

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR YACKANDANDAH HEALTH?



Standing room only at the Senior Citizens Hall on 10th May, with many concerned residents seeking answers to questions on the position that Yackandandah Health finds itself

The public meeting held by the Board of Yackandandah Health on Wednesday, 10th May saw a “road map” set out for the future of the business.

There needs to be a further meeting of Yackandandah Health members called to ratify the Board’s decision to transition the business to a larger entity. 75% of members need to approve this. At the date of publication, a meeting of members had not been called.

There is little more that can be added at this point, but see Page 3 for details of contacts with Yackandandah Health Board if you have further queries.

There is a great deal of concern about the future of Yackandandah Health, and a number of people have been working to try and find a resolution that might suit the majority of concerned citizens and residents.

To that end, a Concerned Citizens meeting is to be held on Wednesday, 7th June. See Page 2 for further details.

SANDY THE WARHORSE FINALLY RETURNS TO HIS PLACE OF BIRTH IN TALLANGATTA

There can be no doubt that World War One saw some of the most horrendous conditions ever to face man and beast between 1914-1919.

There was one small ray of sunshine coming from the tales of blood, death and destruction on a scale not seen before in warfare. And that was the return of one single horse, born in Tallangatta, that left Australian shores amongst the tens of

A PAIR OF SHOES OFFERED IN TRUE YACK SPIRIT...



Happy, happy feet!

What the...???

See Page 12 for the full article. Yack comes up trumps again.

thousands of others, who almost unbelievably, was repatriated at the end of his service.

Yackity Yak has followed the story and progress of some seriously driven locals who were determined that Sandy should have his true recognition. On Saturday, 20th May, 2023, his bronze statue was unveiled in the Triangle at Tallangatta. There were many hundreds of people there to see this, together with members of the Light Horse and around two hundred local riders from various groups, who paraded in cold, wet and miserable weather to see the unveiling of the statue.

It has been quite an undertaking to find the finances to see this project come to fruition and congratulations must go to the organisers of this. It will be a talking point for a very long time to come, and no doubt many people will make a special diversion to Tallangatta to see Sandy.

It is generally always people - the “great and the good” and politicians - that grace our public art, so it is particularly gratifying to see a horse take his place of honour.

See Page 28 for the full story



Sandy the Warhorse - a beautiful bronze designed and cast by Brett Mon Garling of Wongarbron, NSW

2023/24 DEADLINES

Forthcoming deadline for submission of advertisements and articles for Yackity Yak are 5pm on the following days:

EDITION	DATE	DEADLINE COPY/ADS	CIRCULATION DATE
109	Aug/Sept	Friday, 21st July, 2023	Tuesday, 1st August, 2023
110	Oct/Nov	Friday, 15th Sept, 2023	Tuesday, 26th Sept, 2023
111	Dec/Jan	Friday, 17th Nov, 2023	Tuesday, 28th Nov, 2023
112	Feb/March	Friday, 19th Jan, 2024	Tuesday, 30th Jan, 2024
113	April/May	Friday, 22 March, 2024	Tuesday, 2nd April, 2024
114	June/July	Friday, 17 May, 2024	Tuesday, 28th May, 2024

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.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Editor / Advertising / Printing / Accounts
 Ali Pockley
 Yackity Yak
 C/- Yackandandah Post Office,
 High Street, Yackandandah VIC 3749
 Ph: 0448 803 411
 E-mail: yackity_yak@yackandandah.com
 Web: ycdco.com.au/yackity-yak

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available at the following outlets:

* YCDCo * Visitor Info Centre

* Yackandandah Medical Centre * Indigo Shire Council

* Yack Community Centre * Yack PO * Yack Newsagency

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

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

Notice of Community-Led Meeting about the sale of Yackandandah Health

Following the recent special edition of Yackity Yak, the Yackcommunity is now aware of the intent to sell Yackandandah Health, a community owned facility with a 97 year history providing essential services to our community.

A cohort of community leaders are seeking your participation in a respectful, transparent and community-led conversation about the sale of Yackandandah Health. The objectives of this town meeting are to:

- Create cross-generational community awareness of the rich history of Yackandandah Health, and the essential services it provides to the Yackandandah community.
- Value and draw on the academic, social, and cultural capital within the Yackandandah community to support community problem solving.
- Share knowledge and exchange information transparently, ensuring the community understands what options exist, is risk-informed, and included in decision making processes.

The meeting will be held at the Public Hall on Wednesday 7th June 2023, at 7pm.

This meeting is an excellent opportunity to share information and hear from community leaders about the impact different decisions may have on current and future generations. If you value local GP Medical services, Aged Care, Childcare, local employment, and community owned services, our advice is to attend this meeting.

books, jigsaw puzzles, gifts from red tractor designs, ashdene, treliving, gentlemens' hardware, finska, twigseeds and more... kids stuff from tiger tribe, ruby red shoes, aqua dragons footy, pokemon, yu gi oh cards, more kids' stuff from other places and lots of it really

traditional newsagency stuff like magazines, newspapers, stationery and ink jet cartridges



a new and growing book department (watch this space...) a wall of art supplies byron bay homeopathic teas a bit of nice gardening stuff

actually there's quite a lot come in and have a look

Improving health outcomes for Indigo residents with heart and lung conditions in Beechworth and Yackandandah

Indigo residents with heart and lung conditions in Beechworth and Yackandandah now have local access to the Pulmonary and Cardiac Exercise and Education (PACE) program, called PACE@indigo to help clients manage their conditions. The PACE@indigo program offers a free, safe, evidence-based exercise and education program to help clients manage their heart and lung conditions. The service is delivered in local community settings closer to home for the people of Indigo by local exercise professionals.

through the support of the Hume Health Service Partnership and funding from the Better at Home initiative.

Mark Ashcroft, CEO at Beechworth Health Service said "We are very proud to be able to bring this award winning exercise and education program to Indigo residents. The program will offer clients local access to personalised advice and support, to feel more confident, to recover sooner and to maintain their independence and prevent health problems in the future. Indigo residents with heart and lung conditions can access the program at locations in Beechworth and Yackandandah through a referral from your local GP or you can contact the PACE@indigo Coordinator directly on 03 5728 0200 or referrals can be made at BHSIntake@beechworthhealth.org.au".



PACE@indigo participants at a session at Beechworth Health Service. Left to Right: Back Row: Mark Ashcroft - CEO Beechworth Health Service, Ray - participant, Paul - participant, Carol - participant, Sam O'Connor - Physiotherapist, Beechworth Health Service, Cliff - participant, Emma Ghys - Community Services Manager Alpine Health. Front Row: Renee Rinaudo - PACE@indigo Co-ordinator Beechworth Health Service, Maureen - participant, Leah Cooper - Equilibre Health

The program provides an individual assessment of clients exercise capacity and medical history, followed by a tailored training and education program. The program offers one on one assessments, education sessions, exercise classes and individual home based exercise plans. The program typically runs for 6-8 weeks.

The PACE@indigo program is a partnership between Beechworth Health Service and Alpine Health and is an expansion of the existing PACE program delivered by Alpine Health. The PACE@indigo program was made possible

Indigo residents. PACE clients in the Alpine region have seen significant improvements over the past few years in their health and wellbeing after participating in the program and we look forward to seeing the same results in the Beechworth and Yackandandah communities".

Dianna (Dee) Piazza, Project Officer with the Hume Health Service Partnership stated that....."the Hume Health Service Partnership is delighted to support the PACE@indigo program with funding from the Better@Home initiative. The PACE@indigo program is a great example of health services working together to deliver services 'closer to home' and better health outcomes for local communities".

Emma Ghys, Community Services Manager at Alpine Health said "we look forward to supporting Beechworth Health Service in rolling out the PACE program for



It was standing room only on Wednesday, 10th May, 2023 when a community meeting was called by members of the Board to inform the community of what was happening with Yackandandah Health.

Yackity Yak put out a special 4 page supplement in April following Yack Health's AGM on 20th April, to inform the community of the implications of Yack Health's current financial situation, and what was likely to happen to the business and its residents, the Medical Surgery and Little Yacks. This can be found on our website at:

<https://www.ycdco.com.au/yackityyak-news>

At the time of going to print, members of Yack Health are awaiting to hear when a Special General Meeting is to be called so that the voting of selling the business to an unspecified buyer can be ratified. 75% of Yack Health members need to vote in favour of this to go ahead.

Further details can be sought from the Chair, Doug Westland on 0418 867 433 or via email on chair@yackhealth.com.au or from The Vice President and Secretary, Tim Evans on 0404 944 061 or via email on medley3749@gmail.com



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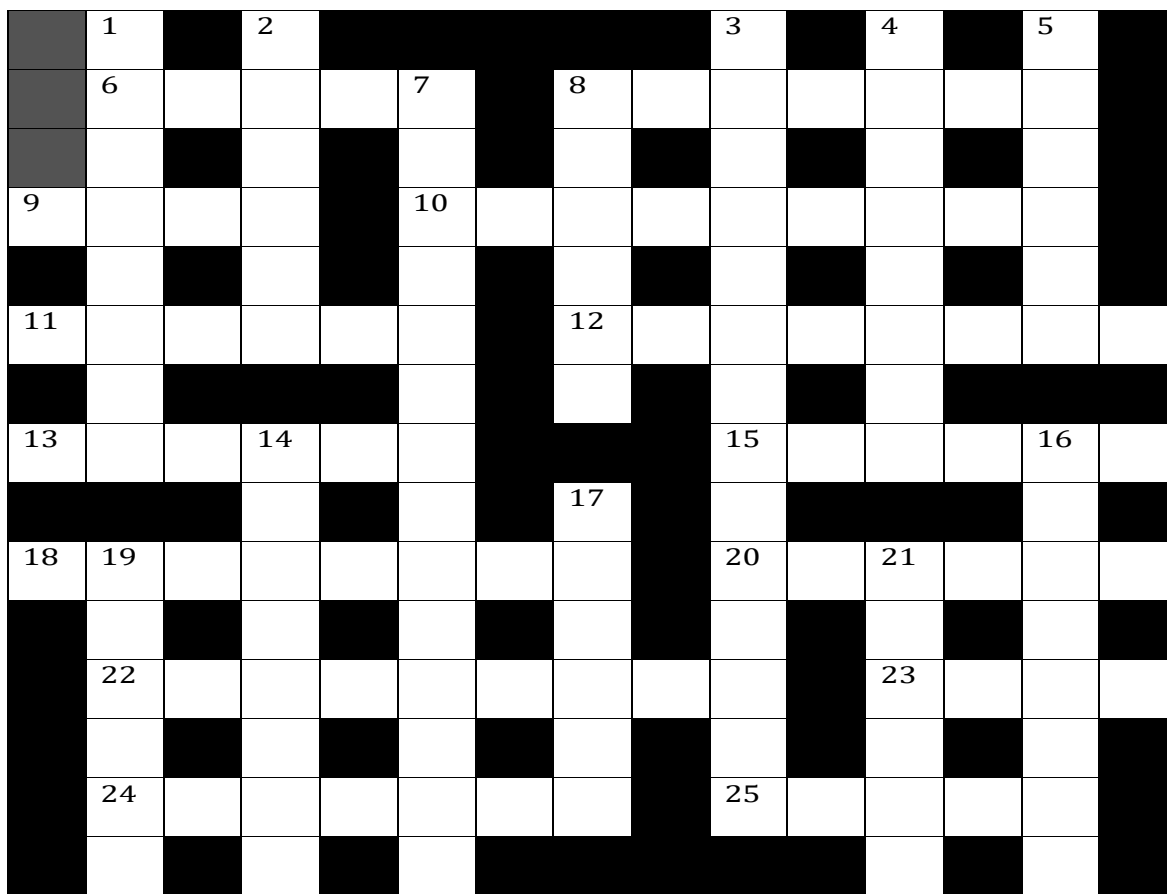
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Yackandandah VIC 3749
Phone: 03 5728 1866

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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD #11
Bill Buchanan



ACROSS

- 6 Squeeze before the ship! (5)
- 8 Confusing though related, but alarmed (7)
- 9 A backward song for diva (4)
- 10 Safe haven in Alaska (9)
- 11 A map will show this, holding elm, perhaps (6)
- 12 Fob watch for granddad? (3,5)
- 13 Litigant is not sure, having served papers (6)
- 15 Excited Van Gogh consumed lamb, it seems (6)
- 18 Mother has outfit with old-fashioned flower(8)
- 20 Miniature poodle told to drink (3,3)
- 22 Dumpy nose leads to new identity (9)
- 23 Hurry to give complicated care (4)
- 24 Good man is held by fish decoys but still shines (7)
- 25 Reportedly heavy barrel is found in N. Africa (5)

DOWN

- 1 Highbrow music brings up group, and works in the theatre (8)
- 2 Iron man changes gender (6)
- 3 Four drinks will take the driver there! (6,3,5)
- 4 Mint and sage can be cooked this way (8)
- 5 Layout instruction says where to stick the notice (6)
- 7 When under these, get ready to run! (8,6)
- 8 Heaviness at El Rancho will shorten 10! (6)
- 14 University poetry course covers a limitless range (8)
- 16 Devil may fear him if former spouse has gold and is in court (8)
- 17 Handsome chap has a party, not in secret initially (6)
- 19 Horrifies a very quiet, short, confused girl (6)
- 21 Father split role with mother (6)

**Answers to this Cryptic Crossword
can be found on page 33**

Dear Madam,

A MATTER OF TRUST

Aged care is in crisis across Australia so in some respects it is unsurprising that our own facility, Yackandandah Health (YH), is in dire straits. Nevertheless, the contents of the April special edition of Yackity Yak, together with matters discussed at the public meeting on May 10 were a shock to many locals

The YH's Annual Report 2021-2022 and the Auditor's report of 26 March 2023 make clear the parlous state of YH's finances. These documents unambiguously state the Board's proposal to "merge" YH with a larger aged care provider to achieve economies of scale. The Annual Report offers the following rationale:

"Having explored all available options, the Board is now convinced that the only way we can remain financially viable and continue to provide high-quality services into the future is to be part of a larger structure. Further: This course of action is not one the Board "recommends lightly, but it is the only one that guarantees the historic role played by Yackandandah Health in our community can continue, well into the current century."

I'm sure no-one doubts the integrity of the Board. I also believe that the community understands and is sympathetic to the problems the Board faced when searching for a practical solution to the current circumstances. It is clearly a wicked problem with no easy answers. But the time-line of events and lack of credible answers to specific questions at the May 10 meeting raises questions about the wisdom of the Board's decision-making.

After deferring the AGM from November 2022 to 20 April, 2023, the Board took guidance from legal and accounting advisors. This advice appears to have led to discussions with the Federal Government to apply for a Structural Adjustment Fund (SAF) grant under the Commonwealth Structural Adjustment Strategy (CSAS).

The CSAS strategy provides funding to ...*support aged care providers to transition ownership of a residential aged care facility to another approved provider or close their aged care facility.* (Dept. of Health and Aged Care. www.grants.gov.au)

A SAF grant of over three million dollars (\$3,001,900) to YH was approved by the Department of Health and Aged Care on 7 March, 2023. (www.grants.gov.au) The approval of this funding was prior to the Auditor's Report of 26 March and the AGM of 20 April, 2023. It appears that an agreement with the Department about a community-owned asset was reached without the community's knowledge.

At the 10 May meeting, questions were asked about the details of the grant and why the wider community was not informed about the overwhelming difficulties faced by YH. Board members made two points. Firstly, they said they were unable to answer questions about the grant funding because of confidentiality provisions. This is incorrect. The information is readily available to the public at www.grants.gov.au.

Secondly, the Board indicated they were reluctant to publicly disclose information to the wider community without having a realistic solution in mind in case it caused a high degree of anxiety and concern to residents and others. This is understandable. It makes sense to have possible solutions in mind before approaching the community. However, it doesn't explain why the Board chose to accept the grant and its conditions (i.e. sale or closure of the facility) prior to both the AGM and community consultation.

In 2002 when the petrol station was closing, the community rallied around a small group of directors who formed the Yackandandah Community Development Company (YCDCo). This ensured a continuing supply of fuel, protected the commercial viability of businesses and safeguarded the amenity of the town for residents and visitors. We have appreciated the benefits of a prosperous business, employment of staff and enjoyed YCDCo's contributions to local organisations.

I am not suggesting that the YCDCo model is appropriate for Yackandandah Health. I am saying it was the collective effort, expertise and spirit of the Yack community that enabled our town to survive and thrive.

What a shame the YH Board didn't see fit to trust us and bring the community with them on the journey.

Marian Robinson
Yackandandah



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YACKANDANDAH CFA

YACKANDANDAH FOLK FESTIVAL 2023

It was certainly great to have our Folk Festival back this year!



Two of our hard-working chefs Gavin Mascas (left) and Lt Chris Wingard.

Once again it provided the perfect opportunity for the Brigade to engage with our community, locals and visitors alike.

This year there was a new kids' activity for the kids which was certainly a big hit. The idea was to aim a fire hose at the target on the back of a small wooden fire truck and then, in a race between two participants, use the force of the water to propel the truck along a length of hose.

Also, a big hit were the egg and bacon rolls for sale with our chefs working flat out to keep up with demand! And while people were waiting, there was a community information stand on all things related to fire safety that they could browse.



Visitors up from Melbourne, Graeme Brown and his fiancée Pip Nott, with Graeme's mum, firefighter Ruth Yule enjoyed the egg and bacon rolls.

GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL

Good Friday this year looked like it was going to be spoiled due the wind and rain that had been going all night and into the morning. Just as the Yackandandah Fire Brigade rolled the trucks out and started hitting the sirens, the rain stopped and

held off until after we had finished the run. The state-wide Good Friday Appeal raised an amazing \$22,328,154 with Yackandandah community again digging deep. It was certainly cold, wet and miserable but that didn't stop people from coming out to pop their donations in the tins and wish us a Happy Easter.

I've been involved in the Good Friday Appeal with the Yackandandah Brigade for 9 years now and it's wonderful how many people in our community support the Royal Childrens Hospital. I get a real kick out the smiles and waves from the kids (big and small) who come out to see the trucks and say g'day. Thank you to everyone who got their donations in and of course the members of the Brigade who gave up there their time to make it happen. See you all again next year - Lieutenant Chris Wingard

TONY'S TREK - ONE STEP AT A TIME

The Brigade welcomed Tony Pearce, chair of the Emergency Services Foundation (ESF) and Victoria's Inspector-General for Emergency Management, to Yackandandah on April 20, during his 1440 charity trek.

While walking from Myrtleford to Yackandandah with guest walkers Amanda Lamont (representing her roles in CFA, Red Cross, Girls on Fire and Australasian Women in Emergencies) and former colleague Donovan Croucamp, he was met at Flaggy Creek sub-station by Yackandandah Tanker 2, and Brigade members Neil Padbury, Lt Andrew Padbury and Denis Brown.

On his arrival at the Yackandandah Fire station, he was greeted by Captain Yves Quaglio and other Brigade members.

To honour Tony's walk and to show their support, that evening 40 people sat down to a lovely Italian style "high carb" meal at the station. (Tony had to keep his energy levels up!) Local



Captain Yves Quaglio, Tony Pearce, Amanda Lamont and Neil Padbury on Tony's arrival at the station

emergency services attendees included members of Yackandandah, Allan's Flat and Wooragee Brigades, the SES and CERT, Tony's team, District 24 Commander Carl Stibilj, and Assistant Chief Fire Officer Paul King AFSM (who is on leave and was driving the safety escort vehicle). After an overnight stay in Yackandandah, Tony then walked on to Wodonga.

During his 50-day trek Tony has travelled through many of the areas affected by Victoria's 2019-20 Black summer, acknowledging the mental health impacts those fires had – and continue to have – on emergency workers and community members alike. The money he is raising will help fund two programs, a Lived Experience program which will see ESF train mental health ambassadors from across the sector to safely share their stories of mental health injury and recovery; and a pilot Residential Wellbeing Program to bring together emergency workers who are mentally struggling to help them process trauma and develop resilience skills.

To donate to Tony's charity walk and read about his trek, visit <https://esf.com.au/tonys-trek/>

VALE HELMUT REEB

The Brigade was saddened to hear of the recent



Helmut Reeb (left) with Theo Beemster and Sarie Los at Theo's recent 90th birthday celebration held at the fire station

death of Yackandandah firefighter and life member Helmut Reeb on April 19.

Helmut, who had been a member of the CFA for 41 years, was 88 years of age.

"Helmut was a valued member of our Brigade, and we will miss him and his great sense of humour," says Captain Yves Quaglio. "One never got bored going on a strike team with Helmut."

As a member of the Yackandandah Urban Brigade, Helmut was a lieutenant 1989-91, foreman in 1991-92, and 3rd lieutenant 1997-99.

After the Yackandandah urban and rural brigades amalgamated in 1999 to form the Yackandandah Fire Brigade, Helmut was a lieutenant from 1999-2001 and station officer until 2019. He was made honorary life member of the Brigade in 2014, the same year he received a National Emergency Medal for his contribution during the 2009 Victorian Bushfires.

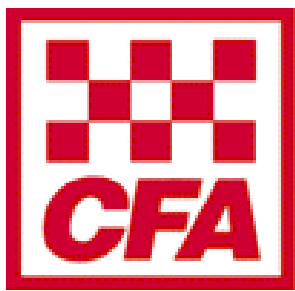
Continued on page 6



To report a fire:
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000
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cfa.vic.gov.au





Continued from page 5

LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Congratulations to all 20 of our members who were officially recognised for their years of service to the CFA at the recent Elections Meeting held on 8th May.

They were:

- 5 year certificate - Michael Edwards and Chris Tracy;
- 10 year medal - Margrit Beemster, Daniel Suffern, Ruth Yule and Dennis Zahra.
- 15 year medal - John House, Greg Lingham and Chris Wingard.
- 20 year medal - Cheryl Lundin, Jennie McKern, John Meyer, Andrew Padbury and Lauren Padbury.
- 25 year medal - Martin Los, Phil Newman, Yves Quaglio and Andrew Scheidl; and
- 30 year medal - Margaret Burbidge and Neil Padbury.



Members recognised for their years of service to the CFA with Commander Trevor Ebbels

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ali

Health and Caring in Yackandandah

We hear a lot about health care, and health services, and a lot of it seems pretty pessimistic. My story here is more congratulatory and thankful for the assistance we

recently received after an incident in the car park of Sir Isaac Isaacs Park. We were intending to walk in the park when our elderly visitor tripped over the wheel stop barriers and fell heavily onto the kerbing.



Repainted wheel stop kerbing - thanks to Indigo Shire Council

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The fall was seen by a member of the public who offered help and quickly went across to get assistance from Yack Health across the road. Thank you, Marcia. We were very soon attended by Claire Pyper and Genna Barber who quickly took stock and provided first aid assistance, as well as blankets and pillows for comfort, and arranged an ambulance. Other passer-byers offered assistance, including an umbrella as the skies darkened. There was more to it than expressed by these simple sentences: the purpose of this message being to say thank you to everyone who stepped up to help and express our gratitude for the professional support from Claire and Genna from Yack Health.

The assistance did not stop there. Claire was soon onto the Council and the wheel stop barriers are now painted a very visible yellow. We were fortunate to receive the assistance we did, and as a community we are fortunate to have Yack Health. Thank you everyone.

Max Finlayson
Yackandandah

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THE YACK SHACK

It's been another busy time for the men at the Yack Shack. A real mix of activities alongside the morning coffee and biscuits (including Tim Tams) and fruit cake, with due attention being paid to dietary and health issues. The latter was further exemplified by Larry Kern's healthy version of an ANZAC Day BBQ at the Shack. We were also pleased to provide support for the local RSL for their ANZAC Day ceremonies through a donation from the proceeds of our raffle for a trailer load of wood.

Now that the cool weather has descended across the valley, the wood raffle has been underway for the past two months with two local and appreciative winners. Further, as the demand for kindling has stepped up our team has been busy cutting, splitting and bagging the wood for sale at the service station. Given the high demand this is one of our seemingly never-ending tasks, and is undoubtedly a glowing contribution to the wellbeing of the wider community. There is a whole team of men associated with these tasks, and they are at it every week of the year – supplying kindling has become more than an exercise in cutting wood. At times, I also wonder if it is the equivalent of a water well in a village without a network of piped water to individual dwellings where residents gather to chat and share stories and sort out the furphies from the facts.

Other activities include Larry Kern building wicking garden beds for the Yack Gardening Club,



The Yack Shack's Kindling Cutting Crew

from moving them). Kevin Johnston has procured another flag pole for us to clean up and return to the grateful owners. There is a lot more, and we hope to showcase these efforts in further articles. All men are welcomed to come and join us – we meet on Tuesday mornings at the Yack Shack which is located at the end of the Yack Health Centre carpark.

We have continued to support a local effort to get more publicly accessible defibrillators in Yackandandah, and encourage others to contribute to this effort. Our specific health and wellbeing program included a talk from Steve Scott about the mechanics of the heart, or how the heart works. This follows on from a talk from the Heart Foundation, and is a part of our efforts to raise awareness about health and wellbeing issues in line with the very reasons for having Men's Sheds.

Besides making or building things we subscribe to the benefits that we can get from coming together and talking about things over a cuppa or listening to our guests or members. We are a small Shed in a small town, and our Men represent an abundance of experience and wisdom from across many walks of life, and are ready to share this. Personally, my chainsaw has never been so sharp – thanks to Frank and his penchant for sharpening everything that can be sharpened and will stay still long enough! But that is just a small example.

We also witness evolving changes in the lives of our members. One of the recent ones is that the widely

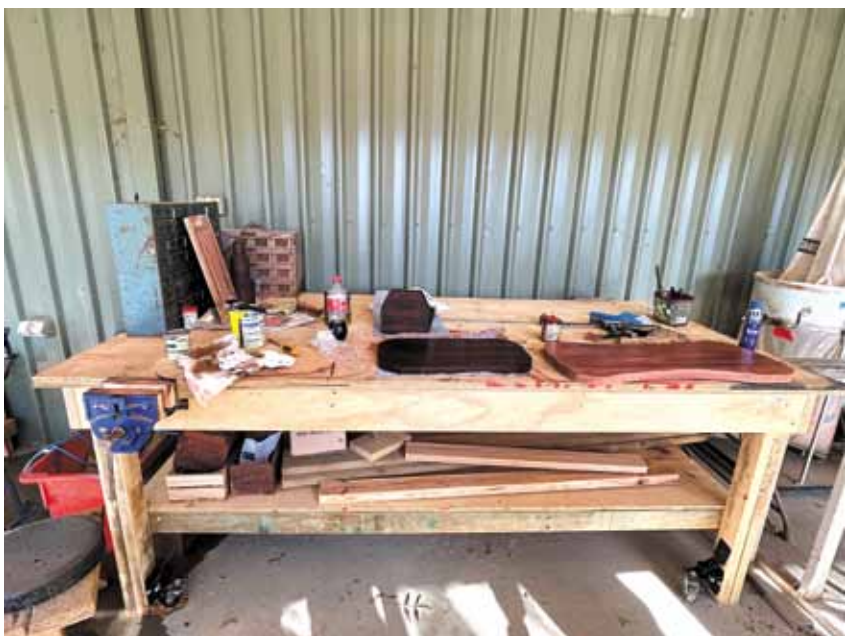
recognised 1964 EH Holden station wagon has gone to a collector in Sydney with the previous proud and patient owner modernising with a 2016 Mini Clubman Cooper S that goes like the speed of light, and has a dashboard with more lights than the Yack Christmas decorations. Our President also upgraded his car and is in wonderment

about the mysteries of what has replaced the dashboard. Soon we may have cars that drive themselves!

The same bloke also humorously regaled us with stories about local larrikins from an earlier time in Yack. The one that took my interest covered the frolicking good fun he and 4-5 mates had when they borrowed three or four paddock wagons from the back of the old Esso service station in High Street, surreptitiously crossing the High Street, down the Star Lane and into Windham Street and out into the forest. Once there they just drove around as young blokes did, and sometime later got their drivers licences (they were only lads at the time). The only real problem they faced was getting around the army doing recovery training/exercises in the forest and always being in the middle of the road when the lads came around the bends at what they considered to be reasonable speeds. This does not mean they had little regard for their own safety or that of our service personnel. They all came through unscathed, their driving skills improved inordinately, and they eventually passed their driving tests without too much testing actually needed. Oh, for the old days and in manual geared cars, of course.

Why these stories took my interest is now largely obscured by time, and probably had something to do with having had an EH Holden ute while living on the edge of a small town somewhere else in this great land. Now we share stories at the Yack Shack – come and join us and chat and join in our new projects, or undertake your own specific projects in our workshop and work areas.

*Max Finlayson
Secretary, Yackandandah Men's Shed*



The Mark Eyre mobile bench being put to good use

and showing other members how this is done. Neil Padbury has led efforts to frame jigsaw puzzles for Yack Health, and similarly, showing others how this intricate task of framing is done. Our second RUOK (Are You OK) bench has been completed for use by the Cemetery Trust, with the other being installed in the Isaac Isaacs Park. Mark Eyre has completed building new work benches for use at the Shack – they are beauties and can be easily moved through the neat addition of retractable wheels (no strained backs

OSBORNES FLAT HALL

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OSBORNES FLAT PRIMARY SCHOOL

At Osbornes Flat Primary School, we have been working really hard on revising our school values. As a school we are using three values that are overseen by RESPECT. Here at Osbornes Flat Primary School 'We show respect for our environment, we show respect for ourselves, and we show respect for everyone.' To emphasise the importance of this, our school now recognises a student at our school assembly that has earned a 'Values Card'.



Clancy receiving his Values Card

Cooking continues to be a major part of our curriculum on a fortnightly basis at Osbornes Flat Primary School. Students have been using school grown produce to make some delicious foods. They have made taco bowls, zucchini cake, zucchini slice, broccoli soup, beetroot cake and currently are airing out some popping corn.

The school's



Checking out the school grown produce at lunchtime



Isaac and Doug at the GRIP Leadership Conference

On Wednesday, 3rd May our School Captain, Douglas Greig, and School Vice-Captain, Isaac Schmidt, travelled to Albury to participate in the GRIP (Generosity, Responsibility, Impact, People) Student Leadership Conference. The main take away for the day was having an insight into how to be an 'others first' leader. It will be great to see the leaders put their knowledge into action.



Cooking - a very important part of our curriculum

vegetable garden is a valued asset as it teaches our students the importance of growing your own produce and reducing food miles during cost of living pressures.

We can be contacted on 02 6027 1415 and always happy to discuss our school and the facilities we offer.

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YACK ANDANDAH WOMEN'S SHED

The Women's Shed is steaming ahead with lots of exciting things happening. We successfully gained a grant from the Yackandandah Community Centre which will be used to purchase lockable storage for our tools and extra shelving for our shed at the Old Jam Factory. Our tools have been sorted, organised and tested and the "Woodies Group" is raring to go!

Some of our members have involved themselves

OSBORNES FLAT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Come and see what Osbornes Flat Primary School can offer your child and family; we are ready to provide the best education and school facilities for your child and family.

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with P.A.D.S.L.I.P (Positive Ageing Digital Storytelling Intergenerational Project). This is a remarkable project that integrates primary school aged children with older members of our Community where stories are told and made into short digital presentations. This intergenerational project will foster shared knowledge, wisdom and experience as well as strengthening bonds between older and younger folk. Mark Silver from the Swinburne University Wellbeing Clinic for Older Adults is the co-ordinator. Mark is a new resident to Yack who brings a wealth of knowledge, and his wife, Julia, is an active member of the Women's Shed. (See also page 16 for further details.)

We have catered for the Anzac Day Singalong and the Yack Theatre Group's production of "Imperfect" recently.... We are getting ourselves a name for providing yummy afternoon teas! Thanks again to all the members who have either baked or helped in the kitchen preparing and cleaning up.

We now have quite a number of groups who meet regularly learning new skills and enjoying the company of like-minded women. Recently we held a three session workshop to learn basic drawing techniques led by local artist Suzannah Lees. The ladies enjoyed Sue's stress-free approach to drawing and have asked to continue the workshops on a monthly basis.

Basket Weaving with our own Shakira Spargo proved to be a winner! She has worked with two groups of members now and the ladies were so pleased with the little baskets they had made. We are excited to participate in a "Weaving with wild grasses" workshop with Susan Cole in the coming months.

The Mosaics group continue to meet monthly at the Old Jam Factory. They are creating some wonderful

introduce the group to carving into their clay pieces.

Mandala drawing led by Lisa Mandipensa has produced some fabulously creative work amongst our group. The ladies try to catch up once a month at the YCC meeting room.

A fledgling textile group for patchworkers, quilters and all types of sewing has just commenced. We are fortunate to have the talented patchworker, Juliana Vaughan amongst our members to share her skills with us.



Basketweaving at the Old Jam Factory

There is great excitement amongst the newly established group of Wood Carvers, led by Bob Cox. It sure looks like the Old Jam Factory will get lots of use. Rex Little - the Women's Shed thank you for your kind and generous offer for us to use that amazing space!!

Our newest workshop offering is learning how to make IBC Wicking beds. Information on joining any of these groups or workshops can be obtained by contacting yackwomensshed@gmail.com

Joining the Women's Shed may be just what you need.... friendship, learning new skills, sharing your knowledge and helping the community. Yearly fees are only \$25 which gives you a reduction in cost on most workshops. We'd love to have you join us.

Lynne Davies

The Yack Womens Shed is proud to be auspiced by YCC

work. It is so great to have this space to get dirty in! Well-known local Ceramic artist, Gail Cox has been teaching our Ceramics group techniques like coiling and slab building. Upcoming workshops will



Yackandandah Primary School



CHILD STARTING SCHOOL IN 2024?

Steps to enrol your child in Foundation (Prep) for the 2024 school year

To start primary school in 2024, your child will need to turn 5 years old by 30 April 2024. Schooling is compulsory for children who have turned 6 years old.

If your child is starting Foundation in 2024, you will be able to apply to enrol your child in a Victorian government primary school from the start of Term 2, 2023 (Monday 24 April 2023).

What you need to do:

1. If you feel the need to, download the 'Foundation Enrolment Information Pack for Parents/Carers.'
2. Use [Find my School Victoria](#) to locate your designated neighbourhood school (referred to as your local school) and other nearby government schools.
3. Contact a government primary school to book a school tour or to learn more about the school. The school will provide you with an enrolment form to complete.
4. **Submit an enrolment application by Friday 28 July 2023 (no longer September).**
5. If you receive an enrolment offer, you should accept the offer by Friday 25 August 2023.
6. Take part in transition sessions during Term 4, 2023.
7. Your child will start Foundation from Tuesday 30 January 2024.

Enrolment applications submitted after 28 July 2023 will be processed by the school as they are received, in accordance with the Department of Education's Placement Policy.

Your child has a right to enrol at their local school. Your child's local school is determined on the basis of their permanent residential address.

School and Principal Contact Details:

Middle Indigo Primary School - James Farley - (02) 6026 9235
Osbornes Flat Primary School - Alisha Watson - (02) 6027 1415
Yackandandah Primary School - Michael Edwards - (02) 6027 1431
Wooragee Primary School - Angela Gray - (03) 5728 7255

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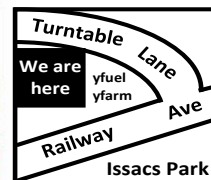
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ON EXHIBITION

The following strategic documents are currently on public exhibition:

- Draft Budget 2023/24
- Draft Operating Income and Expense by Service Plan
- Draft 10-Year Financial Plan
- Draft Revenue and Rating Plan
- Updated Council Plan 2021-2025

All documents can be viewed on our website or you can call our Customer Experience Team if you require assistance accessing the documents.

Anyone wishing to make a submission should address their submission in writing to the CEO by 5pm Tuesday 6 June to info@indigoshire.vic.gov.au, by mail to PO Box 28, Beechworth 3747, or through our website.

Submissions may be made public as part of the Council reports – if you do not wish your personal details to be included, please indicate this in your submission.

www.indigoshire.vic.gov.au/budget

YACK LIBRARY

Yackandandah Library news



The Warm Winter Read returns!

This season as the temperature drops we want you to make time for yourself and your chosen story every day. Starting 1st June, you can build your reading habit with the Beanstack app or pick up a Reading Journal from your library. While reading is its own reward, you'll also go in the running to win some bookish prizes! Not sure where to start? Your local librarian can't wait to help you find your next great read.

Top Titles

Come in and choose from some of the latest releases on our Top Titles shelves. These copies are not available for holds but for borrowers to come in and collect. New titles always arriving at the library!

Victorian Power Saving Bonus

Do you need some help applying for the 2023 Victorian Power Saving Bonus? Our library staff are happy to help with this or other technology related questions. We also have free computer access and free wifi available.

Storytime

Yackandandah Storytime is on every Thursday morning at 9.30 am during school terms. Pre-schoolers and their carers are invited to read some stories, sing some songs and generally have a great time. All welcome.

Yackandandah Library is open Monday- Friday 9.00 am-5.00 pm and on Saturday mornings 9.30 am-12.00pm.

Please contact us with any enquiries on 02 6028 1180 or yackandandalibrary@indigoshire.vic.gov.au

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Making an Existing Home More Energy Efficient



Julia and Ryan outside, showing the new windows

This is hopefully the first of a series of articles initiated by Totally Renewable Yackandandah where innovations taken by local people to reduce their carbon footprint are described.

When Julia Bridge and Ryan Shaw purchased their house in Yackandandah in 2021 it already had an electric induction cooktop and oven. It also had a reverse cycle air conditioner with underfloor ducting to distribute cool or hot air as required throughout the house. After getting advice from a sustainable energy consultant, they have undertaken several other improvements to make their home even more energy efficient and sustainable.

The major change so far has been to replace the windows in the house with unplasticized polyvinyl chloride (uPVC) framed, double glazed windows. They have also installed new exterior doors made from uPVC.

One of the advantages of uPVC is its high thermal insulation properties so the framing does not readily conduct heat. This contrasts with aluminium which is a good conductor of heat and uPVC is also superior to wood as a thermal insulator. UPVC is durable, low maintenance, recyclable and available in a variety of colours and finishes. The windows are well sealed in the closed position and provide good sealing properties for the air or gas inserted between the glass panes in

double glazed designs. Window frames made of uPVC are common in Europe and North America.

The use of double glazed windows provides an insulation layer (air or argon gas) between the panes of glass which reduces heat conduction through the window.

This means in winter the conduction of heat from inside the house to the outside is greatly reduced and in summer the conduction of heat from the outside to inside the house is limited. Shading the windows in summer with external blinds or eaves prevents heating by radiation energy from the sun. Conversely, in winter the double glazed windows if exposed to sunlight still allow heating by direct radiation

from the sun. To reduce heat losses through the ceilings R5 insulation batts were installed over the existing R1 batts.

Another improvement made by Julia and Ryan is the installation of internal honeycomb blinds, also known as cellular blinds. The honeycomb fabric structure traps air, providing a thermal insulating layer that prevents heat loss.

The LPG hot water service has been replaced by an electric heat pump. Heat pumps are effectively an air conditioner trying to cool the outside air by taking heat out of the air and putting it into water in the case of a

hot water system, or the air in your house as in the heating function of a reverse cycle air conditioner. The big advantage is for 1 kW of electrical energy you can typically get 3kW of heat transferred (via the wonders of thermodynamics, heat exchangers, gas expansion and electric motors driving gas compressors).

Julia and Ryan borrowed Totally Renewable Yackandandah's thermal imaging camera to identify drafts from gaps that needed sealing around skirting boards, cornices and in the timber floor. With an airtight house there is consideration being given to the installation of a heat recovery ventilation system where cold fresh air being drawn into the house is heated in a heat exchanger by the warm air inside the house being discharged to the outside. Appropriate shade planting around the house and the installation of rainwater tanks for garden use are to happen next.

Other plans include installing 20 kW of Photovoltaic panels together with a house battery and the purchase of an Electric Vehicle.

Julia and Ryan are to be commended for their efforts in improving the energy efficiency of an older style home.

Chris Lello & Kevin Poyner



Honeycomb blinds and electric radiator

LOST EMPIRE

Shadows of a former world
Lost to history
Greater glories
Now evaporated

Buildings remain
Memories linger now well degraded
Of some who lived these exploits
Long gone now.

Whispering whisps
Not even ghostly shadows
Lost in a veil of purple haze

Empire. Kings of the world all lost
Unwanted shards now scattered
To obscure remote outposts
Almost embarrassing anachronisms

Decaying museums
Laden dusty remnants
Telling tales of forgotten glories
For which the venom of nostalgia pines deeply
(and badly cuts to this day)

Any vision of the future blinded
By tunnel vision
Of only seeing the world
Through the rear vision mirror

Stephen Masters



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The Woodroffe Family



The Pistol Packing Woodroffe Family

We travelled from home in Mildura to the International Shooting Sport Federation Victoria State Titles for pistol shooting at Yackandandah Pistol Club on Friday, 10th March. In our family we have Pat (Ma), Woody (Pa), daughter Viona and her daughter, Tahlia, and three of the four of us shoot, and you need covered in shoes to shoot.

On arrival at the Yackandandah Pistol Club, Pa realises he only had his sandals to wear... We become panicked as Pa had to shoot soon, so

into town we go on the search to buy some shoes. We went to the supermarket thinking that there would be some local knowledge there, to save time.

We have to give a shout out to Owen who answered the question saying there was nowhere to buy shoes, but he continued to take his own shoes off his feet, and asked Pa if they will do. With that Pa tried them and said they will do the job nicely. With that, Owen was leaving in his socks and just said "leave them on the verandah when you're done with them..."

"Well, you'd better give us your address so we get the right verandah!" Now I've heard of 'the shirt off your back' but now 'the shoes off my feet!' A lovely country gesture that left Pa happy and proud to shoot in the shoes of a true gentleman and Owen will not be forgotten for a very long time.

Again, thank you Owen.



Woody Woodroffe checking out Owen's trainers for a good fit

*Passed on by Ruth Rennick
Yackandandah Pistol Club.*



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Regarding Newspapers...

It's amazing that the amount of news that happens in the world every day always just exactly fits the newspaper. *Jerry Seinfeld*

I am unable to understand how a man of honour could take a newspaper in his hands without a shudder of disgust. *Charles Baudelaire*

I read the newspaper avidly. It is my one form of continuous fiction. *Aneurin Bevan*

Newspapers always excite curiosity. No one ever lays one down without a feeling of disappointment. *Charles Lamb*

A weekday edition of the New York Times contains more information that the average person was likely to come across in a lifetime in seventeenth century England. *Rich Saul Wurman*

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Yackandandah Real Estate & Buyer Recommendations

Contributor: Jamie Horne – Principal - Indigo Real Estate

The Yackandandah and regional real estate market continues to experience strong buyer and renter demand, albeit with some notable changes, specifically to buyer demographics, budgets, and the conditions some buyers are proposing for a purchase.

Evidentially supported by recent sales, buyer activity and demand are strong for residential homes up to \$800,000. Quality, lifestyle, and small acreage properties continue to achieve results above \$1,000,000.



Rental demand in Yackandandah and surrounds also remains strong with a broad range of prospective active renters with budgets ranging from \$300pw to \$750pw.

We are now seeing buyers enter the market with differing proposed conditions and it is opportune to revisit the ideal process when purchasing a home.

1. Know your budget: If necessary, speak with your lender to confirm your capacity before putting in an offer. This is even more important in the current rising interest rate cycle. A pre-approval from six months ago, when rates were lower, may no longer be valid.
2. Stamp Duty: Be sure to factor in the cost of Government Stamp Duties for your purchase.
3. Research properties: Once you have a clear idea of your budget, and borrowing capacity, start researching properties that meet your needs and attend open homes and inspections.
4. Research which legal representative you will engage for conveyancing before you make any offer to buy.
5. Make an offer: Once you have found a property that you are interested in, make an offer. The real estate agent will guide you through this process. You may also wish to consider arranging for building and pest inspections.
6. Deposit: If your offer is accepted, be prepared to pay a deposit of 10% of the agreed price.
7. Subject to Sale: We are now seeing some buyers wanting to submit offers 'subject to the sale' of another property. Whilst some vendors may consider this, it is not ideal. If this is applicable to you, let the agent know before inspecting a property or making an offer.
8. Settlement: Once your offer has been accepted, you will have a period of time to satisfy any contractual conditions and proceed to settlement. This involves paying the balance due, stamp duty and legal fees, and transferring ownership of the property.
9. Moving in: After settlement, you can move into your home. This can be both exciting and stressful so it's important to be well-organised, including the connection of your utilities.
10. Questions: If you have any questions or are unsure of any part of the buying process a good real estate agent, or conveyancer / solicitor will be able to assist.

Buying a home can be a complex process, but with the right guidance and support, it can also be an exciting and rewarding experience. By following these steps, you can ensure that you find the right home and enjoy all the benefits of home ownership in and around Yackandandah.

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



I took some photos of the best dressed person at the Yackandandah Folk Festival after observation over the three days, and bought a tie for the winner and a card.

The winner, Etienne Bramwells, was a visitor from Melbourne. He was with his friend Finn from Daylesford who is associated with the McGowan family. He was overjoyed at his prize – an Italian silk tie and promptly put it on.

I think Best Dressed could be a feature each year and I would be happy to be the spotter and organise a suitable prize.
Jann Stewart

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This information session introduces you to the Healthy Hectares NE program and how it will help you better manage your land through learning new skills and knowledge, and the development of a property plan.

SUNDAY JULY 23

YACKANDANDAH PUBLIC HALL

10 - 11 AM

REGISTER online: trybooking.com/CIHKR

This information session is **FREE** to attend

Morning tea provided

For further information, please contact Healthy Hectares Project Officer - Gervaise Gaunt by email: healthyhectaresne@wodongalandcare.org.au



This project is supported by the North East Catchment Management Authority's Our Catchments Our Communities Project, through funding from the Victorian Government.

On Saturday, 1st April, local residents Michael Daws and Jess Hughan celebrated their country wedding and reception at their Yack property with sixty of their close friends and family. The wedding was conducted by local celebrant Angela Bishop.

Congratulations to the newlyweds,
Jess and Michael!



YCC would like to congratulate the YCC Community Grant recipients for 2023.

We have had a large number of applicants this year, it has been great to see such a wide range of projects that our community members are committing to.

These projects contribute to keeping our towns assets maintained, improving communications for our emergency response teams, ensuring our beautiful streetscape stays beautiful and supporting our towns transition to clean energy.

YCC is where our community connects and grows together, and we look forward to showcasing these projects throughout the year.

Jane Murphy
Manager
Yackandandah Community
Centre



YACKANDANDAH COMMUNITY CENTRE

2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Yack Tracks - Maintenance Tools
Yack Riding Club - Rodent Traps
Yack SES - UHF radios
Yack CERT - UHF radios & recovery gear
Yack Womens Shed - Workshop benches
Yack Garden Club - Garden beds & chairs
TRY - 2nd town battery
Lions Club - Community event
Yack Golf Club - Maintenance Tools
Yack Health - Syringe driver

YCC IS WHERE OUR COMMUNITY
CONNECTS AND GROWS TOGETHER

POWERING UP COMMUNITY ENERGY

Have you considered the way in which the profit is being used by your electricity retailer?

Well, did you know that local retailer, Indigo Power is based in Beechworth, employs local people, has local investors and will distribute up to 50% of their profits back to the advancement of community energy? Reminiscent of YCDCo.

Throughout the northeast, Indigo Power supports and auspices the North East Community Energy Network (NECEN) which comprises up to 20 community groups. They are playing a transformative role in the Upper Murray with new energy investments, and they even own and operate Yack's innovative community battery – Yack 01.

In partnership with TRY, Indigo Shire and YCDCo, they also operate Yack's first Electric Vehicle charger. There is much to love!

Now they are also going to offer a \$10K prize to support one community participating in NECEN with a community energy project. Other prizes are available as well, including the funded installation of ten Mondo Ubi smart control devices for customers who sign up by the end of June. If successful, it will help solve a funding shortfall for Yack 02, potentially a 200kWh battery at the Sports Park.

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Matthew Charles-Jones (TRY) and Ben McGowan (Indigo Power) at the Launch of Yack 01.

NEW HYUNDAI IONIQ 6 COMES TO YACK

With the advent of an EV charger in Yack, TRY was excited to recently be asked to participate in the launch of Hyundai's latest EV. Local resident Robynne was a big part of the day and describes how it came about.

"The launch of a new car is a huge undertaking, involving months of planning, logistics, and securing busy journalists to

report on the new technology. When the PR team in my company [Hyundai] mentioned they were looking to do the new car launch 'from a little town in north-east Victoria... it's got a weird name, something like Yacka... not far from Beechworth', my first thought was to shrink into the corner and hide. I didn't want all these people invading our little town. "But then somebody said 'that's where Robynne lives' and the boss asked me to tell him about our town and why we should

launch our new baby there. I immediately went into 'PR mode' and was soon extolling our town's progressive vision and Totally Renewable Yackandandah (TRY)."

Robynne now says that the automotive industry is abuzz with excitement following the launch of the IONIQ 6. Hyundai were excited to launch the vehicle in Yack as they feel it complements Yackandandah's leading role in embracing sustainable

technology. The car itself has a sleek and futuristic design, using lightweight eco materials and sustainably produced materials in the interior. The vehicle's battery can be charged in as little as 18 minutes, making it practical for drivers on the go.

The launch event was hosted at the Star Hotel and was also the starting point for the test drive program. A demonstration showed household appliances powered directly from the car, a feature called V2L or Vehicle to Load. This is a feature that will become more prominent as EVs become more common – with significant energy stored in the vehicle battery, it can be used for alternative uses when the vehicle isn't on the road and may augment or replace a home battery system.

Hyundai are working hard on their mission to promote sustainable transportation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and looked for a launch location that reflected that. With Yack's charging station, Robynne said it was an ideal location for motoring journalists to test-drive the IONIQ 6 on



Robynne stands next to the IONIQ 6 as it charges at the Yackandandah EV charger, which is owned by YCDCo, operated by Indigo Power and situated on Indigo Shire land. Photo credit: TRY

the scenic roads around the area. She also says the launch of the IONIQ 6 in Yackandandah was seen as a significant milestone in the transition towards a more sustainable future for the automotive industry and Hyundai. The journalists were also impressed with the town's progressive

"energy" message and beautiful ambience. TRY are pleased to help promote energy transition in the transport sector, where people will benefit from reduced running and maintenance costs, and reduced emissions and pollution. As the EV charging network expands and people consider replacing their existing vehicles, more options will become accessible and the technology will introduce other benefits, such as V2L. More than 100 years after the first internal combustion engines hit the road, another foundational shift in transport is occurring and TRY is excited to participate.

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PADSIP (POSITIVE AGEING DIGITAL STORYTELLING INTERGENERATIONAL PROJECT)

Yackandandah Health has been successful in receiving an Indigo Shire Council Community Grant for an Intergenerational Digital Storytelling Project partnering with Yackandandah Primary School.

The idea is for the students from Grade 6 at Yackandandah, Wooragee & Osborne Flat Primary Schools to meet together with older adults from Yackandandah Health as well as from the local community, to share experiences and stories and to learn from each other. It is very much a win-win for all involved. The students benefit greatly in learning from the lived experience of the adults and the adults learn lots from the students' view of the world as well as imparting their wisdom and knowledge.

We are also seeking members of the Yackandandah community to be involved as participants or volunteer facilitators. Already we have had fabulous support from the Women's Shed and are grateful for their support. We already had an initial meet & greet with the students and some of the adults which was fantastic. One of the participants was a teacher in the 1990s and not only taught some of the parents of the students, but also even some of the grandparents - something the students were fascinated to hear!

The program will start officially on 18th July, 2023 from 10:30-11:30 am at the Primary School and run weekly every Tuesday at that time over the whole term.

We have been meeting monthly planning the program. The meetings are held on the last Monday of the month from 4-5pm in the Meeting Room at the Yackandandah Community Centre for anyone interested in being involved in planning the program.

There will be an information launch session to be held on Tuesday, 13th June from 5:30-6:30pm at the Primary School

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

John & Tom – Friendship through Intergenerational Programs

In 2007, John, then in his late 70s, met Tom as a shy and quiet 15 year old student. They "immediately hit it off" as John put it and this became the start of a lasting friendship as John became an adopted member of the Tom's family.

Tom and John were participants in a multi-media storytelling project called PADSIP. This was a new program bringing together a local high school, Hawthorn Secondary College and the Elgin St. Centre, a nearby day activity program for older adults run by Uniting Aged Care.

But then John's voice grew louder as he remarked how when he met Tom, he "warmed to his family's warmth", how John "learnt to think with his heart not his mind" and about the "great pride" he had "in seeing Tom grow from a shy reserved boy, blossoming into a young man of independence, being able to give expression to his impressive intelligence and capabilities". John said if he had had a son he would have wanted him to be like Tom. Tom was his first pupil. John took great joy in being a mentor and became a mentor for several other students too.



A PADSIP Yack meeting held in Yack Primary School recently

John with his wonderful sense of humour confessed that he "had no idea what was going on with the program but it felt good to him; so he went along with it anyway, just like a song". He loved to sing. John went on to reflect that he was able to "build himself up, gaining a better understanding of himself and feeling better inside". John had long lost contact with family and had felt quite alone.

Something, John said had got to him. "Storytelling came from the heart of people". John had every faith in Tom. "Tom can do anything" and he was very proud when Tom announced about starting film school at Victoria University in Footscray.

The idea was for the generations to meet together, exchange stories and develop a short story using photographs, video, narrative, music and art work. Tom and John made a 5 minute digital story together entitled "Comparing Lives" which highlighted their commonalities and differences and included John singing "Melancholy Baby".

Over the next few years their friendship grew closer and in October 2010, in celebration of a special community award for the program, Tom & John were invited to be guest speakers. Tom was then completing his last year at school and John despite greater frailty was still involved in the program. We watched their story again and John spoke first.

John mentioned about being "a drifter most of his life" and how he was "in a hell of a mess" with his increasing visual loss and mounting health concerns and his sadness about being more seriously ill.

When John took terminally ill, Tom was there by his bedside supported by his parents and family. Tom was with John at the last.

For Tom it was such a natural thing for him to do. "Of course that is just what you do". You sit there all day and you play John's favourite music and you put headphones on him so that he can be soothed by songs he loves like "Danny Boy" and "Autumn Leaves".....

John died peacefully with his good friend there with him all the way.

In delivering John's eulogy, Tom expressed his gratitude for having John introduced into his life and for being able to give John some sense of family and belonging.

How proud and at peace John would have been to hear such things from a young boy turned man.

John has left a legacy of everlasting gifts. His singing continues. John's humanity, his love and the importance that he placed on connection and friendship not only have passed to Tom, but also in all of us.

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

Life often travels a full circle and in the interesting story of Don Wishart, that certainly is the case. Don and wife Linda have retired to Yackandandah after many years away working and creating their beautiful family.

Don was born in Wedderburn on the 28th June, 1953 to parents Ellis and Jean. Ellis was a cabinetmaker and ex-serviceman. His mother Jean worked as a kind and caring mother to Don and his three sisters, June, Carol, and Wendy. The family moved to Yackandandah in 1954 to take up residence and proprietorship of the Yackandandah General Store and Milk Bar, now the site of the newly renovated Sue Ellen's drapery in High St. The Northeys, who owned the bottom pub were the landlords. Don's parents' decision to move to Yackandandah was prompted by a family holiday to the town shortly after Don being born and like most folk, they fell in love with the beauty of the North East and in particular, Yackandandah.

Business at the shop was brisk. The stream of workers on their way to and from the Snowy Mountain scheme ensured that the family lived a good life. They served meals, take away and general groceries in what was a modest shop and house. Don's parents provided for others in the community who were less fortunate. Friday night meals at the Wisharts often included those who were down on their luck including Freddie Reid, a local prospector. There was always someone who needed a meal and there was always someone to be helped.

The children became part of the community attending the Yackandandah Primary School getting up to plenty of mischief. The usual antics ensued, cutting up the strap, laying string traps across the road for motorists coming into town, mates delighting in the squeal of the brakes and the driver cursing, threatening to throttle those kids. Ringing the old town fire bell at all hours, the famous battles of strength between Ellis and Dave Garvey. Hanging around the pool and playing war games down at the creek represented the incredible freedom Don felt growing up in Yackandandah. Herbie Evers, the local policeman kept a close eye on the youngsters but collaborated closely with the parents, especially Ellis Wishart. Ellis, being the man he was, supported Herbie, necessitated by having a sole policeman in the village. There was 'The Shack' as it was called, a popular meeting place for young people in town. It was the garage at Boulton's house, located on the corner of Wellsford and Windham Street. Music, gossip and 'socialising' between local youth kept everyone behaving in the one place where a close eye could be kept on the wild ones of Yackandandah.

Not everything was perfect, however. A memorable incident occurred during a school vaccination program, with a single needle used to immunize the entire class; being so blunt, the needle remained in the arm of the student before Don in the queue. This left Don in fear of injections for some years to come. Ellis and Jean's business continued to be profitable, Ellis extended the original brick building with a dining area to the east side which some will remember before the current renovations. Don found the

time to help himself to sweets and made a point of sharing with friends.

Trouble was brewing when Willy 'Muff' opened a store opposite the Wisharts in direct competition. The shops in Yackandandah did not provide for tourists as they do now, stores were there to supply the neighbourhood and those on their way to somewhere. The Snowy scheme had wound down, and the winds of change were blowing. By the late 1960's, Don's parents had to sell up. Everything had to be sold, and life changed forever.



Many lifelong friends were made by Don in Yackandandah including Michael Deus, the son of the then local butcher. Don had never forgotten their generosity, compassion and the friendship afforded to him in childhood. Tim Deus would often provide the train fare that allowed Don to make the journey home to Yack to visit friends and reconnect. The embarrassment of the family going broke and local friends being so supportive enshrined Don's sense of social justice.

The family moved to Mont Albert in Melbourne after the shop and its remaining stock was liquidated. As a fifteen-year-old, Don remembered the toll the war had placed on his father, the stress of having to sell up in Yackandandah and his father's

frequent stays at the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital.

As the years passed, the family moved to Seville East where Don's father took up a farm manager position while Don attended school in Lilydale. The school excelled in art and had outstanding staff who were inspirational. They were able to identify and encourage Don's interest and talents in art. Don was a keen footballer and played footy for Glen Iris and before that, junior football for Wandin.

On completion of high school, Don was employed by Melbourne textile artist, Max Wymant, in Brunswick. His designs included work for Courtauld's clothing, Acorn fabrics of Sydney and Piz Buin. Interestingly, most of these fabrics were printed in Victoria and formed part of the Avant Garde designs of the early 1970's. Don sought to further his career in 1974, after four years with Max.

He travelled to the UK seeking opportunities to enhance his career but found that as an Australian, he was ineligible to work as the industry was a closed union shop which turned out to be perhaps one of the ironies of his work history.

After nine months of travel throughout Europe, visiting as many Art galleries as possible and supplementing his income making jam for Cadbury Schweppes in a truly multi-cultural work environment, Don returned to Australia.....destitute but with a wealth of cultural experience!

Continued on page 18



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Quality And Reliability

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

Don Wishart

By late 1969, Don's family had moved to Blackburn South and there as chance would have it, Don's new neighbour had a friend by the name of Linda. Don and Linda formed a relationship over the years and that relationship endured even while Don was overseas.

The young feisty artist and the Mandeville Hall, private school girl's relationship grew but potential trouble was brewing! Linda's father was not happy. Don was not going to be good enough for his daughter. Linda's father gave Don a phone number that he instructed Don to call. It was the Playboy Club in London. Don has always presumed that his father-in-law gave him the number to distract him from contacting Linda. Poor advice and in 1975 they became engaged to marry the following year... on Don's birthday, 1976! Don and Linda enjoyed their honeymoon in Tasmania and so began their love of the apple island. Their first home was sharing a house in Surrey Hills with an elderly landlady who Don and Linda assisted with her daily life.

After qualifying as a teacher in 1978, the couple moved to take up Don's first posting to Bairnsdale Tech. With them was Joel, their first child. The family moved into the Department of Education's Principal's House - the best house available. By May 1979, Miranda was born. By the time they farewelled Bairnsdale in 1981, Don and Linda had spent two years running Camp Coorong, Bairnsdale Technical School's camp. Don had managed to squeeze in 50 games of football for Lindenow and a few fill in games for Swan Reach.

The family moved to Burwood, Melbourne where Don took up a position at Brandon Park followed by Mooroolbark Technical Schools. These schools were highly regarded for their art and design programs. While at Brandon Park Tech, Don's passion for coaching and football led to the students making the State Secondary School finals. Don also became an active and influential member of the Technical Teachers' Union of Victoria. They purchased their first home in Seville East, however the tragedy of Black Saturday in the hills of the Dandenong ranges

still haunts their precious memories to this day.

In 1986, Don took up a posting to Echuca Technical School. Again, a school and faculty staffed by practising artists, potters, screen printers and designers. Don was at home among the melting pot of creativity. Basketball was his new interest, coaching local kids in and out of school. His passion and interest in trade union affairs grew and he became a member of the union's branch council. These were the heady days of the union movement. Wildcat strikes and tough negotiations for better teaching conditions at the highest levels. Class sizes were to be set at twenty, no teaching contracts, teaching hours were balanced and salaries for school staff improved dramatically.

Although the family included two beautiful children, Don and Linda decided that they had so much more to share in their lives and explored the prospect of adopting a child from overseas. On the 2nd April, 1990, Sarah arrived in Australia from India and has been a much-loved member of the Wishart family since. The process of adoption was incredibly difficult and had its beginnings seven years earlier when the couple first applied to Community Services Victoria.

In 1993, Don applied for and was granted a teaching fellowship to Edinburgh, Scotland. A year the whole family thoroughly enjoyed and look back on with wonderful personal and professional memories.

By 1996, Don had taken up the position of union organizer (Gippsland) for the Australian Education Union basing the family in Drouin, West Gippsland. Don's passion for the Labor movement led him to stand for parliament three times in Gippsland. During 1999, he ran for the upper house seat of East Gippsland and was defeated by .29 of 1%. In 2003 he nominated against the popular Liberal, Peter Hall for an upper house seat and again, was unsuccessful. In 2004, he offered himself as a candidate for the federal seat of McMillan (now Monash).

Mark Latham was the leader of the opposition who made some significant last minute policy shifts relating to forestry in Gippsland. The Gippsland and particularly the East Gippsland electorate took its vengeance out on the Labor Party. Don's inspiration for life and politics came from the ailing playwright, Dennis Potter who said, "it doesn't pay to be cynical of politics, rather involving oneself is the conduit for social change".

In 2006, Linda was headhunted to look after Tasmanian school support staff and because of his experience, Don was able to serve in several senior roles within the Tasmanian Education Union branch until 2013. Don also worked as the Education Manager for super fund HESTA. Their passion and love of Tassie was still there, but the call of children and grandchildren called them back to the mainland and a new life in Callala Beach, NSW. Don was offered work for the HACSU (Health Workers' Union) Tasmania in 2016 which he accepted, working in their call centre, handling complaints and disciplinary matters. Permanent retirement and the mainland beckoned.

In 2018, the decision was made. Family in Melbourne, family in Tasmania. Somewhere central. Somewhere familiar. A place where old memories and friendships could be rekindled. A place known for good coffee, cafes, kind words and beautiful people who believe in fairness, acceptance, and equity. A place that values the arts. Perhaps a place that has the clean and pure air of Tasmania. Better still, a place that has a great football club that Don could involve himself with. The choice was simple, they should return home..... to Yackandandah.

A special thanks to Don and Linda for sharing their story.



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After a chat between Ellen Engwerda and Sue Bell, President of YDHS about the lack of space in Yackandandah for visual artists to hang their work, Sue proposed to Ellen that the space in the Museum could be made available as there was an interim between the Museum's last exhibition coming down and the next one being made ready. The timeframe suited both parties as the artwork was ready in the background looking for a venue to be hung. It was Ellen's interest in giving the community



Ellen & her work 'The Wearing of One's Status'

artists a space to showcase their work that was instrumental in this idea blossoming. The space was limited to having three pieces exhibited by eight local artists who included: Lesley Labram, Hamish MacCalman, Linda Fish, Kirsten Coates, Mandy Murray, Natalie Pfahlert, Heather Mullen, and Ellen. We are thrilled to feature the work of our talented Yack artists and have been rewarded by the reaction of visitors to the Museum.

A SHOWCASE OF ARTISTIC TALENT

We spoke to Hamish MacCalman, who has on exhibition: *Western Highlands Scotland* - watercolour, and pencil, *Carnival* - acrylic on canvas, and

Reflections - acrylic on canvas.

We talked with Hamish to get an insight into his work, and we are hopeful of gaining the profiles of the other exhibiting artists in later editions of Yackity Yak; but in the meantime, come into the museum and enjoy viewing the range of creative styles of your community members.

Q. Hamish, what inspired you to create *Reflections*?

H. In this case, listening to music inspired me. The piece of music is called '7 seconds' by Neneh Cherry and Youssou N'Dour. I also especially like modern Jazz. The fluidity of the music helps me empty my mind and then I go with the flow as I work.

Reflections is quite complex as there is an impressionistic area at the top, with a field of snow and poplar trees; a pool with clouds reflected in it. But, moving further down to the bottom half, the painting becomes more abstract with a dreamy quality.

Q. Can you describe your creative process when sitting down to work?

H. I use a visual diary/sketchpad, jotting down ideas and sketching drafts. I often choose a theme which could become a series of works. I start off small and eventually get ready to transfer to a larger scale. I will put on some suitable music and begin. I will often 'free fall' when working on an abstract piece though I still need to consider colour, texture, shape, composition etc, as I work. This freedom does not however extend into a realistic piece depicting a bird's nest, a portrait, or still life for example.

Q. What are some of the challenges you face when working?

H. Staying focussed on a current work, either starting a new picture or returning to an incomplete piece. It is so important to immerse yourself in the present and sharpen your concentration. I like to challenge myself and it can be quite exciting.

Q. How do you choose your colour palette or medium for each piece?

H. It depends on the subject matter. I work with pencil, colour pencil, charcoal, pastels, watercolour, gouache and acrylics. My Western

Highlands landscape in watercolour is heavily influenced by the wonderful subtle colours found in the Scottish landscape. The limpid light and dramatic terrain just ask to be painted.

Q. Are there any specific art or art movements that influence your work?

H. Subconsciously I am influenced by many artists, but I don't follow a particular style. I am constantly changing themes, subject matter and keeping realism and abstraction side by side. As a teacher, I had to introduce my students to a variety of art media, styles, and approaches. This exposure, and constant learning and experimenting with media have influenced me, and my work reflects that. After many years of realistic depictions of landscapes, still life and the natural form, I ventured into abstract, and I found these uncharted waters a great challenge and delight.

Artists I admire are many, but I will pick a few as examples: Albrecht Durer, a famous Dutch artist, Andrew Wyeth, a North American artist, the Impressionists, who most people would be familiar with, two Australian artists: one a super realist, Geoffrey Smart, and the generally abstract, recently deceased John Olsen. The above were often pioneers in their work and not always accepted at first.

Q. What do you hope viewers will take away from experiencing your art?

H. People respond very differently to art. It is always gratifying when someone tells me they appreciate a work I have created. There is always a buzz when someone purchases your work to enjoy in their own home and when you are told by a previous buyer, they are still enjoying your work years later.

Q. How does your personal background and culture influence your work?

H. From a young age I liked to draw as many children do. I was lucky to have supportive parents who encouraged me in this pursuit. After leaving school I was accepted into Art College and completed a four-year degree course in Art and Design. I followed this by a one-year teacher training course in Edinburgh. I felt I needed to spread my wings after

teaching for two years in Scotland and came out to Australia. However, I wasn't intending to stay. Helen and I will be celebrating our fiftieth wedding anniversary this year, so I'm glad I did!



Hamish with his work 'Reflections'

Q. Are there any upcoming projects or exhibitions that you're excited about?

H. This year I went to Canberra to see the Cressida Campbell exhibition at the National Gallery. She has an amazing output. She is an exceptional artist with her highly detailed and beautifully observed pieces. She specialises in interiors with particular reference to flowering plants.

Nearer to home in Wodonga at Hyphen, I enjoyed John Dermer's ceramic exhibition. It is beautifully laid out and showcases John's exceptional skills and artistry extremely well.

I would like to have my own exhibition in the not-too-distant future. It would be a combination of abstract, semi-abstract and realistic pieces in a variety of media.

Lastly, I greatly appreciate Yackandandah Museum making space available for an exhibition of works by local artists.


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YACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FROM THE COLLECTION ROOM

Our recent visit by our Grimwade Centre, Melbourne University, students, was again very fruitful. The progress of the exhibitions, both permanent and temporary, on the 2006 Fire, is showing great results, with consultation with our many members who have been with us during this time. We also hosted a Yack Hotel meal with them.



Members enjoy dinner with the Grimwade team.

Funds for this work have come from submissions made by the students themselves, via the William Snoek Award, and the Copland Foundation, and the work they have done with us has been of a very high standard. We are extraordinarily privileged to have been recipients of this work.

This has been one of the projects that have benefited us in collaboration with students and staff of the Grimwade Centre over many years. Most have resulted from an annual lecture given by Susan Reynolds to the larger student group of the



Work in progress in the collection room

Conservation of Cultural Materials post-graduates, telling the many stories of our museum and historical society. The students all come from a variety of graduate groups and experience in their work domains. All are headed towards further work in this highly varied profession. This year the lecture was given during April and keeps us in touch with the wider areas of their studies.

We look forward to completing the current project and to further ways we can be of mutual benefit to the wider experiences of this group.

Susan Reynolds. OAM

MEMBERSHIP of YDHS

Membership is open to everyone, and the cost is \$20 single or \$35 for a family. Being a member means you can enter the museum for free, participate in the Society's organised activities, receive our bi-monthly newsletter 'Yackandandah Times' and vote at annual meetings. Members are also covered by insurance when participating in an activity run by the Society. Our membership year runs from 1st May, so joining now will give you 12 months recognition as a member and you will be helping keep our doors open. If you would like to join, our contact details are listed below.

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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.

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YACK CEMETERY TRUST

Although the growing season is mostly behind us now, the Cemetery trustees have been busy keeping the Cemetery grounds tidy, safe, and fit for purpose. During autumn, work commenced to top-dress parts of the lawn section, and this will be followed by further works scheduled for winter to remove legacy soil overburden from around all denominations of the older monument sections. This work will make maintenance activities safer and will remove a number of pedestrian hazards associated with uneven terrain.



Inundation in the Cemetery. PC David Lerch

During March, the Cemetery was grateful to receive maintenance assistance from the Beechworth Correctional Centre. The inmates did a terrific job mowing, edging, weeding, and generally making the Cemetery grounds look pristine at the end of summer. Trustee Ian Jenkins thanked the inmates by treating them all to a local Gumtree pie, which was received with much appreciation by all concerned.

In April, the Trust was successful at obtaining grant funding from the Victorian Department of Health to contribute towards important upgrades to stormwater infrastructure. Many may not realise that parts of the Cemetery grounds are vulnerable to severe weather events, and as part of the Cemetery's climate adaptation strategies, unsafe aboveground swale drains will be removed and underground stormwater infrastructure installed. Pictured is an

image of stormwater inundation, which was captured by the Trust Chairperson, Mr David Lerch during a severe rain event in later 2022. The drainage upgrades will help mitigate overland stormwater incursion, reducing the likelihood of damage to grave headstones and tombstones.

Throughout May, work commenced to extend the concrete headstone beams in the lawn sections. This work recognises interment demand for the lawn section and creates an additional 30 places of interment. Pictured are the extensions to rows 1, 2/3, and 4/5



Extending the headstone beams

The Trust recently took possession of two new hand crafted bench seats, made by the Yackandandah Men's Shed using funding kindly bequeathed to the Trust by the Ross and Williams families. A bronze plaque will be affixed to the bench seat positioned nearest to the lone pine, which will acknowledge this contribution to the Cemetery. The

Trust would like to acknowledge the workmanship of the Men's Shed, who often support community groups within Yackandandah.

The Trust wishes to advise the community that it will be undertaking a clean-up activity to remove and dispose of tributes and mementos that have deteriorated, are unsafe, or in other ways do not comply with the Trust's Memento Policy. This will include any glass products, such as glass vases, which are prohibited from the Cemetery grounds. Deceased fresh cut flowers and deteriorated artificial flowers will also be removed.

The community is encouraged to review the Trust's Memento Policy and contact the Trust should you have any questions or concerns about tributes laid at places of interment.

Families may wish to remove mementos, tributes, and other artefacts that do not comply prior to 1st July 2023.

Paul Anderson



New benches courtesy of the Yack Shack

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YACK GARDEN CLUB



At our April meeting, members were treated to a talk on maintaining a wicking bed and a worm farm, presented by guest speaker Natasha Stafford. Natasha was happy for us to share her wealth of knowledge and we hope you can gain some good insight into these two easy garden practices.

WICKING BED - Loose Fill type model:

Sit the bed on a level surface. Part sun (with no westerly sun) in Summer or full sun in Winter. Fill the bed with soil on top of the geotextile fabric. Flood the well with water through the narrow water pipe, until it starts to leave the bottom drain pipe. After 24 hours plant out with seedlings (6-8) or seeds (2 rows) when water has wicked to the surface. Mulch the surface of the bed well. If the surface of the bed is dry to 2-3cm deep or plants are wilted, add water to top pipe, until it exits. Bed may be watered on the surface. Fertilize the bed every two weeks during peak season or on addition of a new crop. Add 30ml liquid fertilizer (kelp, fish emulsion, worm juice) **UNDILUTED** to a topped up well through the top pipe. Replace soil (compost and sand to a ratio 4:1 or potting mix) to an active bed every 6-12 months. Flood the well for 24 hours before replanting out the new soil. Remember new beds need a well depth of **AT LEAST 10cm** and soil depth must **NOT EXCEED 30cm**.

WORM FARM CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Keep your worm farm out of direct sunlight and a way from sources of heat at all times. If kept in a garage, keep away from exhaust fumes.

Set the support boxes on a level raised surface (approx. 30cms high) in a cool damp area which is easy to access from the kitchen and away from

interference by dogs, chickens and out of reach of small children. Set the main housing box with the outlet pipe facing outwards for easy access.

Lay wet newspaper and finished compost or damp aged cow manure directly on the base of the house to a depth of 5cms. Add up to 2 litres of worms directly on top of the bedding. Position a 9-litre bucket or similar, under outlet pipe.

Dampen house contents down with about 1/2 litre water in a spray bottle/watering can. Lay damp towel or shade cloth down to entirely cover interior of house. Seal farm with polystyrene box lid, ensuring at least 20 holes have been pre-punched in lid to allow for air flow. Feeding: Allow the worms to settle for at least one week. This allows the worms to get accustomed to the surroundings and easily feed on the ready food in the compost/manure or bedding purchased with the worms.

After the week, add kitchen scraps to the house at a rate of up to 2 litres at one time. Do not add tea bags, paper, dairy or meat to the farm. Chop larger and more robust items such as citrus peel, avocado skins and onions into smaller pieces before adding to farm. Worms feed on the micro-organisms which feed on the food, not the food itself. **DO NOT** add more food until the previous feeding has broken down and been consumed.

Once every couple of weeks, water the farm with about a litre of water in a watering can, ensuring the bucket is under the outlet. This 'leachate' which is produced can be diluted one litre to ten and used directly as a foliar spray and soil conditioner on all plants. Fertiliser: Worms produce castings which can be used as fertilizer. Remove lid and fold back cover most of the way on the surface of the farm to encourage worms to retreat into a smaller dark space. Remove a small handful of castings from the exposed part of the farm and mix well in.

If you would like more information, you can contact Natasha at: beinggreenpermaculture.com.au. or mobile 0455 535 002

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

Members had a wonderful experience at Jill Whitford's home learning about the blue-banded bee (*Amegilla* species). Jill explains what she knows about this beautiful garden-friendly insect.

They are similar in size to honey bees but more stocky and furry. They have distinctive white to



Blue banded bee and the house Jill made (right)



blue bands on their abdomen, four on females and five on males. They have a higher-pitched buzz than the honey bee and very rapid darting movements. They prefer blue and purple flowers such as salvias, catmint and rosemary. They buzz pollinate - in that the vibration they cause will help pollination occur even if they

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YACK GARDEN CLUB

do not enter the flower.

They are solitary, do not form hives like honey bees, but often make nests close to each other. After fertilization, the female bee makes a nest for her eggs to be laid, usually in earth embankments or, as it happened at my home, in mud brick walls. This was becoming a concern, and when the house was painted, we constructed a home for them, which was a length of wood from an old verandah post with holes drilled in it to a depth of about 3 inches. This was hung where they had been drilling holes in the mud brick wall of the house. I was doubtful if they would take to it, but they love their ready-made nests, and it has been a delight to watch them coming and going, filling holes with food for the babies when they hatch, and then sealing them with mud. They will hatch next spring.

These bees can sting, as I found out when I picked up what I thought was a dead one, but the sting is very minor. I find them a delight to have living in my garden and going about their pollination work.

YACK CEMETERY ROSES

Garden Club activities involve tending the rose gardens at the cemetery. Twice per year, we maintain them by pruning and weeding. A beautiful autumn day saw many willing hands volunteer for this job. We were also joined by some non-members who had heard about the community initiative and came along to help; thanks to all.

SAPLINGS CORNER GARDENING FOR CHILDREN

Gardening offers children a delightful way to connect with nature. They can sow seeds, watch plants grow, and care for their mini-paradise. Through hands-on experiences, children can learn about the environment, responsibility and patience. Gardening can ignite their curiosity and spark creativity. Allow time to encourage children to use the garden for fun activities. For example, you could start in the kitchen by teaching them the ins & outs of composting. Then, they could become compost detectives, exploring the house for suitable material and finding ingredients, like hair, pop sticks, and vacuumed



particles. Help them understand why it's essential for the soil and plants to thrive.

GARDENING TIPS ON COMPOSTING

Ensure the area you set up your compost site is shaded and well-drained. Too much sun will dry it out. Having a tumbling bin will produce compost faster. The compost needs to be aerated regularly, either by tumbling or turning by hand, do this at least weekly.

Add organic compost and straw to start, ensuring you have equal parts of brown to green waste. Brown waste, such as paper, cardboard or straw, is high in carbon, while green waste from kitchen scraps or garden waste is high in nitrogen. Don't add meat or diseased plant waste. Keep adding equal parts brown and green, turning weekly. When you are until you are satisfied with the level you can manage, leave it. It is ready to use once it looks like soil and smells earthy.



Rose pruning at the cemetery

CONTACT US

Meetings: 'Wellsford House', Wellsford St, Yackandandah, 7pm, 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

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Yack Constructions were delighted to congratulate apprentice, Hamish McInnes for being awarded this year's winner of the 2023 MBV North East Regional Apprentice of the Year - Future Builder Award.

This is an outstanding achievement.

Hamish was nominated by training providers, Murray Mallee Training Company.

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Yackandandah Rail Trail parkrun

What is Yackandandah Rail Trail parkrun?

A free, fun, and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate – it's up to you!

When is it? Every Saturday at 8:00am.

Where is it? The event takes place at Yackandandah Rail Trail, Wellsford Street, Yackandandah, VIC 3749. The course is 5km long. This has been accurately measured by us with a professional measuring wheel. The course is at Yackandandah Rail Trail, Yackandandah. The course is run on a mixture of permanent paths and trail paths. Some sections of the course may accumulate mud, leaves

and puddles after rain. Dependent on availability, marshals will be at key sections of the course, or signs will be in place.

Please, wherever possible walk, jog, cycle or use public transport when attending the event. If you do have to drive, please consider car-sharing to reduce our impact on both the environment and other park users. Please also watch out for other park users when arriving and leaving. Parking may be limited so try to arrive early.

What does it cost to join in? Nothing - it's free! but please register before you first come along at www.parkrun.com.au/register/?eventName=yackandandahrailtrail

How fast do I have to be? We all take part for our own enjoyment. Please come along and join in whatever your pace!

Yackandandah Rail Trail parkrun needs you! It is entirely organised by volunteers - email yackandandahrailtrail@parkrun.com to help.

We're friendly! Every week we grab a post-parkrun coffee at the Laneway Café, Star Hotel, Yackandandah - please come and join us!

See our volunteer page for information on how you can get involved – www.parkrun.com.au/volunteer



The joys of being a parkrun volunteer!



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Music by two of the most-loved composers — Tchaikovsky and Mozart — revealed by the power of transformation.

For this performance we are playing a Tchaikovsky work originally for piano solo with a string quartet, and a Mozart piano concerto with the quartet and piano. We are joined by one of Australia's most extraordinary pianists, Aura Go, for this concert which includes an intimate arrangement of Mozart's Piano Concerto No 17 in G major for piano with string quintet.

In these lovingly crafted arrangements, we hear this great music anew, with both works revealing their innate relationship with the conversation and intimacy of chamber music.



Aura Go - **PIANO**
 Sophie Rowell - **VIOLIN I**
 Anne-Marie Johnson - **VIOLIN II**
 Merewyn Bramble - **VIOLA**
 Blair Harris - **CELLO**
 Emma Sullivan - **DOUBLE BASS**



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Saturday, 2nd June, 2023. Starts 8pm. Doors open 7.15pm.

Bar available.



Blanket

weathered fingers
 grip thin needles
 looping leftover wool
 stitch after stitch

a collection
 of coloured squares
 sewn together
 form a blanket

gifted to my son
 tucked into his bed
 carried around
 trailing on the ground

now in places
 stitches unravel
 a square or two unspooling
 evincing time
 like moth-eaten holes

throw it on my bed
 drag it up to my chin
 can almost feel her
 and him
 in the knitted rows.

Kerryn Wilson

YACK WRITERS

Kerryn has lived in NE Victoria for the past twenty years. In 2018 she and her partner purchased a small property covered in trees near Yackandandah.

With ancestors who came to Beechworth and Wooragee from Scotland and Ireland in the 1800s being buried in local soil, she feels connected to the region.

Her writing, drawing on training in psychology and social work, often refers to attachment to landscape, nature, and place. She is working on a memoir on the experience of being raised female in rural Australia.

Her poem "Blanket" was published in the March – May 2023 edition of *The Victorian Writer*.

Kerryn is a member of Yackandandah Writers. The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month in the Yackandandah Courthouse. If you are interested in joining the group please contact Bev Lello on beverley.ello@gmail.com

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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



Indigo FM 88.0 news....

Indigo FM are pleased to present new shows that recently went to air from The Yack Garden Club and The Yack Women's Shed. These community groups will host a show on the first and last Monday afternoons each month from 1.30pm to let us know what is happening in the Garden or in the Shed and any upcoming events from these groups for the community to know about. To view Indigo FM programs such as these, you can check out the Yackandandah Program Guide at www.indigofmradio.com/listen/program-guide/yackandandah/

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

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



Chrissy and Karen from the Yack Garden Club in the studio

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

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

Our local radio station is now on the global airwaves with a live internet streaming service, so you can now tune into Indigo FM Yackandandah and enjoy the great local sounds and shows at any time and in any place via this link <http://yackandandahstream.indigofm.au/stream/yackandandahfm88> or head to the streaming page on our website <https://indigofmradio.com/listen/streaming/> Enjoy listening in to our unique local radio station; 88.0 FM Yackandandah, now from anywhere in the world!

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SUZANNAH LEES – ARTIST

Sue Lees, a Yack resident, has had a history of helping communities in the role of Community House Coordinator in places as diverse as Wodonga, Darwin and Baranduda, finally finishing in 2022 with ten years of service at Trudewind Neighbourhood House in Wodonga. Her originally rather reluctant move into retirement has seen her refine her skills as an artist, receiving commissions for her paintings of horses, dogs, cats and even

the odd sheep and lizard!



Sue in her lovely Yack cottage, with another of her paintings

Not content with just painting and creating works of arts herself, Sue is also teaching pastels at Trudewind Neighbourhood House, back on her old stamping ground.

She was also recently asked by the Yack Women's Shed to take a drawing class for beginners at the Yack Community Centre.

As with everything Sue does, preparation for the class was paramount and lots of research was carried out beforehand. A class of eight students was treated to the fundamentals of drawing, commencing with the drawing of an egg, which may seem a bit strange, but it displays all the aspects of creating a spherical shape, tonal qualities, highlights and shading – the nuts and bolts of drawing. The classes finished with a still life constructed by individual students.



Sue with a recent larger than life equine commission, shortly to be delivered to its new owner near Packerham Racecourse

Sue works not only in oils, but also in pastels and acrylics. Now she has more time on her hands, she is keen to continue creating paintings for local and regional competitions, working on her beautiful garden in Yack and taking animal portrait commissions.

Sue entered five pictures into the Mitta Valley Art and Photographic Show



Prize Winning "Brumbies in the Snow"

held in April of this year, sold three of them and also won the People's Choice Award, for her picture "Brumbies in the Snow".

She is a great lover of animals, particularly horses, and this shines through in her equine pictures. She clearly understands the way horses think and react.

Sue is available to take selected commissions.

Please contact her at zannahs@live.com to discuss and view her Facebook page – [petportraitsbysuzannah](https://www.facebook.com/petportraitsbysuzannah).

SANDY THE WARHORSE

Ten million fighting men died in World War One. But what is less remembered is that at least eight million horses died too, a number that is absolutely inconceivable to animal lovers. According to the Australian War Memorial, during WWI Australia sent 136,000 horses overseas to be used by the Australian, British and Indian armed forces. Tragically, only ONE horse from the 136,000 made it back home to Australian soil. This fortunate horse was Sandy, a Waler

Tallangatta and donated to the war effort, he was the Major's favourite charger and it was his dying wish to have his beloved horse returned home to Australia to enjoy a long and happy retirement. When the Major died, Sandy was put into the care of Captain Leslie Whitfield and was transported to Egypt then onto France in March 1916. It wasn't until the following year that the Australian authorities were able to honour the Major's dying wish and granted Sandy a safe passage to return home to Australia.

The big bay lived out his days at Maribyrnong in Melbourne's west, around the place named Remount Hill, where many thousands of horses bound for war, Sandy included, had earlier begun their long one-way journey. In 1923, Sandy had to be put down due to ill health.

It's tragic to think Sandy was the only horse to return home once the war was over. While some of the horses that survived were sold to the British Army and others were given to locals, many soldiers chose to go against the army's orders and destroy their horses rather than leave them on foreign soil.

Globe Trotting

Many will know of Sandy the Waler, born around Tallangatta and the only horse from World War 1 to return to Australia.

Saturday, 20th May, 2023 marked the 100th anniversary of the death of our wonderful, heroic Sandy - our only "Warhorse" and our only Waler to return to his homeland from the Middle East and the hell that was WWI.

Sandy in his own right has become an iconic figure, a legend and now he has "come home" to Tallangatta, but Sandy also represents those tens of thousands of other magnificent Australian remounts that went to the other side of the world to toil and sweat and so often die amidst the dust and sand, heat and flies of Palestine or the mud and rain, trenches and shellfire that was the utter devastation and hell - the utter

slaughterhouse of the European war and the Western Front. A slaughterhouse for man and beast

Those gallant equines did not ask to go, did not ask to suffer and/or die in their thousands, did not ask to experience the terror they would so often have felt. Yet they endured and without complaint served their human masters, the "great war effort". In the process they achieved a near legendary status for strength and endurance and gallantry in the hell that was their lot.

Then? At the end? Their reward? No return home to their "great Southern Land". In their thousands sold to the Indian Army, some to the British Cavalry and many older and unsound horses put down. That was their lot, their reward for all their bravery.

Sandy represents all of them; in all of their magnificence, nobility and bravery. Rest easy now Australian warhorses. Rest easy Sandy.

Barry Stephan



Members of the Light Horse were present in Tallangatta

who belonged to Major General Sir William Bridges, who was killed in battle at Gallipoli.

A gentle bay standing 16 hands high, born near



Yack's Steve Pearce on the parade to celebrate the unveiling of Sandy

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2023 Yack Folk Festival Green Team – at it again



Bonnie of the Bins!

So, another year has passed and another Folk Festival has come and gone! And what a weekend it was.

As in previous years, the 'Festival Green Team' set out to ensure this year's Festival was as sustainable and waste-friendly as possible. This year saw us introduce a range of flash new bin signs

with their composting capabilities. The festival green waste was mixed with a bunch of coffee grinds, grass clippings, manure & water & now sits, hopefully breaking down into a healthy soil for our gardens.

A HUGE shout out to the MANY



Building the Folk Festival composting pile

(thanks HalveWaste and Indigo Shire Council for the sponsorship, and Springfolk Creative for the design work!), as well as the introduction of friendly bin volunteers. These two things combined helped us largely ensure that waste went in the right bin from the start - therefore reducing the need for us to sort many bins.



Kim, one of the dedicated Green Team, manning the bins

This year also finally saw the Festival launch of the Dish Pig trailer. Produced by Plasticwise

Yack with sponsorship from the Festival, it was fantastic to finally see it in action. Providing crockery, cutlery & mugs to many of the food stalls serving food over the weekend meant that waste was greatly reduced before it was even generated. In particular, the Pig stopped hundreds of coffee cups from ending up in landfill over the weekend.

By the end of the weekend waste had been directed into the following four streams;

- Organic/Green waste (19 bins)
- Bottles & Cans (6 bins)
- Mixed recycling (12 bins)
- Landfill waste (17 bins)

The bottles and cans were collected by Paul Shortis who has since cashed them in, raising \$312 for the Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation.

Meanwhile, the organic waste has been transported to a paddock outside Yack where a dedicated crew - led by Chris McGorlick - have been experimenting



Halve Waste volunteers at the Festival

volunteers who gave up their time over the Festival weekend (and since!) to ensure all of this was possible.

From washing dishes in the Pig to standing in front of bins and compost turning, it has been a BIG effort by MANY.

So, thank you from me, and from our whole community, for helping to make sure our Festival leaves a little (waste-related) impact on our community.

Mim Poyner



The faithful Dish Pig - doing what she does best

FLICKSIDE

POWERED BY ARTS YACKANDANDAH

LAST CAB TO DARWIN

Saturday 17 June, 7.00pm
Yackandandah Courthouse

Rated M • Drama • 2015

When Ben, a Broken Hill cab driver, is told he doesn't have long to live, he sets out on an epic journey to Darwin in a bid to die on his own terms. *Last Cab to Darwin* is a wonderful story of love, death and dying, can become a spiritual teacher for those who are willing to open their hearts and minds to this unusual source of wisdom.

Arts Yack membership is just \$20 per annum (\$30 for a family) and will entitle you to FREE film rights in 2023. Members only admission. Membership available at the door or online at arts.yackandandah.com/membership also entitles you to discounts on other exciting Arts Yack events.

Filmed on-site at the Yackandandah Courthouse 14 Williams Street opposite the Yackandandah swimming pool. BYO. Drinks to share or a picnic dinner & drinks of your choice. Coffee and tea available. Enquiries: Jim Bullock 0448 327 238



Winter weather seems pretty much set in as our friendly olive pickers sit in the shed drinking coffee and looking at the rain and low cloud sitting over the grove.

But it's not all bad. There's a great new line of clothing from Styx Mills in the servo, so get yourselves up there and take a look - made in NZ and very stylish, it's clearly the clothing of the winter and it's warm and waterproof! (See the back page of this edition of Yackity Yak for a small selection.)

Winter is a great time for planning for our community groups as weather may prevent actually getting out there and doing. So don't forget that YCDCo give community grants. Hop onto our website and take a look - <https://www.ycdco.com.au/community>. We give grants at any time of the year as well.

YCDCo has recently welcomed two new members onto the Board and we are already reaping their valuable contributions to your community-owned business. However, we are always looking to tap into the skills of our talented Yack and district folk to join our board - particularly women and those under 40 years. It's a great board to learn some new skills and be able to participate in driving the future of this extraordinary company.

Twenty years on, we are constantly being asked for advice and help on how to launch similar organisations all around Australia. YCDCo has become something of an icon in the not-for-profit world and to have a part in it in a small way as a director, is something not to be passed over. See our website - <https://www.ycdco.com.au/board-of-directors> for further information, or speak with the Company Secretary on 0448 803 411.

Buzzing All Hobby Beekeeping Enthusiasts



Monthly Meetings are on-going.

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

NO MORE

We'll not touch again, the waving grass
That moves gently on a breeze.
No more will cattle seek to find
Cool shade, amongst the trees.
We can wave goodbye to the vision lost.
No more livestock walk the fence
Whilst Councils, in their frenzied haste
To grasp the dollars and the cents.

With no room to kick a football
Or swing the cricket bats.
For now we find, we ain't got room
To even hang our hats.
Just this landscape, wide with houses
Choice land they squat upon.
We shall only shed our tears of blood
When the last farm paddock's gone.

How developers dislike old folk.
Their memories tend to gallop back
To when there was no bitumen,
Just a two wheel sulky track.
No more there's livestock feeding
The sounds of livestock hooves,
Now a kaleidoscope of colours
Of a million bloody roofs.

Why can't we live the quiet life
Instead of shoved around?
And walk through grass, amongst the trees
That surrounds a small bush town.
We don't wish to see the houses
Just the farms they sit upon.
Can Councils ever repair their damage
When the last farm paddock's gone?

Bill Whitham, Tallangatta



10/05/2023, 11:12



Congratulations to the 2023 People of Post grant recipients!



16/05/2023

Thanks to nominations from Australia Post team members, we're awarding grants of up to \$1000 each to 438 not-for-profit organisations, helping them continue to make a difference in their local communities.

Nominations came in from every state and territory across our business, with 293 - that's 67% of successful grants nominated by the Retail Network!

Christopher Horton of the Yackandandah Licensed Post Office is a back-to-back successful nominator for the 2022 and 2023 People of Post Grants.

Last year Christopher nominated Totally Renewable Yackandandah (TRY) to purchase a thermal imaging camera to identify thermal weaknesses in homes and businesses and identify areas for energy improvement measures. This year he chose to nominate the Yackandandah Community Centre for a grant to provide defibrillators in key locations throughout the community.

"The Yackandandah Community Centre is a very active and valued not-for-profit organisation providing a wide range of community education and support programs. I have worked alongside this organisation for many years" – Christopher.

- For the full list of 2023 nominators and recipients, and to find out more about the People of Post Grants program visit ourpost.com.au/popgrants
- Remember to share your nomination story on Viva Engage with #popgrants

And well done to Chris Horton for not only getting two awards from Australia Post, back to back, but also featuring on the Australia Post awards memo that went around to in excess of 4,000 Australia Post outlets, thus making tiny wee Yackandandah again feature in the public eye.

Lovely to see a Yack business help another organisation with a project. TRY last year and Yack Community Centre this year. YCC will be showcasing the defib project later on in the year.

Yack never fails to come up with some amazing stuff, and we are all proud to call Yackandandah home.

YACKANDANDAH

Yackandandah, village of destiny,
Township of dreams to an incoming soul,
Spacious and vital, by regional verity,
Vistas of mountains and bushland unfold.
Spawned by the fever of gold in the sixties,
Two centuries back when the nation was young,
An oasis in time with a labyrinth of history,
A jewel in the land with its worth yet unsung.

All through the years since the gold made it prosper,
A location oft sought for its space and its charms,
The views of the hills, and the creek's subtle whisper,
So firmly were etched that no mortal could harm.

This was the view of most who have lived here,
Enchanted by all in the past they have known,
But demand for more dwellings on land yet uncleared
Fed the planner's mad thirst for a thousand more homes.

With little concern for the views of the locals
So often expressed in surveys without end,
The building of houses is seen to be focal
By those with no will to adjust or amend.

The vision of life in this town's shady valley,
The hope of residents present and gone,
Is denied to them all by developer's sally
To cover the hills with harsh Colorbond.

A developer's dream, with its wide open spaces
Yet to be filled with allotments galore,
Where goes the Yack of the heavenly places
So common in dreams, in days now of yore.

A township of buildings and densely packed people,
Where once was a view of the hills and the sky,
Gone are the mountains and local church steeple
With these all replaced by new buildings on high.

This wasn't the vision of past populations
And residents present who make this town work,
Its future is planned by outside congregations
With allegiance so far from this town that they hurt.

With steely resolve, we all step to the future
Through a jungle of houses with landscape torn
down,
And the hope, sense and reason may finally suture
The wounds of bad planning we see in our town.

John McIntyre

The 10 most common recycling mistakes made in Victoria, and tips to avoid them

Recycling effectively can help divert millions of tonnes of waste from ending up in landfill, make sure you're not one of the many people making these common recycling mistakes. The latest data from Sustainability Victoria shows that Victorian households created 2.37 million tonnes of waste during 2019-2020. That might seem like a lot of landfill, however almost a quarter of all of that waste – 0.58 million tonnes to be precise – was made up of recyclables to be processed into new products.

The good news is that since 2001, Victorians have steadily increased the amount of waste being collected for recycling by 59 per cent, while the amount of general waste being sent to landfill has only increased 10 per cent. But when it comes to recycling, there are a few things households need to keep in mind to ensure their paper, aluminium, glass and recyclable plastic waste is finding a new life and not unintentionally ending up in landfill.

Contaminated recycling made up 13.3 per cent of the total amount of recycling collected during the 2019-2020 time period, which actually increased by nearly three per cent on the previous year.

Here are some of the most common recycling mistakes and tips on how to avoid them.

Putting your recycling in plastic bags

Placing your recyclables in a rubbish bag might seem helpful, but it actually contaminates the recyclables. When recycling arrives at the processing centre, these bags can both clog up the sorting machines and pose a risk to workers as the bags obscure any dangerous or sharp objects held within. They also cannot be recycled. Bagging your recyclables is one of the most common recycling mistakes, with Sustainability Victoria data showing that 16 per cent of Victorians place their recycling in plastic bags. Instead of placing your recycling in a bag, simply place each item loose into the kerbside bin. Recyclable items can be stored loose in a large plastic bin, tub, cardboard box, basket or similar prior to taking out to the kerbside bin.

Not knowing what your council recycles

Household waste in Victoria is managed by your local council. Depending on your council and where they send waste for processing, there are certain items that may not be accepted for recycling. For example, some councils will accept empty aerosol cans for recycling while others say they must be placed with general rubbish. Most councils provide information on what can be recycled via their websites – contact yours if the information is unclear. If you're moving to a new council, it's always a good idea to check what items your new council accepts for recycling as they may be different to what you're used to.

Not separating your glass

By 2030, it is expected that almost all Victorian households will have four kerbside bins, including a purple-lidded bin expressly for recyclable glass. Many councils have already begun implementing these glass bins. If your council is among them, it's important you separate your glass recyclables from the rest of your recycling. Having a separate tub to place these items in prior to going into the kerbside bin can help.

It's also important to make sure only the right types of glass are going in your bins. Glass jars (i.e. for jam, condiments, pasta sauce) and bottles (wine, beer, juice and oil) are accepted, but drinking glasses like tumblers and wine glasses are not. If your council has not provided you a purple bin yet, you should continue to place glass in your yellow-lidded mixed recycling bin. Remove the lids and place in the general rubbish before placing glass in either recycling bin.

Putting the wrong (or soiled) items into your recycling

There are many household items that are often, but wrongly, thought to be recyclable. These include tetra packs (the containers UHT milk and liquid stock often comes packaged in), coffee cups, tissues, nappies and paper towel. None of these items can be recycled, though tissues and paper towel can be composted. Some councils may also accept them in their green waste bins.

There are also some items that are usually recyclable, but may have to be binned depending on their condition. For example, the cardboard pizza box seems like the perfect recyclable product. However, it can't be recycled if it is overly greasy or has toppings stuck to it. If this is the case the box should be placed in regular garbage. It could also be cut up and added to a home compost bin.

Not knowing your plastic numbers

There are a lot of common plastics used in households but they're not all the same. Some can be recycled, while others have to go in the general waste bin. Putting the wrong plastic in the wrong bin can contaminate recycling or send a recyclable product to landfill. Thankfully, there's an easy way to tell what household plastics can be recycled. Check the item for a number inside of a

triangle made up of arrows. If the number is a 1, 2 or 5, the plastic can be recycled. If it is any other number, or the product has no number, you should throw it in the general waste bin.

Recycling your e-waste in the wrong place

E-waste – basically anything with a battery, power cord or plug – can largely be recycled. But that doesn't mean you can just chuck your old microwave, phone or laptop in your yellow recycling bin at home. A number of large retail outlets will accept certain e-waste items for recycling. Your local council may also accept e-waste as part of a hard rubbish pick-up.

Recycling e-waste helps keep hazardous chemicals from leeching into the soil in landfills and allows the precious metals found in these products to be repurpose, reducing the amount of new metals that needs to be mined.

Recycling plastic plates, cutlery and cups

Single-use plastic plates, cutlery, straws and drink stirrers were banned across Victoria on 1st February, 2023. These items account for a third of litter found in the environment and are difficult to recycle. If you've still got these items lying around your home they should be disposed of in your general waste bin. Single-use plastic cups (the kind you might get a beer in at the footy) are not currently banned, however, they still should be thrown in the general rubbish.

Shredding your paper

Paper is one of the most recycled products in Victoria but you might be surprised to learn that shredded paper needs special treatment if it's going in your recycling bin. Shredded paper should be contained in a paper bag or cardboard box if going in your kerbside recycling, as this helps sort it at the recovery centre. Keep in mind some councils may not accept shredded paper at all – in this case you can add the paper to your compost bin.

Not emptying your containers

It's important that all containers are empty before being popped in the recycling. Not emptying containers contaminates the recycling and can potentially clog the sorting machines. Food and drink containers just need a quick scrape or rinse before going in the bin, you don't need to scrub them till they're pristine. Some substances such as anti-freeze, ammonia-based cleaners and fuel are also classified as hazardous and should be recycled through Victoria's Detox Your Home program.

Forgetting to turn your foil into golf balls

Metal is one of the most recycled materials in Australia, with 90 per cent of all metals turned into new products. Aluminium – the type of metal used in canned food – is no different. But if you're going to recycle your aluminium foil you should first make sure it's big enough. Foil should be scrunched into a ball roughly the size of a golf ball or larger – so it's well worth savings all your Easter egg wrappers and scrunching them together before throwing in the recycling.

Thanks to the RACV for this article and to Chris Horton for sending it in.

Reg's Rain Report

2023	Millimetres	Days of Rain
January	100.2	8
February	24.0	5
March	114.8	12
April	74.8	9
May to 18th	33.4	6
TOTAL	347.2	40
To 18/5/2022	477.4	30
To 18/5/2021	320.0	30



NOSTALGIA ISN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE...

My dog is half pit-bull terrier, half poodle.	Demolishing a house in Dublin last year.	You don't have to swim faster than a shark.
Not much of a guard dog.	Workmen found a skeleton.	You only have to swim faster than the person.
But, a vicious gossip.	With a medal round its neck.	You are with.
	The inscription read: 'Hide & Seek Champion 1910.'	
<i>Craig Shoemaker</i>	<i>Frank Carson</i>	<i>Kevin Nealon</i>

Community Landcare Information Session

FOR THE OSBORNES, ALLANS & STAGHORN FLAT AREAS

Are you interested in joining Landcare or undertaking Landcare activities on your property but not sure how to go about it?

Kiewa Catchment Landcare Network is excited to announce we are holding a community information session for interested residents in the Allans, Staghorn, and Osbornes Flat areas.

At the meeting you will:

- Find out what Landcare is and how you can get involved.
- Hear about local group projects.
- Be able to voice your priorities and interests for your property or a nearby public space.
- Meet other interested Landcare people in your local area.

Date: Saturday 24th June 10 am - 12pm

Where: Osbornes Flat Hall, Osbornes Flat

Morning tea provided

To register or for more information:
Please contact Shannon Brennan 0407 227 814
or facilitator@kclg.org.au

WWW.KCLG.ORG.AU



The Rain Moth

An alarming tapping late on a rainy, drizzly night on the window saw us shoot off the sofa assuming that someone had strayed onto our property by accident. But no, it was *Abantiades atripalpis*, an enormous Hepialid (the family of insects in the lepidopteran order that include butterflies and moths) which commonly comes to light when autumn rains are falling, hence the name Rain Moth. The female lays an astonishing number of eggs, over forty thousand have been recorded; they are scattered on the ground as she flies, and the rain may help to wash them into cover. The larvae live underground feeding on tree roots, and after the adults emerge the pupal cases may be found protruding from the ground

The wingspan is up to 120 millimetres (4.7") for males and 170 millimetres (6.7") for females. The moths have fawn coloured wings with two silver flash markings across each fore wing. They can be the same size as a small insectivorous bat, and owls often prey on them. The body reaches a length of 120 mm.

The caterpillar is used extensively by fishermen as bait. This is where the common name "bardee", "bardi", "badee", or "bargi grub" is derived from. This name is also used for the larva of the beetle, *Bardistus cibarius*, as well as various ground dwelling and wood boring moth larvae. The larvae live in tunnels, feeding on *Casuarina pauper* and *Eucalyptus* species, especially *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*.

Australia is certainly the place to be for moths though. Apparently we have something between 20,000 and 30,000 different types of moths here compared with just 2,500 or so recorded species in the UK.

So, you won't be surprised to hear that the rain moth is not Australia's biggest moth. That award goes to the Giant Wood Moth (*Endoxyla cinereu*) found in Queensland, the female of which weighs up to 30 gm with a wingspan of 250 mm (9.8").



The Rain Moth's pupal case after hatching



The Rain Moth the next morning, rather hors de combat. It disappeared during the day. Taken by a bird very likely.

Bright-eyed and bushy-tailed

How just lovely?

Bright-eyed and bushy-tailed

Hunger for the future horizons of life

Such energy, such hope, ...so, so good

Bright-eyed and bushy-tailed

The future is yours to see

There they all go on a moving walkway

Into the mist yet to be seen

So keen, so brimming with hope if only contagious.

They go...away, away, away.

All Bright-eyed and bushy-tailed.

They are all stars of the future and they all shine bright

And may they all shine bright for long-long time

Energized, exuberant. They are flying to the moon and stars

There they go universes, destinies, arenas foreign... all unknown


All beyond what we can know, beyond even the deepest imaginings possible,

beyond prophecy even.

Nothing else so overflowing with such promise.

All bright-eyed and bushy-tailed.


Stephen Masters



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YACK TENNIS CLUB

The Thursday night social competition has finished for the 2022/2023 season. Our six teams did very well despite the multiple weather cancellations at the start of the season. It was great to have new teams and players in the mix enjoying tennis. As it happened, we also postponed the finals until after the Easter break/school holidays and then the four top teams came back for the final.

Team Orange ended the season just top of the ladder ready for the final countdown battle against Team Blue. Vying for third and fourth was Team Green against a late run by Team



Orange and Blue get ready to play the Thursday night tennis Grand Final

Purple to nip into the top four. Orange and Blue had a mighty contest with winners flying into deep back corners, volleys pinging everywhere and lobs that could not be chased down. It was such an even contest and with the sets 3 a piece, it came down to games with Blue victorious 29 games to Orange 24. Congratulations Team Blue on a well-deserved win.

The Green and Purple playoff was another well-balanced contest. After four sets, scores were even with 2 sets a piece and Purple just one game ahead. The final two sets proved decisive and Green held their nerve to take both for a comfortable win 4/28 to 2/23. Best of all there was much reminiscing of 80s songs which made it a most enjoyable evening with suggestions of a leg warmer dress code for next year. Let's hope it is not a winter knit project...



Thursday night Green and Purple ready to play

AGM Invitation

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting of the Yack Tennis Club will be held at the Star Hotel, at 7pm, Monday, 24th July 2023. All current Yack Tennis Club members are very welcome and absolutely encouraged to come along.

Court Resurfacing update

We are super thrilled to report that significant funding has been secured for our major infrastructure project to upgrade the two cracked plexipave courts to a sand surface. Tennis Australia will contribute half the project cost, and YCDCo has also been truly wonderful with their funding support of \$12,500. Thank you YCDCo and Tennis Australia! The Tennis Club will fund the remaining cost. We have created a fundraiser through the Australian Sports Foundation for any individual contributions. Any amount is gratefully received and will go a long way towards ensuring the longevity of the playing surface and the Tennis Club itself. The project is going ahead with a commencement date to be confirmed by our contractor but we are looking forward to a summer of playing on sand!

COURT RESURFACING

TWO OF OUR FOUR COURTS ARE CRACKING- WE'VE PATCHED & MENDED AND WE KEEP PLAYING- BUT!!!

SCAN ME

NEW PLAN
RESURFACE THE OLD PLEXIPAVE COURTS AND UPGRADE TO SYNTHETIC SAND SURFACE-

THE YACK TENNIS CLUB HAS BEEN APPROVED FUNDING FROM TENNIS AUSTRALIA'S BUSHFIRE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND (BCDF) AND THE WONDERFUL YCDCO TOWARDS THE PROJECT COST-

PLEASE, WE ARE ASKING FOR PUBLIC SUPPORT VIA THE AUSTRALIAN SPORTS FOUNDATION (ASF) FUNDRAISING PLATFORM TO KEEP OUR COURTS GOING STRONG FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS!

FIND OUT MORE:
<https://asf.org.au/projects/yackandandah-tennis-club>

LAST DAY AT THE YACK POOL

On the last day of the season for the pool, the early morning swimmers had a breakfast BBQ planned, but due to pouring rain, the BBQ couldn't be used. However, our friendly lifeguards invited us into the office where we cooked up sausages and eggs in a frypan while head lifeguard Jennifer supplied fine china cups and teapot for our hot drink.

Most of us braved the elements and swam in the rain. The photo shows most of us, I think Neil must have still been in the water!

Our thanks go to the lovely lifeguards we had this season, they were always welcoming and kept the pool and surrounds sparkling clean, fishing out fallen leaves and insects and removing evidence of the nightly visits by the ducks.

Jill Whitford



Some familiar local faces enjoying breakfast after the last swim of the 2022/23 swimming season



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YACK COMMUNITY BOWLING CLUB

Following our highly successful Yack 500 Men's Tournament in April attracting 14 top men's teams from around the O&M region and beyond, the club has kept busy in May. We have hosted two Tournaments involving a total of 15 Away and 11 Home teams in ideal bowling conditions.

Our local region's Winter Bowls Competition has kicked off to a great start. Matches are played on Thursday and rotate between venues each week through to September. Venues include Yackandandah, Wodonga, Lavington, Howlong and Tallangatta Bowls Clubs. Players come from a huge range of clubs across North East Victoria and Southern NSW.

The local XXXX Cup Tournament played on three Saturdays in May then a further three Saturdays in August, involves Yackandandah, Myrtleford, Chiltern and Bright Bowling Clubs providing delightful opportunities for social interaction between clubs.



John Rodda, 21Up Open Club Champion

YACKANDANDAH COMMUNITY BOWLS CLUB PRESENTATIONS

Presentation Night was held on Friday 19th May celebrating a year of individual achievements. A great night was had by all with good company and great food.



Wayne Furze, Men's Club Champion

2022/2023 Club Champions were awarded as follows –

- Wayne Furze – Men's Club Champion
- Ron Elknor – Runner Up Men's Club Champion
- Trish Tobin – Ladies Club Champion
- Anne Corcoran – Runner Up Ladies Club Champion
- John Rodda – 21Up Open Club Champion
- Anne Corcoran - 21Up Open Runner Up
- Tom Millar – 100Up Open Club Champion

Don Dahlenburg – 100Up Open Runner Up

SOCIAL BOWLS

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

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

The Bowling Club is ideal for large or small, events, with a large kitchen, fully stocked bar, indoor and outdoor seating for 100+ people and modern toilet facilities.

We can assist with catering if you need.

Throw in some barefoot bowling for lots of fun and laughter.

Please contact Trish Tobin on 0418 419 270 to discuss.



Anne Corcoran runner up, with Trish Tobin, Ladies Club Champion

YACK LIONS CLUB MARKETS



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

18th June

**16th July
17th September
19th November**

**20th August
15th October
17th December**

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

Please check what's happening via their Web page:
yackandandah.vic.lions.org.au

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!



AUTUMN IS A BRILLIANT TIME AT YACK GOLF CLUB

The golf season is well underway, and members are clearly enjoying the stunning Autumn colours and pleasant weather. They are taking every chance to play before the winter chill sets in and coming up smiles with some excellent scores in the process.

The Pennant season has finished, and the last round was very successful for both the Yack women and men. The

shock upset, the fully Yack-comprised team (Beechworth players having this particular round off) came home victorious with a 3-2 win, which shot them up the rankings to a much more respectful distance away from the old wooden spoon. Similarly, the Section 3 men won their last round at Yack, using the home-ground advantage to full effect with a whopping 5-0 win. This also helped their ladder rankings up to third place, but it was not enough

(pretty much the week after writing this!) Being a nine-hole course, these championships will be split over two days, Friday for women, and Sunday for men. There has been a lot of work done on the golf course by volunteers to get it in top condition and the Championships will no doubt be two excellent days for Yack. We will wait and see if there is indeed any home-ground advantage in what will be a hotly contested stroke round attracting players from all around the region.

The Club has recently invested in a new mower, and we would like to thank Wodonga Pumps and Mowers for their continued support of the Yack Golf Club. Thanks to Don Crosthwaite too for the kind use of his mower in the interim.

At the time of going to publication, the men are in the middle of contesting their club championships, which is a very handy and excellent preparation for the above championships.

Meanwhile, the women have the Dot Martin match play tournament coming up and are also playing at many other clubs, having a great time in the process. The Thurgoona, Myrtleford and Mitta Bowls and Rutherglen Golf Club Breast Cancer Fundraiser are just some of the courses/tournaments played. The annual golf bowls at six of our region's sand scrape courses form the



Heather Eggleston Sandgreen Challenge trophy, which begins with Tarrawingee in June and ends at Yack in October. The Challenge is a wonderful example of interclub connection to obtain the common goal of wanting the maximum number of entrants to attend their annual event.

So much golf ahead and with the weather this brilliant, who can blame anyone for getting outside? If you have ever thought about trying golf or joining the Club, we welcome new members and social players alike. Why not visit Yack Golf Club, enjoy the views and the open fairways.

*Libby M'Crystal
Women's Captain*

For more membership information or to enquire, visit:

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



Yack Golf Club's Ladies Pennant Team

combined Yack-Beechworth women's team had their last round playing Bright at Bright vying for the wooden spoon honours. With this being the main outcome in contention, let's just say expectations were not overly high going up against Bright at their home ground. But what a surprise! In a

to secure a spot in the finals. A good pennant season, nonetheless.

Yack Golf Club has a very busy time ahead. It is our turn and honour to host the North East District Sand Scrape Championships end of May



Angela deservedly happy with an amazing 61 nett, 47 Stableford point score



Winners are grinners, and so are Runners Up!



Men going gourmet with their roast pork, beef and lamb roast rolls



The Course at its stunning Autumn best

Cryptic Crossword #11 Answers

ACROSS

- 6 Press. 8 Alerted. 9 Aria. 10 Anchorage.
- 11 Street. 12 Old timer. 13 Issuer.
- 15 Hogget. 18 Marigold. 20 Lap dog. 22 Pseudonym. 23 Race. 24 Lustres.
- 25 Tunis.

DOWN

- 1 Operates. 2 Female 3 Beyond the Limit.
- 4 Steaming. 5 Adhere. 7 Starters Orders 8 Anchor. 14 Universe.
- 16 Exorcist. 17 Adonis 19 Appals.
- 21 Parent



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

For more information call David Pietsch on 0400 224 814

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Saturday: 7 am to 5 pm

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