

**YACK'S OWN ELECTRIC CAR COMPANY!
WHAT ELSE CAN THIS TOWN DO?
IT'S A WONDERFUL PLACE FULL OF
BRILLIANT PEOPLE...**



Lucky purchaser No 1 - Simon Davis above says "the Nissan Leaf is lovely to drive. Naturally I was attracted to a car I can charge at home from renewable energy and has virtually no servicing costs. I am happy to support two local businesses and buy a car from Russell and use Indigo Power when I am at work."

BIRDS BIRDS BIRDS

Congratulations to Angela Bishop who correctly identified the sumptuous photos of Kelvin Schultz in the Bird Identification Competition in the last edition of Yackity Yak, and many thanks to everyone who had a stab at the competition which clearly wasn't as easy as we all thought! Angela wins a \$50 YCDCo voucher just in time for Christmas.

Answers are on Page 2.

Who's a pretty boy then?! A Noisy Friarbird with a face that surely only a mother could love!
PC: Kelvin Schultz



It's funny to think that just when a place couldn't get any better or do another single outrageously environmentally friendly thing, then your whole world gets tipped upside down. Another incredible idea bubbles to the surface and some very thoughtful, creative people seize the day, get another project on the table and put Yackandandah even further on the renewables map.

Three locals, Russell and Cam Klose together with Matthew Grogan, have taken the bull by the horns and started a company importing electric Nissan Leaf cars. And this at a time when we HAVE to curb emissions or see our children's children face a very unpalatable future from rising CO2 emissions.

There is hopefully no doubt that things in the car world will start to change dramatically and quickly now that affordable second hand, low mileage electric vehicles are being made available locally, and anyone connected with a petrol or diesel vehicle will need to have a bit of think about where they go from here.

Congratulations Russell, Cam and Matt. It's a brilliant idea and something that everyone can get behind and make a difference with. And so affordable, and that's without any form of Government subsidy or assistance of any kind.

Good onyer! It's about time that this happens.

Move over Elon Musk, your time is over....

See also page 18



Kilowatt Cars Purchaser No 2 - Tom Colcott of Wooragee admiring his shiny blue Gen 1 Nissan Leaf.

Tom said "we bought an EV because we are looking for ways to be more sustainable. For us a secondhand Leaf was a great option because we could afford it straight away. We also had to get our head around having one car that could drive long distances rather than two. When we looked at it, it clearly would be very rare that we would need two cars driving long distances at the same time. It's a great car to drive and plugs straight into a normal outlet so it wasn't hard for us to switch."

Answers to our Bird Identification Quiz held in the October/November edition of Yackity Yak. Many, many thanks to Kelvin Schultz for his photos.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Blue Faced Honeyeater | 10. Reed Warbler |
| 2. Common Bronzewing | 11. Pied Cormorant |
| 3. Crimson Rosella | 12. Noisy Friarbird |
| 4. Golden Whistler | 13. Rufous Whistler |
| 5. Eastern Spinebill | 14. Pied Butcherbird |
| 6. Gang Gang Cockatoo | 15. Spotted Pardalote |
| 7. Juvenile Superb Fairy Wren | 16. White Throated Treecreeper |
| 8. Juvenile Eastern Rosella | 17. Silver Eye |
| 9. Grey Shrike Thrush | 18. Scarlet Robin |

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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2022 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 |
|---------|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 100 | Feb/March | Friday, 21st Jan, 2022 | Tuesday, 1st Feb |
| 101 | April/May | Friday, 18 March, 2022 | Tuesday, 29th April |
| 102 | June/July | Friday, 20th May, 2022 | Tuesday, 31st May |
| 103 | Aug/Sept | Friday, 15th July, 2022 | Tuesday, 26th July |
| 104 | Oct/Nov | Friday, 16th Sept, 2022 | Tuesday, 27th Sept |
| 105 | Dec/Jan | Friday, 18th Nov, 2022 | Tuesday, 29th Nov |

ARE YOU A YACK BASED BUSINESS, OR DO YOU SERVE THE YACK AREA?

Would you like to advertise in Yackity Yak?

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

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

It's a great way to get your message across to the Yack community and doesn't cost an arm and a leg. Speak with Ali if you would like to advertise & we will do our best to accommodate your wishes.

Tel. 0448 803 411 or
 email: yackity_yak@yackandandah.com

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<https://beechworthbakery.orderup.com.au>

A RAMBLE WITH THE EDITOR

How very exciting it is to have Kilowatt Cars strutting their stuff in Yack! The discussion about EVs has been happening for a while and it's nothing short of scandalous that the Federal Government puts everything in its way to stymie the change to renewables in any shape or form. Thank heavens we have such forethought in the good people of Yack. More power to your elbow, KW Cars!

And just as this goes to press, we hear that the new German Gov is phasing out coal by 2030 as opposed to 2038, they intend also intend to get 15 million EVs on the road by 2030, and the UK Gov is mandating that all new house builds must have EV charging points built in so it clearly CAN be done. All we need is a government who sees this as a priority. Roll on election time and hopefully a rise in the number of independent MPs.

What an extraordinary Spring we have had. It's now only about 3 weeks until the longest day, and we will have to start thinking about the autumn/winter wood supply.... On a plus front, the garden, olive grove and pastures have NEVER

looked better and I can't resist showing you a photo of our cascading rose, Albertine.

Well, it's lovely seeing Yack slowly come back to life after nearly 2 years of lockdowns and mask-wearing.

It almost seems like a bad dream has come to an end, and we really hope that this is the case, although things in Europe do not look particularly good, so we probably have to be pretty cautious in the short term.

There are various events happening over Christmas so check out these in this edition of Yackity Yak. It was great to hear that the

Folk Festival dates for March 2022 have been confirmed and our favourite Festival will be once again upon us in the blinking of an eye. Plus, Yackity Yak will be celebrating its one hundredth edition in February 2022. What a milestone for a small community's newspaper!

You will all have noticed that the Servo has had a bit of a facelift recently and there is more about that in the middle liftout section of the paper & elsewhere.

Again, we have more new advertisers and we thank each and every one of our advertising companies. It's great to be able to print the occasional edition in colour, and the advertising revenue goes a long way to doing this. Please make sure you mention Yackity Yak if you are contacting an advert in the paper, as it's a great method of our advertisers knowing that their advertising in Yackity Yak is working for them.

Sadly, there are more petty theft reports around Yack again, which is a worrying trend. Please keep your eyes open, take suspicious car rego numbers discreetly and be prepared to report anything untoward to the Police. It's a horrible thing to have happen in such a small and close community and a bit of sleuthing can help and stop this from happening.

In the meantime, Christmas is fast approaching and the mangoes will be in Yack soon! Everyone connected with Yackity Yak including the Board of YCDDo wishes you all, dear readers, a very happy Christmas and peaceful and perfect New Year.



iPhone Repairs

Smashed screen??

Battery not lasting?

For iPhone repairs and advice, please contact Russell on

0492 974 070

Ali

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Keeping the Lights on Upon the Hill

Retirement for three long term members of the Yackandandah Health Management Committee was always going to be a significant occasion for a grateful community.

Marg Hewson, Don Crosthwaite and Tricia Glass,



between them, have clocked up thirty four years of service to the Management Committee during a period of great change and challenge. If you were to add the twenty four years of service given by Pam Crosthwaite, the combined total is almost sixty years of service.

After Pam retired as Director of Nursing, Don joined the board in 2011 serving nearly three years as Chair, leading

the organisation through the most recent Mounts Ben and Jack building project.

Marg Hewson joined the then Committee of Management in 1988 at a time when the future of the Yackandandah Bush Nursing Hospital was under great threat. The viability of small hospitals was severely challenged by changes and advances in acute health care. Marg was determined to keep the service going ... providing for the health needs of the community in the spirit of the founding Victorian Bush Nursing Association since its inception in Yackandandah in 1928.

Marg retired first of all in 1997, but then returned to the Board in 2015, retiring in 2021, a total of sixteen years' service.

Tricia's family connection with what is now, Yackandandah Health, began very much earlier. Both Tricia's mother and Tricia's husband were born at Yackandandah Bush Nursing Hospital. Then in 1985, Tricia gave birth to son, Michael and four years later, son Jesse became the last baby to be born at Yackandandah Health and was delivered by Pam Crosthwaite.



With such a personal understanding of the value of the service, she came onto the Committee nine years ago at a pivotal time with the closure of the acute service, when the future was confirmed as residential aged care.

In the years that Tricia, Don and Marg have served, the management of the Medical Centre has returned to local control and in 2019, the Little Yacks Learning Years' service was initiated.

Each of these developments has been in response to community needs and has only happened because of the vision, energy and dedication of people like Marg, Tricia and Don.

Doug Westland

Indigo Myotherapy and Massage

Soft tissue treatment for muscle pain and dysfunction.
Treatments include massage, cupping, dry needling and myofascial release.

Pre and post-natal massage also available.

Please contact Susannah Schmidt on 0428 719 298
Allans Flat

Registered member of Myotherapy Association Australia
Health Fund approved



We've been lucky to have WAW sponsor this event for 2021 and we've received a Shire Grant. I'd like to hear from any other businesses, or individuals, who may also be interested in supporting this day either financially or by way of donating goods for under the tree. Additionally, anyone who would like to help in any way is more than welcome to contact me as well on 0418 242 105.

CROSSWORD 2 compiled by Bill Buchanan

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

**YACKANDANDAH COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS LUNCH – 2021**

(An alcohol-free event)

A lunch for everybody

There may be limited numbers allowed so please book early to avoid disappointment.

We will be social distancing and COVID-19 measurements will be in place.

It is expected that attendees will need to be Double Vaccinated to attend.

QR Code sign in will be in place.

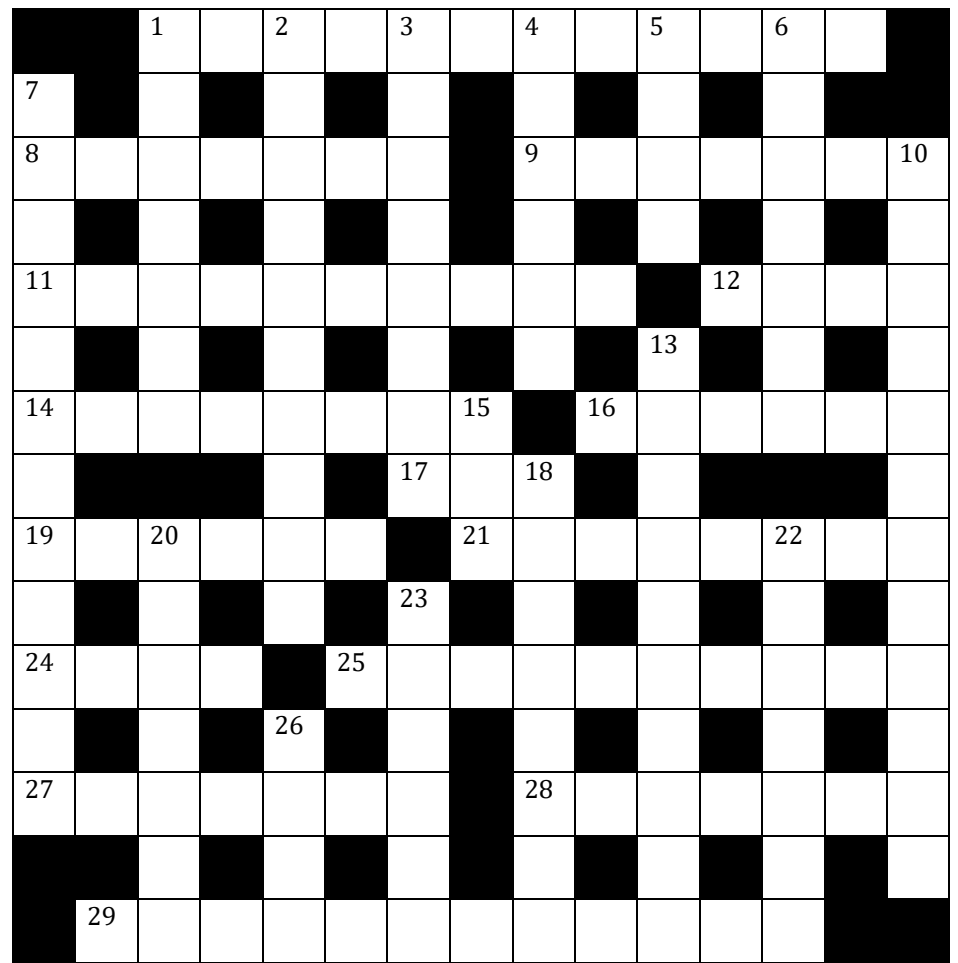
- Date:** Saturday 25th December 2021
- Time:** 11:30am for a 12 noon sit down hot lunch
- Venue:** Football Function Room at Butson Park,
- Cost:** Yackandandah Gold coin donation

RSVP for COVID-19 management

By Monday 13th December, 2021 to Carmel Kelley Phone:

0418 242 105 or Email: carmelkelley@bigpond.com

Proudly sponsored by:



ACROSS

- 1 Planet the Queen permits sugary sweets (12)
- 8 In 1880 Kelly pined (7)
- 9 First progenitors are not terribly stupid in the beginning (7)
- 11 There is joy for former ride-share joining an English church (10)
- 12 Othello turns back to find space (4)
- 14 Campervan follows bearing and then eventually starts to tire out! (8)
- 16 No quiet play on words has vile plot to uncover (6)
- 17 There is order in dog's itinerary (3)
- 19 To very quiet underworld basements, starting in High Street Inn (3,3)
- 21 The Rio Pedro is so dry, the plants are even more wilted (8)
- 24 P.M. takes over! (4)
- 25 Very poor batsman collapses and walks! (4,3,3)
- 27 Twists outlooks and loses extremes(7)
- 28 The Spanish woman took every start to get a raise (7)
- 29 Eye problems bring a slur and blurry fogs (12)

DOWN

- 1 Make me a certain height (7)
- 2 Without hesitation plaster work sounds easy meeting you in Paris (1)
- 3 Snowy two loses nothing but adds workers to water sources (7)
- 4 View like chest muscle, it seems (6)
- 5 Look about for ancient wisdom (4)
- 6 ... or lose some, charming (7)
- 7 Kind of scenes found in printed styles (12)
- 10 All the same I find them with knotted braid (12)
- 13 Sven half opposes meetings (10)
- 15 A fine idea to hold a holy festival (3)
- 18 In church strange patterns cross the nave (8)
- 20 Gains from the Bible, we hear (7)
- 22 Film speed prevents synoptic display (7)
- 23 Playing this looks fatal (6)
- 26 Concealed half truths emitted (4)

Answers on page 16. Thank you very much Bill. We are enjoying this!

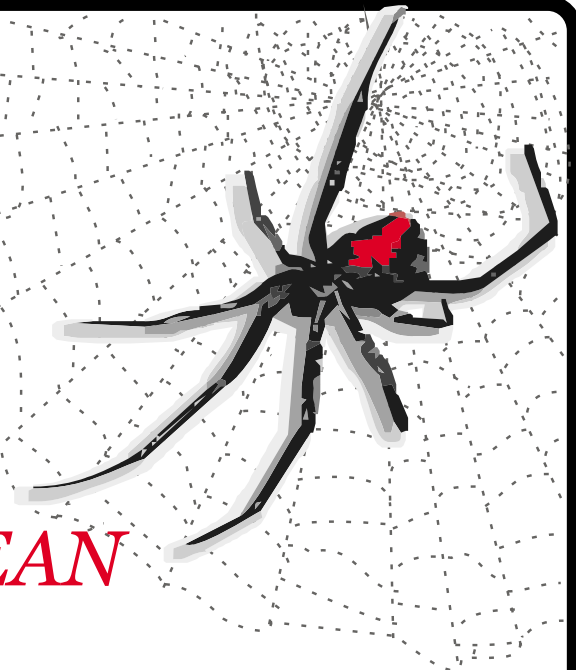
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Profile: Lt Chris Wingard

The Yackandandah Brigade's Second Lieutenant Chris Wingard is the first to admit he's been "addicted" to the CFA ever since he first did what was then known as Wildfire Firefighter Minimum Skills (now General Firefighter) training back in 2006.



Chris Wingard

He decided to join the CFA after the 2006/07 bushfires at Bright where the family had a holiday home at the time. Seeing exhausted firefighting crews coming back to the staging area, he asked the Bright Captain "what could I do to help." The answer was that unless he had Minimum Skills or even food handling (for helping out at the staging area), little.

"I felt pretty useless," recalls Chris, now 42 years of age. "I went back to Mt Martha where I was living, approached the local CFA, outlined my skills (IT and business) and they said: 'We need operational firefighters.' I decided to give it a go, fell in love with it and got hooked."

Chris was a member of the Mt Martha Brigade for seven years before the family (wife Priscilla, daughters Briana, now seventeen, and Amelia, thirteen) moved to Eurobin in 2012 where Chris joined both the Myrtleford Brigade and the Ovens/Eurobin Brigade.

While his firefighting experience at Mt Martha ("a very busy brigade") was predominantly in an urban environment (structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, and HAZMAT incidents), he also had experience as a wildfire firefighter as Mt Martha has vegetated bushland areas such as the foreshore and Mt Martha Park. The brigade was also active during the Black Saturday fires of 2009 which ended up at Kinglake.

Roles he had while at Myrtleford, and Ovens/Eurobin brigades included Fire Equipment Maintenance officer at Myrtleford. Chris is also a Staging Area Manager; Strike Team Leader; acted as a Sector Commander; and has Level 3 ICC training qualifications and experience.

After three years at Eurobin, the family moved to the outskirts of Yackandandah in 2015 and

Chris transferred his CFA membership to the Yackandandah Brigade; a Brigade he describes as "unlike any other. Everyone seems to get along... it's a very activated, motivated brigade."

Chris, who has been a 5th and 4th Lieutenant, is now in his second term as 2nd Lieutenant. He is also the Brigade's Training Officer. "I'd like to run for Captain at the next election," says Chris.

In answer to the question why is he a CFA operational member? Chris lists some of his experiences that explain why. They include a call-out to an horrific motor vehicle on Christmas Eve while he was with Mt Martha. "We did what we do, we got this lady out and she was home in time for New Year's Eve," says Chris. "I was surprised she survived. That's where I get my motivation and drive; the fact that she was able to be home with her family as opposed to not being at home at all."

Another was a call-out to an attempted suicide where the firefighters were able to get there before the ambulance and saved her life. "A couple of years later I was taking my daughter to her first year of school and this woman was staring at me before she came over and gave me a big hug and kiss, saying 'If it hadn't been for you guys, I wouldn't be here,'" says Chris. "And then it dawned on me who it was."

More recently, it was the public's response while driving to Sydney as part of a Victorian strike team for the 2019/2020 Summer bushfires. "People were tooting their horns, clapping, cheering us...it just gives you that word I can't find," says Chris.

"I take comfort knowing that if anything happens to me and my family, or if the roof gets blown off, or the house gets flooded, have a medical episode then someone is going to come and help us. I like the idea of being that person that arrives to help someone on what potentially is one of their darkest days."

Chris's experience with the CFA haven't been only in a volunteer capacity. In 2014 he worked for Districts 22 and 23 for six months as a district support staff member, and from 2014 to 2016, for District 24 as a Brigade Administrative Support Officer. He also worked for ESTA 000 (Emergency Services Tele-communications Authority) on a 12 month contract managing the roll-out of the pagers that the CFA currently use. These days he runs the business AlpineTint.



Training exercise at Yackandandah Primary School

Community Engagement

As part of "Helping other people week" in November, four Brigade members had a chat with the Joey Scouts from the 1st Yackandandah Scouts talking about volunteering and our role in helping people.



Brigade members chatting with the Joey Scouts who also had the opportunity to check out one of our fire trucks

Training

Big thanks to Michael Edwards, Yackandandah Primary School principal, for allowing the Brigade, joined by Allans Flat Brigade, to run a training exercise at the school in November which involved smoke machines and our members using breathing apparatus to find those hidden dummies. A great opportunity to practice our response.

Being prepared

So far it has certainly been a very wet start to early summer. But that doesn't mean that we shouldn't be preparing for when all that extra grass in the paddocks dries out, so...

- On hot, dry windy days, fires can start and spread quickly. If the Fire Danger Rating is Severe, Extreme or Code Red, leaving early before a fire has started is the safest option.
- Understand your risk and plan ahead.
- Fire Danger Ratings tell you how dangerous a fire would be if one started. As the ratings increase, so does the risk of an uncontrollable and fast moving fire.
- Never wait for an official warning before you leave, as you may not get one. Fires can start quickly and threaten lives and homes in minutes. Make sure you have a plan.
- If you can see smoke or fire, driving is extremely dangerous.

Preparing your property means you can minimise the chance of property damage during a fire, even if you plan to leave early. Before you leave, move anything that can burn away from your house.



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

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



Our upcoming Christmas Fun Fair on Sunday, 5th December at Soldiers Memorial Park has kept some of our members very busy planning and crafting. The park will be buzzing with many beautiful artisan stalls selling quality locally made products just perfect for Christmas gift giving. This year we decided to include children's activities like face painting and games, culminating in a fancy dress parade through the gardens at 12 noon with the theme of "Pirates and Fairies". All children who participate in the parade will receive a gift. Start thinking about a costume!!



Lynne Davies with a few of the dolls for sale at the Christmas Fun Fair

generously donated by our stall holders. If you purchase a ticket, you will be entitled to enter a second competition whereby the winner will be able to spend \$25 in every one of our participating Yackandandah businesses during the month of December! This means you get to spend \$25 in all twenty two businesses! What a great incentive!! Our members have made fabric and mosaic Christmas trees and pots, kids' quilts, dolls, finger puppets, tree ornaments, patchwork bags and some fun felt 'play' food which would make perfect Christmas stocking fillers.

Please help to spread the work amongst friends and family... we really want this to be a great fun day for all. Keep a lookout for our posters around Yack and in surrounding towns.

Yackandandah Women's Shed was very excited to recently receive a cheque for \$1,000. Our Secretary, Chris Zerst, entered our group into the Triple M/Vita Soy Community Chest competition. Each week for twenty weeks one lucky community group will win \$1000! As we are planning some workshops for the New Year where we will try our hand at wood carving and learning how to use power tools, we thought it would be a great asset to our club to purchase some tools of our own.

Early in the New Year we are planning to have a Members Meeting and bbq to discuss upcoming events and listen to what activities our group might like to try. Our aim is to plan a calendar for the year. Don't feel you have to wait until the meeting to make suggestions, you can always email with ideas

and leads to:
yackwomensshed@gmail.com



Margo Northey receiving a cheque on behalf of the Women's Shed from the Triple M and Vitasoy Community Chest

Wishing you all a very happy festive season... See you at the Fair on the 5th December!

Lynne Davies Yackandandah Women's Shed is auspiced by YCC

John Rodda's
YACK MOWER SHED
REPAIRS & SERVICING
Ride-Ons, Pumps, Chainsaws, ATV's etc.
0419 133 046
68 Back Creek Road
Yackandandah

The Women's Shed will be conducting a raffle with three prizes comprising of items

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!

Christmas is not in danger.
The work of local artists and makers is not stuck on a dock in a shipping container.
This is the perfect opportunity to shop local. Help local artists live their dream.

HOGGY'S FARM SERVICE

Slashing - Clean up that long grass for summer
Harvesting - Small Square or Round Bales
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WORLDLAWN

Commercial Grade Mowers at Domestic Prices!!

See John at
YACK MOWER SHED
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Yackandandah
0419 133 046

YACKANDANDAH
Christmas Fun Fair



SUNDAY 5TH DECEMBER
9.30AM - 2.30PM

SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL GARDENS
 YACKANDANDAH
 (WET WEATHER LOCATION: PUBLIC HALL)

CHILDREN'S FUN ACTIVITIES:

- FACE PAINTING - FROM 10AM
- OTHER FUN GAMES
- "PIRATES & FAIRIES" FANCY DRESS PARADE AT 12 NOON

PRIZES FOR EVERY ENTRY



BUY LOCAL - BY LOCALS
 MARKET STALLS - RAFFLE - QUALITY HANDMADE GIFTS - JUST IN TIME FOR YOU TO STOCK UP FOR CHRISTMAS!

ORGANISED BY THE YACKANDANDAH WOMEN'S SHED
 SUPPORTED BY INDIGO SHIRE AND NORTH EAST WATER

What a year 2021 has been! Due to COVID-19, we have been adhering to social distancing, density limits and training rules therefore, we have been doing majority of our training online.

We have completed online courses including a storm and water course, tree hazard courses, COVID-19 safety courses and multiple wellbeing courses.

We have been lucky enough to have Health Watch come and visit our unit, in a COVID-19 safe

and social distanced manner. Health Watch was able to run a resilience session with us to assist us with the general stress of life and the added complications that the last year has brought.

Since being back at training, in the last two months, we have worked hard to build back up our skills in storm assistance, expanded our Alpine Search and Rescue Skills, built on our stabilisation of objects for safety and challenged our 4WD skills. It sure has been different training in masks but we are getting used to it now. We have taken part in indoor and outdoor training sessions designed to test our prior knowledge and our knowledge of our own equipment and vehicles.

We have been supporting our local community as much as we have been able and we would like to thank the Star Hotel for their amazing pizzas, Gum Tree Pies for their endless supply of hot pies, the Bakery for bread, Foodworks for our milk, coffee and essentials and the Yackandandah Hotel for hosting our Christmas party this year, still to be held.

A huge thank you to every person or community group that has assisted with our jobs in the last year. From helping clearing trees with



Any suggestions as to what this SES volunteer is doing?



Meanwhile, back at the Yack SES HQ...

your personal chainsaws to using your machinery to clear the roads - we really appreciate the help!

Please keep in mind that we are a small unit of volunteers who also work, unfortunately that does mean that occasionally we aren't able to get a crew together to answer a call. Luckily, we have a great council with the Indigo Shire and a supportive VicRoads who are also there for back up, as well as other SES Units. We are not an accredited Road Crash and Rescue Unit due to our size, so if there is an accident in the town or surrounds, it will be attended by our fantastic SES neighbours.

We would love to have more members to assist with coverage but at this stage, our facilities and unit are not large enough to accommodate this.

We appreciate the support of the Yackandandah community through these challenging times and thank every one for being positive and helpful.



Have a wonderful Christmas and a fantastic New Year! We cannot wait to be more present in our community in 2022.



A bit of a monster to clear up

Louise Rietmann

Jed's Country Contracting

Providing friendly rural services to North East Victorians

- Farm management/general labour hire
- Rural and back yard fencing
- Cattle, horse and sheep husbandry
- Cattle pregnancy testing
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PO Box 198 Yackandandah



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The ultimate funeral care for your loved one

Ph: 02 6041 3855
 435 Wilson St, Albury
www.hossackfunerals.com.au



Delivering for our communities

As your local independent MP, I am your strong voice, working each and every day for you, your business and your family.

My Wangaratta and Wodonga offices are open 9am - 5pm weekdays. If you need help with Centrelink, Medicare, My Aged Care or any Commonwealth service, please phone, email or call in - or look out for my orange caravan.

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

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



Helen Haines MP
INDEPENDENT FEDERAL MEMBER FOR INDI

If you are anything like the imperfect members of TRY, you are tired. A big year managing home-school and going to school, work and no work, uncertainty and fear, calm and concern, wellness and ill-health. Well done you, and may we all pat ourselves on the back for



We have at least one home in Yack which exported 100 times more power than they used from the grid (during October). We have 44 homes or community buildings participating in a national energy market reform program with batteries, and a cooperative of some 210 properties participating in a virtual power plant.

We have a home-grown community energy retailer which is setting new benchmarks for clean energy. And now Yack has a start-up second-hand electric vehicle company. Goodness, even our Yack postie e-bikes are powered by the



TRY Committee members at our recent strategy session, plotting out 2022! PC: J Milbank

managing a tough year!

There is much to note on the clean energy transition in our town. Thanks to you for your role in that, or your looming role in that! There was an Australian first, community-owned battery, the completion of a third microgrid trial, the completion of a feasibility study, solar for the SES, completion of an energy system for the CFA, support for Lions with solar and a heat pump. A Premiers Sustainability Award. And there are many other things.

Big shout out to local supporters, Indigo Power, the Folk Festival Committee, YCDCo, Indigo Shire, CFA, SES, Yackandandah Historical Society, Yack Footy and Netball Club, the Yack Sports Park. And many individuals. It takes a community to change an energy system!!

Justifiably or not, TRY is frequently invited to tell the Yack energy story. Maybe every two weeks we join a community group, a council, TAFE students, Government inquiries, sustainability leadership programs. It is a privilege and something we offer with humility - we only know small bits about energy! We feel lucky in Yack that so many people are prepared to give things a crack, to step forward with uncertainty yet ambition and patience. People elsewhere take heart to see what we have done, and are doing in Yack. And a 100% target now seems a regular thing across Australia. Something we can all get behind.

sun!

If the stars align, TRY has prepared a program, though yet to be funded, to install solar and batteries on up to 75 properties with fixed low incomes. We eagerly await news of whether we will receive funds from the Federal Black Summer Bushfire grants. If we miss that, we will look elsewhere. And what is the vision? To find out what happens when the majority of a town (or a whole nation) generates, stores and shares local, resilient and clean power. Power that participates nationally and performs locally.

Have a great summer, and may 2022 be 100%...

Matthew Charles-Jones

"My people are not threatened by silence. They are completely at home in it. They have lived for thousands of years with Nature's quietness. My people today, recognise and experience in this quietness, the great life-giving spirit, the father of us all. It is easy for me to experience god's presence. When I am out hunting, when I am in the bush, among the trees, on a hill or by a billabong; these are the times when I can simply be in god's presence. My people have been so aware of nature. It is natural that we will feel close to the creator. Our Aboriginal culture has taught us to be still and to wait. We do not try to hurry things up. We let them follow their natural course - like the seasons. We watch the moon in each of its phases. We wait for the rain to fill our rivers and water the thirsty earth... When twilight comes, we dawn we rise with the sun. We watch the bush foods and before we gather them. We wait they grow, stage by stage, through their natural course - like the moon. When a relation dies, we wait a long time with the sorrow. We own our grief and allow it to heal slowly. We wait for the right time for our ceremonies and our meetings. The right people must be present. Everything must be done in the proper way. Careful preparations must be made. We don't mind waiting, because we want things to be done with care.



We don't like to hurry. There is nothing more important than what we are attending to. There is nothing more urgent that we must hurry away for. We wait on god, too. His time is the right time. We wait for him to make his word clear to us. We don't worry. We know that in time and in the spirit of Dadirri (that deep listening and quiet stillness) his way will be clear. We are River people. We cannot hurry the river. We have to move with its current and understand its ways.

We hope that the people of Australia will wait. Not so much waiting for us - to catch up - but waiting with us, as we find our pace in this world. If you stay closely united, you are like a tree, standing in the middle of a bushfire sweeping through the timber. The leaves are scorched and the tough bark is scarred and burnt; but inside the tree the sap is still flowing, and under the ground the roots are still strong. Like that tree, you have endured the flames, and you still have the power to be reborn.

Our culture is different. We are asking our fellow Australians to take time to know us; to be still and to listen to us..."

Miriam Rose Ungunmerr Baumann

2021 Senior Australian of the year, Miriam Rose Ungunmerr Baumann is a renowned Aboriginal Artist and Educator who is dedicated to creating bright and fulfilling futures for Aboriginal children and youth. She was the first fully qualified Aboriginal teacher in the Northern Territory and is the founder of the Miriam Rose Foundation. Miriam Rose speaks five local languages along with English and is responsible for establishing the highly successful Merrepen Arts centre in Nauiyu.



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Yack Landcare Group

The Yackandandah Creek Landcare Group has continued to be active on the ground despite COVID-19 restrictions in 2021.



Sharon Emmett and Paula Mobach planting trees at Rowdy Flat. PC: Jo Millar

We had a working bee in the autumn to remove hawthorn and laurel trees on the west track leading up to the gorge. In spring we planted a few blue gums and blackwoods in the "hidden valley" wet area, which is now accessible, thanks to a fantastic blackberry kill from previous years. If you are walking that way, note there are several wombat holes! There is also a family of goshawks that nest in the large pine trees on the knoll.

On the 1st August, Chris Horton

organised another tree planting at Rowdy Flat to add to last year's plantings which are thriving! About 40 volunteers including the Yackandandah Scouts hacked away at the gravelly ground and planted a mix of local species which have done remarkably well already. Gabi Bridge and Jo Millar have started the long term process of killing woody weeds along the bike trail including radiata pine, privet, hawthorn and olive trees. So don't be surprised if you see fallen trees as you ride past! The Rowdy Flat area has been included in a Lower Kiewa Stewardship Project managed by NECMA. Funding will be directed to contract spraying of blackberries.

The Sports Park wetland restoration has been a great success with healthy populations of frogs, reed warblers and reptiles. Help is needed to keep the grass and weeds down so feel free to join the working bees posted on Yackandandah Creek Landcare Facebook, which are the first Sunday of each



month 9-11am. No experience necessary, all abilities and ages welcome! Work has also begun along the trail above the gorge to cut back blackberries and gorse on a monthly basis. The group has applied for a grant to make the two small wetlands in Yackandandah a focus for community learning about wetland values including indigenous use and significance. We will be organising community walks, public lectures and a wetland health survey. We plan to erect a sign for the wetland and install a bench seat along the path for quiet contemplation whilst listening to the frogs and warblers!



Volunteers clearing blackberry along Yack Creek. PC: Dan Carberry

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NDIS Plan Management

For more information, contact Jo Millar (0405 040 639) or Mish Croker (0477 417 445)

Check out our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/183320635496051/> or call Jo or Mish to be added to the email list for updates.

Yackandandah Primary School

YPS have recently completed their Dry Creek Bed Project.

The project has many aims including providing students with an appreciation of their natural environment; building awareness of their local history; strengthening their sense of belonging and identity; and contributing to their physical and mental development and wellbeing.

The project design is centred on elements of our local history. Starting at the top of the hill is an indigenous artwork by Tamara Murray. Inspiration was sought from the students about what Yackandandah means to them. Their feedback included many natural features of our landscape including creeks, birds, trees and mountains.

The dry creek bed itself represents the joining of two creeks and there is a rock sculpture to represent the possible origins of the word 'Yackandandah'. The provision of gentle rocks encourages challenge and develops balance and coordination. A number of boulders and mounds reinforce the natural creek environment, stimulate sensory awareness and provide physical challenge.

Connecting the creek bed and the sandpit area is a timber bridge built by the Yack Men's Shed. The sandpit contains interactive elements to represent the gold mining history of the town. This has been

very popular with the children as they sieve the sand looking for treasures! This piece was designed and built by Xavier Pinnard.

We also have a series of raised planters full of bush tucker plants. These promote awareness of

Earlier this year, our regular tree audit recommended the removal of one of the large oak trees. The stump was retained on site and has been developed into an amazing climbing and balancing play element courtesy of Ben Gilbert and Xavier

Pinnard for this transformation. The mulch from the tree canopy will also be used on-site at the school.

Lastly, we have the gathering circle, a meeting place for all. The circle contains informal seating for storytelling, imaginary play, outside eating, quiet activities and outdoor teaching. These group activities will enhance participation and increase the sense of community and inclusion. The gathering circle is also aimed at developing skills around inclusive social and cooperative play, taking turns and enhancing relationships with others in the school community.

The nature-based play space is complemented with Australian native plantings, creating a naturalistic, drought tolerant landscape of plants that will survive in a busy area where nothing is out of bounds. Small native trees will eventually provide height and shady nooks for play.

The design has been developed by Landscape Designer, Jenny Kjar, in consultation with School Council, teachers, students and the Principal.



our local indigenous culture and encourage a sense of belonging and community. This element of the design adds sensory stimulation via taste, texture, sight, sound and smell.

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On behalf of the staff, students, council and school community, Yackandandah Primary School would like to sincerely thank the following businesses for contributing to our Dry Creek Bed Project.

- Agency of Sculpture
- Bunnings Wodonga
- GSB Constructions
- Hume Bank
- Indigo Mowing & Gardening
- Jenny Kjar Landscaping
- Lachie Maslen Plumbing
- Mara May Art
- Mawsons Concrete & Quarries
- Nelmac Construction and Piling
- Park Lane Nursery
- Partnear
- Peards Landscaping Supplies
- Peter Bowen Homes
- Steady Chameleon
- Woodstone Park
- Yack Community Centre
- Yack Constructions
- Yack Engineering
- Yack Equipment Hire
- Yack Folk Festival Committee
- Yack Jams & Preserving
- Yack Lion's Club
- Yack Men's Shed
- YCDCO

We would also like to thank the many individuals that volunteered their time to make this project happen! Thank you!



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Yackandandah Community Centre



By working together and collaborating with other organisations the Yackandandah Community Centre has been able to make the most of what has been a



Two of our great volunteers in the Op Shop are Pauline Cook and Joan Peters who have been with us since the start of the Op Shop. Photo Credit: David Thorpe

pretty disrupted 2021. With the help of our fabulous volunteers and the YCC Committee of Management, we have worked hard to meet our community's needs.

A large project over the past few months has been updating our Strategic Plan to ensure that YCC sets the direction for its activities to meet the future

needs of the community as it grows and changes. Thanks to all the community members who replied to the survey we conducted; your answers provided good feedback to design what YCC does in the future. We are close to finalising our new Strategic Plan and when we do, we will be keen to invite the community to an event to talk about it.

As with most organisations, COVID-19 restrictions have played havoc with the programs and events we hoped to present this year. But we haven't let the ever-present lockdowns stop us. One of the big successes early in the year were the three Community Picnics we helped stage, firstly at the Community Garden, then at the Yack Primary School. These were terrific events which were really well supported by the community who were incredibly and not surprisingly keen to get out and socialise after the restrictions. YCC gained funding through the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation, and it was with the help of some very willing volunteers that the events were made so enjoyable for everyone.

What a great array of performers we had, there are so many talented musicians in Yack and it was wonderful that they were able to showcase their talents after so long not being able to perform in public. Thanks must also go to event coordinator, Candice McLeod for the fabulous job she did of pulling it all together, and to the Primary School for so willingly allowing the use of their grounds and pizza oven. And the unsung stars of the show were the volunteers who prepared and cooked a fabulous

feast of gourmet, wood-fired pizzas. Great food, terrific music and a really nice atmosphere to enjoy catching up with friends.

Another success this year



The performer at the picnic is, of course, Yack's very own Pete Denahy. Photo Credit: David Thorpe

were the YCC Community Grants, which provide funds for community organisations in Yack. This year we helped the Yackandandah Netball Club purchase a new electronic scoreboard, we helped with the cost of developing a series of community sing-along events and provided seed funding for the burgeoning Yackandandah Women's Shed.

What a great start the Women's Shed has had this year. Following on from YCC's initial auspicing and seed funding, they now have a growing base of very enthusiastic members who are enjoying socialising and taking part in a wide range of activities with the purchase of new equipment. They have also taken on the organisation of the Yackandandah Christmas Fun Fair which will be held on Sunday, December 5th



First Aid Trainer, Andrew Bishop from Regional First Aid Training taking a recent course at YCC. Photo Credit: David Thorpe

at the Yack Soldiers Memorial Gardens. The group's enthusiasm for getting involved will see the event become bigger and better this year.

It's also great to see the Yackandandah Primary School making progress on its dry creek bed project; again, with the help of funding provided by previous rounds of YCC Grants, which are funded by sales in the YCC Op Shop in High Street.

YCC has also been working with other organisations to bring events to Yack. One of those organisations is Indigo U3A, based in Beechworth. Through our collaboration we ran a very successful electric bike workshop earlier this year. Judging by the number of people who attended, and the steady stream of questions put to tutor, Phil Edwardes, electric bikes are starting to capture our community's imagination. Another benefit of the partnership with U3A has been hosting Yack resident, Gerry Engwerda for his "Our World, Background Briefings" sessions at YCC. Yack residents can now tune into his fortnightly discussions by dropping into YCC rather than having to travel to Beechworth. *Continued on page 13*



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**Yackandandah Community Centre
continued...**

Other developments at YCC this year include improvements to our Meeting Room with the purchase of an 85 inch Smart TV and further audio-visual equipment. Once complete, the room will offer a state-of-the-art meeting facility unmatched in Yack. The next time you are thinking of holding a meeting, running an event or just socialising, consider the YCC Meeting Room. And thanks to a Committee decision earlier this year, it is now free of charge to community groups.

It has been a bit of a battle getting programs off the ground this year with the ever-changing restrictions, but we persevered and conducted an accredited First Aid course and an information session aimed at helping people live more comfortably and longer in their own home as they age. Both events were well attended.

Of course, a lot of what YCC does comes about because of the contribution of our volunteers. Our Op Shop couldn't operate without a loyal band of volunteers who give their time to help provide a resource for our community. So, it is a huge thanks from the YCC committee and me, to all the volunteers who have helped YCC do what it can to bring our community together and provide needed services.

All the best for Christmas and a bright New Year.

David Thorpe, Manager

TANSWELLS BEECHWORTH - GIGS LIST

Fri Dec 3: Toby Martin (Youth Group) & Georgia Mooney

(All Our Exes Live in Texas), \$25 + bf

<https://events.humanitix.com/toby-martin-tanswells>

Sat Dec 4: Ryan Downey (solo), \$15 + bf or \$20 at door

<https://events.humanitix.com/ryan-downey-tanswells>

Fri Dec 10: Grinding Eyes (Sydney), Hot Tubs Time

Machine, Our Carlson & Steph Hughes, \$15

<https://events.humanitix.com/grinding-eyes-tanswells>

Fri Dec 17: Al Matcott (full band) & David M Western, \$10

<https://events.humanitix.com/al-matcott-full-band-tanswells-vdgyr8cl>

Sun Jan 16: Quivers, \$15 (Sunday arvo from 4pm)

<https://events.humanitix.com/quivers-tanswells>

Doug Wallen

Writer, editor, booker & broadcaster



Ryan Downey - dougwallen@gmail.com

performing on Saturday - dougwallen.tumblr.com

4th December

at Tanswells Hotel, Beechworth

They say for every piece of chocolate you eat you lose 2 minutes off of your life.

According to my calculations I must have died in 1630.

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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

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Your Yackandandah Community Development Company (YCDCo) held its 19th Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 17th November at the Cricket Club Rooms at the lovely Yack Sports Park. What a great venue for a special evening, it really is a

gorgeous place!

It was very good to again announce that the Company has produced a profit for the 2020/21 financial year and a dividend of \$15 per share was declared. This will be finding its way to its shareholders shortly.

This is an opportune time to remind all shareholders to update their details if they haven't already, so that we can ensure that the dividend can be transferred by direct debit as cheques will soon be phased out entirely by the Australian banking system. Please complete the form below and return it to us as soon as possible particularly if you have been using an old RMB address number.

As hopefully a regular customer of the servo and farm store, you will have noticed a number of great improvements over the past 12 months including new bowsers that can serve all fuels to both sides of the forecourt, a simplified and bright new layout in the main shop together with new flooring, shelving and an increased range of goods for sale, plus new signage to guide you around the store. The shop has electric doors and aircon to keep our staff cool and warm depending on the season.

Other changes to the Servo include a new 24 hour/day provision of fuel via a credit card system which means you can fuel up at any time, as is the case in most European countries. A great boon if you have to set off early somewhere before the staff are at work. All fuels will be able to be accessed. We have changed our fuel suppliers, and customers can apply for an Ampol card which will provide them with access to many fuel stations within Australia on a credit card system.

Next year, YCDCo will celebrate its twentieth birthday and the Board felt it was time for a bit of a spruce up with the overall branding of the business, so we have been busy asking our good people of Yack what they like, what they would want in an ideal world and how YCDCo

currently works for them. We had a comprehensive survey carried out earlier this year which provided us with guidance into the future. Clearly, with changes in the fossil fuel world dangling over everyone's heads like the sword of Damocles, there are many decisions to be made about what direction your Community Development company takes as people move towards renewable energy to provide their mode of transport, and it is foremost in the Board's mind.

We have rebranded YCDCo, and that also includes our website, which we are hoping to make brighter, more user friendly and a clean sharp look.

YCDCo via its Constitution, is also a grant giving body and we encourage all local community groups to put in an application for funding THAT project. The last two years has seen this fall right off due to COVID-19 and lockdowns, so we are keen to get that money out to our amazing organisations that do such a terrific job in Yack. Application forms are available at ycdco.com.au and the Board will look at them at any time of the year.

As a celebration of the works that have been carried out this year, YCDCo is running a month long sale of certain items in December and you will see them listed in the all singing, all dancing pullout in the middle of this edition of Yackity Yak. Please support your local stores. It's so important to keep all our local businesses fit and running in this really difficult time. It really can be a case of "Use it or Lose it", and we truly can't afford to lose a single business if we want to keep Yack thriving.

YCDCo has a very active Board as will be seen by the amount of work done this year, but we are always keen to see who is out there and would like to be involved. We particularly are short of young women Board members and would very much encourage people (under the age of 40) to stick their hand up and get involved. It's a particularly good way to get experience in Board and Governance work and to really help your community. Details again, are on the website and we invite applications for the Board at any time of the year.

Current Board members are:

Ian Fitzpatrick - Chair, Ali Pockley - Company Secretary, Max Horvath, Michael Bell, Barry Maginness, Phil Newman, Ian Nightingale and Rex Little.



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THE PEACE OF WILD THINGS

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives
may be,

I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great
heron feeds.

I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.

And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time

I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

Wendell Berry

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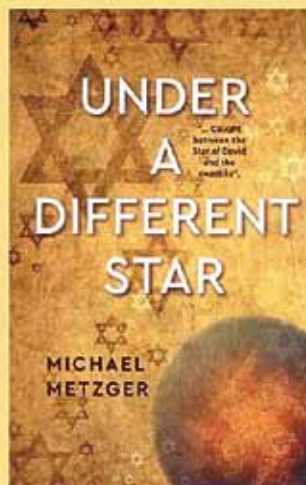
INVITATION

Literary soir e

An evening to socialise with wine and cheese and to meet the author of his recently published work *Under A Different Star*. Interview and talk with selected readings and a Q&A session.

Hosted by Arts Yackandandah and the Yack Writers Group with Bev Lello as MC.

- Friday December 3, 2021
- 7pm-8.30pm
- Yackandandah Courthouse
- Attendees must be fully vaccinated.
- RSVP by Wednesday December 1 to 0418 360 484 or email: michael.metzger@bigpond.com.



Please note current attendance rules for the Yackandandah Courthouse: Sign in or use QR code, no limit on number of fully vaccinated patrons, masks optional.

YACKANDANDAH LIBRARY

Indigo Shire Libraries is part of the Big Summer Read!

The Big Summer Read has been developed by Public Libraries Victoria in a joint effort to raise awareness of the benefits of reading over summer and to ensure Victorian children have access to resources proven to slow the slide. Kids just need to keep reading, and be read to.

The program runs from 1 December 2021 – 31 January 2022

Kids are encouraged to keep reading over the summer holidays with an incentivised program that uses Beanstack, a mobile app that rewards you for reading. When reading milestones are reached, kids earn 'badges' for their Beanstack profile and increase their chances of winning a prize! Participants need to log a minimum of ten books and collect five activity badges

to complete the challenge. All badges will be released at the start of the program and can be completed at any time. There will also be some prizes offered by Indigo Shire Libraries at the end of the program.

The Big Summer is ready for you to sign up at <https://plv.beanstack.org> or visit your local library for more information. Paper based booklets will also be available at your library.



Christmas Closure

Yackandandah Library will close at 2pm on Friday 24 December and reopen on Tuesday 4 January 2022. So pop in beforehand to get your summer reading sorted!

Please contact us if we can help you in any way. Please phone 02 6028 1180 or email us at yackandandahlibrary@indigoshire.vic.gov.au

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Indigo FM has recently held their annual radio marathon

at all sites. In Yackandandah we did this in conjunction with the November Lions Club market day where we had a stall. This was a good opportunity to showcase what our unique radio station has been doing and to sell some of our new merchandise such as T shirts. A big thank you to all the businesses and individuals who supported our marathon and donated some really good prizes for the lucky winners. Our Yack presenters gave their time to our stall at the market and do extra shows from 12.00 pm Saturday until 6.00pm Sunday. The major prize draw will be on **Wed 8th December** from 4-5pm on air at both Beechworth and Yackandandah sites. Here in Yack Ada and Irena (Yackandandah primary school presenters) will be trusted with this task. Tune in to see how they go and to hear the winners.

To join up or renew your membership for 2022 you can head along to the Membership page on our website under Get Involved menu. Add one in with your membership and receive the slightly cheaper Members' rate. Another opportunity to take out or renew membership is to come and see us at the **Women's Shed Christmas Fair on Sunday, 5th December between 9.30-2.30pm.**

Some hugely exciting news. We welcome both Osbornes Flat and Wooragee Primary Schools to our team, with a view to commencing some

podcasting/content creation from early 2022. We recently received an Indigo Shire Community Grant toward a Rodecaster Pro which will assist us greatly in engaging rural schools like Osbornes Flat and Wooragee who aren't within walking distance of one of our studios. Our past experience at setting up very successful primary school models with Rutherglen and Yackandandah Primary School has us very confident that we can grow this area of our organisation and continue to put to air fresh, energetic, youthful radio voices. We're also looking to engage Landcare groups. The latter focusing on recording some "bush/nature" podcasts. A bit of a different soundtrack for certain times of the day, the cacophony of birds chirping. A bit like waking up in a tent minus the mozzies. Stay tuned for further details.

Indigo FM has an evolving playlist and podcasts of past shows to listen to. Our regular shows and presenters - Chris with "Horn Chowder" (Wed 10am), Harvey with "Asleep at the Wheel" (Sun 2pm) and Scott with "Everyone Deserves Music" (Sat 10am) have been joined by Gary with "Just Press Play" (Thu 9pm). We're always keen to add more local shows to our schedule. They can be regular programs - as in weekly, fortnightly or occasionally. An example of the latter is Bron and Ange's recent show with a theme on towns/places/destinations. Or Nigel's "Cooking Without Gas".

Recently our AGM was held which again highlights the ongoing commitment of our Committee, presenters and behind the scenes volunteers. And also highlights how far we have come as a local radio station. Indigo FM is always keen for more presenters to join the evolving

nature of this unique and local radio station. Getting your own radio show on the



At the November Lions Club market - L-R Irene Purnell, Bron Howlett, Gary Brown and Scott Landells of Indigo FM

airwaves is easy. It's free to be trained as we like to keep it accessible to all AND it doesn't have to be music specific. All ideas are welcome. Just email us at indigofmradioyack@gmail.com to find out more.

To view Indigo FM programs 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.

From everyone at Indigo FM, we would like to wish you all a happy Christmas and a relaxing New Year.

Crossword #2 compiled by Bill Buchanan

Across

1 Marshmallows, 8 Yearned, 9 Parents, 11 Exuberance, 12 Room, 14 Enervate, 16 Unveil, 17 Sit, 19 Top Pub, 21 Droopier, 24 Noon, 25 Down and out, 27 Swivels, 28 Elevate 29 Astigmatisms

Down

1 Measure, 2 Rendezvous, 3 Hydrants, 4 Aspect, 5 Lore, 6 Winsome, 7 Typesettings, 10 Similarities, 13 Encounters, 15 Eid, 18 Transept, 20 Profits, 22 Isobars, 23 Possum, 26 Semi



YACKANDANDAH LIONS CLUB

2021 have been a busy and productive year for the Yackandandah Lions Club.

Since the return from COVID-19 lockdowns, the Yackandandah Sunday Market (every third Sunday of the month) has grown to include thirty four traders selling a wide range of products. The September, October and November markets were a huge success attracting hundreds of visitors to the town for the day. The BBQ has supported the fundraising efforts of many local community clubs including the Garden Club, Men's Shed, Masonic Group, Women's Shed and the Kergunyah Pony Club.

Funds raised from the Sunday markets have enabled the Lions Club to directly support a number of important Yackandandah community initiatives. During this year, we have contributed funds towards:

- The completion of the Rowdy Flat walking/bike track bridge connecting the track to the Yackandandah township.
- The renewal of the rotunda roof at Isaacs Park.
- Letter of support for a new accessible toilet block in Isaacs Park followed by a large donation of funds towards the build.
- A digital scoreboard for the Yackandandah Netball Club, and
- New uniforms for our Lions Club members

Every year the Lions Club hosts an Australia Day celebration and awards ceremony and provides scholarships to Wooragee, Osbornes Flat and Yackandandah Primary Schools. The Lions Club also facilitates access to meeting or consultation room space at Wellsford House for small community-based initiatives with direct benefit to the Yackandandah community.

The December market will be big and perfect for your Christmas shopping. See you there on Sunday, 19th December!

Jane Moore, President, Yackandandah Lions Club.

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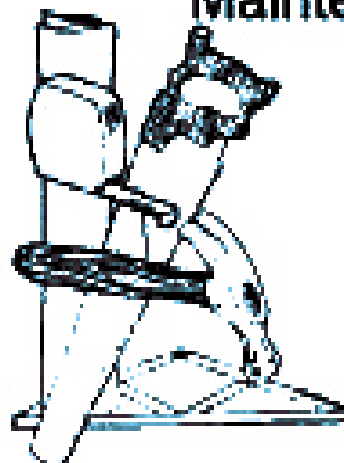
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A DAY AT THE CRICKET

I took myself to Tamworth as all country singers do.
Was busking fine, 'til taken short so headed for the loo.
There came a cunning cricket who went out to explore.
He gained the nearest hiding place, my knickers on the floor.

Later on while on the stage to sing a song or two
When I felt a crawling movement, at the time I never knew
Twas a sneaky chirping cricket intent on trying to dance
To the beat of Country Music in the shelter of my pants.

It chirped in all those places where it shouldn't chirp at all.
I lifted legs and rolled the hips while it danced and had a ball.
I did the Twist and Jitterbug and threw myself about
Prayed to God, the rotten sod would somehow, just drop out.

The crowd all screamed & swayed about, some even called my name.
I had my guitar pressed down low like in the Pop Tune Game.
But now as I can look around all those Country songs I hear,
Old Buddy, Slim Tex and all have nothing much to fear.

I hear and see our Country Singers that gig around today.
I shudder even my mind to the great old fashioned way
There were no swaying movement of swivel hips and dance.
Now they've all got crickets chirping and hiding in their pants.

Bill Whitham, Tallangatta

A true story which happened up at Tamworth to a friend of mine, who I write songs for

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Local Call 1300 385 003

INDIGO
SHIRE
COUNCIL

Keep up to date

Have you subscribed to YOUR INDIGO, our weekly update? Delivered via email every Friday, it is a great way to keep up to date with Shire news, Council decisions, projects and works and more.

www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/subscribe

We also have an online engagement group ENGAGED INDIGO that we regularly update on all of our engagement opportunities. If you want to ensure you don't miss out on having your say and shaping our beautiful Shire's future, make sure you sign up now.

www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/engagedindigo

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P: 03 5728 2410



Are you frightened about having to do a public speech? Most people are! Don't worry, Toastmasters can help you. Even if you must do a special speech, at a wedding, a celebration or even speak at a funeral, we can teach you how to do this and take away your fears.

Toastmasters is an international, not-for-profit organization which has a proven record of assisting millions of people become confident and capable speakers. This also helps them in everyday life; at work, a job interview, doing a presentation at work, at your sporting or community club. We have had many members credit their success at getting a job, passing an examination, or doing a special presentation to what they learned at Toastmasters. One person came to our Toastmasters club just for assistance with a presentation to parliament; he said it helped him immensely; he said he was not even nervous after our support!

In North East Victoria, we have three Toastmasters clubs you can visit for free to see if it suits your needs; Indigo Speakers meets at Baranduda Community Centre, 3 Sage Court, Baranduda on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 6.15 to 8.30 pm; December meetings are on 8th and 22nd December.

Albury Wodonga Toastmasters meets in Albury on the first Tuesday each month and in Wodonga on the third Tuesday, both at 6.30 pm. Wangaratta Toastmasters meets in Wangaratta the second and fourth Mondays, at 7pm. All the contact details can be found by searching for Toastmasters to find a club near you. If you choose to join, the cost is minimal and gives you access to all the educational material and mentoring support from experienced members.

Another valuable skill you will learn is how to conduct a formal meeting, learn how to become an executive and maybe eventually a president! Businesses are impressed if you achieve these skills, as they are also desired in corporate organisations. Success in Toastmasters shows you have leadership potential and increases your chances of promotion. You will be presented with achievement certificates which you can give to your employer as evidence of your improvement, but all your friends and work colleagues will already have noticed your improved public speaking!

All the local clubs are friendly and inviting; you will be assisted at every stage of your journey. The first step, to attend a meeting is the hardest part!

If you want to reach higher levels of public speaking, each club has an annual competition. Winners then compete against local clubs and the winners may proceed to Australian then international competitions. Examples of these speeches can be seen on YouTube; they are amazing! Some of our members have developed their own podcast or TED talk; this is a fantastic achievement.

If anyone is interested in visiting any of our local clubs, please call: Dr Pieter Mourik AM on 0401 387 157 or Email: libpiet@gmail.com or sign up as a visitor to one of our December hybrid or online meetings in Zoom:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 7th December | https://easy-speak.org/view_meeting.php?t=449789 |
| 21st December | https://easy-speak.org/view_meeting.php?t=449791 |
| 8th December | https://easy-speak.org/view_meeting.php?t=450572 |
| 22nd December | https://easy-speak.org/view_meeting.php?t=457648 |
| 13th December | https://easy-speak.org/view_meeting.php?t=446995 |

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ZE1 40KW 2017-2019 with approximately 220km range (\$36,000 – \$43,000)

ZE1 62KW 2019-2020 with approximately 330km range (\$50,000 – \$56,000)



ABOUT US

Matt Grogan is one of the founding members of Totally Renewable Yackandandah, and has long been an EV enthusiast. It's only natural he became involved in importing and selling them.

Cam Klose has had a love for the outdoors and looking after the environment for years, so being part of selling low/zero emission EVs made sense.

Russell Klose has been involved in the auto industry for years, importing cars and car parts from Japan since the 90s. He has a keen interest in looking after the planet for the long term, and EVs are an integral part of this.

All three of us agreed that if we could provide top quality, used, affordable EVs then this would be a step towards looking after the future of the planet, whilst still giving people reliable, comfortable (and fun) transport.

Register your interest and we will be in touch!

www.kilowattcars.com.au

Russell Klose

0427 562 144

Why the Nissan Leaf?



I can be charged entirely by the sun...

The reasons why we settled on the Leaf are quite simple:

They have been around for more than 10 years, and have proven themselves to be exceptionally reliable and well built. This is of vital importance if you're going to sell a vehicle second hand and have confidence in your product.

They have been a popular Electric Vehicle (EV) in Japan where they are made, so there is a supply of used vehicles from 2014 up to 2020, at price points which can make EV ownership a reality for many Australian people instead of a just a pipe dream.

The size of the vehicle and the different size battery configurations lends itself to being ideal for a broad variety of Australians living in the cities and countryside alike.

And something else that we all like about the Leaf apart from its reliability, exceptionally low cost ownership (no oil changes and minimal servicing!) and durability, is the fact it is SUCH a good car and really good fun to drive.

Help save the planet in a sustainable and fun way! Kilowatt Cars will be selling Nissan Leaf EVs with a warranty (which will be variable depending on the year model and battery size). They will all have six months and a 7,000 km warranty, with the Battery Packs having an excessive degradation warranty of 6

months with the 24kwh, 2 years with the 30kwh and three years with the 40 and 62kwh batteries.

We've got a service agent in Wodonga or you can use a Nissan dealer to look after your servicing requirements, and of course the team at kW Cars are on hand to help with any questions you may have.

Please register your interest and we will be in touch!

www.kilowattcars.com.au

As we know all too well, Australia is lagging well behind the rest of the world on electric vehicles which can not only help tackle climate change (transport contributing about 17% of Australia's climate emissions), but they are also safer to drive and better for our community.

For more than 20 years I ran Jappo Donks in Wodonga, where I imported and sold second hand cars. I was always passionate about second hand cars because they were far more affordable for most people, and it was also an effective way of reducing waste.

After I retired a few years ago, I started thinking about what I could do to tackle climate change - the biggest challenge we face - at a community level.

In 2020, less than 1% of new cars sold in Australia were electric vehicles. Yet, in Norway, 75% of new cars were electric, and even in the UK, 1 in 10 cars sold were electric!

We HAVE to do better. Without leadership from the Federal Government, it is clearly up to communities to pioneer the way forward.

Yackandandah is already a leader in climate action. Thanks to the work of Totally Renewable Yackandandah and now Indigo Power, we are a beacon for other communities when it comes to renewable energy, kW Cars wants to do the same with electric vehicles.

And not only because of the climate considerations. They're also much safer and cleaner. More and more research shows the negative health impacts from exhaust engines, particularly for young children.

I love cars! And the technology in the electric vehicles genuinely excites me. If you haven't driven an electric vehicle, I would love to take you for a spin. They're a real delight to drive and probably not at all what you expect.

We are currently preparing to launch kW Cars in the next few months. We will be offering the Nissan Leaf car in four different battery sizes as per the advertisement above. The larger the battery, the longer the driving range.

All pricing is plus registration and applicable stamp duty.

If you're interested in finding out more, then please get in touch with me. My number is 0427 562 144.

Russell Klose



Otis Grogan and Tamsin Greenwood extolling the virtues of an emissions-free EV

YACK GARDEN CLUB

SPRING 2



liriiodendron tulipifera

What an incredible time of year – trees now in full leaf, the *liriiodendron tulipifera* showing its beautiful flower, a sanctuary for the bees, roses fuller and more luscious than ever, bearded iris stunning in their sensual and colourful glory. The countryside is green and the shifting sky offering a varying palette of sunsets, clear days and the repeated gift of rain.



So often it has been said that we live in our own corner of paradise and, with the light filtering through the leaves and the chorus of birdsong, it's easy to understand why. And to be infinitely grateful.

JILL'S GARDEN AT MAGPIE RISE



Garden Club members enjoying a cuppa at the Whitfords' Magpie Rise garden with all its treasures

A pleasant morning was spent on Saturday, 6th November at Magpie Rise, catching up and wandering around the garden which, thanks to blessings from heaven, was putting on its best. The roses were dripping petals and perfume and thanks to the good season and timely rain, everything was looking good. We were all happy to be able to sit and have a natter without restrictions and masks.



Some of Jill's magnificent roses enjoying the benevolent season

Spring Jobs

- Once winter flowering shrubs such as camellia and quince have finished, it's time to start pruning to shape.
- To extend the flowering show, it's time to sow annuals such as celosia.

FROM JILL WHITFORD



Jill's earwig trap

I have discovered a really easy and effective way to trap earwigs. I push a stake into the ground, near where I know the earwigs are busy, wrap a newspaper around and secure with a piece of string, and push the newspaper down to rest on the ground. In a few days carefully pull out the stake and unwrap paper into a bucket and you will trap hundreds of the critters. I simply give them a short spray in the bucket of pyrethrum made up as per dilution on the concentrate together with a dash of eucalyptus oil in the same spray bottle and they are dead in no time. You could also use boiling water or shake them out on to concrete and squash them. Reuse the same newspaper as they keep coming back to the same-smelling place.



AGM & END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

What better way to emerge from cautious lockdown than to support a local winery while enjoying each other's company? Watchbox Winery hosted some 50 members on Saturday, 20th November for a roast lunch followed by dessert with tea and coffee provided. Most of the current office bearers unanimously retained their positions by acclamation. In light of the fact that the Metzgers have sold their property and will be moving



The Yack Garden Club breakup at Watchbox Winery. Lovely to be enjoying each other's company again and supporting a local business

to Wangaratta, Chris Zerst accepted the nomination to take up the role of Communications & Media Secretary. We wish her well and the continued support of the Club.

Despite the limitations imposed by circumstances throughout the year, the Club has continued its community work, especially through the streetscape project that constantly earns the appreciation of all who visit our remarkable village. A sound financial position has enabled donations to significant causes and allows us to support activities for members.



The flower competition at the end of year breakup at Watchbox Winery

The day concluded with a visit to nearby Camellia Cottage where Liz and Barry Quinn were able to showcase their ever expanding and remarkable garden that has flourished in this generous season.

Michael Metzger, Communications & Media Secretary



Summer Opening Hours

Mon-Friday: 7 am to 6 pm

Saturday: 8 am to 5 pm

Sunday: 8.30 am to 5 pm

THE STAFF AND THE DIRECTORS OF YCDCo WISH EVERYONE A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL AND FIRE-FREE NEW YEAR



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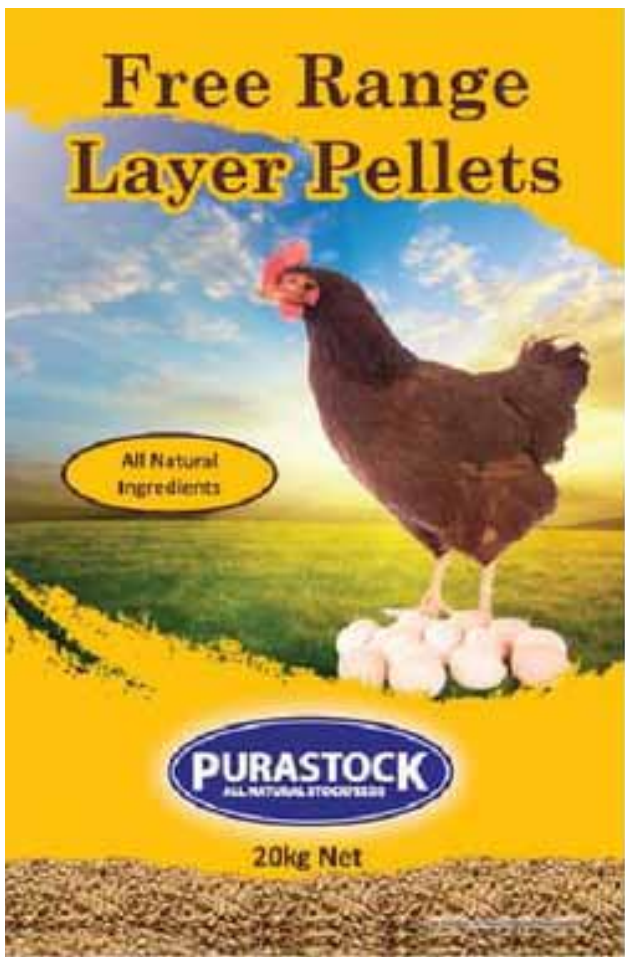
The Board and Staff of YCDCo are delighted to see the completion of some much overdue work at your servo, including new bowsers - front and back, a complete refurbishment of the main shop including new flooring, painting inside and out and new shelving to make finding your essential purchase even easier.

We have recently changed our fuel suppliers as you will read about in this edition of Yackity Yak, and we are delighted to be able to offer an Ampol Card to approved customers. This card can be used here and also at any other Ampol station that you come across on your travels, making things just that little bit easier. Our customers also now have access to 24 hour fuel availability payable by credit card. Just another small reason to use your local community owned petrol station!

We have also had a revamp of our logo and our website has been suitably

upgraded to make it easier to access, to give people an oversight into why YCDCo was formed, and what its ambitions are. We accept applications from community groups for funding projects at any time of the year, and have helped a huge number of our very important organisations with funding for many different types of projects and activities. It is part of our constitution that a percentage of our profit is ploughed directly back into our community, and applications are dealt with quickly and regularly at our monthly board meetings.

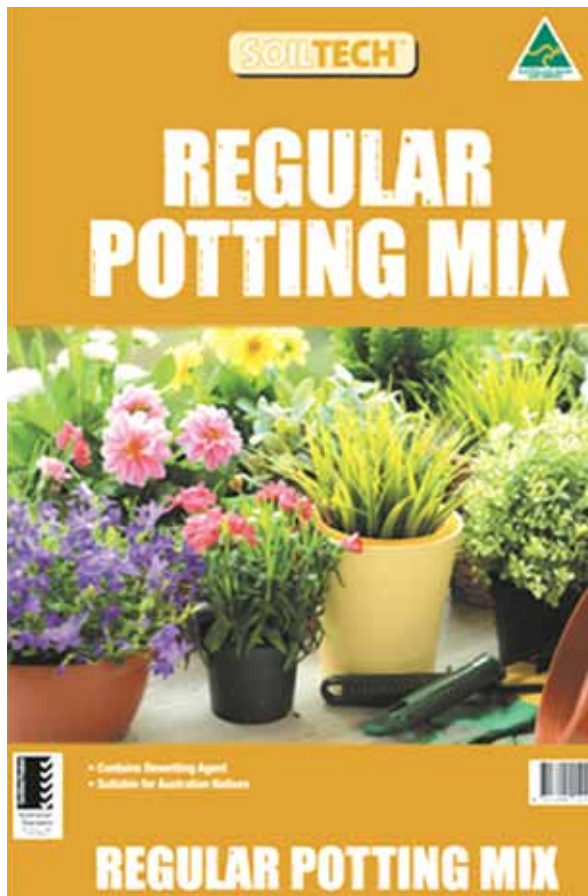
We also look for expressions of interest from new prospective directors to YCDCo. It's a great way to utilise your skills and to get involved in a truly local and community-owned business, which has gone from strength to strength over the years. Details are on our website at ycdco.com.au or call our Company Secretary on 0448 803 411 for further details.



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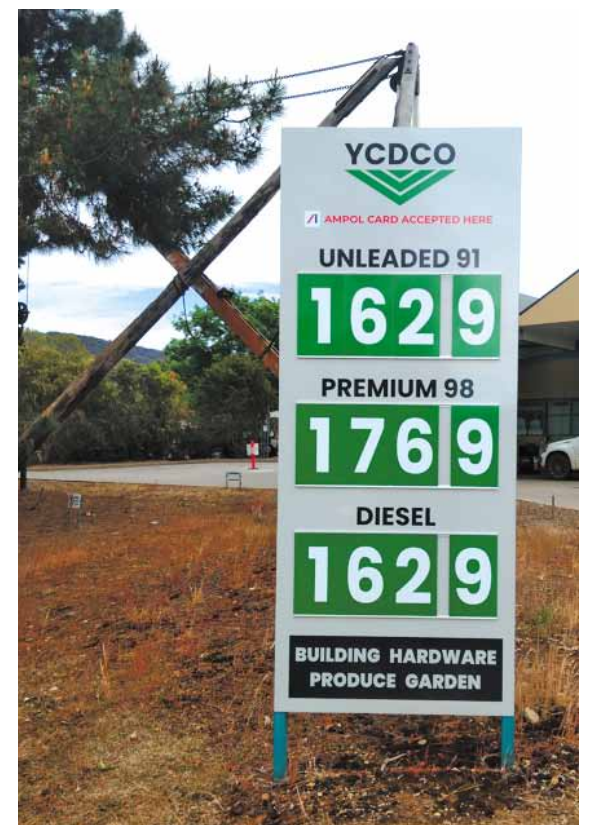


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Make sure you visit us before you do that irritating 20 km trip into town which wastes your fuel and sometimes your time. Make sure we don't have what you want in stock.

For your pre-planned projects, give us a shout with your list of requirements and we will price it up for you. If we don't have it in stock, we can certainly get it for you with a bit of notice.



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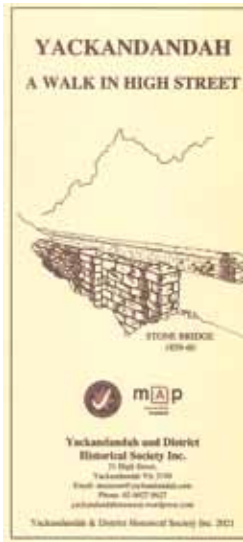
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YACK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Museum has so many stories to tell it is hard to know where to start sometimes. In this edition of Yackity Yak we are going to take you on a walk down the High Street. There was a great little guide, published as written, by the late Lillian Croker in the 1980s. The tour gives the reader a fascinating window into Lillian's recollection of the street



The brochure produced by the YDHS (copies available at the Museum)

Taken from "ANOTHER WALK IN HIGH STREET" by Lillian Croker

NORTH SIDE

The Post Office with the residence behind, a huge chestnut tree in the back yard, children given most of the nuts."

A weatherboard house, in later years Dr McIntosh lived there. I remember the State Savings bank being built in 1929.

Alex Priestley's boot shop, new and repairs, with residence at back. Later burnt down, never rebuilt.

A lock up building, a residence. Two sisters Ruby and Jo Johnson, dressmakers.

The Atheneum, two reading rooms, a few stuffed birds and animals, a boomerang or two.

Andrew Nette's boot shop, a workshop next door to the boot shop.

Yackandandah Times printing office, with dwelling at the back.

Printed every Thursday.

Bank of Victoria, later T. Haig, tailor.

Riddington's General Store, storeroom out the back, opening on to Jubilee Lane for loading.

George Denny's store on the other side of the

lane, with lane for loading and dwelling at the back.
Stone Building, shop, and residence, owned by Jack Sealey, a saddler. I am sure my mother said it was a bank in her day.
Butcher Shop, Mr Lorimer.

Hotel, we called it Irvine's Hotel. They had three children who went to school with us. A big **billiard room** was next to the hotel.

After several big fires in the town a **fire bell** was erected next door, with a building to house fire equipment. Mr McDermott's shop, undertaker and Mr Thornley Hall's timber yard and builders.
Yackandandah Hotel next, Mr Martin.

SOUTH SIDE

Waterloo Hotel was burnt down in 1915. Mr McKay was proprietor. Before the fire, stables were in the hotel yard where Crawford and Co horses were kept for the Yackandandah-Beechworth mail run every weekday, leaving the Post office at 11 a.m., returning at 4 p.m. Anyone could hire a horse and trap when needed.

Jack Haig's bakery, grocer and toy shop was next. **Star Hotel** was across a lane.

Mr Ramsay's general store, part two story. Built by Mr Roper.

A small shop with dwelling next door, a watch and clock repairs with jewellery, Mr Charlie Falck.

Chemist Shop later became Mr Charlie Hall's (builder) storage for timber. Daughter Anne kept the office.

Milliner owned by Mrs Roche. Later Mr Falck shifted his business there.

New shop and residence were built for the chemist.

Mr O'Meara's bakery, bread was 2lb loaf for one shilling, with all sorts of cakes.

A wheelwright shop

owned by my brother, W.R. Croker, just across the same block of land was Archie Cole's blacksmith shop where all sorts of things were made as well as horses were shod.

Next door was a **newsagent**, but to us

children it was the most wonderful shop, owned by Mrs Stiles, sold all sorts of things. Lollies of all kinds, sticks 2 for 1 penny, toys of all sorts, schoolbooks as well as papers, magazines, stamps, etc.

Mr Fred Reichardt's saddler's shop was next. On



Mr Reichardt's death, that was sold and with another shop became Ernie Arnold's garage.

The **Clarence Hotel** was just across the lane, Mr Michael Clune being the proprietor.

Bank of Australasia with dwelling.

Small lock-up shop where Mr George Wray had his solicitor's office before and

after his marriage.

Dwelling where the **headmaster** of the school lived.

Meurant's blacksmith, wheelwright and undertaker's shops were across the road."

"I was with four or five girls from my class at school, one dinner hour, window shopping in the street, when the first motor car arrived from Beechworth. We were taken for a drive up as far as the hospital is now and back to the street."

RECENT EVENTS

In November the Museum conducted the fourteenth Cemetery Walk featuring the members of the Organising Committee of the Coronation Festival in honour of King Edward V11 in 1902. A big thank you goes to the following persons who helped



The Annual Cemetery Walk, enjoying some decent Spring Weather and no masks.

make the day a success; Thelma Buchanan for organising the event and the stories, Nancy Penny who produced the booklet, Robyn Burns-Taylor, and Greg Taylor for placing a floral tribute on each grave and to the readers of the stories; Trevor Matthews, Dan Carberry, Clare Cunnington and Rob Sangster and all the other volunteers who assisted in the preparation and on the day.

The walks, which are generally conducted twice annually, tell the story of past residents of Yackandandah, it is an interesting and personal way to learn the history of those who came before us. Keep an eye out for our next walk in 2022.

Continued on page 21



Yackandandah & District Historical Society Inc.

21 High St Yackandandah 3749 P:02 6027 0627

museum@yackandandah.com

Blog: yackandandahmuseum.wordpress.com

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AGM: After several postponements, due to the lockdown, the YDHS AGM was held in November. Details of the new committee positions will be available in the next edition of Yackity Yak.

WHAT'S ON

CURRENT EXHIBITION: Filling our homes with music is an exhibition currently open at the Museum. Featuring sheet music, musical instruments, and recorded music, you can listen to one of the 78 rpm records in our collection if you use your smart phone to scan this QR code ...



"A kiss to build a dream on"

Louis Armstrong with Orchestra, Decca, 1952

Yackandandah and District Historical Society Collection

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE (1st prize includes a leg of ham) – Tickets will be on sale in High Street (outside the Newsagency) on the **4th and 18th December** or in the Museum. For further information contact the Museum.

P: (02) 6027 0627 /

E: museum@yackandandah.com /

Website: yackandandahmuseum.wordpress.com

Facebook: *Yackandandah Museum*

OPEN: 10:30am – 3:30pm Wed–Sunday (Vic school holidays – every day, same hours)



“Better to Light a candle than curse the darkness “

Currently Amnesty Yack are concentrating their efforts on behalf of the Biloela family and the remaining refugees on Manus Island and Nauru. If you would like to support the Biloela family or the refugees on Manus Island and Nauru you can write to the Immigration Minister and the Prime Minister, respectfully requesting that the family are allowed to return to Biloela, where they have a home and support, also that the youngest daughter, Thania, be granted a temporary protection visa, which has currently been denied by Minister Hawke.

For the Refugees on Manus and Nauru. We call for the Morrison Government to end the brutal inhumanity and provide permanent safe homes for those unjustly imprisoned.

You can write to Minister Hawke at: The Hon Alex Hawke MP, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs, House of Representatives, Parliament House ACT 2600, and to the Prime Minister of Australia: The Hon Scott Morrison, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600.

Amnesty Yack are also taking part in the Write for Rights Campaign. Sometimes a letter can change someone’s life, which is the idea behind Write for Rights. Amnesty’s global letter writing campaign has been going for twenty years leading up to Human Rights day on the 10th December. It is one of the world’s biggest human rights events.

Like most things it began with a group of friends and a big idea . A group of Amnesty activists in Warsaw, Poland decided to celebrate Human Rights day by holding a 24 hour, letter writing marathon, writing letters day and night on behalf of people whose rights had been wronged. Write for Rights is a moment when Amnesty’s global movement comes together as one, to take action and challenge injustice. From 2,326 letters in 2001 to 4.5 million letters, tweets, petition signatures and more in 2020.

Write for Rights supporters have used the power of their words to unite behind a common purpose-- backing people no matter where they are in the world. Together we have helped transform the lives of more than 100 people over the years, freeing them from torture, harassment, or unjust imprisonment. When everyday ordinary people challenge injustice, we move closer to a world where human rights are enjoyed by all.

If you would like to be involved in the Write for Rights Campaign, you can google Amnesty International for a Write for Rights Activist Toolkit. Join in today, write a letter, change a life.

About us: Our local Amnesty group meets in Yackandandah each month. Group members write letters and take actions concerning human rights. Our group welcomes new members. We undertake actions and events focusing on refugees and Indigenous rights.

**Meeting time: 7pm, every 4th Thursday of the month
Location: Yackandandah Community Centre, High Street**



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OSBORNES FLAT PRIMARY SCHOOL

As Term 4 races by we are delighted at the return of all students to full-time, face-to-face learning, and can't express enough what an amazing job both students and parents did by getting through the extended periods of remote learning during Term 3. Covid 19 restrictions saw many planned events, activities and camps cancelled but we have tried to fit as much into Term 4 as we possibly can.

We managed to get in a visit by the Fruit Fly Circus with a fantastic gymnastic display at the Osbornes Flat Hall; we were able to run our annual Book Week dress-up parade which saw a wonderful array of costumes on display, as was the case when Halloween came around at the end of October, and we were able to get a wood raffle organised and tickets sold outside Foodworks in Yackandandah, which raised around \$500. Like all community groups, our fundraising activities have taken quite a hit over the past two years, so we are grateful for any extra funds we can raise.

Our students had missed out on quite a lot of art lessons from the Mobile Art Van, but have made up for it this term by letting their creativity loose and doing wonderful artwork, some of which is currently on display at the Yackandandah Library.

On the learning front, we are continually focussed on building strong writers at OFPS. Every fortnight we complete a 'Big Write' as a celebration of students writing efforts. Students start with warm



The Big Write

up games, verbal discussions and planning time before writing for a sustained period of time. They then edit their piece and share it with the class.

Following this process, all students provide warm and cool feedback to a peer by using the 'What Works Well' and 'Even Better If...!' scaffold. Students then choose a goal to work on over the next 2 week period and display this on a visible wall in the classroom. The students are now open to accepting feedback about their writing and see it as an



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Stephen Masters

area of continual improvement.

This year three of our students have been involved in the Victorian High Ability program for either Maths or English, which is fantastic for a small school. The students participated in online learning sessions with other students from around the region supervised by a teacher from Virtual Schools Victoria. This month all students across all year levels are participating in the November Numeracy Challenge, completing online maths challenges against classmates as well as students from around the world.

Our Indigo Shire Youth Ambassadors, Edward Greig and Kaidence Jones, are fundraising for Motor Neurone Disease research and support by holding a BBQ at school and having the ever-reliable jelly-beans-in-a-jar guessing competition. We know they will get lots of support and raise lots of money for a great cause.

In relation to our beautiful grounds, our school has just been successful in gaining a Shade Sail Grant which will help provide more outdoor learning areas, and we will be using the Landcare Grant we received earlier this year to re-develop our vegetable garden which will mean lots of great veggies for our cooking classes!!

We are looking forward to a much more settled 2022. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in having a tour of our beautiful school in relation to enrolling a student/s, please contact our Principal, Sarah Kohne on 02 6027 1415.



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HORSES FOR COURSES



On the Rail Trail near Tallangatta (perfectly legal!) - Steve's faithful steed, Sal, 22 years old

I had planned to head down to the horse yards at Anderson's Mill on the outskirts of Marysville on my week off. Due to the prospect of substantial rain, I decided to postpone the trip and do a few local rides.

Saturday – rode from my sister's on Black Dog Creek across farmland (thanks Bob!) into Mt. Pilot National Park. Travelled on some lovely, little used tracks to Little Pilot. These tracks were lined with the early flush of wildflowers – yellows, purples

and mauves – testament of a top season. Up Little Pilot (and I mean little) for some views. All in the same area that Ali wrote about earlier this year. Back for coffee, cake and chatter.

Monday – met a mate at Old Tallangatta, floated up George's Creek to Plateau Road (a fair pull) to a picnic spot atop Jarvis Creek Regional Park. The plateau is a damper, beautiful slice of bush – brimming with birdlife. We rode out along a drier ridge on Mitchell's Track affording some great views of the weir. Almost at the end at a gateway you can glimpse the Albury War Memorial through the trees! Approximately 25kms as the crow flies, we came back on Central Track and others where your horse needs a level of fitness and shoes.

Wednesday – up early, horse in the yard, in for coffee and brekkie. Predicted rain coming this afternoon.

Destination – Railway Station at Tallangatta for a pro-active jaunt along the rail trail to the Mitta River. A 15km return trip and a better ride than it sounds. Changing water levels take it from a river over to mud flats and billabongs teeming with water birds to waves lapping the high water mark. The track runs alongside the paved trail whenever it can, through some remnant bush and mature plantings. Ensure you give way to all other users and watch out they don't sneak up behind you!



The Hume Weir, near Old Tallangatta

Saturday – floated near Barnie to ride in the National Park. The friend I was meeting with had to cross the border from the "Dark Side." So, it makes a useful meeting place halfway. In such a short distance, a much drier forest with far less understorey. A sea of yellow wildflower carpets in some areas. We rode to Magenta Mine and checked its viewing platform, It showed us how tough life was for men and women not so long ago.

Now I'm always looking at maps, but we need only to lift our heads to broaden our horizons. Marysville?Soon!

Steve Pearce, Staghorn Flat



Reg's Rain Report

A little boy says to his teacher "Miss, can I get into trouble for something I didn't do?" The teacher says "Of course you can't!" So the little boy says "Oh that's good because I didn't do my homework..."

| 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 | 190.6 | 20 |
| August | 59.8 | 11 |
| Sept | 133.8 | 11 |
| Oct | 71.8 | 13 |
| Nov to 18th | 110.6 | 6 |
| TOTAL | 1025.0 | 106 |
| 2019 to 16/11 | 612.2 | 92 |
| 2020 to 16/11 | 841.4 | 111 |

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FEATHER AND DRUM AND CAT LEAHY

It's not often that you get real honest handmade and bespoke items these days, but tucked away in a small shop in Yack is Feather and Drum. You may almost walk past the window and not



Shop 3, 2 High Street, Yack Feather & Drum

spot this little gem unless you are an inveterate window-spectator, but don't miss it if you are on foot and in Yack.

Hat making has been a dying trade that's now coming back into vogue. Most major cities will now have a hat maker, and there are milliners in some regional areas making the race-goers' fascinators and so on.

But Cat is a Hatter. With the shop, Cat's main aim is to bring something historical and handmade back to Yack. In earlier days, every small town the size of Yackandandah, would have had



At work with tools of the trade

a hat maker, and she loves the thought of this handmade speciality returning to Yackandandah. Equipment can be very specialised and some of it's over two hundred years old and available only by tracking it down on websites and marketplaces. The felt comes pre-dyed, although Cat does do some original hand dying to suit her clients.

Hat-making is a new skill that Cat has learnt over the last two years sparked off by COVID and the temporary closing down of the touring music business. She saw a man wearing an amazingly original hat which he had made himself and the seed was duly sown. A course in June 2020 in Melbourne with Waltraud Reiner, hat maker, was cut painfully short because of an outbreak of COVID-19 followed by one of Melbourne's interminable lockdowns, but Cat jammed as much knowledge as she could into the curtailed course and Waltraud has now become a mentor for Cat, teaching on-line and passing on her extraordinary hat-making skills.

The process starts with a capeline (the hat body), but after that, everything carried out to the bespoke hat, is done by hand. Once the head measurements are confirmed, it's over to the block library to pick the correct size and then to block the hat using steaming and stretching. The hat is sanded back to remove any coarse or unwanted hairs, the head fitting band is sewn in, the hat steamed again and bashed, and then the final dressing of the hat is carried out to the customer's order. Most hats purchased today off the peg are made in factories and take about 20 minutes in all to complete from start to finish. Cat's hats will take anywhere between five and eight hours depending on



Special hat-making equipment

adornments to the finished tifter*.

As a musician herself, Cat carries out a lot of hat-making for fellow musos including Kate Cebrano and Bobby Alu. Initially, she was working purely from home, but found that hat-making takes up an unconscionable amount of space, and so she jumped at the opportunity to take up a space at Shop 3, 2 High Street, Yackandandah. Feather and Drum is a gorgeous little place, full of interesting items - not just hats, and somewhere that Cat wanted to make into a comfortable environment for her customers, in particular men, who often find the shopping process less than accessible.

Since Feather and Drum's inception, most bookings have come from Cat's website, but now things are easing with COVID-19, there are far more visitors to the shop which makes it easier to decide on the



How to dress up your hat and make it entirely individual.

finished product. Cat also encourages items of sentimental value (such as Dad's cufflinks or similar items) to be incorporated into the finished design, to really see the personalisation of a very special hat.

Cat also carries out repairs, so if you have a favourite hat that is slightly the worse for wear, then she is happy to take a look at it for you and give a quote for cleaning and carrying out certain repairs to gussy it up again.

Other items for sale in Feather and Drum include pet tags and dog collars including some great indigenous artwork; Yack Caps - a new twist on the tourist cap but funky and modern! These will be redesigned twice a year, and the new batch



Not just hats for sale - come and take a look at all the other bits and bobs that you wouldn't expect!

coming in soon features mountains and the palm trees from the Yack Memorial Gardens. Aussie made sunscreen for sensitive skin using local indig ingredients is also available, plus face masks, tea cosies, guitar straps and Aussie bands' music.

Away from the hats and as a musician, Cat is one half of the band "This Way North," an indie-pop-rock two piece band with fellow muso, Leisha Jungalwalla (guitar and vocals) and Cat (drums and vocals). Of course, this has taken a bit of a back seat over the last couple of years, but they are now looking at small, condensed tours rather than large scale trips overseas in the past. International festivals have already made contact so things may change once borders re-open. However, in the short term "This Way North" have a concert booked in Yackandandah next May 2022, so watch out for that!

And as another feather in Cat's hat, she is also a music booking agent. This started in 2008 managing friends and acquaintances and then international acts visiting festivals and small tour runs. She is looking forward to the music industry's recovery

post-COVID before starting this up again so fingers crossed that we are over the worst of the lockdowns and life can regain some sense of normality again...

Email: hatter@featheranddrum.com

Web: featheranddrum.com/

* tifter - Cockney rhyming slang tifter tat = hat



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RECIPE OF THE SEASON

SAVOURY SUMMER PUDDINGS

Makes 6 Prep Time: 10hr Cook Time: 12min

Ingredients

- 2 red capsicum, seeds removed, quartered
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1/4 teaspoon dried chillies
- 500 gms chopped ripe tasty tomatoes
- 1/2 teaspoon caster sugar
- 2 tbsp chopped basil, + 6 leaves to garnish
- 18 slices white bread
- 2 teaspoons red wine vinegar
- 4 tablespoons good-quality pesto



Method

- Preheat grill to high. Grease 6 x 150ml dariole moulds or small bowls.
- Place capsicum on a tray and grill until skin is blackened. Remove, place in a plastic bag and leave to cool. Remove blackened skin and seeds. Chop flesh into small cubes.
- Heat half the oil in a frypan, add onion and cook over low heat, stirring, for 2-3 minutes or until soft. Add garlic, chilli and capsicum, cook for about 3 minutes, then add tomatoes with their juice, and season well. Add sugar and basil and cook for a further minute. Place a sieve over a bowl, pour tomato mixture into sieve and leave to drain for 30 minutes.
- Meanwhile, cut 6 circles out of 6 bread slices for the bases of the moulds. Remove crusts from the remaining slices, then cut into 2cm strips.
- Combine vinegar and remaining olive oil with the juices that have drained from the sieve. Taste for seasoning. Briefly dip bread circles in tomato juices and place in the base of moulds, then dip bread strips in the juice and line sides of moulds.
- Fill moulds with drained mixture in the sieve. Cover with any overhanging bread to enclose base. Cover with plastic wrap, top with a plate or tray weighed down with cans, and refrigerate overnight. To serve, invert puddings onto serving plates, drizzle with any remaining tomato juices and pesto. Garnish with basil leaves.

Recipe courtesy of Delicious



Still Life With a Twist - just a small sample of items to capture in watercolour. PC: Nancy Sluga

difference in everyone's work from start to finish was nothing short of miraculous. Charles is a wonderful teacher, incredibly talented and so very generous in his instruction. In this particular course, we were encouraged to look outside the "standard" still life, which can be pretty static and uninspiring from time to time, to think about different ways to position,



A demonstration from Charles to show exactly what he meant and how to do it! PC: Nancy Sluga

light, hang and generally become far more daring in what you would normally chose to paint.

The course was restricted to Victorians only this around, as there were still on-going issues with COVID lurking about, but we will all be looking forward to seeing what Charles (and Nancy) will be putting on in 2022 as things slowly return to a new normal and hopefully lockdowns become a thing of the past.

A terrific week - what with painting and Nancy's amazing morning teas. Thanks to you both. Ali Pockley

The past two years have played absolute havoc for a lot of small business, and it was only with luck and a fair wind that I was able to attend the only 2 watercolour workshops that Charles Sluga was able to put on during 2021. The second of these was "Still Life with a Twist", and 8 intrepid "would be" watercolour artists met at the Sluga Gallery at the end of October just after the last lockdown had been called off. A great week of learning, painting, sweating and swearing over their watercolours was had by the lucky students.

It was a terrific week of learning and the



Some of the finished artworks. PC: Nancy Sluga



Examining and critiquing artwork is a very important part of the process. PC: Ali Pockley



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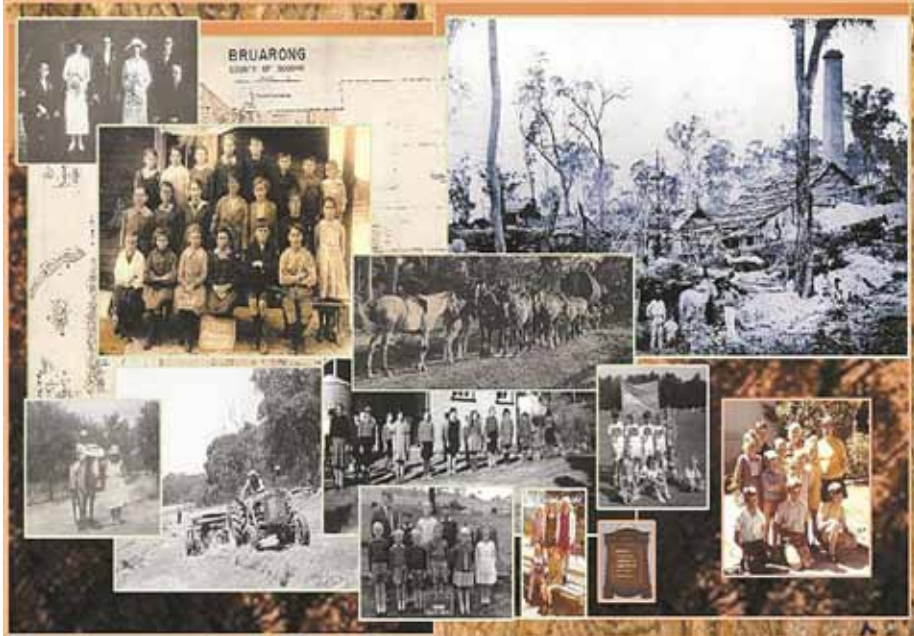
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'Capturing History – Bruarong Stories Remembered'

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On Saturday 12th February, 2022 - 10.30am to 3.30pm at
Bruarong Community Centre



Come and see our history and have a cuppa. All are welcome to view the stories of Bruarong residents past and present which have been captured through images, documents, research and reminiscences donated by families from the area. This wealth of information has been presented as a series of display panels.

We are continuing to compile Bruarong family stories, history and photographs. Thursday 31st March 2022 will be the closure of when we can accept this valuable information so if you have something you wish to share, please contact us below. By mid 2022, a digital Bruarong History research resource holding all of the valuable stories and photographs gathered will be held at the Yackandandah Library.

Following this, there is planning in progress towards publication of a History of Bruarong book.

Annette Bowers 0407 288 873 Ross Martin 0400 211 603

Heather Hillas 0458 118 234 Ruth Yule 0423 335 580

TWO THOUSAND EWES (with apologies to Banjo Paterson)

There was movement on Willurah for the word was getting round
That two thousand ewes were coming from the plain,
They had just been found away out on the twelve mile border fence,
And the overseer's head was racked with pain.



'Twas the last day of the shearing and the team was due to leave,
When the word came through, two thousand more to shear,
How those shearers cursed that overseer, their language meant to grieve,
Each one thinking of Conargo beer.



'Twas decided by a vote that they'd stay and shear the sheep,
Though 'twould mean another weekend on the place,
But shearers love good shearing where the wild bush jumbucks bleat,
And the sheep dog shows his pleasure in his face.

With the sheepyard gates wide open, the ewes came pouring in,
Underneath black clouds of Riverina dust.
The ringers cursed quite loudly at the kelpies as they jumped
Into the nearest troughs, their thirsts to quench a must.

When the dust at last had settled, the shearers gathered round
To see what sort of shearing these would be.
But their mouths they gaped a-tremble, & their eyes grew big & round,
For never did such sheep a shearer see!



They were giant horny cobblers, with fierce defiant eyes,
And they shook the ground each time they stamped their feet.
Their hooves were long and curly and their bushy eyebrows wide
Had grown to shade their eyes from summer heat.

They were dags from tail to shoulder & their legs were brown with stain,
Their fleeces matted solid with the burr.
Their shoulder wool was lumpy, red and green from winter rain,
And their backs were full of saffron, sand and furze.



Their fleeces were so long, they dragged behind them in the dust,
It must be three years at least since they were shorn.
To hear those shearers cursing, one would swear they must
Rescind their vote, be in their cars and gone.

Yet even while they argued, a car was heard to speed away
Out on that dusty road that leads to town,
For the overseer decided it was time to call a day
To this crazy life of chasing sheep around.



And in the dusty Riverina where the saltbush branches sway,
And mirages ebb and flow across the plain,
On renowned Willurah Station, shearers still refer today
To the year two thousand ewes were found again.

John McIntyre

This is a poem I wrote after being a trainee-wool classer on a south-western NSW property in the 1950s. It is a reflection of the facts, but was written with the usual poetic licence.

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THE ARTS IN YACKANDANDAH

Arts Yackandandah AGMs have taken on a different flavour during the COVID-19 era, adding a performance element that has, in some very small way, compensated for Arts Yack's reduced ability to stage creative events. After reporting on the previous year and electing a new committee, the recent AGM also featured a soiree of amateur performances by committee members and Arts Yack supporters.



Magic Lanterns - Margie Gleeson of Yack Theatre Company making magic

The twenty attendees were treated to songs with ukulele accompaniment, a short film, a trumpet solo, a lantern making demonstration, and a reading of original prose. Following the format established in 2020, the attendees were amazed at the breadth and depth of talent amongst our amateur local creative community.

Doubling as a farewell to Bev Lello, who departed the organisation after a dozen years'



Bean counter, Tim Evans (Treasurer) showing more esoteric skills on the ukulele and a fine tenor voice

reminder of twenty years' worth of hairstyles and costumes.

At a time when the limitations on public performances and events are so evident, the soiree/AGM continues to be a reminder of the strength and diversity of our local creative

service as Secretary, was a retrospective of her involvement in the Yackandandah Theatre Company over the last twenty years. For many it was a fond trip down memory lane, for others an astonishing account of her commitment to the Company, and for everyone, a shocking

community.

Arts Yackandandah extends a very warm welcome to new committee members joining for 2022, Candice McLeod and Glen Aberle, who join Sally Dodds (Vice President) Chris Zerbst (Secretary) Tim Evans (Treasurer), Frances Higgins, Margie Gleeson, David Pietsch and Jim Ralston. It will be an exciting year ahead.

Chris McGorlick, President



Arts Yack President, Chris McGorlick, sharing his trumpeting skills at the AGM. Chris is no stranger to sharing his playing with the Yack community as he is often seen to be playing The Last Post at the Yack Memorial Gardens on Anzac Day and Remembrance Day

Yackandandah Theatre Company

"Comings and Goings"

An event that explores what it is like to live in, to love, to leave and return to Yackandandah.

Performance to be May 2022

If you are interested in being involved, please contact:

Margie Gleeson

margie56@bigpond.net.au

0419 271 058

Art

You know it; it knows you
A long-forgotten friend
Even unknown now
Now joyously renewed
With much laughter
The art that speaks to you, my friend.

Stephen Masters

Art that speaks to me
Art that touches the hearts
Of the heartless
With smiles that sail
That trigger tears
Where tears fall
A soul-to-soul thing
Without knowing it
Art that makes the psyche smile gently



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UKE-N-DANDAH

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

Monday night sessions are back!
7 - 8.30 pm on Monday evenings
at the Courthouse.

Please come and join us.

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



FRESH AND UNFRAMED 2021, BACK AFTER THREE YEARS

Yackandandah's own art exhibition, *Fresh and Unframed*, returned to the Courthouse from 29 October to 2 November, after a three-year break. Not to be beaten by COVID-19 restrictions and uncertainty, our coordinator, Kirsten Coates, was the inspiration for the event. It was a simpler occasion this time to avoid the complications of postponement or cancellation, and we were lucky with the timing of the end of lockdown. Although it was disappointing not to be able to hold the Big Draw on the previous weekend or the opening ceremony to launch the exhibition, artists were very keen to participate and Yack residents and visitors were glad to have our much-loved *Fresh and Unframed* back in Yack again.

Fifty seven artists entered one hundred and forty artworks in a variety of media, including five 3D works.

Prizes were awarded by the judge, Cornelia Selover, a well-known artist from Wodonga.

Winner of the *Hal Slatter Memorial Award* of \$500: Mandy Labram for her print 'Eucalyptus Verdigris' (pictured)



Winner of the Hal Slatter Memorial Award - Mandy Labram

Highly recommended artworks with \$50 to each artist: Geraldine Hall for her water colour 'Winter', Vicky Johnson for her triptych print 'Fragile Earth', and Kerryn Wilson for her

acrylic painting, 'Bucolic'.

The People's Choice Award of \$250 went to Julia Lumley for her work 'What Season is it? Ask the Trees'.

Some four hundred visitors attended the exhibition, with both artists and visitors praising the high standard of the works and Kirsten's excellent curation.

Fresh and Unframed wouldn't have been possible without the support of many people. Thank you to:



Enjoying the Fresh and Unframed exhibition at the Yack Courthouse for the first time in three years

- Arts Yackandandah for backing the event;
- Judge, Cornelia Selover;
- Richard Nunn, Tim and Chris Evans, and Greg Saffin for helping with the collection and return of the display boards, chair moving and more'
- All the artist volunteers, especially Jill Whitford who provided beautiful flowers;
- Tim Evans and Jim Ralston for overseeing the finances and the operation of the Square for electronic payments;
- Lauren Salathiel and Chris McGorlick for their enthusiasm and help with publicity. They have the best words;

- Verily Slatter for her support with promotion and for helping to keep alive Hal's contribution to the visual arts in Yackandandah;
- Richard and Verily for their photographs of the event;
- Margaret Citroen at the Library and David Thorpe at YCC for assistance with printing &
- Wendy Kerr for refreshments for volunteers (the best choc peanut biscuits)!

Arts Yackandandah

The Committee (Kirsten Coates, Wendy Kerr, Sally David and Helen MacCalman) had a lot of fun planning and running the exhibition. It didn't feel like hard work even though there were quite a few hours involved. We had a good mix of skills and experience and enjoyed working together. We would welcome any feedback on this year's *Fresh and Unframed*, especially any suggestions for improvement.

As for the future, there is definitely an appetite for holding more *Fresh and Unframed*s. Kirsten's application for funding for the Big Draw was successful so she is planning to run it in the New Year. As for 2022, we'll keep you posted. If you'd like to be involved in the future, don't hesitate to get in touch through Arts Yackandandah.

The Fresh and Unframed Committee.

YACK WRITERS

Who are the Yackandandah Writers?

The Yackandandah Writers emerged out of a series of weekly writing workshops which I ran during July and August 2016. The group enjoyed themselves so much they decided to continue meeting once a month to share and comment on each other's writing in a supportive environment.

Five years on, the group has grown and flourished. Each month the members tackle a writing task and brace themselves for constructive criticism and encouraging comments. At the end of 2020 we were able to put together an anthology, *Convergence 2020*, which was the product of the writing tasks we had set ourselves over the course of that year. Each piece was improved on through the process of writing, receiving and acting on feedback. We are currently putting together a

second anthology, *Convergence 2021*, and plan to have it for sale at the **Yackandandah Christmas Fun Fair on Sunday, 5th December**.

Writers are people who love to write. However, to finish and polish pieces they need feedback and encouragement. This is one good reason to join a writing group. Another reason is that most writers also write to be read. It is a joy to see an idea you have imagined become words and sentences and finally a story, essay or poem, and see it printed on the page in a newspaper, book or magazine. Our anthologies are a first step to being published for many of our group and I know it gives them the encouragement and confidence to keep writing.

Several of our group have published more widely. This year I was pleased to win the Kathryn Purnell Poetry Prize run by the Society of Women Writers

of Victoria; Michael Metzger won the Winter Words (100 words) Competition which was part of the Beechworth Winter Words Festival in June this year. Michael has also recently published a memoir, *Under a Different Star*. The official launch of Michael's book has been delayed by COVID-19, but we now plan to have a **"Meet The Author" evening on Friday, 3rd December in the Yackandandah Courthouse**. Michael's memoir and my short story collections, *Tailwind* and *Borrowed Spaces*, will also be available to purchase at the Christmas Fun Fair.

Yackandandah Writers meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm in the Yackandandah Courthouse. New members are very welcome.

Please contact Bev Lello at beverley.ello@gmail.com

Bev Lello

Dear Santa (a very short story)

'I want a puppy for Christmas,' announced my 4-year-old son. Not for the first time either. 'Santa doesn't deliver live animals,' I said. My standard answer. 'Why?'

'Because it would be cruel to keep them in a sack on the long sleigh journey from the North Pole.' 'It would be warm in the sack.' He's very persistent, my 4-year-old.

'It would poop and wee.' This information delivered knowledgeably by his older sister. 'On my tool set.' I felt very proud of her. No Barbies for this one.

'Arthur got a puppy for Christmas last year.'

'Arthur's puppy was really from his Uncle Alan. Remember it was delivered in that big box. It came in a special truck, not a sleigh.' *And Arthur's mummy was not pleased*, I thought to myself.

'It was Santa. Arthur said he asked for it in his letter. He put glitter around it.'

'Glitter's bad for the environment,' says big sister. It's nice having an ally when you get into an argument with a 4-year-old.

The discussion went this way and that way. I was making the Christmas cake and I lost track of whether I'd added the spices or not. Four-year-old was like a puppy himself who wouldn't let go of a nice chewy slipper. I despaired. Christmas Day would be ruined if the puppy didn't materialise beneath the tree. But I know one person who DID NOT WANT A PUPPY because they would be instantly besotted and ... but ... NO, NO, NO ... they'd be up all-night mopping up wee, letting it out, letting it in, opening cans of dog food, vacuuming up hairs, and Arthur's mummy said she didn't sleep properly for a month and ...

'Mum, mum,' says big sister. 'You're making the cake batter go all over the bench.'

Father Christmas broke all the rules about delivering live animals. We called her Bell.

Bev Lello

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Yack Tracks – a bush escape during COVID



Clearly a lot of manpower goes into the construction and maintenance of the tracks

The Yack Tracks mountain bike network is now well known to most in the area. For those unfamiliar though, it is a community-built trail network in the Stanley Forest with around 60km of tracks dedicated to cyclists, runners or walkers. Searching online for Yack Tracks should bring up our page on the Explore Yackandandah website, including a map of the trails. Despite the effects of COVID-19 over the last two years, the tracks have served as an escape into the bush for individuals to exercise, or simply reconnect with the outdoors. A track counter at the beginning of one of the more popular trails has registered over 20 000 people passing that way since the beginning of COVID. The vast majority of these people are riding bikes, but the trails are seeing increasing numbers of trail runners as well as a steady stream of walkers.

The maintenance required for keeping 60km of track clear and safe is a monumental task; nine hundred hours this year alone, and 4,500 since the network was formalised. The Yack Track network is entirely built and maintained by community

volunteers, and despite the various restrictions this year, our hardy volunteers were kept very busy clearing 208 fallen trees (that's more than one every two days of the year!) and brush cutting for over 80 hours. Our regular working bees were severely curtailed this year. However, between lockdowns, some significant water erosion problems were sorted out, and improvements made to the Home Trail alongside Bells Flat Road.

With all of this maintenance being carried out, those volunteers also paid the costs associated with using their own equipment, but a recent grant from the Indigo Shire has resulted in the club obtaining machinery for the volunteers. The Yack Tracks committee applied for and were successful in a grant to purchase brush cutters, a chainsaw and a leaf blower. The club has also received a couple of donations from locals, so there's now a good range of maintenance machinery. Speaking of maintenance,



Teamwork is the name of the game



A pause for refreshments. Great to see such a wide age group helping

we've had support with maintenance and chain sharpening from local business Yack Mower Shed. The Yack Tracks committee would like to thank Indigo Shire for helping keep our volunteers equipped to keep the trails open.

To date, both Yack Tracks and the Beechworth Mountain Bike Park have been built by local volunteers, but some years ago the State Government announced funding for a commercially built mountain bike track, known as an Epic Trail, to link the two towns. After much planning, the first sod should be turned early in 2022, and once completed, this will be another exciting option out in our forests.

Although it's not part of Yack Tracks, the final segments of the rail trail to Beechworth are nearing completion, as is the last link of the trail to Osborne's Flat. These provide walkers and cyclists with slightly less challenging, but equally beautiful trails through other parts of our area.

So, if you're looking to explore the local bush on foot or by bike, download a map, or pick up one from Tourist Information located in the Post Office and see what we have in our own backyard.

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Regional Arts Victoria supports Ladybird Education

Ladybird Education is a local business in Yackandandah that offers valuable programs for children and young adults to promote an inclusive & culturally vibrant community through music as well as



supporting the wellbeing of the community through music, empathy and mindfulness. Tijana Simic, director of Ladybird Education, collaborates with various local musicians to deliver programs

which include weekly preschool music classes, school holiday programs, programs at local kindergartens & playgroups, school holiday programs & music workshops at festivals.

When bushfires hit North East Victoria, Tijana left Yackandandah with her two children for a period of 4 weeks to avoid hazardous smoke conditions. She was unable to deliver music programs or plan Term 1 activities due to unknown environmental conditions and their ongoing impact. This impacted the Ladybird Education business and Tijana financially and impacted the community as children were unable to participate in Ladybird Education music programs over this period.

In September 2020, local business, Ladybird Education was fortunate to receive a *Creative Recovery Small Grant* from Regional Arts Victoria (RAV), supported by both the Victorian and Australian Government. The *Creative Recovery Small Grants Program* supports community connection, engagement and resilience for communities impacted by the 2019-20 bushfires in regional Victoria.

Tijana sought funding through the Program to produce a quality music

class video for preschool children with a focus on development of literacy, self-esteem, confidence, gross and fine motor skills as well as encouraging physical activity through body movement and dance. The RAV grant has given Tijana a new opportunity to write a script, arrange the music and engage local musicians to participate in this musical endeavour.

Working on camera has been a very different experience for Ladybird Education, as all their work until then had been for a live audience. Creating a 'playschool' style experience with a Ladybird Education feel and philosophy has opened up a new creative space for the local business. The video sessions were



filmed on 11th August, 2021 at the Senior Citizens hall, in Yack with many thanks to Indigo Shire for donating the venue as part of their community outreach program.

Local musician Darren Christie was in charge of

the cameras and audio on the day (with the help of his wonderful and supportive wife and musician Marisa Quigley) and he is currently in the process of tirelessly editing the footage for the final product.

Meredith Greenwood, Rowan Brown and Pete Denahy were all part of a wonderful musical collaboration which has included a mix of Ladybird Education original songs as well as traditional folk songs from around the world. Beata Heymann, the Director of Breath Circle, was very generous to donate her time to help bring the world of mindful breathing

to pre-schoolers in this project.

Ladybird Education was also very fortunate to engage 3 children Kinu

Edwardes and Aidan

Dent (with the very supportive help of their mother) and Tijana's son, Fela Gilbert. The project gave the children a wonderful opportunity to be involved in something quite different to their day-to-day experiences- singing, rapping and being very patient over the course of the many hours of filming on a green screen!

Collaborating with local artists has helped strengthen community connections and engagement and has assisted artists in their short-term financial recovery from the bushfires. The videos once completed will be free for teachers and parents to access via the Ladybird Education Facebook page and website and promoted via social media. This



project will assist in recovery for children who have missed out on quality music education over the Summer period due the bushfires as well as during COVID-19.

Stay tuned

and please visit www.ladybirdeducation.com.au

and like us on <https://www.facebook.com/theladybirdsmusic/> to receive more updates and access to these fantastic preschool music resources which will be live by Christmas 2021.



Christmas is coming...

(ready or not!)

Here's a few ideas...

Jigsaw Puzzles

New York Puzzle Company
Cavellini
Ravensburger

Kids Gifts

Play Doh
Tiger Tribe Activities
Arts & Crafts Bar

Gentlemens Hardware
Moleskine Notebooks
Decomposition Books

Homewares

Red Tractor Tea Towels
Ashedene Mugs, Trays +

Books & More

This Christmas will be the first time many families have seen each other since the pandemic began, and a free app is available to help them record their loved ones' life stories while they're together.

Dimity Brassil, founder of Albury's audio life story startup A Lasting Tale, says the festive season is the perfect opportunity to sit down with a parent or grandparent and record their audio memoir - especially after the loneliness and isolation of our COVID-19 restrictions which were particularly hard for our loved elders. "Families have missed a lot of celebrations and special moments together over the past two years. It's really emphasised how important it is to capture the stories, wisdom and voices of our elders while we can."

The free, easy to use A Lasting Tale app enables people to record their own life story, or that of a loved one, on their smartphone. Guided questions appear on screen during the recording

**Hear their voice forever.
Give an audio life story
this Christmas.**



Visit www.alastingtale.com or call Dimity on 1300 527 846

and include pre interview research, an in-home recording session, and an edited full-length life story. "We haven't had one person who hasn't loved this process yet. Some are reluctant but we're experts at making them feel relaxed and so they really open up and enjoy the occasion. It just says to us that everyone wants to talk and have someone listen, especially as they journey into their later years in life".

Our recordings are completely private and are a popular gift. "Often family members will go in together and give a professional audio life story to mum, dad or a grandparent as a gift. It's a really wonderful experience for the person we interview, but it's special for the family too, to be able to hear the voice of that person forever."

To book a professional life story interview, view a snippet of Yack local Paddy's story, or download the free app, visit alastingtale.com



Dimity & Betty enjoying a life story interview


The free app to help Yack families record their loved ones' life stories this Christmas

to help the conversation if needed. One question that always resonates is "What moments have made you the happiest?" "We know that people are interested in recording their loved one's life story, but they often find it difficult to ask the right questions to extract the stories, and therefore we created this free app

to help them get the conversation started." A Lasting Tale also offers professional audio life story packages. Our local interviewers are Bronwen O'Shea from Barnawartha, Dimity Brassil and Rachel McNamara (both from Albury). These podcast-quality recordings are conducted in person




Hayley & Betty (Grandmother and granddaughter) using the mobile app




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YACK LIONS CLUB



The Yack Lions Club's famous weekend markets will hopefully be held from

9 am - 1 pm on the following Sundays

19th December, 2021
And then in 2022:

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 16th January, | 20th February |
| 20th March | 17th April |
| 15th May | 19th June |
| 17th July | 21st August |
| 18th September | 16th October |
| 20th November | 18th 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 COURTHOUSE?

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.

Jess Padbury, the Booking Officer can be contacted by email at: publichall@yackandandah.com or by mobile on 0400 603 416



Quality Fuels & Lubricants



TASCO Petroleum is thrilled to share their new supply partnership with Yackandandah Community Development Company Limited Service Station.

TASCO is a proudly family owned and country based company that has expanded from small beginnings to a large company rich in history that spans over 60 years. With locations across regional Australia, TASCO now supplies quality fuels, lubricants and TASCOplus AmpolCard to the Yackandandah Community Development Company Limited Service Station.

Ray Hamilton, a TASCO Petroleum Representative visited Yackandandah before the first bout of COVID and instantly fell in love with the small, lush green town that he describes as "an incredible little town, with amazing greenery and locals to match." Ray saw the potential in a supply partnership with the Yackandandah Community Development Company Limited Service Station and admired the story behind it along with the dedication and hard work by locals that has ensured it is the amazing business it is today, "A traditional, one stop shop for farmers and the town as a whole, it has almost everything they could need!" Ray says.



Supplying a majority of fuel to the town and beyond, is proof that business is booming for the Yackandandah Community Development Company Limited Service Station with extra profits being dispersed back into and throughout the town itself. The site incredibly supplies assistance to local charities, families and causes where needed. With well over 12 months of hard work and despite the setbacks from COVID, TASCO now proudly provides the town and Service Station with quality AMPOL fuels through the pump with an additional OPT (Outdoor Payment Terminal) that provides 24/7 fuel access to the town, a huge range of both AMPOL and MOBIL lubricants along with their TASCOplus AmpolCard, a fuelcard solution that is a great way to manage and consolidate all your fuel costs.



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YACK RIDING CLUB

And now onto horses....

On Saturday, 13th November, members of Yackandandah Riding Club (YRC) were lucky enough to attend their wildly successful AGM and presentation night - an actual event for the first time in two years. It will come as no surprise to locals that YRC is an immensely popular club, having exploded



Melinda Johnson, retiring Rally Organiser and steed

over recent years, as people flock in from all over the North East to ride and compete at our grounds, hang out with talented and friendly members, and talk each other's ears off about their horses.

In this instance, particular thanks are owed to the Yack Sports Park for coming to the rescue, as the wild November weather would have seen 50+ people

trying to cram themselves around the YRC fire pit or into the uninsulated shed. Due to the wonderful spirit of collaboration that exists in Yackandandah, the Cricket Club rooms were offered as an inside alternative for hosting what has become a large event.

The event was highly anticipated for various reasons. Firstly, there was a 'changing of the guard' moment, as several prominent members of the committee decided to make a run for the promised land of 'free time' (i.e. more time to ride horses, pat horses, talk about horses, drink wine), and other members were duped into 'being helpful' (having a say in the club

direction, talking about horses, drinking wine). Many thanks and best wishes to our wonderful retiring committee, and official congratulations to our new and returning committee members, especially our new President. Months of fun and frivolity await us as we navigate the 2021/22 year!

Secondly – Presentation Night. Owing to a mixture of locality, tremendous organisational skills and luck, YRC managed to host many in-house events this year that warranted a presentation night involving prizes and ribbons. And honour. All the prestige. Hours spent in training, hundreds of dollars spent on coaching, thousands of dollars spent on various equine related everything – all for that ribbon (maximum cost \$5 – the price of ribbons has gone up).

SHOW JUMPING For those unaware of what's involved - the sport of show jumping involves asking horses to jump over coloured poles in a controlled and timely manner, when the horses have no idea where they are and why they would need to do such an activity. The winning team of the show jumping NorMac Cup, was 'The Pole Dancers'. Congratulations to Team Champions Anna Turner, Louise D'Arcy, Dalene Voigt and Sarah Stewart and their amazing jumping steeds. (On a personal note, thanks for carrying me through that one, I'll try harder next year, promise. Please pick me again!)



Team Champions of the NorMac Cup – from L to R -Dalene Voigt, Louise D'Arcy, Anna Turner, absent: Sarah Stewart. Individual Reserve Champion Kelly Linden and Individual Champion Claire Aldridge

The talented Claire Aldridge managed to win both prizes and ribbons by accumulating the most individual points of the competition on her horse, Stormy, becoming individual Champion of the inaugural

NorMac Cup. Kelly Linden came a close second on The Hoff, winning accolades and ribbons as Reserve Champion. Congratulations and well done for flying, everyone!

DRESSAGE The sport of dressage, aka 'sand dancing', involves accurately communicating the relevant dance steps to a 500 kg equine in a language other than English, and actively paying someone to judge you. This is fought out in the Saddleworld Shield at Yackandandah Riding Club, which once again, has individual and team elements for added inclusivity. Just as it takes many hours of practise for professional dancers to



From L to R - Janine Todd, Donna Picton, Michelle Goding and Rae Kwong – "Di's Divas", winners of the 2021 Saddleworld Shield

look graceful and effortless, so too it takes for our dressage riders to make their tests look lovely and calm. Our team in this event was more my pace – our team name was 'No Pressure'. The full name was 'No Pressure, No Expectations'. We did not win.

Massive congratulations to the Team Champions of the Saddleworld Shield for 2021 - 'Di's Divas' with Janine Todd, Donna Picton, Michelle Goding and Rae Kwong. This was a huge team and individual win, as the dedicated Donna Picton took the top spot as Champion on her horse, Lochie, with marvellous Michelle Goding taking Reserve Champion on her horse, Maverick.

A huge congratulations to all competitors in the events this year, a multitude of thanks to everyone who has helped at events, set up, made cake (very important), showed up, smiled, laughed, rode, walked or worked. Looking forward to an exciting end to 2021, and another big year of riding in 2022!

Sarah Stewart

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YACK TABLE TENNIS CLUB



Struttin' their stuff at the Table Tennis Club

The Yackandandah Table Tennis group were delighted to obtain a grant through the Indigo Shire "Get Active" program, which we hope will help us attract some new members.

We have now bought two new very modern easily erected tables for the group's use along with some

new paddles.

The group were very excited to unveil the tables this week.

We operate at the Scout End of the Nelson McIntosh Stadium at the Yack Sports Park at 10.30 am to 12.30 pm each Monday morning except for Public Holidays.

We welcome anyone interested, no experience needed, just come along and have fun and a bit of exercise.



Socialising is a very important part of the Table Tennis Club - always time for a cuppa!

The YGC competition calendar has come to a close for 2021, and as we go to press, the men's and ladies Club Champions and the 2022 Committee are yet to be revealed at the Club's Presentation Day for ladies and men, which will be held on 12th December. It is time now to reflect on what lies ahead over



Out with the old, and in with the new!

the summer months, until we open up again in March. Work is being carried out to upgrade the facilities at the Clubhouse. The new verandah is the first stage of a proposal to build a new Clubhouse. Worn by time and the occasional dent of an out-of-bound golf ball, the building is tired and needs renewing. The Committee is working hard to secure funding and will continue in their endeavours to make this a reality.

the summer months, until we open up again in March.

Work is being carried out to upgrade the facilities at the Clubhouse. The new verandah is the first stage of a proposal to build a new Clubhouse. Worn by time and the occasional dent of an out-of-bound golf

The course is a public recreation reserve. Walkers, bird watchers, nature lovers, and dogs on a lead are always welcome to enjoy this beautiful location as a leisure activity. Walking track bollards have been placed around the course to make it easy to find the best path to avoid a flying golf ball. With the season now at an end, fewer golfers may be out; however, members will still be enjoying social days, so do be aware of golfers coming down the fairways.

COMING UP

Mid Feb – end March 2022, the YGC will be hosting a special six-week competition for players to 'Come Back to Golf'. It is early days, however, if you are an ex-golfer or someone who likes a hit but doesn't have time during the week, this Saturday morning game is for you. It will be a 9-hole competition, followed by lunch and prizes will be awarded each week; sponsored by Indigo Shire Community Grants 2021-22. Contact Chris on the email below if you would like to find out more. Watch local outlets for more advertising.

The Clubhouse is available for use by the public and can be hired for social gatherings and arrangements. To book the Clubhouse – please phone our catering manager, Marian Barnard on 0438 271 324.

Marian has penned a piece of prose that says it all:



YACKANDANDAH GOLF COURSE AND RECREATION RESERVE WELCOMES YOU

A peaceful place for us all to enjoy,
With beautiful scenery, old sights to explore.
Walk with a friend or just sit on the deck,
Or play social golf if you've had your inject----.
Family night golf is always a hit,
It's all about fun, and the barbie is lit
School groups and weddings, funerals and meetings,
It's the place for reunions, eating and greetings
If you're thinking about exercise, friends and relaxing,
Feel free to call us and make a suggestion.

MB

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

Email: yackgolfclub@gmail.com

Facebook: [Yackandandah Golf Club](https://www.facebook.com/YackandandahGolfClub)

Ladies: chris.zerbst@gmail.com

YACK TENNIS CLUB



Rob Gollan of EDC Electrical installing the new LED lights

The future is looking bright for Yack Tennis Club, super bright in fact and for a very good reason. After a long lead-up, we are extremely proud and grateful to announce the old halogen court lights have been upgraded to fabulous new, long lasting LED lighting. Halogen lighting is notoriously power hungry, regularly blows a bulb, which is, as the Club was regularly reminded, difficult and expensive to replace. Plus, it is not an 'even' source of lighting for playing night tennis so there were many dark corners on the court which led to horrendous lapses in judgement of line calls and a blinding ball of light at the top of the lighting column which led to embarrassingly missed swipes at what could have been a winning smash. The old hodgepodge mixed bag of

halogens definitely needed replacing. There was just one good thing about halogen that kept the club hanging onto them. As expensive an exercise as it is to replace a bulb, it is significantly less than the cost to purchase and install LED. To replace all eight lights the project was approaching the \$30K mark, clearly an investment far beyond the

immediate financial capacity of our Club.

We knew we needed support. When the Indigo Shire Council Sustainability Grants were announced, Yack Tennis Club put forward our case. We were thrilled to be awarded a grant from Indigo Council, which was the starting point that meant the project could become a reality. Further



From left to right: Matt Bayne (Yack Tennis Club), Rex Little (YCDCo), Matt Charles-Jones (TRY), Rob Gollan (EDC Electrical), Kevin Poyner (Sports Park) and Flo Meredith (Indigo Shire Council) celebrate the installation of the new lights

financial support was then also provided, with significant contributions by YCDCo, the Sports Park and Totally Renewable Yack (TRY) with the remainder of the funds by the Tennis Club itself. The lighting upgrade was rapidly becoming a community project for which Yack is renowned.

Through the dark months of winter, the committed Tuesday players kept playing despite another bulb blowing as we waited through the shipping delays for the LED lights to arrive in Australia.

The project was overseen by Rob Gollan and EDC Electrical, who contributed their expertise and donated their time to the installation of the lights with assistance on the ground by YTC Committee members.

It is hard to fathom that this long-awaited upgrade all came to fruition in early November, and we are now playing under beautiful, even, enhanced lighting this summer season.

Our enormous thanks and recognition to everyone who has supported this initiative, including

- Indigo Shire Council – through their Sustainability Grants Program
- YCDCo
- The Sports Park
- TRY
- Rob Gollan, Pat Beattie and EDC Electrical

Our Tuesday and Thursday night players are now enjoying the lighting and there will be no more excuses for those missed smash opportunities...

The Yack Tennis Club is growing and many of last season's Section 4 juniors have progressed to Section 3, with the club forming three teams. There is a Section 4 team for new junior players, and pleasingly, Yack is represented in the Section 1 and Section 2 of the Kiewa Talgarno District Tennis competition. The Club has a new website for news, booking court hire and membership renewal.

Memberships for 2021 / 2022 were due at the end of November. If you haven't renewed, please jump on the new website and do so. Membership allows access to the courts and being involved in competitions, social tennis and coaching. <https://play.tennis.com.au/yackandandahtennisclub/Membership/Join>



Night photography does not do it justice, but these Thursday Night Social Competition players are enjoying the even lighting that the LED upgrade provides.

YACK COMMUNITY BOWLING CLUB

Yackandandah Community Bowling Club have commenced another season of Pennant. We have two teams competing on Saturday and one on Tuesday. An open welcome to all interested persons(double vaccinated) to come to speak to us and join us on the green during our practice

sessions on either Thursdays or Fridays from 4.00pm.

Our annual Community Challenge is scheduled to commence on Thursday, 20 January, 2022. We do need all competitors to be double vaccinated please. Further updates will be provided through

the Yackandandah Community Facebook page.

On behalf of all our members I extend a big heartfelt thank you to all our sponsors. Your support is very much appreciated.

Anne Corcoran, Secretary



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.

Summer Opening Hours at YCDCo

Mon-Friday: 6 am to 7 pm
Saturday: 7 am to 5 pm
Sunday: 8.30 am to 5 pm



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

Our new self-service Coffee Station is up and running! Designed specially for those people who are up and at it early and don't have enough time to get a coffee or a little something for breakfast. Nick into the servo, pick up some fuel and a coffee and get on your way as quickly as possible. What could be easier?



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