

HARCOURT NEWS THE CORE

April 2016

HARCOURT NEWS - Edition 26

Harcourt Progress Association Inc

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

Let's Get Eva to Europe!



Eva at the 2016
Under 17
National Futsal
Championships.



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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.

Harcourt - this is your opportunity to support local girl Eva Harrington who is a rising soccer star. She is on a quest to represent Australia in Europe, see page 2.



Let's Get Eva to Europe!



Harcourt local, Eva Harrington has been selected to represent Australia with the Australian Futsal Association (AFA - indoor soccer) 2016 Australian Tour of the UK and Spain in November and December. It is a fantastic reward for Eva who relocated from the Hunter Valley NSW in 2013 with her family and has been travelling to Melbourne several times a week pursuing her love of soccer, both indoor and outdoor to play at the highest level possible in pursuit of a pathway to the WLeague.

Eva who is turning 16 this year, currently plays for Calder United in the Women's National Premier League and previously played with South Melbourne in 2015 at senior level in the Women's State League.

Eva has gained representative honours on her journey with Northern NSW Soccer and the Newcastle Jets Academy, Bendigo Amateur Soccer League, AFA Vic Metro, Vic Country and Australia Futsal Association tours in 2014-15.

Her selection in the up-coming Australian Youth Women's Tour came after a stunning series of games at this year's Nationals. Eva said:

"I am so excited to have gained a spot on the team. There is an amazing group of players pressing for selection. Representing Australia is such a thrill. I really hope I can cement my position in the team and hopefully senior selection will occur one day".

Participation in the AFA National team requires considerable personal funding. Approximately

\$7000 is needed to be raised to fund Eva's tour. A "pozible" crowd funding campaign has been established by some local supporters to help Eva continue on her pathway.

Any donation to assist would be greatly appreciated by Eva and her family. Donations will be able to be made online though a "pozible" link; which will be published on the Harcourt Community website in the week beginning Monday April 4; or just search the pozible site after this date.

Also, donations of *goods or services* are being sought from local businesses to assist in compiling a major fundraising raffle.

If you are able to assist, please contact Scott Harrington on 0427 042 552.

When the link is confirmed it will be published in the Hardcore Harcourt Facebook site and on the Harcourt Community Web Site.

In relation to the fundraising effort Eva said:

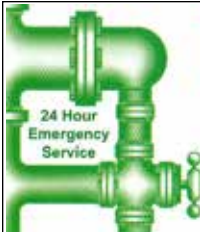
"I need to raise the funds by the end of July to confirm my place on the tour. Any local support would be so awesome. I will do my best to acknowledge and keep informed all those people and business that donate. It is an amazing, exciting and massive challenge".

'The Core' wishes Eva every success.



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25th Applefest a Great Success

This year's Applefest celebrated its 25th anniversary in style with a fantastic and successful event. Huge crowds travelled from all over the state to attend and enjoy local Harcourt apples, cider, wine, produce and the Harcourt Art Show.

Applefest is a great community event that showcases our town, bringing locals together and attracting visitors to the region. The event is entirely run by volunteers who contribute hundreds of hours and fundraise to make the day possible. All money raised is put straight back into the event to pay for cost of insurance, promotion, entertainment, and facilities provided on the day.

It's also a great way for other community groups to fundraise. As always, the Harcourt Valley Primary School's apple pies were extremely popular and the school had a successful day, raising just under \$4,000. Other community groups involved on the day included the Harcourt CFA, the Harcourt Pre-school, Harcourt Heritage Centre, the Rocky Riders Mountain Bike Club, the Harcourt Fruit Growers Association, the Harcourt Lions Club, the Harcourt Football & Netball Club, and Harcourt Valley Landcare. There were also 4 CWA branches in attendance providing the much loved shady rest area.

The Harcourt Progress Association organised the Kids Karnival and collected donations at the gate, raising \$3,048 which will be put aside to kick start next year's event. "The Applefest is well loved by the people of Harcourt," said Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns of the HPA. "These events cost a lot of money so we are happy to help with fundraising and supporting the future of the Applefest. A simple thing like a gold coin at the gate makes a huge difference to the bottom line of the event."

Another HPA member Donna McMahon co-ordinated this year's Festival Market. "We took on board feedback from previous years and separated the entertainment area from the festival market to avoid overcrowding. We also invested in improving our facilities, providing portable toilets and increasing our budget for top quality entertainment. The music was great and the feedback has been really positive."

Applefest stalwart and Harcourt Heritage Centre, George Milford says community support and participation is vital to ensure the future of the Applefest. Volunteers are always needed to help stage the Applefest and plans are underway to try to engage more people to assist in next year's event. If you are interested in getting on board and helping, you can follow the Applefest facebook page or contact George on 5474 2426.

To everyone who helped make this year's event a huge success - THANK YOU!



Celebrating the success of the 25th Applefest: (LtoR) Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns - organiser of Kids Karnival; George Milford - Applefest Committee; and Donna McMahon - Market Coordinator; welcome the solid financial outcome of the 2016 Applefest. To support the 2017 Applefest visit "Duneira" Open Garden at Mount Macedon on 10th April. Enquiries: 0400 916 527 or 5474 2426 (after business hours)

HPA Update New Community Plan

It's been a busy start to the year for the HPA with lots of activities happening at the swimming pool, a huge involvement in this year's Applefest and the recent Easter Egg Hunt.

We've made 4 grant submissions for funding which we hope will pay huge dividends for Harcourt, including developing a Community Catering Trailer which will be available for community groups to access and use for fundraising and events. We are also seeking funds to install irrigation at Stanley Park North and are continuing to lobby Council to construct a significant new community playground. We continue to press them to implement the Landscape Master Plan which was launched over a year ago!

We have also been consulting people about what our priorities should be for the coming years and refreshing the Harcourt Community Plan to reflect this renewed focus. An updated Plan will be launched at our AGM on Wednesday 28th April. All community members are welcome to attend and we encourage you to think about joining the HPA Steering Committee. For more information contact David Heath on 0423 416 582 or email davosity@gmail.com

Council Begins Search for New CEO

With the departure of CEO Phil Rowland, Council has commenced the search for a new CEO. The recruitment process will take some months, so in the interim Vicky Mason our Director of Sustainable Communities has been appointed Acting CEO and following completion of the budget process Lucy Roffey Director Corporate Support will take on the role. Councillors are currently working on the selection process and will be working very hard to ensure we get the best possible person to meet the needs of our community.

The Council budget process is in full swing and there is a lot of work to be done. The process is extensive and requires a lot of detailed analysis to get the right mix of services our community needs.

One bright spot in the budget is that there will be a reduction in the cost of rubbish delivered to the Castlemaine landfill. I am sure this will be well received.

Last week's Council meeting was at Sutton Grange. It was great to see the roll up of local identities with the main topics of conversation being farm rates and the need for rain. The public question time at Council meetings is a great way to get a message across to the Councillors and staff.

There are very strict rules around Councillor conflicts of interest and voting at the meetings. My daughter and son in-law had a planning matter before Council at the meeting. I had to wait outside while it was discussed but the good news is they now have planning approval to build in Reservoir Road. The block was part of Ralph and Moira Straw's place. I remember riding in Ralph's truck when I was just a kid. What a great place Harcourt is to grow up.

It was great to have a few days off over Easter to spend with family and catch up on a few jobs. I did get to the Maldon procession over Easter. It was one of the best I can remember. It was almost as good as our Applefest!!! Thanks again to everyone who supported that.

Best regards to all.

Tony, Councillor AG Cordy

0439 742434



Prepare now for the 2016 Summer Fire Season

KNOW YOUR RISK.

FIRE DANGER RATINGS TELL YOU HOW BAD A FIRE WOULD BE IF ONE STARTED.

This summer, it's up to you to check Fire Danger Ratings daily. You could be at risk of uncontrollable fires on Severe, Extreme and Code Red days.

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Rural Women Drive Agriculture



Minister Jaala Pulford, (centre right) with Katie Finlay (centre left) with women who have been involved with the RIRDC Rural Women's Awards in Victoria.

Leading rural women in Victoria met with Minister for Agriculture Jaala Pulford at Parliament House to celebrate International Women's Day.

The forum, Women in Agriculture, drew over sixty women to discuss decision making in agricultural businesses, mentoring and leadership opportunities.

Harcourt's own Katie Finlay attended in her role of 2015 Victorian Rural Woman of the Year.

The Core spoke with Katie about the event and she was heartened and inspired by the discussions on the day. The participants broke into groups to address the three main topics.

One major theme which emerged was building confidence in young women so that they are prepared to

step up for community roles.

On the day the Minister announced the re-establishment of the Rural Women's Network. More information is expected in the coming weeks.

Katie is getting ready to "hand over the baton" as Victorian Rural Woman of the Year on April 14, where the Rural Industry Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) will announce the 2016 Rural Women's Award. "I have had a fabulous year, the experience has been invaluable, and I encourage other women to step up and volunteer in the community or take on challenging working roles, it will be the making of you!" Katie said.



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 Pantom Street (PO Box 326)
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maree.edwards@parliament.vic.gov.au
@mareeedwardsm
www.mareeedwards.com.au



Become a BMA Member for 2016/17

2016 is going to be an exciting year for Business Mount Alexander as we aim to provide more networking events, educational forums and promotional opportunities. If you join now for the 2016/17 financial year you will be covered from the invoice date, which means you get a couple of months free!

Membership Investment:

- \$100 Solo business/freelancer
- \$160 10 employees or less
- \$280 11 – 49 employees
- \$500 50+ employees

For more information and benefits about BMA membership, feel free to speak to the Committee at one of our events or email Genevieve at businessmountalexander@gmail.com. You can also download the membership form via www.businessmountalexander.org.au.

Friday night drinks

Come along and meet other members in an informal setting once a month. Our next social gathering is on Friday 15 April at Margot Wine Bar (14 Hargraves St, Castle-maine) from 5pm to 6.30pm



The Mill tour

Our next big event is The Mill Tour on Thursday 28th April in the evening. Pop the date in your diary and more details about timing, how to book and the cost will be communicated via our Facebook page and website.



Ashley Sankey
Carpentry | Joinery

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Email: ashjsankey@gmail.com

W: www.ashleysankey-carpenter.com

Applefest Art Show



*Soprano,
Elizabeth
Denk,
opened the
show with
two songs:
Plaiser
d'amour by
Egide and
A Vucchella
by Tosti*

*Jenny Morton,
Best in Show
winner for
her painting,
"French Street"
with Doug
Falconer (left)
and Paul
Northam, Art
Show Judge,
(Centre).*



*Lady William,
(Genevieve
Ward) and
Granny
Smith (Melva
Graham) -
living works
of art!*

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Applefest 2016

Clockwise from top left: Captain Koala travels in style around the Applefest site; This is a toy fire engine boys; Penny Candy with their brand of wacky entertainment at the Kids Karnival; Teacher Mat Watkins with the Primary School spinning wheel.





Harcourt CFA Report

SMOKE ALARM BATTERY CHANGE TIME

The end of daylight saving is the time that is promoted to change your smoke alarm batteries. If you are reading this and have not changed your smoke alarm batteries, then you need to change them now. There are over 3,000 preventable house fires each year in Victoria. We all know smoke alarms provide an early warning and time to evacuate safely – but they can only do this if they are properly maintained. Evidence shows that many Victorians remain unaware of their responsibility to regularly test and clean their smoke alarm. CFA is once again joining forces with MFB to remind Victorians to change their smoke alarm batteries when changing their clocks with the end of daylight saving and also replace smoke alarm units that are more than ten years old. Check on your smoke alarm for the replace by date or the year of manufacture.

HOW TO KEEP YOUR SMOKE ALARM IN WORKING ORDER

Use long lasting 9V alkaline batteries to ensure year round protection.

Use the brush attachment on your vacuum cleaner to dust around the smoke alarm.

Install photo-electric smoke alarms.

Purchase smoke alarms that meet Australian Standards. Look for the AS3786 marking.

Test smoke alarms at least once a month. The alarm should a loud “beep beep beep” sound when you press the test button. Using the end of a broom handle saves having to use a ladder or foot stool.

And remember to replace all smoke alarms after ten years.

There are special smoke alarms available for the hearing

impaired. These should feature a flashing strobe light and a vibrating pad that can be placed under a pillow to activate when the alarm sounds.

Hearing impaired smoke alarms can link with standard smoke alarms to alert all household members, regardless of hearing levels. When one alarm senses smoke, all will activate. There are other models that are portable units that can be taken from one residence to another.

Profoundly deaf people can apply for a smoke alarm subsidy to help cover the costs of the visual and vibrating some alarms. For further details contact the Victorian Deaf Society.

BRIGADE APPLEFEST ACTIVITIES

With the support of the CFA Community Education Department (Bendigo), the Brigade had on show our fire trucks along with a small toy version for the kids to play on. This was very popular along with Captain Koala who circulated along High Street as well as following the fire trucks in the street parade. We also had a marquee set up at the fire station with a variety of literature handout material as well as being able to answer questions that visitors to our station had.

FIRE DANGER PERIOD (FPD)

The Fire Danger Period will end at 1:00 am on Monday April 4th for the Shires of Mount Alexander, Greater City of Bendigo as well as Macedon and Central Goldfields. Keep in mind that you are still responsible for any fire activity you undertake during the non FDP and must ensure all precautions are taken to ensure it does not escape.

Hopefully the recent rainfall we had recently will return so that the green tinge which has appeared in the paddocks will become more defined.

Captain Tyrone Rice



At Applefest, Harcourt CFA had displays and information to distribute. Captain Koala visited and there was a toy version of a fire truck for children - see pages 12 and 13 for more pictures.



Harcourt Valley Primary School

It's hard to believe that the first term is all but over and it has been another busy one for the school.

We started the year settling in our 18 new Preps with very few tears.... Maybe there were some from the Mums and Dads. The Preps are now old hands at being "schoolkids".

For the first two weeks we had our "Building Our Learning Community" program which culminated with a visit to the "Great Stupa of Universal Compassion" and a lovely afternoon at the Star Cinema in Eaglehawk. We really enjoyed the movie "Oddball".

Then it was down to the formal program for the term and the usual work in Maths and English started. We have had some interesting and fun interludes within this program. "Magic Tony" came to entertain us and some of the parents with his magic tricks and the children were very curious about how he managed these. "The Playground Craze" – a performance which was won by the staff at a conference last year also shared their messages of resilience, confidence and happiness.

Three Carlton footballers visited, as part of their community camp, to share their skills and a strong message around the importance of being at school and doing your homework!

We had some successes in District Sports with Megan Wilson winning her way through to the Regional Swimming championships and we are waiting to see where she progresses to next. Children in Grades 3-6 also participated in the District Cross Country last week and Megan was successful again in winning her age group. She, along with others, will compete in the Regional Cross Country later in the year.

Also of course, the Applefest consumed a lot of time and activity for the school. We were pleased to win best in the parade for our silver anniversary celebrations theme. Best apple pie was also another success. However the biggest success of all was the huge number of parents, grandparents and friends who helped to make our stall so successful. More than half our families contributed in some way. We had the pastry makers, the apple stewers, the pie assemblers, the jam makers, the cake makers and all the wonderful people who helped to set up, pack up and serve on the stall. There are not many schools who could say that more than half their families helped at a fundraising event and not forgetting the great sup-



Above: The Carlton player Andrew Phillips with Prep student Jack Dorian

port from all the staff as well. A huge THANK YOU to all our wonderful helpers, we REALLY appreciate all your very hard work on our behalf. The stall was successful in raising more than \$3500.

We look forward to the Easter holidays and another busy term ahead.

*Annette Smith
Principal*

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The Big Picnic

Two years ago the Harcourt Uniting Church hosted a very successful picnic in the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens, near the central car park in Downes Rd. This was part of the church's program to welcome asylum seekers and refugees to our community.

This year there will be another, even better picnic. The date is Saturday April 30, 11 am - 4 pm. Everyone is welcome, especially families. A big attraction will be the farm animals that will be available for holding and feeding between 2pm and 4 pm, thanks to 'Animals 2U'. There will also be races, music and face painting.

Local people are asked to bring food to put on a shared table. Icy poles, tea, coffee and cordial will be provided. Some of the guests will be asylum seekers who attend the Asylum Seekers Welcome Centre in Brunswick, a project run by Lentara Uniting Care. There will be around thirty coming, including 7 or 8 children, maybe more, and the predominant countries they fled from are Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan, with some Asian and African countries as well.

We hope that all refugee families living in the district will hear about the picnic and come along.

This friendship initiative by the Harcourt Uniting Church is supported by Rural Australians for Refugees Castlemaine. Please contact Solway Nutting for more information, on 0410 799 297

COMMUNITY PICNIC

Welcoming all refugees

Saturday 30th April 11am-4pm
Castlemaine Botanical Gardens
(near the central car park, Downes Road)

Bring food for shared table, and a rug or chair

Feel free to bring musical instruments,
face paints, games equipment

Tea, coffee & cordial provided, icy poles for the kids



Animals2U farm animals to hold and feed, from 2 to 4

A friendship initiative of Harcourt Uniting Church,
with the assistance of Rural Australians for
Refugees Enquiries: Solway 0410 799 297



Harcourt CWA

What a wonderful Applefest we had!
The 25th Applefest was a great success. CWA Raffle prizes went to the following people:

1st: Jess Lord

2nd Joan Fraser

3rd Rebecca (no other details)

We hope they all enjoyed their prizes.

April is International month for CWA Harcourt, we will be having lunch inspired by Papua New Guinea and what I just know will be a fantastic talk on the country itself by Margaret Gaal.

As always, if anyone wants to come along and see what we do, Harcourt CWA meets at 1pm on the first and third Thursday of the month at the Harcourt Leisure Centre.

Dani Kent



Above: CWA members at their stall and in the parade at this year's Applefest.

Uniting Church

No doubt Easter has been a busy time for all of the community with Easter Processions / Easter egg hunts / families coming together and the eating of lots of chocolate. Our 5 yr old Grandson Cooper was concerned that Easter bunny wouldn't know where he was when they came to stay with us over Easter. Cooper had come on the train to visit us so I suggested we write a note for the bunny and this is what Cooper told me to write:

"Dear Easter Bunny, I'm at Nan's so you better come up on the train to Castlemaine and Nan will come & get you" - perhaps we should have sent him a text but he found his way here!!

Easter is a very important part of the Church year as we remember the death of Jesus on Good Friday and his Resurrection on Easter Sunday. At Harcourt we celebrate Easter with a Dawn service in Stanley Park on Easter Sunday. As we prepared to celebrate the sun was just coming over the top of Mt Alexander and the birds were singing along with us. We enjoyed a BBQ breakfast and decorated a cross with flowers to remind us of the true meaning of Easter.

Jan Jenkin

Right: The Easter Cross displayed at the Easter Sunday service in Stanley Park.



Fruit Growers Commence Workshops for 2016

The Harcourt District Fruit Growers' Association (HDFGA) held the second of its recently introduced Orchard / Vineyard workshops on Wednesday 23rd March 2016 at Montague Orchards.

The HDFGA has put in place a group of workshops to present to the Orchardists and Vignerons of the district bi-monthly. The idea is to offer a support network to discuss current trends, technology, management and relevant practices required to manage an orchard and vineyard. The workshops are designed to provide for both Horticulture and Viticulture operators and will from time to time be industry specific.

Paul Selleck from E E Muir & Sons arranged for three guest speakers to present to the Orchardists and Vignerons of the district with a tour of the Montague Orchard and the irrigation management and systems in place.

The three guest speakers presented on the following topics:

1. Effective Irrigation: Dennis Watson – Irrigation Officer DELP Rutherglen
2. Soil Moisture Monitoring: Tim Brown – MEA Enterprises
3. Biostimulants: Craig Purdham – Valagro

Considering the dry and warm season we have experienced in the current season this was a timely topic on effective irrigation management during difficult dry seasons. The speakers presented detailed information and discussion on the management and application of moisture monitoring equipment and the use and application of bio-stimulants to support trees in difficult dry periods!

The workshop was well attended with 16 Orchardists and Vignerons attending.

The HDFGA thanks Paul for his time and effort in organising the workshop and the guest speakers for their time and effort in travelling to Harcourt.

The next HDFGA workshop will be 25th May 2016.

HARCOURT CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

7.30pm WEDNESDAY 13th APRIL

VENUE: Harcourt District Leisure Centre, Bingham's, Road, Harcourt.

Old and new players are most welcome!

If you are interested in learning more about the game and unable to attend the AGM please contact -

Secretary Loretta 54742453 or Tyrone 54742126

Competition will recommence in early May – the date will be notified in "The Core" and in notices at the Harcourt Store.

So it's time to start thinking about getting a team together or if you have not played before, finding out what Carpet Bowls is all about and joining a team on games night.

Carpet Bowls is an inexpensive night out. We play on Wednesday evenings at the Harcourt Leisure Centre in a heated hall if the night is cold. The games commence at 7.30pm and finish at approximately 9pm. All ages can play the game of Carpet Bowls from 8 years old up; there are four members to each team.

We generally play from May to September and at the end of the season we have a wind up night and presentations.

We send teams and singles players to the State Championships in September and we are proud to have the State singles champion in our Association.

We would love to welcome you and get to know you.

For further information contact – Secretary, Loretta: 54742453



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Business Update - Nicola Pilon – Naturopath



A qualified Naturopath, Nicola Pilon provides preventative health care to help people restore balance and vitality into their lives. She developed an interest in integrative medicine when she lived in Byron Bay

and upon moving to the inner suburbs of Melbourne, she undertook studies in the field of naturopathy, which she completed in mid-2015.

Nicola says, “I believe in tailoring treatment to suit the client’s own unique circumstances. I endeavor to work with peoples’ budgets and have a focus on using food as medicine to achieve a well-balanced healthy lifestyle”.

Treatment may include dietary recommendations, herbal remedies and nutritional advice and supplementation.

Nicola has been enjoying the country lifestyle for the past six years with her husband, Ashley and both their boys were born in Central Victoria. They lived in Castlemaine for three years and Nicola worked in hospitality whilst she finished her studies and Ash embarked on a carpentry apprenticeship and is now a qualified carpenter.

Three years ago they found a perfect place to call home and moved to Harcourt. There’s so much Nicola loves

about the town including Mount Alexander which is a great place for hiking, camping and picnics with family and friends. Nicola says, “Harcourt is moving forward in terms of growth and I think the development of the town is well planned and communicated so that everyone can have input. I love the focus on outdoor activities such as cycling, the pool and the Easter Egg Hunt in the Oak Forest – how amazing was that?”

Nicola’s business offers her the flexibility to balance raising her two boys with working in her practice. She works for two days per week at Healing Well in Castlemaine and two days in Bendigo at Naturopathic Connections. Her main services include assisting in the areas of women’s health and hormonal support, digestive issues, detoxification assistance and stress management.

Find out more about Nicola’s naturopathic services by:

- visiting www.nicola-pilon-naturopath.com
- following www.facebook.com/nicolapilon-naturopath/
- emailing nicolafpilon@gmail.com

To make an appointment phone Nicola on 0433 048 430.

Genevieve Ward

LIMERICK by The *Bard of North Harcourt*

*A mouse and a grouse and a hound
All lived in a hole in the ground.
But the mouse said the grouse
Wouldn't live in this house
So a nest in the trees was then found.*



Nicola Pilon
Healing Well
Naturopath
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No. 7: Craig Gough

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.

Nestled at the foot of Mount Gaspard, behind what was undoubtedly one of the first European homes in the area, is the unprepossessing studio of Craig Gough. Neat when I see it—he's just tidied up so a family member can use the spare bedroom—he insists it's 'messy'.

Craig is a ball of energy, despite having been born before the flag dropped on WWII. He paints often, he paints boldly, and mostly he paints BIG. One canvas he shows me is well over three metres long, but the subject deserves it; it was one of the 'portraits' of Melbourne he did for an NGV commission and takes in half the city.

Born in Perth, Craig had a successful career in art practice, teaching and journalism before moving to Victoria in 1974, where he joined, and eventually became a senior academic and lecturer at the then shiny new Monash University.

The lure of painting was too strong, though, and eventually he left to practice full time. After exploring different styles, he became drawn to his immediate environment and the physical structures in it. On the small end of the scale, this was evident in paintings inspired by his garden—something that still features today—but perhaps the more successful inspiration was a familiar landmark in his neighbourhood: the Sandringham Band Rotunda.

The rotunda, and the ever-changing Bay, formed the basis for his 'Sandringham series' and took his painting to a new level. The colour palette used gave a dark, almost sombre, feel to this period, and paralleled problems in his family relationships.

Frequent trips to Melbourne took him through St Kilda and the energy and vibrancy of that area became a new focal point for his work. Something of a St Kilda tragic myself—

and at the same time in the early eighties—I was especially drawn to his loose, energetic and imaginative renderings of palm trees, traffic, buildings and, yes, Luna Park.

But rather than the clichéd front entrance, Craig zeroed in on the merry-go-round, with its ever-so-slightly sinister horses. These became the focus of an extended period of exploration around the forms of the horse heads and the poles and reins.

The late eighties saw Craig move on to the motif of the city of Melbourne itself, particularly the river and arts precinct. A commission from the NGV resulted in a number of works depicting the city from an impossible 'bird's-eye-view' of pure imagination. Again, these have a muted colour palette, reminding me fondly of the Melbourne of my relative youth when it was often cloudy, to the eternal delight of Sydneysiders.

Unlike many other artists referred to as 'abstract', Craig works from observations of the real world. His motifs can be as complex as a city, or as simple as a wall, a post and a wisteria vine outside his back door. Once settled on a motif he can repeat, refine, tweak and explore for years.

Craig was one of the fortunate few Australian artists who were able to travel widely (New York, France, Spain, Britain) but became particularly animated when talking about his residency at the legendary *Il Paretaio* in Tuscany, the former summer home of Arthur Boyd. It was here that, after the final breakdown of his first marriage, he met and fell in love with fellow Australian artist Wendy Stavrianos.

At the time Wendy lived in central Victoria, in an historic home on the southern slopes of Mount Gaspard, near Harcourt. She and Craig still do, are still producing extraordinary art, and we are the richer for it.

See more of Craig's work at www.craiggough.com.au. Four of his works are in the collection of the NGV in Melbourne, though you can never be sure when they may be on display—call the Gallery to arrange a viewing. Wendy will be the subject of a hArcouRT in the near future, all being well.

Below: Primary - 2013 - Acrylic on linen 91 x 107cms



Harcourt Cricket Club

Awards at CDCA Presentation Night

Well, that's another season down, with a mixed bag of results from the HCC; the highlights were the C Grade finals win and a number of awards received by individuals at the club. A- Reserve lost their spot on the ladder for the finals and B-Reserve did not make the finals, but showed continued improvement during the season.

Overall, A-reserve had a reasonable summer; some of the highlights were the improved performances of a couple of the 'young guns': like the batting of Harley Brereton or the bowling of Jordan Gartside.

In B-Reserve, it was the improvement in the young players such as Ash Woodman, Jude Polley, Justin Reed and Mackie Simmins, under the captaincy of Mark Yensch that threw light on the future of the club.

Happily, C- Grade had a finals victory, winning the Division 2 Grand Final defeating Barkers Creek.

It was the Presentation Night of the CDCA that helped put Harcourt's season into some sort of perspective.

'Young Gun' Al Brasher was recognised for his efforts



during the prestigious Country Week Tournament. Young Brasher received a mounted ball for his 6/6 effort and an award for most valuable player of the series. However, Al still has a way to go to match the feats of his dad Brian.

Brasher Snr had another night out at the District Presentations. Brian won the Best Player in the A-Res competition voted by the umpires, that is: Champion Cricketer in the league based

on batting and bowling results. But most rewarding for Brasher was the Spirit of Cricket Award for the competition, voted by the umpires.

Apart from captaining the A-Reserve team, Brasher coaches the U16 team and was a regular on the local Maine -FM Cricket Show spruiking the local happenings around the club.

Captain of B-Reserve, local stalwart Mark Yensch, was also recognised for his consistent efforts throughout the year, winning the Best Player in the League voted by the Captains of each game.

Steve Carroll



The under 16 finals team (above) and in the article, the Castlemaine and District Cricket Association Award winners.

Harcourt Bowling Club



March proved to be a busy Month for the Harcourt Bowling Club with the culmination of a number of Club events and Championships as well as the Bendigo Division Pennant Finals.

Grand Final Results

Harcourt Bowling Club President John Starbuck commended all of the Weekend Pennant Teams for their efforts in playing in the Grand Finals on Saturday 12th March. Although both Divisions 3 and 7 drew with their opponents Marong and Kangaroo Flat, in the subsequent playoffs they were unsuccessful, both teams being beaten by 2 points and 3 points respectively.

In Division 8 scores were level on the final end and in a nail-biting finish South Bendigo came out victors by 1 point.

In his post-game address at the Club, President Starbuck reminded players and members that the achievement of getting 4 out of 5 Pennant teams to the Finals with all three Weekend Pennant teams contesting the Grand Final was something any Club would be proud of. Although Harcourt did not win a Grand Final they could hold their heads high for such an achievement.

The results of the Grand Finals were:-

Division 3.

Marong 9/93 dr Harcourt 9/93.

Extra End - Marong def Harcourt by 2 shots.

Steven Douglass 29/21, Leo Moloney 20/24, Phil Clarke 29/23, Garry Maddern 15/25.

Division 7.

Harcourt 8/65 dr Kangaroo Flat 8/65.

Extra end - Kangaroo Flat Def Harcourt by 3 shots

Daryl Gale 22/19, Rob Chaplin 16/24, Ron Douglas 27/25

Division 8.

South Bendigo 14/61 def Harcourt 2/60.

Grahame Pogue 22/25, David Jeffries 16/18, Russell Timmins 22/18

Nominated Pairs

On Monday Feb 29th the Final of the Club Ladies Nominated Pairs was played out between Moira Straw and Fairlie Harman vying for the title against Lorna Davey and Jean Pogue. In a close game Lorna Davey and Jean Pogue came out victors in this Inaugural competition for the women.

The Final of the Men's Nominated Pairs was played out on the evening of Wednesday 2nd March with Terry Chisholm and Grahame Hill enjoying a close win from Brian Smith and Phil Clarke. Congratulations to all of them for such a fine display bowling.



Winners of Sponsor's Challenge 2016

ASQ- Graham, Maurice, Josh & David

Runners-Up

Chaplin's Signs—Rob. Les, Brenton & Trevor

Other teams were from:

Castlemaine Fruit Supplies, Bendigo Bank, McKenzie Amcal Pharmacy, Barty Gas,

Sponsor's Challenge

The Sponsor's teams were congratulated for competing in the third and final round of the Sponsor's Challenge on Tuesday 8th March. Although it was a hot night there was a lot of laughter (and a few bowls astray) as the teams competed for the winner's title. Winners overall were the ASQ Team of Graham Bird, Maurice Blackmore, Josh Blackmore and David Bird. Runners up were Chaplin's Orchards and Castlemaine Fruit Supplies. On presenting the award President John Starbuck thanked all of the sponsors for their support to the Club. He noted that ASQ had been trying for some time to win this challenge and applauded their tenacity. *(See photo of all participating teams on page 16.)*

Harcourt Barbeque and Social/Barefoot Bowls

The last of the Harcourt Bowling Club barbecue and barefoot bowls evenings for summer was held on Tuesday 1st March with the Club full to overflowing.

The Member for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards also attended to acknowledge and celebrate the Club being awarded a VicHealth Active Community Grant of \$3,000. This grant was for the purchase of 6 spare sets of modern Club bowls to foster further activity and community involvement in the sport of lawn bowls.

Ms Edwards spoke of the importance of clubs such as Harcourt in connecting with the community and providing another avenue of activity for all age groups. Maree congratulated the Club on the Club success in Pennant and joined members and friends in trying out the new bowls.

Nominated Pairs Competition:

[L to R] Fairlie Harman and Moira Straw with Winners Jean Pogue and Lorna Davey)



Veterans Celebrated

Fairlie Harman was awarded Veteran Status in a ceremony held at Golden Square on Thursday 3rd March. Fairlie started her bowling at Harcourt in the 2013/14 season as a lead bowler progressing the following season as a third in Division 5. For the past two seasons Fairlie has taken the position of Skip in Division 5, making a solid contribution to the team and the Harcourt Bowling Club. Other club veterans attended the ceremony playing a few ends of social bowls prior to afternoon tea and presentation of the Veteran's Pin.

Junior Jack Attack

The Harcourt Valley Primary School fourth and final week of the Junior Jack Attack program at the Harcourt Bowling Club was washed out. This program has proved to be a fun and successful sporting alternative for the years 5 and 6 students which it is hoped will continue again next year.

What's on at the Bowling Club?

- Social Friday Nights with raffles and member's draw
- Greens Café will return shortly, watch for notices around town
- Fish and Chip Fridays also look to return
- Rice Triples Club Tournament Saturday 16th April
- Presentation Night Saturday 16th April following Rice Triples
- Annual General Meeting Sunday May 22nd at 11.00 am followed by a BBQ. **Christine Anderson**



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Grow Great Fruit

If you've finished picking your fruit for the year, now's the time to put away your nets if you used them on your fruit trees over summer, because they degrade much faster if they're left out in the weather. They seem to slip off more easily if you remove them while your tree still has leaves, so don't wait too long. Of course if your apple or pear tree still has fruit, leave the nets in place for now, because the cockies are out in force this year!

To remove your nets, use a broomstick – or a very tall friend – to help you push the nets off the tree, being careful not to damage the ends of the limbs if possible. Disentangle any twigs or rotten fruit before you pack them away, and if you can store them so they're rat-proof, you'll thank yourself next summer when you go to put them out again!

On another note, if you're noticing some of your fruit trees flowering (despite the fact that it's not spring and we'll soon be descending into winter) don't panic. It's not uncommon for fruit trees to have a last ditch attempt to produce some fruit, and though it might be an indication of a sick or stressed tree, it can also happen in perfectly healthy trees – it's just the genetic drive to reproduce. The flowers will most likely just drop off as the weather cools down.

One last thing - last year we had a suspected case of fruit fly in Harcourt, and even though we haven't had any signs of the pest this year, our orchardists are asking that everyone do their bit to make sure this doesn't become a bad problem for the industry by cleaning up all the fruit from your garden. Fruit fly (and lots of other pests and diseases) use waste fruit as their refuge to survive over winter, so by cleaning up your fruit (yes, ALL of it), you're helping to break the pest's life cycle. Go to <http://preventfruitfly.com.au/> for lots of useful tips and strategies, and stay tuned to the Core for more fruit fly prevention news.

Hugh and Katie Finlay run the Grow Great Fruit membership program, an organic online course for home fruit growers: <http://growgreatfruitprogram.com/>.

Mother's Day at Skydancers

Treat mum to a three course lunch with the family this Mother's Day, Sunday 8th of May. Book now!

\$65
per person
(\$20 for kids)



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

ASQ Plant of the Month

The Kangaroo Paw is a stunning Australian native that looks great in your garden or in a pot. It produces a display of distinctive flowers on long stems and is a fabulous plant for attracting birds. The Kangaroo Paw is quite a drought tolerant plant, but some extra water while blooming will help with the longevity of the blooms. Grow in full sun with good drainage.



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Dealing with Intense Rainfall in the Garden

Anything over 4mm in five minutes is intense rainfall and causes a great deal of avoidable damage. Friable loams in unprotected gardens are at high risk. Rain at the level mentioned would cause an instant blockage to form on any cultivated soils so no water enters. But a proper mulch up to 10cm when dry, of unrotted vegetation or thin bark scraps and tiny sticks will allow water to enter and inhibit run off, which if it attains speed greater than 3cm a second will cause light top soil erosion. This can be slowed by uncultivated soil with the old clumps of some grasses, sticks, bark and woodpile debris. Some soils hopefully will have lichen clumps that after such a rain will increase in size and expand. The grasses will also start to grow. The best in these parts are remnants of Themeda triandra or Kangaroo Grass. Others are Microleana stipoides or Weeping Grass (but this is slower to re-start), and unusually a winter grass, Poa bulbosa or Bulbous Bluegrass found in urban grassland. The lichens here are of more than one species, but are not listed by the usual listers of plants. They are a hybrid of algae, an animal, a fungus and a plant.

Ian Johnson

Pips 'n' All

Hello Garden lovers,

The mornings and evenings are starting to cool and it is a sign that it is time to start preparing for new garden beds or garden bed infill planting. Taking a little time to plan will promote successful outcomes in the garden.

Colour is an important consideration when planning a garden. Colour can affect mood and emotional responses. It can create calm or tranquillity or excitement and vibrancy. It can also help to define a space, create depth or highlight an area.

The size of your space or the way you use your garden may help you determine your colour pallet. Some hot colours such as yellows, oranges and reds can be too exciting or overpowering for a small garden or space but can be very effective in a large area. Whereas, cooler colours such as blue, mauve and pink sink to the background and help a small area feel larger. The way that colours combine can also affect the mood and appearance of a garden. Using a colour wheel can help to select plants that are harmonious. Successful or harmonious colour combinations can be analogous, monochromatic or complimentary. Complimentary or contrasting colours are opposite on the colour wheel such as blue and orange. Analogous colours which are adjacent on the colour wheel such as yellow and orange create a smooth transition from one colour to another. Monochromatic colour schemes such as three types of one colour such as pink create a subtle display.

When selecting your colourful plants, it is important to consider flowering time. 10 blue plants all flowering in autumn will provide a solid display unlike a range of plants flowering in spring, summer, autumn and winter to provide a sprinkle of colour throughout the year. As well as grouping plants with similar needs together, you can group plants with similar or complementary flowering times together.

Autumn is a great time for transplanting. So, if you have some flowering plants with uncomplimentary neighbouring colours maybe you could relocate them. A new position may give them a new lease of life.

This month we are:

- Planning new garden beds;
- Watering;
- Planting autumn vegetables.

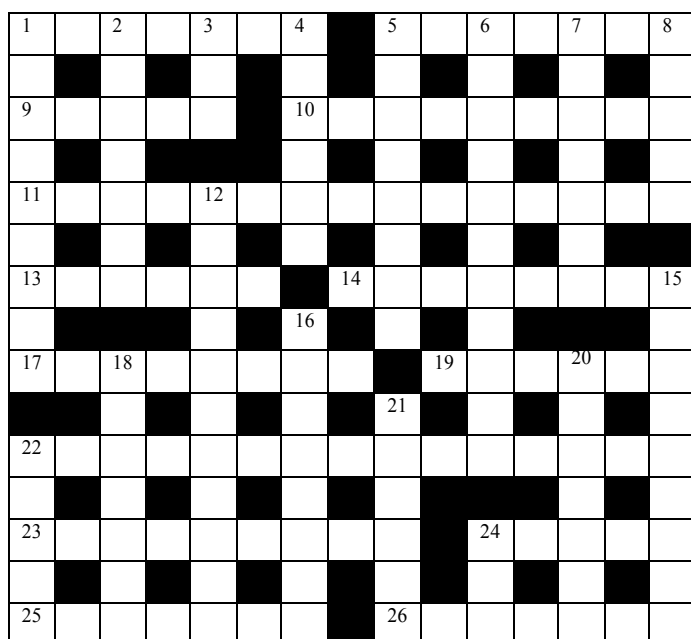
This month in the woodland:

- Grey Box is flowering.

*Happy Gardening
Janyce*



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Across:

1. If hosts boil your egg, it'll be none too hard... (7)
5. Naturist reserve cover in the Vatican? (3,4)
9. A profit for the second time? (5)
10. Fire escape said to look over the precipice? Brazen it out! (5,4)
11. Collecting metadata brings this worrying sob from early researcher. (8,7)
13. In virtually no time on the third attempt? (1,5)
14. I don't rip *Chitty-Chitty Bang-Bang* off for three related paintings. (8)

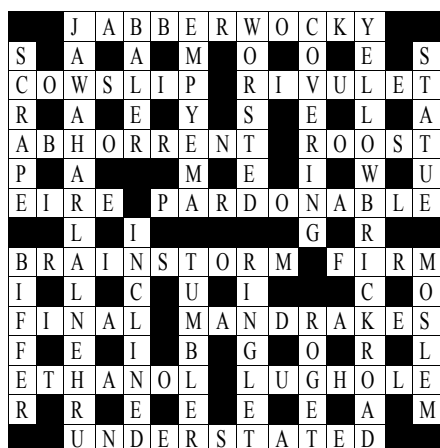
17. Drop trio because they're indigent. (4-4)
19. Korean Greek letter cabbage? (6)
22. It takes insurance demons to enchant with deals on this. (4,3,8)
23. Pigeon bums describe how the big end of town fits into government. (9)
24. Dyslexic journal might inadvertently admit milkers? (5)
25. Vite! *Le compte rendu* encompasses a major service provider. (7)
26. Flower (the antepenultimate word in length) has triangular endings. (7)

Down:

1. Monroe, Gibson, Paltrow on committee to the right. (9)
2. Bring tyro in to prefer taste. (7)
3. Trendy pub? (3)
4. Down which vehicle needs after dashing through mud? (6)
5. Dusters, air-heads, birds, mattresses etc. describable thus. (8)
6. What to wear to smell the crowd? (6-5)
7. Cheap fare for Hockey's hobby-horse? (7)
8. Yen for frills? (5)
12. Caper makes one ill, but sounds out the buttering-up drive. (11)
15. Naked musical coiffure? (4-5)
16. Noisy, disorderly philosophy? (8)
18. If Whitlam '75 was "sacking Grassby", th was perhaps the getting him out that followed.... (7)
20. Take in with discretion for email listee. (1)
21. Warm-to-hot conditions in which to drink to the victor? (6)
22. Lost it now—24 like a dinner, we say—b hints at past possession... (3,2)
24. Completed brownly, as the Americans might say. (3)

MARCH 2016 Xword SOLUTION

©McW April '15



Across:

1. Where one might find hidden versions of the [rum-tum tree] and [frumious bandersnatch], and (what he long sought) [manxome foe]! (11)
9. Cattle fodder must pass a [cow's tip] to do any good. (Or—sight of bulrush caused this flower?) [Two clues!] (7)
10. Pointless [virulent] gushing reduces to tiny stream. (7)
11. It's [hot, barren] and utterly repulsive... (9)

12. Do hens sleep in Wallaby Drive? [No, they go up to Roo St...]
13. In it, Paddy's pigs breathe it, we hear. Paddy's bog's there, too... (4)
14. You could excuse this wine: it's [an able drop]. (10)
16. [Smart Robin] gets results with this group technique. (10)
19. Company solid to the touch. [Well?]
21. I escape roof fixture [final] for last fixture.

Down:

1. [A well-run Raj? Ha ha! This bloke might give it curry... (10,5)
2. Massey-Harris may have been useful in the Titanic? [Well?]
3. If the hospital failed to find this area of corruption, should I make [em pay me]? (7)
4. The most atrocious redactor wore this [Well?]
5. Little bay [cove] and upper 18 for doonas, shrouds, tonneaux, etc. (8)
6. [Boldly, or] (in this form) [wackier], and colourfully laid-out route for 572 people in 1940 to star in 2010 film. (6,5,4)
7. [Sister] gathers [cape] for escapade. (6)

8. Discombobulated marble [at Tuesday] shortly. (6)
15. Predisposed but not... [Well?]
16. Liar [fibber] turns aggressor when F's & B's swap. (6)
17. Get a [belt] of [rum] in this. (7)
18. Allow [let] phone [Vtr.] above to create hair piece. [Note: no hyphen...]
20. [Marilyn] [Manson], Morris Minor, or Miss Monroe herself all [lose] out internally for believer becoming fearsome for a few. (6)
23. Golf pro gets a reference book from inside to check connotations. (5)



This popular textile event will be on again in the historic market building Castlemaine, with hand spun yarn, headwear and homewares and more. All items are for sale. The building comes alive with colour and texture, and people love the idea of being able to dress up. This year we are offering "This old Thing into this New Thing," upcycling workshops, using recycled materials.

There will be spinning exhibitions, and lots of divine yarns to purchase and create your own individual items. For those who have a knitting problem we should have someone on site who can assist.

The Beanie Affair runs for three days from 9 - 5 p.m.

Solstice Classical Duo

Matthew Fagan (Guitars), Daniel Tucceri (Piano)

Saturday 9th April at St Ambrose Hall,
Woodend, 8.00pm

And

Sunday 10th April at Forest Street Uniting
Church, Bendigo, 2.00pm

Saturday 23rd April, The Old Church on the Hill,
Quarry Hill, 8.00pm

MIC CONWAY & MATTHEW FAGAN

"STREET OF DREAMS" with

MATTHEW FAGAN "LORD OF THE STRINGS!"

OPENING THE SHOW

Mic Conway, ARIA award winning, Sydney-based singer, musician, song writer, fire eater, magician, tap dancer, multi-instrumentalist, juggler and puppeteer from Captain Matchbox and Circus Oz is joining forces with Matthew Fagan, 10 String Spanish Guitarist and Ukulele player, in the show "Street of Dreams" for a whirlwind tour through Victoria.

Mic was born into a family of vaudeville theatre and opera. In the 1970s, together with his brother Jim Conway, Mic founded the Captain Matchbox Whoopee Band. To their surprise it became a cult phenomenon, recording seven records, two of which achieved gold status. Mic also joined the legendary Pram Factory Theatre in Melbourne, creating Soapbox Circus, where he was ringmaster, musician, juggler and acrobat. In 1978 Soapbox became the now world famous Circus Oz of which Mic was a founding member.

Mic has also recently launched a critically acclaimed book:

"Captain Matchbox & Beyond - The music and mayhem of Mic and Jim Conway" which is available for purchase and signing at the show.



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The Hearing Bus is Coming to Harcourt



Country musician Troy Cassar-Daley encourages locals to hop aboard the Australian Hearing Bus

Australian Hearing Bus Itinerary

Bus Site	Address	When
Out front of the BP Service Station	34 High Street, Harcourt VIC 3453	Friday 8 th April 2016 from 9:30am – 2:00pm

The iconic Australian Hearing bus is visiting Harcourt to offer free hearing checks and raise hearing health awareness.

Troy Cassar-Daley says, “As a musician, it’s important for me to keep my hearing healthy and in check. That’s why I’m proud to support Australian Hearing’s bus services, which go a long way in helping people to look after their hearing.”

Hearing loss is a prevalent issue in the community, with around 60 per cent of Australians over 60 suffering from some form of hearing loss.

As well as having a hearing check, visitors to the bus can find information on a range of common hearing issues and view a display of easy-to-use hearing devices for around the home. This includes headsets for watching the TV and alert systems for doorbells.

No appointment is necessary. Australian Hearing will provide free hearing checks to any interested adults who visit the bus on the day.

Australian Hearing provides subsidised hearing care for eligible people, including pensioners and most veterans. For more information call 131 797 or visit www.hearing.com.au



Natalie Martin
Community Hearing Advisor



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April - Cycling in Harcourt

Castlemaine Cycling Club

16 and 17 April: Country and Metropolitan Road Race Championships

For the weekend of 16th and 17th April, riders will follow a 56 km circuit starting in Harcourt, heading south to Elphinstone, back through Sutton Grange to turn left at Sedgewick and bring riders home through the tough North Harcourt hills, along Mc Ivor Road to the 4km sprint down Harmony Way to finish in Harcourt. The 12km circuit along Market Street, Reservoir Road, McIvor Road to Harmony Way will also be used mainly for junior riders.

Circuits:

Market St / Harmony Way

*Old Calder Highway / Pyrenees Highway

*Sutton Grange – Bendigo Road / Metcalfe-Elphinstone Rd

*Sutton Grange – Bendigo Road / North Harcourt Road

*McIvor Road / Calder Hwy turnaround

Start/Finish: Harmony Way, Harcourt

30th April: Time Trials

Commencing at 1.00pm, riders will leave the start point at 1 minute intervals, heading south along Harmony Way on an out-and-back course. This event will cater for all age groups as well as different divisions of para-cyclists.



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Sat	9:30am-10.30am	Power Bar

\$10 per class – All fitness levels welcome

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Classes run during school terms

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mandchilkott@gmail.com



Community Diary Dates

4th April: The Fire Danger Period will end at 1:00 am for the Shires of Mount Alexander, Greater City of Bendigo, Macedon and Central Goldfields.

8th April: Hearing Bus, 9.30am - 2pm; outside the Service Station

10th April: Open Garden at 'Duneira', Mt Macedon. Heritage Centre, Enquiries 0400 916 527 (or 5474 2426 after business hours)

13th April: Carpet Bowls AGM, 7.30pm Harcourt Leisure Centre

14th April: Landcare Meeting, 7.30pm, ANA Hall.

16th & 17th April: Cycling: Country and Metropolitan Road Race Championships, Harmony Way start and finish.

17th April: Tour of Symes Road historic sites, followed by afternoon tea at ANA Hall. 1.30 pm; Heritage Centre, Enquiries 0400 916 527 (or 5474 2426 after business hours)

24th April: Landcare Working Bee, 10am to 12; Maintenance Barkers Creek. Meet opposite CFA in Bridge Street.

24th April: Cactus Warriors Maldon, 10am, Meet Waterson's Road near the Tarrengower School Road; lunch free! Contact Ian Grenda on 0412 015 807

25th April: ANZAC Commemoration, Heritage Centre, 2.30pm

28th April: AGM, Harcourt Progress Association

30th April: Cycling: Time Trials, Commencing at 1.00pm, Harmony Way.

30th April: The Big Picnic, Local Community with Refugee Guests, 11am - 4pm, Castlemaine Botanic Gardens

What's on at the Bowling Club? See Page 17

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

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 rmillerharcourt@bigpond.com.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: gen_ward2@hotmail.com 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.

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