

HARCOURT NEWS

THE C^{ORE}

October 2014

HARCOURT NEWS - Edition 10

HARCOURT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

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

Harcourt Pool Opportunity

It's no secret that residents and visitors to Harcourt love the Harcourt Swimming Pool. It's a greatly cherished and well used community resource which locals have fought fiercely to retain. Obtaining greater community involvement to ensure the long term viability of the pool was identified as a key objective in last year's Harcourt Community Plan.

To help achieve this, the Harcourt Progress Association has entered into discussions with Council and the YMCA to achieve greater community involvement in the running of the Harcourt Pool. The YMCA have identified the opportunity to run the pool's kiosk as a way to support the YMCA staff to focus on their all-important role as pool lifeguards. It is proposed that money raised from the kiosk will go back into the pool and be allocated to improving an agreed facility or resource. The YMCA has a similar model in place at the Pyramid Hill swimming pool where the YMCA provide lifeguard and maintenance services working alongside a community Committee of Management.

The YMCA's contract to run local pools is due to be renewed and extended as

part of their existing management contract. Council have agreed to defer the decision to extend the YMCA contract and directed its staff to meet with representatives from the YMCA and the Harcourt community to work towards greater community engagement and involvement.

This is an exciting opportunity for the Harcourt community to help improve the operations of our much loved pool. It will only work if people get on board and offer their assistance as volunteers. Training and support will be provided and an information session will take place in early November.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Want to work at the Harcourt Pool this summer? Bendigo YMCA are currently recruiting for the upcoming pool season – find out more by emailing bendigo.ymcahouse@ymca.org.au and follow the HPA Facebook page where we'll be promoting job opportunities. It would be great to see local people employed at our local pool.

INSIDE

- Whole Town Garage Sale
- Football/Netball
- CFA
- CWA
- Bowls
- Pre-School
- Fruit tree care
- Book Launches
- Business Update
- Crossword

DEADLINES & PUBLICATION DATES

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

ADVERTISING RATES

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

Public Transport Forum in Harcourt

Thursday 23rd October, 7pm – 8.30pm at the Harcourt Bowling Club (venue tbc)

There's a lot of talk about proposed and potential growth in Harcourt – new housing, more residents and families, increased tourism and visitor numbers. But what does this mean for Harcourt's transport options and what can we do to ensure we get the public transport we want and that suits our needs.

Find out about the regional rail plans and the potential for re-opening the Harcourt train station at the public transport forum. Hear from the Transport Coordination Manager from the Department of Transport, Council's Director of Sustainable Communities and representatives from communities who have won the battle and succeeded in re-opening their railway lines.

If anyone can do it – Harcourt can!

Does Lack of Public Transport Affect You?

Have your say: only 4 – 6 places available.

Daniel Murphy is an Urban Planning student at The University of Melbourne who is completing his final year thesis which is investigating public transport accessibility in Regional Victoria, and he is looking for people who would like to be interviewed.

Daniel said, "I am investigating whether a lack of public transport in Regional Victoria leads to exclusion, and ways it may manifest. For example, an inability to access specialist services in Bendigo unless you own a car; or having to relying on a neighbour for 'a lift' to the shops because there are no bus services.

Based on some preliminary analysis, I have chosen Harcourt as one of the three case study towns. I am interested in talking to around 4-6 people who are willing to be interviewed about how they are effected by the lack of public transport in Harcourt. Each interview will comprise of 10 questions and will take approximately 30 minutes. **All interviews will be conducted in Harcourt or a convenient location to the participant.**"

If you are interested in participating or have any questions about Daniel's research, please don't hesitate to contact Daniel via his email address: danielm1@student.unimelb.edu.au.

Due to time constraints please email your expressions of interest by no later than Monday 6th October. Selection for participation will largely be determined on a first-in basis.

The full text of Daniel's request can be read on the Harcourt Progress association blog at:

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



- Lawn mowing
- Garden maintenance
- Pruning
- Weed control
- Rubbish removal
- Clean-ups
- Gutter cleaning
- General handyman

Police Checked & Insured



Register Your Burn Offs and Bonfires

The Brigade has been called out unnecessarily to residents' burn offs recently. To ensure this does not happen to you, it is important that you register your burn offs and bonfires by ringing the BURN OFF NOTIFICATION line on freecall 1800 668 511. Not only will this ensure that the fire brigade does not turn up expectantly to your burn off, but if your burn off does get out of control and you need to dial 000, your location details will already be in the computer. Put the number in your contacts on your mobile phone so that you always have it with you.

When registering your burn, you will be required to supply your name and contact phone number, location address of your burn off, size and type of material you are burning, start time and end time of your burn. It is also a good idea to let your neighbours know as well.

I have had a few people ask me when will fire restrictions start. Fire restrictions do not start on a set date, but rely on a number of key indicators throughout the shire that include the curing of the fuel, days since significant rain and daily temperatures. Weather forecasts for our area predict a drier than normal Spring so it is likely that fire restrictions will begin earlier than last year. Watch for official notification in local papers as well as local news bulletins on TV and radio or you can check the CFA website or call the Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667. This also means that the time to start preparing for this Summer is now!

Tyrone Rice

Captain

Harcourt Fire Brigade

HARCOURT

HARCOURT VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL'S

Inaugural

Whole Town Garage Sale

Maps available at Harcourt Valley Primary School in Wilkinson Street from 7.45am.

To register your house for \$20 or book a site at school for \$15 call

Donna: 0418138101 or Jacq: 0418355460

Registrations must be received and paid in full by Friday 17th October.

BBQ and refreshments available at school.

Saturday, October 25 - 8am to 3pm



Harcourt Valley Heritage Centre

The ANA Hall looks like just a country hall from the outside BUT when you walk inside, you are transported into another world. Some will know this phenomenon as The Tardis with The Doctor in charge of navigating this craft through time & space. Here in central Victoria, we at Harcourt Heritage are in charge of guiding this craft back through the past, while keeping the contents safe for travelling into the future. Like the Tardis the inside of the ANA Hall seems larger due to the ENORMOUS data base of knowledge that has been built up over the last 40 years.

It was announced this week that the map of Mt Alexander produced by our members has been acknowledged in the Mt Alexander Heritage Awards. The Judges note; *The production of a map & interpretive information about the flora & fauna, historical events & features of Mt Alexander enhance our knowledge of the area. The history of the Harcourt area, the importance of the Jaara Jaara/ Dja Dja Wurrung people, its orchards & quarries make fascinating reading. The finely detailed topographical map will provide all those who wish to explore with an opportunity to learn more about this special place.*

The best news is that anyone can access it from our website: <http://harcourt.vic.au>.

The map is also available from either of the copy centres in Castlemaine if you want a large format or laminated copy.

We hope to give you a glimpse each month into this magical world at ANA Hall; or come & see us any Weds for a chat & a look. Be AMAZED at what is on your doorstep.

Diana Cork

Caring For Your Fruit Trees

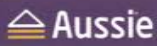
Your fruit trees are at their most vulnerable in spring, both to a range of pests and diseases, and to environmental conditions like rain and frost. Luckily over the last ten years we've experienced almost every problem a fruit tree can face, and have come up with organic solutions to (almost) all of them! With some care and attention, it's possible to protect your trees from most of the common problems that stop people picking a great crop of fruit from their backyard trees. **Here's our top three tips for the month:**

- Most fruit trees benefit from being sprayed with an organic fungicide before it rains (yep, you need a crystal ball for this one!). Copper is the most effective spray that's allowed on organic trees, but too much is not good for the soil, so don't put on more than one copper spray a year. After that use wettable sulphur instead (available at garden supply shops). Keep an eye on the weather, and try to get a spray on your trees before it rains. A rainy spring is not the friend of the fruit grower - more than about 25mm of rain will mean any spray you have applied has washed off, and you may need to re-apply it. While you're keeping an eye on the weather, watch out for frost alerts, and get your most vulnerable trees covered with some frost cloth.

- One of the most prevalent (and annoying) pests of cherries, apricots, peaches and nectarines are earwigs and garden weevils. Luckily, because they're crawling insects, it's easy to prevent them getting into your trees by applying either horticultural glue or double-sided tape around the trunks of your trees. A suggestion: do it early in the season (now is a good time) because once the earwigs have taken up residence in the tree it can be hard to get them out! (Note - this solution only works if there's no other way for the critters to get into the trees, so keep the grass mowed around the tree so you're not providing an 'insect ladder'.)

- Give your trees a feed with a good organic compost or well rotted manure as we go into spring. Your trees produce flowers and the first leaves using stored nutrients, but then they'll be looking for some food from the soil. A note of caution: avoid artificial fertilisers, because they're very harmful to the beneficial microbes in the soil that are so important to healthy soil, and the basis of the ancient system of natural fertility that feeds your trees.

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 the Grow Great Fruit program for home fruit growers. As part of Fair Food Week, Hugh and Katie are running a FREE Grow Great Fruit workshop on Sunday, October 19. Bookings essential at www.mafg.com.au.



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Garden, gift and café

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Where your great outdoors begin!



MT ALEXANDER
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**FREE
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**Grow
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Fruit
Workshop**

Sunday 19 October, 10 am—12 pm



Learn how to
look after your
fruit trees,
avoid common
mistakes and
pick great fruit
every year!



You are invited to attend the **ART SHOW AUCTION & FUNDRAISER**

Sunday October 26th 2014

From 11.30am, Free entry

Tread Café Restaurant Motel

92 Calder Highway, Harcourt

*"Come and bid on the children's art to drive the prices
higher for Parents and Grandparents"*

Spit roast lunch is available from Tread Café from
12.30pm.

Cost is \$20 pp, children under 12 \$10



For any further enquiries or to
book for lunch, contact
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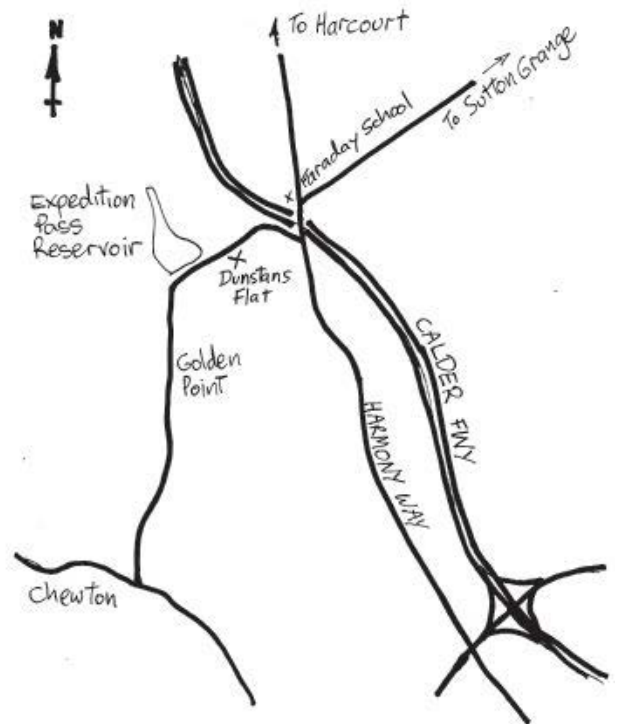
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You are invited to the launch of the book
"Kidnapped By Time"

A History of Faraday

Where: Dunstons Flat
When: Sunday, 5th October at 12:30



How to find Dunstons Flat

Kidnapped by Time is a history of the Parish of Faraday; written and published by volunteers from the Faraday Community Association with the assistance of a grant provided by the Mount Alexander Shire Council.

The book will be launched by a prominent Faraday identity, at Dunstan's Flat on Sunday October 5 at 12.30pm. It is expected to be finished by 1pm and light refreshments will be provided.

In the unlikely event of rain or poor weather, the launch will be held at the Harcourt Heritage Centre, Harcourt.

For further information please phone Anthea Matley on 0419 533 348.



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Wednesday Nights 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm



Harcourt CWA

September was a busy month for the ladies; a Group Conference held at the Harcourt Leisure Centre was a great success and a wonderful opportunity for all Branches in Central Victoria to get together. Not only did we hear our Group President, Ayron Teed speak of the continuing success of all our Branches, and see our State President Dorothy Coombes hold high her banner embracing all women, but our very own George Milford delighted everyone in his Mayoral robes and his comments on Harcourt's achievements, past and present.

Then two weeks later was our Concert and Collectables day. Now our ladies love an opportunity to dress up, act the fool, sing and dance, forget lines, and make our audience laugh. This we did in grand style that day which resulted in a great time being had by all. I must make mention here, that yet another of our male Harcourt residents delighted everyone in his robes, or rather, the lack of. With his hairy chest and wicked grin, Andy Graham's portrayal of the magic Genie will be a hard act to follow in the coming years.

This year our very own Ayron Teed has done an amazing job as Group President and at every opportunity she encourages us all to get on with whatever we are doing and have fun. September certainly was a fun month for us all, thank you to all my CWA friends for making it so.

Harcourt CWA meets at the Harcourt Leisure Centre on the first Thursday of each month at 1.30 pm and if you want to join in the fun, pop in for a chat and a cuppa.

Lyn Rule
Publicity Officer



REMEDIAL MASSAGE and NATURAL THERAPIES

Lara 0403 528 416 and Michael 0447 338 088



Above: Dorothy Coombes, Victorian State President, summed up our Conference beautifully.

Below: Ayron Teed, Group President of Central Victoria CWA and the unofficial Mayor of Harcourt, George Milford

Below left: Harcourt identity, Andy Graham, made a guest appearance as the Genie of the Lamp to present the Lucky Door prize.



Stanley Park 100 Years

Cr Anthony Cordy, Kevin Earl, Peter Cuffley and Patrick Cuffley admiring the plaque under the 100 year-old Bunya-Pine in Stanley Park.



Historian Peter Cuffley spoke at a celebration commemorating 100 years since Stanley Park was established. He said that Harcourt's residents were forward-looking in establishing the park in 1914.

It was just over 100 years previously that Governor Macquarie had reserved the site of the first public park in Australia.

Cr Anthony Cordy read a message from the present Governor of Victoria, His Excellency Alex Chernov.

The occasion gave the community the chance to recognize the efforts of the Harcourt Fruitgrowers Association, who established the park 100 years ago, and Kevin Earl, who, with Harcourt Lions Club, enhanced Stanley Park during the 1980s.

Patrick Cuffley said he was pleased to come along to hear his uncle speak; Patrick arrived in style, in a horse-drawn spring-cart driven by Col. Foster.

It was a light-hearted event staged on a sunny afternoon. Diana Cork was in charge of the activities and said the afternoon went very well. The afternoon concluded in true Harcourt style with afternoon tea at the Heritage Centre.

The Victorian Governor said in his message "It is important for all of us that historic events such as this one now be marked not be forgotten."

George Milford

Harcourt Cricket Club

Registration day saw a good start to the season with members enjoying practice at the nets and a barbecue for all the family.



Business Update

Based in Harcourt, Property Consultant, Di Selwood looks after your real estate needs for the areas of Harcourt, Castlemaine and surrounding districts. Having many years experience in both property management and sales Di can provide a complete real estate service for her clients.

A resident of Harcourt since 2007, Di and her family enjoy the country lifestyle, the relaxed pace and the overwhelming sense of community spirit. Di and her family are active in the community, with Di a member of the Lions Club and on the Harcourt Valley Primary School Council as the Fundraising Co-ordinator. The school will hold its inaugural Whole Town Garage Sale on October 25th and for anyone wanting details or to register they can find all the information at <http://www.wherevent.com> and search for Harcourt whole town garage sale.

Di is dedicated to helping prospective buyers achieve their dream of home ownership and ensuring Vendors are provided a service that is second to none with a tailored package to suit their individual real estate needs. Spring is traditionally the busiest time of year in the



Castlemaine, Harcourt & Maldon Region

Di Selwood
Property Consultant



Local Ph: **03 5474 2807**
Mobile: 0488 148 358
Fax: 03 8677 9033
Email: di@bendigopropertyplus.com.au

148 - 152 High Street,
Kangaroo Flat Vic 3555

property market, especially the period between 1st September and Christmas so for those wanting to take advantage of the increased activity, now is the time to get your home on the market. Di enjoys working in real estate and the opportunity it gives her to work with a fantastic team of people at Bendigo Property Plus, all striving to be the best at what they do. Di is very excited about her new role as their local agent here and being able to bring their “No Sale No Charge No Catch” program to her local area.

Di can be contacted on 0488 148 358 or email: di@bendigopropertyplus.com.au



HARCOURT
38 Blackjack Road



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Thanks Di for your fantastic work in selling our home in such a quick, professional and diligent manor. Your local knowledge and presence proved successful in selling our home in just 3 weeks despite it having previously sat on the market for some time with little action. Right from your first contact we had that feeling of comfort and reassurance with your bright and bubbly yet very professional approach, nothing was too much trouble and your service continued long after the contract was drawn.

**Thanks again
Murray and Helen**

Harcourt Bowling Club Starts the Season

A warm spring day was the perfect weather to mark the opening of the Bowling season at Harcourt.

President John Starbuck welcomed everyone and wished the club good luck for the season. John also welcomed new playing members present Joy Starbuck and Kaz Ryder. He invited Grace Jenkin to roll the first bowl of the season.

Two games of eight ends were played and although keenly contested, there was much laughter. The play was followed by a sumptuous afternoon tea and a lively rendition of "Happy Birthday" for Ron Frankling.

Winners on the day were Graeme Hill's team with Ron Frankling and Joan Bath. (pictured upper right) The runners up were John Grant's team with Myra Frankling and Iain McGibbon. (see picture below)

Pennant practise has commenced for ladies at 10.00 am Mondays and Wednesdays with the men's Pennant practise on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

Pennant competition will commence on Saturday October 18th for Weekend Pennant and midweek will commence on Monday 20th October.

The practise match at Marong was well attended. Members enjoyed the competition and camaraderie of the day – and the frustration of a fast running green. We were pleased to continue the good relationship we have established over many years with Marong. Thanks to Marong bowling club for the warm hospitality.

The Barbeque and bowls will start again on Tuesday October 28th commencing at 6.00pm. These events will continue each fortnight until the end of daylight saving. Harcourt Bowling Club welcomes all members of the community who wish to join in this fun social evening.



Season opening - the Winners!



Runners up on the season opening day

Barefoot bowlers and aspiring bowlers are encouraged to come and have a try – or just come for the barbie. Those attending are encouraged to put their name on sheet outside the door or phone the club on 54742494 to assist with catering.

Chris Anderson
Publicity Officer



Federal Member for Bendigo

LISA CHESTERS MP

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Day of the Morris Minor – Escape to the Country!

2 November 2015

Every two years Morris Minors from far and wide gather for a special Show and Shine Day – called ‘Day of the Morris Minor’ (DOMM). This year the DOMM is being held at the world famous ‘Morris Minor Garage’. The Venue is located at Ford Road, Harcourt North, Victoria.

This is such an exciting and new place to hold this event, as there is nowhere else in Australia where you can see so many restored and rare Morris Minors, including a Morris Minor Million, Morris Minor police car (ex.Scotland Yard) and a UK Royal Mail Van. There are also many other Morris and classic cars dating from 1925 in the museum.

For more details on the Morris Minor Garage go to www.morrisminorgarage.com

For those wishing to make a weekend of it, there is plenty of accommodation available in nearby Bendigo & Castlemaine. There will be plenty to see and do on the day, including visiting the Museum, local produce craft & market stalls, Garage Cafe, or bring your own picnic and sit under the apple trees and admire the view across the valley. B.Y.O chairs. During the course of the day there will be entertainment by the famous iconic Thompsons Foundry Band of Castlemaine.

The gates are open from 10am till 4pm, Entrance fee is \$ 2.00 per person.

For further information contact:

Mark Parritt 0403 194 021 - OR

president@morrisminorvic.org.au

We are looking forward to seeing you all at Day of The Morris Minor – Escape to the Country!



Day of the **MORRIS MINOR**

Escape to the Country

2 November 2014

Car Clubs | Farmers Market | Artists | Band | Views

Show & Shine Day **All Welcome**

Morris Minor Garage,
Ford Road, Harcourt North 3453

The gates are open from 10am

Entrance fee is \$ 2.00 per person

Contact: Mark Parritt 0403 194 021
president@morrisminorvic.org.au

Harcourt Football/Netball Club - In the Lions' Den

Junior Football and Aus-Kick Planned for 2015!

With the 2014 Football/Netball season fast drawing to a close, the Harcourt Football/Netball Club is setting its sights on 2015.

A main priority is to re-introduce Junior Football to the area. The M.C.D.F.N.L. has three Junior Grades (Under 11½, Under 14½, and Under 17½). If you have any boys or girls interested in playing, you can contact the club through President Kathie Teasdale on 0447 305 343.

As you can appreciate there will be a lot to organise, so the earlier we have names, the better.

The Club is also looking to run Aus-Kick during the 2015 season for any young children wishing to learn the basics of the game.

The Club will once again have Seniors and Reserves Football and six grades of Netball: A, B, C, 17&U, 15 &U, 13&U.

So come along and make it a family day with everyone involved.

Keep watching this space for up-dates and exciting activities to take place in the future.

But first and foremost, get names to the Club for Junior Football!

If you are new to the area it's a great way to meet people!



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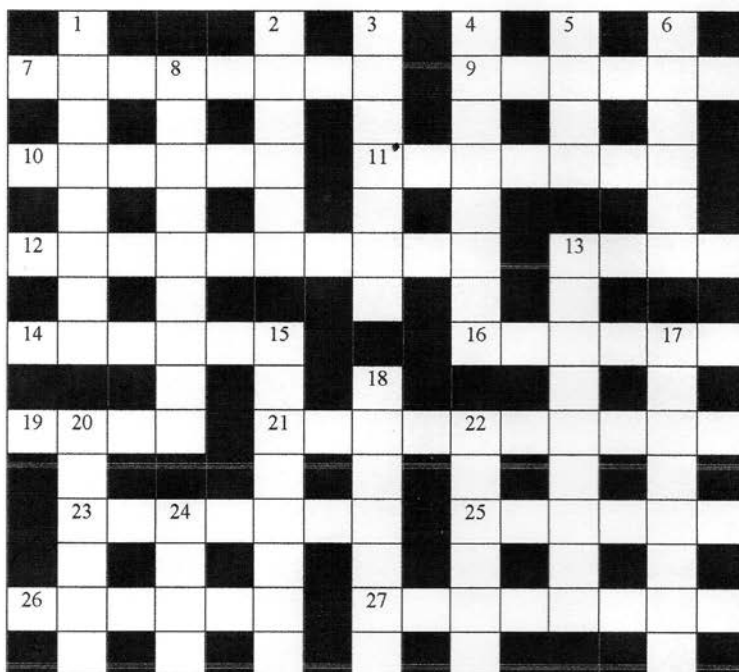
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Cryptic Crossword Challenge - crack the code of the cunning McW!

October X-word 2014 ©McW'14



Across:

- 7 Pleased worn scraps of clothing are appropriate for the ball. (4, 4)
 9 Tell the cow to walk! (4, 2)
 10 Code left a small bit. (6)
 11 A huge airscrew about anything. (7)
 12 Those of the land of western promise are Satanic with an 'e'. (10)
 13 Gere leaves 27 for vessel. (4)
 14 Fix broken relationship? (6)
 16 Does Lorraine still miss this place? (6)
 19 To whom he gives book? (4)
 21 Able racist correlates readings with standard. (10)
 23 Hello, J S—I produce b-b-q pot. (7)
 25 I owe a dag a mixture for an easy passage, perhaps by J S... (6)
 26 Seduce Tolkien's tree-being with hard water. (6)
 27 All change! Now there's a dog where the line of plants was... (8)

Down:

- 1 Deal out local tea. (8)
 2 & 22 Is filmy, sounds fishy—but is neither Brand X nor Brand Y... (6, 6)
 3 Stare at this goddess for long enough... (7)
 4 Tea is mother for what Hawke (who was rich as Ma...) used to spread over the first six rows when he spoke. (8)
 5 & 6 Camp spoof I get with splendour, vainglory and humiliating failure. (4, 6)
 8 Even a tired sap could get a rapid set out of this sort of heterogeneous collection—as pirated! (9)
 13 Change one in eight to put down. (9)
 15 Cowboy might use an ice torch to get a glancing effect from his Colt. (8)
 17 Director, owed, cried "Rot!" (8)
 18 & 20 Performance of magician is only half-honest. Dig? (7, 2, 4)
 22m (see 2)
 24 Robber bandsman—and off to the cooler on board! (4)

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Across:

- 1 What 9 might do to old wounds. [Well?]
- 4 I use the toilet (loo) on the Ghan to make a young ruffian of myself. (8)
- 9 Low arches under railway embankments for thoroughly unpleasant chaps. [Oz Oxford p311]
- 10 Rote mode often turned back [by car-yards]
- 12 Ursine, manic—but not depressive. [i.e. not bi-polar...]
- 13 A confused mixture [mish-mash] without the spuds (mash) for carless sect. (5)
- 14 Duplicitous lookalike often cause for alarm. (12) [Well?]
- 18 Last year at Marienberg for small furry animals... (9, 3) [Well?]
- 23 If one lacks skill with pen, it gives a clumsy result. (5)
- 24 Musical 14? [Noun... Well? Oz Oxford.]
- 25 Pulls out previous [ex-] pamphlets [tracts]
- 26 Paul's republican tropical plant? [Well?]
- 27 It's an ill loch [Ness] that does nobody any good... [Well?]
- 28 Cassius, [Ali] a busted backside [bum], produces the surfboard. (6)

Down:

- 1 Goes over it again for cheap tyres. [Well?]

- 2 Brothers of Cathy's Clown—if they were even more excessive? [Well?]
- 3 Spear to make grass into rope. (7)
- 5 (see 17dn)
- 6 Belly-dance would get a beating in Portugal. [OzOED]
- 7 Awkward conditions attached to J S Bach and many a pole-dancer [Well?]
- 8 Sort of lights furthest up? [Sorry...]
- 11 There's a silent [p] Indonesian theme running around in this dish. (6)
- 15 They get popes' bastards onto horses? [Origin of nepotism—OzOED]
- 16 Sounds as though 27 isn't pretty [Well?]
- 17 & 5 A place for everything on the home front. [Well? Rather weak, though...]
- 19 Sum total of what cyberspace accumulates, without the packaging. [Well?]
- 20 Cassius again, and what sounds like a hairdresser—they interact with multiple felons... [Well?]
- 21 Artificial intelligence [AI] and swab to help raw fish down. (6)
- 22 You've seen this clue before, surely? [Well?]
- 24 Go for it, Esme—the correct observances are in here somewhere. (5)

Harcourtians – Frank Nicholson



Frank Nicholson in Harcourt General Store

Most of us take for granted that we can sketch our family tree and know what has happened to our parents. But for that smiling, gentle man in the Harcourt General Store who is always good for a chat, all this is denied. For Frank is a Fairbridge Farm child.

Frank was born in 1940 to Kathleen Alice Nicholson, nee Treadwell, known as Kitty, and Albert Nicholson. Frank was a brother to David and Ron and the couple's third son. A sister Jean and brother Robert were to follow before Frank lost contact with his mother.

Life was hard for Kitty trying to provide for and hold her family together during the war. Kitty looms large in Frank's memory as does his two other strong adult role models – his grandparents - particularly his grandfather, Francis, after whom he was named. Of his mother, Frank says, 'she was warm and loving but also a tough lady. You had to be to survive in those times. Although we didn't have much, she helped people whenever she could. When she was 8 months pregnant she dived into the Thames to save a woman from drowning. Mum's hearing was permanently affected after that. She couldn't hear the air-raid sirens. We'd have to warn her if they were on.'

Frank's memories of his father are of a philanderer who drank too much. 'He was in the army during the war and used the authority he had from being a service man to declare Mum an unfit mother, divorce her and have us taken away. My oldest brothers were sent to Canada, Jean was eventually adopted out. Robert was too (to my Dad's brother) and I was sent to Australia. It is hard to believe, but Dad actually got money for me to come to Australia.'

'I have happy childhood memories,' Frank says, 'on one level I was experiencing the sadness and trauma of my parents' divorce - I remember going to the court with Mum –but on the other hand I was just a normal kid. During the blitz and before we were evacuated to Torquay, I remember rummaging around some of the bombed areas. Once we found a plane full of babies' dummies. I also remember, going out for ice-cream in the snow, collecting firewood and making big fires in which Mum baked potatoes. At Christmas we would go around to homes singing carols. We'd get a piece of cake and 6 pence for singing. My brother wouldn't sing so I'd keep his money. And I get into strife for being late for school. I used to get distracted walking along the canals.'

'After the government took us from Mum, Jean, Robert and I went to Birmingham. Mum followed us. We were put in an orphanage run by the Church of England. It was very strict. The last time I saw my Mum was in 1949 just before I left for Australia.

'Seventeen of us children, (cont next page)



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with a few adults, sailed on the SS *Otranto* for the 6 week journey. We were told we were going on a holiday to a farm with horses which we'd ride to school. We berthed in Sydney on August 20, 1949. I was one month short of my 9th birthday. We were put on a bus to Molong, 22 km west of Orange and taken to Fairbridge Farm. We worked and went to school there. When we arrived, everything we had, our little suitcases, our nick knacks from home, were taken from us. We were split up and put into different colleges. I was in Red College.

'We were given underwear, shorts, a shirt and a jumper. No shoes. In winter it was freezing. I didn't get a pair of long pants until I was 16. Some of the people at the farm were nice, others weren't. The school principal belted us. Years later he was charged with abuse. All our primary schooling was done at Fairbridge. We went to Molong for our secondary schooling but I had to leave school at 16 to work back on the farm. We did all the farm work from growing vegetables to laundry work. We were paid each week according to our age. You got a halfpenny until you were 10, after that 1 penny and then 3 pennies at 14. When you were 16 you got 2 shillings. For that I worked an 18 hour day: up at 2:30 am to do the chores and prepare the cows for milking. We milked morning and evening, cleaned the cow sheds, delivered the milk and worked in the bakery.

'I left Fairbridge after I turned 18 and worked for a farmer. Then I headed for Wollongong where I worked on the railways as a fireman. I had other jobs – driving trucks in the timber country near Eskdale and the Dartmouth.

In 1970 I went to Albury where I worked for 31 years delivering concrete tanks. I loved the work and met fantastic people. It was a bit of a challenge handling the wide load on a single axle truck, especially driving on hilly, slippery terrain. I never lost a tank; came very close once. Setting up the concrete tanks was important. If you didn't level them properly they'd crack. I was pretty good at getting it right'.

Frank was 62, retired from tanks and working as a handyman when he finally met someone with whom he felt he could share his life. A woman asked if he could help her friend remove some rain damaged carpet from a house. He went to the address and met Amanda. 'She was getting over her divorce and wasn't keen on another relationship but I didn't give up easily. In 2002 we moved to Redesdale and managed the Metcalf Caravan Park. We married in Redesdale. From there we came to Harcourt and

when the General Store became available we put in an offer. We have been here 3 years. We built up the business and love the people and the town. We have an acre of land at Redesdale though and will retire there, but that won't be for a while.

'I went back to England in 1978 to try to find my mother and family. I also paid an agency to help me. But there was nothing; it was as if she had vanished. She changed her name a few times and went on to have 4 more children. She married George Giles. I managed to get a photo of her at my half-brother, Alan Giles', wedding. I also lost contact with Jean and know little of my older brothers. My grandfather Francis died in 1952 and my father in 1960. I learned he tried to get us back in the 50s, but it was too late.'

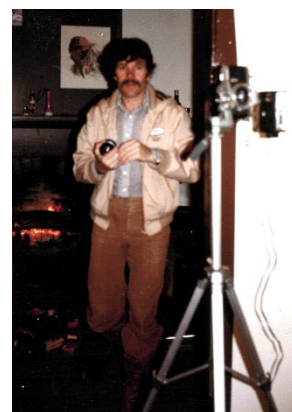
Despite the obvious sadness, you hear no bitterness when you talk to Frank. 'You can't dwell on the past. It's gone. You have to be positive about the future. I used to cry for my mother when I was in the home. She was my life. My Dad wasn't. I wished I'd found her in 1978. I've had a great life with lot of experience and I am grateful now that I am not living in England. And I have a good wife, a dear companion and friend. She is my life.'

Jenny McKenry, Dandura Alpacas



**Frank's Mum – Kitty
Nicholson, nee Treadwell**

**Frank,
the photographer**





Relay for Life - Why not enter a team?

Relay for Life is an overnight event where teams participate in the Opening Ceremony at 6pm on Friday 7th November, which will see carers and survivors do a lap of honour before joining the committee and cancer council staff in the clubrooms for a bite to eat and a cup of tea. All cancer survivors and their carers are welcome to attend, just come along and register on the day (there is no charge for this).

From 6.30pm onwards, teams have at least one person on the track at all times walking around with their team baton, swapping over when it suits them so that everyone gets a turn. You can walk as little or as much, as fast or as slow as you like. Everyone has a different motivation or inspiration, but we all walk with the same purpose – HOPE!

At 8.30pm we hold a candle-light ceremony, where anyone can purchase a candle-bag, write a message on it, and light it at this time. The Highland Pipe Band pipe a lap of the Relay track and everyone gets involved again. We have a couple of short speeches, and then relayers continue walking throughout the night. There is lots of entertainment, live music, to help keep relayers moving; and this year we will also have the services of some masseurs to rub those aching legs and feet!! Saturday morning we will have a visit from the Laughter Club, maybe a yoga session and some other fun entertainment; so there will be something for everyone.

The whole event winds up around 12noon on

It would be great to see teams register from the outlying areas like Harcourt, Maldon & Newstead as we know each of them has their own community of cancer survivors and carers.

Saturday (just in time for Cricket) with the final fundraising tally being celebrated by all involved. Of course there is some competition between the teams to reach the highest fundraising goals, but there is also a great sense of camaraderie among the teams who know that the Cancer Council will be much better off because we have spent a night out in Castlemaine!!

It would be great to see teams register from the outlying areas like Harcourt, Maldon & Newstead as we know each of them has their own community of cancer survivors and carers. If you are interested in registering a team or would like to know more, please contact Nicki on 0439 559470 or go to www.relayforlife.org.au and search for "Castlemaine". We

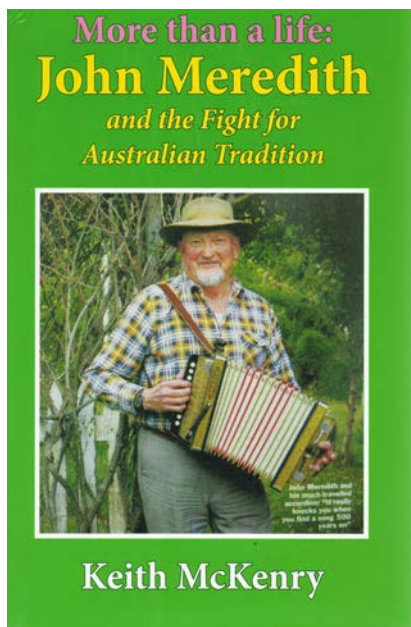
also have a facebook page www.facebook.com/CastlemaineRelayForLife where you will find information about local fundraising events for each of the teams, as well as updates on sponsors, supporters and interesting information for cancer patients and their families and friends. For example did you know that Cancer patients can access free holiday accommodation around Victoria in holiday rentals that are owned by the Cancer Council??

Harcourt residents Raewyn & Tyrone Rice are involved in a team called the Church of Christ and the team I am in is called The Pink Ladies.

Nicki Renfrey

After dark: The Pink Ladies, one of Harcourt's teams in the Relay for Life.





Harcourt House Concert and Book Launch

Local resident Keith McKenry has for many years been researching the amazing life of a great Australian, John Meredith (1920-2001). At the height of the Great Depression, having neither qualifications or prospects he left the country town in NSW where he was born, on a bicycle determined to make his fortune. Battling all his life against poverty, cultural toadyism and government indifference he became one of the world's greatest folk song collectors, and wrote many books on Australian folklore and history, including the classic Folk Songs of Australia and the Men and Women who Sang Them. His original field recordings in the National Library of Australia are an acknowledged national treasure.

Keith's biography of Meredith, titled "*More Than a Life: John Meredith and the Fight for Australian Tradition*", has now been published. To celebrate the book's release, internationally renowned traditional singer Danny Spooner is joining with Keith to present a special house concert featuring the superb Australian folk songs Meredith collected. The concert will take place at Keith and Jenny McKenry's alpaca property at 121 Fenton Drive Harcourt North, on Sunday 9 November at 2pm. Tickets for the concert are \$15, which includes afternoon tea, and those attending can buy the book and its accompanying CD for \$29.95, which is 25% below the recommended retail price. To book for the concert phone Keith or Jenny on 5439 6525, or email fangedwombat@bigpond.com.



Jenny McKenry

Harcourt Valley Landcare



Harcourt Valley Landcare held its AGM at Tread on September 11. The election outcome was: President: Jarrod Coote, Treasurer: George Milford, Secretary: Robyn Miller. Trevor McKay and Philip Hopley have agreed to be in charge of working bees and projects such as the previously completed signage, picnic tables and barbecues at the Oak Forest.

Now that the bridge rails over Barkers Creek have been completed the group has a project clearing further along the creek to the North in an area stretching from Craigie Street to Leafy Lane. Additional grant funding for this area has been applied for as there is a massive weed load.

We have also applied for funding to complete improvements to the walking track beyond the bridge to the picnic ground. This application includes plans to grade the road into the picnic ground and provide picnic tables and barbecues as well as interpretive and directional signage.

Members enjoyed a pleasant Sunday morning recently, at the Harcourt Flora Reserve with Julie McHale, local aboriginal woman. Julie prepared an informative and colourful pamphlet showing the food plants in the Reserve. Many of these we know for their beautiful flowers, but many also provide tubers which can be eaten raw or cooked. Julie offered the group small murnong (yam daisy) plants to take home. She also showed us how to pull up the yam daisy, wash the tuber (it looks like a tiny parsnip) and then most of us ate at least one!

Our next activity is the Shire-wide Mount Alexander Camp Out and Pine Purge on Saturday October 4. For information call Max Schlacter on 5471 1594.

Robyn Miller

Eastern Yellow Robin
beside Barkers Creek

More pictures on page 20



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Castlemaine Hospital upgrade \$10m



Castlemaine Secondary College \$12.5m



Ambulance station upgrade \$2m



Ravenswood Intersection \$86m

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Harcourt Pre-School wins Government Grant of \$9,000

The outdoor play area of the Harcourt Pre-School will be improved with a \$9,000 grant announced by the Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development, The Hon Wendy Lovell MLC.

Local Liberal Candidate Michael Langdon congratulated both Harcourt Pre-School and Castlemaine Child Care Centre for their successful grant applications. Castlemaine Child Care Centre has ear-marked their \$11,445 for their outdoor play area, extension of their vegetable patch and to increase storage facilities.

Mr Langdon said “These two centres are among 643 Victorian preschools and children’s centres supported by the Napthine Government to upgrade their facilities and IT systems through \$2.9 million grants.”

Ms Lovell said “Victoria already leads the nation in early childhood education and care, and by improving early years facilities and infrastructure, the Napthine government is making regional Victoria an even better place for families to raise their children.”

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Continued from Page 18

Across the bridge and to the north, weeds have been sprayed ready for removal. Below: Conservation Volunteers spent 2 days clearing some of the sprayed weeds.

Photos for this article supplied by Bonnie Humphreys



Harcourt Progress Association

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday
15 October 7pm - 9pm

Harcourt Valley Primary School

ALL WELCOME



A Great Place for Wedding Photos

Harcourt has a great new venue for wedding photographs. What is more, it now has a safe crossing over the creek in Bridge Street. Handrails have been erected on the footbridge. With artistic arches and shiny new railings the bridge has become a safe and attractive place to cross the creek.

Walkers may cross the bridge to use the extended walking path which has been created by Harcourt Landcare. The optical effect of the shadows of the vertical railings falling on your white wedding gown would be a quite an attractive feature of your wedding photos! The message is - put on your walking shoes to take a look at the new structure. Harcourt Valley Landcare Group and Paul O'Keefe's "Amped-Up Welding" have combined forces to put these handrails in place.

As you cross the creek, note the granite abutments. These are the remains of the main-road bridge which served as the creek crossing from the 1860s until 1928. Further along the path you will see the results of plantings by the Landcare group.

The eastern end of this bridge was once the site of Harcourt's Toll Gate. In the 1850s, 1860s and 1870s the local Roads Board funded the building and repair of roads by collecting a toll, according to a gazetted

Amped Up Welding -

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KN195763/P

scale of fees, six pence per (cont next page) draught horse or bullock, three pence for a saddle horse and a scale of charges for vehicles according to the type and number of wheels.

The role of toll collector was not a popular one. Tricks such as 'crowding' and 'rushing the gate' ensured that some passed through without paying. On the adjacent flat it was the custom to assemble large mobs of cattle, mostly horned beasts, mostly brindle, Imagine the noise and confusion as the mob crossed the bridge, to be walked to Bendigo by drovers.

Other traffic included table top wagons carting wool from the Ravenswood

run to the Melbourne Wool Stores. Cobb & Co coaches were to be seen daily, passing to and from the changeover at Harcourt's Talbot Inn. We may imagine that the coach drivers would have had little patience with the toll-collector. They had tight schedules to meet. A delay at the toll gate would force them to drive the horses at an all-out gallop on the next flat stretch.

Nowadays, the toll gate is but a memory, and the users of the toll-gate bridge need not rush or crowd, but may walk in a leisurely manner. They might even stop to have their photograph taken at this oh-so-photogenic spot!

George Milford

Community Diary Dates

October: Transport Forum - let's work to get our train station re-opened! Details TBA

4 October: Mount Alexander Camp Out and Pine Purge

5 October: 12.30pm Launch of "Kidnapped by Time" a History of the Parish of Faraday at Dunstan's Flat, for further information call Anthea on 0419 533 348

9 October: 7.30pm Harcourt Valley Landcare Meeting, ANA Hall

10 October: 12 noon, Launch of Granite Houses of Harcourt & Farady by Peter Maddison of "Grand Designs". Harcourt Heritage Centre. All Welcome.

11 October: Tennis weekly competition starts

15 October: 7pm, HPA Meeting, Harcourt Valley Primary School, all welcome.

18 October: Bowls weekend Pennant Competition begins

19 October: 1.30 pm Monthly Heritage Centre activity: Tour to Eddington.

19 October: 10 am to 12pm, Grow Great Fruit Workshop, Mount Alexander Fruit Gardens

20 October: Bowls Midweek Pennant commences

23 October: 7 - 8.30pm, Transport Forum at the Harcourt Bowling Club (venue tbc)

25 October: 8 am to 3 pm, Whole Town Garage Sale

28 October: 6.30 pm Barbecue & Bowls (barefoot), open to all, please contact club for catering purposes.

2 November: 10am - 4pm Day of the Morris Minor, Morris Minor Garage, Ford Road, Harcourt

7 November: 6 pm Relay for Life, Castlemaine

9 November: 2pm, House Concert & Book Launch, \$15, 121 Fenton Drive Harcourt North

23rd November: 1.30 pm Heritage Centre outing "A Hidden Treasure of Barkers Creek"

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

For inclusion in Harcourt News/The Core contact the Editor Robyn Miller 0467 670 271 or email

rmillerharcourt@bigpond.com. Contributions of news items, articles, photos and letters are welcome as are advertisements which help to cover production costs. For placement of advertising please contact Genevieve Ward via email at: gen_ward2@hotmail.com or phone 0409 070 930.

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

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The Harcourt News/The Core wishes to advise that the views or remarks expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editor, or the Steering Committee of the Harcourt Progress Association and no endorsement of service is implied by the listing of advertisers, sponsors or contributors.

Castlemaine and Harcourt Families Host Tamil Refugees



Four Castlemaine host families welcomed a group of Tamil children and parents to stay during the school holidays. Activities with local young people included cricket, soccer, horse-riding (in Harcourt), swimming, and meals together.

Solway Nutting



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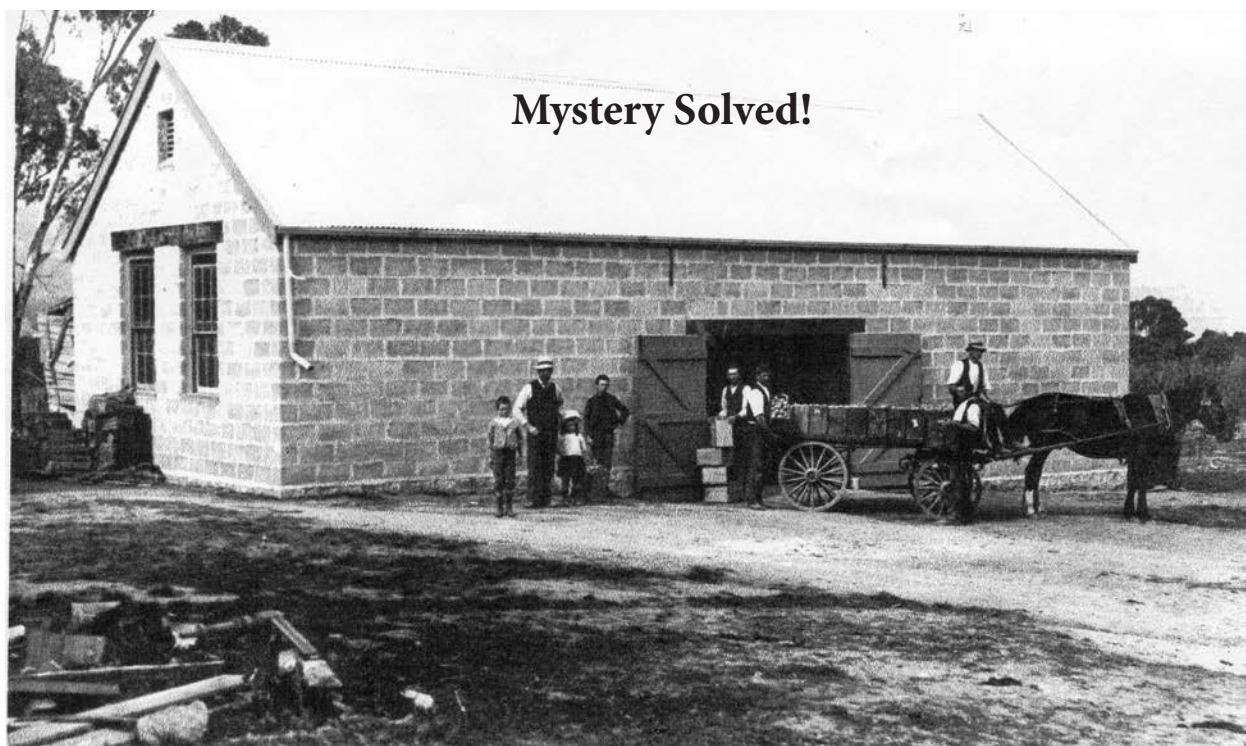
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Mystery Solved!

Ron Frankling has identified the building. It no longer stands. This packing shed formerly stood on the property of Ken Eagle, in McIvor Road. It was built for Ken's father Eb Eagle, a very prominent Harcourt orchardist in the first part of the 1900s. The shed was large; they drove the horse-drawn lorry into the shed to unload the fruit into big bins, from which it was packed for sale. A coolstore was later built on the site and the bricks were recycled to build a garage.

Thanks to Ron we can now put a caption to this photo in the museum database.

George Milford

HPA MEMBER JOINING / RENEWAL FORM

The Harcourt Progress Association was created to support and progress the objectives of the Harcourt Community Plan. The Plan was prepared in 2013 with contributions by members of the Harcourt community and reflects the goals, vision and aspirations for our town and surrounding region.

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

Harcourt Progress Association Inc. aims to:

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

Membership of the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. is open to all residents and landowners within a 20 kms radius of the Harcourt township (some exceptions apply so do ask!) There is no joining fee for the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. but an annual subscription of \$20 per person / \$10 concession is payable to become a financial member who is able to formally vote. Annual subscriptions full due on 1st July each year. The Harcourt Progress Association is facilitated by a Steering Committee elected by the members annually.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

I request to become a member or renew my membership of the Harcourt Progress Association Inc. (*please circle one*)

I agree to be bound by its Rules of Association and Codes of Conduct. I understand that only financial members have voting rights.

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

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TELEPHONE: EMAIL:

SIGNED: DATED:

☐ I enclose the sum of \$20 / \$10 concession for Annual Membership **OR**

☐ I have deposited \$20 into BSB 633-000, account 151796620 – Harcourt Progress Association Inc.
Please indicate your name and state "membership" when paying online.

Please mail this completed form and cheque (if paying by mail) to: HPA, PO Box 132, Harcourt, VIC 3453

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