

Winners at the 2022 Australian Distilled Spirits Award



Yackandandah's very own Backwoods Distilling Company took home the top Trophy for Best Single Malt Whisky at the 2022 Australian Distilled Spirits Awards held in Melbourne in October 2022!

Leigh and Bree Attwood celebrate at the Distillery at Yack Station with their Trophy for Best Single Malt Whisky

Congratulations to Leigh and Bree on their continued success with their venture. See page 20 for the full story.



An aerial view of the Arcadia and the dragon sculpture
PC: Urban Angels

Winners of the 2022 Australian Institute of Landscape Architects Victoria - Landscape Architecture Award for Play Spaces

Congratulations to Ben Gilbert and his team at the Agency of Sculpture for taking out the gong again for their extraordinary sculpture of the dragon which is located, fittingly, at Arcadia in outer South East Melbourne.

Read the full story on page 9.

HAWKINS CONCEDES DEFEAT, WITH ONLY 671 VOTES THE DIFFERENCE

Independent candidate for Benambra Jacqui Hawkins conceded defeat in the race for Benambra, with her vote count on Sunday morning, 27th November, trailing the incumbent, Bill Tilley, by only 671 votes. Ms Hawkins spent election day travelling to each polling booth across the electorate, where her Team Yellow volunteers were out in force in a final push to secure Independent representation for the first time in Benambra's 145-year history.

Ms Hawkins said she and her volunteer team celebrated their achievements in Wodonga on Saturday night, watching the vote count teeter on a knife's edge for much of the evening, however despite "giving the electorate a good shake," she recognised this morning the result didn't fall in her favour.

"I congratulate Bill Tilley and his team on their campaign and on retaining the seat for Benambra," Ms Hawkins said. "I also congratulate the other candidates this election for the work they and their volunteers have dedicated to their campaigns and this community." "This has been an incredibly close race. "In 2018, when I first ran, 2000 votes separated myself and the incumbent, and this year, I've narrowed that to 671 votes between us. "It's amazing to have increased my first preference share from 16.14% in 2018 to 32.2% this year."

Ms Hawkins said she was proud of the outcome and of the volunteer efforts that drove her campaign during the past four months.

"We have attracted the attention of the entire state this election, and were noted as being one of the seats to watch, thanks to the energy, commitment and power of this volunteer team," Ms Hawkins said.

See the Yack Polling Booth results on page 10.

Indigo Shire's New Mayor Takes The Reins

In a unanimous 7-0 vote, Cr Sophie Price has been elected Mayor of Indigo Shire Council at the November Council meeting. In taking the chair as new Mayor, Cr Price thanked her fellow councillors for placing their confidence in her to lead the organisation for the next 24 months. "I am honoured and excited to be given this opportunity, and I look forward to working collaboratively with my fellow councillors and the community to achieve the best possible outcomes for the Shire," Cr Price said.

"These are very challenging times, not just for our Shire but across the nation and globally and I will work as hard as possible to ensure that we continue to listen to our community and respond appropriately."



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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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A RAMBLE WITH THE EDITOR

Nice to sit down, take a breath and reflect on the past couple of months. It's been a real treat to have seen people in our local community doing so well as detailed on our front page. It's lovely to see reward for success, and Yack seems to get this in spades due to the diligence and hard work of the many diverse people that make up the Yack community. Just brilliant, and congratulations to them all.

The State Election will be a thing of the past when this hits the streets. It has been great to see some best behaviour from some but definitely not all of the Benambra candidates.

It was a big weekend in Yack with the State Election being held, and the Senior Citz buzzing with activity. The VEC provided only six officials to cover Yack's busy polling station, so many congratulations to them all. They did an amazing job, both with the polling and then the scrutineering from 6pm onwards. A great effort.

Summer will be here as well very shortly, and already the change in weather has seen massive amounts of mosquitoes out and about and keen to dine particularly from dusk onwards, but almost at any time of day. It will make outdoor enjoyment a bit of a double edged sword until the land dries out a bit and things become a bit tougher for them and populations die back. Bear in mind all the diseases they can carry and make sure you cover up and put fly repellent on. The same could be said for our equine population who are doing it a bit tough too with flies and mozzies.

Yackity Yak would just like to thank everyone for their invaluable contributions to this small community newspaper over 2022. It really is your paper and only as good as the articles and photos that are submitted, so please keep up the good work. It's a bit of work to get it to the print stage, but the comments are so positive and the feedback that comes in from other parts of the country make it all worthwhile! A happy Christmas and a brilliant 2023 to you all.

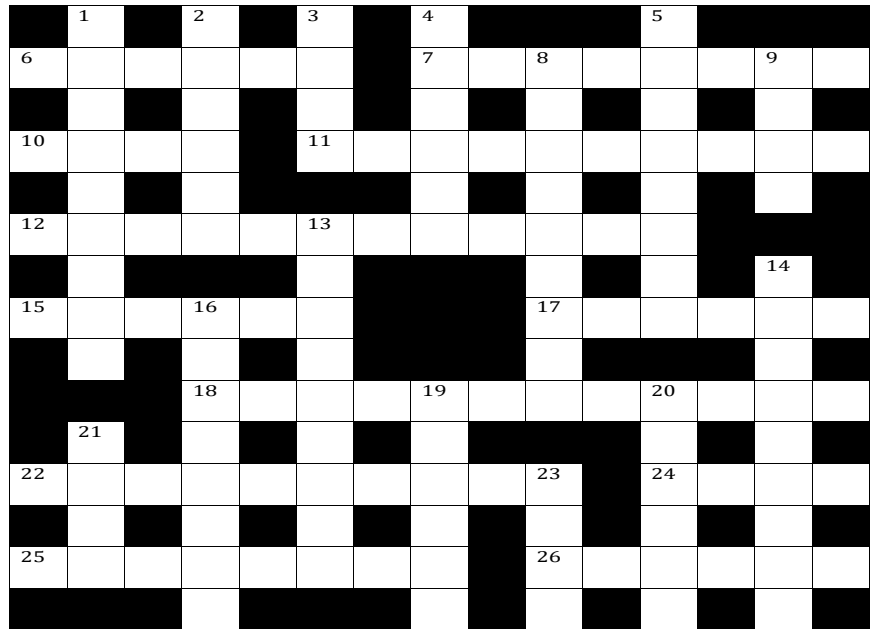
Ali

2023 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
106	Feb/March	Friday, 20th Jan, 2023	Tuesday, 31st Jan 2023
107	April/May	Friday, 17th March, 2023	Tuesday, 28th March, 2023
108	June/July	Friday, 19th May, 2023	Tuesday, 30th May, 2023
109	Aug/Sept	Friday, 21st July, 2023	Tuesday, 1st August, 2023
110	Oct/Nov	Friday, 15th Sept, 2023	Tuesday, 26th Sept, 2023
111	Dec/Jan	Friday, 17th Nov, 2023	Tuesday, 28th Nov, 2023

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD #8
 Bill Buchanan



CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS #8 CLUES (BILL BUCHANAN)

ACROSS

- 6. In love, forever endearing (6)
- 7. Went over the cliff, having been sick absorbing mad cow disease (8)
- 10. In the same moment, a short note is passed (4)
- 11. Peron includes you in frantic action to get people out (10)
- 12. Huge bit of Iran transformed into European nation (5,7)
- 15. A test can lead to fibrillation (6)
- 17. You wouldn't wear this at the poles (6)
- 18. The chief appears in a red suit (4,2,6)
- 22. Digital index (10)
- 24. Lead can be found in the valley (4)
- 25. Delinquent petrol head holds poor Gail prisoner (8)
- 26. Show a liking for umpire surrounded by backward salesman (6)

DOWN

- 1. Gym drill has the cost - not gross! (9)
- 2. Top covering found by the iron twisted road (6)
- 3. There is a man about in this place (4)
- 4. In giving dogs a farinaceous snack, a hunting trip is found! (6)
- 5. Princess's holiday hue took her a long way towards church (8)
- 8. Squash me roughly if feeling sick (9)
- 9. Goes about showing their self importance (4)
- 13. Chattels, when singular, lead to ownership (9)
- 14. Previous maladies seemingly, soothed by fruit jellies (9)
- 16. Old writers needed these when taking a dip (8)
- 19. Pleated sarong holds visceral parts (6)
- 20. A religious scholar showed the way, but was rotten! (6)
- 21. In seeing-eye dog, old artist reverses design idea (4)
- 23. Alternatively return to exercise with climbing gear! (4)

Answers to this Cryptic Crossword can be found on Page 29.
 Thanks Bill, for your great crosswords. Ed.

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2022 – YACKANDANDAH COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH!

YES - WE ARE BACK

With Covid now just a part of the way we are currently living, all systems are back to normal for our Christmas lunch in 2022. Hopefully all will be fine with no restrictions!

Bookings have worked well over the past few years so ideally I'd like to keep that in place. It has certainly made the preparation easier on everyone. I also hope to again be able to offer walk-ins on the day for those that may be visiting at our local accommodation venues.

To **register your intent to attend** please email carmelkelley@bigpond.com or message on **0418 242 105**. Please provide the number of people wanting to attend, along with a contact email or phone number.

Anyone who would like to help in any way, either setting up prior to the event, on the day, or for clean-up afterwards, is more than welcome to contact me as well on 0418 242 105.

I'd like to thank the Yack Lions Club for their generous donation of \$500 towards this year's event. Any other businesses, or individuals, interested in supporting this day are also invited to reach out and contact me.

- Date:** Sunday 25th December, 2022
- Time:** 11.30am for a sit down hot lunch at Noon
- Venue:** Butson Park Football Function Room
- Cost:** Gold Coin Donation
- Note:** Alcohol Free Event



The rain cleared just in time for the afternoon wedding of Maddie Hansford and Jacob Detez on Saturday, 19th November at Redbank Wedding Events in Barnawartha North.

The wedding was attended by over 100 family and friends and was conducted by local celebrant, Angela Bishop

Congratulations to the newlyweds, Mr & Mrs Detez!





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Member Profile: Cameron McKern



Cameron McKern

As the Yackandandah Fire Brigade's current Secretary/Treasurer Cameron McKern says, if you had told him 25 years ago when he was living in Melbourne that he would be a firefighter let alone a captain or an Incident Controller, he would have considered that laughable.

"At the time I thought the skills of an IT consultant were just so different to those of a firefighter," says Cameron, 58. "But fire brigades need a mixture of skills; they need those practical people who can pick up a chainsaw, who can mend a pump and they also

need those people who are calm under pressure, who can sit back and plan for the bigger picture. It's just like society. We need that mix - we need the tradies, and we need the architects."

Cameron, his wife Jennie and their two children, moved to Yackandandah in 1998. Cameron joined the Brigade in 2000; his wife Jennie a year or so later.

"We kept hearing the siren - this was in the days before we had display pagers," says Cameron who was sharing an office behind the old Post Office with David Larkin at the time. "So, Dave said to me, 'We are here 9 to 5 most days, we should join the Brigade and help out', so we did."

Soon after joining Cameron became the Brigade's Secretary/Treasurer and then a Lieutenant. After six years in those roles, he became Captain, 2007- 2017.

"I still found of all the things I've done with the CFA, particularly since, Captain is one of the most rewarding roles but also one of the most demanding," says Cameron. These days Cameron, while still an active member of the Brigade, at a broader CFA scale is in his fourth year as Deputy Group Officer for Bogong group, and in his second year as an accredited Level 3 Incident Controller. The role of Deputy Group Officer is operational, supporting the 14 brigades within the group at Level 2 and 3 incidents. "If I'm Duty Officer and there's a Level 3 incident anywhere nearby,

it's a very busy day," says Cameron.

Cameron is one of only a handful of volunteer Level 3 Incident Controllers in the state. Across the state there are 88 Level 3 Incident Controllers including from Parks Vic and the SES. Of the volunteer controllers, four are in the Hume Region. A Level 1 Incident is typically handled by a local brigade and usually takes an hour or so; a Level 2 Incident usually goes longer, half a day or so, and may involve five or six Brigades; and a Level 3 Incident is run out of an Incident Control Centre (ICC) and is usually a multi-agency, multi- hour/day incident.

"For a Level 3 Incident, the ICC is very much about providing support," says Cameron. "The firefighters



Cameron and Jennie McKern, taken when Cameron was Brigade Captain

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in the field, the people doing the sandbagging, they are doing the work. The role of the ICC is to support them, to feed them, to water them, to feed and water the trucks (fuel and water), to provide the aircraft... but particularly it is to communicate with the community and to ensure protection of life (crews and the community).” A Level 3 Incident Controller qualification is not just for fires. A multi-agency qualification it means Cameron may be an Incident Controller for any type of emergency.

“Level 3 is all hazards – we [emergency services] work as one,” says Cameron, who during the floods in October, was a Level 3 Incident Controller at the Shepparton Incident Control Centre for four night shifts. He was also an Incident Control at the Wodonga Quarry flood in 2016, and during the 2019/20 summer bushfires was Incident Controller for nine or 10 twelve-hour shifts including at Ovens, Wodonga and Albury, NSW.

Initially Cameron studied and completed his Level 3 Planning Officer course but, after being asked to by the District, changed direction and aimed to become a Level 3 Incident Controller. It took six years for Cameron to build up his “portfolio of evidence” which he successfully presented two years ago to a panel which included representatives from DELWP, SES, Emergency Management Victoria, and CFA and a psychologist.

“I’m very conscious of the responsibility that goes with the role and all Incident Controllers are probably aware that their decisions are likely to be reviewed with the benefit of hindsight,” says Cameron. “That said, I find the role challenging and being challenged is a good thing. I find it mentally stimulating, you work with some really good people, and even though I’m in an air-conditioned room, I feel like I make a difference. As a volunteer, I’m really conscious of what is happening in the field and I try to manage the incident with that in mind; to utilise volunteers well. I also live in a vulnerable community so I’m conscious of what vulnerable communities want to hear in terms of community messaging, and what they consider timely.”

Cameron has attended more than 570 incidents; everything from false alarms to motor vehicle accidents to possums under gutters to major bushfires. “The 2009 fires because they were burning on Yackandandah’s patch from Mudgegonga across to Yackandandah were significant,” says Cameron. As were the fires in the Blue Mountains in 2013 when Cameron led the first CFA strike team to go to the fires. “While I do have competing interests on bad days from my different CFA roles, the Brigade is still very much my priority,” says Cameron. “While I’ve stepped back from delivering training a little, I’m still looking forward to mentoring newer and younger firefighters.”

Cameron says he has gained a lot from being involved in the CFA. “Something that the most active members of our brigade have in common is a sense of community,” says Cameron who, other than his commitment to the CFA, was on the Yackandandah Primary School council for seven years, six years as President, and one of founding seven of YCDCo.

“I get a lot out of it as well as what I put in because Yack really does have that sense of community, and it’s an appreciative community.”

One of his proudest moments was a few months before he finished up as captain.

“There was a Level 2 incident out at Tangambalanga and Yack had two trucks there,” he recalls. “The relief crew came in, and from memory, it was seven people, six of whom were under 30 years of age. I was really proud that as a Brigade we had encouraged enough younger people so we had that representation.”

Something else he is proud of was the increase in the number of women in the Brigade during his time as captain. “When I finished as captain, a significant proportion of the Brigade were women, in fact, 40% of our Lieutenants were women,” says Cameron. “I hope one of the changes in the Brigade through me was that it became less ‘blokey’ and more welcoming; that it felt like a safe, comfortable place for a woman to be where it didn’t matter whether you were male or female, you were just a firefighter.” One of these female firefighters is his wife, Jennie, who was a Lieutenant for fifteen years and is now also a qualified strike team leader. “For me having a partner in the Brigade has been absolutely fantastic,” says Cameron. “Jennie and I work well together, with complementary firefighting skills. We tag team well. When multiple shifts were involved, one of us would do the shift night, and the other one the day shift.”



Lt Chris Wingard in the Forward Operations Vehicle. Pic April Padbury

Testing our hot fire skills

For the first time in a several years, members of the Yackandandah Fire Brigade attended the



Brigade members training at VETMC. Pic April Padbury

Victorian Emergency Management Training Centre (VEMTC) at Wangaratta as a group on Saturday, November 5. The campus provides members with practical firefighting scenarios in a controlled and realistic environment. The 10 members were presented with a car fire under a carport, a single-storey house fire, a running grass fire, a power pole fire, a motor vehicle accident and a fire which started as a car on fire at a petrol station which escalated to two cars, a petrol pump and two large gas bottles on fire which really tested the skills of the members.

“VEMTC is a fantastic facility which gives us the opportunity to come up against difficult hot fire scenarios in a controlled environment,” said Brigade Training Officer, Lt. Chris Wingard. “Every bit of realistic training we can do better prepares us as firefighters to help protect our communities.”

Bogong Group Exercise

Yackandandah was the host of this year’s Bogong Group Exercise, which was held on Sunday, 6th November. The event brings brigades across the group together to engage in a range of training exercises. It’s a great opportunity to meet and work with our fellow firefighters, and to familiarise ourselves with each others’ trucks. This year 56 volunteers from 12 brigades including Allans Flat,

Yackandandah, Kiewa, Kergunyah, Gundowring, Sandy Creek, Wooragee, Beechworth, Tawonga, Stanley and Mt Beauty took part in the exercise.

“Due to COVID it’s been a while since the Brigades in the Group (which extends from Falls Creek to Kiewa, across to Stanley via Allans Flat and Yackandandah and back through Dederang) got together to do some training,” said Brigade Training Officer Lt. Chris Wingard who helped coordinate the day. “This year focused on a bit of

‘show and tell’. We don’t always get the opportunity to catch up with our fellow firefighters from other Brigades so don’t necessarily know what new equipment has been added. Take for example Mt.



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YACKANDANDAH CFA

Beauty Fire Brigade who attended and showed everyone their Road Crash and High Angle Rescue capabilities – a popular discussion point on the day. The exercise finished with lunch and feedback has been very positive which is great.”

Sandbagging

Brigade members were called out to assist with sandbagging after Yackandandah’s flash flood Tuesday (October 25) on Wednesday, October 26, and again on Sunday, November 13.

Emergency Services Open Day



Participants in the Bogong group exercise. PC: April Padbury



Rory and Patrick McIntyre check out the fire truck with firefighter Gavin Mascas. PC: M. Beemster

gear and, for the children, climb aboard the fire truck, squirt water from the fire hoses, and put together a CFA showbag.

This year the Brigade together with our local SES and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) held a combined Open Day on Sunday, 20th November offering interested members of the public the opportunity to come along and have a chat, learn how to use fire extinguishers correctly, check out our

We last held an Open Day in 2019 so it was great to have such a busy day with some 72 adults, 52 children (and six dogs) dropping in.

It was also great to have the SES and CERT with us as well, though as certainly been the case this year, the SES had to head off late morning to tackle yet another tree down!



(L to R) Shayne Willis (SES), Louise Rietmann (SES and CERT), Jackie Ashman (SES and CERT) and Neil Padbury (CFA)
PC: M. Beemster

Terrific to see so much interest in the CFA and to have the opportunity to thank them, the SES and our CERT team for the incredible volunteer work that they do for Yack and district.

We tips our lids... Ed.

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(L to R) Lauren Edwards with daughter Frankie, 2, and Tristan Michell, 2, squirt water from the fire hose with firefighter Gavin Mascas. PC: M. Beemster



Duke, Knox and Indi Benson check out the lure of the yellow uniform. PC: Leanne Benson

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Christmas Picnic – Sunday 11 December, from 5.30 pm



We are happy to advise we are holding our annual Christmas get-together this year. Due to COVID restrictions we have had a hiatus over the last couple of years but are keen to re-connect with our community. Please see separate advert in this issue. We welcome all Osbornes Flat community – new and old!

A BIG shout out to Maurice at Albury Wodonga Tree Stump Removal for his help and expertise in removing several large stumps for us at the Hall recently.

Maurice and his team donated their services and did a fantastic job in removing 15 pesky stumps on the Hall grounds – great job, THANK YOU! We can thoroughly recommend their services.

Yackandandah Cemetery – A Sustainable, Contemporary and Progressive Trust

Renewable Energy - The Cemetery Trust formally launched its Energy for Life project in October, marking the conclusion of the Trust’s transition to renewable energy and electric maintenance equipment. Trustee Paul Anderson said “A key strategic objective of the trust is to ensure that our policies remain contemporary and aligned with community values. When it comes to community values, Yackandandah stands out on the national stage for its focus on sustainability. We are so pleased to join so many others in the community combatting climate change.”

Nature Section - In November, the Cemetery Trust ratified its new Nature

Section into policy. The Nature Section is a designated non-denominational area of land within the Yackandandah Cemetery that will accept both Traditional and Natural Burials.

Natural burials encourage the nutrients in a body to return to the earth in the most environmentally friendly way possible. They allow for natural decomposition with minimal impact on the surrounding ecosystem. Natural burials are shallower in depth than traditional burials, and prohibit artificial caskets, embalming chemicals, and non-compostable clothing and buried artefacts and mementoes. Trustee David Lerch said “The Nature Section is also defined by a unique approach to natural

stone memorials, vegetation use and management, and the characteristics of natural landscape features are complemented in the layout of interment sites”.

If you would like to know more about the Nature Section of the Yackandandah Cemetery, please don’t hesitate to contact the Cemetery via email at cemetery.secretary@yackandandah.com

A printed copy of the Nature Section policy can also be reviewed at the Yackandandah Museum.

Working Bee - Spring growing conditions are now well and truly upon us, and the Trust is putting their new electric equipment to good use. To keep on top of

the maintenance, the Trust will once again be seeking community minded individuals to assist them during their annual working bee, which is scheduled for the first Saturday in December (3rd December, 2022). Trustee Ian Jenkins is hoping for a great turn out and commented “There is much to be done around the grounds, with jobs for all abilities, including mowing, edging, weeding, pruning, planting, and even photographing and cataloguing graves in support of developing the Cemetery’s digital database”.

So, mark it in your calendar and bring along some gloves, glasses, a hat, and good ole fashion community spirit and support the upkeep on this fantastic community asset.

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Trustees Paul Anderson and Ian Jenkins putting the new electric equipment to work at the Cemetery

The Women's Shed members have had a busy time preparing for the Christmas Fun Fair (Sunday December 4th at the Memorial Gardens). The quality of the artisans represented will make this an event to remember. There will be lots of free kids' activities, super raffle, fancy dress parade, music and lots to see and buy. Put the date in your calendar now ... 9.00 am until 1.30 pm.



Penny preparing children's kits for the Christmas Fair

The Women's Shed are helping with the decorations and supper on the previous evening (3rd December) at the Christmas Singalong. We are asking Yack folk to assist us by lending us a simply decorated artificial Christmas tree to add to the ambiance of the evening in the Public Hall. Trees can be set up during the week prior to the show. If anyone is willing to share their tree, it will be much appreciated. You can phone or email for more details. We are trying to keep decorating costs to a minimum and we think a group of borrowed Christmas trees will work perfectly. Thanks in anticipation!

Some of our members have participated in a few workshops lately. The Mandala group are producing

some beautiful pieces and are looking forward to more classes in the New Year. Recently we had a basket weaving workshop lead by local craftswoman, Shakira. Much fun was had by all. There were many ladies who wanted to attend but the class booked out quickly so more will be scheduled.

The Mosaics group have been productive as have the Ceramics ladies. They will have items to sell at the Christmas Fair. Barb, our Social Director, organised another morning tea at Stockroom and Pantry and also a lunch with a spot of retail therapy at Café Fez and Red Ramia in Myrtleford. Barb tells us she has more activities planned so keep a lookout on our webpage.

I'm sure you saw the wonderful display of knitted and crocheted red poppies made by a group of our



Making Remembrance Day poppies

dedicated ladies to commemorate Remembrance Day in the Memorial Garden. They have been busy for months getting hundreds of poppies made. Thank you to all who contributed!

We have another major fundraiser coming up when we cook up a storm at the Wodonga Bunnings on the Saturday before Christmas. Come and grab a sausage and say hi!

We are delighted to say that we now have 56 financial members and many more followers on our Facebook page. We are always happy

to welcome new ladies into our fold. We offer friendship, workshops, social activities and support to the ladies of Yackandandah. We meet at the

Yackandandah Community Centre on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month between the hours of 1pm and 5pm. In the New Year we have discussed opening of an evening to cater to working women, and many of our workshops are on weekends for the same reason.

Please check out our website: yackwomensshed.org
Or email us at: yackwomensshed@gmail.com

Please phone Lynne on 0407 462 904 if you can lend us a Christmas tree on the night of 3rd December.

On behalf of The Women's Shed and YCC, we wish you all a safe and Happy Christmas.



A great social lunch at Cafe Fez in Myrtleford

The Agency of Sculpture secures top Award!

Securing the top award in the 2022 Australian Institute of Landscape Architects Victoria Landscape Architecture Award for Play Spaces, Arcadia Dragon Park creates an exciting and magical playground with

a sculptural dragon at its centre created by Yack's very own Agency of Sculpture. As children of different ages and abilities are enticed into the mouth of the giant dragon's head, they are drawn into another

world that appears to have crash-landed in the familiar park and suburban landscape. Sliding down the other side of the dragon's mouth, children encounter another world - a charred log forest, escaping bush creatures, and swings hung from a dragon's tail. Australian animal sculptures inhabit the playground adding to the theme of the fantastical creature.



Ben Gilbert's beautiful dragon sculpture: PC: Drew Echberg

So, what's next for Ben and the Agency of Sculpture?

Ben tells Yackity Yak that he is designing a bigger and better project a lot closer to home currently with a climate theme. Further details to come!

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Plasticwise Recycle Hub Opening

On Saturday 12th November 2022, the Yackandandah community came together to celebrate the opening of the 'Yack Recycle Hub'. Member for Indi, Helen Haines and her predecessor, Cathy McGowan, were in attendance to unveil the new facility. The hub was created by community group Plasticwise, as a collection point for common household items (not recyclable in the yellow-lidded Council recycling bin). The accepted items fall into six main categories: teeth cleaning products, sports and active shoes, plastic bread tags, dish and air care products, writing implements and razor products.

This exciting initiative was made possible with the help of Halve Waste, who supported the project through a community grant. The grant funding went towards printing costs for the signage. Local design company Springfolk Creative provided all the signage design and website creation, pro bono. The filing cabinets were offered by donation.

The inspiration for the project came from a Japanese village with a population of around 1,500 people. In Kamikatsu, there is no waste collection service, therefore all household and business waste must be sorted by the residents themselves. Items are sorted into 45 different categories at a centralised recycling facility. After being washed and dried, plastics, glass and metals are separated by colour and grade. The complex system acts as a deterrent for waste production due to the inconvenience of sorting the waste into 45 different categories.

As Helen Haines said in the Hub's launch-day speech, "That small town in Japan probably didn't think they'd influence the small town of Yackandandah. And this town... probably didn't think it would influence other small towns around the nation with many things that the people of Yackandandah have done. Leadership from everyday people in



Mim Poyner, Frannie Cintar, Helen Haines MP, Cathy McGowan AO celebrate the opening of the Yack Recycle Hub

every day locations can have worldwide implications."

How to use the Yack Recycle Hub

Due to funding limitations, Yack has just six categories at this time. The signage provides easy-to-follow instructions for how to recycle each item and pictures of the items accepted. For more information, scan the QR code to access the Plasticwise website and the full list of accepted items. If the drawer is full, please don't leave any items on the ground or outside the recycling cabinet. Instead, help out the Plasticwise volunteers by getting in touch with the group by phone or email. This way we can empty it as soon as possible. As the project matures, the website will also provide valuable advice for alternative recycling solutions for items not yet accepted in the Yack Hub.

Plasticwise are a community group who strive to make Yackandandah a more sustainable place to live. We are always open to new members. If you want to join the fight against plastic, call Sarah on 0439 864 935. And don't forget to keep Plasticwise in mind when you're donating your points at Foodworks Yackandandah!

Following the success of the ANZAC DAY Singalongs in 2021 & 2022, we were planning to have a "Christmas in July" Singalong, but COVID once again raised its ugly head and shut it down, with several key personnel, including band members, testing positive to COVID-19 and needing to isolate.

So, we have moved it to December, and we're calling the Singalong "IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS".

The show will include songs about Christmas with the emphasis on family, home, children, and fun which is how lots of people see Christmas. We are not dismissing the birth of Christ. Just seeing another side of the Christmas Festive season.

"IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS" is shaping up to be a huge occasion. I have done the musical arrangements for a 14-piece concert band consisting of top-quality musicians, to accompany the singing. The words to all the songs will be projected onto the big screen and there will be 2 local identities leading the singing. It is with pleasure that we have included The Myrtles and VIVOX on the programme, and the Yackandandah School Choir will bring some fresh enthusiasm. The evening will be full of joy.

The Public Hall will be wonderfully decorated by Lynne Davies and her team from the Yack Women's Shed, who will also provide a scrumptious supper during the Interval. Supper is included in the ticket price. There will also be a bar where drinks will be available to be purchased.

Tickets are available now at

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/974689>

Tickets will also be available at the door. The prices will be:

Adults:	\$20
Arts Yack Members	\$17.50
Children under 14	Free

Don't leave it too long to get your tickets – It could be a sell-out!

I look forward to seeing you all for an evening of MUSIC & FUN! Come along and sing along.

Glen Aberlé, Musical Director

Results of the Yack Polling Station

M Feury (AJP)- 11	D Rossiter (LDM)- 12
L Brady (Green)- 46	J Hawkins (Ind)- 441
J Stratton (FF)- 21	B Tilley (Lib)- 279
M Tait (ALP)- 70	A O'Brien (FRE)- 22
Informal votes- 48	Total Votes 950

Two Candidate Preferred

J Hawkins- 568	B Tilley- 334
----------------	---------------



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ARTS YACK PRESENTS
AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND FUN

*It's beginning to look
a lot like Christmas*

COMMUNITY SINGALONG
SATURDAY DEC 3RD



Featuring the Yackandandah Primary School Choir, The Myrtles, Vivox, a 14 piece band, and other local artists!

Yackandandah Public Hall
Doors open 6:30pm
Violindigo students 6:45pm
Singalong 7:00pm

Tickets \$20
Arts Yack Members \$17.50
Supper included
Drinks available at the bar

Tickets at trybooking.com

YACK PLAYGROUP

Like everywhere, it's been a soggy season for Playgroup. We've had lots of mud pies and puddle splashing, but we've also enjoyed lots of indoor activities. Our parents and carers have been sharing their talents and leading games, craft and singing sessions as well as dance parties to entertain our littlies.



One of our parents leading a sing-a-long

We've had to postpone our excursion because all the roads to town were covered in water on the morning of our trip! But at the time of writing, we hope to go to BounceINC in early December. If your child/ren have been part of playgroup anytime during 2022, you're invited to this fully funded excursion.

Sam Moore is handing over the organiser baton to Stacey Hogan for 2023. Families with older children may already know Stacey, who runs Mini Mindfuls as well as teaching at Yackandandah Primary School. She has exciting ideas and activities to share and we're looking forward to welcoming new and returning families to our playgroup next year!

In 2023, Yack Playgroup will continue to run from 9-11am on Monday mornings during Victorian school terms at Osbornes Flat Primary School. Please join our Facebook group to stay connected with our plans at facebook.com/groups/yackplaygroup

 **IT'S CHRISTMAS ORDER TIME** 

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	1kg / 23cm Christmas Cake	\$45.00 \$50.00
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	1kg / 23cm Plum Pudding	\$45.00 \$50.00
	Boxed Chocolate Truffles 4pk \$15 / 6pk \$18	

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LAST CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE BUDGET

Have you had your say on our 2023/24 draft budget yet?

There is still a small amount of time to provide input but the deadline is 5pm Friday 9 December, so please make sure you have your say in the coming days.

By sharing your priorities and ideas, you'll be helping us to get a better understanding of what matters most to our community and what should be considered when the budget is developed. Complete the survey using the below link:

www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/budget

Defibrillators available in Yack

Yackandandah Community Centre and YCDCo are collaborating on a project to identify the locations of defibrillators in Yackandandah, have them listed on appropriate apps and provide additional units to ensure adequate coverage around town.

Presently defibrillators are fully accessible to the public, 24 hours a day at these locations:

- YCDCo (the servo)
- Yackandandah Sports Park
- Yackandandah CFA
- Yackatoon Retirement Village
- Yackandandah Golf Club
- Osbornes Flat Hall

Other defibrillators which are available when the buildings are open are located at:

- Yackandandah Public Hall
- Yackandandah Men's Shed
- Yack Health
- Yackandandah Football Ground
- Fitness for You
- Yackandandah Primary School

If you know of other defibrillators in Yackandandah or have suggestions for additional locations, please contact the Yackandandah Community Centre manager, David Thorpe on 02 6027 1743 or email manager@ycc.org.au

RECIPE OF THE SEASON

Tomato and Watermelon Gazpacho

By Yotam Ottolenghi

Serves six to eight

Ingredients

- 2kg ripe tomatoes (about 20), peeled and roughly chopped (1.9kg net)
- 5 cloves garlic, peeled and roughly chopped
- 6 celery stalks, pale parts and leaves, all roughly chopped (450g net)
- 1 small onion, roughly chopped (140g net)
- 400g watermelon flesh, seeds removed
- 100g crustless white bread, broken into small chunks
- 150ml tomato passata (or tomato juice)
- 2 tbsp red wine vinegar
- 200ml olive oil, plus extra for drizzling
- 15g basil leaves
- Coarse salt and black pepper

Croutons

- 150g crustless white bread, broken into 2-3cm chunks
- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 1½ tbsp red wine vinegar

Method

- First make the croutons. Preheat the oven to 180C. Place the bread in a medium bowl along with the oil, vinegar and 1 teaspoon of salt. Place a griddle pan on a high heat, add the croutons and cook for 2 minutes, turning until all sides are slightly charred and starting to crisp. Transfer from the pan onto a baking tray and place in the oven for about 12 minutes, until golden brown and crispy. Set aside to cool.
- Place the tomatoes, garlic, celery, onion, watermelon, bread,

passata and 10 grams of basil in a blender or large bowl along with 1½ teaspoon of salt and a good grind of black pepper. Blend until smooth and then, with the blender still going, add the vinegar and olive oil. Refrigerate until needed

- To serve, pour the soup into individual bowls and top with the croutons. Tear the remaining basil and sprinkle it on top of each portion, along with a final drizzle of oil. Finish with a little sea salt and serve at once.

omg - this is sooo delish!



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Yackandandah Community Centre

A fine evening ensured that the community were able to gather for the Yackandandah Community Centre Open House on 4th November. A good crowd took the opportunity to socialise, indulge in some free food and music and learn about YCC's recent achievements and future plans and projects.

Chair, Karen Keegan announced two projects YCC is developing in collaboration with other Yackandandah organisations. "YCC has initiated a community resilience project which

will help the community be better prepared for, survive and recover from an emergency," she said. "We are working with the Red Cross RediCommunities program, along with key Yack organisations and individuals to determine what infrastructure or equipment already exists in Yack and to start the conversations about how we help the community best manage during an emergency.

"It is well recognised that communities which are well prepared are better able to cope with an emergency and recover quicker. This is an exciting



YCC committee member Glen Aberle with Op Shop volunteer, Libby Schmidt

project which we will be encouraging the community to get involved in." She said YCC was also collaborating with YCDCo to ensure sufficient defibrillators are available at strategic locations around Yackandandah. "We are working to identify the location of existing defibrillators, ensure they are available 24/7, purchase and install additional units at key locations."

YCC manager, David Thorpe said the YCC committee were enthusiastic about informing the community about YCC activities and inviting people into the Centre to see first-hand the recent improvements to services and equipment. "The response from the community was terrific, we wanted to have the BBQ outside and the musicians performing at the front of the building as a way of encouraging the community to come along, so a fine evening



Yack musician Terry Collins provided the tunes.



CC committee members Mathew Smith, Glen Aberle, vice chair Bill Dee, chair Karen Keegan, committee member Owen Smith and manager David Thorpe

was very welcome after all the rain," he said.

"Our aim was to give the community a better understanding of what YCC does, how we connect with and support our community. We have recently completed a new Strategic Plan for the Centre, it has been a great opportunity to reimagine what YCC does and what we can offer the community. So, the Open House was a great way of introducing some of the changes we have made and talk about some of the community projects we have coming up." He said the Centre had played an important role in community connection and support during the past couple of years, and the committee had worked to improve the facility and meeting space.

"Some of our achievements during COVID lockdowns included initiating the Yackandandah Community Initiative, which was a collaboration between the main organisations and groups in Yack, that got together to discuss how we could work collectively to ensure our community remained safe and connected," he said. "There were several great projects which came out of that including providing free or low-cost hand sanitiser, the development of a business directory for businesses able to trade during the lockdowns. And the establishment of Yack Chat with Indigo FM, which allowed community members to connect with presenters on the radio, live-to-air for the first time."

He said the committee had also been keen to improve the meeting room, which has recently had an array of state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment installed. "And we are really proud of the YCC Community Grants that we have been able to award to Yack community groups for projects which go towards improving facilities for Yack locals," he said. "Earlier this year we provided more than \$13,000 in grants to nine community groups. All the funds for the Community Grants come from profits from our Op Shop on High Street. It's terrific to be able to put money back into our community and it is the efforts of our dedicated volunteers which makes this possible."

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YACK LIBRARY

The Big Summer Read is on again!

This challenge aims to promote reading over the school holidays for all children 0-18 years of age. Participants read books and log them in the Beanstack app. For every 10 books read, there is an entry in the state wide prize draw as well as prizes offered at each library branch. To join up visit www.plv.beanstack.org

Summer Grab and Go bags

These packs are full of summer activities for keeping children busy over the holidays – collect these at your library branch!

School Holiday Activities at Yackandandah Library

Halve Waste Christmas crafts - Thursday, 22 December 10.00-11.00 am ages 5-12. Join the Compost Fairy and her friend Wiggly Worm to learn more about recycling food and waste. We will also make totally recyclable Christmas bon bons.

Amazing hats and bags - Tuesday, 17 January 10.00-11.00 am ages 5-12. Come to the library and decorate your own fabric hat or bag. You bring your designs and we provide materials and markers

Dr Seuss Storytime - Thursday, 19 January 10.00-11.00am. We will have a special Dr Seuss Storytime celebrating the whimsical world of Dr Seuss. This is suitable for pre-schoolers and Lower Primary children and their carers.



Lego Club - Friday, 20 January 2.00 pm ages 5-12. Join us at for an afternoon of Lego construction with our 100s of Lego pieces.

Storytime @Yack Library

Storytime will be on a break from December 22 until February 2 but we look forward to seeing pre-schoolers and their carers for stories, songs and crafts in 2023 Thursdays at 9.30 am

Yackandandah Library is open Monday – Friday from 8.30 am-5.00 pm and on Saturdays from 9.30-12.00 pm. We have books, audiobooks, large print books as well as magazines and DVDs. There are public access computers, free wifi and copying and printing available at a minimal cost. Contact us on 02 6028 1180 with your enquiries.

Carols in the Park

WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER. 6:30pm
Yackandandah Memorial Park. Free Entry

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Observers of the dramatic weather events over the past 3 years will also have noted the impact of the weather on a stable electricity supply. Close to home, most people in the Upper Murray were without power for up to three weeks after the 2019 fires. The June 2021 storm across southern Victoria left more than 500,000 properties without power – for some that stretched to four weeks.

During extreme weather, it is mighty hard and often dangerous, to maintain the massive National Energy Market network infrastructure and its systems. These observations leave a question. How prepared is our community for sustained power outages? How do ensure our most vulnerable receive care?

With others, Totally Renewable Yackandandah (TRY) has been turning its mind to these questions for about 4 years. This consideration has resulted in solar, battery and generators on both the Yack CFA and the SES. When the power goes out – and of most relevance during emergencies, our amazing volunteers can keep on with the task of protecting people and places.

Similarly, there are modest sized batteries at both the Yackandandah Public Hall and the Sports Park. At best, these batteries will keep the lights on, but won't provide the broader services so essential during sustained

outages - communications, air conditioning, catering, toileting/showers, shelter and professional help. Fortunately, Yackandandah Health and YCDO also have generators capable of powering their needed services.

In emergencies and sustained outages, generators can provide highly valued role – controllable power for single buildings, but have the limitation of being loud, polluting and requiring petrol or diesel to continue and that may not always be possible.

TRY is working on a broader energy resilience campaign, and in support of the larger township 'emergency readiness' leadership by the Yackandandah Community Centre (YCC). The effort by TRY is working on three specific projects to ensure we do have electricity for times of emergency in critical buildings. The focus is on incorporating larger batteries at the Public Hall, YCC and the Sports Park, and then establishing mechanisms to provide a suitably sized and flexible trailer-mounted generator so people can quickly receive the services provided by electricity.



Some of our great dedicated SES team in Yack

ALLANS FLAT RECREATION RESERVE

Notice is given of a

PUBLIC MEETING

to be held at the Allans Flat Recreation Reserve on Tuesday 13th December commencing at 6.00pm.

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate no less than three (3) or more than nine (9) persons as the Committee of Management for the Allans Flat Recreation Reserve for a term of three (3) years. The current committee's term will expire on 14 January 2023. All positions will be declared open and nominations will be accepted prior to or on the night. Nominations from women, Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, young people and people from culturally diverse backgrounds are encouraged.

Further information, nomination forms and nominee declaration forms may be obtained by contacting your local Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning office or at the meeting. For further enquiries please contact the Secretary, Ken Nichol on 0418 593 806 or by email secretary.allansflatrecreserve@gmail.com

The project is evolving nicely, and we are hopeful of some confirmed funding in the coming few weeks. Importantly, this project will not be creating a fire or storm refuge – rather establishing 'energy refuges.' More broadly, we continue to support people to consider the purchase a solar and battery for homes or businesses - to get the cost savings, emissions reductions and enjoy the option for a redundant power supply.

Stay tuned!



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We're Buzzing with Excitement!

At the end of 2021, Kinder purchased a bee hive as part of the Lifecycles of Insects program focus and the introduction/installation of bee hotels in Bush Kinder.

Until recently, our own resident bees were the only element missing and so when 4yo teacher Leigh received a call from friends about an available swarm, she suited up in the dead of night for Operation Get Z Beez. Now, with the help of local bee keepers, Debbie Howie and Neil Padbury, our staff are being educated on beekeeping to ensure that our bees settle happily into their new hive and thrive to produce honey.



Bee whisperers Deb and Neil check out the hive on a rare warm day.

The Kinder children are actively involved in learning about bees, with the 3yo classroom currently having several learning spaces dedicated to bees and their lifecycle and the Bush Kinder play space hosting several bee hotels ready for customers.

There are a lot of things that pre-school children can learn from bees. As little as they are, bees

play a huge role in our ecosystem. There are many flowers, fruits, and vegetables that we all enjoy thanks to bees and by learning about how bees affect the ecosystem and the food we eat, the children are gaining knowledge about the world around them.

The children wanted you to know that

- During a worker bee's lifetime, she will produce only 1/12th of a teaspoon of honey.
- Bees can fly at up to 24.14km per hour.
- Bees cannot see the colour red.
- Honey bees perform a waggle dance to communicate and show the direction of a food source.

FrogID Week 11 – 20 November – Australia's biggest frog count

Frogs just don't go gullumphh!

Oh no, besides croaking, they can actually bark, whistle and bleat!!

Every species has its own unique sound and our Bush Kinder children explored our creek and sat down to

listen for any of these calls at the dam nearby. Waiting patiently in a brief window of warm sunshine, the children weren't disappointed – they heard not only the expected croaks, but also some barking and even a whistle.



Bush Kinder Frog Exploration at its most fun

Using the free FrogID app, staff recorded the frogs calling and submitted the captures to the FrogID portal. We then received confirmation back from the FrogID scientists that we had the Common Eastern Froglet and Spotted Marsh Frogs in residence. Since the recent weeks of rainfall, the creek at Bush Kinder has risen and now every day, the croaks and barks can be heard floating up to the yarning circle. We are going to make another recording because the children think there might just be a new frog at the creek.

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Buzzing All Hobby Beekeeping Enthusiasts

Monthly Meetings have started.

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



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Wishing you all a lovely Christmas and a wonderful New Year.



Play – this is how we do it

Play is a powerful tool – it's not just fun and games at Kinder but also full of diverse and wonderful learning opportunities! All children love to play – it's in their nature.

Studies have shown that play helps children develop a wide range of lifelong skills which significantly impact upon future learning and development. Play offers children physical, emotional, social, cognitive, creative and communicative learning opportunities. We believe taking play outdoors - whether in the Kinder's playground or Bush Kinder environs - enriches a child's learning experience even further; offering opportunities to explore, discover and appreciate the natural world whilst also being active, testing physical limits, learning safe risk-taking, testing physical limits, developing fine motor skills and the joy of getting messy. In addition to the physical and cognitive benefits, outdoor play helps children to develop a sense of curiosity, an appreciation for nature, social relationships with their teachers and other children and a sense of belonging.

We aim to stimulate our little learners through free play and structured activities whilst encouraging them to shape their own outdoor experiences. Their happy, smiling faces and eagerness to demonstrate their abilities suggests to us that we are on the right track. It is a joy to see children actively shape their own outdoor experiences independently and with friends and teamwork.

Here's how we do it:

Water Play

When the children run through a sprinkler, splash in puddles, engineer mini waterfalls, build moats around sandcastles in the sandpit and explore the Bush Kinder creek waterway – it's no surprise that water play days are some of the most popular events at Kinder!





The fun and freedom to create great play and learning opportunities all ties into the Healthy Bodies unit of our Health & Wellbeing Achievement Program [HWAP].

On a grown-up thought note - water play has also been shown to be an age-friendly way to explore early foundations of physics!

Gardening Play

As part of our HWAP, our own seasonal vegetable and herb gardens and wicking beds are situated in our outdoor play area. Learning how to grow vegetables and herbs, including caring for the growing plants and harvesting, are important skills in maintaining a healthy world now and into the future. By planting and nurturing our gardens, the children are learning about food sustainability, responsibility and caring for their environment. This marries well into our curriculum to build an understanding of food production and life cycles and the intricate connections between all living things – from worms, to butterflies, to birds, to food production and people. We hope our own beehive might yield some honey in 2023. So many of our children are demonstrating sustainability knowledge

already gained from their family's own lifestyle practices and bringing this to Kinder.

Playground & Bush Kinder

Our playgrounds combine traditional play structures and nature play structures to encourage the children's climbing, building, balance and physical fitness skills. Whether it's building castles in the sand pit, climbing ladder arches, negotiating little bridges and boardwalks, balancing on the stone spinners, zipping along on the flying fox or clambering around the stone turtle structure – they all serve to enhance children's physical fitness, whilst offering opportunities to experiment with teamwork and explore their imagination.

We are all very conscious of society's growing awareness to address children's sedentary lifestyles and growing obesity challenges, so we advocate strongly for play to build co-ordination, strength and opportunities for exploring spatial awareness and how the body moves in space.

We are happy to answer any questions on our play-based program and welcome visitors to tour the centre.

Kinder staff hope everyone is enjoying some quality time together these holidays and we look forward to welcoming existing and new families back to Kinder in January 2023.

Tel: (02) 6027 1560

yackandandah.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

PUBLIC NOTICE



Fire Hazards

Ratepayers are advised that inspections of properties for fire hazards, or potential fire hazards, by the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer will commence in Rutherglen, Wahgunyah, Chiltern, Barnawartha, Yackandandah, Kiewa-Tangambalanga, Beechworth and Stanley townships over coming weeks depending on weather conditions.

Owners/occupiers whose properties are overgrown with grass, weeds or other vegetation or contain rubbish which constitutes or will constitute a fire hazard, are requested to clean them up as soon as possible.

Following the inspections, Fire Prevention Notices will be issued, where necessary, requiring hazards to be removed within fourteen days of the notice. Non-compliance with directions will result in work being carried out by Council at the expense of the owners.

The Country Fire Authority Act 1958 prescribes the penalty for non-compliance of \$1,849 for an on the spot fine, or a fine of up to \$22,200 or twelve months prison or both.

Residents are also advised that permits to burn are required to be obtained from the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer, or by the Country Fire Authority, by any person wishing to burn off during the Declared Fire Danger Period.

Further information relating to fire prevention should be directed to Nick McDonald, Municipal Fire Prevention Officer on 03 5728 8000.

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IN PROPRIA PERSONA (for one's self)

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am getting older and will someday be old.

Keep me from thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to straighten out everyone's affairs.

Make me thoughtful not moody: helpful not pedantic.

With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but thou knowest Lord I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details, give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on aches and pains, they are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

I cannot hope for grace enough to enjoy the tales of other's pains but help me to endure them with patience.

I ask not for improved memory but for growing humility and less cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memory of others.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint - some of them are so hard to live with - but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. And give me, oh Lord, the grace to tell them so. Amen.

The Nun's prayer 17th century, from Ian Jackson

Personal. The way travel should be



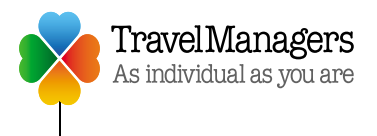
Thinking of a holiday? With over 35 years' experience in the travel industry, I'd love to help you plan and book your next holiday.

Ian Greenwood

Personal Travel Manager

0404 841 038

ian.greenwood@travelmanagers.com.au
travelmanagers.com.au/IanGreenwood



Part of the House of Travel Group ACN: 113 085 626 Member: IATA, AFTA, CLIA

Whereas history cannot be changed, the stories to keep the past fresh and alive, can constantly evolve, and it is what the Historical Society takes pride in doing.

We recently conducted a Cemetery Walk focusing on families that experienced the loss of more than one child due to illness. The work of volunteer, Thelma Buchanan, is to be applauded for her coordination of the event and the extensive research she undertook to bring this history to us, engaging with many descendants of the graves visited.

The Historical Society would also like to thank Dr. Rebecca McGowan who was on board to explain how diseases that caused the death of children in the 1900s, such as measles, scarlatina, cholera, whooping cough and diphtheria, are preventable today.

in early November and will continue into the new year. Thelma (who is also our Display Coordinator), with the help of a team of volunteers, has worked to celebrate the anniversaries of the Yackandandah Primary School (one hundred and fifty years), YCDCo (twenty years) and



Three community organisations celebrating significant anniversaries are currently on show at the Yackandandah Museum. Nice to see Yackity Yak in pride of place - thank you!



Thelma Buchanan, Yack Historical Society Volunteer, opens the recent Cemetery Walk on the site dedicated to the unmarked graves of children

Another initiative of the Museum to keep our history alive, is our current exhibition, which opened

and 17th December (when it will be drawn) or drop into the Museum. While visiting us why not take the

the Yackandandah Men's Shed (ten years). The exhibition brings you a fascinating collection of memorabilia from these three iconic Yack places of learning, business and community support.

Many may have noticed the absence from the museum of volunteer Phil Buerckner. Phil has undergone surgery and is recovering at home. We wish him well and hope to see him back with us soon.

The Museum's Christmas raffle is on again this year, and we appreciate your support. It is a favourite with locals and visitors, as first prize includes a ham! You will find us selling tickets outside the newsagency on Saturdays 3rd

opportunity to view our anniversary display at the same time?

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.
- Warm, hand-woven scarves and knitted beanies, and the beautiful collection of hand-knitted children's articles by Joyce Leitch.
- Plants.

THINKING OF VOLUNTEERING?

Get in touch with our friendly Museum volunteers:
P: (02) 6027 0627

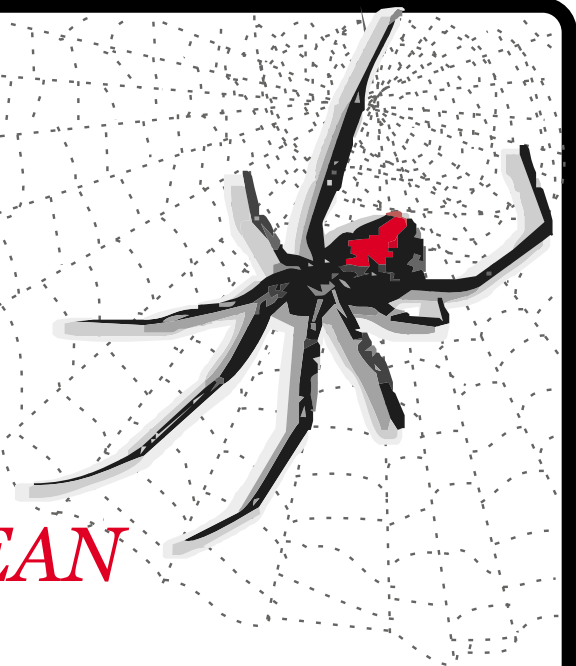
E: museum@yackandandah.com

Web: yackandandahmuseum.wordpress.com

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

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A "please and thank you" from the Historical Society

Firstly the thank you, to the Yackandandah Men's Shed not only for their work to extend the phone box and double dunny in the Museum grounds, but also for their extraordinary generosity in donating \$800 to the Society.

Many readers may be aware, but some may not, that the Historical Society is very much an independent organisation, owning the Bank and cottage outright, and therefore responsible for everything to do with those buildings as well as the Collections building. All those jars of jam and relish, the second hand books, the scarves, beanies and plants ... all of them are vital to our survival.

Apart from much-valued assistance from Indigo Shire with insurance of buildings and an annual maintenance grant, we depend entirely on sales, membership and the generosity of people and groups in our community. The Yackandandah Men's Shed have done a great, great service to us, and we are deeply appreciative of their work and beneficence!

And now the please ... the Society's Committee has been pondering a proposal to complete the scanning and uploading of copies of all Yackandandah's various newspapers to TROVE, the National Library of Australia online resource extraordinaire.

This project is likely to cost some \$20,000+, and with that in mind we ask our community to consider a donation towards the task. We will seek the support of community and philanthropic organisations, but we know how widely TROVE is used for private research, and hope our friends in our community might want to join us in this.

It is very pleasing to be able to add that Yackandandah and District Historical Society has tax deductible status for donations over \$2, so your contribution may be of some personal benefit.

We will mention this again, but if in the meantime you would like to participate in our TROVE project please message us at:

museum@yackandandah.com

Trevor Matthews

A TRIVIAL PURSUIT

The Yackandandah Hotel, the 'Bottom Pub', has recently hosted two 'seasons' of a pub trivia competition which saw many locals come together to enjoy a laugh and stretch the brain.

Quizmasters Brian and Jenni Lannen partnered with 'Just Great Trivia' to provide a championship competition, whereby teams competed for a share of the total prize pool. The real winners, however, were local charities, who were the recipients of the weekly meat raffle sales: the Men's Shed, the Women's Shed, Amnesty Yackandandah, Kangaloola, Wombat Rescue Society, Indigo FM and the Historical Society all benefitted from the communal spirit of all those who bought and sold tickets. I am very proud to say that we donated over \$3,000 to these worthy causes.

Peter Cook, Publican of the Yack Hotel, has been extremely generous towards this competition, donating a weekly meat tray for the raffle, pub vouchers for winning teams and the use of his dining room on Wednesday nights.

If you'd like something to do on a midweek night, keep an eye on local social media for start dates for the next season, which will roll around in early 2023.

Bring a friend, a team or just yourself. Everybody is welcome.

Jenni Lannen



Trivial Pursuit players - nothing trivial in the way they play though!

Yackandandah Folk Festival

Local Volunteer in Profile

John Bentley

John and his wife Chris originally bought land here in Yackandandah back in 1994. John was working in Melbourne at the time for a business systems firm. The Bentleys were looking for the ideal as it satisfied all of their criteria and was situated close to a branch of John's work. Over the next few years, John and Chris spent many weekends here, developing their land with gardens and other infrastructure. During this time, they got to know the community and the locals very well. 2001 saw them build and move into their new home.

A few years later, John's organisational and computer skills came to the notice of folk festival organisers, and he joined YFF as the Billeting Manager in 2005, taking over the reins from Sharon Emmet. John set about developing the billeting system further, resulting in what is now an extensively detailed database.

John volunteered his time in this important role between January and April every year for the past 17 years, until his retirement after the 2019 festival. His job involves surveying the accommodation needs of festival performers from both out of town and overseas and matching them to locals with similar outlooks who have volunteered to host performers and have themselves been surveyed by John, checking such things as preferred age range, type and number of rooms, dietary needs and whether they mind having toddlers or young children around. Once he had all the necessary information, John matched everyone together. He then wrote to all billet hosts and performers every year, detailing each initial arrangement. Many follow ups are required before

the final arrangements are made and confirmed for both parties. Contact details are passed between the hosts and their billets so they can sort out the fine details, but John remained in contact with everyone throughout the lead up to the festival, to make sure they were happy throughout. John also carried out post event surveys with

both the musicians and their hosts, taking careful note of any issues and ensuring these were addressed prior to the next festival.

In recognition of his sterling service to YFF over all those years, John was recently presented with Life Membership of

Yackandandah Folk Festival Inc.

This award was created this year by the YFF committee to formally acknowledge

local members of the community who have volunteered their time selflessly to the festival continuously over many years.

John's Billeting Manager position is now vacant and the YFF Committee would love to hear from anyone who thinks they would like to take over this role for the 2023 Yackandandah Folk Festival. Naturally, John will be actively involved in the handover process with all the necessary paperwork, guidelines and helpful advice passed on to the new person. If you are interested, please contact us through the Festival's Facebook page.

Yackandandah Folk Festival will return in the full event format running from Friday March 24 till Sunday March 26, 2023.

Tickets are now on sale so visit yackfolkfestival.com



The dark
an endlessness that that swallows our being and energy
The isolation
heightened self-consciousness, feeling apart, alone
The anxiety
sits beside us, the silent shadow that questions everything
The fatigue
aching muscles, beauty absent from our eyes, despair
The wait
a long lonely winter of rain and tempest that creeps into spring
The breath
warm arms embrace, release and renew
The light
always above the clouds waiting to warm our hearts and minds
The sun
For surely it will come, as certain as the day becomes night

Terri Manderson

Mallee Girl

Mallee girl, with sun bleached hair, and eyes that crinkle in the glare
Of desert sun, and hot dry wind, that parches mind and soul and skin.
Through endless days of summer heat, her man, with horses stripping wheat
On sandy plains, in choking dust, from hoof stirred sand and wheaten husk.

Though still a girl, with babe in arms, she carves a home on a Mallee farm
In the far North West, with shimmering haze her constant companion through long summer days.
She was raised in the bush, knows all about the heartaches of failure through bushfire and drought
In her time, with fine Mallee sand, drifting to pile up on fence line and dam.

With miles to go to the nearest town, along tracks of sand that would bog one down
In the winter wet, she drives once a week in their wagonette.
Undaunted by life in this harsh adverse land, she faces the risks for her baby and man,
And typifies those who with stoutness of heart, develop such nations as ours from the start.

John McIntyre



The Lagotto Romagnolo, Italy's adorable 'truffle dog,' sports a curly coat and lavish facial furnishings. Despite their plush-toy looks, Lagotti are durable workers of excellent nose who root out truffles, a dainty and pricey delicacy.

Italians have a word for it: 'carino.' In English, we say 'cute.' In any language, this

breed is totally endearing. The Lagotto Romagnolo is known for woolly curls that cover the body head to tail, crowned by a lavish beard, eyebrows, and whiskers. Lagotti stand under 20 inches and weigh no more than 2.5kg. But don't be fooled by their teddy-bear looks, these are rugged workers of true strength and endurance. The breed's trademark curls feel and behave more like human hair than fur.

Taken from the American Kennel Club

We were in Yackandandah in October 2022 and got our Lagotto Romagnolo, Vinnie, to pose on your oak leaf sculpture. It's very appropriate because he is an Italian Truffle dog that is used to find truffles under oak trees.

Vera Mills and Vinnie

Backwoods Distilling Co Awarded Best Single Malt in Australia!

The 2022 Australian Distilled Spirits Awards were held in Melbourne in October 2022 and Yackandandah's very own Backwoods Distilling Co, took home the top Trophy for Best Single Malt Whisky! The distillery also picked up four Silver awards and two Bronze awards for their rye whisky and range of gins.

This is only the second time the family-owned, local business has entered the prestigious competition, with the distillery established in 2017 and its first products hitting the market in 2020. In such a short time, the hard-working Backwoods team have already earned a reputation for producing quality Australian spirits.

"We are thrilled to have been awarded the top Trophy for our single malt, as it really confirms that all our hard work is paying off and our products are of the highest standard. These awards also mean so much to us as we have such high regard for the panel of judges and all the distilleries who entered," said Leigh Attwood, business owner and head distiller.

This year's entries were assessed by 48 of Australia's leading industry experts over three days in September, with points awarded for appearance, nose, palate, balance and finish. The awards offer entrants the opportunity to benchmark against set criteria; receive invaluable independent feedback from industry experts; and be rewarded for excellence in this growing sector.

Customers looking to purchase the award-winning products are encouraged to visit Backwoods' distillery door at the Yack Station Precinct or visit www.backwoodsdistilling.com.au for more information.

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BOOKING THE PUBLIC HALL OR COURTHOUSE?

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

publichall.yackandandah.com

Each venue has a calendar showing details of existing tentative and confirmed bookings and allows you to make your own booking on-line. The hire rates are extremely reasonable and haven't been increased for a number of years.

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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0492 974 070

Relaxation massage has returned to our beautiful local salon, Atelier! In October 2022, Samantha Moore started her new service offering gentle, soothing relaxation massage.

Sam grew up in Jindera and spent the first decade of her career as a vet nurse at a local clinic. She then worked in corporate where she met her husband, Alex, and they moved to Allans Flat five years ago. Just three days before the first lot of COVID restrictions started, Sam & Alex welcomed their daughter to the world.

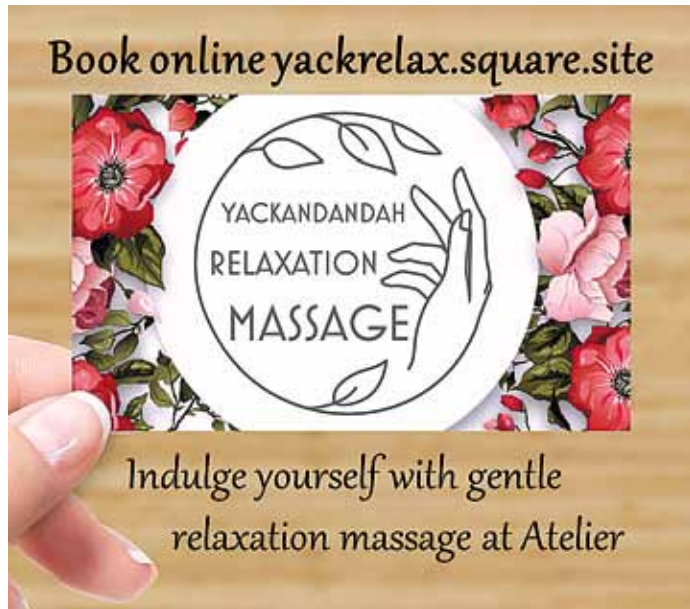
Being a new mum in lockdown gave Sam some time to reconsider her career path. She's benefited from massage therapy since she was a

teenager and, as a dancer, she regularly uses remedial massage to help maintain her body. With her medical training and desire to care, she was pulled to the hands-on therapeutic nature of massage. But she surprised herself when it was relaxation massage which really called to her. Thanks to some wonderful mentorship by Fleur Cunningham at In Touch Natural Therapies, Sam chose

to study Certificate IV in Relaxation Massage and completed her studies this year.

Relaxation massage uses smooth, gliding strokes to ease tension and aches while improving circulation. It helps promote a sense of calm and wellbeing as you reconnect with your body. Sam offers 30, 60 and 90 minute massages to help you feel relaxed and reinvigorated. Sam also has a referral system with Fleur for clients who need remedial treatment.

Sam was incredibly grateful for the support from the community during her opening month and was fully booked out. Thanks to the feedback from these lovely clients, she's been able to refine her service to offer extended weekend hours and a reward program for returning clients.



Why not give someone the gift of relaxation this Christmas? You can buy an eGift card online (yackrelax.square.site) or pop into Atelier and buy a gift package. Sam will be open every day between Christmas and New Year if you want to give yourself the gift of relaxation!

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THE WORKSHOP Fitness4U

YACKANDANDAH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CO.

YCDCO

YCDCo's 20th Annual General Meeting
will be held on Wednesday, 25th January, 2023
at 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start
at the Cricket Club Rooms at the Yackandandah Sports Park.

Please RSVP to ycdco.admin@yackandandah.com or leave a message on 0448 803 411

Osbornes Flat Hall Xmas Get-Together

The Hall Committee extends an invitation to all members of the Osbornes Flat community to come along to our

~ Christmas Picnic ~
Sunday 11th December,
from 5.30 pm

Please bring along a plate to share (savoury or sweet) & your own refreshments - meat & BBQ will be supplied.

We especially welcome anyone new to the area – a great opportunity to meet your neighbours and catch up on local happenings ☺

At Osbornes Flat Hall

Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells 😊

Call Lisa on 6027 1808 (ah) or 0439 855 297 with any enquiry
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WHAT A YEAR FOR WETLANDS, FROGS AND LEARNING!

The last few months have been wonderful for our wetlands. The frogs are calling, birds are nesting, insects are pollinating and we are all learning!

Yackandandah Landcare hosted a Frog Walk and Talk with Karen Retra in late October at our newly named Whiskey Flat Wetland. Parents and children were keen to find out what frog species were at home, so Karen

identified several species by call on the spot.

We heard the Eastern Froglet, Eastern Signbearing Froglet, Green Tree Frog and Pobblebonk or Banjo Frog.

If you want to identify frogs calling, go to the Frog ID App hosted by the Australian Museum. Loads of information on when they call,



All ages to be seen - great to see so many young people out there

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habitats, and locations. You can even record calls and upload them so an expert can identify them for you!

We also had Prof David Watson talk about the Wonders of Mistletoe at the hall in August. He explained how mistletoe provides nectar, shelter, shade and ground litter for hundreds of birds, possums, reptiles and insects. It does not kill trees directly but if trees are already sick or dying, mistletoe will dominate thereby still providing loads of goodies! We have four species of mistletoe in our region so keep a look out for the beautiful flowers over summer.

Chris Tracey showed Grades 5-6 at Yack Primary School how to store and manage the data they collected from water samples at the two wetlands in town.

So far the results show water quality is very good in both wetlands. They will venture out again before years end to take summer samples and compare with the winter results.

A new Native Plant Growing Group has formed in Yack! We are often short of local species for planting days so our tree growers will collect seed and try their hand at growing seedlings! Peter Mourik from Wooragee and Neil Padbury from Yack, kindly ran training days on how to identify species, treat seed

if necessary and tips on growing. If anyone is interested in having a go, we have a guide to get you started.

The Rowdy Flat project will kick off this summer with an information session on **Sunday 11th December, 10am to 12pm at Osbornes Flat Hall.**

The aim is to do weed control and bush regeneration from Mongans Lane to the Sewerage Farm. Working bees will be organised on a regular basis so keep an eye out for notices in Yack Landcare Facebook and noticeboards around town.

For more information contact Gabi Bridge on 0421 925 154. Working bees along Yackandandah Creek will continue on first Sunday of each month from 9.30am to 11.30am. Meet at the sports park oval and wear appropriate clothing.

For more information contact Mish Croker on 0477 417 445 or Jo Millar 0405 040 639



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Gavin King

Phone: 0423 075 385



ROWDY FLAT LANDCARE PROJECT INFORMATION SESSION



Yackandandah Landcare has a new weed control and forest regeneration project for Rowdy Flat!

We are looking for interested people to get involved! You can help protect a beautiful part of Yackandandah/Osborne's Flat, and learn about weeds, control methods and bush regeneration. You do not need to be a Landcare member.

Come along to the project information session at Osborne's Flat Hall

Sunday 11th December, 2022

10am – 12pm

Morning Tea provided

You can just turn up, or we would love you to scan the QR code below to register your interest in attending and being involved with the project.





Please contact Gabrielle Bridge on 0421 925 154 if you have questions.



YCDCo is looking for Directors

It is a great organisation to be heading up, and there is plenty of support for new Board members. We meet monthly and work on the Board is interesting, stimulating, it supports Yackandandah and will sit new Board members in good stead for further Board roles down the track with other organisations. Come and have your say and play your part in a really important business in Yack. For further details, check out the website - <https://www.ycdco.com.au/board-of-directors> or speak with any of the existing Board. You can also call the Company Secretary, Ali on 0448 803 411.

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YCDCo is looking for a paid Finance Supervisor for up to 10 hours a week to help keep our finances in their current good shape. This role will provide support and advice to the YCDCo Book-keeping staff, oversee the important financial obligations the company has and report to the Board monthly of any issues or risks. It is a position that can work mainly from home. For further details, please contact the Chair, Ian Fitzpatrick on 0419 418 236.



YACK LIONS CLUB MARKETS



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

18th December, 2022

2023

15th January
19th March
21st May
16th July
17th September
19th November

19th February
16th April
18th June
20th August
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



Yackandandah & District Historical Society Inc.

21 High St Yackandandah 3749 P:02 6027 0627

museum@yackandandah.com

Blog: yackandandahmuseum.wordpress.com

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

7 days per week during Vic school holidays

Entry by donation

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- EVENTS & DISPLAYS
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Mowers at
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See John at
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Yackandandah
0419 133 046

YACKANDANDAH'S
STREET FEST

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

17th February, 2023

5:00 - 8:00 PM

Wellsford Street

A FREE Community event with mouth-watering food, music, entertainment for the kids and a chance to find out more about our community groups.

Resilient communities are connected communities.

Come alone to make new friends or strengthen the community connections you already have.

All community groups are welcome to have a stall at the event - please register by 25th January, 2023 by emailing Felicity Blackstock - yackandandah.vic@lions.org.au

Proudly supported by YCDCo, Yackandandah Community Centre, Yackandandah Lions Club and Indigo Shire Council

Kilowatt Cars is trading

12/2017 NISSAN LEAF

GEN 2 HATCHBACK



(This image is for advertising purposes only)

LMCT 0012229

This month we have a 12/2017, 40kwh Nissan Leaf up for sale (1WJ-7BB).

It's done a few more kilometres than some of our other offerings (87,000 km), but being electric, this really doesn't matter. The car itself is still in very good overall condition, and comes with lots of great standard features and options. It's Wonderful White (keep the heat out on these hot summer days), has heated front seats and steering wheel (for those chilly Winter days), adaptive cruise control and much more. What condition is the battery in I hear you say (one of the most important parts of an EV)? It still has an excellent 87% State of Health reading (the 40 and 62kwh Leaf batteries are proving to be extremely reliable). Having a 40kwh battery gives you plenty of range for running around on, and with a bit of planning, longer journeys can be undertaken.

This Leaf we are doing as a Christmas special at \$37,990 driveaway (registered until 4th April, 2023). Comes with the normal Kilowatt Cars 6 month/7000 km warranty, plus our 3 year battery warranty (yes, there are terms and conditions!! Check out our website for all that at www.kilowattcars.com.au).

Call Russell on 0427 562 144 to have a talk, test drive, or just to find out more about EVs.

My not-so-new EV and Me: A Love Story by Tom Colcott



We bought our EV about twelve months ago. The thing that struck both of us almost immediately was that the EV became the favourite car to drive because of its quietness and smooth ride compared to the diesel ute. Our first service was a welcome surprise coming in at just over \$100, an

unthinkable service bill for any other car we've owned (so cheap!!).

We have a first-generation Nissan Leaf with what is now regarded as a tiny EV battery (24 kwh) so the range is limited to around 90 kms. This is around the hills of Yack and Wooragee, but as we had hoped, having another car with a longer range for extended trips, the Leaf has worked well.

We live off-grid, so charging the EV was something we were initially anxious about. But we got a power outlet installed that only comes on when our home battery hits 100% and then cuts out again when it falls to 90%. We always plug the car in when we get home and very rarely have low battery when we need to use it again.

Overall, we have had a great experience owning and driving an EV. There are some everyday differences to traditional cars; like not having to go to the petrol station, but instead plugging your car in at home, but this quickly becomes the norm, and you appreciate the convenience of just charging at home without trips to the servo!

By far and away in terms of driving an EV most things are exactly the same as driving the cars we are used to -- only quieter, cheaper and we love the fact that it's zero emission.

The Kilowatt Car Corner by Russell Klose

The second Budget of the year was handed down in October 2022 and it was a bit of a boon for electric vehicles. There is increasing acknowledgement that electric vehicles are part of the solution to Australia tackling climate change, particularly as our electricity grid continues to rapidly shift from one powered by coal and gas to a renewably powered one.

The Budget looked to address some of the key factors holding Australians back from purchasing electric vehicles:

1. Cost, through a tax rebate and also removing tariffs on some electric vehicles and,
2. Range anxiety, by committing to build out another 117 new chargers on key routes across Australia.

It's a start but it's not enough and once again communities like Yackandandah, are leading the government in this space. Transport is about 17% of Australia's climate emissions and we need to be doing all we can to replace petrol powered cars with electric ones.

Not only will this be better for people's health (air pollution from the burning of fossil fuels kills an estimated 9 million people each year) and the climate, but electric vehicles will likely soon be used as batteries to power our houses and help stabilise the electricity grid - providing financial benefits to people who feed power in at peak times. This is on top of the fact that I drive about 250 kms a week in an EV and pay on average about \$10/week to power it (yes, I'm fortunate enough to live in a house and have solar installed). The other huge bonus, often overlooked, is the lack of servicing costs as well. No oil changes, no spark plugs, injectors, air filters and all those other costly little items!!

But for me, the best thing about electric vehicles (and why I am increasingly becoming their biggest advocate) is they're a genuine dream to drive. And with more charging stations coming, range anxiety will be less of a concern.

Get in touch if you want to try driving a second-hand Nissan Leaf or find out more about them.

Russell Klose 0409 562 144

THE ARTS IN YACKANDANDAH



Indigo FM have recently staged their annual Radiothon through the month of November. Each operating site ran a

weekend of special presentations by our very special volunteers that keep this unique radio thriving. Presenters offered their time to cover the radiothon with individual and joint shows. The Radiothon is a good opportunity to bring awareness of the station but also to encourage new members to join and for current members to renew their memberships. Many businesses got behind us and have made generous donations of various goods as prizes to be won as incentives to join up or renew memberships. A big thank you to all these businesses who were



Harvey Ballantyne and Dean Shawcross ready to go on air

acknowledged throughout the weekend. With too many to mention here some prizes such as tickets to Yackandandah Folk Festival 2023, Stanley Spring Ditch 2023 and the High Country Hop Festivals Beechworth 2023 were on offer. There is still time to re new or join up and this can be done online or at the Women's' Shed Christmas Fair on 4th December where Indigo FM will have a stall selling merchandise, playing , memberships and announcing the prize winners.

Our fantastic regular shows such "Just Press Play" with Gary (Thurs 9-10pm), "Asleep at the Wheel" with Harvey (Sun 2-4pm) and "Everyone Deserves Music" with Scott (Sat 10-12pm), "The Blurred Crusade" with Dean (Sat 6-8pm), the Yack Primary School kids who are just finishing up for the year and have gained valuable radio presenting experience. Our Internet Radio Station airs the shows of the Yack PS kids from 10am-12noon each Sunday, so tune in to hear their youthful perspective of the world and what is happening at Yack Primary School. Bron and Ange continue to produce a monthly 2 hour show with different themes. Recently they presented songs about the weather. All these shows are available via podcast on the www.podomatic.com/pdocasts/indigofmradio.

If you are not able to catch a show or listen to your favourite presenter as it is happening, you can download a podcast of their show so you can listen to your favourite local music sounds at any time. Our Indigo FM show podcasts continue to be downloaded at a record rate, proving that many folks are enjoying

the sounds of our fabulous local independent radio station! If you would like to catch up with any shows that have gone to air recently, 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 performances 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. Live streaming of Indigo FM is now available from the Yackandandah studio, following on from the successful trial of this service from the Beechworth studio. Go to indigofmradio/streaming/Yackandandah.

Indigo FM would like to offer the opportunity to members of the community to join us to add their show ideas to our evolving schedule. Getting your own radio show on the airwaves is easy. It's free to be trained as we like to keep it accessible to all. 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. They can be regular programs - as in weekly, fortnightly or even just occasionally. If you are interested, just email us at indigofmradioyack@gmail.com to find out more. To view Indigo FM programs you can check out the Yackandandah Program Guide at www.indigofmradio.com/listen/program-guide/yackandandah/

Enjoy listening in and please support our unique local radio station; 88.0 FM Yackandandah!



Angela Bishop and Bron Howlett, two of Indigo FM's Yack presenters

"Spring in Yack"

But I have been discouraged; gleams of light
Flash from the East, then disappear
And mock me with a sky that ripens not
Into a steady morning.

thanks to William Wordsworth

The Prelude, Book 1,130,1805 and Ian Jackson for supplying

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Christmas Crackers (for Ian N)

Christmas crackers are of comparatively recent times, dating back to the middle of the nineteenth century, and are said to be of French origin. In their earliest form in France, crackers were sweets or bon-bons enclosed in twists of coloured paper. An English pastrycook named Tom Smith saw these bon-bons while visiting Paris. On his return home, he copied the idea of a wrapper, but added other small gifts, as well as slips of paper inscribed with jokes, wise sayings or imaginative advice concerning the future. Small toys and paper hats were other surprise inclusions.

Smith's novel idea did not catch on at first. Then, on Christmas night in 1846, as he sat in front of this fireplace with its crackling logs, he got the idea of imitating this sound. He did this by inserting a small explosive in the paper tube, which was set off with a bang by pulling from both sides. This saw the birth of the popular and appropriately named "cracker".

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

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

'HABITAT GARDENS OF ALBURY-WODONGA' – NEW BOOK FOR YACK LIBRARY

The joy of spotting tawny frogmouths huddling on your Hills hoist, blue-banded bees buzzing in your dianella or echidnas stopping for a bath is indescribable. It's magic moments like these that spur many gardeners to create more habitat for wildlife in their gardens.

A new coffee table photo book inspiring residents to create such habitat is now available from Yackandandah Library and electronically through Wodonga Urban Landcare Network's website. 'Habitat Gardens of Albury-Wodonga' is a 40-page book produced by Gardens for Wildlife Albury-Wodonga, featuring more than 100 images from eight local gardens, each providing rich inspiration for novice green thumbs to experienced wildlife gardeners.

Habitat gardens do more than provide us with pretty visitors to admire. They play a critical role in species preservation. Urban sprawl and land-clearing have led to significant habitat loss, species extinction and reduction in native animal populations across our country. Climate change is making matters worse and challenging the resilience of all species. Albury-Wodonga region is not immune to these impacts, with 51 animal species listed as threatened in our area.

Smaller, more fragmented patches of native bushland make it difficult for wildlife to travel across the landscape for food, water, shelter, breeding, and migratory purposes. By creating habitat in domestic gardens, we are providing native wildlife with vital stepping stones through the urban landscape and linking parks, reserves and wildlife corridors. Even small habitat gardens have the potential to provide temporary and longer-term refuge for native birds, insects, reptiles and small mammals.

Habitat gardening also improves our health

and wellbeing, just as any gardening does. The physical and psychological benefits of exercise, fresh air and time in nature have long been understood.

Habitat gardeners enjoy a greater sense of purpose and enhanced self-esteem, made all the greater for knowing they are caring for the natural environment.

There is no perfect habitat garden. Small to big, flat to steep, formal to informal, cottage-style to contemporary, or the natural bush look; while habitat gardens share many common elements, outward appearances can vary markedly. The habitat gardens featured in this book were selected to illustrate a cross-section of gardens.

Local libraries with copies of the book include Wodonga, Albury, Lavington, Beechworth, Yackandandah, Rutherglen and Tallangatta. The online copy can be accessed at: bit.ly/awgardens

Gardens for Wildlife Albury-Wodonga is a program of Wodonga Urban Landcare Network. This project has been supported by the North East Catchment Management Authority's Bush for Birds project through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, by the Victorian Government as part of the Victorian Landcare Grants Program, and by the Rotary Club of Albury-Wodonga Sunrise, Rotary Club of Albury West, Rotary Club of Wodonga West and Rotary Club of Belvoir-Wodonga.



Lizette, the tireless Project Officer with the newly produced book on how to encourage native wildlife to your garden. It will be available at the Yack Library so book to have a squizz now or see it on-line.

*Lizette Salmon
Project Officer*

GARDENS FOR WILDLIFE ALBURY-WODONGA

Found a new hobby in 2021? Need more space?

Sick of the frost and the heat getting to the car?

Call us and we can have our licenced team build you a perfect solution!

Supporting our Local Communities with your continued support.

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02 6024 3333

HORSES FOR COURSES

I decided to head up to the Tallangatta Valley Stockman's Ride in October. A weekend where 100 plus horse riders from all over the place, explore the back blocks of the Valley led by, in the main,



Coming down the Switchback - you need a good degree of horse and rider fitness to enjoy this

dog men who are employed to set trap lines and lay baits through the back country adjoining farm land. Yes, at times it's a harsh country.

Running for twenty five years and started as a fundraiser by Bruce (school principal), Pud, Lou and all - the great local volunteers for the Valley's Primary School while it was open. What great assets such a small country school were able to deliver to its students because of the ride. It's now organised by Bullioh Football and Netball Club.

I've done the ride seven or eight times, but not for some years. Back in the early 2000s, I rode Drum and led Snow my packhorse, from my place at Staghorn Flat to the Tallangatta Ride, a trip of approximately 125 kms and five nights camped out. At the time I was recovering from a serious injury – yes! Horse related...

Back then I put some miles into my horses, planned campsites (water and spring grass), access through private property. Some landholders I knew,

some I didn't – all were very helpful.

The big day arrived, down some back lanes and over Simpson's Gap and camped by the Kiewa River at the Kergunyah

Reserve. Fish and chips from Rossie Reynolds' shop – yummo! Then over the Gundowring hills to camp over the top of Upper Sandy Creek. Maremma guard dogs patrolled the adjacent paddocks protecting stock while I slept.

I dropped down to the Mitta Highway and rode along a wide verge to Tallandoon, set up camp by the Mitta River. My parents and sister turned up with a cooked chook – doing it tough! After checking out my snug little camp, I'm sure they felt happier.

We ran up and along the ridge on



Some of the Gang!

I camped for 2 nights on Watchingorra Creek. The ride had physically and mentally taken it out of me, so I lounged in the sun by the creek, recharging my soul and watching my horses pig out – life's good!

I rode into the recreation reserve as Bruce and a bus load of kids were leaving (last minute jobs). I thanked the kids for looking after my F100 and float which were parked in the school yard, a good stretch of my legs away.

The mobs arrive tomorrow – bacon and eggs, roasts, cake, music and laughter, old and perhaps new friends. Then the riding starts.

Footnote - 140 riders battled rising water, bad weather and poor road conditions to ride at Tallangatta Valley. My near neighbours came from Rye, Lake Cargelligo and Kilmore – and they weren't the furthest travellers. A tough but very rewarding weekend.

Steve Pearce



A great example of good riding country

bush tracks with mountain views including the main range with the splendid Mitta Valley below.

travellers. A tough but very rewarding weekend.

LITTLE WINGS



Little Wings is a non-profit organization that provides free, professional, safe flight and ground transport services for seriously ill children in rural and regional NSW and the ACT. They strive to ease the journey and help sick children access specialised medical services and treatments that are only available in major cities or towns. They do everything they can to support families by easing the financial burden, emotional strain and travel fatigue that they experience due to the long-distance travel associated with receiving vital medical treatment.

Okay - so what is their connection with Yackandandah??

2022	Millimetres	Days of Rain
January	212.2	7
February	3.0	1
March	80.4	5
April	46.0	10
May	96.6	12
June	126.8	19
July	48.0	8
August	176.6	16
September	163.2	14
October	258.8	17
Nov to 17th	155.6	8
TOTAL	1367.2	117
2020 to 27/11	841.4	111
2021 to 27/11	1035.0	105

Highest October rainfall since records began in 1886. 1917 - 255.5mm

Reg's Rain Report



Well, on the 12th October, Yackity Yak received an email from Brian Woodbridge, the "camp mother" telling us that he was part of a small group of women and children riding horses from Cowra, NSW to the Equitana Exhibition in Melbourne as a fundraiser for the Little Wings charity. They arrived in Yack in the middle of shocking weather with big rains coming and since they only had 2 swags and a tent, they sought help as things were looking pretty dire. The Yack community rallied superbly as it would, particularly in the form of the Yack Scout group and the Yack Tennis Club. Without them the group were in serious trouble as Brian had already tried to book into the caravan park but found they were full. Brian put the call out via Facebook and Yack community members dropped in some hay and feed, and were very welcoming. The group would like to sincerely thank Yack for its hospitality, but in particular offer special thanks to Michael and Matt for their assistance in keeping the riders warm and sheltered.

You can find out more about the charity on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LittleWingsAustralia>



The intrepid riders (with support vehicle still packing up) on their way to Melbourne

I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder to find one now...

YACK GARDEN CLUB



A chat with Jeanine Hayes-Scott

Under the Arbour - Helping Hands at Yack Health

While the volunteer work done by our Streetscape team each month gets noticed, what doesn't get noticed as much is the volunteer program we run at Yack Health, called 'Helping

Hands'.

Helping Hands has been running for several years. It has been idle during COVID lockdowns and but is now hitting stride again. Jeanine Hayes-Scott, our fabulous member volunteer has revitalised the program, and has been attending at Yack Health now for several months. The purpose of the program is to share the joy and passion for gardening by engaging with the residents. During recent visits, the residents have planted raised garden beds with seedlings provided by Dave the gardener and held discussions about their favourites in the veggie patch and flower gardens.

Jeanine reports that in addition to engaging the residents in all things gardening, she loves to sit and chat with the residents about the gardens that they have now left behind, what they created around their homes and to see their delight and joy these special memories evoke. A big thank you to Jeanine, Chris Zerbst and Rose Crook, Garden Club members, and to Becky the Yack Health Activities Coordinator and Dave the gardener. Just remember, once a gardener, always a gardener...



Helping Hands volunteer, Chris Zerbst, assists Doris Gear to plant spring colour

Sadly, Doris died on 20th November. This small tribute is for Doris and her love of gardening.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

Our club is very privileged to have an activity we dub, 'Come and See my Garden' where members visit the garden of a fellow club member, without the gardener having to overtax themselves worrying about how up to standard it is for viewing. We enjoy a stroll, a chat and can ask any variety of questions, what is planted, why, how successful, pitfalls and then we enjoy a cuppa and morning tea. We have enjoyed visiting the delightful garden of Jan Salter and Chris Illingworth recently. The garden has over two hundred and fifty rose bushes, even though Jan did say she had culled back on them! There are pockets of delight at every turn with quirky garden furniture to compliment the garden beds.

Another garden members were very happy to be



Members enjoy the view in Greg's garden

invited to, was that of Greg Safin. Greg has created rooms which lead you from one theme to the next, and you could be excused for thinking you are visiting several gardens.

It is wonderful when a club can offer its members opportunities to socialise as well as enhance the nature of what the club is all about. One member, Leonie has written a description of her appreciation of a social outing to visit the Iris Farm and Botanic Gardens at Wagga. As it is only a short drive down the highway, we thought it may inspire others to visit this area.

"We scored a fine day! After dodging many pot holes on the road to Wagga we arrived safely at the Iris farm near Lake Albert. There were hundreds of irises and we just managed to see many still blooming. There were pictures of those not out in a booklet so many to choose from. Lunch was enjoyed at a nearby café before continuing on to the magnificent Botanical Gardens. The extensive area has walking tracks through native flora, azalea, camelia, and rose beds. There was also a lovely pond and even a rain forest. The gardens are also dotted with beautiful old trees. There are

several play areas for children that would make for a great day out for families. "

SOLDIER BEETLES

Lately you may have found your flowers covered in elongated beetles with orange underbellies and dark brown upper part. They are mainly



Soldier Beetles on parade

intent on mating or seeking out nectar and pollen. Have no fear, these are friends not foes, so don't reach for the spray. You may need to keep your mouth shut as they fly around in their thousands. They are the Australian 'swarm' soldier beetle, a predator to the Eucalyptus leaf beetle. Their larvae are also predators, living in soil and leaf litter and are commonly found in worm farms, where they make great compost. They look like mini alligators with a velvety skin. Some people use these grubs instead of worms to compost their kitchen waste.

Yackandandah Garden Club will be at the **Community Christmas Fair on Sunday 4th December in Yack's Soldiers' Memorial Park.** So please drop by and say hello. Our 2023 calendar will be on sale, the perfect Christmas present reflecting Yackandandah's beautiful gardens.

CONTACT US

Meetings: We meet at 'Wellsford House', Wellsford St, Yackandandah, at 7 pm on the 2nd Thursday, bi-monthly (beginning in 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.

Note: The Club does not meet over December/January.

Email: yack.garden.club@outlook.com

Phone: 0428 116 562, President Cheryl Frawley

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



Leonie on the left enjoys the Botanic Gardens with other members

CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS #8 Answers (BILL BUCHANAN)

ACROSS

6 Revere. 7 Abseiled. 10 Memo. 11 Evacuation. 12 Great Britain. 15 Atrial. 17 Ice cap. 18 King of hearts. 22 Forefinger 24 Dale. 25 Hooligan. 26 Prefer

DOWN

1 Penetrate. 2 Fedora. 3 Here. 4 Safari. 5 Distance. 8 Squeamish 9 Egos. 13 Belonging. 14 Pastilles. 16 Inkwells. 19 Organs. 20 Addled. 21 Logo. 23 Rope.

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!



YACK COMMUNITY BOWLING CLUB

A HUGE THANK YOU

The Yackandandah Community Bowls Club is celebrating the purchase of a battery operated mower. This new generation mower/groomer/scarifier/catcher has been jointly funded by Albury Wodonga Connected Communities Grant in the sum of \$12,000 and YCDCo (a major YCBC Sponsor 2022-2023) for \$5,000.



Yack Bowling Club members celebrate the purchase of the battery operated mower which will revolutionise grooming the bowls green

Mowing and grooming of the lawn bowls green is a labour and time intensive commitment as a competition standard green is necessary to be maintained year round. Our Green Keeper Wayne Furze and support team are delighted with the move to a renewable option that is faster, easier to adjust and less physically demanding on the user.

All members of the club are celebrating the new arrival and want to enthusiastically thank the granting bodies for the years of perfectly groomed bowling greens ahead.

*Meredith McIntyre
Secretary*

SUNDAY SOCIAL BOWLS

Sunday Social Bowls in partnership with Hume Bank was a great success. By some miracle the six week Sunday Social Bowls event was never rained out and we enjoyed fine if not sunny weather. We are delighted to report that a very talented group of 13 bowlers have joined the club as playing members in 2022/2023 season.

Thank you to existing club members for assisting each week and our esteemed coach, Ron Elkner, for his commitment to improving bowlers' skills and knowledge of the game.

Sunday morning bowls 10am-12pm continues through to Christmas.

Join in the fun, everyone welcome.



Susie Hall, Owen Hogg, Glen Aberle, Cade Roberts, Reon Garvey, and Lee Hogg

DO YOU NEED TO BOOK A VENUE?

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.

Please contact Wayne Furze for more details – 0417 685 886

YACK GOLF CLUB continued....

to support Cancer Council and raise funds for those affected by cancer.

Both have lost and have loved ones battling cancer so this is a cause close to their hearts. Please sponsor their team "Yack Attack Against Cancer" and support their efforts to give back and change lives.

Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world, with two in three Australians diagnosed with skin cancer by the age of 70, and we want to do something to help change that! Simply go to the link below to make a donation to our team page. <https://www.longestday.org.au/fundraisers/yackattackagainstcancer>

Cancer Council is a community-funded organisation, working in local communities to help support people as they navigate their cancer journey. Their work is really important



Community Day winners – Coral Ward & Robyn Davies, with Vice-Captain Libby M'Crystal

to use and, you can help too, by donating to our page. Any amount you can give makes a difference! You can also support us by encouraging others to get involved. Please email the link to our team page to your friends and family, or share it on social media. Thank you so much for your support - it is truly appreciated.

The men would like to remind all potential players that the annual *Chadfest* is on again – keep the 8th January, 2023 free in your calendar if you wish to join in this historic event.

For more membership information or to make inquiries, visit:

Web <https://golfclub.yackandandah.com>

Email: yackgolfclub@gmail.com

Facebook: Yackandandah Golf Club

Women: chris.zerbst@gmail.com

The end of the 2022 season has come to a close with some significant events being played out.

The annual YGC Presentation Day was held and Club Champions were presented with their trophies:



Men and Women Club Champions – all grades with two young stand-ins.

WOMEN'S RESULTS

A Grade & Club Champion – Robyn Davies
 B & C Grade (combined) – Glenda Stacey
 Dot Martin Match Play winner – Angela Bishop

MEN'S RESULTS

A Grade & Club Champion: Dave Meehan
 B Grade: Joe Finn
 C Grade: Mark Boehm
 James Oak winner: Mark Boehm
 Pip Beaty winner: Leo Glass

The Lady's Bowl Day was held, despite the wet weather and fallen trees. We are fortunate to have a course that does not hold water for too long, our slope being an advantage. On the day before the tournament, several large branches from a gum fell on the 9th/18th hole; Terry and his team removed it in time for the tournament!

We do thank the men for their quick work and wonderful ongoing

maintenance of the course.

The Bowl was won by the Mansfield Team and we can only hope that next year Yackandandah will win it back.

Another event was the running of a Community Day golf event by the women of YGC, with green fees being donated to the Men's Shed.

It was a glorious day for golf and the lunch Larry from the Shed put on was a feast to remember. The Men's Shed generously reciprocated by donating three beautifully crafted wooden chopping boards, a much needed item in the Club's kitchen. Thank you to the Men's Shed for all they do in our community.

Winners Mixed: Don Crosthwaite (YGC) / Nada Guyatt (Beechworth)
 R/U: Ken Dean (Rutherglen) / Carol Fursdon (Rutherglen)
Winners Women: Robyn Davies (YGC) / Coral Ward
 R/U: Jan Lang (Beechworth) / Frances Boehm (YGC)

The Golf Club recently received a *Get Active* grant from Indigo Shire Council to promote personal health and well being through playing golf. We managed the funds by holding a coaching clinic ran by Gavin Vering, golf professional at Wodonga Golf Club. Thirty participants including two juniors attended small group sessions over three weeks and enjoyed a BBQ at the end of each clinic.

Nine of the participants were beginners who made new friends and we trust feel confident enough to give golf a go. The other 21 participants have developed new skills to improve their game, and hopefully will feel inclined to play more often. The coaching sessions were greatly appreciated by all, and we thank the Indigo Shire Council for their generous support towards this project.

On Friday, 6th January 2023, two of our intrepid Yack Golf Club members are taking on "The Longest Day" – the ultimate golf challenge. Robyn Davies and Libby M'Crystal will be testing their skill, strength, and stamina by playing 3 rounds of golf in a single day



We urge everyone who uses the course to be mindful of fragile trees, which due to recent heavy rain and winds can have their branch and root stability compromised

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**YACKANDANDAH
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Our suppliers are Clark Tanks and Polymaster.

They are strong, affordable, heavy duty, premium quality, UV-protected and made by Australian companies. They come in a range of colours, sizes and styles. So pop in and get some information on these important pieces of infrastructure.

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

Summer Opening Hours

Mon-Friday: 6 am to 7 pm

Saturday: 7 am to 5 pm

Sunday: 8.30 am to 5 pm

KEEP YOUR CRITTERS AT HOME!

- There's nothing more nerve-wracking 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.



The weather has been pretty taxing lately, with a cold wet Spring being followed by what looks like being a pretty wet summer as well. But - YCDCo have just about everything you might need to keep your garden looking spectacular. Pop in and check us out.

sodastream

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