

Yackandandah was delighted to hear that John was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in the recent King's 2023 Honours List.

There will be few people who haven't made the pilgrimage up the footpath, through the beautiful garden, trees and shrubs to Kirbys Flat Pottery to check out what John has been creating. At home, we are lucky



to have a few treasured pieces of household pottery made by John over the years and highly prized they are too, not just for their beauty but their useability and practicality.

John's OAM citation states "For services to the creative arts, particularly as a ceramist"

and John feels that what is important in those words is that the award gives much needed recognition to ceramics as a legitimate branch within



John at work - loading the kiln

mainstream arts. For too long, in Australia, (not in Asia or Europe where the ceramic traditions are many thousands of years old) ceramics has been viewed as a hobby, and that potters like John had just taken the hobby somewhat further. John is still occasionally asked "What did you used to do?", a question that would never be directed towards a painter, sculptor, or musician. In the history of the National Gallery of Victoria, John is one of only three potters to have been honoured with a retrospective/survey exhibition that ran for six months in 2019. The other two potters were recognised post-death.

JOHN DERMER OAM

John won the highly prestigious Saltzbrand Keramik International Award in Koblenz, Germany in

2006 in a highly competitive field of six hundred potters, the very first non-European to take the award. Salt glazing has been around since the 13th century, but John's addiction to salt glazing has seen him push boundaries in a long and difficult process. The kiln operates at 1,300° centigrade and a good firing often runs at only around a 20% success rate.

John also produces Terra Sigillata, literally meaning "Earth Seal" – a method of decoration by applying a micro-fine clay coating to pots prior to firing. The process of the second firing is long, each piece separately wrapped in a ceramic-fibre blanket, encasing



The kiln - pre-firing

materials such as salts, oxides and casuarina fronds. John's website at <http://www.johndermer.com.au/> is well worth a view and explains the salt glazing and Terra Sigillata processes in detail with the odd entertaining videos.

John and Shirley have been in Yackandandah for over fifty years now, and John reflected on what he liked about living here. "I particularly enjoy living in the Northeast of Victoria, near Albury Wodonga and especially in Yack with its magnificent scenery and wonderful community spirit. I can't think of any other place I would rather be. When I first moved here, there was a manual telephone exchange so you can imagine the changes we've seen over the years..." John specifically mentioned how much Shirley has helped



John's exquisite pots, fresh from firing

and supported and kept him on track over the years. "It would have been so much harder without Shirley", he said. John also mentioned how there has been a move away from Australian produced clays and glaze materials, which now

sadly are generally coming from China and India. John stopped making his kitchenware some three years ago because of this.

Kirbys Flat Pottery is normally open every weekend and select Victorian school holidays from 10:30am to 5:00pm or by appointment. However, a phone call is advised. See page 26 for details.

2023/24 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
110	Oct/Nov	Friday, 15th Sept, 2023	Tuesday, 26th Sept, 2023
111	Dec/Jan	Friday, 17th Nov, 2023	Tuesday, 28th Nov, 2023
112	Feb/March	Friday, 19th Jan, 2024	Tuesday, 30th Jan, 2024
113	April/May	Friday, 22 March, 2024	Tuesday, 2nd April, 2024
114	June/July	Friday, 17 May, 2024	Tuesday, 28th May, 2024
115	Aug/Sept	Friday, 19 July, 2024	Tuesday, 30th July, 2024

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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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
 * Yackandandah Medical Centre * 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 a king's ransom. Speak with Ali if you would like to advertise & we will do our best to accommodate your wishes.

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

A RAMBLE WITH THE EDITOR

Great to get so much copy for this edition of the paper. Many thanks to everyone who has taken the time to put pen to paper and fingers to keyboards. 36 pages and so much copy flooding in, which results in heaps to enjoy in this edition. We would like to send our congratulations to John Dermer for his recent award. We have so many talented people in this community, and it's always lovely to see recognition of the fact.

Local organisations have been busy over the winter despite the questionable weather, and there have been great collaborations with projects. The Community Centre, Yack Shack, Yack Garden Club and Post Office spring to mind, plus the terrific work done by the Community Centre and Yack Shack with the town defibrillators.

Please keep your stories and photos coming. I've had to bump a few to the next edition due to lack of space which is a happy place to be!

Thanks also to all our advertisers who pay for the whole deal!

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YACKANDANDAH HEALTH BOARD UPDATE
As at 21st July, 2023

Hello from the new Yackandandah Health Board with new members Chair Patten Bridge, Diane Shepherd and Margo Northey, and continuing members Heather Maddock (Clinical Governance) and Ben Evans (Treasurer) from the previous board. We have also recently welcomed Fabian Burder, a past chair, as a new member. The new Board is a mix of old and new members and we are thankful to have the corporate knowledge that Ben, Fabian and Heather provide.

We have finished our second week as Board members and have been on a steep learning curve, gathering information about governance, finances and management areas of the organisation. We have met with the Aged Care residents and families, Aged Care staff, Little Yacks staff and families, and the staff and doctors at the Medical Centre. On our tour and visits to the facilities we have been reminded of the great services that Yack Health is offering to our community, through its Aged Care, Childcare and Medical service divisions. Our community should be so proud of the efforts and care shown by all involved in the delivery of these services.

In this first week we have established a relationship with Apollo Care who are still very interested in transferring the organisation to their management and ownership. They understand a 75% majority support from members is required to secure a transfer of ownership.

We have been able to secure continued support through the Federal Government Structural Adjustment Fund (SAF), which will allow an additional 8–10-week period for the YHL membership base to discuss and work through any issues of concern. Our aim is to work closely with our staff, residents, families, and broader membership to find a secure solution to ensure the ongoing continuity of these vital community services.

COVID-19 created a disconnect between the community and Yack Health and we need to rebuild this connection. We encourage you to become a member of Yack Health if you would like to be kept informed and have a say in the future of the organisation. This is an opportunity for our community to work together and support Yack Health.

In the following weeks we will have opportunities for the members and community to visit Yack Health facilities and will be asking interested members to become volunteers. This will represent a solid level of support for residents, staff, and families and will be an important vote of confidence to all the people involved.

When you are visiting the Aged Care, Little Yacks and Medical Centre you are made very aware that the people attending, working and using these services are all our community members. You can't walk around without seeing someone you know or their mother or their granddaughter in Little Yacks. We have every confidence we can work together to find a solution to secure the future of this 97 year old organisation, and would welcome you to be part of that journey.

WELCOME TO WINTER AT LITTLE YACKS

The children have been busy exploring all things winter and how we can be warm and explore the outdoors and find as much sunshine as we can. The programs have been adapted to ensure the children can get their gross motor muscles moving and exert some energy.

Due to being in the heart of cold season our Intergenerational program has been very spontaneous and outside. The children have used the Care Sanctuary where we can,



A Little Yack burning off some energy

which is always well attended by the residents.

The children have explored NAIDOC week in July where the children learnt some of the histories in a genuine and interactive way. The children learnt about the Torres Strait Islanders' importance of sea turtles and how important these animals are to their lives. We learnt the stories that were shared with our educator in a recent trip around Australia where she learnt about culture, the importance of sharing the stories and genuine observation of the artefacts.

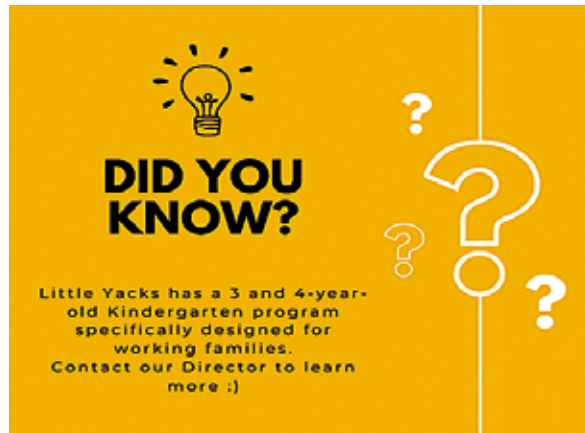
Little Yacks has been lucky to obtain an amazing new teacher join our team. Medini is a huge asset to our wonderful team. We are always on the look out for local educators. If you are interested please



Making those pesky jigsaw pieces fit!

contact our Director, Tamara, on littleyacksdirector@yackhealth.com.au.

Little Yacks is working through our enrolments and programs for next year. With an extensive wait list currently, especially for the 0-2 age groups, we are



doing our best to offer places from our list. We would love the addition of some more educators to support these new enrolments. In 2024, Little Yacks will be offering the following programs:

- Nursery – 0 to 18 months old
- Junior Toddlers – 18 months to 2 years old
- Senior Toddlers – 2 to 3 year olds
- Kinder LDC – 3 to 5 year olds
- 3 year old Kindergarten (x2 days per week)
- 4 year old Kindergarten (x2 days per week)

Information on any of



Little Yacks enjoying the Care Sanctuary



these programs can be obtained from our Director.

Little Yacks enjoyed our first Centre-wide photos where the children were engaged with our photographer and were very brave and happy throughout the activity. The children are now preparing for Pyjama Week, Book Week, and Jeans For Genes Day. We love being involved in supporting charities and our community.

Looking forward to lots more learning at Little Yacks.

YACKANDANDAH MEDICAL CENTRE

Yackandandah Health Medical Centre welcomes Dr Anne McMahon to our team.

Dr McMahon come to us with a wealth of knowledge and enjoys rural general practice and the diversity and challenges that are involved. Dr McMahon is particularly interested in aged care, retired community members and young children.

Dr McMahon will support our current GPs Dr Tess Goodwin, Dr David Oliver, and Dr Emma Polkinghorne. She is currently working every Monday and extra when required.



Our new GP, Dr. Anne McMahon

REMINDER – RESIDENT RELATIVE AND FRIENDS MEETING

Tuesday, 8th August, 2023 @9.30am in the Activities Room or we will establish a Zoom link if you wish to attend virtually.

Are you looking for a way to advocate for the needs and rights of your loved ones at Yackandandah health. Why not join us at the Resident Relative and Friends meeting?

Our group is dedicated to supporting and empowering residents, families, and friends.

We provide a safe forum for discussion, information sharing, and advocacy, with our main goal of improving the quality of care and quality of life for residents.

As a resident/consumer advocate, you will have the opportunity to share your expertise, insights, and ideas on how to improve the long-term care system. You will also have the chance to connect with other advocates and work together to make a real difference in the lives of residents.

We invite you to join us at our next meeting held on the second Tuesday of every second month.

Together we can ensure that our loved ones in care receive the care and attention they deserve.

For further information you can contact Heather Maddock, Chair of the meeting - maddockheather@gmail.com or Becky Hyde - lifestylecoordinator@yackhealth.com.au

Continued on Pages 4 and 6



New Yack Health Board member, Margo Northey, will team up with Lifestyle Coordinator, Becky Hyde to re-establish the link between the Yack Health community and the wider Yack community that was abruptly halted by COVID-19. We're offering small group visits every Friday morning and alternate Saturdays (for those who can't make weekday commitments) so you can see the wonderful facility first hand and perhaps where you might like to volunteer, either in the existing program or new activities if you have a particular skill or hobby to share.

Volunteers in the Lifestyle Department are very welcome to help with the many fun and exciting program of activities and practical supports.

Some ways to be involved include:

- Being a companion or part of our Pastoral Care program
- Walking, reading, and gardening with residents
- Attending resident outings

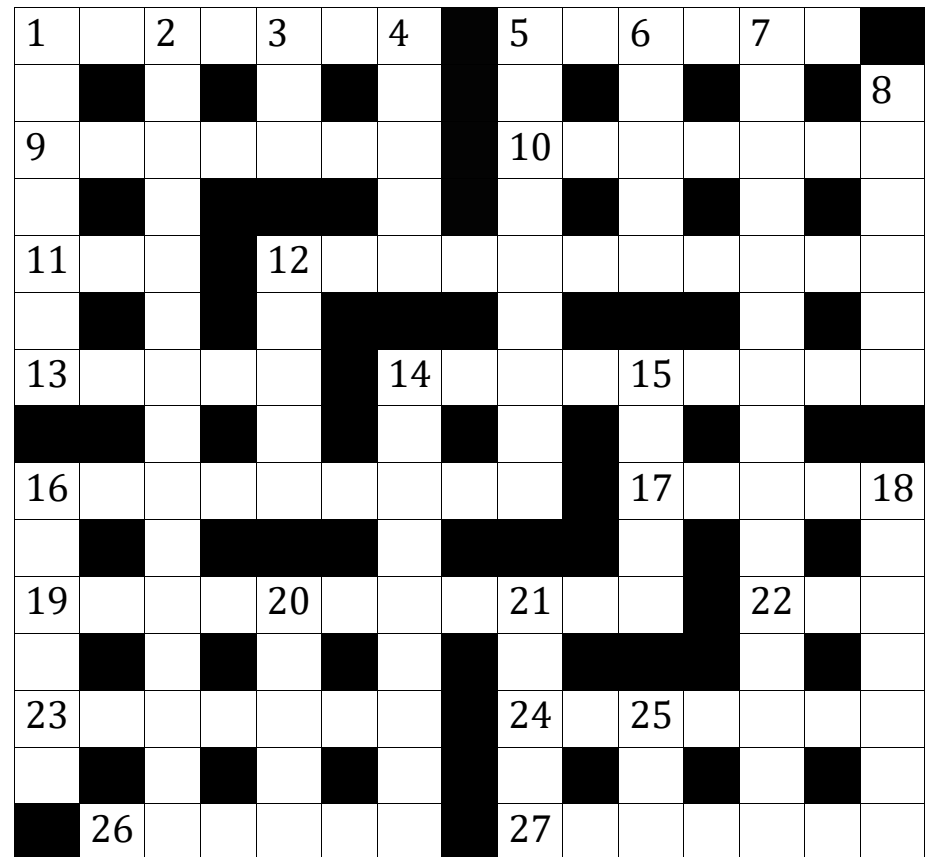
- Coordinating art and craft activities
- Assisting with administrative tasks
- Helping at special events
- Assisting with meals
- Working in our café
- Driving residents to appointments
- Personal care (nails, hair)
- Pampering – hand and/or shoulder massages
- Bingo and musical bingo
- Men's lunch fish and chips
- Friday happy hour
- High tea
- Trips down the road for coffee

Volunteers get to socialise with some fantastic individuals, develop new friendships and assist residents in fun and practical ways. Your skills and abilities will help achieve the best outcomes for our residents and add an extra dimension to your own experiences.

Please contact Becky Hyde, Lifestyle Coordinator on 0438 789 071. Please email info@yackhealth.com.au or call Margo Northey on 0447 848 604 to participate in an initial visit.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD #12

By Bill Buchanan



CROSSWORD CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Cyclonic wind (7)
- 5 Morning glory (6)
- 9 The bobbies will make you pay for this (7)
- 10 Cockney tea leaves ?(7)
- 11 Get on stage at Canberra (3)
- 12 Take a jet and complain until you find it displaying at the lek! (5,6)
- 13 Ester preferred neutered beast (5)
- 14 She studies gems here (6,3)
- 16 His father hid improvised bomb near haystack (9)
- 17 About mixed sphere for chocolate substitute(5)
- 19 Aida could happen here if house is found (6,5)
- 22 They eat eggs in Nova Scotia (3)
- 23 Rotten pies start one dramatic event in the series (7)
- 24 To restrict consumption may be futile (7)
- 26 Bad breath! (7)
- 27 Queues for vile Egyptian river soup. No! Zero. (5,2)

DOWN

- 1 Allow marginal exam result to succeed (3,4)
- 2 The dust will settle after this (4,3,4,4)
- 3 Garland produces smile in islanders' welcome (3)
- 4 Short testament for mother of Barney's wife (5)
- 5 Unusual skill (4,5)
- 6 Ban the beard (5)
- 7 In retirement, you'll stay worm if you do this (4,5,6)!
- 8 Like a bird found at the back of the vessel (6)
- 12 When judges are robed they may lose interest (5)
- 14 Your phone mail may reveal infant's saint (9)
- 15 You will find really crass apparel for cyclists (5)
- 16 Encourage forest management (6)
- 18 Tolerates ursine awakening (5,2)
- 20 He begat Methuselah, but Powell gave him a bad name (5)
- 21 Items of the same quality have the same value (5)
- 25 Spend a long time on solving this clue (3)

Answers to this Cryptic Crossword can be found on page 32



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YACKANDANDAH CFA

NEW YACKANDANDAH FIRE BRIGADE CAPTAIN

Following our elections in May, we welcome our new Brigade Captain, Chris Wingard.



New Brigade Captain - Chris Wingard

Chris replaces Yves Quaglio who has stepped down after six years in the dual role of Captain and Community Safety Coordinator. Chris joined the CFA in 2007 and has been a member four CFA brigades (Mt. Martha, Myrtleford, Ovens-Eurobin and Yackandandah which he joined in 2015.) Prior to becoming Captain, he served as a Lieutenant for eight years and Brigade Training Officer for two with the Yackandandah Fire Brigade.

“I feel honoured to have been elected by my peers to lead our well-regarded Brigade,” said Chris. “The Brigade is equipped with the right mix of appliances (trucks), equipment and operational firefighters and non-operational brigade members to continue looking after our wonderful community.” When asked what Chris plans to bring to the role, he said: “Previous leadership has positioned the Brigade as a strong and active one, and I hope to build on that foundation. At this stage we haven’t put together our plan for the next 12 months, so I can’t talk to any big picture plans at present. However, one project that we have underway is the replacement of our ultra-light tanker (the Mazda Ute you may have seen around). We’re also looking to how we can engage our community further, so we’d like more ‘open house’ functions, where members of the community can come to the station, have a bite to eat, meet the team, ask questions and see the appliances and equipment.”

Chris went on to say: “Most of you have probably seen me around town, so if you see me out and about, please say hello and feel free to ask questions, don’t be scared off by the grizzly beard.”

The Brigade would also like to thank Yves for his leadership and dedication as Brigade Captain.

BRIGADE MANAGEMENT TEAM

There are many roles and jobs that our volunteer members take on to ensure that our Brigade runs efficiently and effectively. Our elected office bearers and position holders for the next two years are:

- Captain (and Community Safety Coordinator) – Chris Wingard
- First Lieutenant (and Fire Equipment Maintenance-Brigade Equipment) – Andrew Padbury
- Second Lieutenant (and Promotion and Publicity – social media) – Jennie McKern
- Third Lieutenant (and Training Officer) – Yves Quaglio
- Fourth Lieutenant (and Asset Maintenance) - Glenn Mailey
- Fifth Lieutenant (and Promotion and Publicity) – Margrit Beemster
- Secretary/Treasurer – Cameron McKern
- Brigade Chairperson – Bryan Smith
- Community Education & Information (and Station Officer, District 24 Women’s Reference group representative) – Karen Mascas
- Vegetation Management – Mark Burbidge
- Fire Equipment Maintenance (FEM) – Ruth Yule
- Minutes Secretary – Cheryl Lundin
- Health and Safety Coordinator – Gavin Mascas
- Group Delegates – Cameron McKern and Yves Quaglio
- VFBV Delegate- Dennis Arne

A big thank you also to all out-going incumbents.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

There’s certainly been a number of opportunities these past couple of months for Brigade members to engage with the younger members of our community.

First was a visit to the fire station on Monday, May 15 by a group of three-year-olds from Yackandandah Kindergarten. Twelve children, three staff and two parent helpers came along to learn more about emergency services and what we do. During their visit the children had the opportunity to use a fire hose from the back of a fire truck to put water on a mock house fire; explore the fire station; to check out the equipment we have on the trucks, and while sitting inside the cabin, use a radio to send messages.

They also got to see the Kindergarten’s Administration Officer, Jennie McKern, decked out

in her structural firefighting gear... which provided an ideal opportunity to explain how the Brigade’s members are all volunteers with other jobs but help put out fires etc. when needed.

“The Kinder annually invites our local emergency services to visit our 3yo & 4yo groups,” says Jane Murray, the three-year-old room teacher. “The 3yo class recently participated in an emergency evacuation drill, which led to conversations about the people in the community who help us. The



Yackandandah Cubs visiting the Fire Station

children then initiated role-play of fire fighters and raised questions about all the things fire fighters do in our community. A visit to the Yack CFA was the next natural progression and this opportunity to take the children to the station to see the trucks, squirt the water and meet some of our local firefighters was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. The children loved recognising familiar faces and some shared that they had a parent/relative in the CFA too.”

Second was a visit by the Yackandandah Cubs on Thursday evening, June 16. Twenty cubs and five leaders/parents had a great time using a fire hose from the back of a fire truck to propel a little fire truck along a hose, to check out the station including the communications room, changing rooms where we house our wildfire and structural firefighting gear, and to clamber aboard the Pumper Tanker to learn more about using radios, pump operation, and crew protection features.

And thirdly, the Brigade was invited by This Way North to provide food and drinks (as a Brigade fundraiser) for the band’s fundraising disco held at the Yackandandah Public Hall on Friday evening, June 23. The band was raising funds to help it get to artic Canada where it had been invited to play at a festival.

The event was well attended, and it was great to see so many of Yack’s younger families (and some not so young) enjoying the evening. Thanks to all who purchased our chilli chicken wraps, soft drinks and water, and/or who



Members of the Yack CFA Brigade Management Team



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

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





made donations to the Brigade.

COMBINED TRAINING EXERCISE

As something a little different on our regular training night, members of the brigade had the opportunity to catch up with fellow firefighters from Allans Flat, Wooragee and Baranduda brigades on Monday, June 5 at the Allans Flat fire station.

Also present were Yackandandah's SES and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). The aim

of the evening was for the local emergency services to get to know each other's members and to familiarise with the appliances/equipment and processes of others so that we can better work together when the need arises as it so often



New Brigade member Daniel Lopez (centre) and Neil Padbury (left) and Yves Quaglio (right) were busy in the kitchen preparing the chicken chilli wraps at the Brigade Fundraiser in June

does.

The evening began with a delicious roast meat meal followed by rotating presentations from CERT, SES, Yackandandah (Pumper Tanker), Allans Flat (Collar Tank) and Baranduda (Pumper). Nearly 50 people attended the highly successful and informative evening.

MAKE A SMOKE ALARM YOUR NEXT BEDROOM ESSENTIAL

Some people think that a smoke alarm outside their bedroom is enough to alert them to a fire. But research has revealed that when a fire starts in a bedroom with the door closed, the smoke alarm outside the bedroom will not activate.

With this in mind, Fire Rescue Victoria and the CFA are advocating that aside from the minimum smoke alarms required by law, that smoke alarms be installed in every bedroom and living area. Suggested options are:

- Good smoke alarms – powered by a 9 volt battery that needs replacing every year.
- Better smoke alarms – powered by a 10 year lithium battery in a tamper proof chamber.
- **Best smoke alarms – wireless interconnected smoke alarm with a 10 year lithium battery backup battery.**



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Yackandandah Positive Ageing Digital Storytelling Intergenerational Project

PADSIP Yack 2023

This project relates to bringing together members of the Yackandandah Health residential aged care facility with Year 6 students from Yackandandah Primary School and Osborne Flat Primary School and volunteers from the Yackandandah community, to foster intergenerational relationships and strengthen community ties.



Through their interactions, participants share their stories, experiences, and knowledge across the generations, with the aim of producing a digital story around the older adults' life stories. These stories will be presented at a special celebratory event for friends and family of the older adults, students, and community volunteers.

It's clear that this project has got off to a flying start looking at all the people involved and the engaged faces behind those masks!

For further information please feel free to contact Mark Silver, Project Coordinator on 0414 898 330 or email at msilver@swin.edu.au.



The Axe in the Wood

I stopped to watch a man strike at the trunk
Of a tree grown strong through many centuries.
His quick axe, sharp and glittering, struck deep,
And yellow chips went spinning in the air-
And I remember how I liked the sight
Of poise and rhythm as the bright axe swung.
A man who fells a tree makes people watch,
A swinging axe has always drawn a crowd.

I know the answers to the chanced reproach:
How old the tree was, and how dangerous,
How it might fall, how timber in a stack
Had more good in it than a growing tree-
But I saw death cut down a thousand men
In that tall lovely legacy of wood.

Clifford Dymont

THE YACK SHACK

As the cold weather grips the region, our kindling cutters have been extremely busy to supply the service station bags of finely honed wood to get those fires going. The demand seems insatiable, and the returns to our 'kitty' very welcomed. Various members have fled north to escape the cold, although we do wonder if any of them drove into a wall of rain in their favoured northern climes.

Larry Kern, with assistance from others including Neil Padbury, has continued working on the wicking beds. These are made from Cypress Pine, a native



The wicking garden beds near the Post Office

Australian timber that is termite resistant. The finished products are a fine example of precision cutting of mortise joints and moulded edges resulting in a high quality addition to Yackandandah's streetscape, alongside the Post Office, and close to the bench seats that the Sheddors had previously constructed in front of the Supermarket. We have received positive feedback from community members – this is appreciated and supports our ethos of doing things to help our community. The Yackandandah Garden Club installed a waterproof pool liner in the wicking beds with an inlet and outlet valve so that the bottom

of the beds, the reservoir of water, would wick up via capillary action into the roots of the plants in the bed. Working with the Yack Garden Club is a further example of how we like to do things. See also the Garden Club's article on page 22.

Inside the Shed and out on the verandah, the banging and cutting and refinement of tasks continues. One member has completed the construction of a fine-looking dog kennel with all and sundry admiring the precision and artistry involved, with one exception; the dog seems little interested in making use of this mini-house, except when the food bowl is placed inside. We will leave Bob to keep us informed of how well his talents have been appreciated.

At the far end of the Shed we have John Hurst watching keenly as Shayne Soall uses the name plate from an Indian motor bike as the basis of a new guitar. Shayne seems rapt by the task, and John enthralled by the skill and tricks involved. Others are keenly watching as well.

Besides the 'making and constructing' and 'helping others' we were visited by Derek O'Leary, the CEO of the Victorian Men's Shed Association. He quickly ran



Johnnie Hurst and Shayne Soall planning the conversion of the Indian motor bike name plate to a guitar

through the basic support that they can offer Sheds, including the all-important representation to government to secure funds to assist Sheds build, extend or otherwise improve their facilities, and to develop wellbeing and health programs. The latter was convenient as we also had Clair Pyper from Yack Health talking to us about Men's Health – she covered a range of important topics about diet, smoking, alcohol, exercise and more. All things that we need to consider, and practice. This was followed by another healthy lunch supplied by Larry Kern and his cooking assistants.

To conclude this message, I need to make mention of our member, known in his younger days as "Little Ronnie Boulton". Suffice it for this message to leave you wondering about what his father may have said to him after he reversed an old truck out of their service station and ran over the lawn mower. With inside knowledge I can tell you that Little RB waited for what would come and has never forgotten it...

If you are interested in joining us at the Shed please come along on Tuesday morning – we are located at the end of the car park for Yack Health.

*Max Finlayson
Secretary, Yackandandah Men's Shed*



Derek O'Leary from Vic Men's Shed Association chatting to Little Ron Boulton

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YACK WOMEN'S SHED

The Women's Shed has been busy organising many workshops and interest groups, and things have settled into a nice routine..

Recently we welcomed Tracie McVean who spoke to about twenty interested Yackandandah residents about her fascination with Fungi. At this time of the year everywhere you look there are beautiful examples of fungi, and participants were intrigued to discover many local species which can be used in the kitchen.

There were angle-grinders, reciprocating saws, power drills and shovels being used at the recent Wicking Bed workshop. A group of members gathered to get hands on experience as they learned how to create wicking beds using IBCs. Many thanks to Larry and Greg for sharing their skills.

Drawing with Sue Lees has been a lot of fun. A group of ladies meet monthly to try some new skills like charcoal drawing and using pastels. Sue's step-by-step approach has been easy and stress-free. Some of the ladies even met up for a quick tippie and a laugh before the class began... just to loosen up a little!!!

Our Mandala group is producing some great work. There is always much concentration, and everyone helps each other. Some of us are venturing into Zentangles over the coming sessions. We have purchased a couple of sets of equipment for newcomers to try before committing themselves.

The Mosaic group were approached by Dederang Public School to help their students learn the basics of mosaics. Some of the members will attend the school over three sessions for some hands-on learning. Connecting with the community is one of our objectives and we were delighted to be able to help.

Another fabulous community activity has commenced... PADSIP promotes the connection between Primary school children



Zinna Davis holding her mosaic face planter

and some of our older folk. There was a beautiful afternoon of laughter, talking, and interaction between the young and the old. So much value for everyone. Some of the Women's Shed members have been assisting the children by guiding some of them with suggestions on what they can talk about. Most though, needed no help. It was mentioned how well spoken and interested the children were. See also page 6.

We have a woodworking group, ceramics group and patchwork/textiles group and more information can be found on our web site yackwomensshed.org or by emailing us at yackwomensshed@gmail.com.

As well as workshops, we aim to promote fun and friendship with a variety of social activities like morning tea catchups, movies, theatre and outings. We are always keen to welcome new members.

Lynne Davies
on behalf of
Yackandandah
Women's Shed

(We are proud to be auspiced by Yackandandah Community Centre)



Become a voice on water for your community



North East Water is inviting interested community members who are passionate about helping their water corporation plan for the future to join a new Customer and Community Advisory Group.

Managing Director, Jo Murdoch, said the advisory group would play a vital role in ensuring the voices of North East Water's customers and community were considered in the design and delivery of services and pricing in the future. "North East Water supports the health and prosperity of the region through the provision of high quality drinking water and sewerage services," Ms Murdoch said. "We're transforming the way we do things by proactively responding to growth, climate change and ageing infrastructure, reducing our environmental footprint and improving services. We're also undertaking regional wide masterplanning to guide our \$381 million investment over eight years in new and upgraded water and wastewater infrastructure that will serve our region for decades to come. This is an exciting time for North East Water and we want to involve our customers every step of the way. We envisage the new advisory group will provide invaluable feedback on services and programs as well as help us shape our next price submission due in 2026."

Ms Murdoch said the corporation was looking for a diverse group of participants representing North East Water's service region as well as varied experiences, ages and backgrounds. The new Advisory Group will ideally comprise 15 members who will meet 4-6 times a year and be appropriately compensated for their participation.

About North East Water

North East Water services 39 towns across north-east Victoria, supplying drinking water and sewer services to well over 100,000 people.

Who is eligible?

North East Water is seeking candidates who reflect the diversity of the region, including:

- Customers and community members from across North East Water's service region
- Representatives of businesses serviced by North East Water
- Customers with a CALD or First Nations background
- Individuals who represent a broader group, such as environmental groups, or those who represent low-income or vulnerable households.

The first meeting of the Advisory Group is being planned for mid to late September.

For more information on applying, contact Karin Willcox on 0447 088 729 or email kwillcox@newater.com.au

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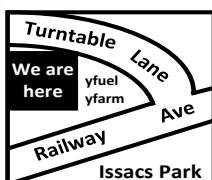
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WOORAGEE

Health from the ground up - Dr Michael Doyne

Osteopath Dr. Michael Doyne likens the philosophy behind his and his wife's practice, Sustainable Health Osteopathy, to growing healthy plants.

"We have this principle of health from the ground up; of really getting to the root of the problem and trying to get people healthy long-term and improve their well-being overall rather than just deal with a specific issue a person may come in with," says Michael. It's a philosophy Michael, 39, says stems from his background in growing flowers and his studies in plant health and nutrition before focussing on human health.

Michael grew up on the family's flower farm at Monbulk in the Yarra Valley. After leaving school, he studied Information Technology and then Network Engineering but found it wasn't something he enjoyed. So, when he was 19, he began working with his father who specialised in growing ornamental cut flower lilies; by then the farm was at Wandin. It was a large operation with 5 ha of greenhouses for winter growing and about 10 ha of summer growing beds. As Michael was looking after the plant and soil health on the farm, he began studying plant health and nutrition, something he became quite invested in.

"I did my own research on soil chemistry and testing and started to experiment with using soil biology to improve soil and plant health," says Michael.

The experience gave him the confidence to return to further studies and eventually led to his interest in human health. "When you are studying plant health nutrition, a lot of the content is related to human health nutrition," says Michael. "The two are very closely linked."

In 2009, he finished his VCE by completing Further Maths at Box Hill TAFE. He then did a Diploma in Health Science at Melbourne Institute of Business and Technology which doubled as the first year of his Degree in Health Science at Deakin University (Burwood campus). After completing his Masters in Nutrition and Exercise, he studied osteopathy at Victoria University in Melbourne – a three year Bachelor of Science Degree with a two year Masters.

All in all, his studies took nine years to complete... with Michael still working on the flower farm when he could. During that period, in 2012, he met his future wife, Carolyn, who was studying psychology at Swinburne University. The couple now have three children, Harry, 7, Rowan, 5, and Martha, 1.

After graduating the family travelled north to Townsville all the while "looking

for where we wanted to settle and raise our family." Initially, Michael set up Sustainable Health Osteopathy at Warragul in Gippsland in the latter part of 2019. But it wasn't long before the family decided they would much rather live in the North-East and moved to Leneva three years ago. Michael first set up his practice in Beechworth but decided to expand into Yackandandah "as we live closer to Yackandandah and consider it our home town" a year ago.

+ Michael is available for appointments Monday and Friday mornings and Thursday evenings at In Touch Natural Therapies, 108 High St., Yackandandah. At 3/61 Ford St., Beechworth (behind Goldfields Greengrocers) Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please phone 0412 357 120.

What is osteopathy?

A primary care provider (which means you don't need a doctor's referral), an osteopath is primarily a muscular-skeletal therapist.

"We try to be as holistic as possible but essentially we work with bones,

joints and muscles," explains Michael. "Our main way of working is manual therapy, but I have a big interest in ergonomics and exercise as well. All my patients get exercises to do because they are effective. Patients can more effectively heal their conditions if they are actively working on them with exercises at home as well as what I do. Exercise is very important in rehab. It's good for everything, chronic pain, acute pain, mental health..."

Michael also advises on ergonomics relative to a patient's work/activities. The most common problem that people come to Michael for is lower back pain followed by neck pain, shoulder pain, knee pain and headaches. "But we look at all muscles and joints," says Michael.

More recently Michael has done further study around pregnancy and pregnancy related pelvic girdle pain. He is also doing further study to be a breath work practitioner to treat conditions such as COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disorder), emphysema and long COVID symptoms. His plans include further study and education on chronic pain "which is a big, developing area."

Margrit Beemster



Dr. Michael Doyne. "I'm enjoying working as an osteopath more so than ever. The more I go along, the more I embrace and appreciate my work."

PC: Margrit Beemster

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The Salmon
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All we humans should take heed of the power which drives this watery steed And battle on when the going's rough, and like the Salmon, just never give up. While it's always the goal that keeps us going, the pleasure of life is in the doing; So like the Salmon just keep on striving, and ecstasy will soon be arriving.

John McIntyre

This poem won a prize in Canada while travelling on a train beside a Salmon river.

BRUARONG HISTORY PROJECT UPDATE

In late 2021 we were successful with a "Saluting Their Service" grant application. This has enabled our beautiful Honour Boards for World War I and World War II to be restored by Grimwade – Melbourne University. These have been completed and look amazing. In addition, the funding supports researching our Bruarong Service Personnel history through the Australian War Memorial and other sources. There will be the creation of an interpretive panel which will be displayed in the Bruarong Community Centre (with our nine other history panels) and a collection of history about each of these service personnel who are named on the Honour Boards held at Bruarong. They attended the school as a student or teacher. This research will also be included in a chapter in our Bruarong History Book. Our working group are now developing the panel with Daisy Searls, Graphic Designer.



Bruarong Hall 's beautifully refurbished Honour Boards

On the morning of Remembrance Day, Saturday, 11th November 2023 there will be an official commemorative service at Bruarong Community Centre and opening of the new interpretative panel and research history. There will be a cuppa afterwards. We will keep you posted with information in the next Yackity Yack about this and hope you can join us.

If you have any military information or images related to Bruarong you may wish to share, please let a member of our group know. This would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to those who have already given so generously.

Arthur Leitch 02 6027 1869 Helen Nelder 0439 403 171 Stan Sutherland 0439 271 266
Ross Martin 0400 211 603 Heather Hillas 0458 118 234

AN UPDATE ON OUR BRUARONG HISTORY BOOK

The book is progressing with a book publisher chosen. We are in progress of formatting the thirty individual family stories and images. Other parts of our community e.g. Indigenous, Farming, School, Military and Mining will be chapters. The timeline for the book has been delayed due to COVID-19 and we are delighted to have this book in our sights for completion in 2024. Annette Bowers has been the liaison and central collection person for information/images and is doing and has done a fantastic job with the multitude of information being stored. A special shout out to Annette.

Our group will keep you posted on the book's progress.

Annette Bowers, Ross Martin, Heather Hillas and Ruth Yule

WHAT A DIFFERENCE! BRUARONG COMMUNITY CENTRE SAYS THANK YOU YCDCo

What a difference the refurbishing of the timber floor has made to the Bruarong Community Centre. Over time and use, the timber floor had become dull and scratched, while Covid-19 restrictions had depleted the committee's capacity to have it re-sanded and coated. A grant from YCDCo came to our rescue.

Dan Carberry repaired a defective section of the flooring so that Noel Ramsbottom of Rivergum Floors, could then restore the floor to its former glory. This involved punching the flooring nails down, strip sanding, fine sanding and re-coating the floor.

This is a double thank you to YCDCo, as they, in an earlier round of funding, enabled us to install acoustic baffles on the ceiling.

Our fully restored venue is now back to its best, a great, affordable venue for family

gatherings, parties, meetings or recreational groups. Our community centre is becoming well known for its fascinating local history panels.

If you haven't had the opportunity to see these, watch for our next open day or ring Heather Hillas (0458 118 234) or Ruth Yule (0423 335 580) to arrange a viewing. To book the community centre, please ring the booking Officer on 0407 071 338.

The community centre is also configured for disaster relief for the Bruarong and Yackandandah communities. For example, in a bushfire the hall is protected by water sprays and has facilities for catering and ablutions. In addition, it has 120,000 litres of water, stored specifically for refilling firefighting appliances with the community centre's own high flow, quick fill pump and hoses and a bore to replenish the water tanks.



The restored timber flooring at Bruarong Community Centre

Ruth Yule

President, Bruarong Community Centre

YACK LIBRARY

Tiny Art Show

Indigo Shire Libraries have commenced their inaugural Tiny Art Show which is open to all ages. Collect a mini canvas, materials and an entry form from Yackandandah Library and create your own mini masterpiece using any medium. Entries close on 25 August with an art show displaying all works to follow. This is a great activity for a winter's day and we would love to see some works by adults next to some by the young ones.



Preschool Storytime

Pre-schoolers and their carers are welcome to join in with our weekly storytime sessions each Thursday at 9.30am. We read stories, sing songs and rhymes and have some fun! All are welcome and no bookings required. Hope to see you there soon!



IT Connect

Yackandandah Library has a free IT helpdesk session on Wednesday, 9th August from 10.00am -12.00pm. Expert advice will be offered by Wangaratta and Indigo Computers so bring along your

devices and gain more confidence in solving technical issues and navigating apps and programs. No appointments necessary!

Library Hours

Yackandandah Library is open Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm and on Saturday mornings 9.30am-12.00pm. Contact us on 02 6027 1180 or yackandandahlibrary@indigoshire.vic.gov.au.

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Yackandandah Real Estate Market Update

Contributor: Jamie Horne – Principal - Indigo Real Estate

As we delve into our mid-year Yackandandah real estate market update, we acknowledge the dynamic and fluid nature of the market as it continues to evolve. There have been notable shifts in recent months, supply-side challenges, and varying impacts on different property types and locations.



In terms of property types sought by active buyers, spacious homes set amidst picturesque landscapes remain a significant drawcard, with quality, low maintenance, centrally located homes also in demand. Homes requiring renovation are also sought-after, however, buyers of these properties are factoring in the increasing costs they may incur. Smaller, centrally located homes and units for downsizers are also sought-after, however the established supply and availability is limited. This results in many people who are ready to sell and downsize from their larger homes and acreage properties, being unable to relocate and offer their larger homes and properties for sale.

Recorded sales in Yackandandah and surrounds during the past two months have ranged from \$480,000 for a small, centrally located two-bedroom home, through to \$1,700,000 for a mid-size acreage, land only property. The statistical 12-month median Yackandandah sale price is \$785,000. Yackandandah buyers are now broadening their search area to the neighbouring community of Wooragee where several small acreage properties, with homes, have recently sold between \$940,000 and \$1,350,000.

Rental demand in Yackandandah and our surrounding communities remains strong and has been exacerbated by a lack of supply as some rental providers sell their investments and new rental providers are not entering the market at the replacement levels required. Rental prices range from \$285pw to \$750pw, and a statistical 12-month median of \$480pw.

Residential rentals also appear to have been impacted by elevated compliancy expenses, taxation costs, and rising interest rates. These are all costs that rental property providers, who will often have investment loans are having to consider when maintaining a viable rental property.

Commercial rental prices, which are often determined by CPI increases, have also increased significantly in recent months, and can be expected to impact our regional traders. Please continue to shop and support local whenever you can, by doing so you are empowering locally owned businesses to employ local, shop local, and donate locally.

Looking ahead, we expect our regional real estate market will remain stable and be driven by a combination of local, regional, and national interest. Our region's natural beauty, quality lifestyle, and comparative affordability will continue to attract buyers seeking a change of scenery.

In conclusion, the Yackandandah and regional real estate market has shown resilience and steady growth despite recent challenges. The region's housing sector has experienced sustained demand with lifestyle properties being particularly sought after. While supply-side constraints and varying rental market conditions persist, the overall outlook for the region's real estate market remains positive, driven by its appealing lifestyle.

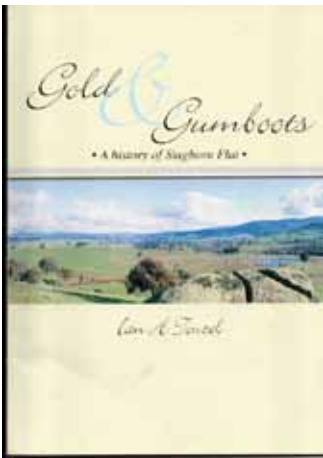
This article is for informational purposes only, you should not construe any part as legal, tax, investment, financial, or other advice.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

STAGHORN FLAT SCHOOL CIRCA 1920

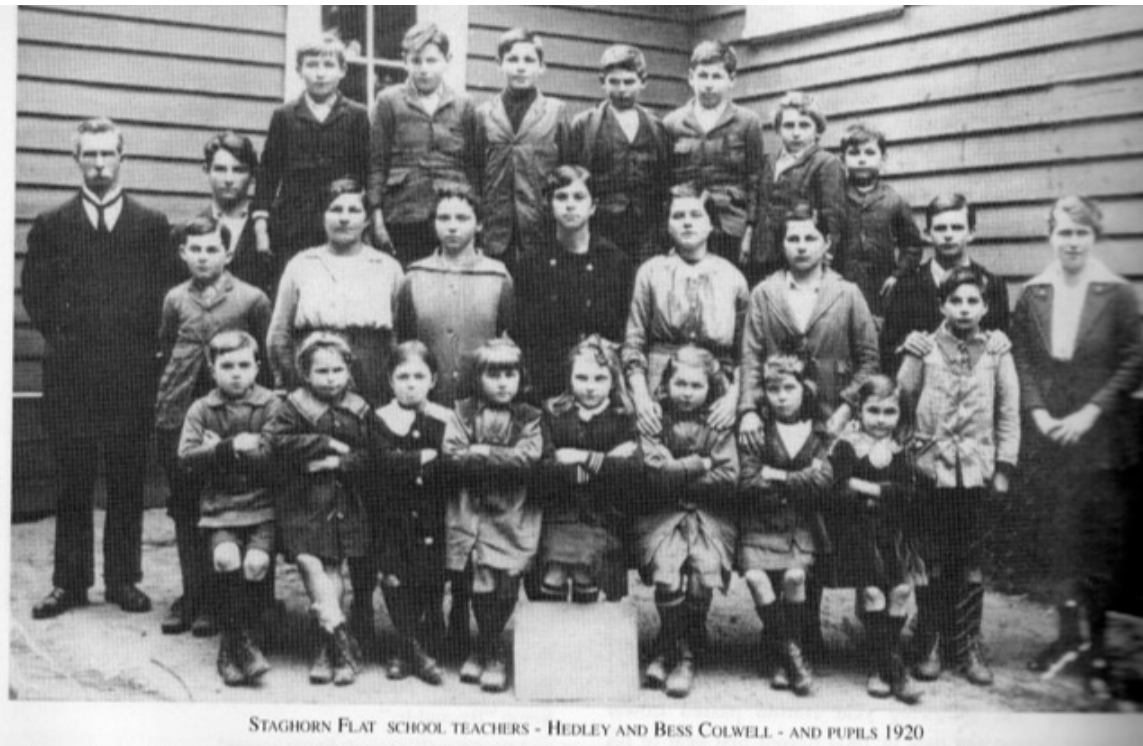
My name is Meredith Bright and I am doing some family history research on a branch of our Bell family.

There is a photo in the book "Gold & Gumboots" a history of Staghorn Flat by Ian H Touzel, on page 60 of Teacher and Pupils at Staghorn Flat School in 1920. I'm wondering if anybody reading this edition of Yackity Yak might be able to identify any of the students.



OR if anybody has any Staghorn Flat school photos for years 1921-1924, that would be hugely appreciated. The Editor of this newspaper has very kindly offered to field any responses regarding this, so please contact Ali on 0448 803 411 or via email at yackity_yak@yackandandah.com. Much appreciated.

Meredith Bright



STAGHORN FLAT SCHOOL TEACHERS - HEDLEY AND BESS COLWELL - AND PUPILS 1920



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Rural Connectivity for Recovery and Resilience

Community Business Connect, part of the AgBiz Assist group, has been awarded \$2.3M grant funding from the Australian Government for the Rural Connectivity for Recovery and Resilience Project. Community Business Connect (CBC), a hands-on social enterprise, was founded by well know community agency AgBiz Assist and offers a range of IT and connectivity products and services to residential and commercial users across Regional Victoria and New South Wales.

Following the 2019/2020 Black Summer Bushfires, CBC identified an urgent need to improve mobile signal quality in the bushfire-affected areas of Towong and Alpine Shires, where blackspot prevention programs are unlikely to assist in the near future. Faced with the challenge of solving the unique issues experienced by those in rural communities and with post-disaster community recovery in mind, the Rural Connectivity for Recovery and Resilience Project (RCRR) was developed. This funding from the Australian Government will enable the distribution and installation of no-cost Mobile Signal Boosters to residences in low-coverage areas identified within the Alpine and Towong Shires.

Initially, CBC will target the Towong and Alpine Shires, though we encourage residents outside these areas to still register their interest so that we may work towards replicating this program for other regions in the future.

Follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn to stay up to date with this and other exciting projects and click on <https://cbconnect.com.au/rcrr/> to register your interest.



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What is the 2023 Referendum? What is The Voice?

A referendum is a public vote of “yes” or “No” that allows the Australian people to make changes to the Constitution.

The Constitution sets out the fundamental principles by which the country is governed. It has a special status as it overrides any other laws and can't be changed by the Parliament of the day.

As it currently stands, the Australian Constitution, unlike the constitutions of New Zealand, Canada and the United States, does not recognise its First Nations people.

The referendum will be asking the following question, which you will be asked to vote on:

“A Proposed Law: to alter the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice. Do you approve this proposed alteration?”

This vote will give all Australians the chance to come together and consider a change to our constitution that will honour and celebrate the rights, history, and ongoing relationship of Indigenous Australians with this land. It's a rare chance to make a major positive impact now and for future generations.

Australia has been considering constitutional recognition of Indigenous Australians for more than 15 years. More than 1200 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people participated in 13 regional dialogues across the country to consider all options. From that consultation they created the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have asked that the form of recognition come through a Voice to Parliament, which will give advice on laws and policies that affect Indigenous people. It is important to note the word “advice”. It will provide advice to the Federal Parliament about laws and policies, through a consultative policy making process that delivers meaningful structural change. This advice does not have to be adopted by the government of the day.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people know and understand the best way to deliver real and practical change in their communities. When they have a say through a Voice, we can finally start to close the gap that still exists between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Australians on practical issues like life expectancy, educational outcomes, and employment.

This is why a “Yes” result is important.

Many people are asking: “Where is the detail?”

The first step in the process is to get support from the Australian public to recognise First Nations knowledge in the constitution. If the referendum passes, then we go to the second step.

The second step will involve a detailed consultation process to determine how the Voice to Parliament will work.

It doesn't make sense to do the detailed consultation until there is the support of the Australian people to change the constitution.

Noel Pearson explains it like this:

“I have taken the bridge metaphor from Channel 9 television reporter, Chris O'Keefe, who gave the best explanation of what this referendum is all about. The people will vote on the principle – should Indigenous peoples be guaranteed a fairer say in laws and policies made about them – and Parliament will legislate the detail. O'Keefe explained: “The government [is] effectively asking Australians ‘do we need a bridge across the Sydney Harbour? Yes or no?’ With the Parliament then to decide how many lanes it will have and its design.”

Please be informed before voting. Read as much as you can from reliable

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Madam - Why I support the Voice.

There are many disadvantaged groups in Australia, all of whom would surely like to have a greater say in government matters affecting them. So why should one group, Indigenous Australians, be given a special and constitutionally-enshrined voice to Parliament? There is no doubting the extreme level of disadvantage in many Indigenous communities: the statistics on, for example, life-expectancy and imprisonment, are shocking and unacceptable. But while that is an often-stated reason for the Voice, it is not, in my view, a sufficient reason. So why do I support the Voice?

Firstly, the proposed Voice is intimately connected to the proposed recognition of Indigenous Australians in the words of the Constitution - a recognition (widely supported) that they were the custodians of this land for thousands of years before colonisation. Such recognition is central to what defines Australia, so it should be more than just words. It needs to be more substantial. In my mind this justifies giving Indigenous Australians their own Voice to Parliament: that would be tangible recognition.

Secondly, the disadvantage that many Indigenous Australians experience has a different genesis from that of other disadvantaged groups. Much is the result of colonisation: their land was taken from them, many of their children were taken away, they were omitted from the national census, they lacked electoral franchise, they have been subjected to paternalistic laws. The impact of colonisation on them and their way of life has been nothing short of catastrophic, and warrants redress in a tangible way.

Thirdly, modern Australia has much to learn from the traditional practices and beliefs of Indigenous culture. Top of mind here is “connection to country”, respect for non-human life, living in harmony with nature, being custodians not owners of the land. In contrast, modern Australia, with its worship of wealth, consumerism and exploitation of nature is demonstrably unsustainable both environmentally and ethically. It is perhaps wishful thinking on my part, but a louder indigenous voice could show us a way towards a brighter future.

Ian Penrose

Ian is a former scientist and the first Yarra River Keeper. He is a regular commentator in The Age.

sources to understand the issue. I can recommend reading the Uluru Statement from the Heart as a starting point and looking on websites such as Yes23 or Together Yes.

If you would like to get involved join Indigo for Yes, please check out https://action.yes23.com.au/indigo_for_yes

<https://ulurustatement.org/the-statement/>

<https://togetheryes.com.au/>

<https://yes23.com.au/>

<https://capeyorkpartnership.org.au/noel-pearson-boyer-lecture-one/>

People interested in being involved with a Yackandandah only group for the Voice, please email Kirsten Coates at: wabisabi@netc.net.au

See Page 14 for the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

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TAKEN FROM “A BOOK OF CHINESE
VERSE” R.H. Kotewall & N.L. Smith

HANG HUA
Yearnings; V

LI SHANG-YIN

Rising Early

The breeze and the dew make tranquil the clear dawn;
Behind the curtain there is one who alone is up betimes.
The orioles sing and the flowers smile –
Whose then, after all, is the Spring?

My eyes stray beyond the four corners of the wilderness;
At ease I tarry alone.

The orchids fringe a clear stream;

A wealth of flowers covers the green islets.

My fair one is not here –

If I plucked them to who can I give them?

Birds in their nests know the wind's chill;

Beasts in their caves feel the sunless rain.

But if you have never endured far separation,

How can you know the yearning for an absent friend?

Provided by Ian Jackson, who incidentally is searching for
a copy this book, if anyone happens to have a copy they
would like to offload?

ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

We, gathered at the 2017 National Constitutional Convention, coming from all points of the southern sky, make this statement from the heart:

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tribes were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs. This our ancestors did, according to the reckoning of our culture, from the Creation, according to the common law from 'time immemorial', and according to science more than 60,000 years ago.

This sovereignty is a *spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or 'mother nature', and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were born therefrom, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty.* It has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown.

How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years?

With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through as a fuller expression of Australia's nationhood.

Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are alienated from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future.

These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. This is *the torment of our powerlessness.*

We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a *rightful place* in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country.

We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution.

Makarrata is the culmination of our agenda: *the coming together after a struggle.* It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination.

We seek a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history.

In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across this vast country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.

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YACKANDANDAH WHISKY SHOWCASED AT CHICAGO CONFERENCE

Recently, Yackandandah's Backwoods Distilling Co. proudly represented Australia at the Distilled Spirits Council of America Conference in Chicago. Founder and Distiller Leigh Attwood joined a select group of Australian distillers in showcasing their exceptional Australian whiskies and spirits to over 500 industry wholesalers, distributors, and retailers. The group

received high commendations for the quality of their spirits and gained the attention of importers.

This conference was an excellent opportunity for Australian producers to establish new partnerships and explore the possibility

The trip concluded in Washington DC, where the group met with the Australian Deputy Head of Mission, Mr. Paul Myler, near Capitol Hill. Hosted by the Distilled Spirits Council of America, the attendees had a productive discussion on the challenges that Australian producers face in entering the American market. The major obstacle identified was the Australian excise tax regime, which is currently the third highest globally. This tax regime is hindering growth and access to overseas markets for Australian producers.



Leigh at Capitol Hill, Washington



Leigh serving tastings at the Chicago Conference

of introducing Australian spirits into the American market. Following the conference, Leigh and the delegation of Australian distillers visited Kentucky to explore the heart of the American Bourbon industry. They had exclusive access to behind-the-scenes tours of renowned American distilleries, such as Michter's, Angel's Envy, James E Pepper, Buffalo Trace, Jim Beam, and Jack Daniels. They spent time with the master distillers and production teams, gaining extensive knowledge of unique production processes in the United States.



Leigh and fellow Aussie distillers on tour in the USA

Despite this obstacle, there is much appetite for Australian spirits in the American market, and the group is working hard towards making this a reality soon. The Australian distillers showcased their exceptional spirits and gained valuable insights into the American market. This trip has paved the way for establishing new partnerships and exploring the possibilities of introducing Australian spirits into the American market.

If you haven't visited Backwoods Distilling Co yet, then head up the hill to Yack Station and check them out! The distillery door is open for visitors, Thursday – Monday.

Visit www.backwoodsdistilling.com.au for more information.

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Nudging on Resilience

During July, Yackandandah received another little boost for the steady path toward a more resilient renewable energy supply. The Yackandandah



Yack Community Centre's increased 13kW PV system.
PC: Matthew Charles-Jones

Community Centre installed a 13kW solar system and a 16kWh battery.

Already the Yackandandah Community Centre has coordinated a workshop series with Redi Red Cross to examine the township strengths and weaknesses and the new energy system adds another community building that can operate when the mains supply experiences an outage, perhaps due to faults or emergencies. The process was supported by the local emergency services and Council.

This installation is part of an effort by Totally Renewable Yackandandah to progressively add depth to the township's ability to support people when electricity is not available - when the network supply fails. One part of this effort is the soon to occur installation of a 200kWh battery at the Sports Park so that assuming it is safe (noting the Sports Park is certainly not a place to be during a bushfire), people could access electricity during outages.

More generally, TRY with funding from Emergency Recovery Victoria, has analysed 7 buildings and their importance to the town in times of tumult and considering the ways in which generators could be added easily to support people after the emergency. Discussions are underway with the building owners to agree on the most appropriate individual approach – but some examples of considered buildings include the Public Hall and Senior Citizens Centre. It is intended that two generators will be purchased to be available explicitly for the purpose of emergencies or uncharacteristic outages and be deployed if needed and appropriate by the Incident Controllers.



YCC's 15.5kWh battery.
PC: Matthew Charles-Jones

thanks to all the organisations working on the theme of resilience against the 'unhoped' for possibility of an emergency impacting Yackandandah. A call out to CFA, SES, First Responders (CERT), Vic Pol, the Halls' Committee, YCDCo and the Indigo Shire Council. And of course, there are many other people, businesses and entities who always seem to rise to occasion!

TRY would like to extend

Matthew Charles-Jones



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Quality And Reliability

The heating up of old car tyres to make steel could one day spell the end of coal – threatening one of Australia's key exports to China.

University of New South Wales engineering and science professor Veena Sahajwalla has pioneered world-first 'green steel' technology where hydrogen and solid carbon are extracted from waste rubber to make metal.

The former judge on the ABC's New Inventors show said that her innovation, also known as Polymer Injection Technology, had the potential to one day make metallurgical coal redundant. 'Oh, absolutely. Absolutely,' she said. 'We are certainly looking at a future where the dependency on coal for steel making is completely eliminated.'

Let's hope we all live to see the day although seeing what's happening in Europe and West USA with world-clobbering temperatures, it's all looking a bit debateable.

Thanks to Jill Whitford for this small but very important article. Ed.



We do regular visits to Yackandandah for house calls and farm visits. Call us to discuss how we can help you to keep your animals healthy

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Here is the classic example of circumstantial evidence.

A witness in a railway case at Fort Worth (c. 1930) was asked to tell in his own words just how Hole, a mate of his, came by his death.

He said: 'Well, 'Ole and me was walking down the track and I 'eard a whistle and I got off the track, and the train went by, and I got back on the track.'

I didn't see 'Ole, but I walked along, and pretty soon I saw 'Ole's 'at. Then I walked on and saw one of 'Ole's legs. After that I seen one of 'Ole's arms, and then another leg; and then, over on one side, I seen 'Ole's 'ead,

and I says to meself: "My Gawd, somethin' muster 'appened to 'Ole."

Submitted by Stephen Masters

OBITUARY - ANNA McINTOSH

My beautiful wife, Anna McIntosh, passed into the presence of her Lord Jesus on 25 June, 2023.

She started life on Valentine's Day, 1945, in Yackandandah Bush Nursing Hospital. She was born into a Christian home where the Bible was paramount in observance and respect. She was the middle child of Harry and Betty Schmidt. She went to grade 8 at Back Creek Primary School and then worked on the family farm. She also worked for a while at Dixie Dean's grocery store in Yackandandah.

Anna committed her life to the Lord Jesus as her Saviour and Lord at about the age of 10 at 'Way of Life' Camp in Mornington. She confirmed her faith by being baptised in the Yackandandah Creek when she was 14. She knew what she was doing, and she never wavered in any way whatsoever from her faith and commitment from following her Lord and Saviour, Jesus.

We became involved with one another when she was 20 years old. We got engaged on Valentines Day when she turned 21. We were married in March in 1967 when she was 22. We went straight to a road builders' camp in Northern Queensland and began having children. What stood out in her life was that it was paramount that we read the Bible together every evening without fail. As the children began to grow in numbers and age, we always had tea together followed by reading the Bible and praying. Going to church was most important in our lives. If there was a church nearby we'd go to

church. Sometimes we drove 100 miles every second week just to go to church, have a break from the camp and get supplies for the next couple of weeks.

Anna was always my strong support and helper in everything I did.

We moved back to Yackandandah in 1975. In 1981 we opened Mt Carmel Christian School. Stephen helped the children that could read, and Anna helped the ones that couldn't read yet how to read.

She was of German descent – methodical, consistent, strong, wouldn't easily change her mind; she was a strong Christian woman.

She was also very creative. She was part of the Albury Wodonga Spinners and Weavers group, she did patchwork, sewing, cooking and she excelled at baking and decorating cakes. She blessed many people with her thoughtful creations.

Anna passed away within five weeks from finding out that she had lung cancer. She was preceded to heaven by our son Daniel.

She leaves her husband Stephen McIntosh, her children Samuel, Sally, Jim, Jemima, Colleen and Keren; her sons and daughters in law, twenty four grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

She was laid to rest in Yackandandah Cemetery on 1 July followed by a memorial service with our family and friends at the Bill Jansen Hall, Discovery Camp, Back Creek.

Stephen McIntosh



Dorevitch Pathology will be closed at Yack Health on Tuesdays and Fridays from Friday, 28th July, 2023 as Helen the Pathology Nurse is on Long Service Leave. She returns on Tuesday, 5th September, 2023.

The nearest Dorevitch Pathology Centre is based at 101 Hume Street, Wodonga tel. 0448 820 927. There are usually many people there seeking tests, so waiting times can be lengthy. Plan your trip accordingly.

Check for other Dorevitch Centres in Wodonga and Albury.



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INDIGO EPIC TRAIL TEMPORARY CLOSURE

The Indigo Epic Trail will be closed temporarily from Monday 14 August for a period of three to four weeks while HVP Plantations completes its harvest operations in and around the Magpie Plantation.

We're grateful to HVP for allowing us to construct the trail through its plantation, so to ensure the safety of harvest workers and all trail users, the entire trail will be closed during this time.

The Beechworth Mountain Bike Park and Yackandandah Mountain Bike network are both great riding alternatives and we thank everyone in advance for observing all safety and closure signage.

More information is available at:
www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/indigoepic



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IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY CALL 000

Key:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AED - 24/7 Access Info Centre Toilet Playground Hospital / Medical Centre YCDCo Fuel Station 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AED - Access Only in Open Hours Rail Trail Bike Path Wheelchair Access Toilet Supermarket Police Station Town Walks
---	--

Location:	Address:	Access:
CFA Fire Station	F4 5 High St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Star Hotel	D4 30 High St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Public Hall	D4 36 High St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Yack Swimming Pool	F3 Williams St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
YCDCo - Petrol Station	G2 29 Railway Ave - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Men's Shed	H3 20 Issacs Ave - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Yackatooon	G4 3 Butson St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Golf Club	H4 70 Racecourse Rd - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Sports Park	E5 End of Wellsford St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Football Oval	G4 End of Butson St - Yackandandah	24/7 - Located Outside
Osbornes Flat Hall	L4 315 Osbornes Flat Rd - Osbornes Flat	24/7 - Located Outside
Yack Primary School	D3 39 High St - Yackandandah	Access during school hours
Yack Health	H3 20 Issacs Ave - Yackandandah	Access during open hours
Fitness4U	K1 10 Marcus Creek Rd - Yackandandah	Access during open hours
Yack Bowls Club	G3 10 Railway Ave - Yackandandah	Access during open hours



1. CALL 000



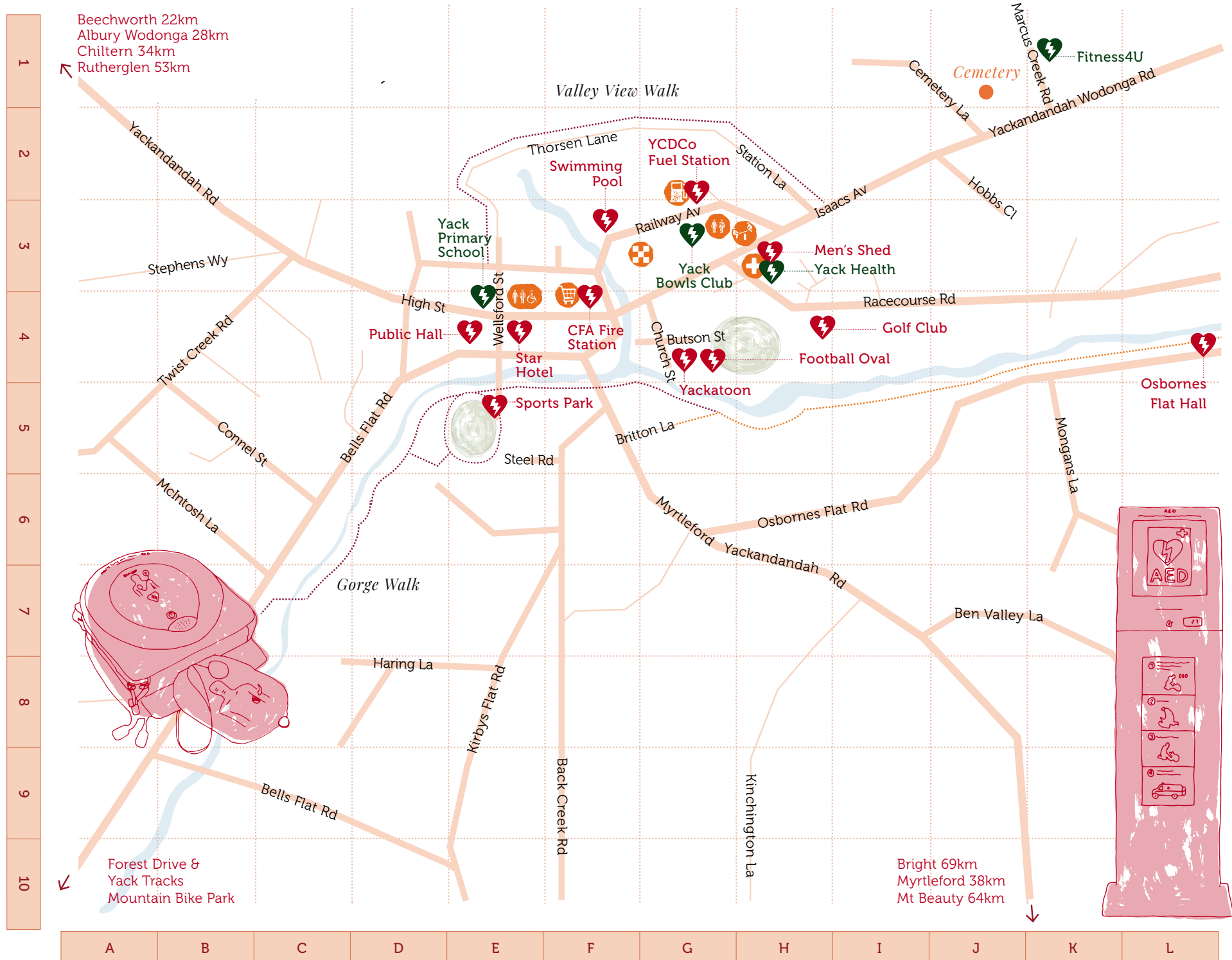
2. PUSH



3. SHOCK

Become a local First Responder and join our Local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Our Yackandandah CERT members are trained in advanced first aid and provide immediate care until the ambulance arrives. Contact the Yackandandah Community Centre for more information.

If you are willing and able to perform CPR then download the free GoodSAM Responder app and register yourself as a first responder.





HEART START – Life saving with the Yackandandah defibrillator project

What is an AED and what is it used for? A defibrillator, also known as an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is a device that can apply an electric charge or current to the heart to restore a normal heartbeat. If the heart rhythm stops due to cardiac arrest, a defibrillator may help it start beating again – the quickest way to save a life, and it could be yours, or you saving someone else's.

Yackandandah has 14 AEDs, all of which are owned by our local community groups or private local businesses; 10 of these AEDs are accessible 24/7 and all of them are registered with Ambulance Victoria, so in the event of an emergency, first responders can be quickly directed to the closest AED device.

Initial discussions between the Yackandandah Community Centre (YCC) and YCDCo noted that some of the defibrillators around Yackandandah were not accessible 24/7, so this led to an audit being conducted to identify where the defibrillators were located and how easily they could be accessed.

The audit finding led to the development of the *Heart Start project* which defined its scope to include:

- install or move existing AED from inside to outside to increase the number of AEDs accessible 24/7;
- Ensure all AED units are adequately signed and registered with emergency response organisations;
- Ensure the community knows where to find information on AED locations, and
- Set up an annual maintenance schedule to ensure that the AEDs remain in working order.

This project has been a wonderful demonstration of community collaboration. The involvement grew to include Yack Community Centre as project manager; YCDCo provided funding and community connections; Yackandandah Post Office sourced grant funding from Australia Post; Yack Men's Shed sourced funding including a \$500 grant from the Commercial Club in Albury and installed AED cabinets, and Ambulance Victoria provided free education. Funding allowed us to purchase new cabinets, a new AED, replace parts of existing AEDs, create a location map, and printing and signage.

This community collaboration has improved the accessibility of AEDs by moving the public Hall AED from inside to the outside of the building and adding a new AED to the swimming pool area, which covers the Courthouse, Swimming Pool, Skate Park, and Community Garden. We have three 24/7 AEDs accessible

on the High Street, with a fourth one located within the Yackandandah Primary School foyer (accessible during open hours).

Most of Yackandandah's AEDs are housed in a purpose built and alarmed AED cabinet. The AEDs cabinets are either white, red, or green in colour, they also display the AED logo, making them highly visible and easy to spot. The AEDs are registered with Ambulance Victoria, so when "000" is called the call taker immediately dispatches emergency services, then will guide the first responder on how to do CPR as well as inform of the location of the closest defibrillator while emergency services are on the way.

The map opposite indicating the locations of Yackandandah's AEDs was created by two local freelance graphic designers and sisters, Jessee and Darcee Schulz Dahlenburg, who have been a pleasure to work with. Along with the map, education sessions were organised in July for locals, where interested residents received a

for use.

FIRST RESPONDERS

As a community member you too can get involved as a First Responder. With ambulance waiting times increasing within the Indigo Shire, how great is it that Yackandandah has its own Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)? A CERT team is comprised of volunteer First Responders, located in less populated and more remote areas, like Yackandandah, who are dispatched at the same time as an ambulance in response to a "000" call.

You may have seen the CERT vehicle around town, and they may have even visited your home. The CERT team are there to provide initial first aid, pain management and reassurance while waiting for an ambulance to arrive.

There are only a handful of volunteers that are currently involved with the Yack CERT team, so if you are interested in joining, please visit the

Ambulance Victoria website www.ambulance.vic.gov.au/careers/become-a-first-responder/ to find out more. It is a great opportunity to get free training and gain a Certificate II in Medical Service First Response (HLT21020).

Thank you, Yack CERT, for providing this wonderful and crucial service.

The GOODSAM app

The GoodSAM app is also available in Victoria and is integrated with the Ambulance Victoria triple Zero (000) dispatch system to quickly help patients who need help in the vital first minutes of a cardiac arrest.

A GoodSAM Responder will receive an alert and is quickly directed to the location of the patient to start CPR and help keep the heart pumping until an ambulance arrives. The app will also let you know the location of the closest Automatic External Defibrillator.

If you are over 18, willing and able to do hands-only CPR, you can save a life. All you need to do is download the free GoodSAM Responder app.

It is wonderful to see what can be achieved when community groups come together to fulfil a common goal. We in Yackandandah are very privileged to have these life saving devices on hand and available when needed. Thank you to all the

people and the groups they represent for their involvement in this project, it was a real team effort. If you would like any further information about this project, please visit Jane Murphy at the Yackandandah Community Centre.

Jane Murphy
Manager, Yackandandah Community Centre



Men's Shedders Frank Burfitt, Paul Williams and Graeme Neil bedding in the new AED cabinet outside the Public Hall, Yack

demonstration on how a defibrillator works. The sessions were facilitated by Ambulance Victoria. Further sessions may run later on in the year if there is sufficient demand. To get a copy of the map (paper or digital copy) or to register your interest in an education session, please visit the Yackandandah Community Centre, call us on (02) 6027 1743, or go to our website at www.ycc.org.au.

An annual device check for each defibrillator has also been put in place to ensure that the registered owners are aware of the condition of their AED and replace parts if necessary to ensure that the AED is in good working order, ready

What a terrific project and a great example of community groups working to a common objective. Three cheers to Yack Community Centre in particular, and to managers David Thorpe who instigated the project, and Jane Murphy who very ably and quickly finished it off. Ed.



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How to connect to our services in Indigo

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If you are aged under 65 or have NDIS funding please call or email us directly on the contact details below.

If you believe you or a family member could benefit from a home care package please call or email directly on the contact details below.

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Participants in Charles Sluga's "Colour and Composition" workshop in May 2023

COLOUR AND COMPOSITION

Very important topics for anyone who has ambitions in producing decent artwork, but combined in a five day workshop left all ten participants pretty exhausted by the end of the week, but leaving with a hatful of new skills to work on at home.

Charles's workshops are designed to make the student think hard about the subjects and to enhance their painting methods. Charles is exceptionally generous with passing on his immense talents and knowledge, and the degree of improvement in my own work was very noted and appreciated.

Students came principally from Melbourne and Sydney but there was a small number of more locally based people. The workshop is a mixture of informal lectures, demonstrations, videos, examples and then getting down and doing it yourself. with as much guidance as you wanted or needed.

Always a great treat to do one of Charles's workshops and to enjoy Nancy's spectacular morning teas. More of both please!

Ali Pockley

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SEVILLE ORANGE MARMALADE

Seville oranges are only available for a very short window in the winter. They are the bitter marmalade oranges originally from Spain, and make the very best of marmalade. Not

always easy to get hold of, so if you know someone who has a tree in their garden, then I suggest you schmooze their friendship! See if they will spare you some oranges and then repay their kindness with a jar or two of golden splendour - you won't regret it!

I have a very relaxed method of making marmalade that can take a few days. It can be pretty forgiving as long as you let the mixture cool overnight.

I take a swag of oranges, don't worry about the weight because you calculate the overall cooked volume later on when adding sugar.

Wash the fruit thoroughly and cut roughly into quarters. Fill your preserving pan with as much fruit as you like and add some water - not to cover, but enough to stop it catching on the bottom. You can also add more water later on during the cooking process if it's a bit on the dry side. Bring to the boil and simmer until the peel is completely cooked through. Leave to cool before handling, I generally leave overnight.

Go through the cooled peel, take out all the pips and put separately on one side and get all the pulp out into the liquid. Cut as much peel up finely into whatever size

you prefer - I generally don't use all the peel as it can be a bit overpowering. This goes in the compost bin. Gauge that you have enough liquid in your mix and add more if necessary, but bear in mind you will be adding heaps of sugar which will be adding extra liquid when it's dissolved. You can always boil off excess liquid when doing the

set but it will take additional time.

Measure your pulp, liquid and peel, and add 750 grams of white sugar to 1 litre of pulp. Put your pips in a muslin bag and add to the mix, as this will help with pectin and good set. Bring to the boil, and then cook until setting point has been reached. Put in clean, warm, sterilized jars and seal appropriately. You can make a darker richer marmalade adding some black treacle before setting point, or using a brown sugar instead of white, or you can add some scotch whisky at setting point for an added treat. Eat on good toast, or add to a bread and butter pudding if you can bear to spare it that way!



YACK GARDEN CLUB



You may have noticed the installation of new planter boxes in the PO / BankWAW laneway. The replacement of the dilapidated tubs has been a Garden Club and Men's Shed collaborative project. With the assistance of a grant given to the Garden Club from Yackandandah Community Centre's *Community Grants 2023*,

the project has come to fruition. Jim Ralston, who heads up YGC's Streetscape team and Larry Kern from the Men's Shed, have led the project. Men Shed members, Neil Padbury and Peter Scott, have assisted Larry in constructing the wicking boxes, and YGC members have assisted Jim in choosing the final design, flower selection and planting.



Men's Shedders Larry Kern & Pete Scott constructing the frames of the planter boxes

been calculated so that nine recycled, 10-litre plant containers can be placed comfortably inside each wicking box. This will enable Garden Club members to keep the beds furnished with a variety of fresh ornamental plants. As each plant fades, its container can be lifted out and another reserve one put in place. The beds containing the 10-litre containers are 'wicked' so that the plants receive water from below their roots via holes drilled into the bottom of the containers.

To 'wick' these planter beds, a waterproof pool liner was fixed to the bottom and sides of the planter box and an outlet

valve and inlet pipe were installed. The bottom half of the planter box is filled with gravel and flooded with water via the inlet pipe. The gravel and reservoir of water are covered with a Geotextile fabric that allows water to move up and into the plants via capillary action or 'wicking'. The fabric also acts as a barrier that stops soil from mixing with the water and gravel. Using the wicking technique for growing plants and vegetables in a watertight container is a very effective water conservation method. It also requires less frequent watering as there is minimal evaporation, as happens when surface watering.



Men at work in Post Office Lane



Garden club members Cheryl Frawley & Pat Gleeson, assisted by Garden Club friends, Chris & Phil Butner prepare the flower pots.

SAPLINGS CORNER GARDENING FOR CHILDREN

Have you planted flowers or vegetables in your garden space, and they have stopped showing off their beautiful colours or producing fruit, or have died altogether? Gardening is a seasonal activity, and it is a learning experience to know what to plant, when, and why. If plants die, it is most likely not because you did anything wrong; it is their life cycle. To understand better what plants are best suited to growing in the various seasons, you can look at the labels and



follow the guidelines experts give us. You could also start making a planting chart for yourself. Write down the varieties you planted in Summer or Autumn, when they were at their best, and when they faded. Having a record, especially one you made yourself, will give you a better understanding of what to plant next year.

Winter brings new opportunities to grow flowers or vegetables that will prosper in the cold and frosty mornings. A few suggestions of what to plant are below, but remember to read the label for hints on the conditions the plant needs to survive, e.g., how much sun it needs and does it like frost. You may also need to protect your young plants from birds, who love eating fresh vegetables. Ask Mum or Dad to help you protect them if you think the birds will eat them before you can.

Flowers – pansies, violas or primulas. Vegetables/herbs – spinach, snow peas, coriander.

WINTER GARDENING TIP

Leave non-weedy berries and seeds on plants for visiting birds, they will appreciate the source of food.

INVITATION to JOIN THE GARDEN CLUB ON A TRIP TO THE DANDENONGS

The Garden Club is sending a special invitation to members of the community to join us on our trip to the Dandenong Ranges visiting open gardens and nurseries.

When: 16th, 17th, 18th October 2023

Cost: (TBA): Included will be coach travel, accommodation and some meals; reasonable prices

Contact asap: Cheryl Frawley at - cafrawley@ozemail.com.au

CONTACT US

Meetings: 'Wellsford House', Wellsford St, Yackandandah at 7 pm, on the second Thursday, bi-monthly (beginning February.) If you are interested in joining the Club or coming to a meeting, don't hesitate to contact us by email or phone. (Membership is not required to attend a meeting.)

Email: yack.garden.club@outlook.com

Phone: 0428 116 562, President Cheryl Frawley

Post: P.O. Box 178, Yackandandah Vic 3749

Garden Club members will also be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the garden beds.

Our two Clubs take pride in the collaboration to enhance our town's streetscape, giving locals and visitors alike a sense of relaxation as they go about their busy day.

We also recognise the Yackandandah Community Centre's generous contribution through their grant program to our project.

Larry explains the process for building the boxes:

The wicking beds are constructed from Cypress Pine (genus *Callitris*), an Australian native timber that is termite resistant.

The boxes are 900mm square and 500mm high. The dimensions have



YCC, Garden Club and Men's Shed collaborators. Back: Larry Kern, Karen Keegan & Pete Scott. Front: Jane Murphy (YCC), Chris Horton (PO), Jim Ralston & Cheryl Frawley

YACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Further to our exhibition of artwork, we take pleasure in bringing to our community the voices of several more of the eight local artists who have works on display. If you missed Ellen Engwerda and Hamish McCalman's profile, they were featured in the June/July edition of Yackity Yak. Note: several pieces portrayed in this article have been sold and replaced by other artwork.

HEATHER MULLEN

Heather's interest in textiles began when she first had children and needed to knit and sew their clothing. Her learning skills developed and in later years Heather undertook a fully encompassing textile course at Albury TAFE. There she learnt various skills such as embroidery, patchwork, smocking, and fabric dying. As the years went by, Heather explored all areas of textile work including weaving and felting. One quirky part of her



Heather Mullen showcases her doll-making talents

character came out with her doll making. Heather has always loved to teach her skills to other people which she is still doing.

Heather has a studio at her home and runs a regular session on Wednesdays where the students bring their own projects and Heather oversees and helps them develop their skill. Participants make a \$5 donation and bring their own lunch for these classes which run from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. By appointment, Heather will also do one-on-one classes. If anyone is interested in joining this group, you are welcome to contact Heather: 0457 116 163 or via email at heather@mullen.com.au.

LESLEY LABRAM and NATALIE PHALERT

Lesley Labram and Natalie Pfahlert met when they enrolled at Charles Sturt University in 1995, and their collaboration as friends extended to become the start of their art journey. Both ladies achieved their Visual Arts Degree and have remained in the local area while their artwork has been displayed over the years in our



Natalie Pfahlert and Lesley Labram



The Bird by Lesley Labram

regional area including, the Albury Railway Station, MAMA Art Gallery, and the Gateway Island Gallery. Lesley has also exhibited in the Left Bank Beechworth, New York, Melbourne, and Sydney.

While Lesley and Natalie have many interests in common being friends, their artwork differs in style and subject. Lesley, a mixed-media artist, came to Australia from England and was enthralled by the beautiful flora and fauna and has used this love for her inspiration. Natalie, a native of New Zealand has worked in aged care for the last twenty years and finds

inspiration in people's passion and enthusiastic engagement in life. Natalie paints mostly in acrylics and seeks to portray the immediacy and impermanence of life.

Lesley's work, *The bird*, depicts the instinct of a mother sheltering her small ones. In the detail of the main subject, the mother bird, you will find many Australian bird species.

A striking example of Natalie's artwork on display is a piece titled, *Behind Every Man*, which is a real-life portrait of a male torso, viewed from the back. The brush-stroke style Natalie has used gives a lively representation of the male body.

MANDY MURRAY

Mandy went to Art College at RMIT in the 1980's, where she met her husband, Scott. After graduating with a degree in Fine Arts, Mandy and Scott travelled to Vancouver which became an inspiration for the development of her love of the environment, which she portrays in her artwork. As Mandy's artistic expression developed, she ventured into landscape painting and mixed media, her preference being on paper.

The two artworks on display in our current exhibition, *'Travels'* and *'Whitfield Views'* clearly show Mandy's love of landscape painting. Mandy explained that



Behind Every Man by Natalie Pfahlert



Mandy Murray with her works, Travels and Whitfield Views

she usually starts off with an inspiration such as a photo she has taken. She then works freely, to express her response to the scenery she has captured. Mandy's first two exhibition pieces were quickly snapped up by an admirer and have been replaced by these two on show now.

For twelve years, Mandy volunteered and helped steer, with fellow artist, Linda Fish, the Arts Yack 'Fresh & Unframed' annual event. This iconic art space has offered local artists, of all levels, the means to show and possibly sell their work, without the expense of framing. It is still a popular event and attracts many local artists.

KIRSTEN COATES

I have recently retired after 40 years of teaching and working at odd jobs in places far and wide. Along with my teaching degrees I hold a Diploma of Visual Art and have, in one form or another, made art for most of my life. While printmaking is my main form of expression, I also enjoy painting, and constantly



Kirsten Coates

strive to be better at both!

I have lived and worked overseas and in four different Australian states in rural, urban and remote locations and continue to be fascinated with the concept of place and what it means to us as human beings.

YACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The search for place is in essence a journey that takes us through many landscapes. These landscapes can be places in the mind or places in the physical environment. Our journeys can be joyful and full of light, or dark and revealing and as changeable as the weather.

My work at the museum is of familiar places, such as Lake Catani, or unfamiliar places such "Totem", an old wooden post decorated by local children on a wild beach on the Mornington Peninsular. Places have different meanings for different people, and I would like to invite people to contemplate the notion of place through my artwork.

LINDA FISH

Linda Fish was born in Melbourne, completed a Diploma of Art and Design, majoring in Sculpture at Prahran College of Advanced Education, 1976-79, a Diploma of Education from Melbourne College of Advance Education in 1985 and a Master of Visual Arts from Monash University, 2007-09.

A sculptor since the 1970s, Linda's art awards include a grant from the Australia Council for the development of new sculptures. Her commissions span public art and private collections. Linda has held numerous solo exhibitions, exhibited extensively, and was recognised as a finalist in the Lorne Sculpture Biennale.

Linda works and lives in Yackandandah.

Artist's Statement

I have used various materials, techniques and processes and often use the casting technique and make moulds which are then cast with cement, acrylic co-polymer, or bronze. When I am not making sculptures, I like to carve linocuts which I handprint without a press. This process feels sculptural, and my images are figurative in form and narrative in rendition.

The artworks in this exhibition were created using the Mokulito printing technique, which is a non-toxic form of Lithography. Mokulito uses plywood as the matrix plate, not limestone as in traditional Lithography.

This work explores the visual connections we make between nature, places and people. Plants and trees may connect us to a certain time, person or place through the transmission and transformation of visual memory.

The Black Throated Finch only exists in one part of Australia in central Queensland and with the possibility of coal mining in the area, its existence and habitat were threatened. It is still an endangered species.

The inspiration for 'The Ring Tree'



Linda Fish

print came about because I attended an indigenous workshop where I learnt about ring trees or directional trees. Elders in the past would weave a small branch into the trunk of a sapling and as it grew, it would form a handle and grow into the trunk. There are many of these trees around this area. They are believed to be used as signposts for water, good hunting or as a boundary for different indigenous tribes.

In the coming weeks, our *Art in the Museum* exhibition will be closing. The Museum would like to sincerely thank Ellen, Hamish, Linda, Heather, Lesley, Natalie, Mandy and Kirsten for sharing their artworks and personal stories.

NEW EXHIBITION

We love to bring the story of Yackandandah to you and planning for our new exhibition is well underway. Watch this space for news on our upcoming exhibition, "A Walk in the High Street."

MEMBERSHIP of YDHS

Membership is open to everyone, the cost is \$20 single or \$35 for a family. Being a member means you have free entry to the museum, can participate in the Society's organised activities, receive our bi-monthly newsletter 'Yackandandah Times' and vote at annual meetings. Members are also covered by insurance when participating in an activity run by the Society. If you would like to join, our contact details are listed below.

ON SALE

Jams and sauces, made by our volunteers from local produce
Published books and booklets on the history of Yackandandah, past residents, and events
Second-hand books and CDs of every genre, including stories for children
Hand-made craft items such as bookmarks & lavender bags
Plants
Souvenir mugs
Souvenir magnets

THINKING OF VOLUNTEERING? Please let us know! P: (02) 6027 0627

E: museum@yackandandah.com

Website: yackandandahmuseum.wordpress.com

FB: [facebook.com/yackandandah.museum.9](https://www.facebook.com/yackandandah.museum.9)

OPEN: 10:30am – 3:30pm Wednesday – Sunday (Victorian school holidays – every day)

Buzzing All Hobby Beekeeping Enthusiasts



Monthly Meetings are on-going.

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

BOOKING THE PUBLIC HALL OR COURTHOUSE?

Yack has some amazing venues for concerts - the Public Hall and the Courthouse 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.

Jenni Lannen, the Booking Officer can be contacted by email at:

publichall@yackandandah.com or by mobile on 0459 271 801.



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WELCOME TO ENGAGED INDIGO

Engaged Indigo is a place for you to join in, share your ideas and feedback on projects and initiatives that will shape the future of our Shire.

This platform is regularly updated with opportunities for you to have your say on issues that interest you and to connect with other community members. Here's where you can have your say and participate in the development of projects, plans, strategies or anything else that Council wants community input on.

On Exhibition - When documents are placed on public exhibition, community members have the chance to have a final say before the plan, policy or strategy is presented to Council for adoption. This is usually in the form of a written submission.

Upcoming Engagements - The projects below will soon be open for community input. At this stage, we're engaging with key stakeholders and dedicated working groups to develop drafts and once these are progressed, we'll be inviting feedback from across the Shire.

- Early Years Masterplanning
- Recreation Reserve Masterplanning
- Planning Scheme Review

For more information go to <https://engage.indigoshire.vic.gov.au> & register now.

Don't miss your chance to comment on such important items as the Indigo Planning Scheme. There is an opportunity only once every four years to have input on what the Shire is planning in the future on such items as changing of zoning, house density, heritage and environmental obligations and the like. Get your name down now so you can see what's planned and have some input. Ed.

PUBLIC NOTICE



INDIGO SHIRE SPEED LIMIT CHANGES

The Department of Transport and Planning has approved Council's application to reduce speed limits on a number of Indigo Shire roads.

The new reduced speed limits will be introduced from mid to late 2023 and will apply to roads in the Beechworth CBD, Yackandandah, Stanley, Chiltern and Rutherglen.

To see the full list of roads in which changes will apply, visit: www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/changingspeedlimits

www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au
Phone: 1300 365 003

WORKING TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY IN YACK TO TANGAMBALANGA

In 2013 Tania and Jordyn started a conversation about plastic. They found out how it was overflowing in landfills, floating in the oceans, strangling marine life and causing all sorts of trouble. So, what could be done about it?

The answer stared them in the face, from the one million plastic bags being used every minute, there was 10.46 million of tonnes of fabric waste created each year, and the willingness and generosity of people from all fabrics of society to do something about it. They created a platform that supports the diversion of post-consumer material (waste) into reusable bags to replace plastic bags and most importantly, start conversations.

The initiative spread enthusiastically and is now in over 1,100 communities worldwide. Millions of plastic bags have been saved from landfill, and behaviour change went way beyond the bag to other single-use plastics and sustainable living. Not to mention the immeasurable social impact of the conversations, connections and new friendships created in the process! Perhaps, it's not about the plastic bag at all...

Tangambalanga has been part of this since August 2018! Wow, five years have certainly moved fast. We have made over 4000 bags, 500 masks for our community over the COVID-19 epidemic and have made and donated over 300 bags to support the Lions for flood and fire

affected communities that were filled with toiletries. We also make bags for businesses here in Tangambalanga to Yackandandah.

Due to the changes with COVID-19, the Borrow and Bring back is no longer a thing, instead the bags are now a Bought to Support. You buy a bag for a gold coin donation and keep it. It is washable and re-usable for years to come unlike the plastic ones that only last for 1 or 2 uses. You can put your heavy cans etc in a boomerang bag and the handles don't break or cut into your hands. They are great value for money for \$2. All the money goes back into the group to maintain the machines, buy thread and keep



the group in essentials to keep making the bags. Your donation is important to us, and we are grateful for what we receive.

Our group is more than just making bags, it is a place you can come along and make friends, learn new skills and have fun. You don't have to know how to sew to help with making the bags. We have other jobs to do that don't require sewing or if you want to learn we will teach you. We provide everything you need, so you can just come along without having to lug your heavy machine with you. **Every Thursday at 11am to 3pm, we are at 41 Kiewa East Road, Tangambalanga in the back room of the Lion's Den.** Tea and coffee provided, BYO lunch.

Learn violin or piano

Suzuki Method | Group Ensemble | Regular Performances



Early Start | Positive Environment | Parental Involvement



violindigo
SUZUKI VIOLIN & PIANO

Lessons available in Yackandandah.

Limited spaces available for students at Victory Lutheran College Wodonga and the Scots School Albury.

For more information
call David Pietsch on
0400 224 814

Contact Details: 0400 224 814 • email: music@violindigo.com.au • www.violindigo.com.au • [/violindigo](https://www.facebook.com/violindigo)

Arts Yackandandah presents 'SHOWTIME'

Get ready to be transported to a world of timeless melodies and cinematic magic!

Led by local music maestro, Glen Aberlé, the 14-piece band and talented performers will delight the audience with unforgettable Broadway classics and all-time Hollywood favourites. **And**, as usual, the words to all the songs will be projected on to the big screen, so you can sing along, if you wish, to favourite songs from favourite Musicals.

To make the evening even more enjoyable, the evening will be **Cabaret style** with tables of 8. The bar will be open before the show as well as during interval and after the show. The Yack Women's Shed will provide scrumptious food during the interval and tea and coffee will be available which is included in the ticket price. Why not book a table with your friends? Or you can just book individually. Booking details with trybooking.com will be available shortly.

We are also encouraging people to dress up as

one of the characters from a show. This is not a requirement, but could provide an opportunity to be a bit of fun. The songs that will be featured are from the following shows:

'The Sound of Music', 'Mary Poppins', 'My Fair Lady', 'Annie Get Your Gun', 'Oklahoma', 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang', 'The Wizard of Oz', 'Cabaret', 'Oliver', 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory', 'West Side Story', 'The King and I', 'South Pacific', 'No, No Nanette' and 'Hello Dolly'.

Quite a list to choose from for a character to dress up as. I imagine that there will be some Mary Poppins, nuns, Annie Oakleys, and guys with

flannelette shirts, scarves, boots, hats and maybe even a Fagin from Oliver. Use your imagination!

Don't miss this extraordinary musical journey celebrating the timeless beauty of both stage and screen for an evening that promises to be truly magical. Whether you're a die-hard musical enthusiast or someone looking to relish the joy of a bygone era, **'SHOWTIME'** is an event not to be missed. So, gather your loved ones and friends and come together for a night of musical enchantment like no other.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE MUSICAL EVENT.

Date: **22nd October, 2023**

Time: **4.00pm**

Place: **Yackandandah Public Hall**

Tickets: **General Admission - \$25**

Arts Yack members and Concession - \$20

Children 14 and under - Free.

Robynne Hall, Publicity Officer



THE ARTS IN YACKANDANDAH

SAVE THESE DATES!

The much loved "Songwriters in the round" concert will be returning this **September 30**. 'Sounds of Spring': In the Round will feature Mandy Connell, Mezz Coleman, Ailsa Mitchell, O' Little Sister, and curator Candice McLeod. "An intimate evening of storytelling through song, alongside a handful of Victoria's most endearing female songwriters." [Tickets are available now - book early https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1089325!](https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1089325)

An exciting multi-disciplinary show "Living The Tradition" will be presented in the Yackandandah Courthouse on **Saturday October 14**. A one hour film, following master cellist, Ilsa de Ziah, around Ireland as she researches traditional airs and performs them in their place of origin will comprise the first half of the show. Ilsa will take to the stage with virtuoso guitarist Ian Date for a live performance and Q and A session. Stay tuned for further details.

The next of Glen Aberle's community singing productions will be a little different. "Arts Yackandandah presents songs of stage and screen" will be a cabaret-style performance, held on **Sunday October 22** between 4pm and 6.30pm, celebrating well-known songs from the golden era of films and musicals. Costumes will be encouraged! See page 25 for more details.

MOODEMERE QUARTET

Be transported to the elegant and enlightened world of Europe and America in the early 20th century with the Moodemere Quartet. Allow yourself to be drawn into Ravel's shimmering world of complex harmonies and floating melodies in his only String Quartet. Continue your voyage across the Atlantic to the open skies, prairies and promise of the New World with Dvorak's famous American Quartet.

The Moodemere Quartet is made up of local musicians Damien Jones

(violin), Tara Chambers (violin), Jessie Swan (viola) and Catriona Byles (cello). Named after the stunning Lake Moodemere in Rutherglen, their goal is to bring the beauty of chamber music to Albury/Wodonga and its surrounds.

Sunday 6 August 2023 2:30 - 4:00 PM

Yackandandah Courthouse

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/1067864/sessions/3950654/sections/1978416/tickets>



Arts
Yackandandah

Ian Jones Art Prize

A prize of \$2,000 is on offer for local young creatives through the Friends of the Burke Museum and the Tucker Foundation's Ian Jones Art Award.

The award is an opportunity for anyone aged 17 to 30 that lives, works or has a strong connection to Indigo Shire to showcase their artistic ability through any medium.

For more information or applications, please contact the Friends of the Burke Museum via email at friendsburkemuseum@gmail.com



Karen Lee Andrews is in possession of a powerful sense of artistic purpose. Surrounded by music her entire life, Karen's career to date has largely revolved around classic soul and rhythm and blues. The influence of soul, gospel and Karen's Polynesian background continues to inform the music she creates. Karen's new EP 'Edin' take a more comprehensive journey through soul and blues music, while providing a candid expression of her personal identity. Karen's songcraft is built on a thorough knowledge of blues, gospel and soul music and motored by an undeniable hunger to connect. Yet the defining ingredient is Karen's unshakeable artistic passion.

"One of the most original and dignified talents to emerge in Australian Entertainment in a long time. She manages to be both imperial yet vulnerable." **Sydney Morning Herald**
"Andrews is on an inspiring and passionate musical journey. A must-see." **Beat Magazine**
"Soulful and bluesy, with so much heart and pain, delivered with so much class." **Sound of Oz**

Saturday 19th August 2023

Address: Yack Public Hall

Times: Doors 7pm

Show 7:30-9:30pm

Ticket Link: <https://www.trybooking.com/CGIYD>

Tickets prices:

Full price \$35

Members/Concession \$30

Free under 12 (with a ticket holding adult)

Watch - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eeUysiXM2IE>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/karenleeandrewsmusic/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/karenleeandrews>



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225 KIRBY'S FLAT ROAD, YACKANDANDAH

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 Chris via email - chris.zerbst@gmail.com

In its 9th year, **The Big Bike Film Night** will be celebrating cycling in all its glorious shapes and forms in Yackandandah on **Saturday 12th August** with a programme proclaimed as 'a feast of short films devised and designed for the two-wheel devotee'.



With its humble beginnings back in 2015, The Big Bike Film Night is now a much-anticipated Film Festival that brings a love of cycling to cinemas, presenting an array of international movies specifically selected by New Zealander Curator/ "Film Pedlar", Brett Cotter. "Each year I set out with just one goal- to bring together the best cycling short films from around the world for our audiences- this collection is awe-inspiring and celebrates the fun, the adventure, and inspiration that bikes enable" says Mr Cotter. "Our stellar 2023 compilation contains 10 mesmerizing films that are as varied and diverse as you could hope for. This global programme contains a World premiere, two fabulous Australian films, and an assortment of international films having their premiere here as well" states Mr Cotter.

Also in the treasure chest of films is a delightful young Australian bikepacker's learnings from her scenic trip to Hell; a visually commanding film set in postcard Tuscany following a 74-year old rider (and his marvellous moustache) who personifies the spirit of cycling; two Brisbane schools sharing their insights into how they promote active transport within their school community; the tale of a rider

with a searing thirst for adventure, exploring Iceland's spectacular interior; putting the 'mountain' into mountain biking - a Scottish highland rider's eyes are opened to the healing power of the bicycle; an uplifting film that celebrates a humble volunteer whose community spirit is inspiring and so are the majestic winter views of the trail where he lives; a moving movie that follows a family that chooses to live life to the fullest in the face of adversity; and rounding out the night, find out what happens when you combine a ultra-distance 320 km gravel race and parenting together over a 24-hour period; ALL in the mix!

"The power of storytelling is at the forefront of what we offer, and the belief that the humble bicycle can improve our health, inspire and uplift people with where it can take us. The event brings together communities with stories that captivate us, stories that make us think, and most importantly of all- inspiring us to get out and ride" says Mr Cotter.

The Big Bike Film Night screens in Yackandandah at the Public Hall on Saturday 12th August at 7:30pm.

To buy tickets visit www.bigbikefilmnight.nz

Yackandandah Theatre Company with Creative Representation and Arts Yackandandah present "The Heartbreak Choir" by Aiden Fennessy on the 24th, 25th and 26th August, 2023 at the Yackandandah Senior Citizens Centre.

Three evening performances will be held at 7.30 pm and a matinee on Saturday at 2pm.

The Heartbreak Choir was Aiden Fennessy's last play. We think he knew about us - up in Yackandandah when he wrote this play! It is funny and uplifting celebrating music, friendship and community. The play opens in an old CFA Hall in a small town where a group gather to sing, having splintered from their original choir on a matter of principle. Their newest recruit is Peter. They have a new name, a space to rehearse and a gig booked at a winery where they need to find a song to go with the new Sangiovese. And they have to confront some of the wrongs of the past.

This is a play that has been described as "a warm hug of a play" by Melbourne Theatre Company when performed in 2022. Aiden Fennessy died before this play was first produced by Melbourne Theatre. He was an early member of the Hot House Artistic Directorate when that theatre first started.

"The Heartbreak Choir" is being directed by Brendan Hogan with Assistant Director, Maggie Craven with support from Margie Gleeson, Sally Dodds, Jo O'Shaughnessy and Adam Elliott. It has a cast of North East actors including Louise Scheidl, Lisa Mason, Terri Manderson, Liliana Mason, Richard Routley, Victoire Mazambi and Connor Wall, who will warm your heart and make you want to join in the singing!

Come along. Tickets are available on Trybooking <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1090690>. Watch our Arts Yack Facebook page or contact us at www.arts.yackandandah.com.

Margie Gleeson
Producer

Content Warning: This production contains coarse language, mature themes, references to sexual assault and references to suicide. For further information regarding content please contact Producer, Margie Gleeson at margie56@bigpond.net.au

YACKANDANDAH WRITERS

Each month a member of the Yackandandah Writers sets a topic or a genre of writing for the group to tackle. In the month of June our topic was *JUNE* to be written about in any style or genre. Twelve different approaches produced twelve very different pieces of writing. Chrissie Zerbst's contribution is below. Chrissie is also Yackandandah Writer's featured author for this edition of Yackity Yak. The Yackandandah Writers meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the Yackandandah Courthouse at 2.30pm. Contact: beverley.lello@gmail.com

NEW ARRIVALS by CHRISSIE ZERBST

I lifted my head at the sound of a truck pulling into the next door's driveway. What good fortune I thought when I saw it was a removal truck. How legitimate I feel, already out in the garden, gloved and digging away. Thank goodness for my sensible wide-brimmed hat making it easy to peek from under. The removalist company, I note with pleasure, is one of the best; not three-men-and-a-truck types, or even worse, relying on a cavalcade of friends, trailers overloaded with couches, washing machines, and recycled boxes.

Without much ado, I manoeuvre myself slightly closer to the line of standard-rose bushes separating our two front drives; converted to no fence when Merle and Ken lived next door. We were the first in the street to make the move; now I see the Whites and the Malarkeys have appropriately followed suit.

The procession of furniture starts as the two well-built removalists wrestle the more significant pieces off the truck. It looks quality, but I hate to say their grape-coloured couch will not match the rose-patterned carpet Merle insisted on; unless their taste is poor and, heaven forbid, one of them will have to go! No toys so far! Two office chairs; definitely a professional couple. Lawyers, doctors, accountants? What's this now, his and hers' golf sets? I'm betting lawyers and, thank goodness, still no toys. Finally, the truck's loading door closes with a bang, followed by the two cabin doors shutting. As it pulls out, a puff of black smoke from the exhaust hangs over the air. Maybe a rental after all.

I look up with relief. It's been a long hour keeping my head down. Why did I bother? It was only the furniture truck, silly me, but I managed to prune the roses, even if a little early. Standing back, I admire my job; it will be a good show in spring. I'm about to head indoors and make a well-earned cup of tea when a car pulls up, a Mercedes, no less. I was right. Briefly smiling and not wanting to look like I'm expecting them to wave, I tackle the rose bush in front of me with the pruning shears. I suppose another cut here and there won't have the poor thing any less resplendent come spring.

They appear young, that's nice and still no sign of children, hallelujah. I look up, and our eyes meet as I offer a tentative wave. The woman is walking towards me with her hand outstretched.

"April".

"I don't think so, dear; they're still flowering then."

"Sorry, I'm April. I'm glad you're the gardener. I know nothing about it," she laughs.

It's then I look a little closer and notice the bulge.

April notices my observance and, patting her belly, joyfully announces, "June."

About Chrissie Zerbst

For many years I was thinking that I would like to write. The opportunity came in 2017 when a six-week writing course by Bev Lello (through Yack Community Centre) evolved into a newly formed group for Arts Yack, *Yackandandah Writers* later that year.

Writing gives me immeasurable pleasure. Picking up my pen and giving thought to creating a scene, characters and plot leaves me lost in a world far from everyday life. It's fascinating how a story can develop. I have entered several writing competitions with one claim to fame; being shortlisted in the 2018 Elyne Mitchell Writing Awards. I enjoy writing short pieces inspired by our pet subject for the month.



The Heartbreak Choir cast.

Back: Louise Scheidl, Richard Routley and Terri Manderson. Front: Victoire Mazambe, Lisa Mason, Liliana Mason. . Absent: Connor Wall



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New planting guides help insect pollinators thrive

Creating essential habitat havens for bees and other pollinators has just become a whole lot easier thanks to a new range of planting guides developed by the When Bee Foundation. The Powerful Pollinator Planting Guides are created by botanists to help gardeners, farmers and land managers choose plants that attract pollinators to their properties, increasing the abundance and diversity of insect pollinators in urban and rural landscapes.

Powerful Pollinators Program Manager Lea Hannah said pollinators are essential for preserving biodiversity and ensuring food security, yet they are under threat from habitat loss, extreme weather events and climate change. "The Powerful Pollinator Planting Guides promote the creation of vital habitat, increasing food for bees and reducing the distance they need to travel to forage and feed," Ms Hannah said. Each planting guide includes information on ways to attract pollinators to the local area, with tips on creating pollination reservoirs, constructing insect real estate, improving habitat connectivity and reducing chemical use. They contain a list of plants, including shrubs, trees, climbers, vines, forbs and grasses, as well as information on plant heights, colour, aspect and soil conditions.

Ms Hannah said these are the only guides of their kind produced for specific ecological

bio-regions in Australia. "The Powerful Pollinator Planting Guides include a vast range of native plants indigenous to each bioregion, from tall trees to the smallest herbs, so people can choose what is appropriate for their site," Ms Hannah said. "The species list also contains varying flowering times, so you can potentially have something in flower any time in the year to support pollinators."

So far 21 guides have been published across six states and territories. Some of the regions covered include Swan River (WA), Kangaroo Island (SA), North Coast (NSW), South East Melbourne (Vic), Northern Slopes (Tas) and Townsville (QLD). More guides are in development. The guides are managed by the When Bee Foundation with funding from varied sources including Smart Farms, NSW Government bushfire recovery funding, private organisations, local governments and service clubs such as Rotarians for Bees.

When Bee Foundation CEO Fiona Chambers said further funding is required to develop guides for other regions across the country. "It's great to see councils leading the way in the development of new guides," Ms Chambers said. "This process works really well when councils join forces with land management organisations and service clubs such as Rotary and Lions to

fund the creation of a guide. "It results in a valuable community resource that is owned by everyone."

Guides are available to download or buy at whenbeefoundation.org.au/our-work/projects/powerful-pollinators.



A native powerful pollinator at work in Hardenbergia



With so many great stories in this edition of Yackity Yak, it's really worth

reminding all you community groups out there, that YCDCo has a mandate to assist with project funding for your great ideas that will help invest in Yack and district and its citizens.

We have no fixed date for looking at applications. They are dealt with on a monthly basis and we can guarantee a quick turnaround. Rex Little is the Board member who looks after Community Grants, so download a form off our

website - <https://www.ycdco.com.au/community> and get an application to us. Rex is happy to deal with any queries and he can be contacted via email on yackjam2@gmail.com

We are busy with end of financial year paperwork at the moment, and that will then be the lead-up to our Annual General Meeting, the date of which will be confirmed in the October/November edition of Yackity Yak. We are also looking at celebrating YCDCo's 20th anniversary of trading in November, so details of that to come soon. We are planning for a big community event to celebrate.

THE 'DEEP HISTORY' OF THE AFL & its



YACKANDANDAH CONNECTION(S)

SENIOR CITIZENS' HALL ~ WELLSFORD ST. ~ YACK
FRIDAY 18TH AUGUST ~ 7:00 PM TO 9:30 PM

ALL WELCOME

Entry Fee: Gold Coin Donation

For more info, please call Owen: 0400 346 402



Is your community group interested in joining us at Indigo FM? We offer the opportunity to members of the community to join

Indigo FM to add their show ideas to our evolving schedule. Getting your own radio show on the airwaves is super easy. It's free to be trained as we like to keep it accessible to all. Shows don't have to be just music specific, you can promote your interest group or community group, share information, promote upcoming events. All ideas are welcome. If you are interested, just email us at indigofmradioyack@gmail.com to find out more.

Indigo FM are pleased to present new shows that recently went to air from The Yack Garden Club and The Yack Women's Shed. These community groups will host a show on the first and last Monday afternoons each month from 1.00pm to let us know what is happening in the garden or in the shed and any upcoming events from these groups for the community to know about. To view Indigo FM programs such as these, you can check out the Yackandandah Program Guide at www.indigofmradio.com/listen/program-guide/yackandandah

The kids from Yack Primary School are back for another term, presenting their unique radio shows throughout the week from 4-5pm, which give us an enlightening and funny perspective of life, school and music through the eyes of a primary school student. Tune in to Ben and Tarn, or Viv and Owen (alternate Mondays), Jack and Gabs AKA the Donut Dudes every second Wednesday and Willow, Jayde

and Zoe each Thursday.

Our regular presenters have fantastic weekly shows for your listening enjoyment such as "Just Press Play" with Gary (Thursday 1:30-3:30pm), "Asleep at the Wheel" with Harvey (Sun 2-4pm), "Everyone Deserves Music" with Scott (Sun 12-2pm) and we welcome back Spencer Washington with his "Musical Mash" show each Monday and Friday 11-1pm. Bron and Ange continue to produce a monthly show called "Radio Theme Time" with different music topics as their theme for the month. If you would like to catch up with any shows that have gone to air recently from any of the Indigo FM presenters, just head to the site www.podomatic.com/podcasts/indigofmradio or through the Indigo FM website.

Indigo FM also keeps you up to date with live music shows in our area. The Indigo FM gig guide on Facebook is updated weekly so check it out to see live music events advertised in and around Yack.

Our local radio station is now on the global airwaves with a live internet streaming service, so you can now tune into Indigo FM Yackandandah and enjoy the great local sounds and shows at any time and in any place via this link <http://yackandandahstream.indigofm.au/stream/yackandandahfm88> or head to the streaming page on our website <https://indigofmradio.com/listen/streaming/>

Enjoy listening in to our unique local radio

station; 88.0 FM Yackandandah, now from anywhere in the world!



Janet Russell and Chris Zerbst from the Yack Garden Club broadcasting on Indigo FM

BENT GRASS - The Latest Environmental Pest?

We are seeing an influx of bent grass into the Indigo Shire. Apparently Wooragee is already a hot spot for infestations of this grass and patches of it are starting to be seen elsewhere nearby. To the uninitiated, it looks like a low lying grass that starts in a small patch, and then spreads outwards in a mat that swamps all other grasses in the area.

One of the first grasses to ever be intentionally cultivated as a lawn, bent grass was first developed in Europe at a time when decorative lawns were the latest thing. A cool season grass with a slightly blue-green colour, bent grass is known as one of the most beautiful lawns available and is often used on golf courses, but you certainly DO NOT want to get it in your pastures.

A fairly unique feature in cool season grasses, bent grass is a creeping variety that will eventually cover any area that it finds itself in. What's more, instead of expanding underground via its root system, it features overland runners called stolons – usually only associated with warm season varieties like Buffalo or Couch – which allow for effective spreading of the grass. The ability to spread goes hand in hand with its ability to repair damage. It's also very quick to germinate, with grass usually coming through less than 10 days after setting seed.

How do you break the dominance of bent grass and get started on a control program? There are various methods, and all of them somewhat labour intensive.

1. Initially soil fertility must be built up to create a suitable environment for productive grass species to thrive in your paddocks.
2. Adjustments to grazing management can be made to increase the competition of desirable species over bent grass. Adopting a rotational grazing strategy and controlled grazing will help manage your grassland and put pressure onto bent grass.
3. Spray topping of bent grass may also enable landowners to start managing bent grass better. You can use a product called Primesource Mesotrione MESO 4SC Select - this is a selective product that will control the bent grass without harming desired grasses. It requires three applications, spaced two weeks apart, to achieve complete control. Round Up will also control this grass but will kill everything else it comes into contact with.



Bent grass, showing its distinctive low growing form and blue-green colouring.

4. If you are averse to sprays, then another method is to dig it out by hand, which is practical for small areas, but probably not for larger infestations.

It is a tricky problem, but one that needs to be got on top of early to stop it taking root in your pastures and spoiling them.

There's an old saying – "The farmer's footprint is the best fertilizer". There is no comparison with getting out on foot on your pastures and having a good look at what's going on and identifying problems early on in the piece...

Thanks to Rebecca McGowan for raising the profile on this pesky invader.

Thanks to Rebecca McGowan for raising the profile on this pesky invader.

Thanks to Rebecca McGowan for raising the profile on this pesky invader.

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The Pond - An insight into the characters of Yackandandah with Rebecca Gibblie

Kevin 'Jockstrap' Johnson

Kevin Johnson was born on 7th November, 1957 to parents Bernie and Hilda Johnson who lived in Johnson Lane in the Indigo Valley. Both parents were hardworking folk who drew on their life experiences to bring up their boys to be hard working, family oriented and community minded. Kevin is a twin brother to Francis Bernard, born 20 minutes before Kevin. He also has brothers, Gary, Dennis and Simon. Gary lives in Wodonga while Dennis has a farm near Yark, Victoria and cooks pies for 'Bucks Bakery' in the township. Simon lives in Palmerston, Tasmania and is described as the brains of the family. Put simply, he is a design draftsman, and his speciality is designing roundabouts. Kev always greets him with, 'designed any new roundabouts lately'?

As a young man, Kevin had responsibilities beyond school. He, along with his brothers, were expected to work the family farm in the Indigo Valley. The 360 acres supported dairy and pigs mainly. His mother Hilda was remembered as a marvellous cook and caring and doting mother who prepared meals for the boys and attempted to keep everyone happy at home. On the other hand, Kevin's father, Bernie ensured the farm ran like clockwork and that money came in to provide everything that was needed for the family.

Bernie Johnson was a returned serviceman, as was Kevin's grandfather, Francis, who was wounded in a barge on the shores of Gallipoli and survived to return home. Bernie fought alongside his mates from Albury in the second 29th Battalion, known as 'Albury's Own'. He was deployed alongside others to Borneo but was captured by the Japanese within two hours of their arrival. Bernie spent 3 and a half years in Changi prison and was reduced to a frame of some 28 kilos after leaving Australia as an 85-kilogram man. Bernie was sent to New Guinea after the war to repatriate. This process was organized by the Department of Defence to 'fatten up' the soldiers and not frighten family and the public upon the servicemen's return. Bernie never spoke much of the war with the family. Suffice to say, he found it difficult to completely forgive the enemy for what the allied forces had endured. Instead, Bernie and Hilda made their focus the family and the education of the boys.

Bernie was offered a soldier settlement block of some 200 acres on Lindsay Lane which the government insisted should be farmed for dairy. Bernie refused the offer as he wanted to produce quality merino sheep and wouldn't be told what to do. Consequently, the couple moved to Allawah in Sydney and ran a grocery store. They returned to the Indigo Valley to farm where Kevin's grandmother, Molly Goodger and her family, owned property.

Kevin attended primary school at St Joseph's in Beechworth. He described himself as a non-academic student, more intent on copying his brother's work and organising fund raising activities where possible. Kevin raised capital to buy hot chips at the 'Dolphin Café' after school by selling off his mother's home-made cakes and biscuits that were meant for his lunch. Nothing much has changed up in Beechworth, with the winters bitterly cold, the thought of long pants and hot chips being on a young boy's mind. It wasn't until secondary school that Kevin received his first pair of long pants; and what a joyous occasion that was.

All the boys were boarded at Champagnat College in Wangaratta on completion of their primary education. By 1975, the College became co-educational and is now known as Galen. Kevin's

time as a boarder was recounted with great fondness, his parents providing a small allowance for personal items each month. It was having to be responsible for his own finances and mindful of the value of money that led Kevin to be self-reliant later in life. The food was nothing like his mother's home cooking. Breakfast regularly consisted of chiko rolls or dim sims, deep fried. Sunday was often the only decent meal of roast chicken and vegetables when not back home. Champagnat provided routine and discipline. The students were expected to help prepare meals, wash their own 'smalls' and keep their rooms clean and tidy. The College had a strong emphasis on sport. Kevin played football and loved the friendships that came with his involvement in the game, including the beginnings of the nickname that was to follow him for the rest of his life. Jack Johnson the famous American boxer was likened to Kevin. The name morphed into 'Jock'



Johnson and the word 'strap' was the final incantation years later as a footballer in Yackandandah. The sixteen-year-old boys would pool their money and between them buy a 'king brown' for \$1.25 and spend the afternoon drinking beer and swimming at the H.P. Barr Reserve. And so began Kevin's relationship with alcohol which was to prove a problem in the years to come.

By 1975 Kevin had returned to the farm to help his parents and deepen his involvement with the Yackandandah Football Club. In that year, Kevin alongside his father, Bob Kelly, Kev and Johnny Clark and Gordon Scammell as well as many others pitched in to build the updated clubrooms. Kevin played senior footy for Yackandandah from 1975-1976 and beyond that, in the reserves. His commitment to the club remained including his love of socialising and drinking which by his own admission was, at times out of control.

In 1976, Kevin began his Electrical apprenticeship at Bradken in Wodonga, then known as the Bradford Kendall Foundry. The apprenticeship was arranged through his father and Bob Wiltshire, both members of the RSL. The four years passed slowly. Kevin struggled with his boss, and this exacerbated the time he spent at the Star Hotel. The bonus of his own wages was taking delivery of his HQ SS Monaro. Lettuce green, four on the floor and a 253 V8. Every young man's dream in the 1970's. To this day, Kevin regrets its sale. Two years loss of licence. Caught drink driving outside the Stump Hotel by Constable Murray King. Kevin says it was nothing to be proud of, but it was part of the deeper problem within.

It was about this time, Kevin met Vicki Melbourne, the sister of his mate Gary.

Gary and Kevin would drink together while Vicki worked at the bottom pub. The couple were to be engaged. A new life together and for Kevin, a new job on the Shire. Humble beginnings, the couple purchased a caravan and made their home at the Yackandandah Caravan Park. Work at the Shire was short lived. Kevin started work as an electrician and maintenance employee in 1980 with the Commercial Club in Albury. Organising lifts and asking Vicki to drive him to work meant the Monaro had to go. It was traded for an automatic Honda. Oh, the pain of that decision! It was the same year that Kevin's father was diagnosed with bowel cancer. To help on the farm while still working in Albury, the couple moved into a caravan on his parent's property which later became the site of a modest home in part built by Vicki's grandfather Roy, her father Norm, Kevin and Bernie.

The couple were married on the 21st March, 1981 at the Yackandandah Catholic Church. Officiated by Rev. Father 'Dick' Richard Tracey. Apparently, the best-looking and most desirable priest to have ever been appointed in Yackandandah.

During the early months of Bernie battling his health issues, Kevin was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. It appeared life couldn't get much tougher for the couple. However, in 1982 their first child, Adrian Francis was born. Vicki and Kevin were proud and loving parents. Further joy was to follow in 1984 when their second son, Brendan was born.

Unfortunately, Bernie was to lose his battle with cancer in the same year which meant the farm was to be divided up and sold with a small portion of the original property going to Vicki, Kevin, and the boys. Kevin left his job at the Commercial Club and picked up electrical contracting work while trying to make extra money raising calves on their property. Life was hard but the family worked together to make ends meet. Two girls Emma and Brodie were born in 1992 and 1994 respectively.

Kevin ventured into small business in 1986, purchasing the Yackandandah Hardware Store from John and Jenny Donnelly. It was located where CC Meats traded until recent times and where the Pharmacy is heading to. Kevin made sure he was a regular at the Star Hotel across the street and the footy club to enhance his business connections. Friends and the community were important to Kev as it is today. Life membership was bestowed by Yackandandah Football and Netball Club in 2004. He has now been a member for 47 years.

In 1992, perhaps the greatest tragedy a family could endure occurred when Vicki and Kevin lost their son, Adrian as a ten-year-old due to complications arising from diabetes and heat stroke. After spending several days praying for a miracle in Melbourne, the heart-breaking decision was made by Vicki and Kevin to turn off their son's life support.

This had a devastating effect on Kevin. He blamed himself because of the diabetes, he drank heavily and sunk into a deep depression. To Kevin, surviving those dark days was solely attributable to the support given to him by his closest friends. The same men and women he had grown up with and been involved with at the footy club. Individuals like John (Butcher) and Jenny Dale, Ross McKibbin and Colin Haynes although there were many others. By 1994, and after 8 years, the hardware business was sold and as always, the focus was once again placed

Continued on Page 31



on the welfare of their own family. Kevin continued to work as an electrical contractor until his unofficial retirement in 2010.

Kevin has continued his important work as an official volunteer for many of Yackandandah's community groups. First and foremost is his beloved Football and Netball Club. However, he is also a loyal lieutenant for Jane Moore, and the Lion's Club. His voluntary work includes time given to the Men's Shed and the Kiewa Yackandandah RSL in honour of his late father and grandfather's active service to their country. Kevin has been referred to as Mr. 'Raffledandah'.

Kevin's gripe is that so many in the Yackandandah community don't seize the opportunity to volunteer and put back into the town. So, if you think you have a skill or even no skill at all, his advice is to put your hand up and help! After his diagnosis of bowel cancer in 2018, Kevin is a fierce advocate for people to become proactive in participating in the National Bowel Screening Program and is happy to give advice on the benefits of early detection.

With all his voluntary work, there is still a little time for Kevin to indulge himself. A significant collection of old local bottles and collectable coins take centre place in the deepest corners of Kevin's cupboards. And of course, there is the 1960 FB ute that is work in progress. Vicki knows Kevin well and agrees, 'work in progress', along with the lawn mowing and general chores around the house. Kevin has a well-developed ear for fine music and is a fan of the Bee Gees, The Eagles, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Kris Kristofferson and the Seekers.

Kevin and Vicki are the proud grandparents of 5 grandchildren, Brendan's three and Emma's two. Loved and adored, the children play a central part in their current lives.

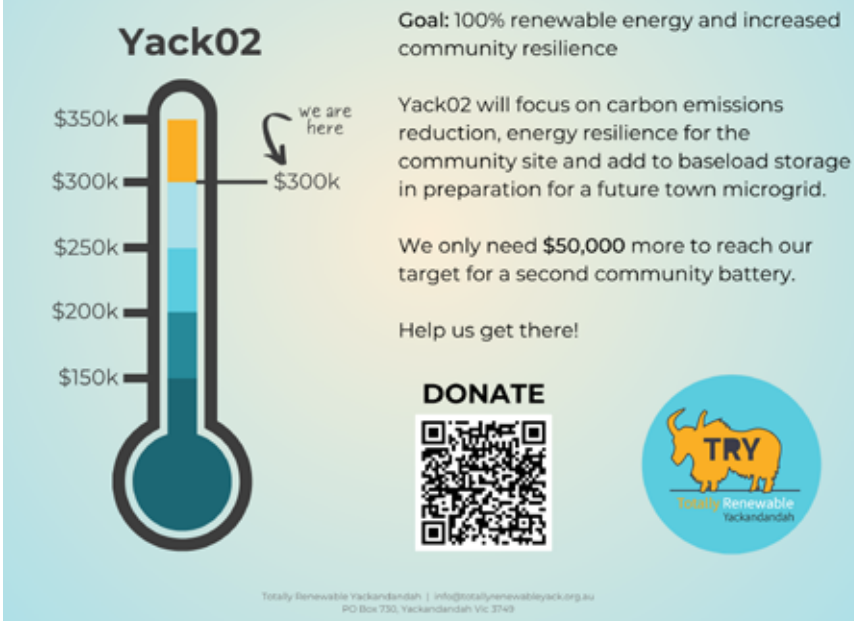
In 2013, Hilda who had some years earlier moved into Wodonga passed away. Kevin always made a point of dropping in and enjoying his mother's latest culinary creation. Although Bernie had passed many years earlier, Kevin has always regretted not visiting him in his final hours and saying goodbye and thanking him for being the father he was.

It's obvious Kev has mellowed over the years and many of his personal issues have been resolved. What has remained is his devotion to family, his passion for community and his boundless generosity. Beneath the gruff exterior lies a sensitive man who has lived life to the full and is prepared to share his opinions with anyone who will listen. You will see him any home game on Saturday at the footy ticket box, or at the Lion's Club market or perhaps at the Men's Shed producing items for a community group. If you miss him in these locations, he will find you. Just have a few coins ready for a raffle ticket or two.

A special thanks to Kevin and Vicki Johnson for their time and preparedness to share their story with the community. As this article is finalized, we have heard the sad news of Vicki's aunty, Edna Lord, passing away. Our sincere condolences to Vicki and her extended family on the loss of one of Yackandandah's most cherished characters.

Rebecca is taking off for warmer climes over the next few months, so she will be back with more stories of Yack's great people later on in the year. Ed.

Help Yack build a 2nd community battery!



YACKANDANDAH – OH PARADISO!

Morning ritual, pills with orange juice – brief shudder without cause – perhaps learned behaviour from watching my father many years ago – how imprints last!

Looking southwards towards the melaleucas near O'Rafferty's fence, my gaze is captured by the reflection of a cluster of erubescens coral roses, backgrounded by the rich gold of the climbing rose. As the glorious morning chorus of my resident blackbird draws me

to the northerly bay window, my vision of paradise is enhanced by the emerging morning sun, even more highlighting the rose bushes. I lift my gaze across the lush paddock to the verdant valley and the hill beyond.

My soul is content as I count my blessings of good sight and hearing and the great gift of wonderful friends.

Ian Jackson

Reg's Rain Report

2023	Millimetres	Days of Rain
January	100.2	8
February	24.0	5
March	114.8	12
April	74.8	9
May	73.0	14
June	156.4	17
July to 20th	66.2	10
TOTAL	609.4	75
2021 to 20th July	565.6	56
2022 to 20th July	601.2	58



TO STEAL IDEAS FROM ONE PERSON IS PLAGIARISM. TO STEAL IDEAS FROM MANY IS RESEARCH.

YACK RURAL AUSTRALIANS FOR REFUGEES

Yackandandah Rural Australians for Refugees (RAR) formed in 2021 when a group of concerned residents watched the humanitarian crisis unfold in Afghanistan and wondered how they could help. By the end of 2021 several Yack residents were 'sponsoring' individuals and families



Vocals at the Local - with Chris McGorlick, Candice McLeod and Frances Higgins

who had applied for residency in Australia to escape the escalating crisis in Afghanistan. The process of applying for an Australian visa is arduous and applicants for an offshore humanitarian visa will need to demonstrate that they are subject to persecution or substantial discrimination amounting to a gross violation of human rights in their home country.

Since 2021, Yack RAR has supported visa applications for

and desperate to start their lives in Australia and importantly, for their children to begin their education.

Yack RAR are grateful to the Yack community for the generous donations that continue to support this lovely family. Many thanks to our wonderful local organisers of Vocals at the Local as well as those who provided donations for airfares and clothing and toys for the children.

more than 20 families. In June the first family supported by Yack RAR has safely arrived in Australia. Y and her husband and two children, aged 3 and 5, are living in transition accommodation in Melbourne and doggedly trying to find accommodation in a rental market that is difficult for many. While they are supported by government services to establish their new lives, we appreciate that our call-outs to the Yack community have provided them with many essentials, from clothing, groceries and children's toys and books. Despite the challenge, the family are filled with gratitude



Some familiar faces enjoying the vibe at the Vocals at the Local session at the Top Pub

MUSIC TRIVIA EVENING

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AND...COME DRESSED UP MUSICALLY THEMED

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ALL PROCEEDS GO TO SUPPORT RURAL AUSTRALIANS FOR REFUGEES' WORK TO RELOCATE REFUGEES TO PLACES OF SAFETY

Many people in Afghanistan continue to face great danger and we are hopeful that we will be able to support more families as their applications are processed. Sponsorship is expensive with flights alone costing around \$6000 per person so your support is vital.

* Please note that we are unable to use the real names of family members as we are conscious that many have relatives remaining in Afghanistan who continue to face danger and persecution.

Michelle Croker
Senior Social Consultant



If you're travelling down the Gundowring Rd near the Kiewa Cemetery, there's a reason to slow down and it's not just for potholes. An enterprising resident has set up a roadside garden produce stall as a fundraiser for Ukraine.

"After hearing a guest speaker at Kiewa-Tangambalanga Lions Club a few months ago, I was inspired to fundraise for Ukraine any way I could," said Andrea Palmer. Albury local, Luda Lucas, a Ukrainian, had spoken to the Lions Club about the war in Ukraine and how she had been inspired to sponsor her high school friend, her daughter and

granddaughter to come to Australia. They had been living in a basement near Kyiv with no heat or power.

"Members of the public can also contribute by dropping off excess garden produce or plants," said Andrea. "It's a great way to



On the roadside stand are hardy plants, seasonal produce, flower and vegetable seeds and organic worm juice

support the people of Ukraine."

All proceeds will be given to the Ukraine Crisis Appeal, an Australian charity initiative. See <https://www.ukrainecrisisappeal.org/> - all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

YACK LIONS CLUB MARKETS



Yack Lions Club's famous weekend markets will be held from 9 am - 1 pm on the following Sundays:

20th August

17th September
19th November

15th October
17th 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

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS 1 Low blow. 5 Red sky. 9 The bill. 10 Robbers. 11 Act. 12 Black grouse. 13 Steer. 14 Pearl's den. 16 Friedrich. 17 Carob. 19 Sydney Opera. 22 Ova. 23 Episode. 24 Useless. 26 Asthma. 27 Lines Up.

DOWN 1 Let pass. 2 When the wind dies. 3 Lei. 4 Wilma. 5 Rare knack. 6 Debar. 7. Keep under covers. 8 Astern. 12 Bored. 14 Philomena. 15 Lycra. 16 Foster. 18 Bears up. 20 Enoch. 21 Equal.

HORSES FOR COURSES

KICK THE DUST – BARMAH MUSTER

Awakening to the faint pastels of the pre-dawn sky with the chill nipping at my snug bed, I was looking out the open tailgate of my float at the fading stars and the flush of a new day. The massive camp at the muster is dead still. No noise from the throng of people, hundreds of horses, cattle, no stockwhips, music, laughter or even a little “yaah hoing”.



Some of the riders at the Barmah Muster

Contemplating the journey of the muster over the years from cattle and horse riding in the forest, to today, held in the massive Pony Club grounds outside the forest. I once packed a horse from Burramine to the muster. This time I loaded Archie on a wet, cold morning. The other half of the float had rugs, hay, camping gear and wood etc. Found a clear spot

of a riding club based at Finley at the Riverina. Tasty jaffles cooked on my small fire drum, which throws out some friendly warmth. Caught up with a couple of friends from Girgarre and Tatura, people I’ve shared a lot of campfires with!

Team penning, novelty events and the Stockman’s Challenge rolled on all weekend. I went for the trail ride and some education for my 4 year old horse. The hustle and bustle is good for a young horse to experience, also a good prelude to Tallangatta’s “Warhorse” event which is now done and dusted. Over one hundred riders headed into this ancient forest, which has certainly thrived with the massive floods over the past few years. The “Mighty Murray” cruised on by us. Archie strode out calmly and with a good focus. He went very well! Everyone was fairly pumped when we stopped for a sausage sizzle. A seemingly dry creek crossing to our lunch spot turned a bit tricky and muddy. Everyone arrived safely but all horses and few riders were covered in foul smelling mud!

Archie whinnies as my neighbour stokes up his fire (that’s my toaster!) so up to feed Arch, breakfast and homeward bound.



Camp set up at Barmah

to set up camp and a horse yard, most of my near neighbours being members

Steve Pearce, Staghorn Flat

Come and join us...

What a busy first half of 2023! One of our Unit Trainers, Louise, welcomed a new baby boy on the 1st April, he joins his big sister (who you may have seen marching in the ANZAC Parade) and a big brother.

We have been getting

coming months.

We are now taking on recruitments! If you are 18 years or older and are interested in joining the Yackandandah SES Unit, please send us a message on our Facebook Page and we will message back with some details. Furthermore, we take on junior members. If you’re aged 16-18 and have parental consent along with a strong drive to assist your community, we’d love for you to come along and meet us. We have a fancy new sign that we will be putting on the High Street each night that we train and whenever we are

in at the unit. If you see the sign, come in for a chat. We’d love to meet you!

A little feedback we have received is that it’s not well known where we actually operate from. We are on High Street, directly behind the CFA and next to the Yackandandah Hotel (Bottom Pub). That tiny driveway, that’s us! We’re a small green shed

comprising of a truck and car bay, a small training room, a comms room and an upstairs office, thanks to a grant and Justin Maybury and the team from Yack Constructions. We don’t have toilet amenities in our shed exactly but we share toilet and washroom facilities across the driveway with the CFA, so we would like to thank them immensely for that.

Finally, congratulations to the new Yackandandah CFA



SES Training Room

Captain, Chris Wingard. We are thrilled to continue to work alongside you as the new Captain.

Louise Rietmann

a steady amount of jobs and we are extremely grateful to have such great support from our neighbouring units, as well as the Indigo Shire to assist us in the completion of some jobs. We are a small unit and we all have full time jobs throughout the day, so often it is difficult to attend at certain times throughout the week. With this being said we have welcomed Darcy to our Unit. We are excited to have a young, enthusiastic, and fun new member who is ready to learn, volunteer and attend weekly training. Darcy is a junior member who we will be training up in the



SES driveway from the High Street - now you know where we are!



SES bay and vehicles

HORSES – DID YOU KNOW?

That by law, if you keep horses even if it’s a temporary arrangement, you need to have a PIC (a property identification code). If there’s a flood, fire or disease outbreak Agriculture Victoria may need to contact you. Having a Property Identification Code for your property means they can.

Getting a PIC is quick and free.

You will need:



- Your contact information,
- Type and number of livestock you keep.

With the recent outbreak of disease causing death in equines around the Melbourne area, it would be prudent to get yourself registered as soon as possible.

Go to the following weblink, and you can register from there:

<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals/horses/register-your-property>



YACK TENNIS CLUB

Yes, another winter has nearly passed, and the Tuesday night tennis players have enjoyed the odd table tennis game as a back-up measure for when the wet weather kept them from the big courts. Some will do anything to keep their eye in for the summer months ahead and at least over a table tennis table, friendly banter is a lot easier to hear.

The good news is that as soon as this wet weather does break, and hopefully even by the time of publication, the court resurfacing will be full steam ahead or even done! Which means the 2023/24 summer tennis season will have two new incredible sand courts for players of all levels to enjoy. No more cracks, not as hot in the summer afternoon and an incredible boost for the longevity of the tennis in Yackandandah for tourists and locals alike. We would like to again acknowledge the invaluable support of Tennis Australia and

YCDCo, without which this project would not have been possible.

So come October, there will be plenty of tennis available for all ages ranging from our Hot Shots program for young kids just starting out, junior coaching on Wednesday afternoons, junior Saturday morning competition, Kiewa Talgarno afternoon competition and of course, let's not forget, the social Thursday night competition.

Tennis is awesome for keeping fit and having fun whacking a ball. Yack Tennis Club is calling for registrations of interest for the Thursday night social competition beginning 5th October. The key word here is social – it's



Thursday Night Tennis

perfect for those who want to play regularly in a relaxed atmosphere without the Saturday afternoon competitive commitment.

Last year's Thursday Night Teams (Reigning champions Blue, Orange, Green, Red, Grey and Purple) are invited to confirm their team's participation for the upcoming 2023/2024 season asap. Yack Tennis Club welcomes new players and we can put you in touch with a team.

Visit the Yack Tennis Club website (<https://play.tennis.com.au/yackandandahtennisclub>) for information on membership. There is adult, junior or family membership options and once you're a member, you'll have access to play at the courts whenever you like all year round. Annual membership runs from the start of the summer season in October 2023 to September 2024.

Senior Saturday competition - please contact Matt Bayne on 0447 727 002.
Junior Saturday competition - please contact Rebecca Stamp on 0437 253 334.
Thursday Night Social competition – please contact Libby M'Crystal on 0499 111 005.

Don't forget to keep an eye out on the Yack Tennis Club Facebook page for details on upcoming junior and adult competitions. <https://www.facebook.com/YackandandahTennisClub/>

The Garden

Rampant raging monkey mind at peace.
Ribbons, threads of torment
Distraction torrents of news
Informed sources
Spinning lies distilled
Into the essence of nothingness.

In the garden
Peace
Finally
Caring for a garden
Touching the earth
The earth touches you.

Weeding the flowerbed with mother
Little girl sitting in the soft earth
Digging with her hands
Humming with happiness
A song without words
Finds a worm in the discarded pile of weeds
Enchanted sings:
"Fly away worm, fly away"
Throws the worm a little distance in the air
In an arc of earth.

Stephen Masters

DO YOU NEED TO BOOK A VENUE OR ARE YOU PLANNING YOUR CHRISTMAS WORK PARTY?

The Bowling Club is ideal for large or small, events, with a large kitchen, fully stocked bar, indoor and outdoor seating for 100+ people and modern toilet facilities. We can assist with catering if you need. Throw in some barefoot bowling for lots of fun and laughter.

Contact Trish Tobin on
0418 419 270.

YACK COMMUNITY BOWLS CLUB

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

At our recent AGM three long serving club members were unanimously endorsed as life members of the club. Congratulations **Don Dahlenburg, Evelyn Furze** and **Ron Furze**. These keen bowlers have worked hard and long to be eligible for life membership status.

Don Dahlenburg has rendered distinguished service to the club over 30 plus years during which time he has been Club President, Team Coach, Team Selector and also served on the Green's Committee. Don has been a stalwart at the club always turning up to club meetings and functions and assisting with whatever was required at the time.

Evelyn Furze has been a member of the club for over 40 years serving as President of the Ladies Club 1994, 1995, 2002 & 2003. Evelyn was catering manager for a number of years in addition to being an accomplished bowler. Evelyn was 2002 Club Champion in Ladies Pairs, 2007 Club Champion Mixed Pairs, 2010 & 2014 Club Ladies Champion.



Ron Furze, Don Dahlenburg and Evelyn Furze receive their Life Membership certificates

Ron Furze has been a member of the club for over 40 years. Ron has held numerous

positions in the club including 1992 Entertainment Officer, 1995 Grounds Leader, 1995 & 1996 Vice President, 1998, 1999, 2000 President, 2005 & 2006 Match Committee, 2006 – 2014 Tournament Organiser, 2015 & 2016 Delegate to O&M Committee. Ron's playing highlights include club mixed pairs champion and men's pairs champion.

COME AND PLAY

Sunday Social Bowls every week from 10.30am – 12.30pm subject to dry weather. Beginners, intermediate and experienced bowlers all welcome. Come along and join in the fun.



Mike Tobin and Reon Garvey complete the safety rails

Lawn Bowls is a low impact social and competitive sport suitable for people with a range of mobility challenges.

The club has recently installed East West Safety Rails to match the existing North South Safety Rails, to enable players to move safely on and off the green.

A huge thank you goes to Mike Tobin for his welding skills with support from Reon Garvey during installation.



Winter golf is dang cold in the morning once the sun removes the frost and fog. It is nice to finish the round by the fire. The men have got their Sunday routine down pat and often go with at least 4 of the 6 B's: Bokes, Bonfire, Barbeque, Beer, Bull**** and Bonding. Will let readers decide which one is often swapped out for Gum Tree pies.

The month of May was very successful for Women's golf at YGC with undoubtedly the highlight being the North East District Golf Association (NEDGA) Women's Sandgreen Championships hosted by Yack on Friday, 26th May. Unfortunately, the Men's competition on the Sunday had to be postponed due to inclement weather which had made the course unplayable.

Before we rush to the Women's results, there is a tremendous amount of work done in hosting a NEDGA event and the contribution of many Club members ensured the day ran so smoothly.

- Angela Bishop, in her official capacity as NEDGA representative was amazing overseeing the event and non-stop busy all day, setting up, playing then processing and presenting the results.
- Helen Eyre (who also played) and her powerhouse team of helpers for the amazing catering: Marian Barnard, Jenny Pretty, Anne Corr, Cath Bishop, Jeanine Hayes and Astrid Yea.
- The many members who offered up their carts or a berth and good company beside.
- So much happens at the start of a tournament - writing cards, small teams, side comp registration and raffle ticket sales. Thank you Glenda Stacey, Chris Zerbst, Margo Northey, Marian Barnard & Robyn Davies.
- Jenny Pretty our treasurer, for her work behind the scenes with tills and banking.
- Volunteers who had the course in fabulous condition.
- Michael Glass, Russ Monroe and Max Bishop for attending the scrapes on the day.

RESULTS

The event attracted 44 entries from most of the golf clubs across our region and conditions for the Women's competition could not have been better. The course looked terrific and Yack scooped the comp with our eight players enjoying a cracker day and the home ground advantage.

- NEDGA Sandgreen Champion: Libby M'Crystal (83 scratch), Yackandandah
Runner Up: Penny Graeber (84 scratch), Commercial Albury
- A Grade Handicap Champion: Libby M'Crystal (63 nett)
Runner Up: Sue Mitchell (72 nett), Thurgoona
- B Grade Handicap Winner: Gail Smith (70 nett), Beechworth



Libby M'Crystal - Sandgreen champion

Runner Up: Pat Prescott (71 nett), Rutherglen

- Team Trophy Winners:
Yackandandah:
Libby M'Crystal, Angela Bishop, Helen Eyre & Marg Scanlon
Runners Up:
Yackandandah: Robyn Davies, Margo Northey, Glenda Stacey & Chris Zerbst.
- Small Teams:
Yackandandah (Margo won by putting her faith in Yack selecting Glenda & Libby).



Warming up post-golf

It was certainly a fantastic day for Yack.

THE DOT MARTIN TROPHY

The women's Matchplay Champion for 2023 was decided in late June: Margo Northey and Glenda Stacey battled it out for the Dot Martin trophy, with the honour going to Glenda. Congratulations to Glenda on the win and to Margo for making it into the final.



The Finalists in the Battle for the Dot Martin Trophy!



The lucky winner of the Dot Martin Trophy Glenda Stacey

The men are also in the middle of their Matchplay event, with the winner of the Pip Beatty Shield yet

to be determined at time of going to publication. We wish all players best of luck.

FAREWELL TO TWO MUCH MISSED YACK GOLF CLUB MEMBERS

Lastly, the Club was greatly saddened by the passing of two long-standing members of the Club and will miss both Hilary Hayes and Pam Crosthwaite.

Hilary was the eldest son of Hilary and Hilda Hayes of Osbornes Flat. Always a keen golfer playing in Albury, before joining Bandiana and then Yackandandah where he continued to belong until his untimely passing. A highlight of his golfing careers was winning the Victorian Veterans Sand green Championship in Dimboola in 2019. The Yackandandah Golf Club would like to pass on condolences to his partner Ellie and his son Matthew.

Pam was also a much-loved member at Yack Golf Club after joining in 2008. She was a long-standing Committee member whose contribution and devotion to the Club was immeasurable. Pam's infectious smile, joyous nature and generous heart inspired us over the years, and we all have fond memories of good golf and good times with her. The Club sends condolences to Don and all the Crosthwaite family.

*Libby M'Crystal
(Women's Captain)*

For more membership information or to enquire, please visit:

Website: <https://golfclub.yackandandah.com> / **FB:** Yackandandah Golf Club / **Email:** yackgolfclub@gmail.com / **Women:** ygcmomenscaptain@gmail.com

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!



Lovely NZ made Styx Mill purpose designed oilskin clothing! This clothing continues to be sold out in days...

Don't hang around - put your order in. Just the right time of year to be buying these great quality products.

KEEP YOUR CRITTERS AT HOME!

There's nothing worse than straying stock, so we have everything you need to keep sheep, cattle, horses, goats and pigs safely at home - with either electric or conventional fencing equipment. Plus the tools you will need to start and finish the job.

Give us a ring for a quote or call round to see what we have to help you.



Ever got caught short with a low tank of fuel? Did you know that petrol and diesel is available in Yackandandah 24 hours a day/7 days a week? If you have a valid credit card, you can access fuel at the servo 365 days a year. You can also apply for an AMPOL card at the desk at YCDCo.

The machine is dead easy to use and you will never get caught short again! Located by the front doors next to the Defibrillator.

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

Winter/Spring Opening Hours

Mon-Friday: 7 am to 6 pm

Saturday: 7 am to 5 pm

Sunday: 8.30 am to 5 pm

Alpine Diesel will be sold until further notice

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.



sodastream

SWAP YOUR EMPTY CYLINDER OR BUY A SPARE

AVAILABLE IN STORE



AMPOL CARD ACCEPTED HERE

Your Local Community Owned and Operated

***FUEL * HARDWARE * PRODUCE & FARM SUPPLIES**



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