

HARCOURT NEWS

THE C^ØRE

April 2015

HARCOURT NEWS - Edition 15

HARCOURT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC

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

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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.

Harcourt's Katie Finlay – Victorian Rural Woman of the Year



Katie with family, Hugh (left) and Danny (right).

Katie Finlay has plenty of “runs on the board” when it comes to fruit growing. But that’s only partly why she is Victorian Rural Woman of the Year in 2015. The award is judged on a future project to be carried out in the twelve months following the award, with the expectation that the state winner will be a good spokesperson to promote leadership by and for women. Before an audience of 200 people at Parliament House Katie was presented with her award which includes a \$10,000 bursary and a Company Directors’ Course.

Her project involves using social media to grow farming businesses, particularly in relation to Farmers’ Markets. She and her husband Hugh have successfully grown their business, Mount Alexander Fruit Garden, using social media. This year when (cont page 2)



The King and Queen of Applefest, Mike and Lyn Rule. Find more pictures of Applefest inside.

they advertised to their 3,500 'likers' on Facebook that they would be open for three days for "pick your own", there was a queue at the gate come opening day.

As a member of the Board of the Melbourne Farmers' Markets Katie knows that farmers' stories are worth telling. "They think what they do is ordinary, but it's not!" However, with some Melbourne markets only a handful of farmers out of the fifty or sixty who participate use social media to promote their business. She also believes that there is further growth to come in Farmers' Markets. "They really only took off in Melbourne ten years ago. There has been a weekly market at Wesley Hill since the seventies, this is a great example and it is exceptional for its longevity."

The venture will pilot two Farmers' Markets, one in Melbourne and one in the country. Katie believes lack of knowledge about how to use social media is a barrier for many farmers. She will supply training to market members, emphasising how simple it is to get a social media presence. Her teaching tools will include a YouTube video and a brochure. Management of the markets will also be involved in the social media strategy. Key to this is that the farmers will give permission to the management to use their social media content in the general promotion of the Market itself. Katie plans to get her project off the ground quickly and have it running well within six months.

In September Katie will join other State winners in Canberra for the announcement of Australian Rural Woman of the Year.

To find out more about Katie's award and Mount Alexander Fruit Garden go to: www.mafg.com.au and press on the blog tab.

Robyn Miller



Connecting with our Community

Each year the CWA of Victoria is guided by a theme, this year's theme is Community

Connectedness and Creativity.

The ladies at Harcourt CWA are always up to the challenge of supporting and contributing to community events in Harcourt, so when Applefest came around, the creative juices flowed and another beautiful float took its place in the street parade which plays such a central role in the festivities.

Huge thanks to Judi and Dani Kent and their wonderful assistant Dennis for the trailer which the Harcourt CWA ladies decorated to celebrate their 85th Birthday. (see photo below)

It was with much pride that this year my husband and I (how I have always wanted to say that) were invited to be King and Queen of Applefest. Therefore my Royal duties took precedence over my CWA duties, but whilst walking around my realm I was delighted to see the number of people taking advantage of Ayron Teed's brain child, the CWA Rest Area.

Rest Rooms for country women were a priority in the beginnings of the CWA and the the Rest Area at Applefest reflected this important part of our early history.

After talking to the members of the public who took advantage of the rest area to chat and relax and watch the ongoing festivities, I couldn't be more pleased at the way our Central Victorian CWA branches were indeed connecting with their community.

Harcourt CWA meet on the third Thursday of the month at the Harcourt Leisure Centre in Bingham's Road at 1.30 PM.

New members are always welcome, pop in and have a cuppa with us.

Lyn Rule

*Harcourt CWA
Publicity Officer.*





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Harcourt Primary School leads Australia in Protecting Students Online

Harcourt Primary School teacher Matt Watkins has been one of the first teachers in Australia taking up the opportunity of the eSmart Digital Licence which will teach Grade 6 students how to be safe in the digital world. Veronica Budnikas of Storyline Developer, an online learning development business, lives in Harcourt and created the online quizzes which test the learners. "We expect around 300,000 children to undertake the Licence in 2015," she said. The eSmart Digital Licence is the result of the work of the Alannah and Madeline Foundation which aims to protect the welfare of children, particularly those who have experienced violence. Google has sponsored the eSmart Digital Licence with \$1.2 million, so that every grade six student in Australia will have free access in 2015. The Licence has eight learning modules which are interactive and entertaining. They can be taken many times until the student succeeds. When the student finishes the program they receive their Digital Licence which says they can now safely be online.

The Core spoke with Matt and Veronica about their experiences so far with the Licence. "We block students from inappropriate sites when they are at school, but what happens when they get a smart phone or use the family computer? This Licence will educate them for many online situations. We think we will be using the eSmart Digital Licence by the second semester," said Matt. "Students at the school are trained in cyber safety from Grade 3 and have been issued with Netbooks which they use in most classes but the Licence prepares students for the wider online world."

Veronica who has worked for large organisations



such as Australia Post and Open Universities Australia started work with the Digital Licence team about a year ago. "The Licence is a commercial product which will be further developed to suit several age groups; currently it focuses on 10 to 12 year olds, but it also has resources for teachers. Many parents are not aware about rules for using sites on the web, for example, to use Facebook a user must be 13 years of age. The good news is that the package is in continuous development; there is more to come as support for teachers and parents. "

For more information:

www.digitalllicence.com.au

or speak with Veronica Budnikas of Storyline Developer

phone: 0416 374 563

email: veronica@storylinedeveloper.com.au

Thank you to David Ling of Copy Transmission for alerting The Core to this story and for supplying the background information.

Robyn Miller



Castlemaine, Harcourt & Maldon Region

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End of Fire Danger Period

Fire restrictions ended for both the Shire of Mount Alexander and the City of Greater Bendigo on Monday the 30th March. While this now allows

the public to burn off, at the time of writing we have not had significant rainfall in the Harcourt district and warm and windy days are still being forecast, so it is important that if you are planning to do some burning that you take all precautions to ensure that your burn off does not get out of control.

A few basic tips to get you prepared are:

- ensure you have sufficient water and equipment on hand to keep your fire under control
- create multiple small piles of vegetation rather than one big bonfire that produces more radiant heat and generates more embers
- conduct your burns on cooler and calm days and
- remove other flammable exposures from the burn zone.

It is also important to register your burn with the Victorian Burn Off Notification line on 1800 668 511. This will ensure that the fire brigade is not called out unnecessarily to your burn off.

It is also important to know that when fire restrictions are lifted, that Council Local Laws and the Summary Offences Act (1966) still apply. For example in the City of Mount Alexander open air burning is only permitted on allotments bigger than 0.2 hectares in area and in the Shire of Greater Bendigo, allotments must be greater than 1 hectare without a permit. There are also restrictions on the use of incinerators. Further information is available from the shire council websites – www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Files/LocalLaws3Adopted23_11_2010.pdf or use the A-Z index on their website under “Local Laws Permits” then “Local Laws No. 3”. And at www.bendigo.vic.gov.au and click on the “Services” tab, then “Environmental Health and Local Laws” and then “Local Laws”. It is important that you familiarise yourself with these bylaws as ignorance is not an excuse for not complying with these Local Laws.

The Summary Offences Act (1966) states that when lighting fires in the open air, a person must not light or use a fire to carry when lighted any flammable material resulting in the destruction, damaging or endangering of the life or property of others. The Act also states that you cannot leave a fire in the open air of which that person is in charge without leaving another person in charge.

The above activity does not apply to the owner or occupier

of any land or a person acting under the direction of an owner or occupier of any land if – (1) A fire break of not less than 3 metres and cleared of all flammable material has been prepared around the perimeter of the area of land: and (2) At least two hours before burning is commenced, notice of intention to burn has been given to each owner or occupier of land contiguous to the area of land.

The Summary Offences Act (1966) coupled with any municipal by-laws that are applicable must be followed at all times and penalties apply for doing the wrong thing or allowing a fire to escape.

When burning off you must consider the weather forecast for the day of the burn as well as the days following and note that at all times common sense and care must be taken, and if any damage is caused by your burn that escapes, then you may be liable. This is heavy stuff but important to know and follow.

The end of daylight saving is also the reminder time to change your smoke detector

batteries and while you are at it, give them a clean as well.

In preparation for the cooler weather, it is also important to carry out your pre winter checks and maintenance on heaters, fire place and fire box chimneys, flues and fans, electric blankets etc.

We were fortunate to procure the use of the Captain Koala suit for Applefest this year and he was a real hit with the children handing out balloons, handshakes and high fives. There was even a meeting with a sheep after the Applefest Parade. One again the fire trucks were cleaned up and polished for the parade and as always was well received. We will be attempting to obtain Captain Koala again for 2016 plus some other resources to promote fire awareness.

In the meantime, take care and remain fire safe as we enter into the “cooler months of Autumn and Winter.

Tyrone Rice
Captain



Captain Koala greets children at the Applefest.

Photo supplied by Katherine Seppings



hArcouRT

No. 3: Richard Baxter

We know Harcourt is a place with hidden treasures, but perhaps not many of its residents would necessarily name the arts among them. Yet we have among us a significant – and increasing – number of talented, often successful, occasionally illustrious, practitioners from across the spectrum of the art world.

During the recent Castlemaine State Festival, many Harcourt residents and visitors were lucky enough

to encounter a fascinating artist in residence at the Heritage Centre. Richard Baxter has been making extraordinary art for decades, and now calls Harcourt home.

Born and raised in the Barossa Valley before a stint in Melbourne, Richard moved to a beautiful property in Harcourt North with his partner Mek and baby son late last year after looking in a wide arc around Melbourne for just the right place. He is inspired by the granite hills landscape and it is starting to be incorporated into his work.

He admits to being something of an unwilling starter in the painting game. The youngest of three boys, he loved and admired the brilliant drawing skills of his next youngest sibling, 13 years his senior. While his brother did not pursue the arts on a professional level, Richard persevered with drawing until one day a teacher literally forced him to complete a painting. When it was done paint had a new fan, and he has been developing his skills with the brush in the 30 years since.

Richard's paintings are big. Really big, in every sense. They are physically large, brightly coloured, fantastical and emotive. On the one hand hyper-realistic, he juxtaposes figures, objects, animals and natural features to create a strange and marvellous universe where absolutely anything is possible. He calls them "images that point to the unseen".

Houses fly, inanimate objects animate, animals communicate, celestial bodies swoop and dance, human figures strain and contort. The technical skill he displays is remarkable, and the effect is both disturbing and comforting at the same time.

This way of viewing the world has resulted in Richard becoming an outstanding photographer and digital artist, too. His photographs share the painterly approach with



his art, and he maintains a staggering number of images in his archives. He regularly draws these into Photoshop to make new "sketch" compositions, which form the basis of new paintings or remain in the digital realm as discrete works. He even creates animations from some of them.

His art is painstaking and takes time; works regularly take months to complete – the lucky ones seeing him at the

Heritage Centre would attest to that – and he often has several on the go at one time. During the Festival, he worked on a triptych titled "Memory Drift" that has been in development for years. The central panel of this work, featuring the ramshackle flying house, was shortlisted for the prestigious Sulman Prize last year. The (now signature) actual house exists somewhere in central Victoria – perhaps you've seen it!

Naturally, as an accomplished digital artist, Richard has a fresh and exciting presence on the World Wide Web. His website – www.studiobaxter.com - has a wonderful array of examples of his work in all four mediums, and is well worth a visit. He also maintains a Facebook page with regular updates about his life and work – type 'Richard Baxter Artist' in the FB search field.

Richard has exhibited extensively in solo and group shows in Australia and overseas, and is represented by Traffic Jam Galleries in Sydney and Hotham Street Contemporary in the Melbourne CBD, where he is this month's Showcase artist.

Doug Falconer

New 3 year Old Group Beginning in Term 2



We are excited to be able to open up a new stand alone 3 year old kinder group next term on a Tuesday morning between 9.30am until 12noon with a qualified teacher.

This opportunity has come about due to high enrolments in our 4 year old group. If you have a child turning 3 this year or one who is already 3, you are invited to come and look at our 3 year old kinder program.

The benefits of attending a pre-kinder play-based program include;

*It provides an opportunity to improve and extend on social skills through playing alongside other children of similar age

*It builds on self-esteem and confidence in developing independence, resilience and through forming healthy attachments with staff and peers.

*increases language and communication through exposure to singing, stories, rhymes and chants.



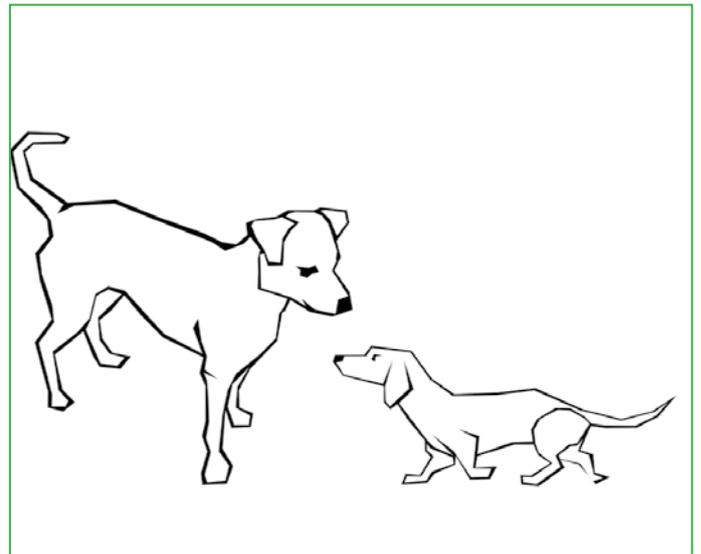
The pre-school float in the Applefest Parade

- *To experience art and other creative pursuits.
- *To improve fine and gross motor skills.
- *To meet other families within the Harcourt community.
- *To have an enjoyable morning!

Please phone the kinder on 54742391 for further details.

*Lisa Gray
Educational Leader*

Colour us in!



Harcourt treated to ANZAC Journey of Remembrance



As part of the ANZAC Centenary, the audience at the Leisure Centre on March 25 was both moved and entertained by the presentation of the Victorian Journey of Remembrance presented by the travelling company Cultural Infusion.

With a mixture of video, live theatre, lighting, sound effects and local speakers, we were given a taste of the experience of those at home and abroad during World War I. The presentation acknowledged the efforts of the fighting men both white and indigenous, as well as nurses - all who travelled to distant lands for the war effort. Those in Australia, including the many women who took on jobs vacated by the fighting men, were also remembered.

George Milford and Alan Lane President of the Castlemaine RSL talked of unique local experiences through family and local history. The Harcourt Heritage Association prepared a display of documents, photos and memorabilia which created great interest.

The night was organised by Harcourt Progress Association - a barbecue tea was provided and supper followed the performances. David Heath, President of the HPA opened the proceedings by welcoming everyone, and thanked the Harcourt Football Club for providing the barbecue and for opening the bar. David also thanked Dianne Baig and Kaye and Graeme Francis for being the barbecue team and also Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns for bringing the event together.

Each member of the audience received a Remembrance Pack with a covering letter from the Premier, Daniel Andrews. The Pack included World War One History and Legacy and a replica Peace Medal given to every child in Victoria in 1919. Also included were resources for organising a remembrance event and information on how to research family links.

During supper it was possible for those attending to use iPads which connected to web sites developed for the Centenary. It is much easier to do family research than ever before. If you are interested in tracing a World War I family link, a good starting point is www.anzacentenary.vic.gov.au then go to the Research Your WWI Connection - try the AIF Project button.

Robyn Miller

2015 Applefest a Huge Success

The Harcourt Applefest continues to go from strength to strength, with the 2015 event attracting record crowds in excess of 4,000 people! The introduction of the new Kids Carnival proved a big hit and complimented long standing Applefest traditions.

BIG THANK YOUS are in order to the following hard working folk:

George Milford, Neil Charter, Joan Lienhop and the Harcourt Heritage Centre for being the backbone of the Applefest Committee. Without you it wouldn't happen.

Donna McMahon, Jason McAinch, Jacq Cue and the Harcourt Valley Primary School families and staff for co-ordinating the Applefest Market.

Donna McMahon, Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns (below) and the Harcourt Progress Association for introducing the hugely successful Kids Carnival.

Gen Ward and Doug Falconer for their skills in social media and graphic design.
Paul Mizzi for acting as the MC and co-ordinating the Applefest Street Parade.

Chris Beggs for his tireless work in setting and packing up the site.

Lyn & Mike Rule for acting as the Applefest Royalty.
Dani Kent for co-ordinating the Pet Parade and the Harcourt CWA for running the Rest Tent.

Harcourt Lions Club, Harcourt Football and Netball Club, Harcourt Pre-school, Harcourt Tennis Club, Harcourt Valley Landcare, Rocky Riders Mountain Bike Club, Castlemaine Cycling Club, Harcourt CFA, and the Castlemaine Women's Cycling Club for supporting and volunteering to make the day a great success. Thank you to everyone else who assisted, participated, attended and supported the 2015 Harcourt Applefest!

*David Heath, Chair
Harcourt Progress Association.*



Harcourt Mountain Bike Park

Steering Committee for development phase, call for a community representative.

The idea for a mountain bike park was hatched in 2013 when local residents and bike riders identified the old pine plantation on the western flank of Mount Alexander as an ideal location. The lease, previously held by Hancock Plantations Victoria, for the 500 acre site expired on 31 December, 2014.

The project progressed in 2014 to deliver a feasibility study and design for 34kms of looped trails that make best use of the amazing environmental features, landscape and views. With project management assistance from Goldfields Tourism Inc. (GTI) and the Mount Alexander Shire Council, and financial support from these two organisations and the Castlemaine Rocky Riders, a Putting Locals First Grant was successfully secured to fund the report and design with the final document completed in May, and officially “presented” to state government at a slightly damp, but enthusiastic event in July.

As part of the development phase, Goldfield Tourism Inc. facilitated discussions with relevant local organisations to seek funding to develop the park, including an approach to local Labor Party members, which resulted in a pledge of \$1,000,000. As a result of the Labor Party success in the 2014 State Government election, it is only a matter of time before the money is committed and work can commence.

The original steering committee was structured to ensure appropriate representation from local associations and organisations, and the necessary skills and experience to ensure a comprehensive and effective development of the feasibility study and park design. It is now time to re-form the steering committee and while it is important to retain much of the prior knowledge and experience, the membership also needs to be tweaked for the next phase, including the addition of one member to represent the local community.

The previous (and soon to be renewed) membership includes key local organisations, associations, local government and land owners/managers, but it is important to bring in an independent voice for the community. **Organisations that will sit on the reformed steering committee are:**

- Goldfields Tourism Incorporated
- Mount Alexander Shire Council
- Harcourt Progress Association
- Harcourt Valley Landcare
- Harcourt Valley Heritage and Tourist Centre
- Hancock Victoria Plantations (TBC)

- Dja Dja Wurrung Corporation/Enterprise
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- Parks Victoria
- Castlemaine Rocky Riders Mountain Bike Club
- Bendigo Mountain Bike Club
- Harcourt Pony Club

All steering committee members are expected to be impartial in their involvement and together bring a range of skills to the table to ensure successful delivery of this project. **The collective skills are:**

- Tourism development
- Economic and product development
- Environmental needs and assessment
- Cultural and indigenous history and understanding
- Town planning and surveying
- Mountain biking
- Project planning and development
- Knowledge and understanding of the needs of the Harcourt community

Submissions from interested individuals should be submitted in writing to info@goldfieldstrack.com.au by no later than Monday 13 April.

Knowledge on the needs of complementary recreational activities such as bushwalking and horse riding

Goldfields Tourism Inc invites nominations from suitably skilled and interested members of the Harcourt community. The community representative should be a voice for the community, but not necessarily that of one of the already represented organisations, and bring skills and/or experience in at least two of the above skills areas.

Submissions from interested individuals should be submitted in writing to info@goldfieldstrack.com.au by no later than Monday 13 April.

Your submission should be no more than two pages, and detail why you would like to sit on the committee, why you are an appropriate community representative and what skills, knowledge and experience you would bring to the table. If you have any questions about this opportunity please contact Jo Pincus via email at: info@goldfieldstrack.com.au



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Business Update – Castlemaine Group Fitness

Mandy Chilcott is passionate about keeping fit and has found her niche in doing something she loves as a Fitness Instructor. She started taking group fitness classes in her late 20s after a career in veterinary nursing and has never looked back. Mandy is trained with a Certificate 4 in Personal Training and Group Exercise Instruction and she has run gym based classes in Melbourne, Bendigo and Castlemaine for 15 years.

Mandy and her husband moved to Barkers Creek from Melbourne five years ago, as an ideal lifestyle choice in raising their two boys and having a strong sense of a community. Mandy enjoys getting involved with the local playgroup, Castlemaine Kindergarten and the Mt Alexander CWA. Mandy also loves to cycle and helps run the Castlemaine Women's Cycling (CWC) group (via Facebook) where regular social road and mountain bike rides are organised, plus skills training and family cycling events.

Over the past couple of years Mandy has been running a weekly class at Everyone Health and Fitness up until its recent closure last December. This led to Mandy's decision to start up the Castlemaine Group Fitness classes in February at the Old Castlemaine Gaol.

The classes Mandy runs include Power Bar and Cross Trainer and they are designed for all ages and fitness levels. Mandy says "I provide options for all exercises, intensity and resistance so that participants can modify moves to suit their level of fitness and any injuries they may have". Mandy lists the benefits to her classes as burning calories, improving coordination and agility, raising overall fitness and stamina, developing muscle strength, enhancing bone health and increasing heart and lung capacity.



What a great way to get fit and be social too! Some people come with friends or make new ones, with many meeting up for a coffee at The Gov afterwards.

I went along the Cross Trainer class on Friday morning which provides a great cardio vascular workout. Thinking back, I hadn't done aerobics since the days of leotards, electric blue lycra and head bands! Mandy's class was fantastic and I managed to keep up with the steps, including grapevine, lunges and double hops. At \$10 it's affordable, especially without having to commit to a membership. It was not intimidating and some of the participants brought kids who played happily in the corner.

Mandy says the Power Bar (similar to Body Pump) is a popular class where she runs three sessions a week, noting that the Saturday class fills up quickly, so turn up early for this one!

Genevieve Ward

To find out more about Castlemaine Group Fitness classes contact Mandy on 0409 866 279 or mandchilcott@gmail.com.



Castlemaine Group Fitness Classes

at the Old Castlemaine Gaol

- Affordable - Relaxed - Friendly -

Tuesday	9.30 am - 10.30 am	Power Bar
Wednesday	6.45 pm - 7.45 pm	Power Bar
Friday	9.30 am - 10.30 am	Cross Trainer
Saturday	9.30 am - 10.30 am	Power Bar

Classes run during school terms.
\$10 per class. All Fitness Levels Welcome!
Pre-schoolers welcome under parent supervision

Mandy Chilcott 0409 866 279
mandchilcott@gmail.com

 Find us on Facebook



Harcourtians – Michelle Holmes

This year's Applefest awarded Michelle and Garry Homes a Certificate of Appreciation for the contribution they have made to their adopted town – Michelle for her past organisation of the Applefest market and Garry for his past chairmanship of the event. (see photo next column) However their contribution extends beyond the town's March festival. Garry has served as a Life Guard and Michelle has been involved in the Kinder's Committee, was President of the Harcourt Valley Primary School Council for three years and more recently became Supervisor and Co-ordinator of the nine staffed and two unstaffed school crossings in the area. 'The kids using the crossing are great, but some driver behaviour is still an issue,' says Michelle.

Born in 1968, Michelle was the second of four children. Her last siblings were twins. A big surprise to her parents she recalls. 'I grew up in Knoxfield. It was still quite rural with orchards when I was a kid. Garry and I went to the same school but we weren't childhood sweethearts. I actually met him when he became my brother's friend. Eventually we started dating and decided we wanted to be together.'

'I had a career in the money market before I had a family. My first job was with the merchant bank Société Générale. I'd leave home by car at 6 am and be parked at Spencer Street an hour later. The bank was in King Street. Initially I wasn't used to the city or its layout and would get lost. I remember heading to visit a client's premises and ending up in the opposite direction at the Vic Market. My colleagues couldn't work out what had happened to me. From Spencer to Spring Streets and Flinders to La Trobe, I finally learned the Melbourne grid. No more red faces!

'Société Générale eventually closed down its money market arm and I moved to National Mutual in its Funds Management area. I was on the 33rd floor of the Rialto and had a great view with its floor to ceiling outer walls. But I must confess to not getting up close to the edge. I worked there ten years and loved it. But it was very full on with long hours which were not conducive to having and caring for children.



'Before Harcourt, we lived in Berwick. Garry was unhappy with his job and had begun looking for something else. He spotted a job at the Fosterville Gold Mine in Bendigo and applied. He didn't get it but it started us on a journey of possibilities. I finally made the decision to put our Berwick home on the market. I reasoned that if Garry was serious about getting a job outside the Melbourne area we should make the move



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Harcourtians (cont)

ust after our eldest child finished prep school and before our second started kinder. It was a hard decision because we had a lovely home that we'd designed. We lived on the edge of Berwick and there were cows on the other side of our fence.

'I felt Bendigo was too far from our parents, who weren't getting younger, and the community we knew to establish a new home. I agreed to live closer to Melbourne – around Woodend or Kyneton. We enrolled our second child into a number of preschools from Woodend and north into Central Victoria and spent weekends looking for houses. It became obvious we couldn't afford Woodend or Kyneton so we focussed further north.

'It was Garry who found the house, on its five acres, in Mennens Lane. He thought I'd love it and it would provide a great life style for our three children - Patrick, Sean and Caitriona. He was right. We moved in 2005 and a week after Garry started working with the Macedon Shire. Everything fell into place for us.

'The irony is that Garry now works in Moorabbin and commutes every day to Footscray. Commuting might have its down side in terms of long hours but you could be on a Melbourne commuter train for an hour or more without the comfortable seats and carriages with facilities we have on our line.

'I wouldn't go back to living in outer Melbourne. When I visit friends where we used to live I think, oh no, this is no longer for me or our family. Harcourt has been good for us. Harcourtians have been friendly and welcoming, our kids have grown up in a nice environment and we feel we belong here.'

Jenny McKenry, Dandura Alpacas



Blue Elephant Cidery of Harcourt did brisk business at the Applefest Market.

Applefest Sights



***The dancers in the Applesfest Parade
(Photo provided by Katharine Seppings).***



Col Foster from Grange View Stud at Sutton Grange, with his beautifully turned out horse and dray in the Applefest Parade.

Will Thompson posed happily with his top hat and dog, also in costume.



Harcourt Bowling Club

“Well Done” Pennant Teams

Congratulations to Midweek Division 4 for their effort against Campbells Creek in the Semi Final. The team put up a great effort and went down by just 5 points. Thanks to Joy and Sue for the delicious lunch provided to the team. *(photo shows the Team before they left for the game against Campbells Creek)*



Congratulations also to Weekend Division 3 for a valiant effort against Bendigo in the preliminary final. Unfortunately Bendigo proved to be too strong for the team to overcome. Thanks were extended to the Harcourt ladies for providing the afternoon tea.

The Harcourt Bowling Club is proud of the achievement of both teams and is delighted by the support shown to all of the finalists.

Bendigo Bowls Division Super Veterans

Congratulations to members Grahame Hill, Mal Button, Grace Jenkin and Marj Liddicoat who were awarded Super Veteran status with the Bendigo Bowls Division and were presented with their badges on Thursday 5th March.



Between them they have been bowling for a total of 113 years with Mal Button a 45 year bowler; Grace Jenkin at 33 years; Grahame Hill at 30 years and a youthful Marj Liddicoat at 5 years! President John Starbuck paid tribute to the members and their contribution to the Club and to bowling in general. He is pictured with Marj (left) and Grace after the presentation. Sitting with them is the other Super Veteran at the Club, Ron Jenkin. *(photo bottom left)* Unfortunately Mal and Grahame were not available for the photo.

Tournaments and other events

The Club **Ladies Drawn Pairs** were played on Thursday evening March 5th with a strong field competing in the three games of eight ends each. Overall winners with three games won was Kay Francis and Chris Anderson, *(Photo below)* runners up with two wins and a draw were Kaye Grant and Jean Pogue.



The draws for the Ladies 100 up and Nominated Pairs have been done and are underway in earnest.

This year it was also decided to run a Men's 100 up competition, the draw has been done and the men have keenly taken up the challenge with games already underway.

The **Men's Drawn Gough Pairs** held on Thursday 9th March saw a keen competition among the club members. Winners were Mick Evans and John Bassett as the only three game winners on the night.

Wednesday Jackpot pairs are proving to be successful although we would like some more playing to make it more interesting. All bowlers are encouraged to join this



Federal Member for Bendigo

LISA CHESTERS MP

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competition.

Unfortunately the Mixed Fours Tournament scheduled for Sunday March 22nd had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers.

The Club Annual Rice Triples event will be held again on Sunday March 29th. This event, held in the memory of former club members Ben and Amy Rice, is a popular event with members and will be keenly contested. Results will be in the next edition of The Core.

Harcourt Bowlers visit the Big Smoke

Under the guidance of El Presidente and coach captain John Starbuck, 16 Harcourt bowlers were delivered to the Auburn Bowling Club by driver extraordinaire Doug Hartnett for their Annual Tournament.



It turned out to be a successful day with one of the teams narrowly missing the big prize by only one end, winning three games and finishing runners up

The successful team was Rod Harris, Doug Hartnett, Wayne Smith and Rod Hamilton. (see below)

Confirming that “everyone’s a winner” Doug also won the raffle which included a bag of apples donated by Harcourt!

Greens Café

The first night of the Greens Café was deemed a success with a good crowd and delicious food providing for an enjoyable and friendly atmosphere. President John thanked all who attended and encouraged members to bring their friends. The Café on Friday March 27th will be a seafood theme. We are all looking forward to what is in store after Easter on Friday April 10th.

Each fortnight there will be a set menu of 2 courses of wholesome country cooking.

To avoid disappointment bookings are required – call the Club on 54742494 to book your place.

Coming Up ...

Just for a change, the President’s Day and Presentation Night will be held on the same day - Saturday 18th April. All members are encouraged to attend this day – a celebration of our achievements throughout the season and an opportunity to get together, play some bowls and have some fun. Commencing at 2.00pm

for bowls followed by Dinner and Presentation at 6.30pm. Names on the board if you are attending please.

The date for the Annual General Meeting of the Harcourt Bowling Club has been set for Sunday 17th May. The meeting will commence at 10.00am and conclude with a barbecue. All members will receive notice of this and are encouraged to attend.

The Club is offering the opportunity to interested members who wish to undertake a *Responsible for Serving Alcohol* course being offered at Continuing Education in Castlemaine. The dates are on the notice board at the club, interested persons are to contact Secretary John Grant.

The Strategic Plan for the club was passed by the Board at its meeting on March 16th. This important document will guide the future direction of the Club over the next few years and will be displayed on the website(www.harcourtbowlingclub.com.au) and in the Club rooms. *Christine Anderson*

Applefest - Castlemaine Circus



HARCOURT CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION INC.

A meeting of the above Association will be held in the Harcourt Leisure Centre meeting room.

on Wednesday 8th April 2015

at 7.30pm

Old members and anyone interested in finding out more are welcome to attend.

Contact details -

Secretary Loretta- 54 742453,

John 5474 2226, Tyrone 5474 2126.

The Harcourt Carpet Bowls Association Inc. will be celebrating 63 years of Carpet Bowls in Harcourt this year. The games are played at the Harcourt District Leisure Centre, Bingham Road, Harcourt, in a heated hall with a friendly social group of people of any age from 8 to 100. In previous years we have had a practice night early in May after which the competition will commence on Wednesday of the next week. The games are played with teams of four people, two at each end of the mat for 10 ends then change and play 10 ends from the other end making a game 20 ends altogether. The game goes for approximately one and a half hours commencing at 7.30 ending by 9.00pm so it is not a late night for the younger ones. Families are made very welcome. How to play and learning rules are taught on the night and no former experience is needed, anyone can play. We have a registration fee (approx \$5.00 senior \$2.50 junior (under 17) and a nightly game fee \$4.00 per adult & \$2.00 junior. (to cover hall hire etc) Fees will be set at AGM on 8th April at 7.30pm at the Harcourt District Leisure Centre. Carpet Bowls is not an expensive night out. Notices will be placed at the shop and in the Core Newsletter. Come along join in and have some fun. During the season a Singles Championship will be held and at the end of season a Presentation night will be held with trophies for the winners. Come along give it a try.

Reply to Loretta Rice: email: <lricee@bigpond.net.au>

or phone 54742453



Maree Edwards MP

State Member for Bendigo West

Putting Community First

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

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Golden Square VIC 3555
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maree.edwards@parliament.vic.gov.au
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Good News for Landcare in the Shire

Maree Edwards State Member for Bendigo West (centre in photo above) recently announced on behalf of Lisa Neville (Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water) that the funding for Landcare Facilitators would continue for another four years.

Trevor McKay (second from right) of Harcourt Valley Landcare was pleased to be at the announcement. He said, "The work that Max

Schlachter does for Landcare in this Shire is creative and productive - for example Max has organised the great Pine Purge on Mount Alexander, we had about 150 people attend last year." (Max has hold of the Landcare sign on the left.)

Maree also announced that nominations for the 2015 Victorial Landcare Awards are now open.

For information about Harcourt Valley Landcare contact the Secretary on 0467 670 271.

(photo supplied by John Ellis of Chewton Chat)

Harcourt Tennis Club

The 2014 tennis season starts the 2nd Saturday in October which is the 10th October this year.

Junior practice starts in September and Thursday night tennis will also start in October.

We have a tennis app which anyone can go into called the Harcourt Tennis App. And we put any competitions on that APP so everyone knows what is going on in tennis. This year was the first time we have used the APP that's is how we tell our members what is going on, the teams are put on it, The draws and we can chat to each other as well.

But anyone is quite welcome to contact us on 54742580 or 54742680. **Faye Hards**



Above: The after school beginners group which Sharon Blake coaches on a Monday night. This program will recommence in October. All welcome. Ring Sharon Blake 54742680 or Faye Hards 54742580



Right: The Junior 1 team which came runners ups this year.



Harcourt Section 1

Above: The Harcourt Section 1 team which won the grand final on the 21st March at the weekend: 63-42 games 7 sets to 2 sets. This is three in a row for this side - which is a great feat for Harcourt.

In the photo are: Bruce Bickford, Lee Tunn, Josh Parsons, Nevan Kelly, Faye Hards. Sharon Blake, Donna Parsons, Stacey Mitchell.

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JUNIOR FOOTY

AGE GROUPS

u11.5, u14.5 & u17.5

Exciting new things are happening with Junior Footy at Harcourt!

Training has been moved to Thursday nights! There are still places available in our junior age groups for season 2015 and we want you to come and join us!

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FRIDAY NIGHTS
STARTING 1ST MAY

ALL WELCOME - SPREAD THE WORD

For more info contact: Kathie Teasdale 0447 305 343

SK8 ART INSTALLATION!

The Skate Art Project is funded by the Victorian State Government through the Community Crime Prevention Unit in partnership with The Mount Alexander Shire Council and XtremeInc Youth Projects, is half way through and producing some amazing work! Tara Kingston the lead artist on the project has been blown away by the incredible artwork and ideas by local young people.



“I’m really excited to be involved in such an awesome youth arts project. A truly great opportunity for the young people within the community to have a voice and make the skate park their own colourful playground. Throughout the design process, this is of the upmost importance to me, that the youth have ownership - that the artwork is theirs.”

Over the duration of the ten workshops the group has been covering everything from the initial brainstorming, stencil making, aerosol techniques, pattern-making through to the final applied design. The group have decided that the main theme for the skate park mural will be retro video games; the rest will be a surprise.

The installation is over the Easter holidays on the 9th and 10th of April 9am-5pm, with a free BBQ and music. Members of the community are encouraged to come and have a play, contribute and get colourful. This is a fantastic opportunity to work on a massive canvas which is the skate park and create something beautiful and inviting for the community.

To join the Skate Art youth group or to find out more, please contact Sarah Cook on: 0402 087 949 or email: info@xtremeinc.org



Knowhere Near the End

It wouldn't quite be right to say every Sunday something is quietly building momentum out Harcourt way.

Local band- **At Seas End**- (photo bottom left of page) have been rehearsing regularly, fine tuning their repertoire and writing new material for the past 12 months. But local residents must be getting familiar with the heavy riffs of their 'melodic metal' genre that drift over Harcourt on a Sunday afternoon.

The band consists of four Harcourt lads Dylan Smith- guitar, Beejay Valdes- vocals, Jake Simmins- guitar and Darcy Carroll- drums, while Castlemaine resident Ethan Larkins holds the rhythm section together on bass.

The band seems to have come a long way in a short time. Since winning the local division of the Battle of The Bands held at the Theatre Royal in June 2014, the boys performed well at the Regional Finals held in Ballarat, and are building a following around Central Victoria. The band have played a number of shows at Ballarat's Karova Lounge and Bendigo's Music Man .

At Seas End has performed with some of their metal heroes such *Down Royale*, *Glorified* and *Storm The Sky*, and get positive feedback whenever they play.

One of the highlights was recording time the band won with sound engineer Mark Woods at his recording studio at Carisbrook. None of the band members had heard of Woods, but when they entered his studio they realised they were in good hands.

Adorning the walls was memorabilia that shows Woods has worked with some of Australia's music legends including Men At Work, TISM, The Models and Midnight Oil, while international names were Tina Turner and Mick Jagger.

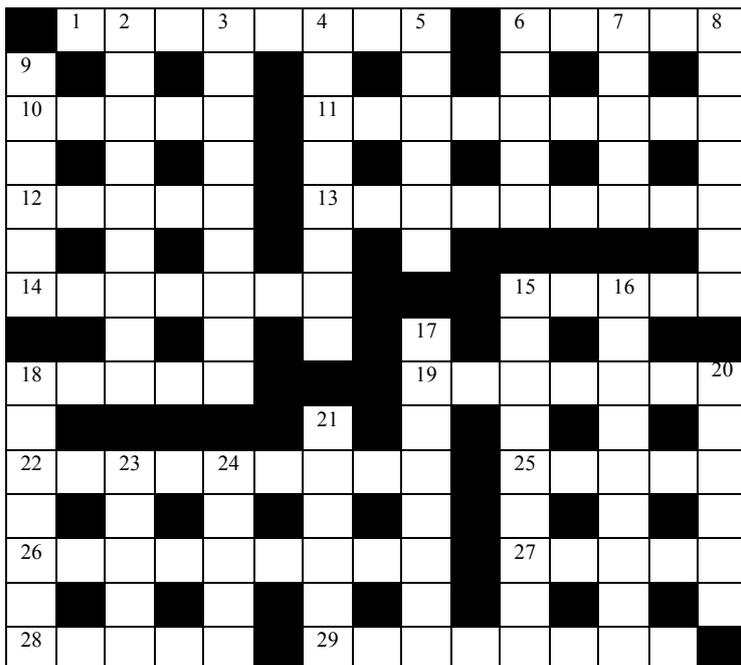
It was a new experience for the boys who were quite comfortable in their surroundings having been part of the Music Program at Castlemaine Secondary College. In that program Dylan, Darcy, Jake and BeeJay have all done some of the VET Music Industry units focussing on sound recording that the course offers.

And the skill of the band didn't go unnoticed by Woods after the 1am session concluded.

Woods said: “They were great: young, enthusiastic, with great ideas. They reminded me of myself at that age. The only difference is these guys can really play their instruments. They're all very good musicians.”

Coming from someone with Woods' experience, that endorsement suggests the Harcourt lads might be moving in the right direction. The band has performed live in March and April and the Music Man Megastore in Bendigo.

You can follow the bands journey on their Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/AtSeasEndOfficial>), hear their recording on Triple J Unearthed (<https://www.triplejunearthed.com/artist/seas-end>).



Across:

- 1. Sycophantic marketing mudslingers? (8)
- 6. From pulpit, he gets vicarious pleasure without getting into debt. (5)
- 10. Chose work of Edward. (5)
- 11. Heather signing on? (9)
- 12. Backward moon takes in number to cancel out. (5)
- 13. Sickish is not the near-side chroma—maybe a bit 28? (3-6)
- 14. Vain, yet there's greenness in it. (7)
- 15. What the one not hiding does to the sound of beards and turbans? (5)
- 18. Camp necessity with point for point of principle. (5)
- 19. Valuable old item against the saintless quest. (7)
- 22. Andean engineer hand-in-hand with Scottish interjection. (2,7)
- 25. If 'V' were inverted and crossed it would be similar to this. (5)
- 26. After 11 on this, you'd be invited. (5,4)
- 27. Dot first person twice for box? (5)
- 28. Maybe the state of 13 joke... (5)

29. Probably not involved with 13 or 28; 6 might mention it in the same breath as mercy, surely? (8)

Down:

- 2. The tension we hear is palpable over this policy. (9)
- 3. Ready to overlook faults in gluten din. (9)
- 4. Pupils face off? (3-2-3)
- 5. Templar initially a common occurrence in war. (6)
- 6. Drop MA from Russian city and replace 4th with a 2nd 'v' for Swedish artefact. (5)
- 7. Common sound of bone-cruncher in Egypt? (5)
- 8. Plural 23 these days does for these more respectful sign-offs. (7)
- 9. No maid in her realm? (6)
- 15. In situ at nothing like the fix we're in... (9)
- 16. Confused, one German squire makes these to pursue his research. (9)
- 17. Certainly not a genuine tot with a voice this high! (8)
- 18. Caught on small bits of tree? (7)
- 20. Puts up in secret. (6)
- 21. '10' girl and Wagner are ennui-producing. (6)
- 23. The last hurrah? (5)
- 24. How climate change is debated these days. (5)

MARCH 2015 Xword SOLUTION ©McW Feb'15

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Across:

- 1 & 5 Result of reaping stubble, or raiding the tin for peanuts in melted sugar? [Well?]
- 5 see 1 and 15. (7)
- 9 Narrow-minded Californian city[LA] in ruins.
- 10 Speak ill of cart due to crash... (7)
- 11 Let helium balloon down for painter[Well?]
- 12 Mondays and Tuesdays seem old in these times [...of the week]. (5,4)
- 13 I pour port into early French stew. (3-6)
- 15 & 5 Too early to reap benefits of environmental party? (5)
- 16 Capacious Sufi sound [of Rumi...]? (5)
- 18 How the deaf suffer? [Well?]
- 21 Dinner of shreds and patches? [Well?]
- 24 Half-way through most, I make it damp. (5)
- 25 Three-way [tri- tube] in chaos is a mark of respect. (7)
- 26 Poet lad grows legs in H₂O. (7)
- 27 Finger [digit] gangster [AI] in modern media.
- 28 Alone [solo] first [Ist] on stage by herself.

Down:

- 1 Growing excitement like plaque after a while... [Well?]

- 2 Sometimes gained by looking into it. (7)
- 3 Misleading narrative on the 99th floor without the 'e' [...in 'storey'] (4,5)
- 4 Big bird's nest sounds weird like [erie]. (5)
- 5 Random young girl as alternative to top song. [Well?]
- 6 Lane couldn't get cucumbers for this sort of money... [in The Importance of Being Earnest]
- 7 Tardy, flightless... parrot? [Well?]
- 8 Arrives at main road [T-junction] with justification [reason] for violation. (7)
- 14 Jack up regions of sorrow for an extreme night out! [Well?]
- 15 Heavy metallic athletic dream. [Well?]
- 16 Widely considered to be perturbed without the sub, and further perturbed with the U back in. (7)
- 17 Opportunist saw one. Artist held one. Bud is doing it in spring. [Well?]
- 19 I owe [IO] Brian \$50 after confusing location in Africa. (7)
- 20 Wild [rant] with golf supporter [tee] to ask earnestly. (7)
- 22 Heat pure nitro-glycerine and it will blow back most of the way. (5)
- 23 Position suits distracted soul to a 'I'. (5)

Bella Mizzi's Blog Post - Year 12, 2013 and first year out of school 2014

A young Harcourt resident, now working and studying in Melbourne, Bella has kindly agreed to share her blog with readers of The Core - this is an extract from the second instalment.

In February's instalment, Bella was facing disaster; she thought her dreams were over because she received a D grade on her first English essay in Year 12, 2013.

Going through high school, the amount of importance constantly surrounding your ATAR and the realization that the whole system is a competition style ranking order of every student in the state can drive you insane. First, there are the teachers telling you to study and aim for the highest grades you can. Then there are the constant assembly meetings where you're told to get the highest ATAR possible and instructed time after time on the endless processes and paper work you need to undertake in order to receive your ATAR. Then there are the other students around you who you eventually realize are your competition. Then you have every other year level looking up to you and asking what to do when they're in VCE, when you don't fully understand yourself. Then there are your parent's friends and the adults in your life constantly asking, "Year 12?! You must be buried in homework! Remember not to get stressed!" And lastly you have your parents and immediate family.....

I wouldn't have felt the need to break down in my mess of tears when receiving my worst grade ever, had I not been given the impression that an ATAR score defines the rest of your life!!!

In all honesty I was always a good student, never a great one, never the worst one, but an average, where I should be good student, and only since finishing high school did I realize that none of that matters. The only things that matters are what you do after it.

- How much of a drive you have towards achieving what you most desire to achieve?
- How far you push yourself to keep going and to find an alternative when all else fails?

I'm not saying that school doesn't hold any significance to your future; I am simply saying that it is not the be all and end all of your career. Where is my proof for that statement?

Regardless of the shockingly below average final



mark I received upon graduation, I earned a place in my first preference university course. That's right. Only after this entire ordeal, did I realize that my first preference course, the course that I had to submit an application for prior to notice of my final outcome, course did not require an ATAR. Good lord.

Sure enough, after all that entire ordeal, I now happily study a Bachelor of Fashion Merchandising, and live as a tertiary student in the big smoke of Melbourne City, all without a proper ATAR.

To follow Bella's blog go to: <https://missbellamizzi.wordpress.com/2014/12/02/the-first-onemissbellamizzi/>

Applefest Art Show Successful Junior Artists

Paul Northam, (right) Managing Curator of LaTrobe University Visual Arts Centre who has lived in Harcourt since 2006, was the judge for the Applefest Art Show this year. He was impressed with the quality of entries at all levels and spoke in detail about many of them. George Milford extended thanks to Katherine Tait and Leonie Auhl for hanging the show.



With George are: Best Junior, Eve Aurisch-McGrath (left) - "Dad in the Park" and Highly Commended Junior, Samara Bassett (below) - "Trick Riding".



Pips 'n' all

Hello Garden lovers,

Autumn is the perfect time to start planning and preparing new garden beds or preparing existing gardens for infill planting. Our most successful gardens will be those we have taken some time to think about what we want and what conditions we have to work with. Thinking about what works and what doesn't work in our gardens, can help make new plantings and garden beds more successful.

There are lots of things to think about when planning new garden beds but a few key ones are – Soil, Sun, wind and water. If you walk around your house at this time of year when the sun is still relatively high in the sky, you can see where your morning shade is, where your afternoon shade is and where it is sunny for most of the day. This shadow pattern will change when the sun is lower in winter, but it is the summer sun that will have the most impact on your garden.

During your walk, also think about water. Look for wet areas or dry areas. Does water pool anywhere? Are there dry slopes? Where does the hose reach to? Do you have access to grey water runoff? Do you have a sprinkler system? Knowledge about your access to water is an important part of your planning.

Wind can also affect your garden. Knowing which direction hot, dry winds generally come from can be helpful. Planting trees and hedges can be effective in protecting your garden from drying winds. In fire prone areas, trees and hedges can also shield houses and gardens from radiant heat, although plant selection is very important because the fire retardant properties of plants vary considerably.

If you are still walking around and thinking about your garden, look for views you love and want to protect. On the other hand, are there things you would like to hide?

Taking some time to think about conditions helps make new plantings and garden beds more successful. It will help you decide where to create shade, filter winds, frame views, screen eyesores, and most importantly, group plants with similar needs together.

Autumn is also a great time for transplanting. So, if you have some plants that have struggled with too much shade, too

much sun, frost or water maybe you could relocate them. A new position may give them a new lease of life.

This month we are:

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

This month in the woodland:

- Grey Box is flowering.

Happy Gardening

Janyce

Fruit Tree Tips for Autumn

Now's the time to put away your nets if you used them on your fruit trees over summer, because they degrade much faster if they're left out in the weather. They seem to slip off more easily if you remove them while your tree still has leaves, so don't wait too long.

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

On another note, if you're noticing some of your fruit trees flowering (despite the fact that it's not spring and in fact were descending into winter) don't panic! It's not uncommon for fruit trees to have a last ditch attempt to produce some fruit, and though it might be an indication of a sick or stressed tree, it can also happen in perfectly healthy trees - it's just the genetic drive to reproduce!

One last note – unfortunately fruit fly has been found this year in Harcourt! The town's orchardists are asking that everyone do their bit to help make sure this doesn't become a bad problem for the industry by cleaning up all the fruit from your garden. Fruit fly (and lots of other pests and diseases) use waste fruit as their home to reproduce, and to survive over the winter, so by cleaning up your fruit (yes, ALL of it), you're helping to break the little blighter's lifecycle. Go to <http://preventfruitfly.com.au/> for lots of useful tips and strategies, and stay tuned to the Core for more fruit fly prevention news.

Hugh and Katie Finlay run the Grow Great Fruit membership program, an organic course for home fruit growers: <http://www.mafg.com.au/ggf-program>.

Katie Finlay

Mt Alexander Fruit Gardens

0409 706 784



Janyce McMurtrie

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ASQ Plant of the Month

April's plant of the month is Acer, otherwise known as Maples.

There are many different varieties of Maple. The first one to spring to mind would be the Japanese maple or Acer palmatum. This is a smaller variety and in common form can get up to 4mtrs in height. Next up would be the larger shade tree or avenue trees like Acer negundo and Acer freemanii. These styles of Maple have a leaf similar to the Canadian flag maple and have growth habits of 6x4mtrs all the way up to 12x10mtrs and grow well in this region. Best known for their autumn colours of super bright oranges and reds, inject some colour into your property with a Maple.



ASQ Garden & Landscape, Horticulturalist, David Birch's favourite: Acer rubrum Fairview flame



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Persistent Plants

For climate change resistant plants, using other than native plants, one can search for and examine those planted over 140 years ago. These plants show by their continued existence that they can survive poor soils and lack of water.

In this area, white and fragrant blue-violet bearded irises are in clumps. In more extended gardens and miner's rights' surrounds, Belladonna lilies and jonquils are found. Others found as shrubs or thickets are rosemary and annual lavenders. Around large dams built after the Snowy Mountains scheme can be found a Pelargonium that grows in very big thickets. These like some Agaves were naturalised in France and Germany long ago and are not on garden lists any more. They are too big.

Lavenders were bred into oil rich varieties in Tasmania from 1922 for 35 years, and life spans were extended to 25 years. I have some 24 years old. They are sterile but grow readily from cuttings.

I can recommend Abelias for being drought and frost tolerant and they will grow in any soil. The following examples flower in summer and all like pruning. Cuttings can be taken in autumn for Abelia Grandiflora, Abelia Schumannii, Abelia Uniflora, Abelia Floribunda and Abelia Chinensis.

Ian Johnson



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Community Diary Dates

9 April: 10.30 - 12.30 Playgroup, (same time every Thursday) Sunday School Hall, Buckley Street;
7.30pm Harcourt Valley Landcare Meeting, ANA Hall

10 April: 6.00pm Harcourt Lions Barbecue and AGM, Scout Hall, Eagles Road

15th April: 7.00pm, HPA Meeting, Harcourt Valley Primary School

16th April: 1.30pm, CWA, Leisure Centre, Bingham's Road

18th April: 2.00pm, Bowls Club, President's Day and Presentation Night, 6.30pm Dinner & Presentation.

19th April: 1.30pm, Heritage Centre visit to The Great Stupa

25th April: 2.30pm, ANZAC commemoration, commences at the Heritage Centre, ceremony in Stanley Park

26th April: 10am, Working Bee, Harcourt Valley Landcare meet at xxx

30th April: 7.30 pm, Western Front Association talk on Walter Peeler, VC as part of the ANZAC Centenary, Venue: Tread

7 May: 7.30 pm, Western Front Association talk on Major General James McKay as part of the ANZAC Centenary, Venue: Tread

17th May: 10am Bowls Club AGM followed by barbecue.

23rd May: Harcourt Lions, Proposed: BeyondBlue Fundraising Luncheon, Tread

24th May: 1.30 pm Heritage Centre tour to Malmsbury, hosted by Malmsbury Historical Society



These striking photos of a "Little Eagle" were supplied by Prue Wallduck of Millduck B&B North Harcourt

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

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

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

Circulation is currently 400 and copies can be obtained at the Harcourt General Store, The Harcourt Post Office, Tread Harcourt, the Harcourt Service Station, Harcourt Valley Primary School, The Little Red Apple and in Castlemaine: Run Rabbit Run, Castlemaine Library, Castlemaine Hospital, Castlemaine Community Information Centre and Castlemaine Visitors' Centre.

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

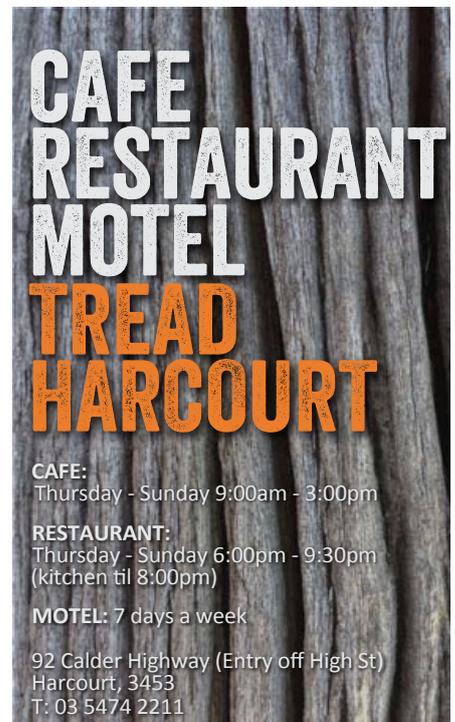
Harcourt News/The Core is printed with the assistance of the Harcourt Primary School and Mount Alexander Shire.

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.

Walnuts and Apples go Together.

This is especially true in a Waldorf salad, when you mix some crushed walnuts, celery and apple. One of the pioneer walnut growers in Victoria is Ian Dann. Ian, who originally lived at Harcourt, commenced planting walnuts in 1984 on a 13 hectare property at Ardmona and now produces a substantial proportion of the national walnut crop. Closer to home, we can see a similar venture in Gaasch's Road, Harcourt, where Bill, Jim and Johanna Andrianopolis commenced planting walnuts in 2006. Bill, Jim and Johanna have about 1,500 walnut trees of the Howard and Tulare varieties, both varieties derive from California, USA. This year's crop will be harvested in April. The trees in Gaasch's Road are planted in deep granitic loam, are irrigated through the summer and are frost-resistant. Most of the crop is sold in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne. Walnuts are sold in 10 kg bags and find a ready market among southern Europeans, as the nuts are an integral part of the Mediterranean diet. There are many health benefits to eating walnuts. The website of Walnuts Australia states that 'Walnuts will grow where apples grow'. Bill, Jim and Johanna would certainly agree with this assertion. Walnuts and apples belong together.

George Milford



**CAFE
RESTAURANT
MOTEL
TREAD
HARCOURT**

CAFE:
Thursday - Sunday 9:00am - 3:00pm

RESTAURANT:
Thursday - Sunday 6:00pm - 9:30pm
(kitchen til 8:00pm)

MOTEL: 7 days a week

92 Calder Highway (Entry off High St)
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T: 03 5474 2211



The Harcourt School 1914- 1918

The Harcourt area was expanding and increasing along with the school student numbers. By 1917, when these two photos were taken, there were 41 girls and 42 boys. A decade earlier there were only 58 students. Even though there were increased students, there were still only three staff: head teacher John Stewart with Miss Kitty Stewart (possibly John's daughter) and Miss Edmondson.

The school consisted of two rooms, with the verandah covered in. One room had two tiers for the desks, as in a lecture hall. The tiers ran the length of the room.

World War 1 had been going for three years. Many of the students had first-hand association with the war, with family members serving overseas. The Ely, Pellas & Smith families fell into this category. At school, the Patriotic Fund was supported by the mothers of students.

To find out more about this committee and the work it achieved throughout the duration of WW1, come to the ANA Hall on Saturday 25th April for the Anzac Ceremony at 3pm.

Do you have any photos of the school from 1910-1920? If so we at the Heritage Centre would love to see them at the ANA hall any Wednesday.





The Western Front Association Central Victoria Branch

will present two talks on local soldiers as
part of the Centenary of World War One
Commemorations

WALTER PEELER V.C.

Thursday 30 April, 2015

Born in Barkers Creek in 1887 and awarded the highest military decoration - the Victoria Cross - in Belgium in 1917. Peeler is a true local hero who also served in the Second World War and devoted his life to the commemoration of his comrades.



Maj. Gen. JAMES McCAY

Thursday 7 May, 2015

McCay was a Barker Street solicitor, school teacher and politician who rose to the 2nd highest rank of the Australian Imperial Forces, but fell from grace after the disastrous attack at Fromelles in July 1916.

Venue: Tread, High Street, Harcourt.

Time: Presentations start at 7.30pm.

Entry: Gold coin donation to WFA.

Meals: Available from 6pm. Bookings 5474-2211.