

HARCOURT NEWS THE CORE

November 2017

HARCOURT NEWS – Edition 44
<http://harcourt.vic.au/news>

Harcourt Progress Association Inc

Miniature Railway Open Day



Over 100 people attended the Victorian Miniature Railway for its Community Open Day. Visitors were welcome to look around the site and many were fascinated by the scale model engines on display.

VMR members transported their

engines on custom made trailers to the site in Harcourt, especially for the Open Day. For more details of the open day and the engines in the photo go to page 8.

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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.



Ely Documents Come Home to Harcourt

Long lost personal letters and other records relating to the Ely family have found their way home to the Harcourt Heritage Museum by a series of amazing coincidences.

David Brereton from Leongatha recovered some family documents from a distant cousin's wife on his father's side. She was related to the Ely family. The documents were to be thrown out, but on an impulse David said he would take them. Some of the papers proved to be World War I letters and records from and about Ernest Harcourt Ely who enlisted on the 17th August 1914. He was in the 7th Battalion which was raised by Lieutenant Colonel H. E. "Pompey" Elliott. Ernest was wounded at Gallipoli, transferred to Egypt to recover, and after a holiday in England the Battalion was sent back to France where Ernest was killed on the 18th August 1916.

Believing that others would be interested in his research, David took some letters to read out at the Leongatha Men's Shed. The particular letter which created the connection was written on 12 May 1915 by Ernest (who signed his letters with his nickname 'Sammy') while he was recovering in hospital in Egypt. He listed the numbers of the Australian injured in various hospitals: 800, 500, 400 and so on; the figures were astonishing. Ernest also listed names of locals from Harcourt who were injured and as these were read out a voice called out, "Hey I know those names!"



David Brereton (right) presents records of Ernest Harcourt Ely to Ernest's nephew also named, Ernest Harcourt Ely.



The speaker was Paull Lahn who had worked at Thompsons Foundry with Ernest Harcourt Ely's nephew, also called Ernest Harcourt Ely. Paull previously lived and worked in Castlemaine and Bendigo and retired to Leongatha, where he joined the Probus Club.

On Tuesday 24th October Leongatha Probus Club visited the Heritage Centre where David Brereton made a presentation to the Centre of the records. Ernest Harcourt Ely's namesake, now aged 90 was a proud participant on the day. The documents are comprehensive. 'Sammy' Ely was a prolific letter writer to his family and many of his letters appear to be uncensored by the army. Ernest was one of three brothers who served in the army in World War I; Frederick 'Tim' Ely and George 'Vivian' Ely returned to Australia.

A most touching part of the collection are letters from Ernest's mother trying to find her son, once she had been informed he was missing in action. Seven years later the army returned his identity disc attached to a short letter which in part says "it is felt (it) will be greatly prized by you on account of its intimate association with the late soldier." Lance Sergeant Ely died at the age of 27 at Pozieres in the battle of the Somme. His body was eventually found in 1923 and is interred in Delville Wood Cemetery, Longueval, five and a half miles south west of Bapaume France.

David Brereton said, in making the donation of these letters to Harcourt Heritage Centre, he knew that they would be conserved to be made available to future generations.

Robyn Miller



Ernest Levy who served in World War I and died in France at the age of 27

For another ancestral story see page 15.



HPA News The Pool and the Freeway Roundabout

At HPA's public meeting held at Harcourt Valley Primary School on 18th October two matters were in focus. The Harcourt pool and preparations for next season and the concept plan for the freeway roundabout.

The concept plans for the Freeway Roundabout were presented to the meeting by Pollen Landscape Architecture and while they were attractive, we found out that \$50,000 doesn't go far! (VicRoads is managing a budget of \$50,000 for the project for the HPA.) Flynn Hart and Haiku van Keuk from Pollen presented a Stage 1 concept (for \$50,000) and a Stage 2 and 3 concept plan which would cost up to \$200,000. The issue for most of us is the grass which continually blocks visibility at the roundabout and we want that gone. Members suggested that some community effort of in-kind labour, equipment and materials would add value to the Stage 1 project with the aim of laying gravel to reduce the amount of grass. Discussions are continuing with Vic Roads and Pollen Landscape Architecture to see what can be done.

Jane Robson CEO of Bendigo YMCA reported plans for the season and took away a number of suggestions from the floor, including having activities designed to attract teenagers and the fact that the pool is often cold and could benefit from a solar blanket and a low level solar system to take the chill off the water. Last season was the most successful yet in terms of numbers. Jane indicated that the YMCA is planning three events at the pool this season – one at the start, one in the middle and one at the end. Aqua aerobics will again be on offer and Jane mentioned that the Y would like to see the Friday night barbecues return. These have been run by the HPA in the past, but any community group in Harcourt is welcome to take these on. The full details of the season will be available at the end of November. HPA representatives meet with the YMCA and the Council before and during the season.

If you have an interest and want a say in how the pool operates contact the Secretary Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns on 0425 323 005.

Robyn Miller



**Pool season opens
Saturday December 2**

Get Involved with the 2018 Harcourt Applefest



Planning is underway for Harcourt's premiere celebration, the annual Harcourt Applefest which takes place on Saturday 10th March.

The Applefest committee is calling on community members to get involved and lend a hand to make the next event the best one yet. There's a wide range of roles and activities and your involvement can be tailored to suit your interests, availability and skills.

Are you keen to see the return of the Applefest Street Parade? This won't happen unless a team steps up to make it a reality!

Perhaps you'd like to help with setting up on the day, or helping promote the event in the weeks leading up to the event?

People are needed to help with the Show & Shine car display, organising the Kids Carnival, co-ordinating the market stalls and the food and beverage precinct.

On the day itself, volunteers are required to assist provide information and collect gold coin donations at the entry gates.

You can give as much or as little time as you can spare, in whatever capacity you are able. To register your interest, visit the Applefest facebook page or contact the volunteer co-ordinator, Sha Cordingley on 0422 206 361 or email: cord-free@hotmail.com





The Harcourt Brand

Harcourt Heritage Centre has recently been given a branding iron for its collection. This is a reminder of life around Harcourt during the years after the gold rush. Many early settlers had more cows than their land could support but by law they had the right to 'commonage', grazing their cattle on public land known as Farmer's Commons. Every beast had to be branded and both the owner and the Commons Herdsman had to keep a record of the brands. The branding iron takes us back to many forgotten aspects of the 'frontier days', the smell of burning skin and hair as the brand was applied, the settlers enraged when their animals were impounded by cunning and corrupt pound keepers, the clink of the cowbells when the children were bringing the herd home to be milked each evening. This donation of a simple wrought-iron object is a fitting addition to our community keeping place.

Local people developed 'brands' in a variety of ways. In the nineteenth century the district had a great reputation for quality milk, cream and butter, with the products of local dairies in constant demand to satisfy the hotels and householders of Castlemaine. The McMahon Dairy at Faraday and, later, Straightview Farm at Wellington Flat, were the most prominent butter producers. Butter was prepared for sale by being pressed into a softwood butter mould and decorated with a stamp which left the impress of a stylized flower. Each dairy used a different flower, e.g. a thistle or a rose, so you could identify the farm from which it came. The flower was the brand.

Perhaps the all-time most successful branding hereabouts was in the adoption of the name 'Harcourt Granite' for the output of Blight's Mount Alexander quarry. There are many types of granite quarried in Victoria but we all know that Harcourt Granite is the easiest worked, most durable dimension stone available.

In the middle of the twentieth century the Harcourt brand was 'Doctor Apple', rosy cheeked, striding jauntily across an orchard landscape. This colourful brand was used on cases of fruit sent overseas from Harcourt by the Harcourt Fruit Supply. Such was the control of quality that the UK agents reported that fruit carrying the Doctor Apple label would be purchased without opening the box to check the contents. They could rely on the Harcourt brand.

'Harcourt – the Apple Centre of Victoria' was a catchy brand that made its way onto roadside signs, reinforcing the reputation that developed during the valley's long history as a producer of the very finest, tastiest and juiciest apples and pears.

The red wines – 'Harcourt Valley Vineyard', 'Bress', 'Black Jack' and 'Mount Alexander' have each become brands that are well-known and sought after. They are an integral part of what you might describe as 'the Harcourt brand'.

The most recent example of effective branding has been the launch of Harcourt Apple Cider, Perry and Sparkling Apple Juice. These are quality products with all the right credentials – made from real apples, containing no artificial additives, flavours, colours, preservatives or concentrates. These drinks are rightly claimed to be premium product. The launch of these products was a bold step by three producers (Henry of Harcourt, Bress and Little Red Apple), now merged into Harcourt Perry and Cider Makers. The product label has a diagram of red and green-striped apples dangling from the bough, an easily recognized brand.



Even the name of our community publication leverages this concept – 'The Core' definitely belongs to Harcourt.

We do have a community 'brand' or logo. David Jeffries' colourful design "Harcourt a growing place" first saw the light of day on our community plan, under the auspices of the Progress Association. It has since emerged on the website, the Core and on the tourist fold-out leaflet. It is eye-catching and subtle. Yes, things grow well in our valley. Yes, the community is growing.

Even the shape is evocative - somewhere between the hilly landscape and the infinity symbol. The logo is just now 'hitting its straps' as a district 'brand'

When we think on this simple gift of a cattle brand we realize that the term 'branding' has been transformed down the years. There is one question that we have in common with the pioneers. With the calf trussed up and the branding iron in the red-hot coals, the workers asked: On the offside rump? On the back? Where is the brand to be applied?

Similarly, today, where should we promoting the Harcourt brand? It seems to this writer that the distinctive Harcourt logo could be used across all media, for all products and for all services. Even where a producer has its own unique label, space might be found to have a mini Harcourt logo somewhere on the label and to feature the mini Harcourt logo in its advertisements.

It is in the interest of all businesses to adopt a brand strategy. It is in the interest of all locals to promote the Harcourt valley. A brand strategy leverages attributes and values to generate revenue streams. A brand strategy aims at

- building reputation,
- launching the brand into new markets and
- building brand awareness

Attention to these will result in improved brand recognition of what is assuredly a good 'brand' which, in turn, will definitely earn increased consumer spending and ensure the prosperity of Harcourt long into the future.

*George Milford
for Harcourt Heritage Centre.*

Harcourt Mountain Bike Park Update



The Victorian Government is building a world class mountain bike park in Harcourt. Located on a former pine plantation and alongside Mount Alexander Regional Park, the bike park will boost tourism and the health and wellbeing of locals and visitors. It is proposed the park be named La Larr Ba Gauwa Park.

What's Happening?

- More than 22 kilometres of bike trails have been built at Harcourt since construction started in early August.
- Contractors, Dirt Art, are currently constructing Trail 11 by hand to protect sensitive vegetation. This trail offers riders outstanding views of Harcourt Valley from the northern knoll. This is going to be a great ride with a steep ascent for intermediate riders.
- Applications for membership of Harcourt Mountain Bike Park Committee of Management have closed. Thank you to everyone who submitted an expression of interest. DELWP is currently assessing applications and will shortly be in contact with everyone who nominated for the committee.
- Emergency management tracks have been graded. Gates will be installed across the emergency access tracks in the next 4-6 weeks to protect the safety of bike riders, walkers and horse riders. Emergency vehicles are the only vehicles that will be able to access these tracks. Of course, The Oaks picnic area remains open to vehicles. Walkers, horse riders and cyclists can continue to use the tracks they have always enjoyed within the park.
- Quotes have been sought for the construction of toilets and the visitor shelter in the Park. It is expected these facilities will be built in December/January.

Keep in touch

It's important to us that we are talking with you and keeping you up-to-date with information about the Harcourt Mountain Bike Park Project. There are several ways we can keep in touch.

Get on our mailing list and receive regular update by emailing harcourtmbp@delwp.vic.gov.au

Call us on 136 186

Like us on Facebook @DELWPLoddonMallee

Like us on Twitter @DELWP_Vic

Like us on Instagram @delwp_vic

delwp.vic.gov.au





Harcourt CWA

Successful Danish Concert

Last week we held our annual fund raising concert at the Harcourt Leisure Centre. Because our country of study this year is Denmark, it was decided that a Danish theme would be appropriate and that the fables of Denmark's most famous son, Hans Christian Andersen, should be the subject.

With our talented Melva Graham showing us the way, we had Ugly Ducklings, a beautiful swan, sweet little Thumbelina, and that princess that could feel a pea placed under 100 mattresses, all dancing and singing across the stage. Even that outrageous Emperor once again shocked us all in his invisible clothes.

All in all, it was a fabulous day, a packed house, lots of laughs and a delicious High Tea. Many thanks to all who came to support our Branch, we enjoyed it as much as you did. Thanks also to Ken Richards for the photographs.

Come and join us on the first Thursday of the month at 1:00 pm at Harcourt Leisure Centre. We are a friendly bunch and love to welcome new faces.

*Lyn Rule
Harcourt CWA
Publicity Officer.*



Tiny Thumbelina emerges from her flower to dance



The Emperor is sold an invisible suit of clothes by a couple of smooth-talking con-men



The Ugly Duckling discovers that he is a beautiful swan



The Princess and The Pea. The Princess tries to relax on a rapidly collapsing camp bed



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Business Update

Tread Harcourt

Paula Ewing and Andrew Bos have been running their accommodation business – Tread – for three and a half years and have truly transformed the property’s buildings and gardens to a functional and sustainable place for visitors to relax and enjoy the peaceful setting of Harcourt.

Andy works full time for an Architectural firm in Melbourne during the week and spends time doing the labouring work at Tread on the weekends. Paula’s time is dedicated to running the operations of their accommodation business – taking care of bookings, administration and cleaning rooms, plus working alongside Andy on their ongoing landscaping and refurbishing projects.

The six rooms to the west of Tread have been fully renovated in the past 18 months and all have ensuites and air conditioning with a choice of twins, doubles and family rooms. Paula and Andy have moved away from a traditional motel model by situating the tea/coffee making, food storage and cooking facilities in a shared communal kitchen, which is more of a lodge-style model.

Being environmentally conscious, Andy and Paula have introduced many initiatives into their units, including recycling their soap to not for profit – Soap Aid, using cardboard packaging, having three types of recycling in the kitchen and two large rainwater tanks for the garden beds. They are about to install a 30 KW solar system which will offset the electricity costs for the units and the café/restaurant.

The Goldfields Track Café is leased to Donna McMahon who is doing a terrific job, and this allows Paula and Andy to focus on further improvements plus the tours and shuttle runs for cyclists on the Goldfields Track. Paula reports, “Being keen mountain bike riders, we have set up a side business, offering tourists/visitors a shuttle service on their three day cycling adventure from Ballarat to Bendigo, by transporting their luggage or being a support crew to help with car/bike logistics and make their trail ride as smooth as possible.”

“Our guests come from all around and 50 percent would be cyclists, and the rest stay here to attend weddings, parties or other events around the region. We get an overflow from Bendigo and Castlemaine bookings and offer a discount to locals who have friends staying.”

People who stay enjoy relaxing in the seated areas amongst the newly landscaped gardens, especially in the warmer evenings, to watch the sun setting over the western Harcourt hills.

Information and bookings can be made through:

info@treadharcourt.com.au | +61 405 680 516

www.treadharcourt.com.au | www.booking.com

21 High Street, Harcourt VIC 3453



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0405 680 516

Tread currently boasts six recently renovated, comfortable, affordable twin, double and family rooms each with en suite, TV, heating and air conditioning.

Tread has facilities to meet the needs of all its guests; from bike riders to wedding guests, tourists and visiting friends and family alike.

Visit www.treadharcourt.com.au to view rates, photos, availability and to make a booking.

Inspection welcome

GOT FRIENDS OR FAMILY VISITING?
BOOK ACCOMMODATION
ONLINE USING CODE
'THECORE'
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Miniature Railway Open Day

Continued from page 1.

While eating the barbecue and salads generously provided by VME, visitors examined and discussed the proposed layout of the track and asked questions about the various models on show. The site for the railway is on the left of Harmony Way and takes in the land running north/south behind the shop. Sheds which were on the site have been added to with a well-appointed club room for members. Andrew and Karen Mierisch and family are leading the project. The railway is expected to open in late 2018.

How about those engines!

The Core asked Andrew Mierisch to describe each of the miniature engines on show in the shed. “The green steam engine is a scale model of Puffing Billy 6A. This engine has been in the Allen family for three generations and is lovingly maintained by son Brett and grandson Darcy.

The blue diesel engine with an orange front is a T 415. It is a scale model of the Victorian Railways branch line T Class. These engines were introduced in 1955. They also did some short distance passenger train duties such as Melbourne to Kyneton. This model is powered by a diesel engine, electric generator and electric motors at the wheels, which is the same method in the full size units.

The orange diesel engine known as an A66 is a scale model of the Victorian Railways main line engine. The A classes were originally B classes and some were up graded to A class

engines. A66 is the last remaining A class in active service currently running between Melbourne and Bacchus Marsh daily. This model has a Mazda 4 cylinder engine, generator and electric motors at the wheels, again built prototypically and operates similarly.”

Andrew explained that the railway track is scale profile rail forged to shape by a foundry in Switzerland. The plastic sleepers are recycled plastic from Mildura. “With 8 tonnes of this and 13 tonnes of rail we hope to lay 2 kilometres of track, not forgetting the 130,000 screws to join it together...”



Trevor McKay enjoys the lovely steam note of 24's whistle. Number 24 is a scale model of the Sandy River and Ranglely Lakes railroad engine built in 1919 which was in Franklin County Maine USA. Nicknamed Sandy, it has a working 50 litre boiler and operates just the same way as the real thing producing steam from the boiler controlled to the cylinders and motion gear which turns the wheels.

Visitors gathered in the club room to socialize, view the plans and discuss the exciting prospect of Harcourt's own miniature railway.

The logo for Steve Macquene Electrical Contractor features a stylized 'E' in blue and orange. Below the logo, the text reads "steve macquene ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR".

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Harcourt CFA

NEW TANKER NOW OPERATIONAL

The new Iveco heavy tanker was put into service on Sunday 22nd of October and the old faithful Hino was retired from service with the Harcourt Brigade. It has been a long time coming with design modifications and fault fixes taking place. Members have been continuously familiarising themselves with the new tanker and it is great to have it now officially online before the start of the Fire Danger Period.

As this tanker is a little bigger than the one it has replaced, it is important that if we need to gain access to your property that gateways are wide enough and that driveways are cleared of overhanging branches. The new tanker is 8.1 metres in length, 2.7 metres wide and 3.13 metres wide mirror to mirror and weighs 15 tonne. If your gateposts spacing is too small, then we will need to cut through the fence in an emergency and any low clearance issues will also retard our progress. Please have a check of your property and see what steps you can take to improve on any issues. While the new tanker has an excellent turning circle, manoeuvring it in tight circumstances is also a problem we encounter from time to time.

One other item we would like you to check is your house number. Missing, obscured or small hard to see house numbers can delay our arrival time if smoke is not visible. Have a check, especially from the approaching side and remember we are a lot higher in the cabin of the tanker, so what may be visible in a car might be hidden at truck height.

Free Green Waste Disposal Period

The Mount Alexander shire is running a free disposal of green waste program from October 28th up to Sunday November 12th for Shire residents. Hopefully when you are reading this, you will still have time to take advantage of this offer. Green waste includes grass clippings and wood and tree branches less than 10cm in diameter. Note that the waste must be free of rubbish and declared noxious weeds. If you are planning on doing any burning, check that fire restrictions have not commenced and please register your

burn with VicFire on 1800 668 511. At the time of writing, there is no indication of when fire restrictions will start but the key indicators that are used to determine when they are to commence are starting to occur. Fire restrictions have commenced in two Gippsland shires which is abnormal and with the North of the state drying out it is only a matter of time before they join in Central Victoria. Keep an eye out for notification in local media, the brigade Facebook page or our signage around town.

Community Fire Ready Meetings for 2017/18

The Brigade has arranged for two Community Fire Ready meetings for residents for the 2017/18 fire season. The first is on Tuesday 21st of November starting at 7.15pm at the Harcourt Fire Station. This will be an opportunity to check on your fire prevention work and your fire plan. Once again this will be delivered by a trained CFA presenter and brigade members will be on hand to discuss local issues. The second one will be mid-season on January 10th also at 7.15pm at the Harcourt Fire Station. Please put these dates in your diary and take advantage of the chance to be better prepared. We are able to continue to run these nights because of the good number of attendees we get so we look forward to seeing you on one of the nights. If you are unable to make it to one of the meetings, some information can be obtained from brigade members. The station is manned from 9.00am to at least 9.30am every Sunday morning.

In the meantime, continue to prepare for summer but take care when slashing or mowing in dry grass or stony areas. Check your fire plan and preparedness and keep an eye out for those snakes when cleaning up. Don't forget a check of the settings if using the Emergency Management Victoria App to ensure it is covering the emergencies and watch zone you require.

Take care and stay safe

*Tyrone Rice
Brigade Community Safety Coordinator*

Federal Member for Bendigo
LISA CHESTERS MP

PO Box 338 Bendigo 3552
Cnr. Williamson & Myers Sts, Bendigo 3550
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Harcourt Valley Primary School

Prep Camp

Good morning Mums and Dads (27 October, 2017)

We are having a great time and slept well last night. We did not wake up Mrs Victor-Gordon, Mr Walter or Mrs Rice with our snoring at all! Now we are enjoying our breakfast before we continue our adventure.

Love from all the Preps. ☺



Prep Transition Program

Harcourt Valley Primary School is moving headlong into Term 4, the last term for the year, and we are gearing up for our Prep Transition program where next year's Prep students get to spend some time at school. The Transition Program is run over four separate dates with each day being a little longer than the last.

Children get to meet the current students and teachers, while also learning about the school and having a go at some fun activities to help them feel comfortable at school. In addition to the Prep Transition sessions, we also have an information night just for parents. The evening offers a chance for parents to meet the Principal, Andrew Blake, and next year's Prep Teacher, Stacey Turner.

We have already had one of the Transition sessions, but there are still three more to come (see dates below) and we are still accepting enrolments for 2018. Please contact the school for further information relating to 2018 enrolments.

Transition Dates:

- Tuesday, October 31, 9am–10.30am,**
- Tuesday, November 21, 9am–11am**
- Tuesday, December 12, 9am–12noon.**

Parent Information Session:
Tuesday, November 21, 7pm.

Little Habitat Heroes

Tree Caring Day

Six members of Harcourt Valley Landcare joined in an enthusiastic working bee near the ruins of the silk worm farm on Mount Alexander on Sunday October 22.

The morning started with an introduction from Brendan Barbetti about the ecology of the site and what the group is aiming to achieve.

The site has been so well prepared with pre-spraying, weed mats and sturdy stakes and covers that there has been a very high success rate and there were very few weeds to remove. The group was able to check the entire site and finished off the bee with a scrumptious morning tea provided by the organisers.

Little Habitat Heroes was created by a group of new mums who met at a Mothers Group in Castlemaine in early 2016. They shared a dream to create something unique for their babies' first birthdays and wanted to contribute to the restoration of the local environment and give their children the gift of a personal connection with nature. Money was raised and the planting took place in June 2017.

For more information about Little Habitat Heroes see: www.littlehabitatheroes.org, or their Facebook page.

An example of how well the plantings are progressing. Black wattles in particular are thriving.



The site is large and quite steep, but the trees and shrubs are in excellent condition.

The Regional Centre for Culture

The Regional Centre for Culture (RCC) in 2018 is an initiative of the Victorian Government in partnership with the Dja Dja Wurrung Aboriginal Clans Corporation, Central Goldfields Shire, City of Greater Bendigo, Hepburn Shire and Mount Alexander Shire.

A preview announcement of RCC initiatives will take place in late November but opportunities to get involved will continue right into 2018. More detail about opportunities is available at www.rcc2018.com

Aims of the Program

Regional Centre for Culture 2018 program objectives are to:

- Recognise and profile the rich history and contemporary presence of Victoria's Aboriginal people.
- Deliver economic benefit through generating cultural attractions which drive tourism.
- Create increased local access to arts and cultural experiences in regional communities, including smaller communities.
- Create significant new works that tell local stories.
- Facilitate capacity building opportunities for local creative practitioners and organisations.

The job of the Producers of the Regional Centre for Culture program for 2018 is to facilitate and support existing events as well as creating some one-off events for the enjoyment of visitors and locals alike. Since being appointed in July this year, the Producers have been researching culture with a small "c" in the region. Music, gardening, performance, agricultural activity, visual arts, dance, films, hiking, writing, thinking and religious and spiritual observance.

During meetings and "town hall" sessions across the four participating municipalities RCC staff have been asking people what they would like to celebrate and showcase for visitors and locals alike. Meetings have also been held with event organisers throughout the municipalities to find out how a little bit of support might make a big difference to their event.

We will be promoting all RCC events throughout 2018 a partnership with Time Out.

Any event that has a broadly cultural remit can list at no charge on Time Out's dedicated RCC hub.

See www.rcc2018.com for more details.

Current team members:

Kelly Harrington, Operations Manager

Dominika Balwin, Office & Stakeholder Liaison Manager

Verity Higgins, Researcher

James Rigby, Researcher

We can all be contacted on info@rcc2018.com or leave a message at 03 5416 1038.

*Jo Porter & Elizabeth Walsh, RCC 2018 Producers
(From an RCC Press Release and the RCC website.)*



The Harcourt Lions Club

The Lions Club will also be assisting the Victorian Miniature Railway (VMR) to host a free Community BBQ and sunset cinema night in the New Year. The Community event will be held on the Big Lawn at VMR and this will give everyone another opportunity to get a firsthand look at how far the VMR members have come with setting up the miniature railway in Harcourt. The exact date will be announced in the next edition!

The Harcourt Lions Club still has a few metres of 'long' (60cm) pieces of red gum that are ready for sale. These pieces are ideal for larger fireplaces. The price is still \$120 per metre, delivered, so please call Gary Selwood on his new number 0484 373 378.

Finally, The Harcourt Lions Club has recently completed an upgrade of our website so the Community can see what events we have coming up and also book our Marquees or outdoor cinema for events.

Please take a moment to visit our refreshed website and check out what's planned for the remainder of 2017 and the beginning of 2018!

See page 23 for details about the **Family Sunset Cinema Evening** on the 24th of November.

We have a lot on! harcourt.vic.lions.org.au

Book Review Dangerous When Wet by Jamie Brickhouse

Jamie Brickhouse's memoir was a hasty library pick up, like most books I read. Upon initially reading the first few pages, I almost decided that the literature was much too advanced for my comprehension. However, I persisted and became engulfed by Jamie's story about his relationship with his loving, yet highly dependent mother and something even a little more dangerous ... alcohol. Jamie's story starts in childhood, takes you through his adolescence and discovering his sexuality, through to a messy and self-abusive adult life. Jamie battles with his mother's unacceptance of his homosexuality, whilst trying to have some control over his own emotions of impulsiveness and self-loathing. Depression starts young and unfolds as years roll by. "Already I was nostalgic for a past I hadn't lived; felt as if then was better than now." In and out of rehab, does Jamie finally find his silver lining?

If you want to read something that spills truth and honesty, then *Dangerous When Wet* is the book for you. It will make you laugh. It may even make you cry.

Serenity Campbell



Promote Your Business on New Directory

Local businesses can now discover new clients, markets, tenders and opportunities following the launch of Mount Alexander Business Connect.

Mount Alexander Business Connect is an online network where businesses can promote their services, expertise and connections.

Customers and clients are able to easily search and find a local supplier.

“This is a terrific tool to build business connections, share local purchasing opportunities and discover the many businesses across Mount Alexander Shire,” said David Leatham, Manager Economy and Culture, Mount Alexander Shire Council.

“It’s also fantastic for people looking for a specific service or trade – the network is easy to search and find local providers,” said Mr Leatham.

Mount Alexander Business Connect is free to join and is available to all businesses in the shire to be seen and connected.

More than 280 businesses are already listed on the local network.

“We encourage all business operators to login, add their details and explore what’s on offer,” said Mr Leatham.

Council has partnered with local start up Localised to establish the regional directory.

To learn more, visit:

www.mountalexanderbusinessconnect.com.au.

Taken from a Council Press Release

New Mayor for Mount Alexander Shire

Councillors elected Cr Bronwen Machin as Mayor of Mount Alexander Shire Council for the next two terms at the Ordinary Council meeting last night.

Cr Machin will complete the remaining month of this Mayoral term then continue on as Mayor for another 12 months.

“It is an honour to be elected to serve as mayor of the Mount Alexander Shire,” said Cr Machin.

From a Council Press Release

Do recent changes to bushfire mapping affect you?

Council is urging property owners to check if they are affected by recent changes to the Bushfire Management Overlays in Mount Alexander Shire.

The Victorian Government has recently implemented changes to Bushfire Management Overlays following a review of bushfire hazard mapping criteria across the state.

If your land is in an area identified with the potential to be affected by extreme bushfires or within a bushfire prone area, it is strongly recommended you have a bushfire survival plan in place, get advice on the right type of insurance, and take the time to prepare your home and property to manage bushfire risk.



A Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO) applies a planning control to land with the potential to be affected by extreme bushfires.

In Mount Alexander Shire some new properties have been added to the BMO and a small number have been deleted. Properties already in the BMO may also be affected by a change in planning permit requirements for new use and development.

The mapping criteria for the overlays were developed by DELWP, the CFA and CSIRO based on the best available science and knowledge gained from previous bushfires.

Properties in a BMO require protection to manage bushfire risks. This means a planning permit may be required to subdivide land, build a new house or significantly extend an existing house on land affected by the BMO.

The planning permit will ensure that bushfire hazards such as vegetation, slope and site access are assessed, in addition to any other relevant planning controls that may apply to the property.

It will also ensure safety measures are in place to manage bushfire risk such as building to bushfire construction standards, siting the building away from the bushfire hazard, managing vegetation and fuel loads, installing water tanks and providing fire truck access if required.

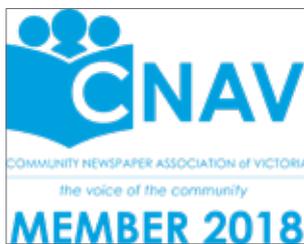
Landowners can check if their property is covered by the BMO by using the Planning Maps Online tool at mapshare.maps.vic.gov.au/vicplan.

For more information visit www.planning.vic.gov.au/bmo or contact Council’s planning department for specific enquiries about the BMO in Mount Alexander Shire.

Taken from a Council Press Release

Country Newspaper Association of Victoria (CNAV) A commitment to community journalism

You can't help noticing this logo; it's new and you will see it appear on the front cover of The Core, starting this month. It was developed by Tim Croucher a member of the CNAV Committee. Tim is studying a Bachelor of Design/Bachelor of Business at Swinburne University in Melbourne. Tim's passion for country newspapers began when he was a student at high school where as part of his studies he worked on the Tallangatta Herald. I remember Tim and his fellow students attending a CNAV conference three years ago. What a refreshing thing it was to see young people involved in local journalism.



This year I attended the 2017 CNAV Conference which was held in Traralgon. The conference is organised by a committee of people from across the state who are also involved in local papers – so they are extra busy! The current President of the Committee is John Ellis from the Chewton Chat who has been a mentor to me over my time with The Core. The CNAV is a voice to government on behalf of small newspapers and they have been able to establish a brokerage arrangement whereby country newspapers get a share of government advertising. Readers will see government advertisements in The Core during the fire season or when there is a social issue the government is addressing, such as family violence.

Some of the papers which belong to the CNAV have a small circulation but others on the edges of Melbourne have up to 20,000 copies distributed. Despite this vast difference in size the level of commitment to their papers by those who attend the conference is intense.

The opportunity to catch up with volunteers doing similar work is a great learning experience and this year the speakers were excellent. The workshops are always topical and interesting. This year I attended one on accessing the most recent Census Data and another on Editorial writing do's and don'ts.

The Saturday night of the Conference sees the Annual Awards which are judged on the previous year's papers. Once again Scarlett Berger our youngest writer in 2016 was a finalist in the category, "Best Article by a Person 18 Years or Younger". Two of the judges in the Awards have connections with Castlemaine. They are Jeff Jones, past editor of the Castlemaine Mail and Lisa Dennis, the current editor of the Castlemaine Mail.

In the current climate where the printed daily newspaper struggles to compete with on line media, country newspapers are incredibly popular with their readers and the number of small "community specific" papers is actually growing. That's good news!

Robyn Miller

Monster Meeting Commemoration 2018

Friday 15 December 3 pm at the Monster Meeting Site, Chewton.

Each year on December 15 people from central Victoria and afar celebrate the 1851 Monster Meeting of Diggers. We meet at the site in Chewton and re-tell the story of how 15,000 diggers who did not have a vote, defied the Victorian Government with Australia's first mass anti-government protest meeting, forcing Governor La Trobe to rescind his plan to double the Gold License fee. This year we have even more reason for celebrating since the site has now been included in the Victorian Heritage Register as a site of national significance. It will remain as public land within the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park.

This year we will continue in the same vein but broaden it out to take in the concerns of all in our community. We are issuing a public call to anyone who has a poem or a song or a short story about democracy or people fighting for their rights to send it to us for possible inclusion on the day.

The highlight of the celebrations will be a 12 minute choral piece written by renowned local musician, Kavisha Mazzella. It is based on Italian Raffaello Carbone's writings about the Eureka Stockade – the end game that began with the Monster Meeting – plus original lyrics.

On the day, the formal proceedings will start at 5pm but from 3pm on site there will be a sausage sizzle, displays and music from the Monster Meeting Songs CD and time to walk along the creek and enjoy the historical site.

For more information - Pat Healy – 0422 759 661 or pathealy1908@gmail.com

And for information about the 1851 Monster Meeting of Diggers go to www.monstermeeting.net

Local Book Award

Harcourt local and graphic designer David Jeffries has contributed his talents to an award winning local history book.

'Building Castlemaine: The Red Brick Legacy of H D McBean' by Robyn Lewis won its category at this week's awards presented at the Arts Centre in Melbourne.

The book won 'Local History – Small Publication Award' for the best small, limited-run publication which features Victorian local, cultural or social history.

The judges commented on 'the artistically designed and lavishly illustrated book' and the author credits the graphic design of David Jeffries and the photography work of Gary Chapman.

The book is available at the Castlemaine Historical Society open Tuesdays, Stonemans Bookroom and the Tourist Information in the Market Building.



Harcourt Uniting Church



Councillor Comment

A suggestion was made by the Editor of The Core for the inclusion of some poems.

I remembered a wonderful poem written by an amazing lady who was a faithful member of our Congregation for many years- the late Glad Iskov (mother of Don and Colin). She could write a poem for almost any occasion and had a very dry wit.

In June we celebrated 40 years of the Uniting Church but this poem was written for the 20th Anniversary in 1997. A couple of explanations may be needed – a Parsonage was the minister's home; The Circuit was the group of local Churches and our seating still is hard wooden pews, but they do have cushions on them. Glad would be pleased to know that we intend to update some of these pews with more comfortable chairs.

Jan Jenkin

On the 20th Anniversary of the Uniting Church

by Glad Iskov

They say it's 20 years ago,
It doesn't seem that long
Since we left the Methodist,
The Pressy and The Cong.

We've changed our hymn books quite a lot,
The Bible has new looks.
But I often look for the good old days,
When we sang from Sankey's books.

The Parsonage is now no more,
It's called a Manse today.
The Circuit is a Parish now,
That's what we have to say.

The Stewards used to bring the plate,
To gather in the gold.
They call them Elders now, but why?
Because they're not all old.

They moved the platform from the Hall,
Made more room than you'd think.
The cupboards are a housewife's dream,
What a shame there is no sink.

They put a new roof on the Church,
And introduced gas heating.
What a joy 'twill be for aching backs,
If they ever update the seating.

Hi all,

I hope this finds everyone well and enjoying the better weather.

It is a busy time for farmers with shearing and hay making. We need rain for the garden but no rain on the sheep or cut hay!

It has also been busy at Council with the election of Cr Machin as our new Mayor; congratulations Bronwen. We miss Cr Telford and Cr Bell. They were both excellent Councillors who worked very hard for the whole community. The vacancies created will be filled in due course. A count-back will take place shortly for Castlemaine and a by-election for Tarrengower will be held in the new year.

With summer approaching I hope everyone has cleaned up the excess grass and cuttings and is taking advantage of the free green waste tipping offered by Council. Check the Council website for the dates.

2018 will see Councillors working hard on the next budget. Projects in the mix for Harcourt up for consideration will include the following:

- Pedestrian crossing upgrade
- Playground development
- Township entrance upgrade and further work on the streetscape
- Female sporting facilities development
- With the Mountain bike park due for completion there will also be some work needed on improving access.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further ideas for development of our community.

Local residents will be pleased to know that the next stage of the residential development in Market St has been approved by Council. Final approval from the Planning Minister is required but hopefully that will happen soon. It is great to see the new houses going up. As these are occupied local businesses will benefit as well as the school. Great news!!

*Best regards Tony
AG Cordy*

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Malmsbury Village Fayre Garden Party Theme

Join us at this year's Malmsbury Village Fayre in the lush Botanic Gardens for a day of fun, food and live music!

Sunday 19th November 2017
10am-4pm
\$2 entry



Scenes from Malmsbury Village Fayre, 2015

Held in the Malmsbury Botanic Gardens
www.malmsburyvillagefayre.org.au
www.facebook.com/malmsburyvillagefayre
www.instagram.com/malmsburyvillagefayre
#malmsburyfayre2017

From Guernsey to Barkers Creek

Many families have links to the goldfields areas of Victoria. Probus member Fred Sauviron was part of the group on October 24th visiting the Heritage Centre to witness the handover of the Ely family documents.

Probus members wear name badges and eagle eyed George Milford saw Fred's surname and said "I think one of your ancestor's may have been a local." Fred confirmed that a long lost relative left Guernsey in the Channel Islands to travel to Australia but all contact was lost.

George ferretted out the relevant book with a picture of Nicholas Sauviron who came to Barker's Creek in the 1850's. He lived in Specimen Gully Road and died in 1917. Fred was so delighted at the find that he spent a good part of the time walking around the Centre showing everyone the picture of his ancestor.



Fred Sauviron holds a picture of his ancestor Nicholas Sauviron who lived in Barkers Creek during the gold rush.

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Harcourt Bowling Club

There has been much excitement and activity at the Bowling Club during October and into November with Play Bowls Month activities, the resumption of the Pennant Season, and Club championships being contested.

With some warmer sunny days the Green is responding well to the care and treatment from our greens committee volunteers.

Play Bowls Month

The Play Bowls Month initiative of Bowls Victoria was keenly embraced by our bowling club members who supported the barefoot bowls programs on offer.

Bowling Seminar

Twenty-five members were treated to an information seminar on various aspects of bowling on October 4. Umpires and Measurers from Bendigo Division shared their combined expertise with a demonstration and comprehensive discussion on all aspects of rules, measuring, roles and etiquette relating to the game of bowls.

The Midweek Pennant season got off to a good start with perfect spring weather for the first two rounds. Division Four have enjoyed wins both at home and away and Division Five have had mixed success and are showing great promise. Vinka Maltby and Judy Ewing embraced their pennant debut with great spirit and enthusiasm and are welcome additions to the team.

The Weekend Pennant teams enjoyed a good start to the season on Saturday 21st with two wins and a draw. We welcomed back Tony Olsson; and Peter Douglass and Russell Timmins who took time out with injuries.

President's Day

On Sunday October 29, the Club will mark President's Day with a social game of bowls in the afternoon followed by the traditional afternoon tea. President John Starbuck has invited all members to join in this sponsored club event. More about this in the December issue of the Core.



What's on in November ...

Daytime Social Bowls in November

Social games of bowls will begin each Wednesday from November 15, from 1.00pm to 3.00pm. Please have names in at the Club by 12.30pm. This is a new initiative and will continue if it is supported.

Barefoot Bowls and Barbies

The Barefoot Bowls evenings are back again on Tuesday fortnights on November 14, November 28 and December 12. It will resume again after Christmas. For \$5 you can play bowls and have a burger in a bun or a sausage sizzle on alternate nights – fun prizes and raffles. A variety of drinks are available at bar costs. Bring your friends and sense of fun for a great night of bowls. Bowls are provided, as well as any help you may need.

To assist with catering please let the club know you will be there Ph: 5474 2494 or harcourtbowls@outlook.com

Anyone who is interested in playing bowls and unable to come to these advertised events can contact the club (5474 2494) or email: harcourtbowls@outlook.com for another suitable time to be arranged. New members are always welcome at Harcourt Bowling Club.

Ladies Invitation Triples Tournament will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday November 8. Results will be in the December issue.

Sponsor's Challenge

The Annual Sponsor's Challenge will commence on Tuesday November 21, when all our Sponsors are encouraged to get together a team of four to play off against each other. These nights have proven to be a great opportunity for the participants to have some fun social time with bowls and a barbeque.

Kidman Invitation Mixed Fours Tournament

This annual event will be held on Sunday November 26, when former local identities and club stalwarts Wilma and Brian Kidman return to host this event which they have sponsored since leaving the district. A full day of keen bowling and good food is always assured.

*Christine Anderson
Publicity Officer*



Tennis Season Opens

The Harcourt Tennis Club is up and going for a new season 2017/18.

There are three Junior 2 teams and two Junior 1 teams competing in the Castlemaine competition and a Senior side with A, B and C in the same team competing in the Marong competition. This side consists of 16 members playing every week.

Sharon Blake is responsible for organising the teams and does a lot to achieve a smooth running season for players.

Thursday Night tennis has begun and is played at 7.00 pm at the Harcourt courts, at the Leisure Centre, Bingham's Road. Everyone is welcome to enjoy a social game.

Jill Atkin is once again coaching the juniors each Tuesday and Thursday.

Contact Faye Hards on 0403 967 918 for details.



Harcourt Valley Landcare

Landcare Excursion

Today's activities included searching for 20 different birds in the environment. A tricky task, but if we crept quietly, we were able to identify the birds features.

The second activity was identifying various nests, discussing how a bird would construct it and then attempting our own nest building.



Taken from the Harcourt Valley Primary School's social media site, FlexiBuzz.

The wetland project organised by Harcourt Valley Landcare has been a great success. There is one more session for the school children this year. The group is investigating ways of extending the school's involvement and will be applying for funding in 2018 for nesting boxes and other habitat support.



Business Mount Alexander End of Year Party

December 7 @ 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm \$30 - \$40

Get together and party with friends in the vibrant arts and business community of Castlemaine at the BMA Christmas Party on Thursday 7 Dec from 6.30pm. Join the Business Mount Alexander team to celebrate the year that was and we will launch Arts Open 2018.

The party will be held in the beautiful Garden Room at Buda Historic House with live acoustic songs from the last 100 years by Scott Sanders.

Hear from special guest speakers Glyn Roberts, Director - Castlemaine State Festival and the Regional Centre for Culture 2018 project team.

An assortment of finger food and complimentary drink will be provided on arrival.

RSVP - gen@businessmountalexander.org.au or 0409 070 930

Castlemaine Group Fitness Classes

'Come and join us at the Old Castlemaine Gaol'



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Tue	9:30am-10.30am	Power Bar
Wed	6:05pm-7:05pm	Power Bar
Thurs	6:15am-7:15am	Power Bar
Fri	9:30am-10.30am	Aerobics
Sat	9:30am-10.30am	Power Bar

\$10 per class - All fitness levels welcome
Children welcome under parent supervision
Classes run during school terms

Mandy Chilcott 0409 866 279

mandchilcott@gmail.com



Will You be a Committ-ee for the Committee?

Growing Abundance is in need of new committee members to help guide the change we wish to see in the world; namely working with our community to locally source and make delicious and nutritious food for all, with minimum waste.

Thankfully, we do not undertake this work alone. As a matter of fact, we've been working hard alongside the growers, the harvesters, the volunteers, the schools, the seed-savers, the gardeners, the bright sparks, the orchardists, the philanthropists, the dairies, the community, the vegans, the waiters, the cooks, the cleaners, the preservers, the bookkeepers, the children, the bakers, the customers, the composters, the shire, the vegetarians, the coordinators, the roasters, the unaware, the carnivores, the tweeters, the fermenters, and the ever-generous earth.

That's who we work with. What do we work for? We work for the future.

Let's just take a moment to celebrate our hard work for the future ...

- The Harvest program is about to gear up for early summer activities, picking the earthly wealth of the region
- The GreenGAGE garden services team have been pruning, copper spraying and getting our extremely well-priced products out to the backyards of the Shire
- The Canteen team have settled in to the Castlemaine Secondary College campus and are now also providing weekly local and nutritious meals for 5 Primary Schools
- The fabulous Hub Plot, our demonstration urban garden group, right behind the Local in The Hub backyard
- The future-loving Seed Library, continues in partnership with the Castlemaine Library
- The Local Café, which offers sensational food to illustrate the Local Food, No Waste vision to the broader community.

Each of our Social Enterprises (GreenGAGE, the Canteen & the Local) have the aim to make enough to support the Harvest, Hub Plot and Seed Library program, which are the beating volunteer heart of Growing Abundance. We are backed by a magnificent team of staff, and have been supported by local philanthropists to test the business models we've been working hard on firming up.

And all that takes serious commitment from the committed, which leads me to ... will you be a commit-ee to the committee? It is a challenging time for Growing Abundance.

To join the Committee, first and foremost, we need commit-ees with expertise in general financial and business management skills, HR, marketing, IT, and communications. We also need a passion for community, local food, and no waste. Please send an email to our current Chair janetlouisephillips@gmail.com to express your interest and we'll be in touch.

Thank you. We appreciate your ongoing support and welcome your assistance and contribution to nurturing the Growing Abundance vision.

With love,

The Growing Abundance Team,
www.growingabundance.org.au/

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Growing Great Fruit in Harcourt

Now that flowering is just about finished, it's time to think about thinning your fruit. Thinning is the process of pulling some of the tiny fruit off, and it's one of the most important jobs in the orchard in spring for all deciduous fruit types except cherries (i.e. apricots, peaches, nectarines, plums, apples and pears).

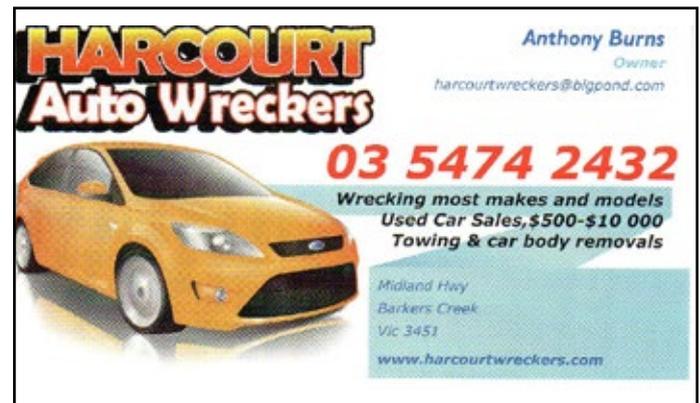
Home gardeners are often reluctant to thin their fruit, because it feels kind of wasteful to be throwing all that fruit on the ground, but rest assured, if you do it nice and early you won't reduce the overall size of your harvest (or not much anyway).

There are four good reasons to thin:

- Most fruit trees have a natural biennial bearing cycle – a heavy crop one year, followed by a light crop the following year (familiar story?). Thinning tricks the tree into thinking this is its 'off' year, so it will set another full crop next year. Once you understand that, it's obvious why you have to do it every year!
- Trees will often set more fruit than their branches can physically carry, and a branch will break. Thinning protects the structure of your tree.
- You'll grow larger fruit, because the tree's energy is put into fewer pieces of fruit (you get more delicious juicy flesh and less core)!
- It helps control pests and diseases by allowing the fruit to dry faster after rain, and removing habitat for pests in the lovely dark spaces where fruit hangs in bunches.

In deciding how much fruit to remove, first assess whether the tree has a heavy, medium or light crop – the heavier the crop, the more fruit you have to remove to get the results you want.

Hugh and Katie Finlay run Mt Alexander Fruit Gardens, an organic orchard in Harcourt. They offer a free weekly newsletter called *Weekly Fruit Tips*, and run online courses for gardeners interested in learning how to grow their own organic fruit. Go to www.growgreatfruit.com for details. They also offer a free weekly webinar (online workshop) called "The 5 Key Steps to Growing Great Fruit" – sign up at growgreatfruit.com/webinar-landing/.



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ASQ Plant of the Month

Hydrangeas are a deciduous shrub with large leaves and clusters of beautiful flowers. This easy to care for shrub will brighten up your shady spots and provide long lasting colour from spring through to autumn.

Hydrangeas come in a variety of colours including blue, pink, red and white which, is influenced by the pH level of the soil. Acidic soils produce blue flowers, while alkaline soils lead to pink, but white flowers will not change in colour. Hydrangeas like consistently moist soil, so keep an eye on them during the warmer months!

Visit ASQ Skydancers during November to see their stunning range of hydrangeas!

CACTUS WARRIORS BREAK FOR SUMMER

We had our last field day for 2017 on 29 October and will be in recess over the hot snaky months of summer and autumn. As a wind-up for the year we will still get together on Sunday 26 November, but it will be for a social gathering and a final 'chat and chew' barbecue. The venue hasn't been decided yet, but members will be notified by email; or ring Ian Grenda on 0412 015 807.

Our first field day in 2018 will be on Sunday 27 May.

Watch this space!



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LIMERICK *by The Bard of North Harcourt*

I've just been attending my vegies
I swept paths and I cleaned up the edges.
I planted some seeds
Then I pulled out some weeds
And I pruned all the length of my hedges.

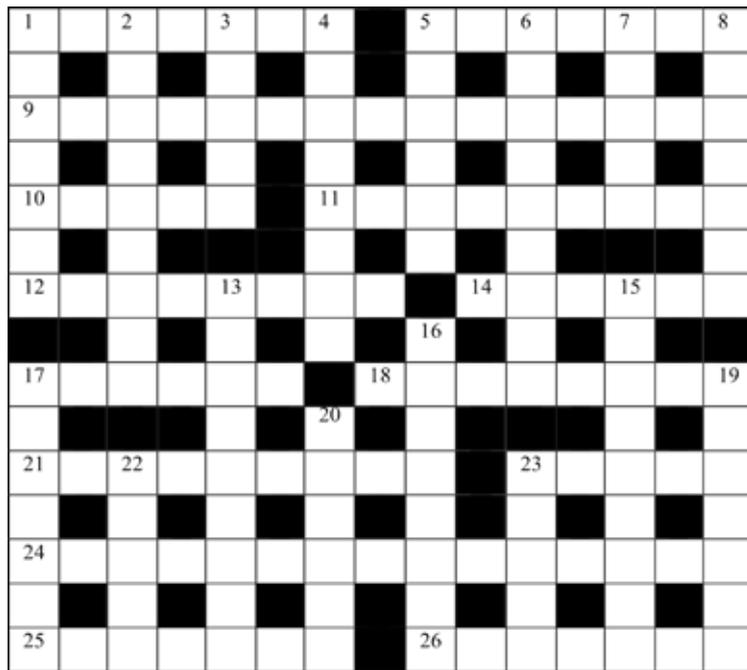


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Police Checked & Insured

November Xword 2017 ©McW August '16



Down:

1. Ah! Go curse the whip! (7)
2. Is Schubert a shoo-in for a C14th city? (9)
3. Would a race-track give sheep some quiet to graze? (5)
4. Handouts by the kilo. (8)
5. Casual thanks in my venial ones still leave indelible marks. (6)
6. Characteristic quality of an irate butt? (9)
7. Brazen it out without top-notch way to get over the road safely. (5)
8. What is glimpsed when the longer Luna Park track is truncated? (7)
13. I come to consciousness half-way through my stretch. (9)
15. Globe might irk hot ace. (9)
16. Shocked polar coil might idle soon, if it's a solid one. (8)
17. Circle's wonky: i.e. spell it out. (7)
19. A string of "What a dead loss you turned out to be(s)..." (7)
20. 'e's nuts about the end of the day. (6)
22. Hyperion should perhaps try as a stray instead? (5)
23. Pre-god sounds like a screw-up, or how to do one. (5)

Across:

1. Topic necessary for royalty? (7)
5. Datsun verses? (7)
9. Turned upside-down, a nice boat locals like can become the groaning board on feast-days, or a side-issue... (10,5)
10. A domain is a sphere: Alma Mater is one; a horse might be put up for another... (5)
11. They may not use nasty dice on the nicest day, but really they're just a group who combine... (9)
12. No odds available for church sound. (8)
14. Almost throwing up, a couple of points enter the shipping departure-point. (6)
17. Previous short French relative is alive and well! (6)
18. Lost Dear? Maybe you need this. (4-4)
21. The indolence of a sheepdog? (9)
23. Thanks for the hundred—it'll go without saying that I owe you... (5)
24. Insist on speeding up? (3,4,4,4)
25. Bird building past auditory input port is fair dinkum. (7)
26. Give an Essendon chap the openers to the pharmacy cupboard, and produce dopes. (7)

October Xword 2017 SOLUTION ©McW August '16



Down:

1. Strange chap, like the fifth [ball of the over].
2. No right to ensure that it will come. (5)
3. Sixteenth Greek [Pi] in bulb of skins gives a position on what will 2. (7)
4. If rotten, Spike would tell it to get knotted. [Well? *Goon Show*—“get knotted, you rotten twine!”]
5. Highly observant? [Well?]
6. Danish Hans Christian (without UK GST [VAT] no longer hyperbolic=overstated) = a physicist. (7) [Sorry—a bit tedious...]
7. Pull two houses apart? [Well?]
8. I get into a lettuce, or a rose, or a hydrangea: I am flexible... (6)
14. Toreador's nemesis could skewer author. [Well?]
15. African state took a dire path last century. (9)
17. Old Turk to take out NaCl [unsalt? Sorry!] stir? (6)
18. Vegetable sound of Dad's snort. [Well?]
20. Can base gas come from this pulpy residue? (7)
21. Smell of sodium [Na] not yet mature. (7)
23. Tear the wrong way for 23d? [Well?]
24. I roam up the North Island. (5)

Across:

1. A truly bitumous Shiraz? [Well? Probably the last one opened...]
9. Could give a kid his African shirt. (7)
10. [So: a girl] might get one from Coober Pedy? (7)
11. A need in all human tissue for a component base in DNA. (7)
12. Can a text remain within these bounds with such large and small values? (7)
13. Lady Green was of the “lay” gender, noted for her randy glee whilst waving any red leg at passers-by. She was almost mythical in her narrative arc. (9)
16. Back red. actor bath to come out. (5)
17. Part-descriptor for substitute for legal tender. (5)
19. A banal red (but a heavenly body!) in a bland area twins with another for bullseye. (9)
22. Lt. Reeve might serve one juggled... (7)
23. Prevailing systems; i.e. germs. (7)
25. Moderately slow, and even upping the ante won't change tempo. (7)
26. Doubleloon shot through? [C18th coin]
27. He takes the politest pride in entomology. (13)

Castlemaine Bus Lines

Harcourt Services Monday to Friday

	Monday to Friday		
Morning (am) / Afternoon (pm)	am	pm	pm
Market St/Harmony Way (Harcourt)	8:55	12:10	2:25
Coolstore Rd/ Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:56	12:11	2:26
Blackjack Rd/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:57	12:12	2:27
Halford St/Barker St (Castlemaine)	9:03	12:18	2:33
Castlemaine RSL/Mostyn St (Castlemaine)	9:05	12:20	2:35
From Castlemaine to Harcourt			
	Monday to Friday		
Morning (am)/Afternoon (pm)	am	pm	pm
Castlemaine RSL/Mostyn St (Castlemaine)	8:45	12:00	2:15
Wimble St/Barker St (Castlemaine)	8:48	12:03	2:18
Blackjack Rd/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:53	12:08	2:23
Coolstore Rd/ Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:54	12:09	2:24
Market St/Harmony Way (Harcourt)	8:55	12:10	2:25

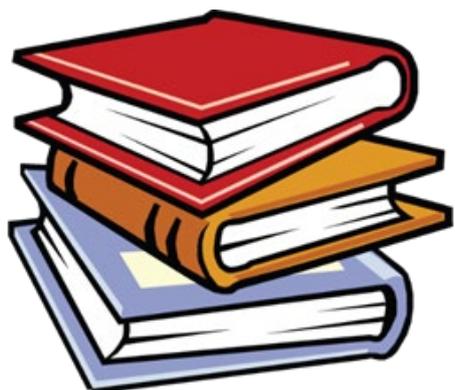


Maree Edwards MP
State Member for Bendigo West

Putting Community First

If you have any State or Local Government issue
please contact my office for assistance

8 Panton Street (PO Box 326)
Golden Square VIC 3555
Tel: (03) 5444 4125 Fax: (03) 5441 8140
maree.edwards@parliament.vic.gov.au
f @mareeedwardsm
t @mareeedwardsm
www.mareeedwards.com.au



Harcourt's Little Library

Harcourt now has its own
Little Library based at the
Heritage Centre.

*Leave a book, borrow
or take a book to keep,*

on Wednesdays from 10am to 4pm.

Community Diary Dates

Thursday 9th November: 7.30 pm Harcourt Valley Landcare Meeting, ANA Hall.

Sunday 19th November: 1.30 pm Tour to Swiss-Italian region and Lavendula. Meet at Heritage Centre, ANA Hall, at 1.30 pm.

Monday 20th November: 7.30pm Applefest meeting at the ANA Hall (volunteers welcome).

Tuesday 21st November: 7 pm Prep 2018 Information Session at Harcourt Valley Primary, see page 10.

Tuesday 21st November: 7.15 pm Community Fire Ready Meeting at the Harcourt Fire Station .

Friday 24th November: from 6.30pm Free Family Sunset Cinema – details see page 23.

Sunday 26th November: 10 am to 12 pm Harcourt Valley Landcare, 0467 670 271.

Saturday 2nd December: Harcourt Pool Opens

Monday 4th December: 7.30 pm Heritage Christmas meeting and supper at ANA Hall.

Friday 8th December: 6.30 pm Christmas Supper Dance, Harcourt Valley Primary School.

Friday 9th December: 3 – 9 pm Beer and Cider Festival, Barkers Creek Cricket Club.

Monday 11th December: 7.30 pm Applefest Organising Committee at Heritage Centre, ANA Hall.

Friday 15 December: Monster Meeting Commemoration, 3 pm at the Monster Meeting Site, Chewton.

Bowling Club Dates: See page 16

Heritage Centre: Open every Wednesday at the ANA Hall from 10 am to 4 pm or by appointment. Call : 0400 916 527

Pony Club: Second and fourth Sundays of the month from 9.30 am to 12 midday. Next to swimming pool.

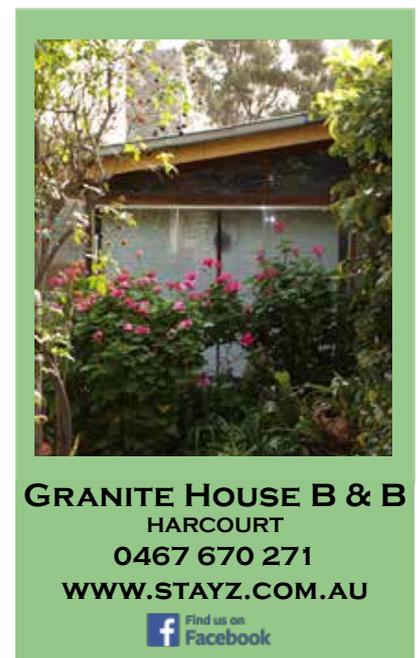
Night Tennis: a social hit at 7 pm every Thursday at the Harcourt tennis courts, Leisure Centre, Bingham's Road.

Walking Group: Every Monday and Thursday at 9.30 am. Meet at the ANA Hall.

Uniting Church: Every Sunday at 9 am in the Uniting Church, Buckley Street Harcourt, followed by morning tea. All welcome.



The invitation card features a red diamond-shaped center on a light background with small red and yellow triangles. At the top is the Harcourt Valley P.S. logo, which includes an apple and the text 'HARCOURT VALLEY P.S. 5406'. Below the logo, the text reads: 'To all the Prep 2018 parents, You're Invited'. The main body of text says: 'Mr Blake & Mrs Turner invite you to come along to an information session to learn more about our school, to understand what to expect during your child's first year at school, and to have any questions answered.' At the bottom, it specifies 'TUESDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 7PM' and 'PLEASE CALL TO RSVP - 54742266'.



The advertisement shows a photograph of a house with a dark roof and a white wall, partially obscured by green foliage and pink flowers. Below the photo, the text reads: 'GRANITE HOUSE B & B HARCOURT 0467 670 271 WWW.STAYZ.COM.AU'. At the bottom, there is a Facebook logo with the text 'Find us on Facebook'.

The Harcourt News/The Core is Published by the Harcourt Progress Association Inc.

For inclusion in Harcourt News/The Core contact the Editor Robyn Miller 0467 670 271 or email: news@harcourt.vic.au. Contributions of news items, articles, photos and letters are welcome as are advertisements which help to cover production costs. For placement of advertising please contact Genevieve Ward via email at: advertising@harcourt.vic.au or phone 0409 070 930. 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>

Harcourt News/The Core is printed with the assistance of the Harcourt Primary School and Mount Alexander Shire.

The views or remarks expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editor, nor of the Steering Committee of the Harcourt Progress Association. No endorsement of service is implied by the listing of advertisers, sponsors or contributors.

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BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL



GREAT FAMILY DAY
LIVE MUSIC
GOURMET FOOD, WINE,
CRAFT BEER & CIDER

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SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER 3-9PM

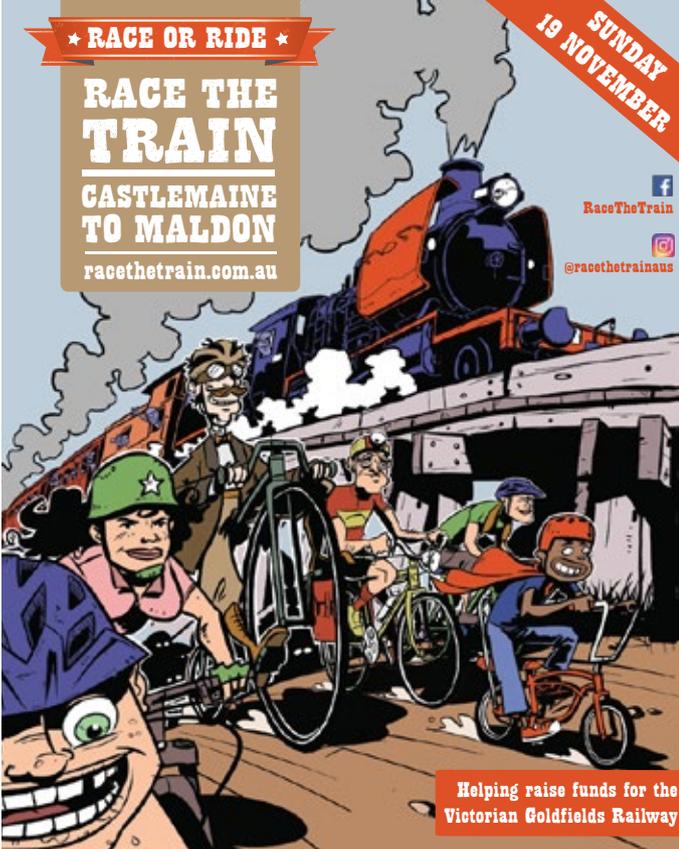
★ RACE OR RIDE ★

RACE THE TRAIN

CASTLEMAINE TO MALDON

racethetrain.com.au

SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER



Helping raise funds for the Victorian Goldfields Railway

[RaceTheTrain](https://www.facebook.com/RaceTheTrain)
[@racethetrainaus](https://www.instagram.com/racethetrainaus)

TREAD HARCOURT



WALLER REALTY

OCC OLD CASTLEMAINE



CASTLEMAINE MALDON

Free Family Sunset Cinema Evening

The Harcourt Lions Club wishes to invite the Harcourt Community to our first, Free Family Sunset Cinema Evening for this summer. The details are as follows:

WHEN: Friday the 24th November 2017, from 6:30 pm onwards

WHERE: On the lawn outside the Goldfields Track Café 92 Harmony Way, Harcourt

BYO: Chairs, picnic blankets or beanbags

FOR SALE: The Café will be open and serving their fantastic menu of food & drinks. The Lions will be selling popcorn, ice-creams & lolly boxes

MOVIE: **Journey 2: The Mysterious Island**
starring, Josh Hutcherson/
Dwayne Johnson/Michael Caine

MOVIE TIME: 20 minutes after sunset, approximately 8:45pm

DURATION: 1½ hrs

The movie is a family friendly, comedy. So please put the date in your calendar & make the time to come along with your family and friends.



Friday 8 December

Christmas

Supper Dance

Final school event of 2017

Join us for a night of music, dancing and hanging out with friends.
No dress code

featuring live music from
Summer Rain
and friends
local cover band

Adults \$5 / Kids FREE
Pay on the night

Bring a supper plate to share
BYO soft drink
Tea / coffee provided
*Alcohol-free community event

6:30pm start
til late

At Harcourt Valley Primary School
Wilkinson St Harcourt

RSVP is encouraged but not essential
5474 2266
harcourt.valley.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au