or rebuilding infrastructure damaged in the bushfires. Community groups, businesses and local councils in Alpine, Towong, Indigo, Mansfield, Wangaratta and Wodonga local government areas and the Alpine Resorts are eligible to apply.

Applications open on July 22 and up to \$276 million in grants is available, with each local government area given a set amount of funds. The program is flexible to allow communities to identify and implement projects that make sense to them. Black Summer Bushfire recovery grants offer the opportunity for local communities to address recovery priorities through creation of jobs, sustainable infrastructure and community investment. Unsuccessful projects previously submitted for funding may apply for this grant opportunity.

"These grants are a great opportunity for communities in the above local government areasto fund projects that assist in the bushfire recovery effort," Dr Haines said. "The grants are intended to empower local communities to address their own bushfire recovery priorities, an approach that is so important to the diverse communities in Indi that have been affected by the Black Summer bushfires. Indi has already received almost \$80 million in bushfire recovery grants, but there's more that needs to be done. These grants provide a further opportunity for communities affected by the bushfires to get funding for projects that may have missed out in previous rounds. "Projects aimed at increasing employment, helping to mitigate climate-related risk and damage, addressing health impacts of the bushfires and supporting tourism-related activities are all eligible."

The latest grant round has been announced in the week after a report from the Auditor-General praised the way in which the National Bushfire Recovery Agency was administered. The report found the \$2 billion National Bushfire Recovery Fund was effectively coordinated and the arrangements to monitor and report on funded activities were largely effective.

There will be applicant support workshops (in person and online) available to help for people who would like some help with the application process. For more information on the grant and the applicant support workshops, head to the National Recovery and Resilience Agency's website at <https://recovery.gov.au/black-summer-grants>. To read the guidelines for eligibility to apply for a grant and a preview application form, visit the Business Grants Hub website at <https://business.gov.au/bsbr>.

Applications close 5pm on September 2, 2021.

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HORSE RIDING IN THE REGION

With the Chiltern Mt Pilot National Park only a few clicks outside Yackandandah, we are really spoilt for choice in our bush riding. It takes less than half an hour to get into the thick of the park and enjoy some lovely rides on well maintained tracks, and to see some of the wonderful wild and bird life that calls the park home.

Of course, there are other users of the Park which include trail bikes and mountain bikes and walkers, but generally it is pretty quiet depending on where you are, and trail bikes are easy to hear from quite a distance away to enable the canny rider to slip off the track out of harm's way. Push bikes are far more sneaky however, and can appear around a corner with little or no warning to everyone's alarm!

It's quite easy to find rides to suit everyone's experience and also time factor. Some of the loops in the Park can be quite long and it's easy to get disorientated, so I would always recommend a map and a mobile phone. Even if the map is photocopied and jammed in a pocket, it will be better than completely losing your way and spending hours trying to find your float. Some of these tracks look remarkably like each other!

One of the nicest rides taking just over an hour or so, is the Baynes and Baynes Gully Track, which is accessed off Watchbox Road in the Indigo Valley. Turn up Watchbox Road from Indigo Creek Road just near the winery, and drive along the road



Theo, Sonnet and Alice D'Arcy indulge in some pre-riding snacks to keep up the energy!

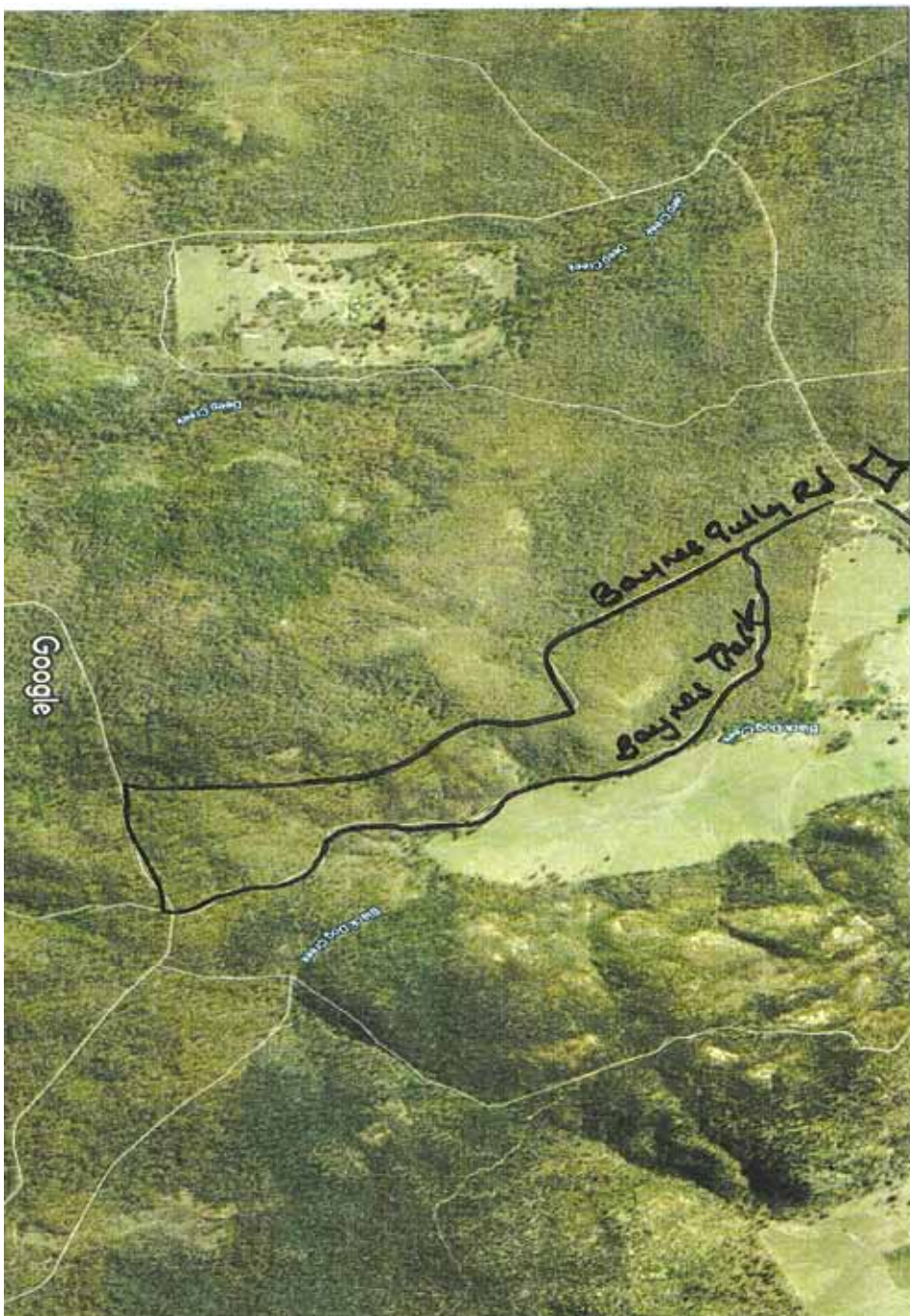
until it meets up with Black Dog Creek Road. Turn left into Black Dog Creek Road and drive slowly into the Park. The road from Watchbox/Indigo Creek Road is a dirt road and can be very corrugated so watch your springs. And your equine's nerves! Once in the park there is a small parking area on the right hand side which is where we park and unload our nags.

Once on board, take Baynes Gully Road on your left and then onto Baynes Track. If you take this track and keep turning right, you will end back on Baynes Gully Road and back where you started. It's a really nice ride, a little bit hilly in parts but good for building up stamina in your steed, and doubtless yourself!

And this is really just the start of some great rides in the Park. It is absolutely worth getting yourself a decent map and tracking where you go. It really is easy to get lost if you are not too careful, and sometimes after a big wind event, there will be trees down over tracks. Having said that, it's a wonderful resource for us riders, and lovely to catch up with a bit of wildness in your life.

Probably most people will know not to litter the park, but it would be a good idea to keep your horse's droppings in the float as far as possible, and not to spread them into the park as weeds are always an on-going issue and horse poo is great at germinating them. That also goes for hay and feed generally. Please take it home and dispose of it there to save the Park's volunteers having to deal with weeds at a later date.

Do you have a favourite local ride you would be happy to share with fellow horse riders? Please send them to yackity_yak@yackandandah.com and we will share the knowledge.



YACK COMMUNITY BOWLING CLUB

Yackandandah Community Bowling Club recently held a combined Annual General Meeting and Presentation afternoon. A big thank you to all who accepted nominations to fill the various positions and we all look forward to the new season.

President: Frank Artis
Secretary: Anne Corcoran
Treasurer: Frances Boehm

Congratulations to Mary Tragardh and Trish Tobin for their achievements in the two club events completed.

When our days get longer, and the weather warms up you are all welcome to join us for a roll on Friday afternoons followed by our weekly get together.

Anne Corcoran
Secretary

SUSTAINABLE HEALTH OSTEOPATHY



BEECHWORTH

Dr Michael Doyne (Osteo) can assist with:

- BACK PAIN & NECK PAIN
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- CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT
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- Bulk Billing for Chronic Disease Management GP Referrals
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Dr Michael Doyne (Osteopath)

3/61 Ford Street Beechworth (enter from IGA carpark)
Online Bookings: www.sustainablehealthosteo.com.au
Phone: 0412 357 120 (Michael) or 0412 327 116 (Carolyn)



Libby M'Crystal and Glenda Stacey wish each other luck

The wet winter we have been experiencing in Yackandandah this year has not dampened the spirit of YGC members. We have been able to play on both competition days, Wednesdays for the ladies and Sunday for the men without interruption, even though it has been very cold, testament to the endurance of golfers, or the madness! The ladies annual Matchplay championship, named in honour of past member Dorothy Martin, has been contested and won by Libby M'Crystal from Glenda Stacey (2/1).

Congratulations to both players for making the final and especially to

Libby for her win. There was some friendly banter before teeing off, but the close score reflects the drive of these two top players.



The lovely Royal Yack Golf Course - full of good luck!

YGC Yackandandah Golf Club

Did you know that the Golf Clubroom is available for catering? The room fits approximately 50 seated comfortably and up to 150 using inside and outside areas. If you would like more information, contact via the club email or please phone Marian on 0438 271 324.

Visitors are welcome any day to play on our beautiful course, green fees are \$15 for 9 or 18 holes. Competition is open if you are an affiliated member of Golf Australia, ladies play Wednesday 9 for 9:30 am and the men tee off on Sundays 10 for 10:30 am.

For more info, visit our YGC web page – <https://golfclub.yackandandah.com>

Email: yackgolfclub@gmail.com

Find us on FB: Yackandandah Golf Club

Ladies: chris.zerbst@gmail.com

YACK TENNIS CLUB



Team Orange (from L to R): Earle Mason, Angela Vincent, Karen O'Brien, Ryan Vincent
Absent Archer Mason, Jed O'Brien

The competition continues to attract a broad age range of players which is very encouraging & I look forward to welcoming current & new players to the 2021/2022 season.



Team Green (from L to R): Max Nicholls, Max Horvarth, Narelle Paull, Hannah Paull
Absent Natasha Skinns

Many thanks to those people who continue to support, participate & assist in running such a fun & social competition.

Contact Julie at jmkyack@bigpond.com for further details on the tennis club competitions.

Julie Methven-Kelley



Team Blue (from L to R): Ben & Libby McCrystal, Rebecca & Will Stamp
Absent Richard Stamp, Justin & Blair Edwards, Mel Crothers, Dave Kelly

The Thursday night tennis competition commenced in October 2020 with four teams registered. Two rounds were played consisting of 19 games ending in April 2021.

The final ladder positions were:

Team Orange - 24

Team Green - 19

Team Blue - 17

Team Red - 12

Team Orange won the A Grade Final after a very consistent season and Team Blue secured the B Grade Final.



Team Red (from L to R): Brett & Maree Rochow, Rowan McCrystal, John Hobbs.
Absent Ros McIntyre, Kerryl Heckenberg, Simone Lane

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!

TRAILER HIRE

Don't trail all the way into Wodonga...
We have a 8 x 5 tandem trailer with cage
available for hire.

Rates are \$50 for a half day,
\$90 full day,
\$50 returnable deposit.



LAST OF THE CAPITAL WORKS FOR 2020/21

These have definitely run on a bit longer than we would have liked, due to the difficulty in getting our shelving delivered. Because of COVID-19 issues, there is a massive backlog of freight coming from overseas and this has been the cause of our temporary hold-up.

Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible!



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Order your point of lay pullets at
YCDCo for delivery monthly.

Your Local Community Owned and Operated

*FUEL * HARDWARE * PRODUCE & FARM
SUPPLIES

Winter Opening Hours

Mon-Friday: 7 am to 6 pm

Saturday: 8 am to 5 pm

Sunday: 8.30 am to 5 pm

Alpine Diesel is now in use

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 real
quick. Phone us now to place your order.



Winter is
always a
great time
for fencing.
Whatever
your fencing
needs, we
can provide
it. Please
phone us
with your
wish list
and we will
give you a
competitive
price and
arrange to
deliver, if
necessary.

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EMPTY CYLINDER
OR
BUY A
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