

HARCOURT NEWS

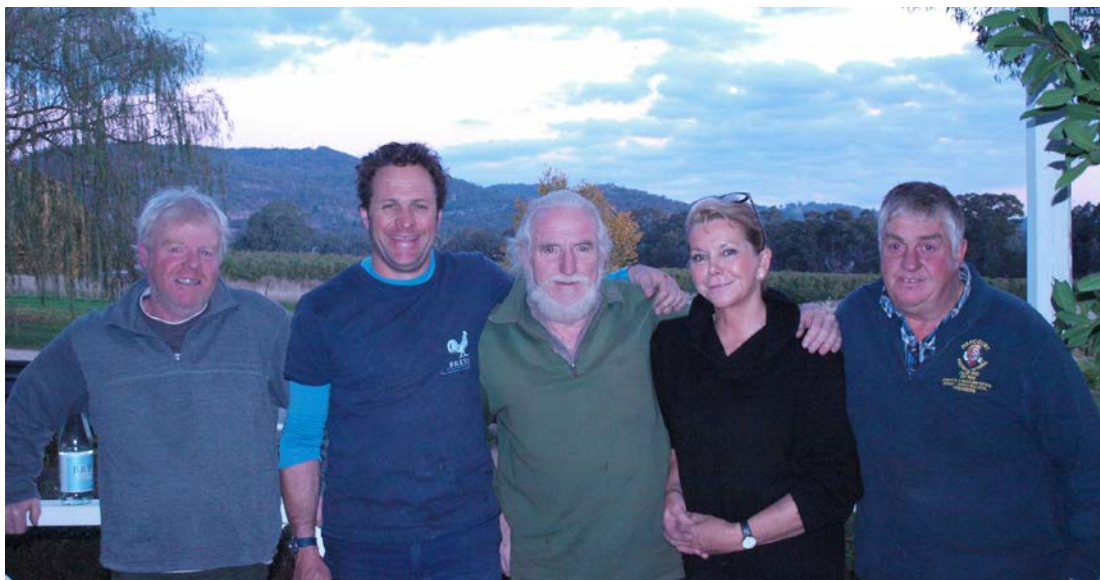
THE C^{ORE}

June 2014

HARCOURT NEWS - Edition 6
<http://theharcourtprogressassociation.blogspot.com.au/>

HARCOURT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

New Consortium to Boost Harcourt's Economy



Consortium members: L to R, Gavin Lang, Adam Marks, Drew Henry, Dianne Baig and Rob Chaplin. (Absent, George Milford)

A new Consortium of growers and processors has emerged in Harcourt which will fuel economic growth in the area. The Consortium intends to bring about an economic resurgence based on quality, value adding and complementary enterprises.

The Consortium is made up of some of Harcourt's apple growers and cider makers in partnership with the Harcourt Co-operative Cool Store. Members of the consortium are Rob Chaplin of Chaplin's Orchards, Drew Henry of Henry of Harcourt, Adam Marks of Bress Winery and Cidery, Dianne Baig who is both a member and the Manager of the Project and the Harcourt Coolstore represented by Directors Gavin Lang and George Milford. Dianne described the Consortium's objectives as "creating diversification and options for growers, plus strengthening the supply chain through utilising and expanding the existing infrastructure of the Harcourt Cooperative Coolstores." **Continued Back Page**

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DEADLINES & PUBLICATION DATES

We aim to publish by the 3rd of the month except January. The deadline is the 24th of the month prior. Advertisers and Community Groups will be sent reminder emails.

ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card	\$10
Double Bus Card	\$20
1/4 Page	\$50
1/2 Page	\$75
Full Page	\$150

A Word from our Newly Elected Councillor -

Tony Cordy

As you will be aware I was elected to the Mount Alexander Shire Council as the Councillor for the Calder Ward on the 17th of May.

On behalf of the candidates I would like to thank all of those who participated in the election. With seven candidates the election was very competitive and I feel very fortunate to be elected to council.

My first week as a councillor has gone very quickly with the counting and declaration of the poll on Saturday 17th May and my first official duties on Tuesday.

On Tuesday I met some of the council executive staff and attended a briefing on issues that will go before council this week. Many routine matters are handled by council staff and the issues that are referred to council are often complex.

I have met all of the Councillors and they are all experienced in their respective fields and are well respected in the community.

When dealing with the diverse range of issues, that come to Council it is a given, that not all decisions will be unanimous in Council or agreed to by all members of the community. Please be assured that while serving on Council I will do my best to make decisions that are in the best interest of the community.

Some further information about me:

I am married with three adult daughters.

For the past five years I have commuted to Melbourne on the early train.

I am interested in cars and have a 1923 Ford truck waiting on restoration.

I have played the drums in bands for many years.

With an Engineering background I do most of the maintenance on my own vehicles and farm machinery.

Priorities for me during my time on Council:

- Maintain and develop sporting and recreation facilities.
- Improve services for older members of the community.

- Work for responsible use of Council Resources and funds.
- Maintain and protect significant historic buildings.
- Encourage development and retention of local jobs.
- Support the use of local trade's people and contractors.
- Care for the environment.
- Support the performing and visual arts.

Thanks again for your support and please feel free to contact me to discuss any issues that you feel Council should be addressing.

Best regards AG (Tony) Cordy



The Candidates line up at the Forum held in the Harcourt Leisure Centre on 6 May. The Forum was organised by the Harcourt Progress Association and moderated by Stephen Carthew, former Councillor.

Left to right: Tony Cordy, David Heath, David Petrusma, Ben Keogh and Jake Webb. (Absent: Irene Yerman and Ian Braybrook)

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On Tour with the CWA

Every successful tour needs a tour leader of exceptional qualities, and this is just what the ladies from the Central Victorian Branches of the CWA experienced on their recent outing to Como House.

Ladies from all branches, including Harcourt, gathered at the Castlemaine Railway station to catch the 8.06am train to Melbourne, only to find that it was a bus we were to catch, not a train.

But that didn't fluster us as it became very apparent that no matter what should befall us on that day, our tour leader, Helen Johnstone would be there to show us the way.

We were head counted, signed on, signed off, and marched onto the bus in an orderly fashion. Once seated we were given a reminder of what was in store for the rest of the day....our tour had begun....we were in safe hands.

I have seen photos of Como House but knew very little of its history, and was quite fascinated to hear that the Armytage Family had lived at Como for nearly 95 years, beginning when Charles and Caroline Armytage and their eight children moved into Como in 1865.

Now it turned out that Caroline was a pretty good tour leader herself, and after the death of her husband Charles in 1875, Caroline decided to take her children to Europe and for the next four years they travelled through Egypt, China, India, Russia and Japan. Even with servants, what an exceptional tour leader Caroline must have been to cope with all those, "are we there yet mum?"

How wonderful it was to hear the stories of the Armytage family, and to see the house complete with all the fittings and furnishings used by the last two Armytage sisters until they sold Como to the National Trust in 1959.

We even danced in the magnificent ballroom.

And then to cap it all off, our intrepid leader led the way to beautiful 'Umina', CWA Headquarters in Toorak. Here we were welcomed with sandwiches and soup, and had a chance to recoup, relax, and explore the beautiful surrounds before we were lead back to the buses and home. What a day! Well done Helen.

And now I hear that the beautiful gardens surrounding Como are to be sold off to pay for restorations to the historical home. Do yourself a favour and see Como and its beautiful gardens before this happens.

And come and say hello to us on the first Thursday of each month at 1.30pm at Harcourt Leisure Centre.

Until then,

Lyn Rule
Publicity Officer



The CWA Ladies get cheeky on the bus to Como House

Even more fun! The Harcourt CWA ladies shake a tail feather in the Como ballroom.



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Two Castlemaine riders leading the Men's 17 Division. Dillon McKenna (right) and Nic Simpson. Dillon won this race with Nic 3rd. Photo courtesy Jo Upton Photography.

Country and Metro Road Race Championships 2014

Castlemaine Cyclists Ruby Byrne and Dillon McKenna snare Gold medals at Country Championships.

Castlemaine Cycling Club has again pulled off an excellent weekend of Road Cycling Championships on the challenging circuits in the Harcourt area. About 380 cyclists over the 2 days experienced beautiful autumn weather as they contested the Victorian Country Championships on Saturday and the Victorian Metro Championships on Sunday. On Saturday riders travelled from as far away as Albury, Mansfield, Cobram, Shepparton Warragul, Hamilton, Camperdown and the closer clubs like Bendigo and Ballarat. Castlemaine Club was well represented by 15 riders who brought home a total of 6 medals. Sundays racing included all of the Metropolitan Clubs such as St Kilda, Brunswick, Blackburn, Carnegie-Caulfield, Hawthorn and many more.

The local Harcourt community were an integral part of the weekend providing assistance in several ways. The CFA did a great job wrangling their members to provide essential marshalling assistance for the event. As usual, Harcourt made sure that the hungry cyclists and their supporters were well fed. The Harcourt Valley Primary School again provided a sumptuous menu and they were ably backed up by the 3 local food outlets and the coffee cart.

Identical programs for each day saw 3 waves of racing. Junior riders were first out onto the roads at 9.00am using the 12 km circuit from Market St to Reservoir

Rd, McIvor Rd and onto the final leg southbound on Harmony Way back to the finish line in Harcourt. Castlemaine Cycling Club saw Harrison D'Arcy 3rd over the line in the J11 division for a bronze medal. Montana Collier came in 4th in the W11 division. Ruby Byrne was the next local medallist. Ruby raced for Gold in the W13 and tackled the tough 12km circuit with the boys for her successful day out. Jacob Collier came in 4th in his group of M13riders. Edward Revell and Corey Nichol represented their club well in the strong M15section over 3 laps of the course, a total of 36km.

The 10.30 am wave took the next divisions over a combination of 2 courses, firstly 2 laps of the 12km course then onto a 56km loop from Harcourt, south to Elphinstone, left through Sutton Grange to the Sedgwick corner and left back through the Nth Harcourt hills to the lumpy McIvor Rd section then onto the 4km downhill to the finish line in Harcourt. Local rider Victoria Luxton-Bain came in 2nd in the Elite Women after a hard race over this 80km circuit. The Elite men covered 2 laps of the large loop, a total of 112km and averaged 40.06 kph. The gold medal in this event went to Shepparton rider Trent Stevenson.

In the 3rd wave of riders at 1.30pm, Castlemaine was well represented in the M17 division over 56km. Dillon McKenna, Nic Simpson, Harrison Douglas and Jordan Jackson all faced the starter. Dillon, who has already made his mark at the National level in MTB, and Nic Simpson were both very aggressive participants in this bunch. They lead a break-away group which split the field in half. Both worked hard bringing a small bunch to a sprint finish. Dillon took out first place with Nic in third. *Continued Page 5*

Country and Metro Road Race (cont from Page 4)

These riders were split by promising Bendigo rider Isaac Buckell.

The Masters 4&5 group also over 56km saw 2 Castlemaine riders face the starter with Daniel Abotomy MMas4 and Dean Andrews in MMas5. Daniel contested a very close sprint finish and emerged with the silver medal. Dean in the MMas5 drew some incredibly tough opposition with ex Olympian Stephen Fairless and other Masters national champions. This provided some great racing with Dean who finishing just outside of the placings. Full results are available on the Cycling Victoria website.

The Cycling Club wants to thank the Community for the continued support and hospitality shown to the thousands of cycling related visitors to the area each year. Harcourt has a growing reputation amongst the racing cyclists in Victoria, and the Castlemaine Cycling Club is pleased to be an integral part of this local expansion of the sport and also helping to expand the tourism potential of the Harcourt area and Mt Alexander Shire. There will be three more major events in the area this year. Sat 21st June will see the Maldon and District Community Bank Time Trials held on Harmony Way, south of Harcourt from 12.00 to 4.00pm. On the afternoon of Sat 6th Sept will be the Ken Maddern Snr Memorial Road Race Handicaps on the same two courses as the May races. Finally, on the evening of Friday 21st Nov there will be the Tour de Bress Super Crits. This will be the richest cycling race in Victoria and will be held in Central Harcourt. It will be a twilight event starting from 5.00pm and going through until about 8.00pm. The huge prize money is expected to draw some big name riders from across Australia and provide an amazing spectacle.

*Shirley Amy
Events Secretary*

Castlemaine Cycling Club Inc



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News from the

Harcourt Progress Association

The busy times continue....

This past month has been extremely active for the Harcourt Progress Association. Hot on the heels of the Easter Egg Hunt, the HPA and the Harcourt Bowling Club hosted a community celebration during National Volunteer Week. Thanks to all the hard work of our community's volunteers - this place wouldn't be the same without you!

We also organised a "MEET THE CANDIDATES" forum at the Harcourt Leisure Centre. Five council candidates presented themselves to a room of 60 local voters. It was a great example of democracy in action and wonderful to see the good will and respect shown by and to the candidates. Well done to all who made the effort and stood for the Calder Ward. Congratulations to our newly elected representative, Tony Cordy. We look forward to working closely with Tony to achieve positive growth and benefits for the Harcourt community and surrounding Calder ward.

Speaking of working with Council.....they have asked the HPA to nominate its 10 top priorities as contained within the Harcourt Community Plan which Council can assist in supporting and advancing. That's a tough call given that there are 84 actions identified within the Plan!! We gave it serious thought and weeded out quite a number of tasks where we don't think Council can assist us, or where we, as a community, can tackle things ourselves. As to where and how Council can help, here's the list we came up with....

1. Improve our town centre: work with community to consolidate the town centre
2. Create a visual statement at the freeway exits & in the town centre to draw people into Harcourt
3. Obtain funding to establish an improved all abilities playground
4. Improve the facilities in central Harcourt: Re-configure the public toilets at the Swimming Pool to provide year round public access
5. Improve accessibility for people with disabilities & parents with prams: level the surface of Stanley Park North, address drainage issues and maintain the grassed areas to increase amenity and use

Continued page 6

Harcourt Progress Association (from page 5)

6. Increase access to sustainable transport options: lobby state government to re-open the Harcourt Station
7. Make Harcourt Victoria's premier mountain biking destination: support the implementation of the Mountain Bike Park proposal
8. Improve and protect our natural landscape: Construct a walking trail around the Barkers Reservoir.
9. Develop a new residents' kit that includes information about all services, businesses & tourist attractions in Harcourt.
10. Develop a long term strategy to ensure the viability of the swimming pool

What do you think? Give us your feedback on our facebook page, visit the HPA blog or come along to our next meeting. Roll on winter.....we could do with a spot of hibernation!

Jacqueline Brodie-Hans
Secretary

Scooter Safety at Harcourt Valley Primary School

Students at Harcourt Valley Primary School are getting geared up to ride their scooters and bikes safely on the footpaths and roads in our community.

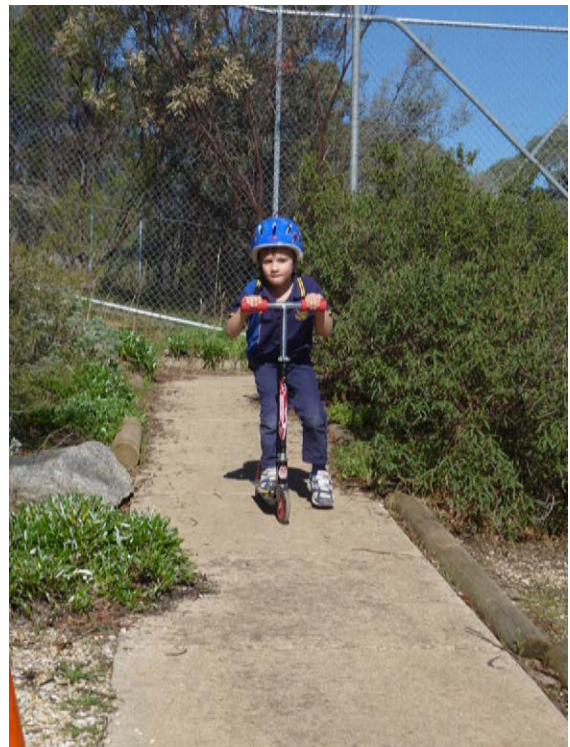
Students from Prep to six have been participating in scooter and bike education lessons over a two week period.

Students have been working on developing their balance, confidence, skills and knowledge by working with bike education trained staff members.

Students and parents have responded well to the program with every student participating in the program.

The school says a big thank-you to Vic Roads for providing the Bike Education Challenge trailer. The students have taken full advantage of the many resources in the trailer. This program will be followed up by a Traffic Safety program later in the year.

Ben Walter



Students at Harcourt Valley Primary School practice their scooter safety skills

Five Reasons to Check Out the Mount Alexander CWA

The newly formed Mount Alexander CWA is up and running with four successful meetings held to date. I've been attending these meetings and I'd like to share why I enjoy going. It's a great opportunity to:

1. Meet and get to know new people from the Shire (and beyond)
2. Feel welcome in a warm and friendly environment
3. Get involved with partnering community events
4. Learn new skills such as crochet, fixing a tap or as an Association office bearer
5. Be part of a family friendly group that is inclusive of young children to play, create and partake in story time.

Why not come along and see if the CWA is for you? Next get together has a craft focus and will be held on Wednesday 11 June from 9 am at ANA Hall, High Street, Harcourt. Jeanette O'Keith - State Membership Chairperson will be visiting on this day.

Want to find out more? Contact the Secretary (Samm) via email: mountalexandercwa@gmail.com or phone: 0413 932 904.

To keep updated with meetings and events, follow their Facebook page >>>
www.facebook.com/mountalexandercwa

Genevieve Ward



The Harcourt Progress Association was established to support and encourage initiatives which benefit and strengthen the Harcourt community.

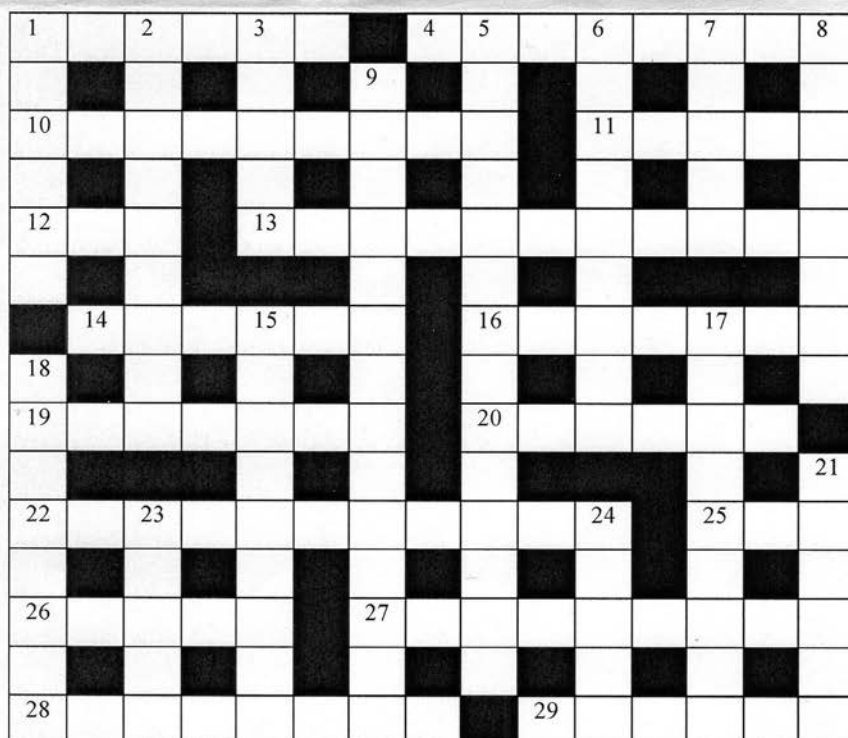
We are currently progressing actions and initiatives identified in the 2013 Harcourt Community Plan.

Our next general meeting is on Wednesday 18th June, 7pm - 9pm at the Harcourt Valley Primary School. All welcome to attend.

For more information visit our facebook page or our blog at

<http://theharcourtprogressassociation.blogspot.com.au>

Cryptic Crossword Challenge - crack the code of the cunning McW!



Across:

1. The killing of those above? That's the best aspect of it! (6)
4. Veto booster to end up tangled with all your eggs? (2-6)
10. Large bird gets bum stuck? (5-4)
11. He shaves and matches, we hear. (5)
12. Ancient aphorism to cut. (3)
13. Produced VW and flirted outrageously. (4, 1, 4, 2)
14. A claw sounds a bit like a special aptitude. (1, 5)
16. Condition of shy thug? (7)
19. All the way across and only one down is the corner of rectitude... (7)
20. The cars that might live these carefree lives... (6)
22. A slender lad was deconstructed here in WW1. (11)
25. Sweet police? (3)
26. Self-evident American chopper I owe mum? (Or Maree, or Mary...) (5)
27. Purely Caucasian achievement sounds like result of tanning in boots. (5, 4)
28. Striped quartz has look of cat. (5, 3)
29. Alcoholic alternative to Brand X. (6)

Down:

1. Foolish first uncle mixed with pigs. (6)
2. Carbon trading could produce what Mrs Porter and her offspring bathed in. (4, 5)
3. 500 sheets of A4 aspiration. (5)
5. Clearly treeless. (9, 5)
6. Judgement sounds a glorification. (9)
7. Whey-faced targets of Saddam? (5)
8. Othello's go-pedal? (8)
9. Dainty as a whore must be this as euphemism. (4, 7, 3)
15. Stocking makes limb a different temperature. (4, 7, 3)
17. Airport security stops mozzies? (9)
18. Sergeant-major's diatribe in right-wing magazine. (8)
21. Ay? Way between for lack of interest. (6)
23. Text: are you repenting? No repent. (5)
24. A point put on? My oath! (5)

May Cryptic Solution:

Across: 1 grigoryan chant, 10 imams, 11 insensate, 12 sawn off, 13 needers, 14 nervy, 16 romanians, 19 bass clefs, 20 domed, 22 open top, 25 matador, 27 ephemeral, 28 calve, 29 disinclination.

Down: 2 roadwords, gismo, 4 reinforce, 5 arson, 6 concerned, 7 amaze, 8 tsetses, 9, 21 nissan dormer, 15 yachtsman, 17 muskmelon, 18 armadillo, 19 bookend, 21 see 9, 23 ethos, 24 peril, 26 tacit.



Wendy Barron examines the newly launched map.

Photo: Diana Cork

New Map of Mount Alexander Launched

For the first time a fully detailed and accurate survey of the Mt Alexander range has been undertaken and a topographical map produced by cartographer, Jase Haysom, for the Harcourt Valley Heritage Tourist Centre. It includes detailed notes on flora and fauna, history of the area, geographical features, quarries etc.

The newly created map shows a cornucopia of tourist destinations that cover interests such as walking, photography, bird watching and general exploration. All walking trails are clearly marked. You can even find the ruins of the Sericulture Farm which was started by visionary Mrs Bladen Neill in 1874. Unfortunately the climate proved too much for the mulberry trees and the venture was abandoned in 1877. These ruins remained hidden for many years until clearing of the pine forest revealed this little known part of our history. It is clearly marked on the map.

The new map was launched on 18th May to coincide with Heritage Week activities. The launch took place, appropriately, at Leanganook picnic ground on the mountain during the monthly Heritage Centre activity. This month's outing was titled "The Journey to Mt Alexander" - a guided tour leaving the Harcourt ANA Hall and finishing at the sericulture site.

The new map can be obtained from the website www.harcourt.vic.au Click on the tab "For the tourist" and select map.

George Milford

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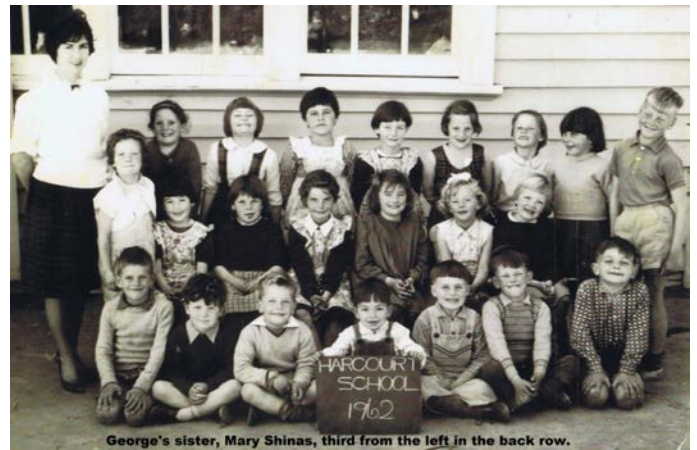
Harcourtians –

George Shinas

George Shinas is the proud owner of Shinas Estate in Irymple in the Sunraysia District of Victoria. There he produces wines that a loyal and growing clientele in Australia and overseas love. However, had things been different, this eighth generation winemaker may have returned to live in Harcourt and be turning his hand to cider making.

George was born in 1960, in the Castlemaine Hospital to parents from Greece, Denis and Angela Shinas. Their story, and that of their relatives in Harcourt, is similar to that of the many European migrants who came to Australia in the post second world war era seeking a better life and in their seeking contributing to the rich tapestry of Australia.

Denis and Angela met and married in Melbourne after his arrival in 1952 and hers in 1953. City living was good to them but they yearned for a less hectic country life. Angela's brother Spiro Christopolous had already settled in Harcourt in 1956 on a property near the corner of Coopers Rd and Reservoir Rd and spoke well of the place. In 1959, Denis, Angela with daughter Mary along with Chris Fortis, married to Angela's sister Helen, and Chris and Helen's children Gina and Toulia moved to Harcourt. Denis went into partnership with Chris in an orchard on North Harcourt Rd.



Caption on photo says: George's sister, Mary Shinas, third from the left in the back row.

"Country life was good but cash flow was always an issue", explained George. "In the 1960s, the European Union had a major impact on some of Australia's overseas markets. This affected the apple industry. Dad decided to keep his interest in the orchard but also buy a restaurant that would generate a more even cash flow. I was only three. Long restaurant hours weren't a happy mix for a kid so I was left with my Aunt Helen and Uncle Chris while Dad and Mum ran a restaurant in Echuca. I stayed with my Aunt and Uncle until I was school age, by which time Mum and Dad had a restaurant in Mildura.

Although I lived in Mildura and went to school there, every school holiday I would be back in Harcourt. I was a child of two towns until I was 15 years old. Dad would put me on the Murray Valley Bus in Mildura and I would travel under the watchful eye of the driver until I was collected by my Uncle in Harcourt.

Dad and Uncle Chris sold the orchard on North Harcourt Rd and Uncle Chris bought a property on the then Calder Highway – Fortis Orchard. At the time it had cherry, plum, apple and pear trees. Uncle Chris replanted a lot of the orchard. To add to the Jonathans, he put in Golden and Red Delicious, Granny Smiths and later Pink Lady apples.

Continued Page 11



The original Fortis Apple Shop. Photo Wendy Barron

Harcourtians (continued from Page 10)

To increase his profit margin, he decided to direct sell and established The Fortis Apple Shop. With Dad's experience in the restaurant business he introduced a cool room to his farm. This meant that he could extend what was then a two month selling season up to six months. He also ended up selling fruit for other orchardists.'

For me Harcourt was always associated with freedom. Holidays at Harcourt involved playing tennis with my cousins, yabbing in the channel which seemed to me, with its beautiful trees, like a creek, fishing in Cairn Curran, mushrooming on Mt Alexander and swimming in the pool. I remember the old pool was filled with channel water.

My strongest memories are of the Fortis Orchard. I feel I actually grew up there. It wasn't all play. I helped my Uncle in the orchard, replanting, picking fruit, pruning and ploughing. I remember when I was very young learning to drive on his old grey Fergie tractor and to use a shot gun to hunt rabbits away from the small apple trees. The rabbits were a constant battle.

After leasing Fortis Orchard for several years and going to Greece Uncle Chris came back to run it again but he was getting on and wanted to sell. I had my heart set on buying it but my wife didn't want to live in Harcourt so that sealed it.

But the place is still part of me. The sun rises over Mt Alexander, the mists and the crisp air. The place is just magical."

*Jenny McKenry,
Dandura Alpacas*



Community Diary Dates

June 5 - CWA Meeting - 1.30pm, Harcourt Leisure Centre

June 11 - Mt Alexander CWA, 9 am onwards, ANA Hall

June 12 - Landcare Meeting, 7.30pm ANA Hall

June 18 - Harcourt Progress Association 7 - 9pm, Harcourt Valley Primary School

June 22 - Harcourt Heritage Museum monthly activity Keith McKenry, Australia's foremost folklorist and performance poet, will give a talk on "Australia's Lost Folk Songs" 1.30 pm at Harcourt Heritage Centre , High St, Harcourt.

July 20 - Harcourt Heritage Museum monthly activity - 1.30pm Jarrod Coote "Hidden Aspects of Mount Barker"

August 24 - Harcourt Heritage Museum monthly activity - 1.30 pm Kent Bates "The Australian Flag"



Federal Member for Bendigo

LISA CHESTERS MP

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Harcourt Bowling Club News

End of Season Presentation Night and Annual General Meeting for Harcourt Bowling Club

Keen bowlers enjoyed the fun of the afternoon and were able to bowl 16 ends before rain interrupted play on Saturday 2nd May.

Despite the cooler weather there was a good attendance of members and friends for the Annual season end and Presentation Night. A delicious variety of casseroles and desserts provided by members added to the warm atmosphere.

Assisted by Vice President Moira Straw, President Ron Richardson thanked all members for a good season despite not being able to bring home a Pennant.

Moira paid tribute to the memory of Doreen Gaasch noting her lengthy membership and contribution to the Club.

Trophies awarded were:-

Men's Singles - Winner Phil Clarke, Runner up Ken Delmenico

Men's Drawn Pairs –Winners Leo Moloney and Daryl Gale, Runners up Kevin Holschier and Russell Maltby

Ladies' Singles –Winner Heather Braid, Runner up Kay Francis

Ladies' Drawn Pairs – Winners Heather Braid and Marj Liddicoat

Ladies' 100 up - Winner Moira Straw, Runner up Heather Braid

Grant Pairs - Ron Richardson and Amy Rice, Runners up Gary Maddern and Doreen Phillips

Ben Rice Memorial (Triples) – Winners Terry Chisholm, Grahame Hill and Chris Anderson, Runners



Presentation night recipients

up John Grant, Ken Tribe and Kaye Grant

"8" pins were presented to Ken Tribe, Chris Anderson, Russell Maltby and Allan Harris for scoring the highest possible score in an end of Pennant.

Harcourt Bowling Club conducted its Annual General Meeting on Sunday 18th May. The presentation of the Annual Report included the audited financial statements which highlighted that the club is in a healthy position financially. Retiring President and Board member Ron Richardson thanked all of the volunteers of the various sub- committees making particular mention of the Board for their support and dedication.

Ron wished the club and Pennant Teams greater success in the next bowling season.

Nominations for the Board were declared and votes taken.

The newly elected Board were John Starbuck (President), Moira Straw (Vice President, Ladies), Allan Nicholls (Vice President, Men), Joan Jenkin (Treasurer), John Grant (Secretary), Heather Braid, Grahame Pogue, Russell Maltby, and Chris Anderson.

Members are reminded that the green is still open for use. Friday social nights continue to be well attended and newcomers are always made welcome. Sunday Jackpot Pairs have had a disappointing attendance and members wishing to play are encouraged to have their names in (names on the board out front) by Friday evenings.

*Chris Anderson
Publicity Officer*



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K J's Painting

BUSINESS UPDATE

Friendly One-stop-shop for Car Parts and Car Sales on the Midland Hwy

Local Harcourt residents, Anthony and Lorella Burns are the owners of Harcourt Auto Wreckers on Midland Highway, Barkers Creek. Anthony is a qualified panel beater and car enthusiast who previously ran a tow truck and break-down assist business, before purchasing Harcourt Auto Wreckers four years ago. His wife, Lorella, also works in the family business and takes care of Accounts, Payroll and Administration.

The business's main services include sale of used cars, used parts, and new parts as well as a fitting service. Anthony says "anything we sell, we fit. We also buy and recycle your old or damaged cars."

Harcourt Auto Wreckers employs six staff and their roles include stripping parts, detailing cars, fitting engines, fitting transmissions and preparing cars for recycling.

When asked about Harcourt Auto Wreckers' point of difference, Anthony explains that "we make sure all oils, fuels, coolant and air conditioning gas are caught and recycled responsibly". Anthony and Lorella enjoy helping out their customers and pride themselves on their friendly service and great prices.

Harcourt Auto Wreckers is open Mon to Fri 8.30am til 5.30pm and Sat 9am til 1pm and they can be contacted on (03) 5474 2432.

Pictured (L to R): Lorella & Anthony Burns, Dean, Jamie and Ben.





**Castlemaine District
Community Health**
Facilitating Better Health



Media release: Monday mornings for Mt Alexander Foothills Walking Group

Castlemaine District Community Health runs a number of affordable physical activity groups in the area. The Harcourt Walking Group which happens on Mondays is a recent addition, and part of their expansion of exercise programs throughout the district.

George Milford who is chairman of the Harcourt Heritage Committee, led the first walk on May 5th, and showcased the history of Harcourt. Participants have since then, met outside the Harcourt Museum and ANA Hall on High St, at 9.30am each Monday. They walk for up to one hour, and this is followed by a cuppa (\$1 donation) and chat. Fitness is not necessary, and anybody interested is encouraged to try it out.

Kerry Calcraft is a volunteer at Castlemaine District Community Health and nurse. She attends these walks, and does blood pressure readings before and after the walk. This ensures that the walkers are walking at a pace suitable to their fitness level, as a small drop in blood pressure is experienced after exercise.

“My doctor recommended exercise, and when I read that a local walking group was starting up, I was interested but hesitant as I did not want to go alone. I did attend, have formed many friendships within the group, and look forward to walking with the group each week”, says a participant of a similar walking group recently set up in Maldon.

The group have called themselves the Mt Alexander Foothills Walking Group, and as many have grown up in Harcourt the walks continue to be rich in stories of the past.

Those wanting further information should contact Liza Shaw at Castlemaine District Community Health on 54791000.



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Readers of The Core should be aware that Coliban is providing weekly updates on its website. See the box at the foot of this page for the web address. This excerpt is taken from there:

Latest news - 30 May 2014

Construction updates

Our contractor Redline has now constructed approximately 6.2 kilometres of backbone pipeline along parts of Mclvor Road, Danns Road and Harmony Way in Harcourt.

There has also been approximately 3.2 kilometres of smaller diameter poly pipe constructed in Mclvor Road and Eagles Road.

Construction of backbone pipe is currently progressing along Harmony Way (past Blackjack Road) moving towards Faraday.

Reticulation network construction is progressing along Eagles Road and Elys Road towards Leafy Lane. There are traffic restrictions in place along Eagles Road with access to local traffic only. Please consider this when travelling in the area.

See our Harcourt Rural Modernisation Project map for traffic management, pipeline progress and other project locations.

Road works/closures

From 7.30am on Tuesday 3 June to 5pm on Wednesday 4 June 2014, Faraday-Sutton Grange Road at the intersection of Harmony Way will have restricted access while pipeline construction is carried out.

Please be prepared for delays or partial road closures with traffic management in place during these times.

Barkers Creek Reservoir Upgrade

We will commence a series of essential works at Barkers Creek Reservoir commencing 7 May 2014. For more information see our Barkers

Creek Reservoir Upgrade page.

Tank construction

The second section of the external wall of the balancing tank in Harcourt Sutton Grange Road, North Harcourt has now been constructed. Preparations are now being made for the third and final section of tank wall to be installed. Traffic management is in place due to increased heavy vehicle movement at the site.

Shown below is a copy of the letter sent to the President of Harcourt Valley Landcare from Coliban Water about the draining of the Barkers Creek Reservoir. Customers of Coliban Water in Harcourt will have received a version of this letter.



Our ref: 306/257

Contact: Customer Support Team 1300 363 200

16 May 2014

Jarrod Coote
Harcourt Valley Landcare Group
Via email - jcoote@mmnet.com.au

Dear Jarrod

Controlled release to Barkers Creek

We wanted to let your group know about project works in your area.

We have commenced a controlled release of water from Barkers Creek Reservoir to Barkers Creek on Wednesday 7 May 2014.

As part of the Harcourt Rural Modernisation Project that is currently underway, we need to complete a number of essential infrastructure upgrades at Barkers Creek Reservoir. In order to do this, we need to drain the reservoir.

Approximately 1,200 megalitres will be released over a six week period. The site will be closed to the public for up to three months.

Barkers Creek Reservoir is an important part of the supply network for the new piped rural system. A floating arm offtake needs to be constructed to draw water from the surface of the reservoir, where water quality is better, to ensure a higher quality of water is supplied through the new piped system.

A new inlet structure to deliver water from the pipeline to the reservoir will also be constructed, together with hydraulic repairs on an existing outlet valve.

We have liaised with the North Central CMA, Fisheries and EPA prior to the release commencing and will continue to work with them during this project.

Once works are complete the reservoir will be gradually refilled from the Coliban Main Channel and southern storages, in time for the 2014/15 rural season.

Our site inspection identified you have some new plantings in the area. Whilst we don't expect this release to have an impact on the plantings, please contact our Project Manager Daniel Watson if you have any concerns.

For further information please refer to our Harcourt Rural Modernisation Project webpage on our website www.coliban.com.au and click Projects or contact our Customer Support Team on 1300 363 200.

Yours faithfully



Steve Healy
Manager Raw Water Supply

37-45 Bridge Street | PO Box 2770 | TEL : 1300 363 200 | WEB : www.coliban.com.au
Bendigo Victoria 3550 | BENDIGO VIC 3554 | FAX : 03 5434 1341 | AIN : 96 549 082 360



To see Coliban's weekly updates go to:

<http://www.coliban.com.au/site/root/projects/Harcourtruralmodernisation.html>



New Consortium to Boost Harcourt's Economy

From front page

The results aimed for by the Consortium are:

- Value adding to apple and pear crops through cider and perry production
- Introduction of a bottling line, producing product for both domestic and export markets for regional wine, cider and beer
- Exploration of new food and beverage products – leveraging and expanding existing local production.
- Introduction of expanded storage options for ambient and cold storage capacity to pave the way for warehousing and progression towards a distribution hub.

“There is also a proposed Bond* storage facility to meet requirements for future export market development, which will strengthen Harcourt’s warehousing and distribution capacity,” Dianne added. “There is also the opportunity to take advantage in the future, of the Bendigo to Melbourne Railway which runs through Harcourt,” she pointed out.

The Consortium members have confidence in the project due to their experience of the forces of the changing market and the opportunities this brings. They are also well aware that Harcourt produce is of the highest quality whether in its raw or processed

Harcourt's Harvest

state. Added to this is the capacity of the Coolstore which has significant scope for expansion in both refrigeration and storage. The assured water supply being provided through Coliban Water’s Harcourt Modernisation Project also underlies the decision to proceed with this venture.

Adam Marks summed up the optimism of the Consortium members, “I believe the Consortium can certainly (...) value add and change routes to the market. There’s enough old and new blood in the Consortium to do good things.”

This is a summary of an article written by John Fitzsimmons and published in Australian Fruitgrower by APAL in the June 2014 edition.

* “A bonded warehouse is a building or other secured area in which dutiable goods may be stored, manipulated, or undergo manufacturing operations without payment of duty... It may be managed by the state or by private enterprise. In the latter case a customs bond must be posted with the government. This system exists in all developed countries of the world. Bonded warehouses provide specialized storage services such as deep freeze or bulk liquid storage, commodity processing, and coordination with transportation, and are an integral part of the global supply chain.” Source: Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonded_warehouse

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A full colour Harcourt News/The Core can be accessed via the Harcourt Progress Association blog at: <http://theharcourtprogressassociation.blogspot.com.au/>

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