

# HARCOURT NEWS THE CORE

July 2016

HARCOURT NEWS - Edition 29

Harcourt Progress Association Inc

<http://harcourt.vic.au/news>



## Miniature Trains are set to roll into Harcourt!



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A group of life long train enthusiasts, the Victorian Miniature Railways Inc are a not for profit community group who love miniature trains and sharing their passion with others. The group have had a long association with the miniature railway at Eltham and in the Western District in Cobden.

Now they are looking to establish a miniature railway park in Harcourt! What a great attraction for families to the area and a wonderful destination for school groups, bus trips and visiting clubs. *(continues page 2)*



### DEADLINES & PUBLICATION DATES

We aim to publish by the 3rd of the month. The deadline for submissions is the 24th of the month prior. Advertisers and Community Groups will be sent reminder emails. There is no edition in January.

## Get on Board - Find out More at the Economic Forum on 27 July *(page 3)*



# Mountain Bike Park Update

Things have been quiet from the Harcourt Mountain Bike Park project, but that doesn't mean nothing is happening.

In the quest to top up the available state government funds, Goldfields Tourism Inc. prepared a grant application for the federal National Stronger Regions Fund (NSRF). This was a significant undertaking, and required a lot of work, for which we had high hopes of a positive outcome with the results due to be announced in mid-July. But then a Federal election was called! Grants cannot be announced when a government is in caretaker mode so the NSRF grant and all the applications are currently in limbo. This is disappointing for us, and I'm sure for organisations across the country who also submitted applications. At this stage no one knows how this grant will be administered until after the election is held and the new government decides how to proceed. It's really a wait and see process right now.

On the ground, there is progress in regard to the design of the trailhead area. A tender was conducted, and Djandak, an independent commercial business arm of the Dja Dja Wurung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, was the successful tenderer. They have been working with landscape architects and DELWP to come up with a design that will meet the needs of park users, address any environmental concerns and also service the needs of those utilising the Oaks area. We expect a draft design to be ready soon which will be taken to the Reference Committee for their feedback. This Reference Committee it made up of local community representatives so once the meeting has taken place, no doubt information on the design will flow back into the community for comment.

The other main area still to be finalised at this stage is the assessments. While most are completed, new information has come to light, following some work done by Coliban Water in the area, on an endangered moth that needs to be considered. Their main habitat is on the slopes of Mt Alexander so will impact some of the higher areas of the park area. A full assessment will need to be made when the moth is active in later spring.

So while there is still not much evidence of work actually "on the ground", be assured things are progressing.

*Jo Pincus  
for the Reference Committee*

# Miniature Railway coming to Harcourt

*(from Page 1)* Andrew Mierisch from the Victorian Miniature Railways Inc is keen to share his vision and passion with Harcourt residents and will be a guest speaker at the upcoming Harcourt Economic Forum to be held at the Harcourt Bowling Club on Wednesday 27th July, 6pm – 8pm. Come along and hear from Andrew how miniature railway facilities can be a great asset to a community, supporting tourism and educational programs, establishing partnerships with other service clubs, providing fundraising opportunities and a destination for groups and families to visit and hold celebration events.

**Get on board! Come along and find out more at the Harcourt Economic Forum. For further details see the full story on page 3.**



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# Economic Forum 27 July



Join us at the Harcourt Economic Forum as we explore the potential for economic growth and development in our town.

We all know Harcourt is a great place to live and for many of us an incredible community in which to raise a family. A lot of Harcourt residents also choose to work and conduct business here, with the NBN providing an international market place and visitors and customers come to spend valuable dollars supporting our local economy.

Agriculture has been a backbone of Harcourt's economic growth for many decades and Coliban Water's recent investment in water infrastructure provides the security to ensure this continues for years to come. Add to this the region's natural beauty and proximity to major centres such as Melbourne, Bendigo and Castlemaine and it's no wonder that visitor numbers to Harcourt are skyrocketing. And with that increase comes the potential for economic growth, new business opportunities and improved community facilities.

The Harcourt Economic Forum on Wednesday 27th July will be consider those opportunities and the accompanying challenges and will explore what assistance or resources are needed to encourage local economic growth.

A representative from the Bendigo Regional

Tourism collective will discuss the Destination Management Plan, a blueprint for the region to attract and retain tourists. There'll be an update about the proposed Mountain Bike Park, and reports from Coliban Water and from the Fruit Growers Association.

And you can hear about an exciting new proposal from the Victorian Miniature Railway group which has plans to construct a miniature railway park in Harcourt which will attract thousands of families and train enthusiasts. It will also be a fantastic complement to the regional destination playground which the Harcourt community is hoping to secure.

With opportunities comes challenges and impacts which need to be managed. As a community who do we address these impacts and ensure we gain a positive benefit for our town, our families and our region? Come along to the Harcourt Economic Forum, share your views, express your concerns and learn more about the potential for economic growth in our community.

***Harcourt Economic Forum is at the Harcourt Bowling Club on Wednesday 27th July, from 6pm – 8pm. Drinks at bar prices thanks to the Bowling Club and snacks provided by the Harcourt Progress Association. No bookings required but for more information contact Jacqueline on 5474 3172.***



Federal Member for Bendigo  
**LISA CHESTERS MP**

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# Plantings Continue

## Harcourt Landscape Master Plan



Before ↑ and After ↓



*On Wednesday, June 29 the Council began planting advanced Turkey Oaks (*Quercus cerris*) in the centre median strip in Harcourt. These have been planted according to the Landscape Master Plan developed after public feedback at a number of meetings in 2014/5. Turkey Oaks are quick growing and hardy, and can grow to over 25m tall.*



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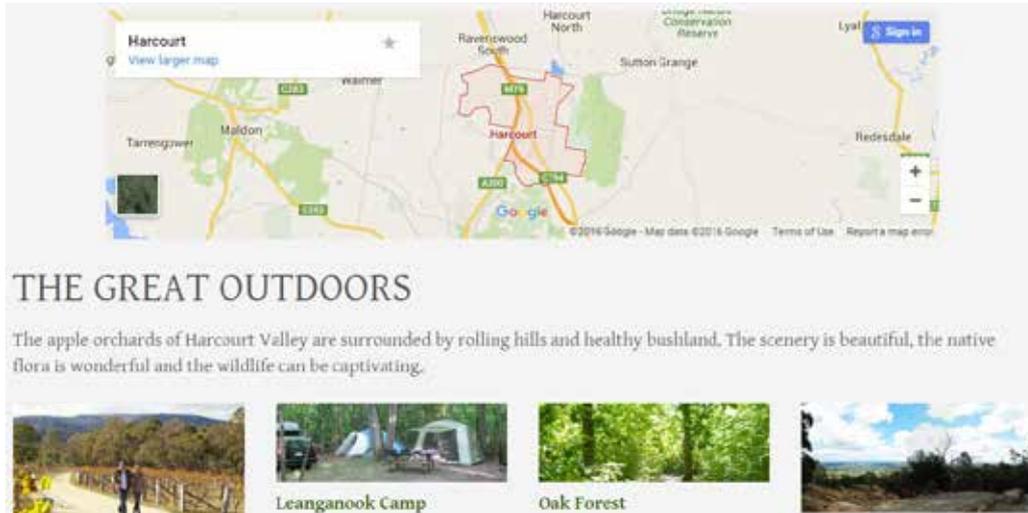
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# harcourt\_online

by David J Ling, PhD



The Harcourt Valley Community Website is a finalist in the 2016 ANZIAs!

What's that mean? The ANZIAs are the *Australia & New Zealand Internet Awards*. They were started to recognise important contributions to the internet. It's kind of a big deal.

Finalists were notified just days before this edition of *The Core* went to print. The award our site is up for is called the *Leonie Dunbar Memorial Award for Community Websites*. There are only three finalists for the category.

We're vying with Bowarville and Buninyong. They're both bonza websites, but the big bucks from Ballarat may be the beefiest bugbear—by which, I mean they'll be a bother to beat.

How did our site get into the final three? Take a look at <http://harcourt.vic.au> and find out.

A few of its pages are targeted at visitors. Why? The internet is a popular resource for tourism. Having our own Harcourt website is a great way for us to maintain control of our community's identity on the web and in the real world. It's also an effective way to promote aspects that we know are worth wider attention.

Of those touristy pages, the [home page](#) is definitely the touristiest. It's got passages about our apples, ciders, wines and the like. Of course, it also has handy links to all the other pages on the site. The [Experience](#) page lists upcoming events and has listings for places to eat and drink—experiencing Harcourt is thirsty work. The [Explore](#) page has info about places of interest in and around Harcourt Valley. Tourists like that stuff, and locals might find it useful too.

The other pages are definitely good for locals.

You might already know the [News](#) page. That's where we host the online version of *The Core*. Through the site, you can read it on computer or mobile device. Are you reading it online right now? If so, yay for 2016! If not, at least you know you can.

You can also download a copy of *The Core* in case you want to read it later. The entire back catalogue is there—every edition back to May 2014.

There's also a [Community Directory](#)—it lists our amenities, council contacts and a bunch of other stuff that is great to have around town.

Then, there's your [Business Directory](#)—I've personally found this useful more than once. Any business based in Harcourt Valley—local talent and top-shelf goods—can get listed. Plenty are on already. If ever you need shops, booze, beds, cuppas, cars and tradies, storage, steel, earth-moving, landscaping or pretty much any sort of service that isn't too saucy... Harcourt's online business directory should be the first place you look.

Know a Harcourt business that should be on the site, [get in touch](#). We can have a listing online in a jiffy.

The Harcourt [contact page](#) is the easy way to get in touch: Just type your message then hit submit.

If you want to contribute to the site, you can. If you've an idea that might be worthwhile, [share it](#). I'm always eager to get more snaps from local photographers up there. Have you got good pics?

Big cheers to Diana Cork from the Heritage Centre for entering the site into the ANZIAs (and for entering more than a few listings onto our directories, too).

ANZIA winners will be announced on 30 August. Here's hoping...

So, go see what's great about your community website. If you've got ideas to make it greater, [let us know](#).

*David is the co-founder of brand agency [www.copy-transmission.com](http://www.copy-transmission.com), handling promotions, reputations, websites and strategic communications for clients near and far.*

*He lives locally, and is site administrator for [harcourt.vic.au](http://harcourt.vic.au)—your not-for-profit, volunteer-run community website.*

# Councillor Notes



Hi all, Many of you will know Council has appointed Darren Fuzzard as the new Mt Alexander Shire CEO. Darren is a Civil Engineer by profession and has worked in local government as well as VicRoads. Darren starts with us on 18th

July so if you come across him in your travels please make him feel welcome. Recruitment of a CEO is quite a complex issue but I feel confident Council has made a very good decision from a highly skilled group of applicants. Engineers are very nice people and where would we be without them!!!

Rain beautiful rain! How long is it since we have had days of beautiful soaking rain? The countryside and gardens really needed that. Our farm sector is in desperate need of a few good seasons so here's hoping.

During the month Council had a special meeting to hear budget submissions. The early part of the year is spent preparing the next year's budget and it is difficult to meet the needs of all groups looking for support from Council. With pressure on budgets the submissions must meet a range of criteria to be successful. For any groups that missed out please take advantage of the grant writing sessions that Council runs.

Remember Council elections are due again later this year. Some potential candidates have been in campaign mode already. If you want to serve your local community, being on Council is a great way to do that.

Probably the other news that I can share is that the Peter Mac Hospital has moved. I am still at the East Melbourne site for a few more weeks. Anyone going for treatment must go to the new site which is on the old Dental Hospital site next door to Royal Melbourne Hospital and the Women's.

I have been very fortunate to have worked at Peter Mac for the past seven years.

The new hospital was only an idea when I started there and now it is reality. It is absolutely magnificent in every way.

For those that are interested, now that my work is finished at Peter Mac, I will have a go at farming. Well at least until the money runs out. Farming is like that!! I want to say a special thank you to my dear friend John Jenkins. John recently repaired a part on one of my farm machines. How lucky are we to people like John and Jan in our community. To be fair to other locals I had to cross a few names off his job list to get my project progressed! Bill and Rose are down the list a bit now. **Best regards to all.**

**Regards Tony**

**Cr AG Cordy, 0439 742434**



**Councillors Bronwen Machin and Tony Cordy were on hand on Saturday 2nd July at the Harcourt General Store for a Councillor Listening Post.**

## Harcourt Progress Association



The HPA met on Thursday 23 June. Acting Chair, Robyn Miller welcomed new Deputy Chair, Sha Cordingley to the Steering Committee and the public meeting. Sha brings special skills to HPA as she has held the position of CEO of Volunteering Australia. Other members of the Steering Committee include Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns Secretary/ Acting Treasurer, Scott Harrison and David Ling.

Good news was plentiful with HPA securing a Council Grant for a Community Catering Kit, a further grant from FRRR to be announced in July and continued progress on the Grant Application for Irrigation in Stanley Park.

Take note of the following for your diary and keep an eye out for details in The Core and on social media:

- July 27: Economic Forum
- August: General meeting
- September: Proposed Meet the Candidates Forum (Dependent on the number of Nominees).
- October: Proposed Gardening Fete, General meeting
- November: Twilight on the Green (mid Nov), Annual General Meeting (late Nov)
- Christmas celebration



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# Harcourt CWA

Salutations to dear friends in Harcourt from the Harcourt CWA!

We would like to extend an invitation to each and every one of you to an "Apron Show and Tell" with Robyn Annear on the 7th of July at 1:30pm at the Harcourt Leisure Centre. Entry is \$6, which includes afternoon tea and access to an interesting display of Aprons collected by Robyn Annear, a well published local writer.

As always we welcome new members, meeting days are the first and third Thursday each month, at the Harcourt Leisure Centre at 1pm. The General meeting is on the first Thursday; The Craft meeting is on the third Thursday. Anyone interested in more information should contact Marie Twyford at [harcourtewa@gmail.com](mailto:harcourtewa@gmail.com)

Be safe this winter, particularly when driving on icy roads. And if you need a friend, a hand, or just an ear - remember, this is what the CWA is for: connecting people who are feeling isolated.

*Dani Kent  
Harcourt CWA Publicity Officer  
[dkent1980@gmail.com](mailto:dkent1980@gmail.com)*

# Business News



Business Mount Alexander Inc. (BMA) is an incorporated association dedicated to supporting, connecting and promoting the business community in the Mount Alexander Shire. Our focus is to provide businesses with opportunities for networking, professional development, cross promotion, knowledge sharing and to keep updated with business events in the region.

Each month BMA runs a Social Drinks night for people to meet other business folk for an informal evening of networking (see above). Our most recent event was at The Taproom where approx. 20 people attended on a cold and rainy evening and enjoyed a night of good conversation.

We will be hosting a **Women in Business Morning Tea** at Das Kaffeehaus on Tuesday 24 July from 10am to 11.30am and you can register your interest via the [BMA Facebook page](#) or find us on [MeetUp](#).

Mount Alexander Shire Council have organised a series of workshops, subsidised through Small Business Victoria and the final one is on:

### **Your Business in a Digital World**

5.30pm to 8pm, Monday 11 July

Castlemaine Senior Citizens Centre

Cost: \$20 (Light refreshments provided)

Bookings via [Eventbrite](#)

BMA members are entitled to a 50% discount on a business mentoring session with SBMS, at a cost of \$50 for attending this workshop. These mentoring sessions are sponsored by Robertson Hyetts Solicitors.

*Genevieve Ward, Exec Officer, BMA  
[gen@businessmountalexander.org.au](mailto:gen@businessmountalexander.org.au)*




**COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
of VICTORIA Inc.**

**Harcourt Branch**

ASSOCIATION DAY

**Thursday 7th July, 1.30pm  
Harcourt Leisure Centre**

**Guest Speaker:**  
**Renowned Castlemaine Writer - Robyn Annear**

**Display of Aprons - not just your old Pinny!**

- \* Raffle
- \* Door Prize
- \* Trading Table
- \* Delicious Afternoon Tea

**Entry \$6.00**

RSVP by Monday 30th June to:

Marie Twyford  
email: [mltwyford@gmail.com](mailto:mltwyford@gmail.com)  
Ph: 5472 5450

# Family History at the Heritage Centre

Have you ever thought who the street names of Harcourt were named after? Many of these names are the early pioneers who lived and developed business in the valley. The Heritage Centre has over the years been the custodian of information on these families. Our volunteer Faye has NOW collated all this information from the data base and secondary sources into a manageable format. But she needs your help to check the existing details or to add to them. The following list, shows the families:

ARCHER	ARMSTRONG	BARSTOW	BERTUCH
BIGGS	BLIGHT	BLUME	CARR
CHELLOW	CODE	COMINI	DOBLE
DOUGLAS	EAGLE	GEORGE EAGLE	
HENRY ELY	FACWY	FROST	GAASCH
J GARTSIDE	GRANT	HAMPSON	HAWKINGS
HILL	HOGARTH	JAMES	JENKIN
JENNINGS	JOHANSEN	KIMBER	LADD
LANG	LEVERSHA	LUPTON	MADDERN
MARTIN	MCKINDLEY	MCLEAN	MCHAHON
MICHEL	MILFORD	NORNINGTON	
NORRIS	OWENS	PASCOE	PEELER
PORTWINE	PRITCHARD	ROBINS	SCHIER
SCOTT	SYMES	TIMMINS	TREWELLA
TURNBUL	VICK	WALTER	WALTERS
WARREN	WILKINSON	W H WILLIAMS	T WILLIAM

We are open any Wednesday 9am -3pm at the ANA Hall

## The Core as an Historical Source

*New volunteer Loretta Rice (seated) is being trained by Wendy Barron in the indexing system used at the Heritage Centre. Loretta's special project is indexing The Core so that it becomes another research tool for the history of Harcourt.*



## LIMERICK by The Bard of North Harcourt

*A very good read is The Core.  
It has news of the locals and more.  
There's articles, pictures  
And news of all fixtures  
And places we should not ignore.*

# School Holiday Activities

Hello everyone, this is my first piece of writing for The Core! The holidays can get boring, so I thought of some things to do at home, as well as out of town. This is directed mostly at young people, but also families.

First of all, things to do at home. I will start off with two things you probably don't want to do, but need to get done. First thing is clean and tidy your room. Sometimes a tidy-up can be fun, because you discover old things you haven't seen in a while. And once you are done, you will be grateful that you got this job out of the way! The next thing is definitely not fun but you gotta do it. If you get homework for the holidays, I suggest doing your work as soon as you possibly can to get it out of the way. I am not very good at this, I often leave things until the last minute. But if you get onto it first thing, you have the rest of the holidays to relax.

Now that the boring things are out of the way, I will continue with a few fun things you can do these holidays at home. The first thing to do is baking something. If you love eating, then baking might be the thing for you! There are lots of options for sweet and savoury things to make. You might have some recipe books at home or you can just look up recipes. There are also lots of recipes for sugar free cooking, if you would prefer that. Once your baked goods are out of the oven you could go for a walk while they are cooling. It is fun to go for little walks in your neighbourhood, or even on walking trails. It can also be even more fun taking your friends with you and just walking and talking! When you get home you will probably be tired, and so you could curl up with a book or to watch a movie. And because you baked earlier, you can have a treat while you relax!

Another fun rainy day activity, is playing board games or cards. A lot of people don't play these kinds of things because there is technology now, but there are some fun card and board games. I especially like the card game UNO. Something else you could do some time when you are bored, is making a little garden! You could even use pots and have a few potted plants inside if you're worried about the rain. Now that I have mentioned a few 'at home' ideas, I am going to write a list of events for you if you want to get out of town.

## **BENDIGO:**

The Marilyn Monroe Exhibition: 5 March – 10 July, Bendigo Art Gallery

Bendigo Cinemas – there are many movies these holidays for different ages

Shopping at the Bendigo Mall and Market Place is always fun

## **MELBOURNE:**

Shopping and lunch in the city

Luna Park – I suggest it for older kids because it can be a bit full-on, but it's still very good fun

Aquarium or Zoo – any age group

## **KYNETON:**

The Kyneton Pool – this indoor pool is very big and nice

## **CASTLEMAINE:**

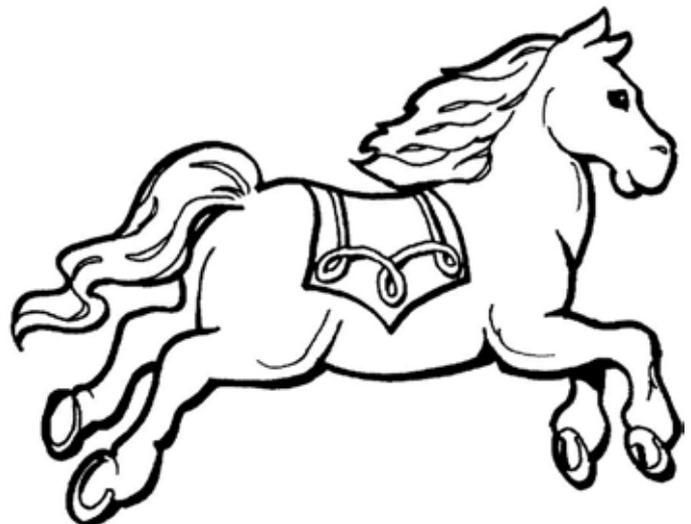
Buda Historic Home and Garden – this place is very beautiful, especially in spring and summer

Old Castlemaine Goal – the old gaol is interesting and also has a nice café

I hope you now have some ideas about what to do these holidays and maybe what to do in the future when you are feeling bored. Enjoy these holidays!

*Scarlett Berger*

## Colour Me In!



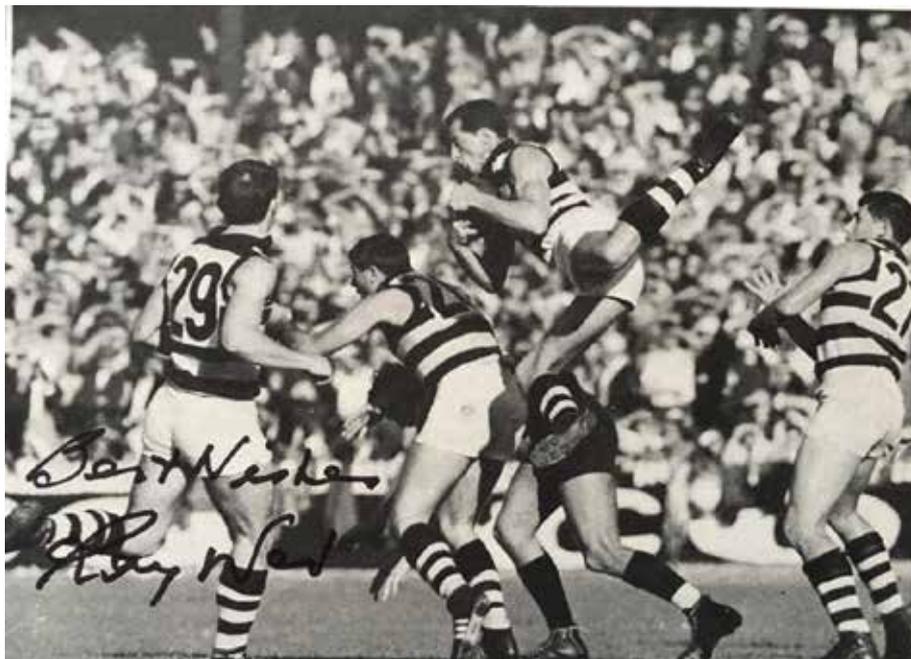
## Harcourtian – Troy West – Catman



Support the team or not, you cannot but admire the flamboyance and artistry that has created one of the AFL's unique mascots and Geelong's most passionate fan - *Catman*. Often, on game day, Troy West's alter-ego can be seen prowling around the Harcourt bus stop waiting to leap onto the Bendigo Cat Supporters' Group transport to cheer, chant and wave flags behind the goal posts for his club.

As if to give life to Bruce Dawe's poem, *Life-Cycle*, Troy was wrapped in club colours early with his first words almost 'carn, carn'. He was born whilst his father, Roy West, a best and fairest winner and Geelong Premiership player against Hawthorn, was still one of Geelong's playing heroes. In the days when club loyalty meant you put on your jumper for a team and hung up your boots for the same team, Roy, a Stawell lad, was recruited by Geelong in 1960.

**Roy West soaring above the pack.**



Despite the zoning rules at the time which meant that Victorian Country Football Leagues were recruiting grounds for particular clubs, for example Bendigo provided players for Carlton, Sunraysia for Richmond and Geelong and District and Mid-Murray for Geelong, both Melbourne and Geelong attempted to recruit Roy.

'In the end Dad picked Geelong, it was closer and had more of a small town feel. He never regretted it. I was only two when Dad retired from playing, but the club and its players were a large part of my life. I became a member of the Geelong Football



Club at 10. I grew up in Geelong as the son of one of Geelong's adopted sons and his football mates were an extension of our family. My mum Yvonne, like me, was conscripted into the club and still helps by sewing cheer squad flags. A lot of people today don't realise that VFL footballers were ordinary blokes,

**Troy West at 16.** who had to work to make a living – they sold cars, worked in pubs, shops, were tradies etc. They turned up for footy training a few times a week and played on Saturday. There were no professional players making a living from football then.

'I evolved Catman from 2005 to 2008. It all started when I found a Geelong Club Blazer that my father had worn on a demonstration game against Melbourne in Hawaii. I cut the badge off and put it on my vest. Gradually I added badges and support

material to the vest. The vest became a jacket and soon the sleeves were covered. Giving birth to the Catman came easily after that. I was a trained make-up artist having worked in Melbourne for 10 years doing theatre and catwalk make-up. I knew

how to create faces and expressions and had a flair for costumes and wigs. It wasn't long before Catman with his different feline expressions, complete with long acrylic nails and fanged teeth emerged. Dad lived through the transformation of his badge to the fully fledged Catman. He'd occasionally shake his head but was very supportive.

'Dad saw his team break a 44 year premiership drought with a 119 point win over Port Adelaide in 2007. He saw the premiership flag raised twice more above his club - in 2009 against St Kilda and 2011 against Collingwood - before he died of lung cancer in 2011, never having smoked in his life.

'My life partner Aad and I were running the Ravenswood Homestead while Catman was emerging. We had bought the Homestead in 1995 and had it fully operating as a B&B. I had met Aad 4 years earlier at Torquay, and although we were total opposites - he was into silver service and fine dining with a very relaxed temperament, not me at all - we got on very well. 'Ravenswood was hard work. We could take up to 45 people for a night and over 100 for weddings. Aad

did the cooking and we did most of the cleaning and work around the place, with some help from a great core of locals who helped with serving and change-over days. We had some wonderful times, amazing experiences and met phenomenal people but knew we couldn't keep doing the B&B forever. We liked the region and wanted to stay here when we retired from Ravenswood. We found land on the side of Mt Alexander some 7 years ago and began planning our future home. We bid farewell to Ravenswood last year, after 20 years, and are now busily creating the environment we want to live in. The contrast from the business of Ravenswood and the stillness and quietness of where we are now is something we deeply enjoy.'

I ask Troy if Catman will ever retire. 'I can see Catman going on for a while longer,' he says. 'However a time will come when there will be too many creases around the Catman's eyes and those four metre square flags I fought the AFL hard to allow will become a bit heavy to lift and wave. That might be the time to bow out gracefully.'

*Jenny McKenry,  
Dandura Alpacas*



**The many faces of Catman.**



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## No. 8: Ben Smith

*We know Harcourt is a place with hidden treasures, but perhaps not many of its residents would necessarily name the arts among them. Yet we have among us a significant – and increasing – number of talented, often successful, occasionally illustrious, practitioners from across the spectrum of the art world.*

Ben Smith is a familiar face—or is that beard—around Harcourt and the entire area. Artist, musician, sound engineer and now eclectic music store owner, he wonders how he managed to get “quite this busy”.

After early years in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne, Ben’s family moved to “The Basin” in the Dandenongs. His mother worked in sales and in data processing in the very beginnings of the digital age; she also liked to dabble in crafts. His teacher father played guitar around the house. Ben himself enjoyed drawing and was forever sketching and doodling, at home and at school. One time, he was taken to task by his Mum for drawing a female nude, copied from a calf-hide bound copy of Rubens. He laughs, recalling that *she* gave it to him; he still treasures it.

He didn’t study art in a formal way at school. Boronia High wasn’t particularly conducive, apparently—“grey cinder block buildings filled with grey cinder block people”. And not only no good art teacher: “no good teachers at all”.

Maybe because of this and despite understanding (later) that his home was happy and supportive, Ben succumbed to teenage wanderlust, throwing his grandfather’s rucksack on his back and hitting the road at the ripe young age of 15. He headed north, taking odd jobs picking fruit, building, whatever. During years of traversing the country, however, he always sought out art in books and galleries, increasing his knowledge and vocabulary while not actually practising.

At some point during this time however, he discovered that decent money could be made drawing cartoons for magazines, the dailies, anyone with a chequebook. He was published widely in Australia and internationally: satisfying in one way, but one way only. I have one of his caricatures from 15 years ago—it’s outstanding. Not flattering mind you, but spot on; as it should be.

Eventually, Ben found himself in Bealiba, lucking onto a fabulous home and studio for minimal rent and hooking into the community there. I got the distinct impression that he was something of a maverick influence, changing the town while it changed him. He confirmed this by gleefully related the story of the “Bealiba Beast”.

It seems every town has a “big, wild cat” story. Around here it’s the “panther” left behind by the departing US

troops. There was something similar in the Maryborough area at the time and a newspaper offered a reward for a photo. Ben hit the bush and slept rough tracking the Beast, without luck. But he did find a lot of bones of other animals—horse, cow, goat, rabbit. Returning to town, he set about building a Beast. The local kids peered over the fence—“Watchadoin?” Pretty soon, they were all helping. A horse skull with glowing eyes, cow bones, and a scrotum filled with tennis balls; you get the idea.

The townsfolk were not pleased and declined when Ben offered the result as a feature in the parade, but he and the kids crashed the party anyway, jumped to the head of the parade, and made headlines. Shortly thereafter, the Beast was stolen in the dead of night, and never seen again.

Around this time, a progressive new art group had started up in Maryborough—the Lombardy Elephants. Ben was a natural fit, and when they visited Castlemaine in the mid-90s, he knew he’d found a home. He’s been in the area ever since, making mischief, music and mayhem, with like-minded souls he connected with quickly.

More recently, Ben credits Craig MacDonald, at the Garage Art Foundry in Elphinstone, for resurrecting his love of art for its own sake. The two men worked together on others’ work, and their own, over a period of ten years.

Phew, what a ride! But wait, there’s more. As well as his art, Ben is an accomplished and busy musician. When I arrived to interview him, Ben was standing on Barker Street, outside his shop next to the New China restaurant, a Telecaster in his hands, strumming tasty chords out into the world. Not one to rest on his laurels, he’s opened *My Old Guitar*—a second hand music instrument and equipment shop/museum and self-proclaimed “old muso drop-in centre”. Check it out soon—there’s something for everyone with a musical bone in their body.

And, let’s be honest, isn’t that everyone?

*MOG is at [www.facebook.com/myoldguitar60](http://www.facebook.com/myoldguitar60), but do yourself a favour, put down the device and drop in. It even smells good.*





# Harcourt CFA

With the CFA recently being in the news for the last couple of months for the wrong reasons, I thought it would be a good time to give a history over-

view of where we have come from and where we are today. Hopefully this will give you an understanding of the importance of the volunteer firefighter within the organisation and may help answer some of the questions that you may have. I have drawn on information from numerous sources trying to be as accurate as possible while trying to keep it brief. (The last couple of weeks I have received more questions about the CFA than any other period that I can remember.)

## CFA HISTORY

Victoria has long been served by volunteer fire brigades, the first of which was established in the 1850s. In 1891 the Fire Brigade Act created two boards: the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board (MFBB) and the Country Fire Brigades Board (CFBB). The CFBB was responsible for coordinating fire brigades more than 16 kilometres from Melbourne. Another fire management organisation was created in 1926 following serious bushfires. It consisted of volunteer members, had little power to carry out fire prevention, and received very little financial assistance from the government at that time.

After the serious fires of 1939, a Royal Commission was established and it recommended a single firefighting organisation for country Victoria. After more devastating fires in 1944, the CFA was established to better coordinate country fire services. It commenced operation on 2 April 1945.

The need for a local and organised fire brigade was highlighted early in January 1944 when a fire started on the Calder Highway at Buckeye Creek, Ravenswood when hot coals from a car gas producer (an alternative fuel production system for cars in WWII) fell onto grass on the side of the road. The fire quickly took hold and spread in a south easterly direction. There was great devastation in the district. North Harcourt and Sutton Grange taking the brunt as the fire continued towards Macedon.

It was in August 1944 that a meeting was called in the ANA Hall in Harcourt, with the idea of forming a local fire brigade. As a result the Harcourt Bush Fire Brigade was formed with nearly 100 members. The CFA in its formative days registered the Harcourt Brigade on the 7<sup>th</sup> December 1944. The CFA operates under the Country Fire Authority Act of 1958 (as amended) and its regulations.

The other body responsible for fire suppression prior to the formation of the CFA was the Forest Commission of Victoria which has morphed into what we know today as the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP) and Parks Victoria.

## WHAT IS CFA AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

CFA is one of the world's largest volunteer emergency service and community safety organisations. CFA is based on community involvement and gains its strength from the commitment of its volunteers and staff. The organisation is responsible for the prevention of, suppression of and recovery from fires in country Victoria and outer Melbourne. CFA is also involved in attending emergencies like road accidents, chemical spills and supporting other agencies when requested.

CFA has almost 60,000 registered volunteers, over 900 career firefighters and officers and over 900 support and administration staff.

The Board of the CFA consists of 9 members which is made up of 5 Government appointees and 4 volunteers (2 from Rural Brigades and 2 from Urban Brigades) submitted by VFBV. The CFA Board reports to the Minister for Emergency Services.

While the career fire fighters are represented by the United Firefighters Union (UFU) which was established in 1990, the Volunteers are represented by Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria (VFBV) which was established in its earlier forms under the CFA Act 1958 to represent volunteer firefighters on all matters that affect their welfare and efficiency. It is the responsibility of the VFBV to serve and protect the interests of the Volunteers.

This is why the VFBV has concerns with the current UFU/CFA EBA which is a 415 page document.

There is no objection or interest in the normal wages and conditions contained in the document.

The concerns of the VFBV along with the ex-Minister, the ex-CEO and the sacked CFA Board was with the clauses that they felt were unsatisfactory for the operation of the CFA. These conflicted with the Volunteers Charter which is a legal document, as well as being against Federal Laws of discrimination, equal opportunity, etc. They also believe that there are up to 50 clauses that give the UFU power of veto over the CFA.

So while all this is going on, the most important thing to remember is that your local fire brigades are still here, continuing to serve the community as we have for the many years we have been in existence. We are all entitled to our own thoughts and opinions and our right to express our views under the laws of our land and to protect what we represent and believe in, but when the siren blows and our pagers go off, our differences are put aside to ensure our aim of suppressing that fire as quickly and efficiently is achieved in the safest way possible.

Thank you for your support.

*Tyrone Rice  
Captain*

# Uniting Church

As some of you enjoy a sleep in on a Sunday morning, spare a thought for the members of our Church who brave the frosts and brisk winds to attend Church in Harcourt at 9am!! Most older churches tend to be very cold buildings however once the split system is going we are able to thaw out. Another comfort we are going to invest in is some comfortable chairs to replace some of the hard wooden pews. I'm told the pews are designed to be hard so that you don't fall asleep during the sermon??

A Sunday School teacher was just about to take her children into Church when she asked: "Why must we be quiet in Church?" - a small boy replied: " Because the old people are sleeping."

Harcourt Uniting Church has a reputation for being very generous in support of many organisations. Recently we worked with the Harcourt Preschool in applying for the installation of solar panels on the Preschool roof. This application was successful. The Preschool building is owned by the Church and was built in the early 1950's as a Preschool. Over the years there have been many improvements as well as an extension in the mid 80's.

We were pleased to be able to support the recent Asylum Seekers picnic which Solway reported on in the June edition of The Core. Members of our congregation provided financial donations, food and assisted on the day to make it a huge success - the animal farm was a great hit with the children.

It has been very rewarding to be able to support a group of Churches in the Mallee where many farming families are struggling with drought. Some areas have enjoyed the recent rains however other places have had very little rain. The money we have donated is being used to sponsor some families to attend a holiday camp where they can meet with others and forget about their worries for a few days.

*Jan Jenkin*



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Kangaroo Flat Vic 3555

## Young Writers and The Core

*New to The Core, our young writer, Scarlett Berger* has included an article this month on things to do in the School Holidays. See Page 9 for Scarlett's article.

I have had a discussion with another young person in Harcourt who may be able to assist with some writing in The Core. So we are making progress in encouraging young writers to step up and experience some home grown journalism.

Thanks to Steve Carroll at Castlemaine Secondary College for finding these aspiring writers.

We are still on the lookout for a young person, preferably from Harcourt, who would like to take on the challenge of a commitment to the Core as a Cadet Journalist.

## Cadet Journalist Wanted

Are you a young writer who would like a start in "grass roots" journalism with The Core? The person would preferably be living in Harcourt and would arrange interviews and write stories on matters of interest to young people. Or the person might have a keen interest, for example, sport or cooking.

It is proposed that a small payment would be made each month to the cadet.

If that sounds like you and you like to write and would also be prepared to learn (as quickly or as slowly as you like) the InDesign program which used to set up the paper, then contact:

Robyn Miller, Editor

Harcourt News/The Core

Email: [news@harcourt.vic.au](mailto:news@harcourt.vic.au)

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# Harcourt Bowling Club

## Solar System Pledge



### Winter Warmers at the Bowls Club

With winter upon us, there is little activity on the Green at present. However, the club is still very much alive and operating – we are just indoors keeping warm.

A great night out was enjoyed at the Bowling Club's Greens Café Curry Night in June.

Braving the cold was worthwhile as the Club was toasty, the beer was cold, the red wine was local and the curry was delicious.

Everyone is invited to join us for another Greens Café extravaganza on Friday July 15<sup>th</sup> for Christmas in July and an opportunity to taste the delights that Graeme and Kay Francis produce for this annual event.

Two courses of delicious food for a mere \$15.00!

You will need to book early (SMS or call Kay 0429 427785) as there are only 60 places available. There will also be a list on the Board at the Club. Numbers are required by first week in July please

Friday nights at the Club are popular for members and visitors alike. The members' draw at 6.30pm is followed by the drawing of the raffle. Meat trays and other great prizes are on offer each week.

So come and join us – you will be made most welcome.

*Christine Anderson*  
Publicity Officer

*The Greens Cafe serves up delicious mains and sweets.  
Don't miss Christmas in July on Friday 15th July.*



*Megan Purcell Liberal Candidate for the seat of Bendigo, with John Starbuck (left) and John Grant (right) at the announcement of the funding pledge for a solar system for the Club.*

Some time ago we had a Building Notice issued by Mount Alexander Council for the concrete retaining wall on the west side of the clubhouse. Since then Peter Douglass removed the concrete slabs, Russell Timmins reconstructed the GI fence and Brian Nunn backfilled and levelled the ground.

Last week the Council inspected and approved the remedial works. This will be followed by a letter of confirmation.

Last year work commenced on the outdoor deck. After major contributions in labour from many members the final slab was poured last week. Last Thursday the Building Inspector inspected the works and gave verbal approval of all works, with a letter to follow. Well done to all concerned.

Earlier this year the Board put a submission for a grant to install a solar system at the club. We were knocked out on a technicality

After presenting our case this week to the Liberal candidate for Bendigo, Megan Purcell, Megan visited the club on Sunday 26th June to announce a Liberal Party pledge of \$15,000 for a solar system at the club.

Overall it's been a "Good News" week for the Harcourt Bowling Club.

*John Grant*

steve  
macqueen  
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# Landcare

## Learn to Recognise Weeds!

### Blanket Weed (*Galaenia Pubescens*)

Introduced from south Africa, this prostrate mat-forming perennial grows to over a metre wider, smothering plants in its way. The small five petaled white or pink flowers produce seed and the plant can re-grow from roots and stems. Curently growing along the Calder Freeway. Similar native plants - saltbushes.



### Control Methods

**Cut and paint:** Cut the main stem below first branches and quickly, within seconds, apply undiltued herbicide.

**Spray:** Ask your local agricultural supplier for an appropriate herbicide.

**Manual Removal:** Hand pull seedling or smaller infestations, being sure to remove all of the parts of the plants which may regrow. Shen plants have a large taproot or underground storage system such as a rhizome, corm or bulb, it is important to remove as much of the plant as possible so that it does not regrow.

As there are similar native species it is advisable to seek advice if you are in any doubt.

*Get your copy of the local weed guide produced by Harcourt Valley Landcare and Friends of the Box Ironbark Forests. Please download as you need from [fobif.org.au](http://fobif.org.au) or you can pick up a hard copy from room 14 in the Connecting Country office.*

## Barkers Creek Landcare & Wildlife Group 20th Anniversary

Barkers Creek Landcare & Wildlife Group celebrated their 20th Anniversary with family and representatives from other Landcare groups. Harcourt Valley Landcare presented 15 Silver Banksia seedlings to Barkers Creek members. These trees are indigenous to Harcourt and are very rare with only one known tree now alive in the area. The seedlings have been grown from the seed of this tree. Silver Banksias were once abundant on Mount Alexander but were cleared during the gold rush for wood fires and building material.



# Unearthing Harcourt's Aboriginal Cultural Heritage



There was a really positive response to a talk given at the Heritage Centre on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June by Ann and Mark Lambert. The audience was fully engaged and came away with an enhanced appreciation of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.

Ann and Mark Lambert, Heritage Consultants, have been working in the Harcourt valley to prepare Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMPs) for Coliban Water, in connection with the pipeline to be installed under the Harcourt Rural Modernisation Project, and An estate sub-division.

These CHMPs were commissioned to fulfill the requirements of the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act, 2006. The work involved research of available maps (from GeoVic) and documentary sources, a ground survey followed by on-site excavation and recording of tools, implements and other evidence of occupation.

It should be stressed that the lifestyle of the Dja Dja Wurrung cannot be simply described as nomadic. They moved around their legally-owned territory, within their clearly understood boundaries, from seasonal food source to another seasonal food source. In this they were helped by their knowledge of astronomy, moving from place to place in keeping with the movement of particular constellations in the night sky.

Ann and Mark Lambert have worked in partnership with the Dja Dja Wurrung, who, it must be said, have lost much of their traditional lore due to the breakdown of society following European occupation of the district. The elders simply did not have fully initiated successors, to whom to pass on the tribal lore, due to the fragmentation of traditional society around the 1840's and 1850's, dislocation of the people, the cessation of initiation, inability to pass on tribal lore and loss of language. The current and emerging leaders of the Dja Dja Wurrung are very keen to learn, via the consultants' work, of the 'pre-history' of the district. The CHMPs form an important aspect of this process.

At a Harcourt site, carbon-dated to 18,000 years of occupancy, excavations revealed 3,200 chips and

artifacts in, near or above an ash pit. The site was drawn in cross section (vertically) and plotted horizontally, with records of all artifacts. The records are lodged with the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register.

Documentation of artifact scatters has provided evidence of manufacture of flake or blade tools (used as spear tip, chisel, adze, scraper or knife) by striking off sections from a core stone. "You can get the sense of where the person was sitting when he was working by studying the pattern of scatter of fragments and discarded flakes" said Ann. These flakes or blades were sharp and tough. The stone tools and artifacts at Harcourt were primarily quartz.

Much aboriginal cultural heritage has decayed and is untraceable - the wooden spears, woomeras, coolamons and shields, the skin garments and the foodstuffs. The remaining tangible indicators of aboriginal occupation are ash middens and artifact scatters. They can reveal much about the long occupation of the valley by folk who had a complex and comprehensive way of life and who can no longer speak for themselves. Excavation and documentation of these sites provides access to and enlightenment as to the past, for those of us who live in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. As our appreciation deepens we are all enriched.

*George Milford*



*Heritage Consultants, Ann and Mark Lambert, share the findings of the Cultural Heritage Management Plans they conducted in Harcourt.*

# Pips 'n' All

Hello Garden lovers,

This time last year, I wrote a little about pruning roses. In this month's cold and frosty weather, I would like to look a little deeper into roses. Roses have been a staple in the garden for hundreds of years. Popular in French gardens from the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, brought over from England with the early settlers and planted in many a farmhouse garden around Australia, they remain a favourite in the garden.

Winter is the perfect time to prune roses. It is also a great time to buy bare rooted roses for planting. This is a cost-effective way of introducing roses into your garden and is generally very successful. Most roses are frost tolerant. They like a sunny position and space around them to allow airflow to reduce the risk of fungal diseases and to promote flowering. They also like well-drained good, fertile soil, but can tolerate a range of conditions. Roses should be pruned each year to maintain strong, healthy growth and a good shape.

Roses can be grown in formal or informal settings, separately in rose beds or planted amongst mixed borders. Except for the old Tea roses, most roses are very hardy. There are many types of roses to choose from including both modern and heritage varieties with a variety of forms including groundcovers, bushes, shrubs, standards and climbers. This means that there are many roles roses can play in your garden including climbing up arches, walls and pergolas, forming a high, low or raised hedge, as a groundcover or as colour highlights in pots.

Today, there is an enormous variety of modern roses that have been bred for colour, form and disease resistance. Many are repeat-flowering to extend the flowering period and also the number and size of flowers. Others have been bred to expand the colour range from reds and pinks to yellows and oranges.

◆**Bush Roses** have a tidy habit and a long flowering season. They are further divided into:

- ▷Hybrid Tea- Large-flowered bush flowering in cycles of about 6 weeks;
- ▷Polyantha - small, sturdy bushes with large flower clusters;
- ▷Floribunda -Hardy, free flowering cluster-flowered cross between hybrid Tea and Polyantha; and
- ▷Patio (Dwarf cluster-flowered).

◆**Shrub Roses** are usually bigger than the bush roses and many flower only once per year. They include

Hybrid rugosa, English (David Austin) and Hybrid musk roses.

- ◆Climbing Roses have long arching canes, a wide range of colours and are usually long-flowering.
- ◆Miniature roses.
- ◆Groundcover roses have a low, spreading habit often with dense foliage and long flowering period.

**This month we are:**

- Pruning roses;
- Planting winter vegetables; and
- Covering frost tender plants.

**This month in the woodland:**

- Chocolate Lilies are shooting.

*Happy Gardening,  
Janyce*



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# Grow Great Fruit

Do you want to do any grafting this year? It's a fantastic way to turn a seedling into a useful fruiting tree, or to add a pollinator variety to improve fruit set. Now is the right time to be planning, well before the trees start growing again in spring, because you need to collect the grafting wood (called scions) while the trees are still dormant, then store it (in the fridge, wrapped in plastic) until the sap starts moving in your fruit trees in early spring. If you want to add new varieties to your garden by grafting on to an old tree, ask around your neighbours to find out what are their favourite and most successful varieties. That way you'll be growing something that you know grows well in our climate. There's a list of some of the varieties we grow on the farm on the front page of our website if you want to have a look at what works for us.

And if you have a worm farm, here's a tip - look after it over winter by making sure it doesn't get too cold. Add an extra layer of insulation by covering with underfelt or old carpet, or if you only have a small worm farm, move it into a shed or the laundry to provide some extra protection from the elements. Worms hate the cold, and will either die or escape if conditions get too dire!

If you want to learn more about worms, compost or compost tea, we'll be holding our "Soil, Worms and Compost Tea" workshop on Saturday 9th July, from 1pm-4pm, and will hold our last Pruning workshop for the year on Sunday 10th July, from 1pm-4pm. If you want to learn more about grafting (and have a chance to practice with some supervision), we'll be holding our "Grow Your Own Fruit Trees (Grafting)" workshop on Sunday 14th August, from 9.30am-12.30pm. The "Organic Pest and Disease Control" workshop will be in the afternoon of 14th August, from 1.30pm-4.30pm.

Workshops can be booked through our website at <http://www.mafg.com.au/workshops>.

*Hugh and Katie Finlay run Mt Alexander Fruit Gardens, an organic orchard in Harcourt. They also run the online Grow Great Fruit membership program ([www.growgreat-fruitprogram.com](http://www.growgreat-fruitprogram.com)), for gardeners interested in learning how to grow their own organic fruit.*



MT ALEXANDER  
*Fruit Gardens*

## FARM OPEN DAYS 9 & 10 July, 10-4

- Pre-ordered tree pick-up
- Farm tours
- Coffee, cake & lunch
- Plant & produce stall
- Workshops (see below)

## WINTER WORKSHOPS

### Soil, Worms & Compost Tea

Sat 9 July, 1pm-4pm

### Pruning

Sun 10 July, 1pm-4pm

### Grafting

Sun 14 Aug, 9.30am-12.30pm

### Organic Pest&Disease Control

Sun 14 Aug, 1.30-4.30pm

## Workshop bookings:

[www.mafg.com.au](http://www.mafg.com.au)

0409 706 784

## Skydancers for breakfast

Open from 7.30am Monday to Friday, Skydancers Café has a great range of breakfast options. Dine in, or grab 'n' go!



[www.asq.net.au](http://www.asq.net.au) | Where your great outdoors begin!  
a Cnr Blackjack Rd and Midland Hwy, Harcourt  
p 03 5474 3800 | e [skydancers@asq.net.au](mailto:skydancers@asq.net.au)

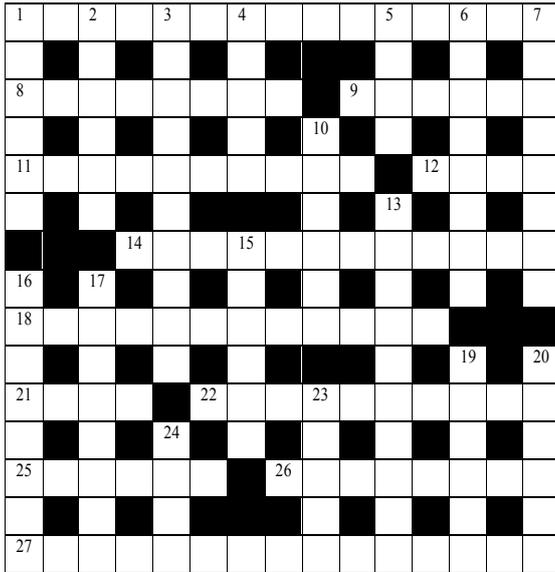
## ASQ Plant of the Month

### Happy Wanderer

The Happy Wanderer is a climbing Australian native, which grows quite densely with a mass of gorgeous purple flowers and glossy evergreen foliage. It tolerates light frosts, and will grow nicely along a trellis, pergola or fence. Producing its cheerful flowers at this time of year, when it's all a little bit cold and gloomy, a spot in your garden is certainly well deserved!



# July Xword '16 ©McW 31<sup>st</sup> July'15



### Down:

1. Ya drop yer guard for a minute—it sends you up! (6)
2. Tell about punctuality policy. (6)
3. Press allowance for hard tack. (4,6)
4. Do they fly to Hong Kong? (5)
5. We hear antique, but no article is made of this... (4)
6. The grey eminence of 14ac spends the production here. (3,5)
7. Orwell's V2s for dim-sims? (8)
10. Cue man for business smarts? (6)
13. Grasp below members' seating. (10)
15. Add weight to a stroll? You bet! (6)
16. Trees might play. Have elms been in this group? (8)
17. In favour of Gair, but outside the capital. (8)
19. How the Michelin Man will die? (6)
20. Sound of beverage in a spoon is exactly right. (4,2)
23. Delft tea, mate... (5)
24. Lemon Lyre-bird solely in the midst of it? (4)

### Across:

1. Painstaking sort of task to find these places for cars. (7,8)
8. Give up on what to do with super? (4,4)
9. Many a CEO couldn't run this... (6)
11. Capital punishment will enter creed of some in this form, but only some... (10)
12. Minuscule boy cat. (4)
14. Cobb & Co. organiser often doubles as producer or director... (5,7)
18. Random rewind of those who are restricted in their thinking. (6-6)
21. Messenger loses nothing for resentful longing. (4)
22. Relative in the barber's sounds beyond the pale. (5, 5)
25. Republican fruit? (6)
26. If an order-of-finishers table is drawn up, it should show every one as this. (8)
27. Occasionally, but if you really think it through it means all the time! (5,3,3,4)

# June Xword 2016 SOLUTION ©McW March '15



### Down:

1. The most eminent at party with Alice? [Well?]
2. Currency shield? [Well? OZ/OED]
3. Image-wrecker turns cool antics. (10)
4. Throw in the avenue, i.e. chuck it! (5)
5. Murdoch around student [pupil...]? (4)
6. Take the wine [vin...] out of a bottle of smelling-salts, and be left with a spray of gems
7. Our rates are best London/Paris, or as true as we say... (8)
10. Fateful musical? [Well?]
13. How mutton perambulates to dinner? [Well?]
15. Island could make it a hit? (6)
16. [Carl] Jung's rotten in California cavern.
17. How 27ac unfolds over a week? [Well?]
19. Fuel it like a circle [pointless] used as a compass?
20. After Plan B fails, much closer to the end [of the alphabet] comes a mean swindle [sting...].
23. Desperately non-PC term loses weight [Ig.] back in Africa. (5)
24. One of the binding states of Asia? [Well? One of the Thais that bind...]

### Across:

1. Origin not the railway station? [Ref. John Clarke's mis-hearing of Pierre Bosquet's exclamation at the famous charge 'C'est magnifique, mais ce n'est pas la guerre' as la gare (= the railway station).]
8. Later, cop this musculature. (8)
9. Rogers group snap? Or perhaps cat root beer? [Well? 'Ginger' fits before each...]
11. Maleness gives a nicer gonad. Germs [Greer] might prefer it gone rancid! (10)
12. Nazi might have taken on the East to become a poet, [Hesse] but didn't... (4)
14. Mourning became her issue=[Electra]
18. The number of people who won't remember? (12)
21. Taking back this yank singer about the setter's age and wolf (much older) wouldn't get you much in Greece. [Well?—for an Obol...]
22. Rock gay for nectarines. [Well?]
25. Obliquely a character in a book by what 12 might have become. [Well? Try Steppenwolf...]
26. Arraign a farmer? (8)
27. Committed by 1ac as we pay for their gold plating? [Well?]

# Snow on The Mount!



*Donna Symes provided this dramatic shot.*



*Jennifer Plompen took some photos of family fun in the icy white stuff.*



*Richard Baxter has titled his photo: Snow on Mount Alexander.*



## Get Your Grant Application In!

This is a reminder that the Mt Alexander Community Enterprise (Mt ACE) Small Grants for community groups will be closing on July 15th. Local, not-for-profit enterprises can apply for small grants of up to \$500 to assist with their projects.

This year's grant round was moved to the second half of the year to offset them from the Mt Alexander Shire major grants which have recently been announced.

'These funds come from Bendigo Bank and Bendigo Telco who pay us a small commission on every account linked to Mt ACE,' said Secretary Robyn Lewis. 'These funds have been growing steadily so we can offer these annual small grants to local groups as well as continue to support our major and ongoing projects such as the redevelopment of Wesley Hill Sports Complex, the Castlemaine Hot Rod and Community Centre, Fit2Drive program and Food@Christmas.'

Last year eleven local groups received grants.

Full details regarding the grants can be found at [www.communitygrants.com.au](http://www.communitygrants.com.au) or forms are available at the Castlemaine Bendigo Bank branch.

The Enterprise group receive their funds from a partnership with Bendigo Bank and Bendigo Community Telco. Anyone who uses these services and asks to have their account linked with Mt ACE can help to generate funds to return to the community. The arrangement retains full privacy, does not cost the customer anything and does not change accounts in any way. "The greater the number of people who choose these businesses and link with Mt ACE, the greater the number of groups we can support in future funding rounds," said Chairman Larry O'Toole.

## July Cactus Kill at Maldon

### CACTUS WARRIORS FIELD DAY



The Cactus Warriors will meet again on Sunday 31st at 10.30am for a happy and convivial morning's cactus kill, stopping at about midday for a BBQ lunch. Equipment will be provided for the morning, and there will be a short demo and willing mentors to help any newcomers.

For this month's venue or if you have any other queries, please visit our website - [www.cactuswarriors.org](http://www.cactuswarriors.org) - closer to the date or ring Ian Grenda on 0412 015 807.

*Second Sunday of every month*

**Next Market 12 July**

9 - 2pm

Fountain St & Shire Gardens, MALDON  
Facebook.com/maldonmarket www.maldonnc.org.au

### Maldon Market Winter Warming Recipes

Winter is a wonderful time to get into a warm kitchen and start baking delicious aroma filled dishes. The coordinator of the Maldon Market, Kirsten McKay, has come up with two of her favourites to tantalise the taste buds this July; Walnut & Honey Tart and Apple & Orange Compote to serve with pancakes.

Kirsten said, 'Remember to take your basket to the Maldon Market on Sunday 10th of July so that you can collect all of the fresh ingredients as you stroll around.'

For the Walnut & Honey Tart you will need 300 grams of walnuts from Boonderoo Walnuts, 5 eggs from Michael's Farm Produce and 150 grams of honey from Warral Apiaries. Find in your pantry at home; butter, flour, rum, and castor sugar.

A great favourite with children is Apple and Orange Compote, which is delicious as topping for a variety of sweet dishes. Source 3 oranges from the Orange Lady stall and 3 red-skinned apples from Pollards Orchards stall. Use from you pantry ground cardamom and brown sugar, and soon everyone will be lining up to enjoy this on fresh pancakes.

Kirsten also reminded everyone to not forget to stock up a fine array cheeses from Goldfields Cheeses, olives from Kalaparee Olives and sour dough bread from Bread Builders. Then appreciate your feast with some wonderful wines from the fine array of producers at the Maldon Market.

This coming Maldon Market has been lucky to again have the Seducephones playing their excellent tunes from 10am. The Maldon Neighbourhood Centre will be at the gates collecting a gold coin donation and serving hot spiced apple juice as a special fundraiser.

Kirsten says you will find print-outs of the recipes at the Rotunda and selected stalls on the day. So rug up and enjoy all that the Maldon Market provides really well during winter this Sunday 10th of July.

For more information, please contact the Market Coordinator Kirsten McKay [market@maldonnc.org.au](mailto:market@maldonnc.org.au) or 0477 201 654.

The Maldon Market is an initiative of the Maldon Neighbourhood Centre.

# Community Diary Dates

**July 6th:** Cider and Winemaking Workshop, Harcourt and District Fruit Growers

**July 9th:** Harcourt Lions FNC Annual Ball

**July 14th:** 7.30pm. Harcourt Valley Landcare Meeting, ANA Hall.

**July 15th:** Christmas in July, Bowls Club, SMS or call Kay 0429 427785, by first week in July.

**July 16th:** Harcourt Lions FNC Mexican Fiesta

**July 24th:** 10am to 12, Harcourt Valley Landcare, Burn off at the Oak Forest.

**July 24th:** 1.30 pm Heritage Centre tour to Keith Trudgeon's Museum of Australian History.

**July 27th:** Economic Forum, Harcourt Progress Association

**August 7th:** Vocal Nosh at Newstead Community Centre, 6-8.30pm Fay 0447 576 642

**August 21st:** 1.30 pm Heritage Centre Fireside Talk, "Dr Young's casebook"

**What's on at the Bowling Club?** See Page 15

**CWA:** First and third Thursdays of the month, 1pm, Harcourt Leisure Centre

**Harcourt Lions Football & Netball games:**

Round 10 Sat July 2 v Trentham (H)

Round 11 Sat July 9 v Talbot (H)

Round 12 Sat July 16 v Lexton(H)

**Heritage Centre:** Open every Wednesday from 10am to 4pm or by appointment



## Maree Edwards MP

State Member for Bendigo West

*Putting Community First*

If you have any State or Local Government issue  
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Circulation is currently 450 and copies can be obtained at the Harcourt General Store, The Harcourt Post Office, the Harcourt Service Station, Harcourt Valley Primary School, ASQ Skydancers, The Little Red Apple and in Castlemaine: Run Rabbit Run, Castlemaine Library, Castlemaine Hospital, Castlemaine Community Information Centre and Castlemaine Visitors' Centre plus a number of other sites.

A full colour version of *Harcourt News: The Core* is available on the Harcourt Community website: <http://harcourt.vic.au/news>

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# HARCOURT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.



## MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Harcourt Progress Association is an incorporated association, governed by Rules which comply with the Victorian Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. It is a member based organisation which encourages active participation and contribution and conducts regular public meetings to further a variety of goals and projects. Members are able to join working groups and sub-committees and pursue specific areas of interest or initiate projects which align with the organisation's goals.

Harcourt Progress Association Inc. aims to:

- Support and encourage initiatives which benefit and strengthen the Harcourt community.
- Strengthen community connections by promoting local sporting, educational, recreational and cultural activities.
- Encourage, support and acknowledge the role and contribution of volunteers within Harcourt.

Membership of the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. is open to all residents and landowners within a 20kms radius of the Harcourt township - some exceptions apply - do enquire. There is no joining fee for the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. but an annual subscription of \$20 per person / \$10 concession is payable to become a financial member who is then able to formally vote and join the Steering Committee. Annual subscriptions fall due on 1<sup>st</sup> July each year. Any renewals or new memberships paid in 2016 will be valid until the end of June 2017.

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### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

I request to become or renew my membership of the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. (please circle one). I agree to be bound by its Rules of Association and Codes of Conduct. I understand that only financial members have voting rights.

Financial member: full fee \$20    Financial member: concession fee \$10    Non-financial member: no charge

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

TELEPHONE:.....EMAIL:.....

SIGNED:.....DATED:.....

I enclose the sum of \$20/\$10 Concession for Annual Membership  
Please mail this completed form and payment to HPA Inc, PO Box 132, HARCOURT, VIC 3453   **OR**

I have deposited \$20/\$10 Concession into BSB 633-000, Account: 151337409.  
Please indicate your name and state "Membership" when paying online.

*This application will be submitted for determination by the Harcourt Progress Association Steering Committee and the applicant will be advised of the outcome of their application pursuant to the Rules of the Association.*