

# HARCOURT NEWS THE CORE

December 2016

HARCOURT NEWS - Edition 34

Harcourt Progress Association Inc

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



## Promise of a Great Pool Season!



*These kids were thrilled to be at the pool on its opening weekend. See page 3 for more details of activities at the pool this summer, including the Learn to Swim program, Aqua Aerobics and the January Pool Party.*

### INSIDE

- Tender open for Mountain Bike Park
- Enrolments at HVPS may top 100 for 2017
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*The team at The Core wish our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We'll be back in February, 2017.*



# Tender announced for Mountain Bike Park



*Members of the community, including front left: Darren Fuzzard, CEO Mount Alexander Shire; Maree Edwards MLA; Peter Skilbeck, Chair of Goldfields Tourism Inc (just behind Maree on the right); and Tony Cordy, Councillor for Calder Ward, celebrated the announcement of the tender launch.*

On Friday December 1, Maree Edwards, MLA for Bendigo West announced that tenders were invited for the design and construction of the Harcourt Mountain Bike Park.

Shire representatives including Darren Fuzzard, CEO and Councillor Tony Cordy, representatives from DELWP, members of the Community Reference Group, Rocky Riders, and interested community members gathered at the Henry of Harcourt Cider Farm for the announcement.

The Andrews Labor Government has committed \$1 million to the project. Maree said, "We are delivering on our commitment to build a world-class mountain bike park in Harcourt that will boost local tourism and the health and wellbeing of locals and visitors to the region."

The park will have up to 34 kilometres of trails which will be situated on the former pine plantation at the base of Mount Alexander. An aim of the project is to establish the bike park without compromising the Regional Park and vulnerable eco-

systems. DELWP (the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning) has completed a number of studies required prior to the construction of the trails.

The final submission date for the tenders is 17 January, 2017. Acceptance of the successful tender bid will be announced in April 2017.

The Community Reference Group has been expanded by two members: Councillor Cordy and Annette Rae. Annette who has organised community meetings about the park said, "I have spoken with Amanda Johnson at DELWP who said that Community Consultation will take place after January. This is disappointing as we believed consultation would take place earlier."

For more information or to register interest in being kept informed by DELWP go to: [harcourtMBP@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:harcourtMBP@delwp.vic.gov.au) or call DELWP on 136 186.



## 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

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## Keep active, and have fun this summer at Harcourt Pool

The Harcourt Pool opened with a splash on Saturday 3rd December just in time for the arrival of summer and the return of some warm weather.

The pool and grounds are looking sensational thanks to a great job by Mount Alexander Shire Council and the Bendigo YMCA.

It is certainly the place to be this summer with a series of events, classes and community celebrations planned throughout the coming months. Follow the HPA Facebook page to keep posted about what's happening at the Harcourt Pool.

**Aqua-aerobics** is back every Thursday, kicking off on 8th December, running right throughout summer. Classes are fun and motivating and a good way to keep fit whilst working at your own comfort level. Kelly is a great trainer who keeps us all smiling at her lame jokes and twisted sense of humour. Classes are only \$10 and run every Thursday from 6pm - 6.45pm.

**Learn to Swim classes** for primary aged kids will run from Monday 9th to Friday 13th January. The cost is \$50



*Local sister and brother Lifeguard team, Jante and Lana O'Neill look forward to a safe and successful pool season.*

for 5 daily lessons and includes googles and a certificate of completion. Book direct with Bendigo YMCA. And pencil this one into your diary now...the Harcourt **Summer Pool Party** will be on Saturday 21 January, 1-4pm featuring a giant water inflatable, ice cream truck, entertainment and community BBQ. *See you poolside this summer!*

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THE CHANTOOZIES

Central Vic is certainly the place to be for major events and this one's going to be a ripper! Presented by 3BO and Sutton Grange Winery, Rock in the Vines features a line-up of 10 Aussie Rock legends on Friday 27 January 2017.

Some of the acts include Ross Wilson, Wendy Matthews,

Richard Clapton and The Chantoozies, performing your favourite superstar acts from the 70s, 80s, and 90s at this open air concert. It's also The Uncanny Xmen's reformation show, so it's not to be missed!

For more information go to: <http://www.suttongrange.com.au/concert-info>



## President forecasts a strong 2017 season for Harcourt

I know it seems like we just finished the 2016 but we are off and running into the 2017 season.

The Committee is very pleased to announce

Paul Chaplin as the senior coach with both Sam Gale and Adrian Clay assisting him in this role. They have lots of plans and ideas for the coming season and after a successful first couple of training session we are excited to support them.

We also welcome back Nathan West to the reserve coaching arena. He will be joined for the 2017 year by Nathan Britton. The reserve coaches will be much more closely aligned with the senior coaches moving forward, to unite and increase the drive to improve for all players.

We also have quite a few new faces at training which is fantastic and this is also the case on the netball court.

Netball tryouts have been completed and the sides are

looking strong for the season ahead. We have not finalised the netball coaches at this time.

The AGM is in February but we have new sponsor information packs and James Lord has kindly put his hand up to manage the sponsors. This takes a lot of hard work so we thank him for his efforts and if anyone is interested in sponsoring the Lions in 2017, please contact James on 0400 225 553. We will also be introducing player sponsors in 2017 so there will be more information to follow.

Junior football will be getting a boost this year as we welcome Phil Hawkes to the club. Phil has lots of experience with football management across many areas and will be coordinating junior football and Auskick for 2017. Please contact Phil on 0437 354 230 if you have any questions or know of people who are interested in playing.

The Harcourt Football Netball Club would like to thank Harcourt community for their support in 2016. We were pleased to bring two premierships home. More importantly though, we had nearly 150 members involved in the club and representing Harcourt.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and the happiest of New Year's.

**Kathie Teasdale**  
*President*

## Twilight on the Green

Twilight on the Green and the Tour de Bress Twilight Crit were hugely successful events held in Harcourt on 11th November.

A large crowd enjoyed the cycling, great music and the BBQ, local beer and cider.

The cycling event was a fundraiser for the Mirabel Foundation whilst the evening Twilight on the Green was a community celebration, bringing people together in central Harcourt.

You can catch King Stone playing again at the 2017 Applefest.

*Photo of budding crit racers, warming up before the races by Dion Jelbart Photography.*  
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# Harcourt Progress Association Community Celebrations



It's been a great year for the Harcourt Progress Association with lots of new members, new projects and new energy.

The opportunity to secure the Harcourt Train Station for community use has taken us by surprise but we are determined to ensure that we get a positive community outcome. We'll be seeking your ideas, input and feedback into what you would like to see based at the space. Ideas include a Men's Shed, community garden, youth activities, visiting library service, parents spaces, community meeting and training space. If you'd like to join a Working Group to help progress this great initiative, please contact the HPA secretary on [takandjak@bigpond.com](mailto:takandjak@bigpond.com)

Rest assured - we will continue to advocate for the return of a Harcourt train service and believe that reinvigorating the Station will help progress towards this goal.

Other projects underway include installing irrigation in Stanley Park, developing a community catering kit to help with local events, finalising the Harcourt Town Centre Masterplan, progress-

ing a new playground for Harcourt and working with VicRoads to improve the town entrances and freeway exits. We will continue to support the Applefest and run events to bring the community together, including...

## TWO CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS THIS YEAR

**Sunday 18th December** - Family festive celebration, 6pm at Stanley Park - Join us for a community BBQ, ice creams, face painting, live music and seasonal festivities. Stay on for a night of Carols commencing at 7.30 presented by the Harcourt Uniting Church.

**Thursday 22nd December** - Community Christmas party at the Harcourt Bowling Club with Christmas dinner, live music, and loads of Christmas Cheer!

**Look out for further details around town and on-line.**

**And have yourself a very merry Christmas time!**



Federal Member for Bendigo  
**LISA CHESTERS** MP

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## Councillor Comment

### *Have your say on the Council Plan*

Hi all,

Since the elections Councillors have been very busy. One of the first priorities of the new Council is to establish the Council plan. To assist this process we are seeking feedback from residents on priorities for the next four years. Get in touch with Council and share your ideas.

This can be done online by going to: [www.haveyoursay.mountalexander.com.au](http://www.haveyoursay.mountalexander.com.au). There will also be listening posts throughout the shire over the next few weeks. Following development of the Council Plan the budget will be developed in the New Year.

It's great news for Harcourt with the miniature railway getting planning approval and also the mountain bike park progressing. Reports are the mountain bike park will bring 100,000 people a year to Harcourt, within five years of completion!! It is hard to imagine that, but it will be interesting to see the project progress.

It is worth noting how the local landscape has dried off so quickly. Make sure you have had a good clean up around the house and yard in preparation for hot conditions over the summer. Make sure you know what you plan to do in the event of a fire.

For those travelling over Christmas, take your time and be careful on the roads at this busy time. Plan ahead so there is a designated driver if you are attending functions or barbecue.

My New Year's resolution is to help others when I can. Help out and lend a hand if you are able. Imagine if everyone did that how good life would be!

Best regards to all, have a safe and merry Christmas.

*Tony Cordy*

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## CFA - Fire Danger Period Looms



### FIRE DANGER PERIOD DATES DECLARED

The dates for the start of the Fire Danger Period (FDP) have been set. For Mount Alexander Shire they will commence on December 12<sup>th</sup> and for The Greater City of Bendigo a week earlier on December 5<sup>th</sup>. So what does this mean? From these dates, certain activities involving burning, use of hot cutting equipment, use of barbecues and lighting of campfires, mowing and slashing, etc have restrictions and conditions implemented to ensure the risk of these activities starting a fire is reduced.

It is important to remember that you cannot conduct open air burning during the FDP unless you obtain a permit. The "Can I or Can't I" information brochure was updated in November and is available via the "Can I or Can't I" page on the CFA website, [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au). The guide clearly explains what your responsibilities are, and what activities you can and can't do during the FDP and also on days of Total Fire Ban. There is a new section on the use of gas-powered wildlife scaring guns which will require a Schedule 14 permit for the FDP and they **cannot** be used on a day of Total Fire Ban.

### VicEMERGENCY APP

The new VicEmergency App that I mentioned in the November edition of The Core is up and running but with a few teething problems which are being fixed as they appear. The amalgamation of all emergency services data has been incorporated into the new app. An important feature to check is the setting of your watch zones as these were not automatically transferred to the new App if updating from the old app. Mine was set in Melbourne and therefore had to be changed to be of any use. Also a reminder of the new VicEmergency hotline is 1800 226 226.

### FIRE PREVENTION PROPERTY INSPECTIONS

The Municipal Fire Prevention Officer (MFPO) conducted the annual property inspections in the Harcourt, Harcourt North, Ravenswood South and Faraday areas on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November. While there will always be properties that have had no fire prevention work carried out, the number of notices issued for these areas was down on



(CFA Cont from page 6)

previous years. He commented on the amount of work that had been done in our Brigade area, especially with the wet spring that we have had, and the amount of grass growth that had occurred.

#### SAFETY AT CHRISTMAS TIME

As we approach Christmas and the Christmas decorations come out of storage, it is important to ensure that your Christmas lights are in good working order. Also if you are using candles as part of your decorations do not leave them unattended or put them close to other materials that can catch fire. Every year we see in the news where a house is burnt down because of Christmas lights or candles - make sure that it is not your house which features in the media because of this.

The Harcourt Fire Brigade wishes you a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and remember we rely on you to carry out fire prevention work around your house and property to reduce your risk and the need for a fire truck to turn up. But if we do need to visit, please ensure we can fit up your driveway and between your gate posts.

*Tyrone Rice  
Captain*



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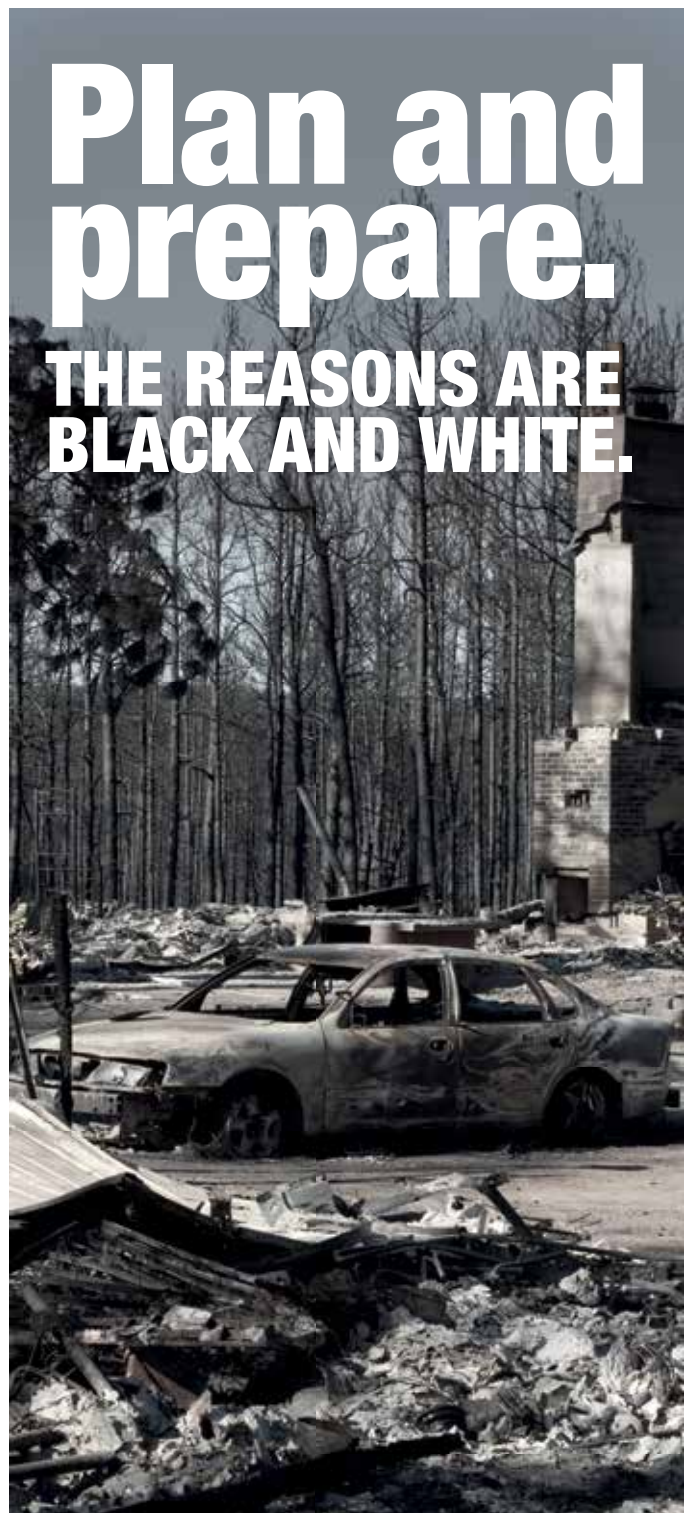
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# Plan and prepare.

## THE REASONS ARE BLACK AND WHITE.

It's your responsibility to be fire ready this summer.

Prepare your property, fire plan and emergency kit now.

When hot, dry, windy days are forecast, check Fire Danger Ratings daily and monitor warnings via local radio, the VicEmergency website and app.

**Leaving early, before a fire starts, is always the safest option.**

## emergency.vic.gov.au

Download the VicEmergency app



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# Christmas rush getting to you?

## Try Hygge

Earlier this month I was flicking through the October 2016 'Marie Claire, Australia' magazine, and I came across an article about a Danish life philosophy, called hygge, that encourages the savouring of everyday pleasures. It interested me so I read through the whole article and did some research, to make my own article to share with you.

"Hygge (pronounced hue-gah) is a Danish word that is a feeling or mood that comes taking genuine pleasure in making ordinary, everyday things more meaningful, beautiful or special. .... Hygge is being aware of a good moment whether it's simple or special", according to the website hygge house (<http://hyggehouse.com/hygge>). There is no English word to describe hygge, but there are words that describe the idea of it, such as coziness, happiness, security, comfort and simplicity. For me personally, a few little everyday things that are so simple but bring me happiness, are falling asleep when it's raining, eating good food, and sitting in front of the heater/fire in cold weather. Hygge could be anything to you. The research about it says you should try to incorporate these kinds of little things that make you happy into every single day, and the result will be a generally happier you. A man named Meik Wiking is the CEO of the Happiness Research Institute in Copenhagen. According to him the magic ingredient that makes Danes the happiest nation in the world, is Hygge. He even wrote a book about it called 'The Little Book of Hygge'. I know that it can be hard to be conscious of these things and appreciate them when you have to go to school, work or are a very social person, but it's good to every now and then, or as often as you can (possibly every day?) to stop and stay grounded by noticing the little things. Remember you don't need to spend lots of money or take lots of your time to make your life more hygge, the whole point of it is enjoy the small simple everyday things! Here are some easy ways to incorporate hygge into your lifestyle, and to give yourself some self-love:

1. Take some time to have a relaxing bath instead of a rushed shower. (You could even add bath salts, a bath bomb, a bath melt, or essential oils etc to make your bath even more special!)
2. Candles!
3. To sometimes take a break from socialising (you could even try to take a break from technology?) and just chill in some comfy clothes and relax.
4. Try to eat more wholesome, filling and healthy foods. That doesn't mean you can't eat 'junk' food sometimes, it just means to appreciate a really good and delicious meal.
5. Don't rush! This one is hard for me because I am always running late, but try to just take your time which also

helps you stop to enjoy things.

6. Take time to enjoy things that make you happy, that could be any of the things listed above, catching up with friends, having a hobby, watching your favourite TV show, or reading a good book.

Most of this article I have referred to hygge being in the colder months, since it is often about 'cosiness', but it can be enjoyed in summer too. Do things you enjoy in summer such as: soaking in the sun, swimming, and barbeques.

I hope you have learnt something about hygge. I recommend to try to enjoy life as much as possible whether its doing some of these things suggested in this article or doing your own things and appreciating them. Have fun!

Scarlett Berger

## LIMERICK by The Bard of North Harcourt

*I went for a swim in the ocean.*

*I swim like a shark, in slow motion.*

*I forgot what I'd learned*

*And I soon got quite burned*

*I'd forgotten my sun tanning lotion.*

### Castlemaine Group Fitness Classes

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<b>Thurs</b>	<b>6:15am-7:15am</b>	<b>Power Bar</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>9:30am-10.30am</b>	<b>Aerobics</b>
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## Harcourt Valley Primary School - *End of year events*

It's hard to believe we are in the run up to the end of another busy year at HVPS.

Teachers are busily finishing off reports and making preparations for

next year.

All children are looking forward to the swimming program which starts next week. We will again be focussing on Water Safety as much as swimming skills and will spend our afternoons down at the pool doing these activities.

Our last full week of school will be taken up with important end of year events. Monday 12th December is our Graduation afternoon and at this time we will be saying good bye to and graduating 10 Grade 6 students, as well as several families whose last children are finishing up at our school.

During that week, we will have some grade Christmas parties, a dress up day, create some special Christmas display boards and judge our last Christmas Art challenge. Our final community event will be the Carols night on Thursday 15th and we hope that all our families can join us for an evening of Christmas fun. Our final event will be an Awards afternoon on Friday 16th December. At this time we will present awards to some of our students, do our School Captain handover and make presentations to our retiring staff mem-

bers. The final two days in the following week will be taken up with packing up and preparation for next year, before the well-earned break.

We have some changes of staff for next year. Two very long term staff members are retiring. Suzan Redland our Art teacher is finishing up after having been here for well over 10 years. Vicki Coghill, a class teacher who has taught across the school and been at both the Harcourt and Harcourt Valley Schools for 25 years is also calling it a day. We will all miss them both very much. Madame Higgins, our French teacher, has accepted a larger time fraction at her other school, so is also moving on. We wish her well at Weeroona College.

We are still searching for a French teacher to replace her, but have ap-

pointed Hannah Vellacott to the Art position.

Our school is continuing to grow and we are now anticipating 100 students for next year. School starts back on Tuesday 31st January. The school office will be open from Thursday 19th January during school hours.

On behalf of all of us at Harcourt Valley I would like to wish the community of Harcourt, a very Merry and Safe Christmas, and restful holidays.

*Annette Smith – Principal.*

***Our school is continuing to grow and we are now anticipating 100 students for next year.***



### Mt Alexander Family Day Care Scheme

Due to demand for Outside School Hours Care at Harcourt Primary School we are looking for a suitably qualified Educator to provide this program under the Mt Alexander Family Day Care "In Venue Program" in 2017.

Interested Educators **must have** a minimum qualification of Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care.

For all enquiries and further information please contact Julie London on 5472 3665, or email [julie@castlemainechildcare.com.au](mailto:julie@castlemainechildcare.com.au)

# Harcourt Uniting Church - A Joyous Christmas



## *Celebrate Christmas*

- Carols in the Park on Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm. BYO chair or rug. Thompson's Foundry Band will lead the singing. It is a very family friendly night and not a late night for children. If it rains we will move to the Uniting Church in Buckley Street.
- Christmas Day Harcourt Uniting Church 8am -which gives you plenty of time to cook the Christmas meal afterwards.

### **Denise Howes** **Grief and Loss Counsellor**

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**Rooms in Trentham and Castlemaine**

Christmas seems to have crept up on us this year – when I was a child Christmas would take so long to come around – I'm told that the weeks go so quickly because we are so busy these days.

Christmas at the Harcourt Uniting Church will be celebrated with:

- Carols in the Park on Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm. BYO chair or rug. Thompson's Foundry Band will lead the singing. It is a very family friendly night and not a late night for children going to school the next day. If it rains we will move to the Uniting Church in Buckley Street.
- Christmas Day Harcourt Uniting Church 8am -which gives you plenty of time to cook the Christmas meal afterwards.

I had mentioned in the September Core that we planned to hold a Community BBQ with money raised being donated to the work of Frontier Services. However due to unforeseen circumstances this has been cancelled.

We continue to support a congregation in the Mallee struggling with the drought of 2015/16. They have experienced good rains recently, however, until their crops are harvested they have little income.

The Harcourt congregation is also involved in "Share the Joy" or "Operation Santa" where we support Castlemaine and District families that may need a helping hand or encouragement at Christmas time. Money donated is used to buy presents and goods for a hamper to be given to struggling families. We then hold a couple of working bees to wrap the presents and make up hampers which are delivered to families. We make sure that every member of the family has a present as well as the family hamper. This is one way of letting families know that we care. Christmas becomes "love in action."

Christmas is a joyous day for children. For parents peace comes several days later when all the batteries go flat!!

A young child had only one line in a Christmas play "Behold I bring you good tidings". After the rehearsal he asked his Mum what tidings meant – she said it meant "news." On the day of the play he was stage struck and forgot his line. All of a sudden he called out: "Hey I've got news for you!"

***Happy Christmas to you all, from all of us at the Harcourt Uniting Church.***

*Jan Jenkin*





## Harcourt CWA - *not just hats and horses*

*From left we have Ayron Teed, Meryl Adams and Joy Robertson, showing the power of red and black.*



Well summer is on the way, today I heard a cicada, and with Christmas just around the corner, it's a busy time, an exciting time, and a time to reflect. At our last CWA meeting we had the pleasant task of distributing the funds we had raised during the year to a variety of local and national organisations, and I took this time to reflect how lucky I was to be involved with a group of ladies, who through their efforts, enable us to do this every year. Well done everyone.

Most months we have the opportunity to visit other Branches, catch up with all the news, attend concerts, watch fashion parades and listen to guest speakers, or in November, dress up and attend the Melbourne Cup.

This year Newstead Branch hosted the 'Melbourne Cup' and our ladies did us proud in their outfits and hats.

We visited Nagambi recently where we spent a day with

our Sister Branch, Rodney. Now what do you think of when you hear the word Nagambi? Well, Black Caviar of course. This beautiful mare was born at Gigai Farm and grew up on the Goulbourn Valley property and went on to become the fastest horse in history, undefeated in every race. A photo taken beside the life size bronze statue of this world famous mare is something not to be missed, when visiting this lovely town.

The ladies from Harcourt CWA wish readers a wonderful, safe and happy Christmas, and would love to see some new faces come and join us in the New Year.

***For enquiries regarding membership give Marie Twyford a call on 5472 5450.***

Happy Christmas everyone.

***Lyn Rule***

***Publicity Officer***

***From the left we have Marie Twyford and Joy Robertson, in the middle the mighty Black Caviar and on the right side of the statue of this magnificent mare we have Meryl Adams and Mary Tigg.***



## Harcourtian- Ian Johnson

Ian challenges some of our views on the nature of an 88 year old's lifestyle. He lives a frugal, independent life on his seven acres in Harcourt, easily managing the undulating ground and speckling the hillside with flowering plants



that live harmoniously amongst the natives. He is able to list all their botanical names. Off the electricity grid, using a generator and batteries to power the home he built in the mid-1980s, Ian still drives, is a member of the Committee that manages the Wildflower Reserve in Castlemaine and each week goes Orienteering. He has the honour of being the Bendigo Orienteering Club's oldest member. He smiles when he reflects on the number of times his children and grandchildren have asked him when he might go into a retirement home.

'I am enjoying a good life,' says Ian. 'I have done lots of things over the years and am blessed with still having a good memory. I inherited strong genes from my father who lived to 93 and my great-grandmother who was over 100 when she died. I come from a long line of coal miners from Derbyshire in England. That's where I was born in 1928. Four companies owned the town mines. The coal companies provided the miners' cottages; the more prosperous the mine, the better the cottages. They started the schools and built the picture



*Ian's mother Nellie Walker in 1920 aged 20.  
Nellie married Reg Johnson in about 1926.*

theatres. The first picture theatre was built in 1908,

very early on really. I remember one of the theatres used to put sheets down on its fancy seats for the miners to sit on.

My father, Reg, broke the mining mould. He was a bit of an intellectual and ended up becoming a teacher. Mum, Nellie Walker, was a nurse. I had two brothers, both younger than me and now dead, and a sister born in 1942. She was born in the same year my mother died from cancer.

'I was a kid during the depression and a teenager during the second World War. Although we lived about 8 miles from an aerodrome that tested new fighter planes, we were lucky and didn't get bombed much. I remember seeing the test flights over the town. I thought it was pretty impressive. I started work as an



*Ian, in the Navy, middle row, 1<sup>st</sup> on the left.*

apprentice engineering gasman in a company that made railway bridges and later worked as an architectural draftsman before joining the Navy where they trained me as an aircraft electrician. In 1946 the Navy posted me to Malta where I spent two interesting years.

'I didn't see much of a future in England when I left the Navy. Things were fairly tough. My grandfather and uncles had come to Australia looking for a better life in 1926. My grandfather agreed to sponsor me to this country. As an ex-serviceman my trip was free. I arrived in Australia in 1949 at the age of 21.

'One of my brothers also came out here after he left the Army. He discovered that ex-servicemen could attend Teachers' College free. He went to Toorak Teachers' College and became a teacher. It was a path I also followed, enrolling in Melbourne Teachers' College, after having worked as a draftsman and shipping clerk. My first school in 1954 was an 8 pupil rural school just south of Sea Lake. I taught until 1986 when I





*Ian, in 1973, with his class at Mt Clear Primary School.*

took early retirement. I was 57. I'd had a hearing issue after contracting mumps when I was 8. With time, my hearing became progressively worse to the point that it was getting harder to function effectively in the classroom.

'When I retired, my wife, Anne, whom I married in 1958, and I were living in Ballarat, but I decided to make the move to the place near Harcourt which had been built as a holiday retreat. That's where I am now. It had been over-grazed by sheep, was badly eroded, and overwhelmed by rabbits and not a fence was standing.

'I always had a head for maps and navigation. I gained a pilot's licence in 1952 and in the 1960s started participating in car rallies. I was mostly the navigator but sometimes the driver. The rallies took place in rural Victoria on bad roads with a fair share of bad weather. I was on the winning team in a few rallies.

'I was also a member of a four-wheel drive club until I came to Harcourt. I bought a four-wheel drive two stroke Suzuki and went across the deserts of Australia towing a trailer with the little car. Its size had some advantages. It could go most of the places heavy vehicles would but without bogging, easily travelling through

paddocks where larger cars couldn't; but it did struggle going up steep hills and the engine could over-cool crossing through deep water. Still it was good value.

'I started orienteering in 1971, when I did a novice course in the Creswick Forest. It encompassed a lot of the things I enjoyed – navigating, being in the bush and keeping mobile and fit. I have been orienteering ever since. It is an important part of my life. Long gone are the days when I could do 10 kilometres or middle distance courses. I was never into rogaining. I am now reduced to the short 3.2 kilometres courses and I sometimes only do half of that. Over the years I've mapped and designed orienteering courses, sometimes mapping areas from scratch and was one of the founders of the Eureka Orienteering Club in Ballarat.

'I am not famous person, but I am someone who has tried and done many things and am happy to share my knowledge and experience with others.'

*Jenny McKenry, Dandura Alpacas*



*Ian on the left with brother Hugh.*



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# Success and Socialising for the Harcourt Bowling Club

## Tournament Success

The Ladies Annual 2 Bowl Triple tournament was a successful afternoon on Wednesday 9th with all rinks filled.

Winners of the 3 by eight game format were Ruth Pearce's team from Golden Square, (see photo on next page with Ruth in the middle.) Runners Up was Rosie Punton's South Bendigo Team and a composite Bendigo team came in third.



**Ladies Annual 2 Bowl Triples Winners: Ruth Pearce's team from Golden Square, with Ruth in the middle.**

Once again Wilma and Brian Kidman sponsored a successful Kidman Mixed Fours Annual Tournament which was held on Sunday 20th November. Twelve teams competed over 3 games of 12 ends and along with a great display of bowling skills the camaraderie and love of the game of bowls was evident.

## Midweek Pennant

Both the Division four and five teams are sitting in third place on their respective ladders after Round 5 and are hoping to improve on those places as the competition progresses.

Midweek Pennant will break for Christmas from 12th December and resume again on Monday 16th January 2017.

## Sponsor's Challenge Round 1

The first round of the 3 game Sponsor's Challenge was held on Tuesday evening 15th November with a close win to Castlemaine Fresh over ASQ. A good fun night was had by all who attended. Rounds two and three will be held in February and all of our sponsors are encouraged to participate.



**Kidman Mixed Four Winners: Ray and Norma Crothers and Carmel and Hank Jansen**

## Weekend Pennant

Some movement within the teams has seen the opportunity for new skips to try their hand this season. Sam Gale recorded his first win as skip in Division six after an initial close call in his first week.

Bryan Buchanan is also having a good year in his new role as skip in Division eight and the win against Marong/Bridgewater at Marong brings his tally to 4 from 4 and top spot on the ladder. Division six is sitting in 3rd place while the Threes need to find form to follow their last season performance.

Weekend Pennant will break for Christmas from 17th December and resume again on Saturday 21st January 2017.

***Come and join us for a fun night at the Club. All Welcome!***

## BBQ Social/Barefoot Bowls Nights

The last of the BBQ and social/barefoot bowls before Christmas will be held on Tuesday 6th December. Starting at 6.00pm with BBQ, salads and sweets, followed by a social game of bowls, people can choose whether to just bowl, just eat, or do both. Bowls can be provided and willing instructors are always at hand.

It is helpful for catering if you let the club know you are coming. Names will be on the list at the door.

Email: [harcourtbowls@outlook.com](mailto:harcourtbowls@outlook.com) or phone 5474 2494



## Bowls (cont)



*Sponsors Challenge Round 1 gets under way.*



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### ***Free Hearing Tests at Harcourt***

***Friday December 16th 9.30am – 2.00pm***

Australian Hearing will be conducting free hearing checks via the Hearing Bus at Harcourt Bowling Club on Friday 16th December from 9.30 to 2.00pm. No appointment is necessary, just turn up on the day. A hearing check is a quick and easy way to measure the sounds you can and can't hear. ***All adults are welcome to hop aboard!***

## The Australian Hearing Bus is coming to town

### Find us here:

**Harcourt Bowling Club**  
1 Warren Street  
Harcourt VIC 3453

**Friday 16th December 2016**  
9:30am - 2:00pm

A hearing check is a quick and easy way to measure the sounds you can and can't hear. All adults are welcome to hop aboard!

Hop aboard for a **free hearing check** or to speak to an expert about your current hearing device



*No appointment necessary, just come along on the day.*



**(03) 5471 7600**  
www.hearing.com.au

# Landcare News

## *Patterson's Curse Problem in the Harcourt/North Harcourt/Sedgwick Region*

### **North Harcourt/Sedgwick Landcare Group**

It is expected that most, if not all, residents of the Harcourt/North Harcourt/Sedgwick area have seen the purple flowering hills and gullies stretching from Mount Barker to Ford's Road, and out to Wilkinson's Rd. It is also visible in the Harcourt Valley. Many landholders are surprised and worried by the infestation on their own or neighboring properties. Winter and autumn have been unusually wet and this has contributed to the problem. Many landholders were aware of 'patto' infestations on their properties but felt that it was manageable with small scale spraying or hand picking. However, this season has shown many of us how quick it spreads and how easy it can get out of hand.

It is important to note that Paterson's Curse is a noxious weed in Victoria. It is a requirement that landholders adopt approaches to reduce and eliminate Paterson's Curse on their properties.

The North Harcourt/Sedgwick Landcare group is concerned and would like to undertake a mapping and education campaign. Currently efforts are underway to explore mapping tools that will help the group gain an appreciation of the size and location of the problem, to monitor progress, and to determine the nature of the efforts undertaken by landholders with infestations to prevent further spread and future flowering. The Landcare group would like to

hear from residents with 'patto' on their properties with the aim of developing a coordinated response (e.g. group application for funding support, information session(s), links to resources, and/or working bees).

If property owners would like to be receive future Landcare information on Paterson's Curse, please contact Helen Jordan on 0408 334 854.

Meanwhile a number of information resources are available on the web:

Agriculture Victoria, Paterson's Curse <http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/pests-diseases-and-weeds/weeds/a-z-of-weeds/patersons-curse>

Department of Agriculture and Food, Paterson's Curse Control. Government of Western Australia.

<https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/herbicides/paterson%E2%80%99s-curse-control>

Other useful sources are available on the Web.

In the meantime when you are out in your paddocks please pick any single/ group plants & dispose of them. Spraying a small area now is still effective, with follow up over the next few years. Any efforts now to rid your property of this weed will translate to less work in the future. It will only get worse if you do nothing.

*Karoline Klein*



*Clockwise from left:*

*A Patterson's Curse rosette before flowering; an individual flower; a mass flowering of Patterson's Curse; successful control of Patterson's Curse the area to the left of the fence is clear.*





## South African Weed Orchid *found at the Harcourt Reservoir*

South African Weed Orchid, *Disa bracteata*, is flowering now and if you're quick you can help stop the spread of this emerging and highly invasive weed in our area. The weed has recently found at Barkers Creek Reservoir in Harcourt. See the photo below to help you identify it. And, if you do find them, practice good bush hygiene so that you don't spread the infestation.



*Photo provided by Bonnie Humphreys*

**Treatment** – Manual removal requires digging up and removing all parts of the plant, including the tuber, leaves and flowers. The plant material must be bagged securely (e.g., in a snap-lock bag) to prevent the fine dust-like seed from spreading further.

Currently this weed has been recorded in relatively small numbers in Chewton, Redesdale, Elphinstone, Taradale, Walmer, Barkers Creek, Sutton Grange, Ravenswood and Harcourt.

This information is taken from the Connecting Country Blog found at:

<http://connectingcountry.org.au/11/south-african-weed-orchid-id-first-then-dig-out/>



## *Celebratory Lunch*

The Little Habitat Heroes group is holding a lunch to celebrate reaching their fundraising target. Thanks to the support achieved in their funding campaign, they have enough to plant their first hectare of native bush.

The lunch will be held on Monday, 12th December at 12 noon at the Hub Plot on Templeton Street, Castlemaine (behind the Hub at 233 Barker Street). Please bring a plate of food to share and join in a communal spring season feast with friends from Growing Abundance.

### ***Collect your miniature trees.***

Local artist, Ann Ferguson, has made some beautiful ceramic trees for the little habitat heroes, which will be available for parents to pick up on the day. A thank you card with artist Trace Balla's campaign illustration will accompany each tree and will contain the names of those who donated to each child. If a parent can't pick up their tree and card on the day, let the organisers know and they will make other arrangements.

### ***Ask questions.***

Connecting Country staff will be at the lunch and able to answer questions about the site and the species that are going to be planted. It's also a great opportunity to meet the other families and discuss plans for tree planting and other site-based activities.

### ***Spread the word.***

The campaign will continue over Christmas and beyond, as trees make such special gifts. The tree planting day will be in June 2017, so there is still more time to raise funds to help with the costs of planting, maintenance and extra seedlings.

Please feel free to pass on this invitation. The more the merrier! The team looks forward to seeing you there.

Little Habitat Heroes team: [www.littlehabitatheroes.org](http://www.littlehabitatheroes.org)

*Little Habitat Heroes aims to contribute to the restoration of the landscape and give our children the gift of a personal connection with nature.*

**Book your Christmas function with us today!**



a Cnr Blackjack Road and Midland Highway, Harcourt | p 03 5474 3800

[www.asq.net.au](http://www.asq.net.au) | Where your great outdoors begin!

## ASQ Plant of the Month

### Bird of Paradise

Bird of Paradise are tough, low maintenance plants, that can withstand drought and are perfect for beginner gardeners! They are distinctive and striking, creating a feature in any garden. They are a great plant for poolside planting too. The flower resembles a brightly coloured tropical bird in flight, spectacularly shaped like a bird's beak and plumage. Depending on the conditions in which it grows, these spectacular blooms can continue in succession throughout the year.

## Keep Walking over Summer with Harcourt Walking Group

Castlemaine District Community Health's Harcourt Walking Group will continue walking throughout the summer, taking a break only on the Christmas and New Year public holidays.

Volunteer Wendy Barron says "our last walk for 2016 will be on Monday 19th December, and we will resume on January 9th 2017. We also welcome parents to join us over the school holidays; bring your children along and they will find some parts of Harcourt they have never seen."

This group meets at 9.30am on Mondays at the Harcourt ANA Hall and Museum. This weekly walk is free, but a small donation is collected for the cuppa after the walk.

To find out more about the Harcourt walking group, please call Castlemaine District Community Health on 5479 1000.



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## Grow Great Fruit Check for Pests and Soil Moisture

Your fruit trees are at their most vulnerable to pests and diseases in spring, and it's a good idea to keep a close eye on them, visiting them to say g'day at least once a week so you have a good chance of noticing any problems that appear and take preventive measures, before it gets too bad.

This month watch out for pear and cherry slug on...you guessed it...your pear and cherry trees (though they're also not uncommon on plum trees). If you notice them as soon as they appear on your trees (before there are too many) it's easy to kill them by folding the leaf in half and squashing them (without pulling the leaf off the tree). They normally go through two or three generations each season, so the more you can get rid of when you see them, the easier it is to interrupt their normal life cycle.

Also at this time of year make sure your irrigation system is ready to turn on, even though we've had such good rainfall. Young trees in particular can dry out quickly as the weather starts to warm up, particularly on windy days. Even if you don't have any soil moisture monitoring equipment, it's easy to check by digging a small hole a little bit away from the base of your tree and feel the soil—it should be cool and slightly damp. The aim is to make sure your trees always have water available to them, without ever flooding them or letting them dry out. It's best to water slowly over a few hours, with a dripper at each tree.

*Hugh and Katie Finlay from Mt Alexander Fruit Gardens grow organic cherries, apricots, peaches, nectarines, plums, apples and pears on their farm at Harcourt. They also run an organic fruit growing online home-study course called Grow Great Fruit. Sign up for their free Weekly Fruit Tips newsletter at <http://www.opt-in.mafg.com.au/>, or visit the farm shop at 69 Dann's Road, Wed-Fri, 10am-4pm during the fruit season (Dec-April).*



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69 Dann's Road, Harcourt, 0409 706 784



# Pips 'n' All

## Prepare for Drier Weather

Hello Garden lovers,

Fortunately for our gardens, we are still enjoying regular rains although this may not last as a dry summer is now forecast. For the moment though, the garden is flourishing and moisture has not been a problem. It is still a good idea to start preparing for the hotter, drier weather before it arrives. Preparation may include testing irrigation systems and flushing drip lines. It may also include getting irrigation timers out of storage, installing new batteries and setting days and times ready for use. After a couple of hot summers, we will also be checking our garden hoses for leaks and perishing.

The end of spring and its lush growth and prolific flowering prompt the removal of the first flush of flowers and any long and heavy branches. We will be pruning Salvias, deadheading roses and trimming daisies with the aims of promoting a second flush of flowering and tightening up the foliage.

We will also remove many dead Iris flowers before they seed and spread too far. The Iris were spectacular this year and really added some beautiful height and colour to our garden. We have enough Iris in our garden for the moment, but it is always possible to retain one or two flowerheads to permit seeding for storage and use later.

It is a lovely time to be in the garden. Before the real heat of summer, it is a great time to do some last planting to add colour to your garden. I heard someone say recently that they buy plants in flower throughout the year as a way of ensuring that their garden always has something in flower. While it is not recommended to plant plants while they are flowering, if you removed the flowers this system could be very effective. Removing the flowers at planting time, allows the plant to concentrate its energy on settling in and producing new roots. At this time of year, it is also important to water regularly and well to compensate for a new plant's limited root system.

This month we are:

- Watering new plants;
- Staking & feeding the tomatoes;
- Deadheading the roses;
- Tying down soft new branches of espalier fruit trees;
- Harvesting cherries; and
- Watering peaches and apricots.

This month in the woodland:

- Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*) is flowering
- Hoary Sunrays are finishing flowering (*Leucochrysum albicans*)
- Scented Sundew (*Drosera whittakeri*) and Slender Rice-flower (*Pimelea linifolia*) are flowering.
- Magenta Stork's-bill (*Pelargonium rodneyanum*) is flowering.

*Happy Gardening Janyce*



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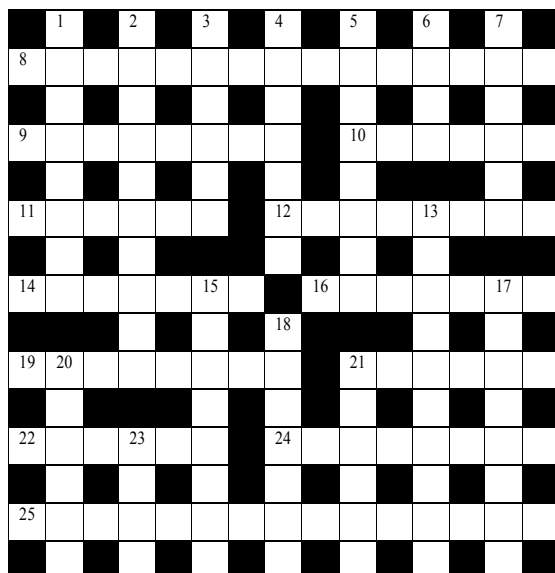


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**Down:**

1. What you might come across wandering solo, like an overcast sky? [8]
2. It isn't game to be less than certain; it isn't a gem, either, surveying thus. (I'm a testing routine, sometimes...) [10]
3. Made it respectable after it died and curled up. [6]
4. At least clap twice for dual pap. [7]
5. Lets go about rental agreements. [8]
6. Junior continent sounds between pews. [4]
7. Huns may clomp around east to make us do their bidding. [6]
13. Lice with acumen may present as representing everyone. [10]
15. Rip phone off the wall, put it in hopper, and dance one of these! [8]
17. No longer needed for sender of mobile message when complete? [8]
18. Pig on wheels? [4-3]
20. The sound of a frayed rope makes me more than anxious! [6]
21. Charm taken to extremes in Python film. [6]
23. Concoct a view? (4)

**Across:**

8. Printmaker gets the wrong idea? [5,10]
9. Has the imprimatur if coal; if solar, it hasn't. [8]
10. Take one container from wobbly Mexican pet and not have to pay the fee. [6]
11. Third cause of Hundred Years' War. [6]
12. Yum! Eels 'n gravy, with little boys on the side! Why do you take it amiss? You think it's this? [8]
14. Sounds not much, usually off-hand but missing a loud pedal (and if it were as it sounds, you'd take it amiss). [7]
16. *Que?* Rats! I need one of these to angle the drawings properly. [1-6]
19. Impromptu court for bloke hopping into a neighbour? [8]
21. Cloudburst might regularly medicate stock. [6]
22. Stumble on journey to Cairns (from Melbourne or Ballarat)? (4,2)
24. Princess, gin, the works—it's enough to make you lose your mojo... [8]
25. What wharfies did to disappear import? [15]

November 2016 Xword **SOLUTION** ©McW '15



**Down:**

1. A pre-game precaution might be to check that this is steady rather than fluctuating in this way. [8]
2. Recent maps don't show it (will publisher repent scam?) but we owe that man respect who found it and climbed it. [10]
3. Thing that's never about me? [*Well?*]
4. Reductive process not done in-house [*Well?*]
5. About as deeply committed as is recklessly possible? [4-4]
6. Dragon [*Well?* Sm. Aug...] gets rid of central character, becomes complacent. [4]
7. We only catch a fragment of the chants. [6]
13. Outcome of heavy steam-engine standing in for combine harvester? [*Well?*]
15. Not an arid bone in Biro dean's makeup, but there's an idea born that this rabid one could not do-in bear in a bed or be anything but cheerful and self-assured. [8]
17. At Red Hills, the drill he's been using often sounded like birds' strident calls. [8]
18. We could bag eats at the kiosk, and then come back and use these to make cheap drinks. [3-4]
20. A vegetable, or a cheese? Too green for cheese... [*Sorry...*]
21. Reed, MP (call me Fiona) went to Mr Deep Wave's hairdressing outfit, and came away like this. [6]
23. Online agent to see something [*Well?*]

**Across:**

8. What state am I in if I want seven for the Camira (according to Kerrigan of *The Castle*)?
9. Ten years [*decade*] when Darwin [N.T.] is showing moral deterioration. [8]
10. Walk it to the tax office [ATO] in a smooth, flowing manner... [6]
11. Even an earlobe could be one of those animals that sit on your knee... [*Well?*]
12. Spade is brought near: thus it discovers stuff. [8]
14. Noted for their great feet? [*Well?* Leg-ends!]
16. Baffled beside fiscal hole? [*Well?*]
19. Schoolhouse for a snail? [*Well?*]
21. Use screwdriver as opener [*pry*] and get toe chopped in what could be averse! [6]
22. Surrendered in vain; e.g. donated after pestering? (4,2)
24. Birds to warn slob—all over the place, silently. [4-4]
25. The focal points of retail therapy? [*Well?*]



## Batteries.. Just One!

Having hunted for one 'C' sized battery on the shelves of the two Castlemaine IGA supermarkets without success; I decided I could do without a replacement battery. I dislike wastage and the thought of buying two, three or five batteries encased in plastic and cardboard, when I only needed one, was, to me, wasteful.

However I do enjoy the ticking of my glass and steel world clock. At a glance, I can see what time it is in Faraday when I come in for breakfast. I can also note the time in Greece where my sister lives and immediately think of summer and blue skies seas and wistfully wonder when I'll next take a dip in Aegean seas.

My world clock does not work without a battery.

On another shopping day, I ask the lady at the Castlemaine Newsagency, 'Do you stock single batteries please?' 'No', is the answer.

My clock languishes on the piano. To avoid daily disappointment, I turn its face to the wall.

A week passes and I'm ready to give up my principles, admit defeat and buy whatever quantity of pre-packaged batteries I need to buy, in order to get a single 'C' battery. I acknowledge sadly, there may be one, two (or even more) 'C' batteries languishing around my house for months (or years), eventually to be used if possible, but more likely, to end up in the rubbish bin, having lost their zing).

I simply want to see and hear my world clock ticking each morning.

In Barker Street, I walk past the Castlemaine Timber and Hardware shop. Somehow it seemed really important that I try one last time. It won't hurt to ask, although I expect another 'No' to my question.

'Yes, we do sell single batteries', was the response. I thought momentarily that the inaugural Annual Local Environment Award (Sub-Section 3: Careful Consumer Spending) was in the bag - not only for myself but for Allison and her boss, who like me, deplore wastage.

No doubt there'll be a number of people who will write in to suggest it would be much better (of course!) if I had a re-chargeable battery and a battery re-charger. I can't deny they're correct. Still, one non-reusable battery is better than two, three or five.

And my world clock is now reminding me of Greece...

*Regards from Jill Loorham*

## Harcourt Leisure Centre

### *Twenty Five Years - NOT a "White Elephant"*

Twenty-five years have now passed since the opening of Harcourt Leisure Centre. The official opening was performed by the Hon Neil Tresize, then Victorian Minister for Sport and Recreation. The Minister, better known as "Nipper" Tresize the former Geelong footballer, unveiled the commemorative plaque on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1991, congratulating the committee on bringing to life their vision of a large, modern community facility. President of the Committee is Ray Rice, who was chairman of the public hall committee in 1983 when the idea of a new community hall was mooted. Jane McLean and Jan Jenkin have been the driving force behind the catering committee while John Jenkin, Des Rice, Norm Jenkin and Tyrone Rice are foundation members of the committee which has maintained the facility for the entirety of the twenty-five years.

At their recent meeting, the committee members reminisced about the effort that was put into getting the building off the ground. Population growth in Harcourt by the mid nineteen-eighties had meant that the ANA Hall was too small to host community gatherings. A poll of local residents came out strongly in favour of locating the proposed new community hall at the Recreation Reserve. The committee then set about fundraising while, at the same time, with a group known as "dad's army" they undertook much of the site works and building tasks. Among these tasks was the demolition of the football club rooms, which had long out-lived their usefulness, having started life as a workman's hut at the Cairn Curran Reservoir construction camp. Eight years of hard work, mostly of a voluntary nature, went into the new building. Some very generous donors came forward; among these was Jack Merlo, who gave the timber for the entire floor. Funds from government (at all levels) were only obtained in a trickle-down fashion, prolonging the construction timetable by several years. The Leisure Centre building, at that stage incomplete, was branded '*a white elephant*' by an unsuccessful candidate in the 1986 local government elections. Despite this dire prediction the facility has proven to be in constant demand.

Usage of the Leisure Centre has grown phenomenally, with up to three groups using the premises concurrently on some days. Building additions since 1991 have seen the expansion of the kitchen/meeting room and the addition of the East Room, while new tennis/netball courts were constructed adjacent to the Leisure Centre. Ultimate control of the facility was transferred to Mount Alexander Shire by D E in 2013. The original Leisure Centre committee remains largely intact and continues to raise funds to improve the premises and replace equipment. In addition to providing sporting facilities, the Leisure Centre is available for hire and can cater for any size function from family get-togethers to a state-wide rally.

*George Milford*



The Harcourt Lions Club will be continuing the tradition of organising an Australia Day celebration in Stanley Park in Harcourt. The celebrations will take place on Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017, from 8:00am onwards.

Australia Day Awards will be presented to members of the Harcourt & District community members after 9:30am.

The Harcourt Lions are now calling for nominations for **Youth of the Year** and **Community Member of the Year** Awards. Details of eligible persons are listed below.

**Please submit all nominations by no later than Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017** to the Harcourt Lions Club. Nominations can be by post or email to the address details below. If you have any queries, please contact Grant Victor-Gordon on 0410 261 338.

All members of the public are invited to join us in celebrating Australia Day in 2017 and help us to thank those very special members of our Community who have made such valuable contributions to Harcourt and the District in 2016.

## NOMINATION FORM

## 2016 HARCOURT &amp; DISTRICT

## YOUTH OF THE YEAR & COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Nominations are open to residents of Harcourt Valley, Taradale, Sutton Grange, Metcalfe, Faraday and Elphinstone who are Australian Citizens and have lived in the district for at least 2 years. They must have made a significant contribution to their Community in the past or present.

Youth of the Year is restricted to residents under 25 years of age. The Award is for outstanding achievement in the last 12 months. It can be for academic, sporting or community service.

- ☐ **Youth of the Year**
- ☐ **Community Member of the Year**

**Nominated Person:** .....

Residential Address: .....

Phone/Mobile: .....

Email: .....

Person making Nomination: .....

Address: .....

Phone/Mobile: .....

Email: .....

Signature: .....

Seconder of Nomination: .....

Signature: .....

Reasons for nominating (attach extra sheet if needed)

[illegible]

M: PO Box 100 Harcourt VIC 3453  
E: [harcourt@lions201v1-4.org.au](mailto:harcourt@lions201v1-4.org.au) or visit our  
W: [www.harcourt.vic.lions.org.au](http://www.harcourt.vic.lions.org.au)



# Community Diary Dates

**December 12th:** 7.30 pm ANA Hall Applefest Committee

**December 11th:** 12pm Barkers Creek Landcare Christmas Celebration Taproom Castlemaine

**December 12:** 12pm Habitat Heroes lunch, Hub Plot Templeton Street, Castlemaine, bring a plate to share

**December 8th:** 6-6.45pm, Aqua Aerobics at Harcourt Pool

**December 15th:** 6.00pm Harcourt Valley Landcare Christmas Celebration, Oak Forest. 0467 670 271

**December 18th:** 3 - 6pm HPA Family Christmas Celebration; Barbecue in Stanley Park

**December 18th:** 7.30 pm Christmas Carols in Stanley Park. (If wet, Uniting Church Hall).

**December 22nd:** HPA Community Christmas Party at the Bowling Club.

**December 25th:** 8am Christmas Church Service, Uniting Church.

**January 21st:** 1- 4pm Pool Party at Harcourt Pool.

**January 26th:** 8am Australia Day Celebrations, courtesy of the Harcourt Lions.

**January 26th:** Free entry to the Pool.

**Bowls Club Dates:** See pages 14 and 15

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

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

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

**Social tennis:** every Thursday at 7pm. This is a social evening for mature players to have a hit and giggle, BYO own refreshment. **Further information, contact Sharon Blake: 54 742680 or Faye Hards: 54 742580.**

**Walking Group:** Every Monday 9.30am. Meet at the ANA Hall. Last walk for 2016 December 19. First walk for 2017 - January 9th



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

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

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## **AUSTRALIA DAY 2017 COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January  
8:00 am – 10:00 am  
Stanley Park Harcourt**

**Free Community Breakfast (8:00 am – 9:00 am)**

followed by:

**Australia Day Awards  
Flag Raising Ceremony  
Guest Speakers  
Children's Activities  
Free Native Plant for families  
Free Local Entertainment**

Proudly organized by the **Harcourt & District Lions Club** with  
the support of the following business:

**Harcourt Auto Wreckers  
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Hot & Crusty Country Bakery  
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Harcourt Valley Vineyard**