

INDEPENDENTS CHANGING THE FACE OF AUSTRALIAN POLITICS



Helen Haines retains the seat of Indi

Election Day of Saturday, 21st May, 2022 was an intensely nail-biting occasion for the electorate of Indi, and in particular, the small township of Yackandandah. After all, it had been the battleground some nine years before when Cathy McGowan and the Voices for Indi took on the previous incumbent of Indi, and shocked everyone including themselves, with an Independent taking out a blue ribbon seat for the first time. And from then on, things have gone from strength to

strength.

Helen Haines set another milestone in 2019 when Cathy retired. Another Independent retaining the seat of Indi! The Voices team were well aware that the majority at this election was small (1.4%), and so everything was marshalled for the 2022 election.



Election Day - some incredibly happy supporters at Wang Performing Arts Centre celebrating Helen's re-election

At this point, Cathy and team had also been seeking out and training likely Independents to take on safe seats throughout Australia. It needs no explanation from Yackity Yak to expand on the success of this. Helen retained the seat of Indi with a substantially improved vote.

The overall results of the 2022 election were electrifying. Labor took line

honours, but both the Labor and Liberals saw massive swings away from their parties, and the Independents and Greens reaped rewards in spades.

Will politics ever be the same again? A good question. There is no doubt that the Independents will need to be on their mettle and will be well tested. Helen Haines has a "shovel-ready" ICAC set to go, and Labor have promised to get this in place by the end of the year. We may well be looking down the barrels of a completely different way of politics, and one that has been a long time coming. Watch this space!



Cathy McGowan - Indi's first Independent MP, and now mentor to other Independents

"COURT HOUSE" PROJECT SHORTLISTED FOR MAJOR AWARD

Court House has been shortlisted in the Houses Architecture Awards in the categories of "New House over 200m²" and the "Sustainability" category.

The "Court House" project in Railway Avenue will be known to pretty much everyone in Yackandandah.... It sits on a prominent site and represents a striking architectural statement within our heritage village. Court House is the home of Julia Brinsdon-Farr and Craig Brinsdon, and their two daughters. Julia and Craig purchased the land, which had previously been proposed for a three-lot subdivision, with a vision to create a long-term family home within a substantial garden. Perfectly located within a short walk to High street, the Yack pool across the road, and as Julia describes it "on-site security" (next to the Police station)

Architects Archier were engaged to design the house; it was not hard to convince Archier director, Chris Gilbert (brother of local Sculptor Ben Gilbert) to take on the project in his home town. Archier have delivered a delightfully simple, elegant and meticulously detailed dwelling which responds beautifully to the site and to the context of the township. Once planning consent was achieved, local builder Sheringham Construction was engaged to assist in resolving the construction methods and detailing, and later to build the house.

Despite the apparent simplicity, Court House is a high tech and high performance house – built upon a fully thermally insulated concrete slab, using structural insulated panels for the walls and roof, and timber framed, double glazed and air-tight windows, the thermal performance of the dwelling is among the best in the broader region. Air-tight building methods were employed in the build process, and heat recovery ventilation is installed in the building to provide continuous fresh air to the inside of the building without sacrificing any seasonal heat loss or gain, as well as managing internal condensation issues.



*"Court House", a bespoke architecturally designed house in Railway Avenue
PC: Rory Gardiner*

Continued on page 2

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

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2022/23 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
103	Aug/Sept	Friday, 15th July, 2022	Tuesday, 26th July, 2022
104	Oct/Nov	Friday, 16th Sept 2022	Tuesday, 27 September, 2022
105	Dec/Jan	Friday, 18th Nov, 2022	Tuesday, 29th November, 2022
106	Feb/March	Friday, 20th Jan, 2023	Tuesday, 31st January 2023
107	April/May	Friday, 17th March, 2023	Tuesday, 28th March, 2023
108	June/July	Friday, 19th May, 2023	Tuesday, 30th May, 2023

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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Continued from front page.

Passive solar design principles have also been very effectively leveraged by Archier to maximise the passive heating of the insulated polished concrete floor in the winter, but totally exclude the sun in summer.

Based on the thermal efficiency modelling completed by Detail Green in Beechworth, there are only two 5kW reverse cycle heat pump air conditioners installed to service the whole building. Julia and Craig report that since moving into their house in March 2020, they have only used the heating a handful of times – pretty remarkable in Yackandandah! The all-electric house (cooking, hot water, and the minimal heating and cooling) matched the mantra from Julia that “we are not going to burn stuff to be comfortable”. A solar PV system supports this by offsetting the energy use of the building.

An extremely efficient and cleverly zoned floorplan ensures that the building size is kept at the optimum, and the separation of public and private spaces within the house is very well managed. Natural materials further enhance the experience – notably the prominent use of timber cladding and ceiling lining combined with natural off-form concrete, the polished concrete floor, and the subtle texture of oriented strand board wall linings internally. Since occupying the completed building Julia and Craig, (as well as Julia’s mother, Shirley Farr) have worked tirelessly to establish the garden – a process that will only improve over the coming years as the garden becomes more established.

Architect: Archier
Builder: Sheringham Construction

A RAMBLE WITH THE EDITOR

So much good stuff in this edition, that you will have to do with less editorial waffle this edition! Huzzah I hear you say...

Still slightly reeling from the Election results, picking olives and a right hip replacement (huge success on all three fronts!) so perhaps it's just as well I have a small space to fill. Weather is all over the place at the moment, and the BOM says that this winter is likely to be very wet. We are glad we live on a hill and free draining land.

Congratulations to the Yack Theatre Co and Writers, who put on a great collaboration over the past weekend. So very good to have some theatre and music to enjoy again. Huge thanks!

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Yackandandah Health's Big Thank You

What a wonderful community we live in - so many people caring for our elderly residents and working to keep them happy and safe. On the 28th April, the danger every aged care community dreads crept into Yackandandah Health – Covid. Yackandandah Health was declared a Covid Outbreak site by the Public Health Department and our Covid Plan swung into action. Staff worked long hours in full PPE, covering shifts of colleagues who were in isolation and trying to keep our residents' spirits up. We were grateful to receive assistance from the Australian Defence Force staff and commonwealth medical staff. This boosted our morale.

To minimise spread, residents were isolated in their rooms with meals delivered. We continued to welcome people who had nominated to be a designated visitor, had no symptoms and were in full PPE. All staff went the extra mile to help - our

laundry and cleaning staff worked tirelessly, the Lifestyle Officer delivered activity suggestions to each resident and discussed ways of exercising safely in their rooms. There are so many people to recognise for the extra efforts - your work is noticed and valued - thank you.

A total of 37 residents tested positive for Covid over the period 28 April – 16 May. Everyone received treatment, one resident went to hospital and returned 4 days later. Sadly, one resident died and we send our heartfelt condolences to the family. This was an event we hoped to avoid, and our continual improvement processes are in action to further enhance our Covid Plans for the future.

This is a timely reminder that Covid and Influenza are in the community currently; for the elderly and vulnerable both can be



Beautiful cards sent to Yack Health residents from the Yackandandah Scouts

life threatening. We ask that visitors are fully vaccinated for Covid and Influenza. We welcome visitors who are well, follow all instructions and wear PPE while with us.

Future planning with our community is important to Yackandandah Health. **We are holding a Stakeholder Day on Tuesday 21st June, 2022.** This day will look at Yackandandah Health now and into the future. Anyone interested in attending please email ceo@yackhealth.com.au.

Sustainably developing our local environment is a key focus for Yackandandah Health. We are delighted to partner Landcare in a tree and shrub planting project. Yackandandah Primary School, Junior Landcare students from Grade 3/4 will plant seedlings down to the creek behind Yackandandah Health. The area has been prepared for planting on 23 June and, if conditions allow, residents will join the children and share their knowledge. Thanks to Dave Lanza, Neil Padbury, Michelle Croker and Joanne Miller for organizing what I am sure will be another fabulous Intergenerational activity in our community.

In the future when it is safe to do so, we hope to open our doors to volunteers again. If anyone is interested in being a volunteer at Yackandandah Health please contact Lifestyle Co-ordinator Bronwyn Wakeling at lifestylecoordinator@yackhealth.com.au

*Andrea O'Neill
CEO Yackandandah Health*



Kim and the good folk from the Australian Defence Force looking after our Yack Health residents



Sammy in full PPE

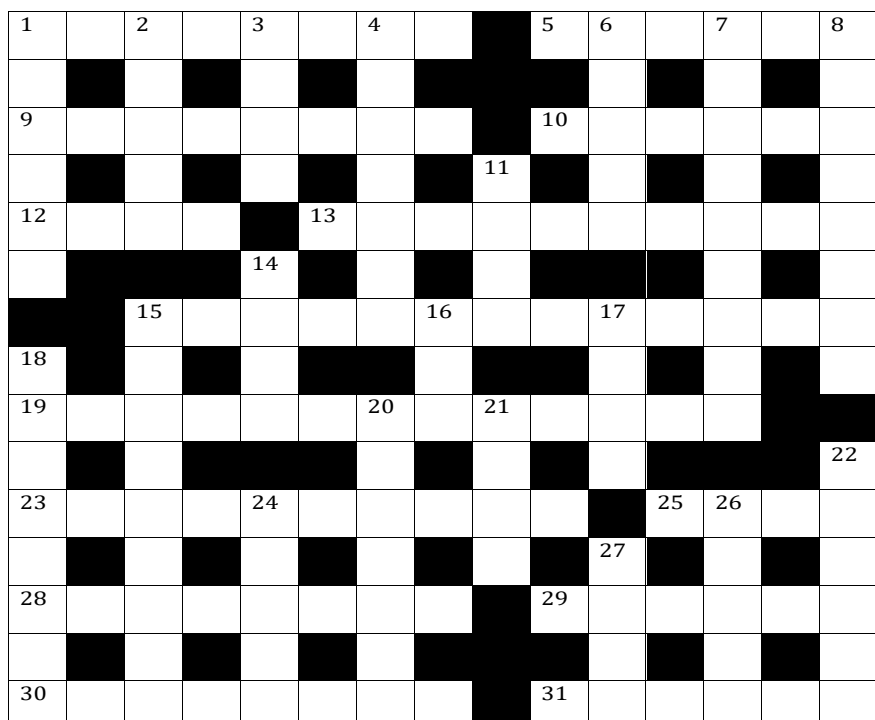
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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD #5 CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Reportedly gave out tots to sailors in Sargasso sea! (8)
- 5 Italian answers phone straightaway!(6)
- 9 Eye condition, or blocked nose, say, in Canberra (8)
- 10 Bordeaux is taken over by evil cartel (6)
- 12 Fibs help prisoners in Mali escape detection (4)
- 13 Mass gunfire has a bearing on netted game (10)
- 15 Bearings taking changes to sport (6,7)
- 19 Tread on Pong's partner, then on creek crossing object (8,5)
- 23 Sydney show has vice-regal surrounded on two sides, enjoying chocolate treats (6,4)
- 25 Standard paving material (4)
- 28 Analyse sentence in a cunning way, parsimoniously(8)
- 29 Smudge in copybook to reveal drunkenness (6)
- 30 Princess stretches nets backwards then starts doing somersaults (8)
- 31 A stupid climb starts but comes to a conclusion (6)

DOWN

- 1 Will a coldie change aggression to this? (6)
- 2 The tiler orders a volume of materials (5)
- 3 Bloody meat! (4)
- 4 Tiny being, tiny shortened buzzer (7)
- 6 The railway carries everyone to the meeting (5)
- 7 The indigenous story includes initially rules, regulations and attributes (9)
- 8 It is common to log your involvement with metaphysics (8)
- 11 A cry of woe from a poor short girl (4)
- 14 Stinging blow for friends who climb 27 (4)
- 15 Means of managing resistance in the current situations (9)
- 16 Bulls see red when cloth is waved (3)
- 17 A tiny feline article (4)
- 18 Fool judged four directions led to start of doom (8)
- 20 Requirement came first but nevertheless annoyed (7)
- 21 Ship goes down taking Attorney-General with it (4)
- 22 Front page ripped out of antique book (3,3)
- 24 Discomfort will follow if you have eaten suet (5)
- 26 First the French, then the English made spinning machine (5)
- 27 Friends are confused in the mountains (4)

Answers on Page 32

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Yackandandah Sports Park Committee of Management is seeking expressions of interest for the role of President.

This crucial role will ensure that the Yackandandah Sports Park is maintained to a high standard whilst supporting the various clubs and user groups to operate efficiently and effectively.

Candidates must be:

- available to attend and chair five meetings per year.
- able to demonstrate sound judgment and decision making,
- committed to working cohesively with other committee members, and
- passionate about their community and opportunities to improve sport and recreation outcomes.

For more information on the role or to submit an expression of interest please contact Richard Stamp via email - sportspark@yackandandah.com or phone 0409 169 146.

Closing date for EOIs is Thursday, 30th June, 2022 at 5.00 pm.

YACK TOY LIBRARY

It's been such a wonderful feeling to throw open the big wooden doors of the Yackandandah Toy Library (YTL) and welcome back our members after such a tumultuous few years! The COVID-19 pandemic, and the various resulting restrictions, has meant that YTL has often been closed for borrowing; but quietly, there were still many things happening behind the scenes. Our toy selection has been culled and refreshed, and our fabulous handyperson (Alyce) has cracked out her power tools and revamped the inside of our little shed to allow for more space, ease of access and visibility of our wares. We also have plans to add onto our shed (currently in the works), so watch this space!

With the current easing of restrictions, we have recently hosted our first 'Come and Play' in as many years to great success. It was so lovely to see our community getting reacquainted, and already we are seeing Saturday borrowing becoming a regular fixture in our families' weekend routines. We have a few new little beauties about to hit the shelves just in time for the cooling weather and more time spent indoors.

If you haven't heard of Toy Library, it is a not-for-profit organisation where you pay a small fee to borrow toys for a period of time. The concept of toy libraries is an idea that gained a lot of momentum in the 60's and 70's, but is so relevant today as we all face the impacts of over-consumption and the environmental woes that accompany it, costs of living pressures, and the struggle to find community for carers who have moved outside of their usual networks.

Toy Library is a wonderful way to keep your children's toys fresh and interesting without purchasing more, saving you money, clutter and also is far, far more friendly for the Earth! Win! It's also a great way to engage and connect with other families and carers in our community. Once a term, the Toy Library hosts a "Come and Play" day where we provide food and refreshments, and YTL members and the wider community are invited to come for a chat, a play and to get to know each other.

We stock high-quality indoor and outdoor toys, puzzles and games for children aged 0-7 years old. Some of the brands we carry include: Playmobil, Duplo, Schleich, Ravensburger, WOW, Melissa and Doug and Djeco. We also always take suggestions from members to expand our collection and improve our offering.

Our memberships are annual memberships or casual borrows. Annual memberships are offered from \$35 at the beginning of the calendar year and reduce as the year goes on. Casual memberships are available for those that wish to borrow less often, at the price of \$10 for 10 borrows; often a popular choice for grandparents or occasional carers!

We are open Saturdays 10-11am, February to December. We would absolutely love to see you! We are located just behind the Yackandandah Community Centre and Op Shop. We also have a Facebook group, Yackandandah Toy Library, where we post information and events.

Hope to see you soon!



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Stepping Back But Not Away

While you won't find Bryan Smith on the back of a fire truck these days, the 76 year old says he still finds his role within the Yackandandah Fire Brigade as a non-operational member fulfilling.

"I decided to step back from active firefighting last year because, firstly, basically the older you get the more risk adverse you get, and secondly, there are a lot more younger people in the Brigade who can 'hold the hose,'" says Bryan, a member for the past 17 years. "I've been there and done that."



Yackandandah Fire Brigade member, Bryan Smith

Bryan says he intends to remain with the Brigade however "as long as I can contribute something. And that's the beauty of the CFA; there are roles for all ages, from 16 to 76. There are a lot of 70 years old who are still very active in the CFA but I felt our Brigade has plenty of younger members coming up the ranks."

Bryan took on the role of the Brigade's chairperson a year ago after having been Secretary/Treasurer for 14 years (from 2007 to 2021), a role he enjoyed. "It was good because you knew what was happening within the Brigade and you were kind of a centrepiece without the responsibility of being the Captain," says Bryan. He is also still an accredited Staging Area Manager, a role he undertook during the Black Summer Bushfires (2019-2020), at the Tallangatta Showgrounds which was set up as a staging area for the fires at Corryong. "I'm more an admin and organisation type person," says Bryan whose background is in education and human resource development.

After graduating from the University of Western Australia, his first job was as a teacher at Eastern Goldfields Senior Highschool in Kalgoorlie in 1967 - the era of National Service in Australia. While Bryan was conscripted, he decided instead to join the regular army in 1968, graduating from the Officer Cadet School in Portsea, Victoria, in 1969. In 1971 he spent a year in Vietnam

but after a couple more years in the army got a position as a lecturer at what was Burwood Teachers' College (now Deakin University). (His role in the army was in education.) That was followed by a stint in corporate training, working for Coles as the State Training Manager (Victoria), and then National Training Manager. He then returned to Perth where he lectured in human resource development at Edith Cowan University and completed his PhD.

At 58 years of age, he retired and in 2004 he and his wife Lillian moved to Yackandandah (a small property at Osbornes Flat). They chose Yackandandah because their two children were living in Melbourne at the time; they had friends in the area who they visited so they knew and liked the area; and "it was time for a tree change."

Bryan says he joined the CFA for three reasons – to get to know people in the community; a desire to help the community; and personal



Gavin and Karen Mascas in the new uniform while doing Fire Equipment Maintenance

development – "learning new skills and gaining more knowledge." As a firefighter Bryan has attended numerous incidents but the one he'll "never forget" was the Black Saturday fires in 2009. Bryan was a member of the crew from Yackandandah (on the tanker) that was part of the first strike team from District 24 to go to Kilmore on the Saturday evening.

"On the way down we heard that there was a large out-of-control fire at Beechworth but of course you couldn't turn back," says Bryan. "One of the things I remember was getting out of the truck to refuel at Avenel and the wind felt like the heat from a fan forced oven. We fought the fires all Saturday night, which was pretty horrific. On the Sunday we were tasked with checking out the burnt properties and that was probably worse. Everything was still smouldering. It's a cliché but it was like a warzone....we then came back, had a bit of a rest, and then we fought the fires at Bruarong."

Bryan says his three reasons for joining the Brigade have been "absolutely" answered. "It's great to be part of a highly trained, highly experienced Brigade," says Bryan. "It's very supportive and inclusive which is part of its appeal. I've also made some great friendships as well."

Preventing House Fires

On average there are 3000 house fires in Victoria each year. Most could be prevented by taking some simple precautions. These include:

- Making sure your smoke alarms are clean and you have tested them to ensure they are working.
- Changing your old smoke alarms to new units with a lithium battery that has a 10 year lifespan.
- Ensuring all electronic equipment is turned off and charged out in the open with good airflow so the heat can dissipate. Do this while you are awake.

Fires from electronic equipment is on the increase, so please take extra care to ensure your families safety.

New workwear

Seen some of us out and about in our "our blues" rather than in our iconic yellow firefighting gear? It's the new workwear uniform that the CFA has begun issuing to volunteers across the state to wear when they are participating in Brigade activities, fundraising, training, community



Neil Padbury and Gavin Mascas in the new workwear uniform

events and working with incident management teams. The smart-looking uniform, in Patriot Blue, is made in Australia.

Good Friday Appeal

'Make it loud' was the request from the Royal Children's Hospital for this year's Good Friday Appeal on April 15. I think we did a pretty good job," says Lt. Chris Wingard, the Yackandandah Fire Brigade's Good Friday

Appeal coordinator. Chris, along with 10 other brigade members, were out and about early to collect a very generous \$3,157.50 from the Yackandandah Community and visitors. "It was the first Good Friday since 2019 where things were a little



April Padbury, wearing breathing apparatus, collecting for the appeal in Yackandandah's High St.

more like they used to be before the pandemic. Not only is the day about raising much needed funds for the Royal Children's Hospital, it's about community and family."

Most of you will know the faces of Chris and

daughters, Briana and Millie, who have been helping on Good Friday for seven years now, but, as Chris says "Excitingly we're seeing more Brigade members' families getting involved. This year Lt Andrew Padbury and wife Jess were helped by daughters Macy and Stevie, and Kim O'Brien was backed up by sons Brin and Felix (both brigade members) and Harlan."

A whopping record breaking \$22,328,154 was raised across the state this year, of which more than \$1.4 million was raised by the CFA. Thanks to all out members who helped and everyone in the wonderful Yackandandah community who dug deep for the kids this year.

Reminder

While we are out of the Fire Danger Period, please still register your burn off by calling 1800 688 511, on-line or by email so that we're not called out unnecessarily as has happened a few times in the last month or two.

Training

The Brigade's Training officer, Cameron McKern, explains how to operate the pump on the Brigade's pumper tanker during one of our training nights which are held the first Monday of each month.



Training sessions continue year round, to ensure that CFA volunteers keep up to date with CFA requirements



To report a fire:
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000
1800 668 511
1800 226 226
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What a lot has been achieved in just one year!! What started out as an idea for a way to meet people by a newcomer to the area has grown so much. The Yackandandah Women's Shed Committee has worked hard to deliver some great workshops and activities to our members. Great friendships have been made. We can proudly say that we now have a strong

We have been asked to cater and decorate again... so much fun! Keep a lookout for further information and how to reserve your seat. These Singalongs are really popular and it is so special to be able to showcase the amazing talent we have locally.

Over the past few weeks we have been able to offer our group another basic wet felting workshop which we managed to fill easily. On Saturday, 9th July there will be another workshop by Vivien Naimo (Felting by Vivien), for those wishing to learn how to make a beautiful wool and silk scarf.

A social evening to see the movie "Downton Abbey" was arranged recently and it was agreed that more fun outings should be organised. I'm sure we will be able to offer many more visits to

local attractions... lunch and a wine tasting sounds like another good idea!

Upcoming activities include a Worm Farming workshop on Saturday, 11th June where guest presenter, Robyn Webster will guide us through the essential steps in establishing and maintaining a healthy worm farm which will boost your garden's productivity.

Our own Zinna Davis has volunteered to teach our ladies how to change a tyre... The date has been set for Saturday, 4th June. She has also suggested showing our ladies how to master backing a trailer! There have been quite a few people keen to be taught this very valuable skill, by a woman. Many thanks Zinna, I know many of us are wanting to learn. Also coming soon is a Ceramic Handbuilding workshop, we are just waiting for our presenter to return from holidays and give us a starting date.

Yack Women's Shed have accepted an offer from Bunnings Wodonga to participate in some workshops, the first of which will be learning about permaculture. It is wonderful to have offers of help and instruction from our community and beyond.

We are keen to get a group together to share skills and learn about patchwork, in fact anything textile related. It's a great way to meet people and gather ideas. We are looking at meeting at the Yackandandah Community Centre where we have already purchased a few sewing

machines for people to use. We have had a donation of patchwork fabrics and now all we need are a few eager ladies to gather together over a cuppa to work out the logistics. Days/evenings and times are all negotiable... email us if you are interested and we'll get started. We are very happy to welcome beginners.

DRUM ROLL!!!!

We now have our own Website for all to see. A huge thankyou to Nicky Carr who miraculously put this together for us. Check it out, add a comment and spread the news! You can find us at:

<https://www.yackwomensshed.org>

It was decided recently to have our twice monthly Meet-Ups at the **Yackandandah Community Centre, 29 High Street, Yackandandah.** Our **Winter hours will be from 1pm to 5pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.** Membership of \$20 for the remainder of the year is now due, so if you are looking to make new friends, learn or share skills or just be part of a fun group of ladies, please contact us or drop in to a Meet-Up.

yackwomensshed@gmail.com

When women support each other, incredible things happen!

Lynne Davies

Yackandandah Women's Shed is auspiced by Yackandandah Community Centre



Lynne Davies and the ANZAC Day display in the Public Hall

presence in our community and we are always looking for activities to interest and help our beautiful town.

The Women's Shed featured strongly in the recent Arts Yack ANZAC Day Community Singalong. A group of us got together to make 120 large red crepe paper poppies to decorate the Public Hall. We helped on the night by putting together a delicious supper which seemed to have been really appreciated by the audience and performers. And what a glorious evening of song it was!! We were so happy to be able to help make it so successful.

Spread the word.... There is to be another Community Singalong to celebrate Christmas in July, also at the Public Hall.



Yack Women's Shed members making poppies



The second Wet Felting Workshop



A fabulous spread put on by the Women's Shed at the recent Singalong

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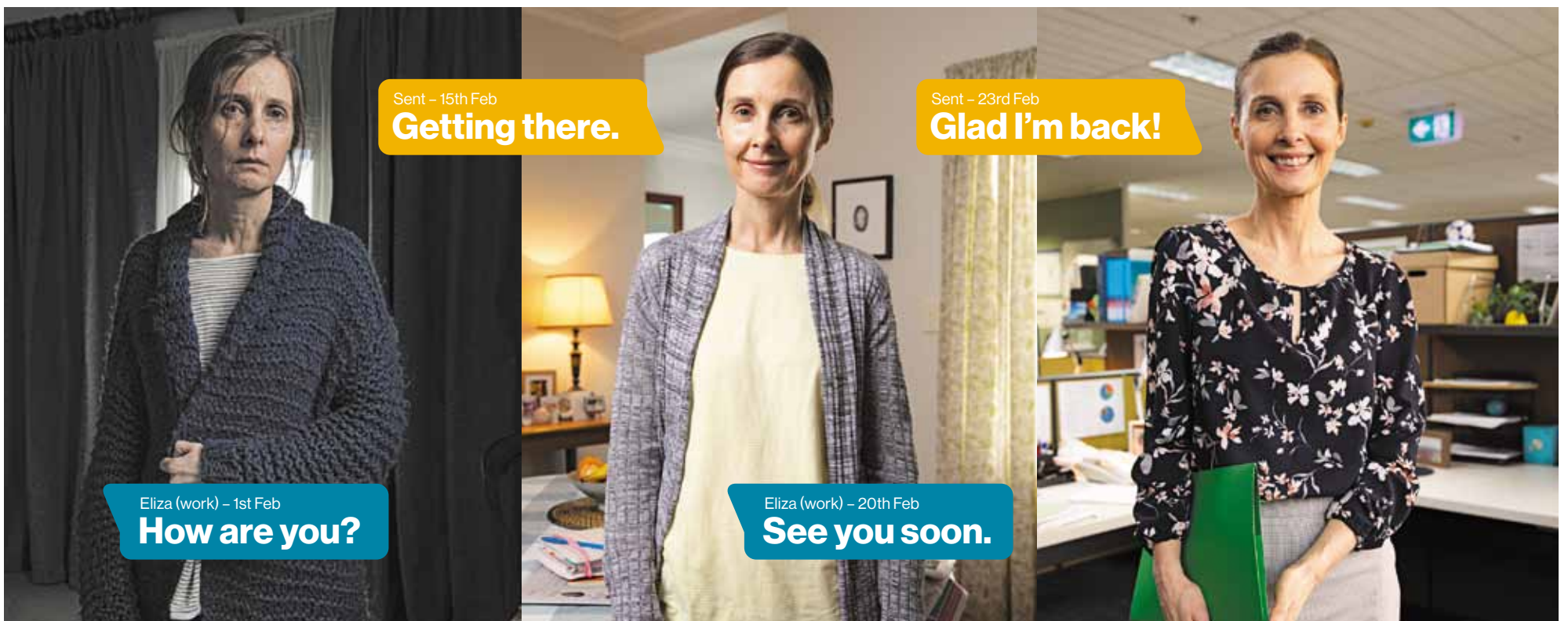
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Eliza (work) - 20th Feb
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Looking to the future for the 20th Kerferd Oration

PETER HUTTON WILL EXPLORE AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION WITH THE 2022 KERFERD ORATION

This year is the 20th consecutive annual George Briscoe Kerferd Oration. What a very special achievement for our community!

The George Briscoe Kerferd Oration has developed into a unique community event that has strong, regional, state-wide and international following. Even during Covid lockdowns hundreds of people logged in to watch, learn and connect through the Kerferd Oration.

Peter Hutton will deliver the 2022 Oration, "Australian Education: How did we get here and where are we going?", on Sunday 31st July, 11am at the George Kerferd Hotel Beechworth and via Livestream.

Peter is a maverick, a free radical, a challenger of the status quo. His strength is in transformational insight and supporting educational leaders to build innovative and adaptive cultures in schools. Peter co-founded the Future Schools; a global collaboration of innovators aligned to transform learning communities and co-evolve the future of education. Future Schools now includes a community of over 100 member schools, including ten of the most innovative schools in the world. Peter was the former Principal of Templestowe College, one of Australia's most innovative schools.

"Education has been discussed as a topic for many years within the committee", stated chair Jessica Oldmeadow. "Regardless of whether you are currently engaged with the education system or not, how it is delivered and how effective it is has a massive impact in our communities. The Education System is a major part of our lives, economy, and social expectations, starting with those as young as 6 weeks old, in early education settings, through to lifelong learners at U3A. We could hold another 20 years of Orations focused on education alone!

So why now? Covid exposed the Australian community to an alternate way of delivering education and prompted mass re-evaluation of societal values and individual's priorities. What is 'essential' work? Is that what we are preparing our children for? Does our work and education need to be restricted by physical boundaries? Are schools the best places for young people to socialise? Do we value our teachers enough?

As a community, do we simply slip back to the 'norm' of what we believe education to be? Or has Covid given us an opportunity to explore the possibility for change? That's the discussion we're hoping to open with the community at the Oration this year".

The Kerferd Oration is a free community event, thanks to our sponsors, Indigo Shire Council, La Trobe University, WAW Bank and Quercus Beechworth.

Tickets can be booked at www.eventbrite.com.au/e/2022-kerferd-oration-tickets-326598162897



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EMAILS TO THE EDITOR

From: Patrick Dieter
Sent: Saturday, 14 May 2022 8:30 AM
To: yackity_yak@yackandandah.com
Subject: Old pen pal contact

Hello Yackity Yak

I know this is a long shot but I'm looking to track down my Aunt's pen pal from about 50 years ago. Her name was Allison Collins (I hope that's spelt correctly) and she grew up on a dairy farm in the area. My Aunt was her pen pal - Marlene Dieter. She grew up in a dairy farm in Winnipeg Manitoba.

I was hoping you might have a lead for me to follow? It has come to light because I'm actually in Beechworth this weekend and my aunt has been texting me about it!!!

Thanks!

Pat Dieter

From: Patrick Dieter
Sent: Thursday, 19 May 2022 10:01 AM
To: yackity_yak@yackandandah.com
Subject: Re: Old Pen Pal contact

Good news!!! Your network is awesome! I have tracked down Alison this morning and connected her with my Aunt over in Winnipeg, Canada. They lost touch about 45 years ago and they are both very excited to be in touch.

What a story. Alison told me that she can't believe that Yackandandah people could track her down as she thinks the family left the town in the late 70's. Amazing.

Thank you for all your help.

Pat Dieter

A big thanks to everyone who saw this Facebook post and who helped Pat's Aunt track down Allison. Nice ending! Ed.



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Yack Landcare Group



YACK LANDCARE FOCUS ON ROWDY FLAT, TOWN WETLANDS AND JUNIORS

The Yackandandah Landcare Group has a busy year ahead with three newly funded projects to get involved with! A Junior Landcare grant was awarded to Yackandandah Primary School to involve grades 3 and 4 in learning about flora, fauna,

invertebrates and pollinators, and aquatic life. A tree planting will be held out the back of Yack Health on Thursday, 23rd June by students and residents. Feel free to come along and lend a hand!

A local wetlands project funded by The Ross Trust aims to involve Yack community in learning about our two wonderful wetlands within the town. The wetlands at the Sports Park were renovated in 2016 and a successful tree planting by Scouts and local families has created a beautiful space for birds, frogs, reptiles, wallabies and insects. The wetland now has a bench seat and is a peaceful spot to take a walk and rest. The residents of Yack Health and Yackatoon will be invited to join a community walk around the wetland in the Spring. Grades 5 and 6 will be doing a wetland health survey over winter and spring to measure water quality, discover invertebrates, identify vegetation and birdlife.

The second man-made wetland on Bells Flat Rd will also be used as a study site to compare features of a natural versus artificial wetland.

A series of public talks will be held throughout 2022 on topics ranging from waterbirds and wetlands, magic mistletoe, local fauna, environmental weeds and much more.

Watch out for notices on Facebook, around town and on local radio.

Rowdy Flat forest area will get a makeover with extensive weed control this spring and summer funded by the state government via NECMA. Working bees will be organised on a regular basis so keep an eye out for notices in Facebook and noticeboards around town. For more information please contact Gabi Bridge on 0421 925 154

Working bees along Yackandandah Creek are held on first Sunday of each month from 9am to 11am. Meet at the Sports Park oval, bring tools and wear appropriate clothing. For more information, please contact Mish Croker on 0477 417 445

To join Yackandandah Landcare go to <https://m.facebook.com/groups/183320635496051/> or contact Jo Millar 0405 040 639 or via email - jmillar@csu.edu.au



Wetland site in 2016 during planting



Wetland site in 2022!

MAJOR FUNDING BOOST FOR LOCAL SPORT AND RECREATION PROJECTS

The Barnawartha Recreation Reserve will get two new multi-purpose hard courts, suitable for netball and tennis following the latest round of funding under the Victorian Government's Local Sports Infrastructure Fund. Rutherglen youngsters will also benefit from the latest funding round.

Council will also be able to commence master planning for several outdoor spaces and parks, with funding of \$30,000 to be matched by its own contribution of \$40,000.

The plans will prepare for the future activation and development of the Allans Flat water hole, Rutherglen's Barkly Park, Coulston Park in Tangambalanga and the Yackandandah Sports Park.

The funding, totalling more than \$700,000, together with Council's contribution, will see more than \$1M invested into important local facilities that will have wide ranging benefits for community members of all ages.



MELBOURNE DISABILITY EXPO 2022

We were proud to be one of the Melbourne Disability Expo exhibitors at Melbourne Exhibition Centre. This year's Melbourne Disability Expo 'My Future, My Choice' was a chance to showcase the many products and services available that assist people with disability to live their life more independently, and help them plan for the future. Overall, the Melbourne Disability Expo 2022 was productive, enjoyable, and educational. We can't wait for the next year!

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YACK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yackandandah Primary School has been a busy place in Term Two. Students took part in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Day where various machines were constructed and then coded to perform mechanical tasks. We are looking forward to adopting more of these activities into our classrooms in the future and building our students' programming and engineering skills. The children took to the tasks readily and showed their enthusiasm and talents.



Yack Primary School members on bushwalk along the Yack Creek

Our Yr. 3/4 students have been investigating our natural environment along Yackandandah Creek. We were joined by local flora and fauna experts, Karen Retra, Nigel Jones, Paul McInerney and Joanne Millar to develop our knowledge and appreciation of the local natural environment. This was all possible through funding from Junior Land Care, along with the enthusiastic support from parent helpers. The students will also be involved in a tree planting day at the end of the term.

All students in Yrs. 3-6 participated in an excursion to the Shepparton Art Museum. The students participated in tours and activities that helped them grow their understanding of various forms of Art.

In early November, Yackandandah Primary School is planning to celebrate 150

years of public education, after the original Church of England school came under the direction of the State (Colonial) government. Part of our celebrations will include inviting previous students, teachers and families to revisit our school and connect with others who have had a connection with Yackandandah Primary. We would like to collect school and class photographs to display as part of the celebration. If you have any photographs of historic classes or events at Yackandandah Primary School that you would allow us to copy, please let us know on (02) 6027 1431 or via email – michael.edwards@education.vic.gov.au, or just drop in and let us scan the images. Planning is still in the early stages, but we hope to have the community join us in celebrating this milestone.

It is time to consider enrolments for Foundation students for 2023. I would like to invite parents of children who will be enrolling at school in 2023 to visit our school for a guided tour. You can call the school on (02) 6027 1431 to arrange a tour and learn more about the enrolment and transition process. Kindergarten to school transition involves children spending time at the Primary School, meeting teachers and other students – and importantly, their 'big buddies'.

YACK PLAYGROUP

Yackandandah Playgroup has found a fantastic new home at Osbornes Flat Primary School! In Term 2 we're meeting from 9:30 – 11 am every Monday and Friday at the school. We're in the Music Room and Library with lots of instruments, toys and books to keep us occupied during these colder months. Whenever the weather is fine enough, we also get to use the extensive outdoor play equipment and the school's new playground.

Sam & Barb would like to thank the Courthouse, Lion's Club, Yack Community Centre and the Bowling Club for offering their spaces for playgroup after our appeal in the last Yackity Yak. We really appreciate your kindness.

Playgroup is for children aged 0-5 and their parents/carers to meet and play. Thanks to the generosity of the school letting us use their facilities for free, we no longer have a cover charge for YPG sessions so it's by gold coin donation only. You will need to be a member of Playgroup Victoria for insurance reasons, but happily membership for that is currently free.

If you'd like to attend YPG sessions, please follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/YackandandahPlaygroup) where we share details of our next session every week.



Playing cafe - members of Yack Playgroup in their new home in Osbornes Flat Primary School's Music Room

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Yackandandah Community Centre

A host of community organisations have received a boost of funds to help them develop projects, thanks to the Yackandandah Community Centre.

Nine local community organisations received grants, with funding coming from sales of donated items through the YCC Op Shop in High Street. YCC deputy chair, Bill Dee said the grants were a terrific way for YCC to help the local community develop programs and projects which would benefit local people. "I think this is a terrific

program which is a virtual volunteer circle as it involves volunteers in the YCC Op Shop raising funds, volunteers on the YCC Committee of Management allocating funds for community benefit and volunteers running local community organisations," Bill said.

YCC manager, David Thorpe

said the annual funding program offered community organisations up to \$3,000 to go towards projects which were of benefit to the local community. "There are going to be some terrific projects come to fruition with the funding from YCC this year," he said. "Through this program in the



Recipients of YCC grant funding celebrate their awards at YCC.
PC: David Thorpe

past we have helped Yack community organisations purchase some really important equipment. For instance, with funds from YCC Grants in the past, the Yack SES has purchased an all-terrain stretcher for emergency rescues in the bush, the Yack Women's Shed has purchased equipment which has helped get the group up and running, and the Yack CFA purchased a defibrillator which has already been used to help save a life."

This year's grant recipients included:

- Yack Golf Club – purchase of tables for the clubhouse
- Yack Community Garden – renovation of pathways for safer access
- Osbornes Flat School – purchase of defibrillator and installation outside the Osbornes Flat Hall
- Yack Riding Club – electrical upgrade to clubhouse
- Yack Cricket Club – upgrade to irrigation system
- Indigo FM – new computer to allow streaming from the Yackandandah studio
- Yack Cemetery Trust – electric garden maintenance equipment
- Yackandandah Museum – sustainable garden equipment
- Yack Scouts – creation of a parade ground and fire pit.

Representatives from the groups attended a celebration at the Yack Community Centre on April 12. "It was great to have someone from each of the groups at the function; it was a terrific opportunity to share information about the organisations and learn more about the projects which will happen thanks to YCC funding," David said. "The YCC Op Shop is a real success thanks to the efforts of the volunteers and coordinator, and the YCC committee members. It's terrific to be able to offer such support to local community groups. I'd also like to thank the wider community who support us with donations. Through those donations we are able to create an opportunity which benefits everyone in town. And volunteering at the Op Shop is a great way of being involved in and giving back to your community. If you would like to get involved, drop in for a chat."

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE YACKANDANDAH TO OSBORNES FLAT RAIL TRAIL

In the last issue of Yackity Yack there was an excellent article explaining the history of the community involvement in the creation of the rail trail from Yack to Rowdy Flat /Osbornes Flat. Those community members should now feel so proud of their efforts as the bike trail is now enjoyed by many walkers and



bike riders.

Since the completion of the track, many locals and visitors have asked about the park-like area a short walk down from the Osbornes Flat Hall. I thought the community that use the trail might enjoy hearing how this area came about.

On coming upon the area, the chattering of birds darting among the trees, the early morning call of the kookaburra and the gently flowing creek give us a sense of tranquillity that refreshes the spirit. In the years preceding the completion of the bike path, the Osbornes Flat community maintained the hall area and the bush and the leased land along the creek side. Over the years it became very overgrown with weeds and blackberries. Two professors from ANU assisted with research on the vegetation and Chinese mining in the area pointing out areas of significance. The area was, at that time, heritage listed.

In 1998 Graeme Ridgeway started clearing the 4-5 metre high blackberries with the help of friends - a big job taking at least 5 years to clear. Graeme had the foresight to plant a memorial tree for our friend who helped with the initial clearing, and also many varieties of beautiful deciduous trees to beautify the area. Graeme and friends looked after the area in the following years and had many happy and memorable times there.



In 2018, the Indigo Shire held meetings with the landholders discussing their wish for the Rail Trail to pass the historical area made by the miners and Chinese prospectors who had worked the creek for gold many years (you can still see the results of their efforts all along the creek and "the flats"). So now the trail passes through this beautiful area and helps make Osbornes Flat a special place. Graeme always loved being close to nature, loved the bush, the birds and animals and would be so pleased that locals and visitors can

now enjoy the area. The nearby local landholders are helping with the upkeep of the Ridgeway Reserve area. The Yackandandah Men's Shed has also assisted, and the Yackandandah Garden Club has planted an additional commemorative native tree.

As Autumn is so spectacular in the North-East, we can be thankful to those who had the vision to plant all the beautiful trees around our town. This Autumn especially has bought beauty and enjoyment to many and will into the future.

Roslyn Ridgeway, former resident of Osbornes Flat (1978-2021)

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OSBORNES FLAT

Grant supports a Defibrillator for the Osbornes Flat Community and surrounds.....

Representatives of the Osbornes Flat community are thrilled to announce we have been successful in obtaining a grant from the Yackandandah Community Centre (YCC) to install a defibrillator in our local community.

YCC recently advertised for expressions of interest for grants to support community projects. The School Council at Osbornes Flat Primary initiated the idea and liaised with the Osbornes Flat Hall Committee to submit a joint application. The application criteria required providing reasoning around what the money would be used for and how it would assist the local community. What better way than having access to something that could potentially save people's lives, was the general consensus!

Situating the defibrillator at the Osbornes Flat Hall



Anne Corcoran (OF Hall committee member) and Anna Weeks (OF Primary School Council President), are joined by Clancy, in front of the newly installed defib machine

was agreed to be the most suitable site, being a central location and near the start/finish of the rail trail. Look out for the green and white signage and storage box mounted on the exterior wall of the disabled toilet at the rear of the Hall. Instructions on use are displayed on the wall adjacent to the box.

In the coming weeks, an opportunity will be offered to the local community members to upskill themselves on how to use a defibrillator. Details of training sessions will be advertised on the Yackandandah Community Facebook site, as well as in the OF School Newsletter. Please email Lisa Greenwood on greenwoodil@bigpond.com if you are interested in receiving information on this training.

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to YCC President Bill Dee, David Thorpe and all at YCC for this opportunity to assist our local community.

Alisha Watson, Acting Principal, Osbornes Flat Primary School and Ian Fitzpatrick, President, Osbornes Flat Hall

OSBORNES FLAT PRIMARY SCHOOL

The students and families at Osbornes Flat Primary School take great pride in ensuring their school is well maintained.



The new veggie garden

As part of the pride shared, the school community were recently involved in a working bee that entailed many hands assisting in creating a new vegetable patch at the school.

Students enjoy a fortnightly gardening experience that teaches them all about growing seasonal produce including planting, maintaining (using organic principals), watering and feeding with



Compost making

homemade compost, through to harvesting.

The purpose of the vegetable garden is to introduce students to growing produce while introducing them to new foods, the concept of reducing food miles and eating seasonally. The students, staff and families of the school love that the produce is used in our school kitchen to create yummy dishes.

The school community are extremely fortunate to have such amazing school grounds to develop such an interactive

learning space for the students at Osbornes Flat Primary School.



Students prepping vegetables from their great new veggie patch, and improving on their knife skills!



You can never be too young to enjoy gardening!

How great to have enough space at School to put in a significant veggie patch

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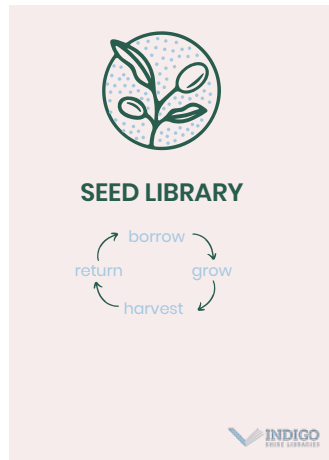
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News from Yackandandah Library

Seed library

Did you know that your local library also has a seed library?

We have packets of seed available for you to “borrow” and plant to grow some healthy food. You can then save some of the seeds and “return” them to the library for someone else to use. Autumn sowing varieties are available now so pop in and see what we have!



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Storybox Library is a free online resource accessible via your Indigo Shire Libraries membership card. There is a wide selection of stories for children by local authors and illustrators which are read aloud by fantastic, predominantly Australian and New Zealand, storytellers. For more information, contact the library.

What's On

The latest What's On flyer lets you know about activities and events happening in your library. The next edition comes out in June so pick one up on your next visit to the library or view it online at www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/Community/Libraries/whats-on-at-our-libraries

Yackandandah Library is open Monday – Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm and Saturdays 9.00am-12.00 pm. Storytime for preschoolers and their carers is on every Thursday at 9.30 am during school terms.

Contact us on 02 6028 1180 or by email yackandandahlibrary@indigoshire.vic.gov.au



THE END OF AN ERA & HERE'S TO A BIT OF A LEGEND!

There will be very few people in Yackandandah who won't recognise the guy in the hat above. Wal Cameron, together with his wife

Lyn, have been involved in running the ANZAC Day services in Yack for fifteen years.

On 13th April, a small get-together of RSL and Yack townsfolk met by the Memorial Gardens to present Wal with a drawing of himself and Lyn by Indigo Valley artist, Evelyn Marshall, as a small gift and thank you for the tremendous amount of work put in during those fifteen years.

It's almost impossible when seeing the huge turnouts to the Yack ANZAC Day services, both the early morning and the mid-morning parade, to believe that when Wal attended his first service in Yack, there were about ten people attending. Now, hundreds of people turn up with a more than impressive march along the High Street involving many of the service clubs in the township and a phenomenally well attended early morning service.

Wal offered his assistance after that fateful day. “We didn't know what we were doing. We just wanted to keep the tradition alive.” He offered to put on a breakfast out of his own funds, and so the Gun Fire Breakfast started. Wal hated asking for help, but everyone he asked for assistance always came good. Postie Norman and Jack Jensen have been responsible in the past for the sound system which wasn't always used for the services. Wal recalls the occasion when, as the light grew in the dawn and the sound system was being used for the first time, he looked up and saw the size of the crowd. “Holy @\$t” said Wal, completely taken aback by this and relayed all over the Memorial Park to the amusement of the crowd!

Horses have become bit of an occasion now at the dawn service, and this was started by Pete Denahy and a friend some years ago. This year, over 25 horses were present together with their riders – a fitting reminder of the Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Wal is now handing the baton on to Lincoln Ablett, an ex-military local, who will have some big shoes to fill! Wal particularly wished to thank his wife, Lyn, who has been the driving force behind organising the food and the kitchen; the people who would always step up and wash dishes after the breakfast; all the local clubs including the SES, CFA, Lions Club, Yackandandah Men's Shed etc who have chipped in and helped or been involved over the years, and of course to everyone who turns up for the services.

The Kiewa RSL is always looking for new members to keep the ANZAC and other armed forces traditions alive and well, and the contact for this is Stan Sutherland on 0439 271 266.



**Come in
and buy stuff.**

THE 2022 ANZAC DAY ADDRESS FROM MAJOR MICHELLE SHEATHER

Good morning. It gives me great pride to be invited to speak today. Not only because of the immense pride I feel towards this occasion, but also speaking here in Yackandandah amongst the community I feel very much a part of.

When researching for this speech, I looked at the list of names on the Memorial Gates at the entrance to this park. I wanted to capture a story with a local connection. So I'm going to take this opportunity to share with you a small piece of how a few serving members from this region have shaped our history through their actions in WW1, and, hence, their inclusion in the ANZAC spirit ... and then I'll share some of my own experiences as well.

I'm going to share the story of the Huon family, the children of John and Sabina Huon, who were a farming family from the Huon district. Four siblings from this family enlisted and served with the Australian Imperial Forces in the First World War (Charles, Robert, Harold and Ada).

Harold and his older brother **Charles** were two of the first from the Huon district to enlist in the AIF. They travelled to Sydney and enlisted on the 1st September 1914 at the Randwick Racecourse. They were allocated consecutive service numbers – Charles 904 and Harold 905. They were assigned to the 4th Infantry Battalion. They trained together in Egypt before landing on the shores of Gallipoli together.

In late May 1915, Charles was evacuated with 'a touch of pleurisy' (chest pain). Charles wrote to his mother to reassure her he wasn't wounded, however, he also told of the fate of his younger brother Harold. He wrote: "Harold got a shrapnel bullet through the upper lip a week after we landed; it only knocked out a few teeth

and came out of his mouth without making a second hole. It was healed in four days and he was back in the firing-line again, so we've both been very lucky so far." I wonder how reassured his mother felt?!

However, Harold's luck ran out on the first day of the Battle of Lone Pine, when he received a shrapnel wound to his right arm. While recuperating in Cairo, Harold contracted mumps and developed a septic hand. He was sent home in May 1916, and he was discharged medically unfit shortly thereafter.

Robert Huon, better known as 'Bert', had remained home farming - working two farms in the absence of his brothers, but on 19th February 1917 he accompanied his brother Harold into the recruiting office in Melbourne - and the pair enlisted! Robert was accepted for overseas service. Harold however, was restricted to Home Service and, despite promoting quickly to Acting Corporal, Harold again submitted a request for discharge and left the Army for a second time, his second enlistment having lasted only 5 months – one can only assume the restriction of not being able to join his brothers fighting overseas played a part in his short-term enlistment.

On the 4th October 1917, the oldest sibling, **Charles**, was killed in action in Belgium. He was 28 years of age. His mother received a letter regarding her late son, Charles Huon:-

Belgium, 17th October 1917.

Dear Mrs. Huon, It is with the deepest regret that I have to inform you of the death of your son in action on 4th October 1917. He was Company-Sergeant-Major of this Company for some months prior to his death, and was esteemed by all with whom he came in contact. He was an excellent soldier, and always did his

duty unflinchingly and cheerfully, no matter what were the circumstances or the danger. On the 4th October this Battalion took part in an assault on the enemy's positions on the Broodseinde ridge, east of Ypres. We accomplished all that had been asked of us, and reached the final objective without serious casualties. It was shortly after arrival there that your son was wounded in the head by an enemy sniper.

He was dressed by Lieutenant Borriere, of this Company, but died soon after. Late that night we buried him about 50 yards from Celtic House, which was situated a short distance west of Celtic Wood. Although German snipers and machine guns were very active, under cover of the darkness he was given a soldier's burial there, and a rough-hewn cross set over him, inscribed with his name, to mark the spot as the resting place of a brave Australian soldier. The personal effects as well as his Military Medal are being forwarded under separate cover. Please accept the deepest sympathy of the officers and men of Bravo Company consequent on the loss of your dear son and their gallant comrade. Yours sincerely, LIEUTENANT F. L. MARR."

Shortly after, in November 1917, Robert Huon was embarking from Melbourne. Robert spent some time out of the action with a three week stint in hospital with bronchitis. And then, within a month of his return, Robert succumbed to another common ailment among the troops, mumps. He re-joined his unit just as the Division was preparing for the Battle of Amiens, what is known as, the "One Hundred Day Offensive". Robert was detached to another 3rd Division Artillery unit, during September and October 1918. This coincided with the Division's last major battle, which ultimately led to

the end of the war.

The Huon brother's younger sister, **Ada**, also enlisted in the AIF into the Australian Army Nursing Service on 11th July 1917, having only completed her final nursing exam a month or so earlier. Unlike her brothers, Ada's war wasn't in England or at the front in France, but rather in India, where there was a desperate need for skilled medical personnel. Ada arrived in India, on the 6th October 1917. Unbeknownst to Ada, her eldest brother, Charles, had been killed in action, just two days earlier.

Nurses had been told before leaving Australia they would only serve six months in India before being moved closer to the fighting. On this understanding, Ada may well have been disappointed to have found herself spend her entire war effort transferring between 4 different hospitals in India prior to her eventual resignation due to marriage. Staff Nurse Ada Huon resigned on the 30th March 1919, and was married the following day to Captain Frank Macaskie. Ada had been one of more than 2,000 courageous and dedicated Australian women who had served overseas as part of the war, working in difficult and sometimes terrifying conditions, all the while providing medical aid and care for the wounded and ill.

Such was the service of the Huon siblings during World War One.

During my own experience in Iraq in 2007, I did not have to endure the harsh living conditions or the hardships that those before me have endured, however we were not void of the dangers of a warzone.

I was part of a team of approx. 30 Australians located in Taji, North of Baghdad. We were accommodated and

Continued on page 16.

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fed on a Coalition Base and travelled through checkpoints to an Iraqi Army Base in order to teach the Iraqi Army some logistics trades – I was involved in the maintenance training – I was part of the command team teaching small arms maintenance, generator maintenance and welding trades. Lincoln, our MC for today, was part of the warehousing and supply training team. Although not in combat roles, there was certainly evidence that we were in a country suffering the effects of an insurgency against coalition forces and widespread civil war.

On a couple of occasions we were unable to go to work on the Iraqi Army Base due to intelligence reporting that there was suspicion of a potential suicide bomber amongst the Iraqi soldiers we were training.

On occasions our base came under rocket attack. Often this would have little effect on us because the insurgents were not sophisticated in their firing and aiming techniques, so often the rockets would land in fields without fatal effects.

However, on the 15th August 2007, our base was hit by ten 81mm mortars. This time the aiming was more effective and a total of ten people were killed. Some were the contracted workers who were on base working to feed us, others were members of the coalition forces. Along with the fatalities were also injuries - a couple of US soldiers sitting at the recreation area trying to unwind and relax had their legs blown off.

A 22-year old American soldier by the name of SGT Princess Samuels was in her accommodation block, which is a small unfortified demountable like the kind you find on a job-site. When the mortars started coming in, the base alarm system went off to

warn of such an attack. Now I can assume that SGT Samuels was following her US Army protocol – she left her accommodation block and was running to the nearest bunker (a concrete structure reinforced with steel) - her bomb shelter was probably about 50m away. Unfortunately for SGT Samuels, a mortar landed a direct hit on one of the accommodation blocks near where she was running to her bunker and she fell to the ground. When she managed to regain her feet and composure, she phoned a colleague and reported that she “didn’t feel right”. She had not been at the direct point of impact for that mortar, but she had been close enough to be exposed to the shock-wave of that mortar’s impact.

US Army SGT Princess Samuels died from those injuries.

I saw SGT Samuels being rushed past on a stretcher as I was running back from the bunker to my accommodation room to get a fire extinguisher to help extinguish the fire. I too had been close to the point of impact for that mortar, but unlike the Americans, our Australian Army protocol was to lie as flat as possible during a rocket attack and to not move to the bunker until after the rockets had stopped, as this afforded better protection from the subsequent shock-wave that follows the impact of the rocket attack. I had been knocked onto my back and I was frantically trying to put on my body armour and helmet. Let’s be honest, I was scared for my life.

I was very lucky that day. And I think myself lucky that my few exposures to danger during my time in the military seem so insignificant in comparison to the horrid experiences of others.

Our sacrifices and stories may be different, but I’m a very proud serving member, as I’m certain those before me have also been. If you see a veteran or a serving member today, please enjoy a chat, a

drink or a laugh with them. For today, on this ANZAC Day recognising 107 years since the landing at Gallipoli, we pause to remember all those Australians who have served our nation in wars, conflicts, peacekeeping and domestic operations, from Anzac Cove to Afghanistan. We pay our respects to the almost 103,000 Australian service men and women who have sacrificed their lives in service for Australia.

Major Michelle Sheather



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- **SAVE ENERGY COSTS**
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- **INCREASE RESILIENCE**
- **REDUCE EMISSIONS**

In 2014 Totally Renewable Yackandandah (TRY) was established with a bold goal to help transition our valley to 100% renewable energy by the year 2022.

It's 2022 – and we're not quite there yet, but despite many obstacles we can now see that goal being realised!
And that's exciting!

The recently completed federally funded study has revealed great progress, concluding that we can achieve the 100% target by 2024 with a range of tangible projects. So close, you can almost taste it...

The study determined that if we can expand existing efforts with installations of solar and battery systems on homes, business and community buildings, we will have a truly local and resilient energy supply. TRY is raising money to assist individual and community scale projects, with every undertaking having positive outcomes for Yackandandah overall – power resilience for the CFA and SES facilities during emergencies are just two of the achievements that everyone can appreciate for their importance to us all.

We acknowledge some people can't afford renewable technologies or rent their properties and will therefore require additional support – and TRY is looking for opportunities to be able to do so, because powering the community means all the community, and we believe that inclusive approach is something we can all get behind in Yackandandah.

At the end of the day, it's all about doing the best for all of us!

There are five practical ways you can be a dynamic part of the 100% milestone:

1. Be strategic and efficient with the energy you use,
2. Consider locally focused green power,
3. Install or expand solar PV and batteries to your home or business,
4. Upgrade to smart hot-water,
5. Contribute to the TRY tax-deductible public fund, and help us help our community.

And contributions to our public fund are the most direct way of getting to that bold goal of 100% renewable energy for Yackandandah – together, we can make this happen!



MAKE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TODAY

<https://totallyrenewableyack.org.au/get-involved/donate/>

Winner
Premier's Sustainability Awards 2020

On the EDGE of our seats for the Community Celebration!

On the evening of the 27th April, Totally Renewable Yackandandah (TRY) hosted a fantastic community celebration in the Public Hall. We shared the results of our federally funded feasibility study and community survey and discussed how you can participate in the Project EDGE trial. What a night it was! There were many familiar Yack faces in the crowd, smiling, supporting and asking excellent questions. Attendance is greatly appreciated, as TRY relies not only on the unwavering support of Yackandandah, but also invaluable conversations with its people. Those conversations begin on nights like these!

TRY's primary goal has been to assist Yack to 100% renewable energy by 2022 though this has necessarily been revised with analysed confidence to 2024. We consider community awareness and input to be a critical focus in this journey. Our organisation formed out of the dedication of locals striving towards a particular goal, and it is vital to us that our achievements continue to align with the wants and needs of our community.

Some excellent issues were raised at this event and have been further discussed by TRY at our latest strategy meeting. A question about TRY's intentions to increase education around energy efficiency and renewable energy was asked. This is a topic TRY has long been aware of. As TRY President Juliette Milbank answered, this is unfortunately a trickier subject than we would like it to be.

Building knowledge and understanding regarding the complex issues of energy proves time intensive and bespoke. Unfortunately, TRY continues to be a volunteer organisation and reliant on sporadic and project-focused grant funding. Unfortunately, it is not currently within our capacity to engage a paid employee to scale our efforts amongst community members regarding renewable energy and efficient usage. However – do not despair! We are working hard to raise the needed money to deliver a sophisticated energy learning program. As Juliette Milbank mentioned on the 27th, it is easier to secure

funding for 'stuff', but not so easy to do so to create a job and pay someone to deliver complex programs!

The Feasibility Study was conducted by the 'fabulously fastidious' Mach2, including Mark McKenzie-McHarg and Cameron McKern. We would like to sincerely thank them for their efforts and support throughout this whole project. Being able to



Matthew Charles-Jones, Juliette Milbank, Mark McKenzie McHarg, Michelle Croker and Cameron McKern - on the EDGE.
Photo Credit: David Thorpe

access such a wealth of knowledge and experience right here in our town is truly exciting, and a credit to our community. If you are interested in viewing the results of the feasibility study, you can locate it on our website (totallyrenewableyack.org.au) under the 'Watt's Happening' dropdown menu, or click the link at the end of this article.

One of the most important findings by Mark and Cameron was that due to many Yack-specific factors, pumped hydro and solar farming were not immediately financially feasible to help us reach 100% renewable energy. The upside of this finding is that the most feasible way to get to 100% is to continue what we're already doing! This being to support the community to install more solar panels, batteries, orchestrated with smart energy controllers

and super-efficient hot water systems to reduce your bill and clean up our energy sources. Yack is already more than 58% rooftop solar coverage (in comparison to an estimated national average of 25-30%) so why stop now!?! The simple maths tells us that we will achieve a 100% renewable supply with the addition of 400 extra modest-sized household solar systems, to which we are striving to add batteries. And actually, we are also seeking to reduce the purchase costs for people on lower incomes, as well as working to build larger community generation and storage projects.

At the celebration, AusNet Services subsidiary Mondo also gave an excellent presentation regarding the exciting new virtual power plant, Project EDGE (Energy Demand and Generation Exchange). This is an energy marketplace trial funded by the Australian Renewable Energy Agency, together with AusNet Services and the Australian Energy Market Operator. As the amount and type of energy changes and shifts to renewable energy – so must our infrastructure and market. Mondo is offering attractive subsidies for business and residential batteries. Information on Project EDGE can be found on the Mondo homepage, or follow the link posted at the end of the article.

As the night ended and like all busy volunteer groups, the TRY Committee found themselves doing the dishes in the hall kitchen. It was mentioned that it feels like a volunteer's main job is putting out chairs before an event, and stacking them back up at the end. But we love doing it for Yack, and we're so grateful for the journey we are sharing together. It feels like a small price to pay for a bold new 100% renewable Yackandandah!

Feasibility Study link: https://totallyrenewableyack.org.au/kookaburra/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/220205_TRY-Comm-Report-Feasibility-Outcomes-%E2%80%93-FINAL.pdf
Mondo's Project EDGE link: <https://mondo.com.au/edge>



TRY's core committee

Efforts to help people into a low-cost energy future

The Yackandandah area now has a solar installation density of just under 60% (of buildings), and in fact, that figure stretches to 63% of buildings in Osbornes Flat. This terrific result does not however highlight the people who are missing out on the bill and carbon saving value of renewable energy.

TRY is therefore working to raise money for people who can least afford the addition of solar systems and batteries to their home, including people on fixed low incomes and renters. This absence is compounded perhaps by the awareness many cannot afford to take active steps to improve the thermal performance of their home, and indeed make the home more comfortable.

Before we get too far however, we want to understand how many people in our community really feel the genuine and external need to get additional support to purchase energy systems and become part of the transition to 100% renewable energy.

TRY is going to publish and share a local survey which we hope people with low fixed incomes can complete and return. We will be sharing this in print and electronic forms and will share widely across the community.

Please watch out for it and if you know someone you think might benefit from support, please help them access a survey!

Matthew Charles-Jones

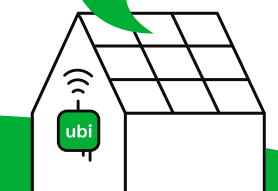
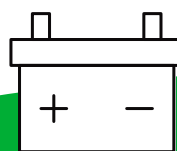
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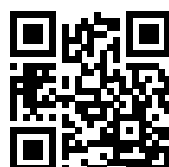
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Indigo Power opens new share opportunity



Indigo Power commissioned Yack01 - Australia's first community-owned battery in Yackandandah. PC: Georgie James.

Indigo Power has launched its second crowd-sourced investment offer as we move to the next exciting stage of growth. This share offer is the first time community members have the chance to buy shares in the company after the first offer, in May 2020, sold out in under three days.

that many people have been waiting for a long time for the opportunity. We have made significant progress, thanks to our first 280 shareholders. We've launched our energy sharing



Two very interested parties check out Yack01. PC: Georgie James

We've just been named Australia's greenest electricity providers in Greenpeace Australia's green energy guide, and we want to use fund from the share offer to invest in a marketing program able to reach customers from further afield.

If we raise our maximum amount we'll also be able to pursue clean energy projects across the region. Feasibility studies are currently underway for a pumped hydro facility in the Upper Murray, and on the replication of the Yackandandah community battery in towns across the region. And Indigo Power will soon begin supplying clean energy to electric vehicle drivers, working in partnership with YCDCo and TRY on our first Indigo Power-operated EV charging station.

This share offer was always a part of our long term plans, but we know



"It is a good feeling knowing that the people running Indigo Power are a part of our community. I like knowing that my investment goes back into projects for our community. It is the kind of organisation I like to support," Russell and Julie Klose - Indigo Power shareholders

software, our flagship power storage project, the 'Yack01' community-scale battery - a partnership with Totally Renewable Yackandandah - is now supplying electricity every evening to our customers in the Yackandandah Community Energy Hub, and with our community partners, we're currently delivering innovative projects that build energy resilience into bushfire affected communities in the Upper Murray.

The investment offer is being run via the crowd investment platform Birchal, and Indigo Power is accepting expressions of interest from potential investors via the platform until 6 June 2022.

Watch our crowdfunding video here: <https://youtu.be/SwQvl-e1Ld8>



STOP PRESS - Thermal Imaging Camera

Courtesy of Chris Horton and

his Australia Post Community Grant nomination toward TRY, Yackandandah is now the proud recipient of \$1,000 for a community project.



Thanks Chris and what an awesome addition to your investment in a cleaner energy future. This includes the installation of a solar system on the Post Office and of course, the e-bikes for mail delivery!

With this news, TRY is now buying a thermal imaging camera which will be available for locals to review the thermal performance of their house or business. The camera shows clearly where air leakages are occurring



Congratulations

Totally Renewable Yackandandah has received a grant, thanks to the nomination of a team member here at Yackandandah Post Office.

and gives concrete evidence of where work is needed. This is part of our expanding effort to help people spend less on energy and be more comfortable! Standby for details as to how we will make the camera accessible...

In a further good news addition to this story, we are so pleased that a Yackandandah resident has donated a further \$300 to fund the camera purchase and to which TRY will fund the balance. Thanks so much to that generous donor!!

YACKANDANDAH COMMUNITY SINGALONGS

In February 2021, just after Nicky and I moved to Yackandandah, some visitors to our home noticed a piano in the lounge room. Helen Eyre said, "wouldn't it be great to have an old-fashioned singalong around the piano?"

This idea gained a lot of interest which resulted in about 70 people being packed into 'Grace's Place' on Anzac Day Evening for a 3-course meal and the 1st Community Singalong – "Songs from the Wars". Alistair's grand piano was the centre-piece. The restaurant was booked out and quite a few people had to be turned away. The Yackandandah Community Centre came good with a grant to cover expenses – mainly the cost of printing 60 songbooks. The grant was issued on the basis that this wasn't a one-off occasion and that we would plan to have 4 SINGALONGS per year.

COVID cancelled the next 2 SINGALONGS!

The next one happened a year later on ANZAC Day again. This time we hired the Public Hall to make sure that no one would be turned away. With more time to plan the event, I was able to write musical

arrangements for a 10-piece Concert band. The theme was 'Songs from WW1 and WW2.'

Comperes, Trevor Matthews and Treena Costin did a terrific job of overseeing the evening. "The Myrtles" were fantastic once again and John Garvan and Chris Horton added more flavour by singing the verses to



ANZAC Singalong
Some well-known Yack ladies enjoying the Women's Shed sumptuous supper

four of the songs, with the audience joining in the choruses with great gusto. All words were projected onto the big screen.

Intermission consisted of an old-fashioned supper including sandwiches, sausage rolls, pikelets with jam and cream and of course, home-made Anzac biscuits. Lynne Davies, Nicky Carr and the Yackandandah Women's Shed did an amazing job of decorating the Hall and providing the magnificent supper. Arts Yack provided a bar for the purchase of drinks.

Our next SINGALONG is "Christmas in July" which will be an afternoon event on Sunday, 31st July at 2.00pm in the Public Hall.

The music will be Christmas Songs – not Christmas Carols. 'I'm dreaming of a White Christmas', 'Jingle Bells' and 'Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer' just to name a few. We will again have a 10-piece Concert Band with guest artists including "The "Myrtles" and the Yackandandah Primary School choir. Christmas afternoon tea will be served during intermission, and drinks can be purchased at the Bar. Bookings can be made at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BZSNY>

The final SINGALONG for the year will be "Favourite Songs from Favourite Musicals". We will be combining with Yackandandah Theatre Co. for this one. It will be more theatrical with costuming, stage sets and lighting, but the emphasis will still be on the SINGALONG, with the audience encouraged to sing along to all songs. Songs from "The Sound of Music", "Mary Poppins", "Oliver", "Oklahoma" and many others will be featured. The words will be once again projected onto the big screen.



ANZAC Singalong
The audience and band in full flow

*Glen Aberle
Musical Director*



ANZAC Singalong
Trevor, Glen and John

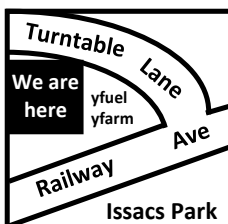
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WOORAGEE



Indigo FM listeners have been enjoying new tunes on a recently updated

playlist as well as 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). We welcome Dean Shawcross to the Yack Indigo FM family of presenters, who will be on air weekly with his show "The Blurred Crusade" shortly.

The Yack Primary School kids are back from holidays and producing regular shows on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4.00pm. Both our 88.0 FM station as well as our Internet Radio Station airs these 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 show with different music topics. During May, they aired a show on election day, showcasing various music with political themes.

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, 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



Cassandra Dickinson (left) from Wooragee Primary School and Alisha Watson (right) from Osbornes Flat Primary School enjoy some training on the Rodecaster.

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

Live streaming of Indigo FM is not far away, following on from the successful trial of this service from the Beechworth studio. We anticipate

having this set up prior to June 30 which will offer great opportunities for both our audiences and presenters.

Indigo FM President Scott has been assisting the kids and staff at Wooragee and Osbornes Flat Primary Schools to record and create podcasts using our new portable recording device; a Rodecaster Pro. The object is to engage with nearby rural schools in the Indigo shire who are not able to walk to one of our studios to further contribute a fresh, diverse and youthful radio presence to Indigo FM radio. It has been enjoyed by all and provides an opportunity for young budding radio presenters to produce shows that can be played on air. Keep an ear out for new young presenters from these schools on air soon!

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!



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YACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Museum staff, Phil Buerckner and Chris Zerst have conducted recent *Walking Tours of High Street* in response to enquiries being made from tour companies and private groups. The Information Centre is now working with the Society and passing on any enquiries so that this tourist incentive is not lost. The tour



Phil and Chris dressed up for the Tour



Visitors from Wollongong enjoying the tour

gives the visitors a peek into the past, highlighting the history of the iconic stores that make up Yackandandah's High Street.

FIRE INTERPRETATION PROJECT

The three students from Melbourne University's Masters in the Conservation of Cultural Materials, Sam, Josh, and Maddie, spent three days with us working



Sam, Josh and Maddie have it all wrapped up



on the on-going story of the objects retrieved from the fire of 2006, and their associated stories. They have acquired funding, planned, and are now working on the project with us. Another visit will be arranged to further progress the work. We appreciated and enjoyed their visit, some members of the public and our own organisation took the opportunity to view and participate in the work. This is a part of their continuing studies, and we appreciated their professional outlook and their company.

You never know who will visit the Museum and while on duty, volunteer Chris Zerst was surprised to meet the author of a school project written approximately forty-five years ago, the content of which the Museum displays today. The student, Justin Glass was delighted to see his work being used by the Museum to relate the amount of gold deposited with the Bank of Australasia in its first year of operation. Justin researched his project by speaking to the then ANZ Bank Manager, Mr A. Fowler, who was able to use bank records to confirm that 1857, the first year of operation for the Bank at Yackandandah, 33,400 ounces was deposited and was then valued at one hundred and thirty four thousand pounds.

The YDHS would like to publicly thank the Yackandandah Community Centre for the recent allocation of grant funding given to local groups. The Society was successful and as a result have purchased new gardening equipment.



Justin Glass with his now historical student project

The YDHS AGM will be held on Friday 17 June at the Community Centre at 6.00 pm, with a meeting and a light meal. Members, please contact the museum if you wish to attend.

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 donated by locals.
- Plants donated by locals.

We would like to thank all our volunteers and members of the community who make the sale of the above items possible. Every sale goes towards keeping our beautiful Museum's doors open and our conservation work happening.

Contact the Museum:

P: (02) 6027 0627

E: museum@yackandandah.com

FB: [yackandandahmuseum.wordpress.com](https://www.facebook.com/yackandandahmuseum.wordpress.com)

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Have you ever wanted to spend a night in Gulgong?

Recollections of a trip on the Central West Cycling Trail in NSW



Recently a large group of us spent a week cycling the Central West Cycle Trail in NSW. Our group of sixteen consisted of friends and friends of friends coming together from the Gold Coast, Melbourne, Euroa, Wandiligong, Wollongong and Yackandandah. One of us, back in the dim days when COVID-19 wasn't an issue, had suggested the circuit as scenic and doable for moderately fit riders in their sixties and seventies. The website sells it as "hundreds of kilometres of quiet roads" and the route would take us from Mudgee through Gulgong, Dunedoo, Mendooran, Ballimore, Geurie, Wellington, Goolma, then back to Gulgong and Mudgee.

Fifteen cyclists (the sixteenth member drove

the support vehicle) were usually spread out along the roads because, as in any large group, there was a range of fitness levels and a range of bikes: four e-bikes, a second-hand city bike and an assortment of mountain, touring, gravel and road bikes. Road conditions also varied. We were often on sealed roads, but the more interesting sections were on gravel. Sometimes the gravel was rough, sometimes smooth and sometimes soft and sandy. Water hazards also provided both fun and wet feet and were a constant reminder of how much this part of NSW has been inundated with rain. It also meant that the paddocks were tinged with green and the scenery lush, unusual for May.

Our riding soundtrack was provided by galahs, choughs, magpies, magpie larks and cockatoos. Their screeching and calls were particularly loud in the Goonoo State



Leaving Gulgong

Conservation Area where the eucalyptus, cypress and casuarinas were a haven for the birds and the mallee fowl, only present in their scratchings. Often, we rode through sheep and cattle country and occasionally shared the road with grazing cattle.

Most days we had morning tea and lunch on



Riding with the cattle



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the trail: thermoses for tea and coffee, fruitcake, flapjacks, chocolate brownies, a birthday cake on Day 4 (Happy Birthday Hamish!!) and often a sandwich purchased in the morning at the local bakery for lunch.

Amongst the highlights of the ride were the small-town pubs. The Courthouse (Mudgee), The Centennial (Gulgong), Hotel Dunedoo, The Royal (Mendooran), Hair of the Dog Inn (Ballimore), The Cow and the Calf Hotel (Wellington) all provided comfortable accommodation with character. The pub meals offered a surprising variety over the week;



Riding through Goonoo State Conservation Area

however, it was great to get back to Mudgee at the end and treat ourselves to a woodfired pizza at the Mudgee Brewery and a Thai meal in the evening. A few of us managed to fit in a Mudgee wine tasting in the afternoon as the final morning was a short thirty kilometres.

Gulgong deserves a special mention because, like Yackandandah, it has a gold mining history and a main street of wooden verandahs. It also boasts a Henry Lawson Centre as he spent his childhood and early teens in locations between Gulgong and Mudgee. The painted silos at Dunedoo were also



Creek crossings!

the day we rode 80 kilometres. And I didn't have an e-bike!

Bev Lello



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Australia is a long way from Ukraine, but many of us here share a strong sense of concern for Ukrainians who have lost their homes and loved ones in the current conflict.

Watching the devastation on the news each night inspired local Kiewa Valley resident, Andrea Palmer, to raise funds for the Ukrainian Crisis Appeal.

"The plight of the Ukrainians, especially women and children is heartbreaking. So many of us were feeling helpless, so I came up with the idea: Support Ukraine – Eat Chicken Kyiv," said Andrea.

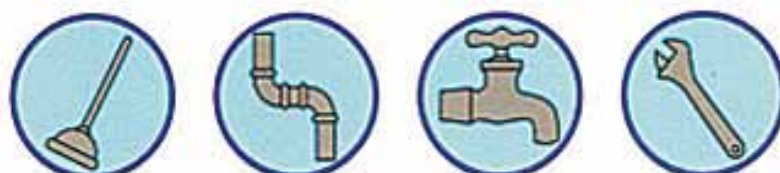
"The idea is, you host a dinner or lunch featuring Chicken Kyiv and ask your guests to donate the value of the meal to the Ukraine Crisis Appeal" which is located at ukrainecrisisappeal.org

The Ukraine Crisis Appeal is an Australian charity which works in conjunction with Rotary International and Caritas Ukraine to get donations on the ground to those that need it. The appeal has minimal

overheads thanks to the tireless efforts of many volunteers. With the blessing of the Association of Ukrainians in Victoria, Andrea has approached several retail butchers in the area to promote the idea. CC's Quality Meats in Yackandandah and Beechworth have also come on board.

"We can't believe what is happening over in Ukraine," said owner Clare Cooper. "This fundraiser is so easy. It's a great way to help and have fun at the same time." Participating butchers have all the information you need to host a Chicken Kyiv Dinner Party including souvenir Ukrainian flags.

"Australians have long been familiar with the delicious Chicken Kiev, a crumbed chicken breast filled with creamy garlic butter. I only learned that Chicken Kyiv is exactly the same – but tastes even better because it is the Ukrainian spelling!" said Clare.



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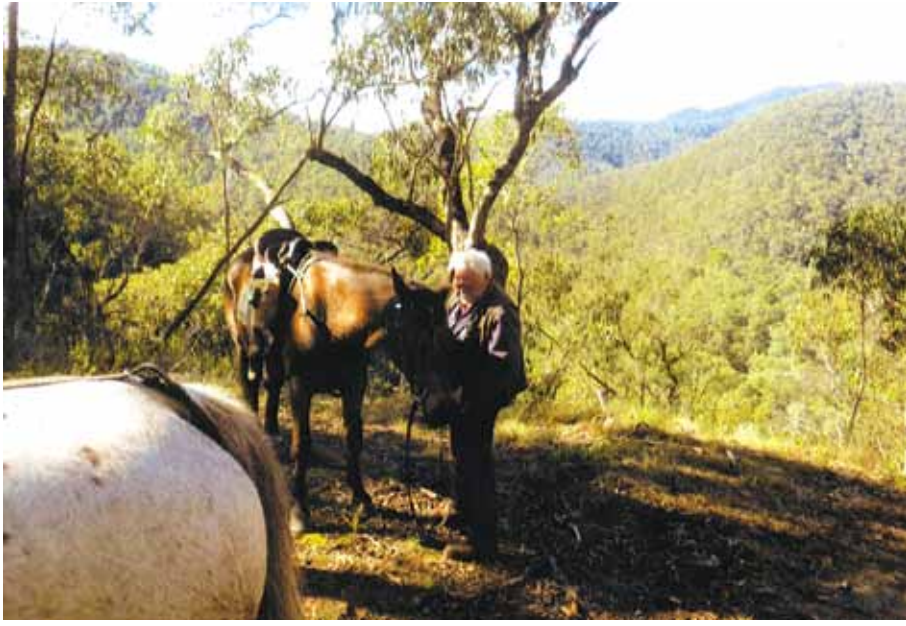
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HORSES FOR COURSES - A TRIP TO JAMIESON



Ron and Romany share a bite to eat



The trail running down to the Jamieson River

Sal stepped out smartly and Romany followed without hesitation as we traversed Mitchell's Track, at times with an almost 100 metre sheer drop to the Jamieson River that feeds into Lake Eildon. It reminds me of riding "The Wall" which runs above the Murray from Bunroy Station towards Tom Groggin in the Upper Murray, a bridle path that many horse riders have ridden back to the famed Jack Riley himself. Mitchell's Track was cut and formed to connect a silver mine and the remote homestead in the shadows of Mount Sunday with the beautiful township of Jamieson, a distance of 30-35 kms some 150 years ago. A fair trip for a latte!

A mate, Ron, had asked "you ever ridden around Jamieson?". I pored over a map. A call to Jeff (the local ranger and the whole crew) was very helpful. "Yes, you are very welcome, although it's quite

steep". He was right about that. The last kilometre WAS steep (I'm only 2WD), but we landed safe and sound at Granny's Flat. A few fishermen with

caravans, were camped at this lovely spot.

The 40 plus kilometre round trip to the old homestead's site was always out of reach.

Certainly not a track you could "clip" along. The trail ran through rocky ravines at river level where the air was cold at midday in the sunless depths to a hundred metres above following the contours across steep faces, probably carved out in the times of Gondwana.

No photograph I took did justice to the pristine beauty of the at times turbulent Jamieson River – stunning! A five and half hour ride, back for more late lunch (us and them), collect water, light fire, lose the sun early. Rug Sal for the night and a hot water bottle for me? Don't call me a softie!



Temporary horse yards set up at Granny's Flat

Steve Pearce
Staghorn Flat



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We have had a busy beginning to the year at Yackandandah SES. We cannot believe that it is May already, time flies! We have been getting stuck back into face-to-face training with the easing of restrictions and are so lucky to have been able to participate in some amazing community events at the beginning of the year. We would love to thank the organisers of the Yackandandah Community on Show - we really appreciated all the work that you all did working together to build up our community after a rough two years. Thank you.

A special mention to Jackie Ashman, who received her National Service Medal on April 30th. This medal is a prestigious award from the Emergency Services, and it recognises her support and active service within our Unit. Jackie has been a dedicated member of the Yackandandah SES for almost two decades and in the time has fulfilled many roles. We are so proud of our fearless leader and are very excited to see the amazing things to come from this sensational woman. Congratulations on the award Jackie!

At the end of March, the Yackandandah SES truck went on deployment to Coffs Harbour to assist in the floods that were trashing Northern NSW. It was originally deployed for 5 days but that deployment was extended. On arrival back in Victoria, it was decided that our truck could be utilised elsewhere, and the Yackandandah truck was traded with a truck from Benalla. If you see a Benalla truck driving around, don't worry, it's just us in our flash new vehicle.

It was fantastic to march in our ANZAC Service this year. A huge thank you to Lincoln Ablett for taking over from the amazing Wal Cameron who has organised the service for so many years prior to this year.

The State Emergency Service was once known as the Civil Defence Service and was formed in the late 1940s early 1950s. It was one of the first emergency services in Australia. The Civil Defence Service began in New South Wales during World War II when the National Emergency Services was established.

The State Emergency Service was established to deal with emergencies such as floods, earthquakes and bushfires before our fantastic CFA was established. We were also placed in charge of flood warnings, evacuations, housing and feeding of evacuees, land and water rescues, provision of essential services, medical and nursing facilities, and for various forms of immediate relief including the feeding of stock and the restoration of essential services. Now we are extremely lucky to be part of multiple Emergency Services all working together to assist in keeping our community safe. We are proud to be continuing the work of thousands of volunteers before us.

Some of you may have noticed we have upped the use of our Facebook Page this year as we aim to provide the community with more information regarding our small but amazing unit as well as the members within. We began acknowledging our members with introducing two of our powerhouse members, Jackie our unit controller and Mick who has been a dedicated member for over a decade. Keep your eyes peeled on our socials for more member introductions.

Thank you for all of your continued support.

Louise Rietmann

On Saturday, 30th April, Yackandandah SES had three members attend Wangaratta to receive some of the most prestigious awards in the Emergency Services. Jackie Ashman who received her National Medal for Service, and Joe Riella and Steve Roberts who both received their Life Membership Award.

The Life Membership Award recognises those volunteers who have given active and significant service beyond the efficient regular service recognised by the VICSES Long Service Award.



Yackandandah SES members before the ANZAC Day parade
From l to r: Keith Hunter, Louise Rietmann, Penelope Rietmann, Jackie Ashman, Joe Riella, Michael Sidoti, Steve Roberts, Brett Reddy and Mario Scalzo

To be eligible for this award one must be currently active in their Unit and have served a minimum of 20 years, be dedicated to the organisation, show that their contributions to the service have enhanced its standing within the wider community and been actively in-

involved in the service and have contributed to its development and leadership. We could think of no two more deserving members than Joe Riella and Steve Roberts.

Joe Riella has been a valued member of the State Emergency Service for 35 years and still counting. During his time with the SES, Joe has demonstrated a high level of commitment and dedication to volunteering. He was a trainer for the Wodonga SES for 15 years before becoming the controller. During that time, he became an integral part of the development of the Rescue Boat Training. He trained members to very high standard in every aspect and is well recognised for his skills as a Rescue Boat Coxswain. Many rescues were under his superb leadership. In 1992, Joe was the Team Leader for crews at the Wodonga unit assisting in the floods. His role included organising crews to be deployed to flooded areas, as well as, completing tasks such as rescue people from homes and vehicles, animal rescues and general recognisance of the area where he would report back to the Incident Control Centre. In 2015, the Yackandandah and surrounding towns were inundated with rain causing flooding to newly built homes and roads. Joe's role included hours of sandbagging, traffic control and the welfare of those around him.

Joe joined the Yackandandah SES Unit in 2002 and has attended many rescues over the years. Joe has around 60 SES competencies and is still continuing to learn. During the "Black Saturday" Fires, Joe assisted with navigating fire crews into the remote 4WD fire areas of the Yackandandah/ Stanley Forest. He supported the CFA with ration deliveries and any other deliveries that were needed. Joe encourages members to reach their best possible abilities. He has a wonderful sense of humour that resonates through to the members. He has a high skill level and has a wonderful way of training to an exceptional standard. Due to Joe's abilities and knowledge, he is a wonderful mentor for all members during training and call outs. He is patient, caring, and always thinks outside the box. We are extremely proud to have such a wonderful member and lifelong friend in Joe. Congratulations on the amazing work and impressive award.

Steve Roberts has been an active member of the State Emergency Service for over 32 years. The knowledge that he brings with him is priceless. He began his career in SES at the Albury SES Unit and since joining the Yackandandah SES in 1992 has been a unit trainer, deputy controller and controller. In 2002 and 2003, Steve helped petition and fundraise for a new vehicle for the Unit. This was a difficult challenge being only a small town of 600 people at the time. Steve has received 70 competencies during his time in the SES including his Certificate III in Public Safety and his Certificate IV in Training and Assessment. Steve is an integral part of the Units Alpine Search and Survival Team. He has been deployed multiple times, assisting in floods, the Formula One Grand Prix and alpine searches. In the fires in 2003 and the Black Saturday fires in 2009, Steve assisted CFA through delivering items to the fire ground, providing his navigational skills to get tankers to the fire ground and clearing the road from debris to ensure clear paths for the CFA tankers.

Steve rarely misses a training session and is one of our most dedicated members. He is well respected not only in our SES family but in the community of Yackandandah. The knowledge and skills that Steve brings to SES are invaluable. He has high expectations and is very precise in his skills. He is a fantastic mentor to all members and is always open to learn new things. Steve is not only deserving of this award but worthy of every single award he has received throughout his year volunteering. Fantastic effort Steve.

The knowledge of these two members brings amazing skills, experiences and wisdom to our unit at Yackandandah. Both Steve and Joe have taught us vital lessons and continue to attend, plan and participate actively in training. We are so lucky to be able to learn from such amazing men.

Congratulations Steve and Joe on your superb effort for yourself, your families and our community. This is what SES is about.



Joe Riella, Jackie Ashman and Steve Roberts all received highly prestigious awards for their service in the SES



Left to Right: Tom Riella, Joe Riella, Raelene Riella



Steve Roberts and Maree Roberts with VICSES representatives



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62kwh Nissan Leaf

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Well, the end of the financial year is fast approaching, and again, YCDCo has had a good year. We have finished our gussying up of the servo and equipment and are delighted with the results. The new bowsers which provide all three fuels

on both sides of the front forecourt have seen queues reduce as vehicles move more swiftly through. The place looks like brand new again, and we also have a newly designed website with great photos taken by local, Phaedra Rodriguez. If you haven't had a look, then please go online and have a squizz. <https://www.ycdco.com.au/>

Alpine Diesel is now in stock and will be delivered through our pumps.

The starting time for opening is now 7.00am during the week and Saturdays, and 8.30am on Sundays. Running short of fuel? Then do not despair – you can access fuel 24 hours a day now through our outside payment terminal which will take all manner of credit and AMPOL cards.

YCDCo has quite a waiting list now for its shares. So if you are thinking about divesting your portfolio of your

YCDCo shares, then we can provide a very quick turnover. The price of one YCDCo share is now \$293, not bad if you bought it on the initial release at \$100!

We also support many community projects. Up to 50% of our profits go to community projects and initiatives.

Continued on page 29.



WE NEED YOU

Do you have a full Victorian drivers licence? Are you interested in helping young people? Can you commit to 1-2 hours volunteering a week?

If you answered yes to these questions, then we need you!

We're seeking volunteer supervising driver mentors for the TAC L2P Driver Mentor program in Yackandandah, Beechworth and Rutherglen.

The TAC L2P program assists learner drivers under 21 years of age, without access to a supervising driver or vehicle, to gain the 120 hours of driving experience required to apply for a probationary licence.

Find out more at www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/L2P or by calling 1300 365 003.



YACK LIONS CLUB MARKETS



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

19th June

17th July

21st August

18th September

16th October

20th November

18th December

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

Please check what's happening via their Web page:

yackandandah.vic.lions.org.au

BOOKING THE PUBLIC HALL OR COURTHOUSE?

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

publichall.yackandandah.com

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

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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INDIGO HOUSING FORUMS

We are pleased to offer two housing forums that explore innovative options that aim to meet the needs of the community and incoming residents to live in Indigo through social and affordable housing models. The forums also explore local housing support services and ways that we can age in place within our community.

Rutherglen

6.00pm-7:30pm,
Wednesday 8 June
Rutherglen Senior Citizens Hall

Beechworth

6.00pm-7:30pm,
Monday 20 June
Quercus Oregon Hall

Panel

- Mark Dowling, The Common Equity Housing Limited CEHL, Housing Program
- Graeme Jacobs & Greg Muller, Akuna Lifestyle Communities & Nestd Homes - Nestd Villages
- BeyondHousing
- HouseTide Support Services

Panel

- Graeme Jacobs & Greg Muller, Akuna Lifestyle Communities & Nestd Homes - Nestd Villages
- Rick Leeworthy, Hadar Homes Rooming House Project
- Catherine Jefferies, BeyondHousing
- Daniel House, HouseTide Support Services
- Anne Threadgold, Quercus Support

Question time after the event, refreshments provided.

Phone: 1300 365 003
Website: www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/housing



Continued from page 28

Download the application form at <https://www.ycdco.com.au/community> and we take applications at any time of the year.



YCDCo is celebrating its 20th anniversary this and next year. The initial set up of the Board happened in 2002, but the servo didn't open its doors until 2003. There are plans afoot to celebrate this in some style with various organisations in Yack being involved. For further information, contact the Company Secretary, Ali Pockley on 0448 833 411 if you would like further information.

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Find out more at www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/L2P or by calling 1300 365 003.



THE ARTS IN YACKANDANDAH

Check out these great upcoming events!

Above The Bit, Saturday, June 4, Yackandandah Courthouse

Above the Bit is a new musical collaboration between long time friend of Yackandandah Nigel Wearne (performances at Yack Folk Festival and solo shows at Saint Monday), and Luke Watt.



In 2017, the pair were artists-in-residence at the Bundanon Trust, where they began a songwriting partnership exploring forgotten stories of Australia's mutineers, rebels and dissidents. The resulting album was finished just in time for COVID, and the pair are finally enjoying the opportunity to tour

their hard work.

The pair's music references blues, country, and outlaw folk musical styles, and channels the spirit of artists such as Richard Thomson, Tom Waites and Woody Guthrie.

The Yackandandah Courthouse will provide the perfect setting for what will be a spectacular performance. Book tickets early at <https://www.trybooking.com/BZDVO>

FLICKSIDE - Land Of Mine, Saturday, June 18, Yackandandah Courthouse

Based on extraordinary true events, writer/director Martin Zandvleit's multi award-winning historical drama tells a gripping story of redemption and forgiveness, as it follows a group of captured soldiers in Denmark in the immediate aftermath of WWII.

Tickets are free for Arts Yackandandah members, and can be reserved at www.trybooking.com/BZQTO

Lucy Wise workshop and concert, Saturday, July 16, Yackandandah Courthouse

Lucy Wise is a Central VIC-based singer-songwriter with a long history of association with the Yackandandah Folk Festival, both as a solo artist,

as a member of the Wise Family Band, and in collaboration with other artists. Her lyrics and melodies are warm and heartfelt, referencing the folk music she grew up playing, and tell stories of love, healing and relationships with our environment.

Lucy's upcoming performance in the Yackandandah Courthouse on July 16, celebrates the recording of her fourth album. In addition to her evening performance, Lucy will also host a ukulele workshop for uke-sters of all abilities. This will be a rare opportunity to access the insight of a seasoned ukulele performer. Tickets are available at <https://>



Ride, boys, ride, where the wild bush horses hide,
And their stallion screams with terror as he smells the scent of man.
So he leads his charges on, and like a flash they've gone
Up the timber studded ridges to a farther safer land.

But the horsemen are not slow to spur their mounts and go
At a gallop up those ridges where the brumby mob has fled.
And the hillside races by as their horses swift hooves fly
Over slippery granite bedrock in their race to get ahead.

RIDE

So ride, boys, ride, as you reach the other side,
And send your horses sliding to the valley floor below,
For though the brumbies gallop fast, we will hold them to the last,
And send them racing homeward to the stockyard ere we slow.

But the stallion's mob is tiring as their gallant hooves are firing
Clouds of dust and pebbles down upon us as we climb.
As they top the crest we reckon they are surely past their best
And their capture now is just a case of patience and of time.

So it's ride, boys, ride, till you're down the other side,
And the horses have been headed and we've turned their heads for home.
Where the stockyard gate is wide, and where the brumbies now will bide
With their flaring nostrils snorting and their shoulders white with foam.

John McIntyre

'The Lady in the Van' comes to Yackandandah!

The Melbourne-based **Highway 1 Theatre Company** are returning to Yackandandah this year with a production of Alan Bennett's much-loved play 'The Lady in the Van'.

The Lady in the Van tells the true story of Alan Bennett's strained friendship with Miss Mary Shepherd, a crabby, eccentric, and somewhat smelly homeless woman whom Bennett befriended in the 1970s. He allowed her to park her Bedford van in the driveway of his Camden home "for three months" – she ended up residing there for 15 years. As the story develops, Bennett learns Miss Shepherd's true identity: Margaret Fairchild, and about her unfortunate past.

Alan Bennett has been a staple of British theatre and television for many decades, his other previous works including 'Talking Heads', 'The Madness of King George', and 'The History Boys'.

Highway 1 Theatre Company have twice before toured to Yackandandah, presenting 'Proof' in 2018, and 'Yes, Prime Minister' in 2019.

"We are very excited to be touring theatre again and are very much looking forward to visiting Yackandandah in August", said Michael Jewell, Highway 1 Theatre Company's Creative Producer.

"Hilarious...A consistently enjoyable entertainment." - The New York Times

'The Lady in the Van' will play the Yackandandah Public Hall on Saturday 6th August 2022 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$39 full and \$35 concession, and can be purchased online at www.highway1theatre.org or at the door on the night. The show will run for approximately 135 minutes, including an interval.

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UKE-N-DANDAH

Yackandandah's own Ukulele Club is proudly associated with Arts Yackandandah. Monday night sessions are back! 7 - 8.30 pm on Monday evenings at the Courthouse.

Please come and join us.

To keep in the loop or for further details, please contact Chris via email - chris.zerbst@gmail.com

THE ARTS IN YACKANDANDAH

Phoebus Is Stirring

It was 25 years ago, when the very first Yackandandah Folk Festival hit the town!

As you read this, Phoebus, the Yackandandah Folk Festival mascot, is stirring from her long Covid-induced slumber, pulsing to the music! Well, that's a colourful account of what's been happening behind the scenes as we all recalibrate our lives to the pandemic era. At some point in the last 25 years, Phoebus was "recruited" to represent in graphic form the essence of our Folk Festival. A Google search tells us that in Greek mythology, Phoebus is the "God of Light, God of Prophecy and Poetry and Music"... What could be more appropriate?



Our current Phoebus was built by Xavier Pinard back in 2017 to mark our 20th year. The mascot vividly reflects the values of how the festival has evolved from that tentative beginning 25 years ago. The core values of the festival have been about:

- Community Renewal
- Sustainability
- Music
- Youth mentoring
- Fun & inclusion

Each of these values has been embedded in subsequent festivals and beyond, to be the catalyst for new Yackandandah initiatives that go together to make our community what it is today.

Community Renewal: The 2019 Festival was possible by over 15 Yackandandah Community Groups contributing their creativity and energy. The group that got the first festival going posed the question 'Why don't we run a Folk Festival?' "Why not, indeed.... well, let's just do it!" ... and so, we did!

This philosophy has continued with each succeeding festival. It was about 5 years after the first festival that the only town petrol bowser was going to close. Some people

got together and thought "Why don't we take it on? Why don't we have a community owned business to sell petrol?" And so we did.. and YCDCo was formed.

Sustainability: From the first years, the festival has focussed on activities that were environmentally sustainable long before the climate crisis. Leaving our town in better shape than before each festival. An early YFF project was to install Solar PV electric generation at the new YCDCo with enough capacity to generate power to match what was drawn from the grid to conduct the festival over 2 days. Over the years, "Why don't we try to get Yackandandah off the grid and be totally renewable?" ... and so Totally Renewable Yackandandah was born in the same spirit. ... "giving it a go". Dealing with what used to be called rubbish generated by lots of people over a weekend has also been important. Finding ways to reduce the amount of discarded stuff and to keep it out of the rubbish tip (what we now call "landfill"), each festival brought new initiatives to achieve this. Plasticwise Yackandandah formed and has built the "Dish Pig" to safely reduce the need to use single use food containers. The sustainability task continues as there's always fresh ideas and opportunities.

Music:

The festival has been the starting point for many young local musicians and the not so young! People such as Richard Perso and Sal Kimber have toured nationally and internationally. Lisa Mitchell won the busking competition before moving on to bigger things, Jane Thompson and James Rigby launched our community choir, and now their children kicked off in Yackandandah with the now successful folk duo, The Maes (Maggie and Ellie Rigby pictured above). Tom Richardson evolved here as did Charm of Finches, who launched here in their early teens. Pete Denahy and Candice McLeod have both chosen



The Maes

to call Yackandandah home.

YFF weekend is a magnet for touring Australian acts as well as the first point of call for many international acts.

Recent festivals have had a significant youth stage for musicians finding their voice along with a busking competition and from the early days, there's been a Folk Festival Choir with up to 100 local people sometimes singing for the first time, working together, and discovering the joy of making and presenting music.

Youth Mentoring: From the first festival, Yackandandah Primary School has been a partner with the Saturday Night Community Dinner and along with the other schools, been part of the creative effort with music making, drumming, the Opening Parade and Bush Dance. At least one member of the YFF committee has grown up with the Folk Festival all her life.

Fun and Inclusion: When given the chance and the stimulus, we humans can be very creative. YFF has been the catalyst for much creativity and fun over its 25 years. Standouts are the Great Yackandandah Jam of 2009, involving every willing local musician, the school and community choirs, the Yackandandah Strummers and bagpipes for good measure....

For 25 years, our Yackandandah Folk Festival has provided the focus for the community to come together in a creative and fun endeavour to celebrate what the community of Yackandandah is and continues to be. Whether the festival was in practice, the catalyst for the subsequent 'spinoff' projects, YCDCo, TRY, Plasticwise, Uke-N-Dandah, or just part of the Yackandandah DNA and would have happened anyway... well, that is an arguable point.

The 2022 "Not the Yackandandah Folk Festival" has come and gone. This was put together to give Phoebus a friendly prod and remind her that Yackandandah hasn't forgotten her! It was a fun day of good music in each of the pubs and participation by Osbornes Flat Primary School and both venues to at least keep us well fed and watered.

24-26 March, 2023 has been set for the 26th Yackandandah Folk Festival and it's time to start thinking about what that might be. The organising Committee Secretary, Craig Ramsay is keen to hear all interest from the community or groups with ideas for participation in 2023... after all, it's only 50 weeks away!!!

Doug Westland



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BY ALAN BENNETT

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YACKANDANDAH PUBLIC HALL

Tickets \$35 conc. \$39 full

BOOKINGS:

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By Arrangement with ORiGiN™ Theatrical On Behalf of Samuel French: A Concord Theatricals Company.

YACK GARDEN CLUB

UNDER THE ARBOUR

ON THE VERGE with Yack resident, Natalie O'Connell

Gardeners are creative and adaptive people, and one such person is Natalie O'Connell out on Keeble Way. Natalie is a keen gardener who seized an opportunity to develop a verge garden in front of her home, turning it into another garden space around her house. After



delicate Eremophila Murchison Magic, also known as a drought hardy Emu Bush.

This garden has created a natural habitat for birds and insects and has good drainage. It provides a welcoming arrival vista to her home. So, if you want to think outside the square, you might want to create your verge garden, full of plants or yummy vegetables. We say 'rock on' Natalie, a creative gardener here in Yack. Thanks for sharing your garden creation with us.

A GARDENING TIP – How to germinate seeds

Germinating seeds is a mix of getting the science and the art right. There are fundamentals to follow to help you be successful and the art of applying your special touch. Seeds can be sown directly in the ground, or in a container. If you are recycling containers, make sure to clean them thoroughly. Growing in a container allows better scope to achieve the optimal conditions for seeds to germinate. Following the advice on seed packets is advisable, and you can do even better by following these three fundamental tips:

- 1. Moisture:** All seeds need moisture to start the germination process. The art of seed sowing is to water regularly (even up to 1-2 times per day, depending on the weather.) The seed should never be allowed to dry out or become waterlogged, so do not sit the container in water. If the soil beneath the surface is cool and damp to touch, you do not need to water. Make sure the water penetrates to the bottom of the container to encourage the roots downward. Misting is not a good option.
- 2. Sowing depth:** The sowing depth is essential for seeds to germinate. Use the width of the seed as a rule of thumb. Sow the seed as deep as the length of seed. Tiny seeds such as poppies can be sown on top of the soil and will settle in after watering.
- 3. Soil temperature:** Seeds germinate at particular soil temperatures. It is less essential for plants which flower and fruit in cooler months. However, summer fruiting and flowering plants need warm soil to germinate successfully, about 20-21 degrees Celsius is ideal. This can be created artificially by using a heat mat or by finding other warm locations such as a greenhouse or a warm room.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

Members took a day trip to Sunnymead Gardens at Kithbrook in the Strathbogie Ranges, and what a treat was in store. The extensive private garden is multi-award-winning and is inspired by some of the best gardens in the world. Our members enjoyed doing what comes naturally to gardeners; relaxing



Sunnymead Garden in April 2022



Natalie is working magic on her verge

the 2009 bushfires, when the councils were cleaning roadsides of trees, they created large mulch dumps for the community to use. Into the ute with a young child at hand, Natalie transported mulch back to her property and started to develop her verge garden.

Natalie got the go-ahead from

the Council, she laid cardboard to smother the weeds, and slowly but surely, she spread her mulch and prepared the ground for planting. Natalie uses a mix of plants but favours natives. There are ground grevilles, protea shrubs and a most



The hardy Emu Bush

and admiring the many beautiful plants and trees on display. Beautiful formal gardens popularise Inter-connecting rooms, each creating a unique atmosphere governed by choice of plants. It is easy to check on opening days by visiting the website.

Club members also recently visited Tim at his property off Back Creek Rd to admire his amazing number of various oak trees. We were also lucky enough to see where Chris and Lauren grow their produce for their delightful business "Happy Underground".

CONTACT US

Meetings: We meet at 'Wellsford House', Wellsford St, Yackandandah, at 7 pm on the 2nd Thursday, bi-monthly (beginning Feb.) If you are interested in joining the club or coming to a meeting, don't hesitate to contact us by email or phone. (Membership is not required to attend a meeting.)
Email: yack.garden.club@outlook.com
Phone: 0428 116 562, President Cheryl Frawley
Post: P.O. Box 178, Yackandandah Vic 3749

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Cryptic Crossword #5 ANSWERS

ACROSS 1 Doldrums. 5 Pronto. 9 Cataract. 10 Claret. 12 Lies. 13 Volleyball. 15 Roller skating. 19 Stepping stone. 23 Easter eggs. 25 Flag. 28 Sparsely. 29 Blotto. 30 Distends. 31 Ascend

DOWN 1 Docile. 2 Litre. 3 Rare. 4 Microbe. 6 Rally. 7 Narrative. 8 Ontology. 11 Alas. 14 Slap. 15 Rheostats. 16 Rag. 17 Atom. 18 Assessed. 20 Needled. 21 Sags. 22 Age old. 24 Ensue. 26 Lathe. 27 Alps.

PO Box 28, Beechworth
Victoria 3747
Local Call: 1300 365 003

ON EXHIBITION

At its May meeting, Council endorsed a number of strategic documents which are now on public exhibition:

- Draft Budget 2022/23 and associated documents
- Updated Council Plan 2021-2025
- Draft Asset Plan
- Draft Local Law No. 2
- Draft Local Law No. 4

These documents will be on exhibition until 5pm Tuesday 7 June should you wish to make a formal submission.

A draft budget presentation and the report on the pre-budget survey, with a summary of the feedback received, is also available to view online.

www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/onexhibition

Yackandandah Sports Park

The Yackandandah Sports Park Annual General Meeting will be held at the Sports Park at 7pm on Monday, 11th July, 2022. Being a representative on the Committee of Management is a great opportunity to connect with other people in the community and be a part of the ongoing development of an essential community facility.

The Yackandandah Sports Park Committee of Management, on behalf of the Indigo Shire Council, manages the Sports Park. The Yackandandah Sports Park Committee of Management is appointed as a Section 86 Committee of Council and currently comprises representatives from:

- Yackandandah Cricket Club
- Yackandandah Tennis Club
- Yackandandah Scout Group
- Yackandandah Horse Riding Club
- Community representatives.

The Committee of Management is responsible for operational issues, maintaining memberships, financial record keeping and accountability, conducting regular meetings and developing procedures as part of their management and development role of the Sports Park.

The Yackandandah Sports Park

is a major sporting complex within the Indigo Shire that provides a range of local, district and regional sporting opportunities for the Indigo community

A range of sporting clubs use the Sports Park for regular local, district and regional training, competition and events. Long-standing user clubs include: the Yackandandah Cricket Club, the Yackandandah Tennis Club and the Yackandandah Adult Riding Club. These clubs consist of senior and junior members, who generally play, spectate, coach and / or socialise at the Sports Park. Together, existing sporting clubs have more than 300 members. The Riding Club also attracts many additional users and visitors to the site for their major regional events and competitions. The Cricket Club facilities are considered to be some of the best in the district, with the Wodonga and District Cricket Association favouring it as a regular finals venue.

Private social functions are often held at the Sports Park in the first storey clubroom area (function room). These activities – mainly birthday parties and club functions – require access to general amenities including toilets, kitchen or catering area, rubbish bins and parking. The Sports Park is also frequented by casual recreational users and 'out and about locals'. Dog on and off lead areas have also been established at the Sports Park.

If you want to contribute to your community then come along to the Annual General Meeting and become a member of the committee.



The glory of NE Victorian autumns!



2022	Millimetres	Days of Rain
January	212.2	7
February	3.0	1
March	80.4	5
April	46.0	10
May to 19th	42.4	8
TOTAL	384.0	31
To: 19/5/20	428.4	38
To: 19/5/21	320.0	31

Reg's Rain Report



You do not need a parachute to skydive, you only need a parachute to skydive twice...

TANSWELLS HOTEL, BEECHWORTH

GIG LIST – JUNE & JULY 2022

- Fri June 3: Aron Mclean (free in front bar)
 Sat June 4: S:Bahn & Shock Friendly
 Fri June 10: Ellen James & Francis Glass
 Sat June 11: Bad Knees (free in front bar)
 Sun June 12: Bret Mosley (USA) (Queen's Birthday Eve)
 Fri June 17: Dallas Alice
 Sat June 18: Sydney Miller x Orange Orange & Toby Mobbs
 Fri June 24: Kev Haggerty
 Sat June 25: Pepita Emmerichs (Oh Pep) bluegrass from one half of Oh Pep; mandolin work. Come and join us for a night of bluegrass and old-time fiddle, guitar and mandolin tunes. With Melbourne musician Pepita Emmerichs (Oh Pep!, Good Guy Hank, Rain of Animals) and winner of the Australian Bluegrass Scholarship, plus special guests!
- Fri July 1: Grinding Eyes
 Sat July 2: The Stroppies
 Fri July 8: DJ Several Pleasures
 Sat July 9: David M Western & Annie-Rose Maloney
 Sun July 10: Oscar Ladell (3-5pm, free entry)
 Sat July 16: Steel Wheels
 Sat July 23: Sin City (NZ) country rock from New Zealand, two sets - photo
 Fri July 29: Thibault
 Sat July 30: Nine Mile Creek - Victorian bluegrass veterans - photo
 Sun July 31: The Smith & Western Jury (3-5pm, free entry)



Pepita Emmerichs



Nine Mile Creek - Bluegrass vets

Doug Wallen
 Writer, editor, booker & broadcaster
 dougwallen@gmail.com
<http://dougwallen.tumblr.com>



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Quality and reliability

Yackandandah Cricket Club

Yackandandah Cricket Club celebrated a successful A and B grade campaign this season with both teams achieving back-to-back titles in Cricket Albury Wodonga's District competition. A grade went through the season undefeated with B grade dropping only one match.

The Yackandandah Sports Park was packed on March 19 with the volunteer labour preparing the ground, pitch and surrounds to an extremely high standard. Hosting Baranduda, Yackandandah lost the toss but bowled smartly bundling out their opponents for 117 with captain Bailey Glass taking two wickets and featuring in two run outs whilst Tom Cencic collected a brace on his return to the region from the big smoke. The Baranduda team would have been disappointed with a sub-par score in such glorious conditions and the Yackandandah team were cruising at 3/80 until the game took a significant change of direction.

After losing 4 wickets for four runs, panic crept in amongst the hundreds in attendance. President Andrew Lockett and Tom Cencic came together and added a 24 run partnership before falling in successive balls for the score on 9/112. At the crease, curator extraordinaire Mitchell Maginness (who coincidentally hadn't needed to bat all season) and striding to the crease to face the hat-trick ball was 17 year old Lachy Martin (son of B grade captain Graeme Martin).

With nerves of steel, Martin lustily hit a cover drive to the boundary putting the home side one run behind Baranduda.



Yack Cricket Club celebrate an epic win against Baranduda
PC: Cricket Albury Wodonga

YACK TENNIS CLUB

Under somewhat drizzly conditions the all male team red challenged an all female team blue in the Grand Final of Thursday night social tennis on 7th April. There were many hard fought rallies throughout the game with team red capitalising by the end of the match. We had four teams compete over two rounds consisting of fifteen games this season and the competition continues to attract a broad age range of players which is very encouraging. Many thanks to those players who continue to support, participate & assist.



Season 2021/22 is my final hoorah as coordinator & I'm happy to announce the reins are being handed over to Libby McCrystal. Thanks for stepping into the role Libby, and you will hear more from her pre-season 2022/23.

Julie Methven-Kelley

After several dot balls, Maginness completed a single tying the scores (and in effect handing Yackandandah the premiership being the higher ranked team). In the 38th of the forty overs, with scores still tied Lachy Martin hit a ball to mid-off and took off on a risky run. The run-out chance throw was wide, and victory was Yackandandah's. It is said that his victory celebrations running back to his team may have left scorch marks in the grass as he ran a wide arc in elation. The Baranduda team had put up an amazing fight to almost steal victory.

In the other game, a much less exciting contest saw Yackandandah defeat Dederang on the magnificent Rowan Park, Tallangatta. After keeping Dederang to 9/120 in their 40 overs Yackandandah with up-and-comer Joe Rawson taking three wickets (3/12) alongside Graeme Martin (3/16) the pick of the bowlers. Chasing Dederang's score, a stoic 17 from the returning Jack Hobbs wore down the Dederang attack for captain Graeme Martin to capitalise with an unbeaten 49 steering the team to victory.

Off the field, Yackandandah Cricket Club has been successful with grant applications including co-payment from Yackandandah Community Centre for a pump filtration system upgrade, assistance from YCDCo to transition to coloured uniforms; Cricket Australia Grassroots program for a Flicx pitch to increase junior and female participation and a windfall in the Toyota Good For Cricket competition.

On April 8th, Yackandandah Cricket Club hosted its first 'international' match as the PNG women's team comfortably defeated the ACT. Celebrations included the PNG national anthem and prayer to show appreciation of the opportunity to play cricket after being COVID restricted. At the end of the game, donations of cricket gear from the Cricket Albury Wodonga community were handed over to a delighted group of PNG players to help build the sport in their homeland. To see photos and video of this day and to stay updated with cricket club news and events, find us on Facebook.

The Yackandandah Cricket Club is grateful for the many hours of volunteer labour, the generosity of sponsors and support of our community. With the wattle soon signalling the appearance of another summer, players and supporters will once again be welcomed back to share in the opportunities to be part of an amazing club.

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Papua New Guinea's Women's Team celebrate at Yack Cricket Club after beating the ACT. PC: Geordie Graham



delicious salads, cakes and slices. Our local wine and food and the picturesque setting was greatly appreciated. Many thanks to all who assisted on the day.

Locals supporting Locals

The Yackandandah Golf Club has been the recipient of two local grants. We wish to extend our sincere thanks to: Yackandandah Community Centre whose grant enable the purchase of much needed new tables for the clubroom and to YCDCo, enabling the purchase of office equipment including a plastic card printer for membership identification, and an all-purpose printer.

With the success of our "Yack Come Back to Golf" program, (enabled by grant funds received from Indigo Shire Council,) we have continued to keep playing *Social Saturday* on the third Saturday of each month, 9 for 9:30am. If you are not a member, don't let that stop you. All are welcome to join in this friendly, 9-hole competition where all grades of golf are on show! Just turn up, or for more information please contact Chris on the email below.

The men have started their Club Championship rounds and we wish them all good golfing!

For more information on membership or to make an inquiry:

Visit YGC web page – <https://golfclub.yackandandah.com>

Email: yackgolfclub@gmail.com

Facebook: Yackandandah Golf Club

Women: chris.zerbst@gmail.com



Members of the Goulburn Valley Hospice Care from Shepparton with some of their beautiful vintage cars on a fund raising rally

Yackandandah Golf Club - Serving the Community

On Saturday, 30th April, the Club provided a delicious lunch for approximately 90 members of the Goulburn Valley Hospice Care Organisation from Shepparton, who were participating in a car rally, which they hold annually to raise funds for 24/7 Palliative Care in their area. So far they have raised \$1m. It was rewarding to have the opportunity to assist with such a worthy cause as well as giving us the opportunity to raise money towards our new clubhouse.

The catering was a combined effort by the men and women members, with the men on the barbie and the ladies making a selection of

YACK COMMUNITY BOWLING CLUB

Members will continue to participate in different events over the winter months, as our green will be maintained by our volunteers. Thanks guys.

Yackandandah Community Bowling Club participates in pennant in the Ovens and Murray Region during the summer months. One of our members, Mary Tragardh, has represented our club and region at State competitions on a number of occasions, including this year. Whilst Mary was not successful this year, our Ovens and Murray Region received the 2022 VIC Shield as the most successful Region of the State Championships.

We thank those members of the community who have attended our activities on Sunday mornings. These events are open to all persons eager to learn the skills of lawn bowling, however we have decided to move this event to Sunday afternoon from 1.30 to 3.00 for the coming



months.

Our fully accessible clubrooms are available for hire for catered events. Please contact Frank Artis 0410 547 927 for further details. In addition, we will continue to cater for Barefoot Bowls events.

We welcome those interested to join us for a roll on Friday afternoons, and stay for drinks and nibbles.

Anne Corcoran – Secretary



Available for hire
Yack Community Bowling Club rooms

YACKANDANDAH SPORTS PARK

NEW DEFIB INSTALLED AT THE SPORTS PARK

With the financial assistance of an Indigo Shire Community Grant obtained through the Table Tennis Group and the Looking Good Exercise Group (those ladies in green) we have been able to purchase and instal a community defibrillator at the Yack Sports Park Nelson Mcintosh Pavilion at a cost of \$1,890. With quite a distance between the Sports Park and the nearest community accessible unit in the High Street, it became apparent following a recent incident, that a community accessible unit was required.

After some months of sourcing and securing the funding, the unit is now in place and located between the disability toilet near the grandstand stairs and the canteen roller door).

Thanks to the Table Tennis and Looking Good Groups for their financial contributions and Nelmac Engineering for the installation as, without their generosity, this initiative would not have been possible.



The photo above is of some of our ladies proudly showing of the new defib unit

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!





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