

HARCOURT NEWS THE CORE

September 2018

HARCOURT NEWS – Edition 53
<http://harcourt.vic.au/news>

Harcourt Progress Association Inc

If Re-elected, Labor makes commitment for Harcourt Railway Station



Jacinta Allan, Minister for Transport (left), Premier Daniel Andrews, and Member for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards. Photo: John Ellis, Chewton Chat

The Premier Daniel Andrews, Jacinta Allan, Minister for Transport and Member for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards joined forces at Bendigo Railway Station on Friday 31st August to announce that a re-elected Labor Government will deliver the next stage of Bendigo Metro, and importantly for Harcourt, will start the planning necessary to reopen the Harcourt Railway Station. The proposed station at Harcourt is part of the promise to upgrade the track between Kyneton and

Bendigo to allow trains every 40 minutes during off peak times. When questioned whether this would mean a double track all the way between Kyneton and Bendigo, the Premier, said he was unable to say at this stage because it would depend on engineering studies and subsequent reports.

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DEADLINES & PUBLICATION DATES

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



COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION of VICTORIA

the voice of the community

MEMBER 2018

Maree Edwards said: "More people are commuting between Bendigo, Kyneton and Melbourne and only Labor will do the planning work needed to upgrade the Bendigo line to have capacity to run trains every 40 minutes across the day."

A re-elected Andrews Labor Government will build three new train stations costing \$49.6 million as part of the third stage of Bendigo Metro; a key election commitment delivered by the Labor Government and will include new train stations at Goornong, Raywood and Huntly. The single platform stations will have car parking and covered waiting areas with seating.

Work on the new Goornong Station will start next year and finish by 2021. Construction of the new Raywood Station will start in 2020 and finish by 2022, followed by construction of the Huntly Station starting in 2022 and finishing by 2023. The whole project will create up to 150 jobs

Central Victorians will also be big winners from Labor's proposed new Suburban Rail Loop – an underground rail network that will circle Melbourne and connect to every major regional train line. The project will mean Bendigo line passengers won't have to travel through Melbourne to access education and health services, with Melburnians also set to have easier access to all Bendigo and the Macedon Ranges has to offer. Regional rail users from Central Victoria will also be one stop away from Melbourne Airport via a regional super hub in Sunshine.

From a Press Release

Harcourt set for further growth

Mount Alexander Shire Council has adopted a combined planning amendment and permit application for a 32 lot subdivision in Harcourt, paving the way for more housing options in the area.

The Harcourt Land Use Framework Plan identifies this area, which is close to the town centre, for residential expansion.

Acting Director Sustainable Development Ben Grounds says the proposal helps deliver on Council's plans for Harcourt as a strategic site for growth.

"Harcourt has so much going for it as a place to invest right now. The town is identified for residential expansion and population growth in the Mount Alexander Planning Scheme, as well as the Loddon Mallee South Regional Growth Plan," said Mr Grounds.

Harcourt is just minutes off the Calder freeway with easy access to Melbourne, Bendigo and Castlemaine, and nearby rail services. It has a primary school, civic hall, and a variety of recreation facilities, sports clubs and interest groups, as well as a new mountain bike park.

Harcourt is also home to a proactive community and is placed to take advantage of tourism opportunities like the Goldfields Track and La Larr Ba Gauwa Park.

From a Shire Press Release



Advertising Coordinator Harcourt News – The Core

The Harcourt Progress Association is seeking someone to become a vital part of The Core's editorial team by contributing to a newspaper that supports local Harcourt community and business. This is a volunteer role for someone who is able to dedicate up to five hours per month as Advertising Coordinator.

This position would suit someone with an interest in writing and wishing to develop their skills in news media, business and advertising.

Key responsibilities:

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To apply, send your resume to news@harcourt.vic.au outlining relevant skills and experience and a short letter explaining why this role interests you.

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Harcourt Pre-School faces Exciting Challenge

The Harcourt Pre-School runs an excellent program and has big plans for its future. Enrolments remain open for next year as numbers are not at capacity.

The challenge for the Pre-School Parents' Committee is to establish a new long term home for the kinder from 2021. Action needs to be taken now to allow time for the many stakeholders to have their say and to get a new building designed and constructed.

Due to an unexpected turn of events, the Committee had to return a State Government Grant of \$262,500 for improvements to the current site. However, the good news is that MP for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards, has ensured that the funds are quarantined and can go towards a new building.

The main stakeholders who need to be involved in the development of our new pre-school are the Department of

Education, the Shire, the YMCA, Harcourt Valley Primary School, parents and community representatives and of course Maree Edwards who has given such enthusiastic support to the project.

More exciting news is that the Department of Education in Bendigo has offered to assist with a project plan and its associated timelines. This will kick off the process for the stakeholder group. Spokesperson for the Parents Committee Natalie McCarthy said, "This is the basis for our planning and will assist us to meet the planning deadline, as our intention is to apply for a further grant by September 2019."

This project signals a new beginning for early years' education in Harcourt with a purpose built facility to meet the needs of the growing number of young families choosing to settle in Harcourt.



Children and mothers at the Harcourt pre-school play centre. Weekly Times Dec 9, 1953. Via Trove



"We love our kinder!" Some of the children who attend Harcourt Pre-School with their teacher Lisa Gray are pictured here on an early spring afternoon.



HPA Update

Playspace Stanley Park North – Working Group

The working group for the new Harcourt play space met on Monday September 3 for the first time. This group was established after the Shire and HPA worked together to develop the Terms of Reference. Volunteers from the community will work with council officers to oversee the draft design before it goes out to the community for comment. \$60,000 has been committed by the Shire for the initial design and survey work. Council has also submitted an application to the Department of Sport and Recreation for a grant for construction.

Harcourt roundabout

HPA's Adopt a Roadside group will carry out additional planting this year. Only a small number of plants were

put in at the first working bee. The ground is extremely compacted and it will take two working bees - one to dig the holes and the other to plant. The easy part is putting the plant in and watering it! More plants will become available in October, however, weather conditions will determine whether the plants go in this year or are held over until winter next year.

Harcourt Pre-School

At the recent HPA community meeting, the Harcourt Pre-School spoke about its need for support from the community as it plans its move to a new building for 2021. HPA will support the pre-school by keeping the issue "alive" via The Core and possibly by sending a delegate as part of the stakeholder meetings which will occur as the project takes off.



Harcourt Valley Primary School

Book Week Dress up Day

At Harcourt Valley Primary there was a sensational effort from the students and staff in preparing and sourcing the creative costumes to celebrate Book Week. The Children's Book Council of Australia is responsible for establishing Book Week which is marked in August each year and promotes reading and literacy for children.

General book week activities involved all students and staff dressing up as their favourite book character and presenting



a summary about their book character and the book. At the school assembly there was a book character parade enabling all students to display their costumes.

There was also an excellent attendance of parents/carers at the special assembly and the majority of students and their parents or carers went to a lot of effort to dress up.

By the way ... Cruella has not caught the Dalmatians yet!



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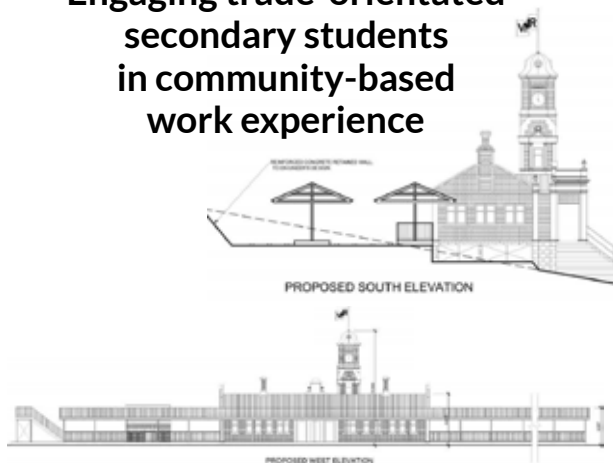
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secondary students
in community-based
work experience



To fund our Community Project,
we need **YOUR** vote now!

- 1  Register for a Pick My Project account at www.pickmyproject.vic.gov.au
- 2  Select 'Harcourt as your 'voting suburb' and then browse the project ideas
- 3  Select 'All Aboard! Engaging Youth to build a Miniature Railway Station' for your shortlist, along with 2 other projects. Then tap 'Vote' to be sent a 4-digit code to your mobile number to verify your selection.



Project Partners:

Victorian Miniature Railway,
Castlemaine Secondary College
and the Harcourt Lions Club.



The Measure of Student Contribution to VMR

The VCAL students of Castlemaine Secondary College who have chosen to work each Friday morning of term at the Victorian Miniature Railway have to date:

- Produced 2.1 kms of track which incorporates over 300 sections of track with 40 sleepers per track;
- Each sleeper has 4 holes to be drilled;
- $300 \times 40 = 12,000$ sleepers \times 4 holes = 48,000 holes drilled!

No wonder they are proud of their achievements on this project.



VMR members were in Castlemaine at a number of locations promoting their project for Pick My Project at the end of August. Here a VMR member and a VCAL student discuss the VMR's goals with a member of the public at the Artists' Market at the Western Oval.

Harcourt's Little Library

is at the Heritage Centre.

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Harcourt CFA

Winter is over- summer is not far away

In the August edition, I mentioned about fires in the Northern Hemisphere as a reminder of the dangers of wildfire as a lead into this coming fire season. Large and in some cases catastrophic fires have occurred in Alaska, Canada, Russia, California and Greece. Well this coming fire season may well be closer than we think. On Saturday August 11th a fire at Cape Conran in Gippsland burned out of control across over 700 hectares and with about 140 fire fighters battling this blaze, the fire was contained, but was still not under control two days later.

Closer to home on Friday 24th August, Kyneton, Langley/Barfold and Malmsbury brigades attend a running grass fire at Kyneton, burning out of control in dry grass on top of green grass as a result of burning off by a landowner on his property. And further north of the state along the Murray River, brigades are experiencing running grass fires. The Chief Officer of the CFA has already announced that fire restrictions will apply in parts of Gippsland from September 10th. This is the earliest time on record for the introduction of fire restrictions.

So what does this mean for us in Central Victoria? Firstly we have recorded some better rainfall figures that other parts of the state which are much drier than normal for this time of the year. But all this does, is encourage the growth of more fuel that will dry out when the warmer weather comes. Higher and thicker fuel loads equates to bigger and hotter fires. The time to start preparing is NOW!

Traditionally, at this time of the year, the local bush has an amount of moisture in the ground which has to dry out as part of the curing cycle, which will then allow the bush to burn. Have you observed how little moisture currently is in the ground, in particular the sub-soil?

If burning off is part of your preparations this spring, please exercise extreme care and prepare fully before lighting up so that your burn does not escape.

Tips for a safer burn include the following:

- Create smaller piles for burning rather than one large pile;
- Check forecast weather conditions for that day as well as the following days, especially temperature and wind conditions;
- Have sufficient water, equipment and people on hand to keep the fire under control;
- Register your burn with Vicfire on 1800 668 511 before lighting up and be accurate with the details
- Let your neighbours know.

**For residents living in the City of Greater Bendigo – check out the new regulations that came into force on September 1st. In the past, residents living on property less than one hectare required a free permit to be issued for open air burning. The new rules now extends this to land more than one hectare as well, with an exception of fires for farming and primary production.*

Also consider slashing, mulching, using green waste bins and council tip green waste drop off days (if available) as alternatives to smaller amounts.

The Brigade has had two turnouts (same as last edition) which were both as a result of burning off. The first was within our brigade area and was an unregistered burn on the side of the road. The fact it was on the side of the road gave the impression to the observer that the fire required attention and because it was also not registered meant a response from the brigade was required. The second turnout was a support call to the Walmer brigade where a burn off of dry grass had been conducted during the day. Later that night, remnant fire continued to burn and spread to some logs and a stump on the side of the road. This is another reminder to continue to check the area after you have completed your burn.

Designation of Neighbourhood Safer Place

The Mount Alexander Shire has designated the Harcourt Valley Primary School Stadium as a Neighbourhood Safer Place / Place of Last Resort. It is very important that you have a clear understanding of what this means. This is NOT an evacuation area or the place that you go to, if you have decided to leave early. It is as it states, a “Safer Place” to go to if your “Stay and Defend” plan fails or you get caught out by a fast approaching fire that does not allow you time to get out of the area. It is **A PLACE OF LAST RESORT** which means your last plan when everything else fails. A leave early plan is much safer and far less stressful.

If you wish to learn more on this, keep an eye out for an opportunity to attend a CFA Community information meeting in the coming months. We are planning on hosting one again this year subject to CFA support and approval.

Current areas identified of concern for the coming fire season are Gippsland, North East Victoria, the Otway's and along the Murray River. A dry spring will likely see Central Victoria quickly added to this list. The more preparation you can undertake to prevent or minimise the impact of fire on your property and your family, the better off you will be and the quicker the recovery, should we experience a bad fire in our area.

Tyrone Rice
Brigade Community Safety Coordinator



Chatting with Harcourt CWA

Ninety Years Old and Still Going Strong

Life in the bush in 1928 was tough for women and their families when isolation, drought, few accessible schools, inadequate hospitals and maternity facilities were daily realities. Country Women's Associations were formed in New South Wales and Queensland in 1922 to provide support and healthcare and welfare services for women living in rural areas. Victoria followed suit on 12 March 1928 with the formation of the Victorian Branch of the CWA.

Many community services which we take for granted today such as Infant Welfare Centres and the Home Help Scheme were first provided and administered by the CWA.

The CWA realised the need for good public amenities for country women and their families and pioneered the planting of trees and the provision of seating facilities in public parks. It also provided playgrounds for children and, interestingly, the white lines which we take for granted on our roads today were first a CWA Community Safety initiative.

From its initial role to improve the lot of rural women and children back in 1928, the welfare work undertaken today by the Association to support to women most in need, both locally and internationally, is mind-boggling. Locally, thousands of knitted goods are provided to hospitals and charities and toilet packs, nappies, feminine packs, toys, and clothing are made available to women and children arriving at women's shelters without any possessions. Children arriving hungry at school are provided with breakfast, and mobile dental and eye clinics provide vital services in remote areas.

Further afield, we provide school requisites, birthing kits, and funds for water tanks and education to improve the safety and dignity of women living in the South Pacific and East Timor.

We face many new and different challenges today and the Association continues to advocate for women and children everywhere with forums on Family Violence, Problem Gambling, Elder Abuse and Suicide Awareness.

For the past ninety years in Victoria, the CWA has been involved in supporting and initiating many State and Federal government policies whilst retaining the non-partisan philosophies of its founders. I think that deserves three hearty cheers. Hip-hip-hooray, hip-hip-hooray, hip-hip-hooray!

Well done.

Our own Harcourt Branch is 88 years old, and has been influential in the lives of the women of Harcourt since October 20th, 1930 when a meeting in the ANA Hall decided to form a branch of the Association. At this meeting, Mrs Pritchard was elected President, Mrs W. Eagle and Mrs Lang, Vice Presidents, Mrs M. Mitchell, Honorary Secretary, and

Miss L Roberts, Treasurer. Harcourt locals will be familiar with many of those names.

The Harcourt Branch was 20 years old when this photo was taken. I hope you enjoy the walk down memory lane.

This year, our fund raising concert to be held next month is celebrating these ninety wonderful years in song and dance. Everyone is invited to come along to the Harcourt Leisure Centre on October 4th at 1:00 pm to enjoy the music, have a laugh, marvel at the magnificent afternoon tea, and chat with friends. That is what the CWA is all about.

Entry to the concert and afternoon tea is \$8.00. All of the money raised goes towards continuing the great work of the CWA and we look forward to seeing you there.



The ladies of the Harcourt CWA assembled outside Bennett's Garage one Saturday morning in the 1950s for a photograph which was subsequently published in the Weekly Times.

Back Row, L to R: Mesdames May Leversha, Ada Douglas, Ida Milford, Mena Ely, Ada Bingham, Peggy Lambshead, Rona Gaasch, Alice Richards, Dora Bertuch, Verna Walters, Jean Johansen, and Myrtle Lartar.

Front Row L to R: Mrs Jean Hoare, Miss Molly Mitchell, Mesdames Pallas ("Granny"), Florence Mills, Jean Bennett, Lorna Swenson, and Fanny Ely.





Harcourt Uniting Church

On these cold frosty mornings attending our 9 am Church service can be a bit of a challenge, however, the lovely sunny days remind us that spring is on its way.

In early August we celebrated our 153rd Anniversary of the Methodist and now Uniting Church in Harcourt. Our granite Church was built in 1865 and was certainly built to last! Mind you by English standards our buildings are not very old at all.

On Sunday 26th Castlemaine Legacy members joined us for our service in which they told us of their work supporting widows of ex-servicemen in our area. Don't forget to buy a badge during Legacy week and assist them in their valuable work.

Castlemaine Uniting Church will be holding a Car Boot Sale on Sept 15th 9 am – 1 pm in the Church hall and grounds in Lyttleton Street, Castlemaine - next to the Art Gallery.

In recent weeks the media has made us aware of the plight of drought stricken farmers in Australia. Our Church has been donating to a Church in the Mallee with money going towards their annual camp where farmers can forget about the challenges of drought for a weekend.

We have just returned from a five week caravan holiday through central NSW and Qld - where many paddocks are bare, cattle are being grazed on the roads, sheep are

abandoning their lambs, crops are failing - and there was not a cloud in sight. We spoke with a farmer who said: "We desperately need some rain – if only we knew when it was coming we could plan and survive." That same day we passed many road trains of hay heading out to farms – much of it donated by other generous farmers.

For the farmers - knowing others care would be just as valuable as the hay itself.

Jan Jenkin



At the Uniting Church Legacy Service



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Mt Alexander Community Enterprise

HAPPY HOUR

You are invited to join us as we celebrate our year's achievements and present the 2018 community grants.

All welcome

**Ray Bradfield Room
7pm Wednesday September 12**

Mt Alexander Community Enterprise Inc is a voluntary group raising funds for our shire through its funding partners, Bendigo Bank and Bendigo Telco.

Each year we distribute funds to our core projects as well as our annual Small Grants, Food@Christmas and other projects.

Just ask to tag your account as a supporter of MtACE, or open a new account – it won't cost you anything, and our community benefits.

Come along to hear more about us. We welcome new members to our committee, so if you'd like to help us decide where funds are spent, join us.

www.mtace.com.au

www.communitygrants.com.au

Filming “After the Firestorm”

Harcourt locals John Munday and Cath Scott spent the final weekend of August being followed by a film crew making an ABC documentary to mark the 10th anniversary of the Black Saturday Bushfires. The subject of the film is how survivors' lives have been changed and to what extent they have overcome the tragedy of the devastating Victorian fires of 2009. John and Cath's lives became intertwined due to the fires; as part of their healing process they searched for a new home and settled and married in Harcourt.

Cath said, “Filming was a very time consuming process. For example, we were filmed walking to the veggie patch from six different angles, each one requiring a separate take, and that set the pattern of the day as we picked the veggies, cooked them and went through our daily routine on the property, including feeding the alpacas.” There were intensive periods of personal interviews for each as well. John has a large collection of newspaper clippings about the fires and these were used as a stimulus for an interview which went for over two hours. On Sunday the crew arrived early and spent time filming the beautiful views to Mount Alexander and the frost and mist rising above the paddocks, before setting off to the Artists Market in Castlemaine. John, Cath and Ric Stubbings make up the trio “Summer Rain”; the documentary makers wanted to film them in performance at the market, and in particular to capture a song which John and Cath wrote about the fires, entitled “Spark”.

Cath's cat Harry will also star. He was rescued from her house after the fire went through. He was severely burnt when rescued by the RSPCA, which made finding his owner difficult, but he and Cath were eventually united. Along with John and Cath, Harry featured in the first documentary on the fires called “Into the Firestorm”. Harry is a true survivor, ten years on and he has been filmed for a second documentary!

John will feature in a further film shoot at Marysville, where he gives talks to senior members of the CFA on his experience of the Black Saturday fires as a firefighter then of 20-years, and a CFA lieutenant at Acheron, north of Marysville. While attempting to fight a fire near the town, John and his crew were forced by the fire front into Marysville and joined others at the Gallipoli Park Oval where they were fortunate to survive.

While the filming has inevitably brought back difficult

memories, Cath and John said the crew were considerate and sensitive and the experience had been positive. John said, “Having been filmed twice now about this event, we are confident that the documentary will give an accurate picture of survivors' lives ten years on.”

Come February 7, 2019, it is expected that both documentaries will be shown together. Renegade Productions has been commissioned to make the film; they are probably best known for the production of *RockWiz*. Marden Dean is the cinematographer and is recognised for his work on the recent film *Breath*, based on the novel by Tim Winton.



Summer Rain performs at the Artists Market in Castlemaine on the 1st September while filming takes place for the documentary “After the Firestorm”. From left: Ric Stubbings on bass, Cath Scott and John Munday. At the far right is Marden Dean on camera.

CACTUS WARRIORS FIELD DAY

This month our Wheel Cactus field day will take place on **Sunday 30th at 10.30 am**. We will start with a talk and a demo for new arrivals before going out into the field for our usual monthly cactus kill.

Tools, injectors, chemicals, safety goggles and gloves will be provided for the morning. Wear stout footwear, long pants and a hat. Children are welcome if accompanied by an adult.

We will finish the morning with a tasty BBQ lunch and the opportunity to mingle and chat over a cuppa.

The location will be confirmed later this month on our website www.cactuswarriors.org closer to the day. Click ON NEWS & EVENTS.



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Harcourt Heritage Centre

Nathaniel and Jane Vick

Nathaniel Vick was an energetic man of 33 when he took up land in Harcourt. He was here so early that he secured Township Lots A & B in 1855 before the survey proper was commenced and before Township Sections were put on the map. Four years later, the Melbourne to Murray River Railway was built across Vick's land, the railway embankments and a three-arch stone bridge (Vick's viaduct) dividing his property into two parcels reducing the original 45 acres to 32 acres in extent.

Nathaniel Vick had been born in Gloucestershire, England in February 1821 and came out to Port Phillip aboard the "Thetis" before the gold-rush, arriving in February 1849.. He married 23 year old Jane Jones in 1852. By 1855 the Vick family was living in a small home about sixty metres north of what is now the Charter residence. This home was initially built of slabs with a bark roof. As children arrived, it was extended by the addition of two rooms built of brick with shingle roof. In the meantime Nathaniel planted two acres of garden and orchard. The creek flats were an ideal location for this garden. N Vick was one of the first to plant apple trees in Harcourt. Nathaniel Vick was a member of the committee when the Harcourt School opened in 1859. Nathaniel's brother Peter Vick came to Harcourt in 1863, from England. The two brothers worked together until Peter Vick joined the Victorian Railways. When Nathaniel Vick died in 1870 at the age of 49 he had enclosed 35 of his 55 acres in post-and-rail fencing and was the owner of 6 cows, 3 heifers, two horses, 2 drays, a spring cart and ploughs and harrows with two acres of garden/orchard under cultivation.

Jane Vick seems to have been just as energetic as her husband. A year after Nathaniel's death, and in addition to raising her young family, Jane acquired fifty acres of land at Bark Hut Gully, Walmer. By the time Jane sold this parcel of land to William Hopper in 1875 she had considerably improved the land by grubbing four acres, fencing 55 chains with a log fence and erecting a post and 2 rail fence of forty chains length. By this time, with the help of Jane's sons, the orchard on the home block had been expanded to eight acres. By 1893, when Jane died, she was the owner of 98 acres, including a 20 acre orchard, most of the land was used for grazing. By that time she had a five-roomed brick house with detached weatherboard kitchen, a brick fruit storeroom and other sheds. Three massive timber uprights, a granite chimney and brick outlines enclosing a number of hawthorn trees mark the 1855 homesite of Nathaniel and Jane Vick as it may be seen in 2018.. At the time of her death Mrs. Vick was described as one of Harcourt's oldest and most respected residents. In the meantime Jane's children had been buying adjoining land so that the Vick family holdings were quite extensive.

The Vick boys, Nat, Herbert, Albert, Syd and John, were well known as cricketers. Syd Vick excelled at bowling and was known to his fellow cricketers as "the Sydney Express" because of his lightning deliveries. When he took to the bowling the opposition team generally suffered a batting collapse. Their sister Amanda Vick featured in a report of

a wedding published in the Mount Alexander Mail in 1889. Miss Vick, who was the bridesmaid, was dressed in dark green cashmere with cream trimmings. This is a long way from the drab image conveyed by sepia photographs of the era. Miss Vick's homesite was to the north of her mother's residence. The site is marked by scattered bricks, nerines, agapanthus and iris, a large pear tree and a stand of elm trees.

Only two of Jane's children married;- Nathaniel Vick (Jnr) married Janet Ely and Herbert Vick wed Amy Pritchard. Nathaniel Vick (Jnr) acquired land at the east end of Blackjack Rd and named his property "Rockleigh". Herbert Vick lived atop the hill east of the railway line. His property, which included a very fine orchard, overlooked what is now Harmony Way. Nathaniel Vick (Jnr) at 'Rockleigh' was very successful in the cultivation of cherries, his property, nestled on the western side of Mount Alexander being ideally suited to their culture. The irrigation channel ran through this property and he was able to irrigate the higher portions by use of a windmill. Later this was replaced by an oil engine-driven centrifugal pump. Herbert Vick gave up orcharding at the age of 58 and died soon after. Nathaniel (Jnr) retired in 1922 and moved to Ascot Vale, his daughter Laura had married Joseph Henderson and taken over the property. In the meantime Verna Vick, daughter of Herbert, had married J H Walter and lived atop the hill overlooking the Walter's General Store.

Nathaniel and Jane Vick were the grandparents of the grandparents of descendants living in Harcourt today. Their memory has been eclipsed by the doings of later generations. However, because of their extensive land holdings, the Vick name occurs frequently on the Harcourt parish plan. Vick's viaduct and Vick Lane remind us of this pioneering family. Harcourt Primary School came into being because of the persistence and commitment of pioneers such as Nathaniel Vick. It was stated in 1910 that these pioneers endured hardships and discomforts that might have overwhelmed the stoutest hearts, but by dint of unrelenting toil on their land they succeeded in firmly establishing themselves and laying the foundations of a thriving community.

This is another in a series of thumbnail sketches of the pioneers, taken from the CH James Collection, Harcourt Heritage Centre.



Federal Member for Bendigo

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September Fireside Chat

News of gunshots, a sensational pursuit on a dark night, tales of drowned mice and reminiscences of life before plastic packaging of groceries made for a fun afternoon at the Heritage Centre on August 19th. We certainly know more about the Harcourt store and the local community of the first decades of the 20th Century as a result of the researches in the Hedley James collection of photographs and news articles.

The September Fireside Chat will be held on September 23 (second last Sunday of the month) at 1.30 pm at the Heritage Centre. The title of the presentation is "Ely family letters: 1915 – 1920". The originals of a lot of letters to, from and about local soldier Ernest Harcourt Ely were presented to the Heritage Centre during 2017. Excerpts from these letters will be interwoven with colourised photographs of the era to bring to life the events in the closing months of WWI. Early in November our country will remember the Armistice of 1918. Using original material the Fireside Chat will "set the scene" for the centenary of November 11th 1918. The colourised photographs have only recently been made available and they throw a whole new light on things of a century ago. Anyone who had a relative who served in WWI will value seeing these photos.

Where: Harcourt Heritage Centre

When: 1.30pm Sunday 23rd September

What to bring: A plate of afternoon tea, please.

Bike Safety and Maintenance Workshops

The Rocky Riders mountain bike club is running a series of community workshops for both adults and kids. Kids workshops are an earlier time slot and parents are requested to stay for the workshop as well.

The scheduled sessions are:

- Thursday 18 October (Adults)
- Thursday 20 September (Kids & Parents)

Topics to be covered during the workshops include:

- Setting up your bike so it's comfortable and safe to ride
- Riding your bike safely - on and off-road
- Basic bike maintenance eg. tyre pressures, looking after your chain, changing a tyre, bike cleaning

Venue: Castlemaine Tennis Club, 2 Hargraves Street Castlemaine

The workshops are free and for everyone - no need to be a Rocky Riders member.

Spaces are limited

Register at www.rockyriders.com/workshop



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Fruit Fly in Harcourt

There have been two unconfirmed reports of fruit fly in Harcourt. Fortunately Harcourt Valley Landcare is on the move as well with its Fruit Fly Action Plan. Member Terry Willis who applied for the \$5,000 grant has secured the services of Dr Jess Drake who will lead the process of working with selected stakeholders to develop an action plan for the coming year. This will become the basis for future responses to fruit fly in the area for years to come.

Stakeholders have been sent a draft action plan for review and are expected to feedback comments by 13th of September. The feedback (which will remain anonymous) will be collated for a 2 hour workshop in October where comments will be explored and resolved by a collaborative effort aimed at fruit fly prevention in Harcourt.

Once the workshop is complete the Fruit Fly Action Plan for Harcourt will be launched.

AGM

The Landcare group will meet for its AGM at 6:30pm Friday September 7. Partners and families are attending for a meal at Goldfields Track at 6pm followed by the AGM. RSVP's for the meeting are at an all-time high with several new members having already joined.

Working Bee

Sunday 16th September at 10:00am will see the group join with Barkers Creek Landcare and Wildlife Group to remove gorse and broome at Mills and Bingham's Road. Barkers Creek will be having their AGM after the working bee and everyone is invited for the AGM and barbecue lunch.

For details of any events contact the Secretary: 0467 670 271



What does a Landcare member do on a day off? On Sunday 26th August, Harcourt Valley Landcare took the opportunity to walk on Mount Alexander from the top to the North Gap Road. Trevor McKay took issue with one of the balancing boulders; needless to say he didn't succeed in his mission ...



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Castlemaine Health is at an exciting stage. We've started work on a masterplan to create a new health and wellbeing centre in Castlemaine. We're supported by our local health partners and the community, whose ideas and opinions form the foundation of this work. We invite you to stay on this journey by joining our community strategic planning event. Help us shape the future of health for you and your family. A light meal will be provided.

SHAPE THE FUTURE OF HEALTH

Date: Wednesday, 19 September 2018
Time: 10am to 3.30pm
Venue: Castlemaine Health Auditorium
 142 Cornish Street, Castlemaine
RSVP: events@castlemainehealth.org.au



CARE, QUALITY AND CHOICE

Bakery Oven Has a Long History

It's a remarkable oven that Jodie and David Pillinger have restored in Harcourt.

The Blume's "Coronation Bakery" can trace its history back to the old Barker's Creek Bakery, part of the Union Hotel, General Store and "Lincoln House" residence, on the old goldfields road between Castlemaine and Bendigo, just down the road (towards Castlemaine) from the still-standing, same-side-of-the-road "Old England Hotel".

These days it's not easy to find evidence of the old Union Hotel, or Lincoln House. Only a bit of building rubble remains on-site, but in 1862 the hotel was run by my great great grandparents, Owen and Eliza Owens, and incorporated a General Store. Owen was a member of the local cricket team, and the Mount Alexander Mail of 17 December 1863 reports on a match between Barker's Creek and Campbell's Creek "at the Union Ground, Barker's Creek where Mr Owens of the Union Hotel provided lunch for the players". Mrs Owens



Sketch: Basil Blume's drawing of the Coronation Bakery and Union Hotel, Barker's Creek, as he remembers them from his boyhood (aged about 9 years), sketched in 1997.

is mentioned in an article of The Argus newspaper on the fourth of January 1866, as "A woman much respected for her industry".

Colleen Hall of Castlemaine (nee Blume), kindly gave her consent for us to reproduce her brother Basil Blume's drawing of the Coronation Bakery and Union Hotel, Barker's Creek, as he remembers them from his boyhood (aged about 9 years), sketched in 1997.

After Owen Owen's death on the last day of 1865, and Eliza's subsequent marriage in 1868 to James Millar, a baker in the Castlemaine district, Millar's Bakery became associated with the Union Hotel. Three of Eliza's children, Richard Owen



"Lincoln House", Barker's Creek, home of the Owens/Millar families, 1860 - 1911 approximately; hand-painted original glass negative (Victorian era), framed in Bird's Eye Maple.



Ruins of Barker's Creek Bakery in the 1970s

Owens, Albert J.R. Millar and David H. Millar, along with members of the Blume family, had training and experience at Millar's Barker's Creek Bakery.

Fast-forwarding to 1911, Ernest Blume and his father-in-law, Albert Williams purchased the property and business, continuing the bakery, which was re-named the "Coronation Bakery", (probably in patriotic reference to the coronation of George V during that year), and Ern lived with his wife, Pearl, and their growing family in "Lincoln House", where the Owens and Millar families had lived for so many years before them.

With the population of Barkers Creek diminishing, it was decided to move the bakery business to Harcourt about 1920 -21. Using bricks from the demolished old residence and bakery on the Union Hotel site in Barker's Creek, a new home, "Calrossie", and the new bakery premises, were built on the corner of present day Harmony Way and Victoria Road, Harcourt. I like to think that the oven also came across with the bricks, and would love to hear from anyone who knows.

At least the bricks from the Owens' family ancestry have found new life in Harcourt. Congratulations and thanks to the Pillingers for restoring the old bakery and continuing to produce 'the Staff of Life'!

This article was submitted by Sue Smith, Sutton Grange Road, Harcourt North, direct descendant of Owen and Eliza Owens.

- This Owens' Family History research was undertaken in collaboration with Wayne Jackson, a Canberra based relative and also a direct descendant of Owen and Eliza Owens.
- References include existing family documents, photos and writings.
- Harcourt Heritage Centre, and George Milford. (A relative through the Symes family)
- Castlemaine Historical Society Inc (Hilary Griffith)
- Trove, Mt Alexander Mail, The Argus, Bendigo Advertiser
- State Library of Victoria
- Peter Perry, past Director Castlemaine Art Gallery
- Colleen Hall, Castlemaine



Colleen Hall (descendant of the Blume family) standing by the firebox of the restored oven in the "new" Blume's Bakery in Harcourt. 2018.

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Chair's Message

Hi everyone,

Well thankfully it's not long now 'til spring warms us up ready for summer.

It was with great pleasure that I recently read that Bendigo Bank was voted the 3rd most trusted brand in Australia (according to Roy Morgan Net Trust Score between October 2017 and May 2018). This is a national survey and I translate this mostly to great customer service and the social impact that comes from the community bank model that is exclusive to the Bendigo Bank.

Our local bank is one of those community banks – how lucky are we? I'm always surprised when I meet local people that don't know that the Maldon & District Community Bank is a community bank and a franchise of Bendigo Bank, which means we have the same service and products as corporate bank sites but the difference being that we are a not for profit company that is locally owned where at least 80% of our profits are allocated to strengthen our community.

For this reason, we are deliberately increasing our communication to ensure communities like Harcourt are aware of our bank model where more profits are allocated if more people bank with us (and before you ask—yes, we offer all banking products for loans, business, equipment and finance, being a community bank doesn't mean we're Mickey Mouse). It's no coincidence that our brand signs sit proudly in many places not only in Maldon but throughout our district—but we have a great opportunity to do more.

We know we already have a small but growing customer base in Harcourt—so we just want to say thanks! Our twentieth birthday is coming up in April 2019 and we hope to continue building trust and grow our business so we can support and

say YES to more community applications that come our way. Our members and existing customers are the reason why we have a community bank, and why \$2.5 million has already been reinvested locally. If you're not on board yet, our friendly staff are happy to explain how easy it is to shift your accounts to either Maldon, Dunolly or Newstead (but you can do your day-to-day banking online or at any Bendigo branch). Our Branch Manager Adam Balzan is constantly on the road visiting clients so visits to your home or business can also be arranged by calling the branch on 5475 1747.

On a more personal note, I'd like to welcome Natasha Tickner back to the branch from maternity leave and say farewell to Katie McEachren who has shifted to Head Office (but is staying on as Communications Officer one day a week, which is wonderful news). I'd also like to extend a warm welcome to Janet Purcell onto the board. Janet comes with a wealth of community business experience and will be a strong addition to our great local company.

Good luck to those in finals for whichever game you play.

*Ross Eggleton, Chair of Maldon and District
Community Bank*

LIMERICK by The Bard of North Harcourt

My favourite card is a tarot.

My favourite bird is a parrot.

I'm not keen on meat

It's just veggies I eat

My favourite of which is a carrot.

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Central Goldfields Winter MTB Series Concludes

Near perfect conditions greeted the competitors in the final round of the Central Goldfields Winter Mountain Bike (MTB) Series at La

Larr Ba Gauwa mountain bike park in Harcourt on Sunday 26 August. The sun shone, the trails were firm and fast, there was a carnival atmosphere in the Oak Forest carpark, and the riding was extremely competitive with series results up for grabs.

Grades A, B and C raced on a revised course incorporating a flat fire trail, a solid climb up Trail 7 and then a fast flowing descent with multiple lines on Trail 6 before a loop around the event village. Grades D and E competed over an undulating course on Trail 1, also used for the Recreational Ride category. Once again there were more than 100 riders competing on the day, with a strong contingent of family and friends present to offer their encouragement.



Ryan Jans in action in A Grade

The Central Goldfields Winter Series was contested over six rounds at venues in Bendigo, Castlemaine and Harcourt. At the end of the series the points gained from the best 5 results counted with the top 15 points scorers being rewarded. Overall series winner was Lachlan Steen from Castlemaine with a four point buffer over Owen Fletcher, followed closely by Chris O'Donnell rounding out the top three. Riders from all of the Grades were represented

in the top 15 indicating the superb job performed by the event handicappers.

The support of major sponsor Hume and Iser was a key contributor to the success of the series, along with strong input by volunteers from both the Bendigo and Castlemaine mountain bike clubs.



Central Goldfields Winter Series winners

Rocky Riders and the Bendigo MTB Club are the MTBA accredited mountain bike clubs in the Castlemaine and Bendigo districts and key partners in the La Larr Ba Gauwa mountain bike park in Harcourt. The clubs conduct a variety of events during the year and conduct social rides both mid-week and on weekends. The latest updates on their activities can be found at:

Enquiries:

Frank Forster — Mob: 0414 410 411

Castlemaine Rocky Riders
PO Box 338
Castlemaine Vic 3450
www.rockyriders.com

Bendigo Mountain Bike Club
www.mtbbendigo.com



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Councillor Comment

Hi all,

We have been very busy at Council. We had the public Council meeting Tuesday before last, a full day at Council Tuesday and then we were at George West Foods in Castlemaine yesterday.

At the Council meeting the decision to grant planning approval for two group accommodation units on a farm was an interesting one. The dwellings are to be used for short stay accommodation and there was significant objection to this from neighbouring farmers present in the gallery. The advice from the officers is this is an allowable use so perhaps we will see an increase in tourist accommodation in the farm zone in the future. Many of you will know I have been supportive of dwellings on small blocks in the farming zone. In this case I argued the case for the neighbouring farmers but the decision went the other way when it came to the vote.

That's life at Council! If you don't have the numbers the decision will go against you and we must accept that. At the end of the day it makes us more determined to argue a better more convincing case the next time around.

Another significant item was the adjustment to the cents in the dollar amount for rating. This adjustment was required to ensure that Council meets its obligations under rate capping. Rate notices are due out shortly. It is always a good idea to check that the notice is correct before paying. The staff at Council will be happy to assist if you have any queries.

On Tuesday morning a group of Councillors did some training and this was followed by a briefing session in the afternoon. Briefing sessions are for the most part Councillor discussions about future issues to come before Council. As part of the briefing we discussed our Local Law No. 1 Meeting Procedures. This local law is due for an update and will go out to the public for comment in the next few weeks. It sets out the rules of how Council meetings are to be conducted. The rules around public question time are quite interesting and worth a read for those interested in getting involved.

At George West Foods (the "baco") yesterday, Ben Carroll the State Minister for Industry and Training announced grant funding to assist with a new pilot plant and training facility at the site. The grant is \$500,000 toward the new facility and \$700,000 for staff training. Following the announcement we had a plant tour which I found particularly interesting. What we know as the "new factory" is most impressive, and is a major employer in the region and at State level. It was good to see a few familiar faces working in the magnificent facilities in Castlemaine.

Spring showed its face for a few days late in the month, and we are fortunate that we are now getting some rain.

Best regards to all, Tony

AG Cordy
0439 742434



Environment
Protection
Authority Victoria

Litter is a Burning Issue

Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) issued 12,000 litter fines in 2017-18 and the litter that annoyed Victorians most was the lit cigarette.

Cigarettes are the most common litter and the type most commonly reported by the public.

More than three quarters of litter reports to EPA involve cigarette butts tossed from vehicles, and more than half involved a cigarette that was still burning.

Other litter fines were for food packaging, drink containers and other small items. Litter contaminates the soil, chokes waterways and endangers wildlife, and a lit cigarette is a serious fire hazard.

EPA's litter reporting service gives the public a clear mechanism for reporting people who throw litter from a vehicle, by using the car's registration number to track down the alleged offender.

You can report littering at www.epa.vic.gov.au or by calling 1300 EPA VIC (1300 372 842). It's important to be willing to give evidence in court if the alleged offender challenges the fine, but if you get the details right, most of them just pay the fine.

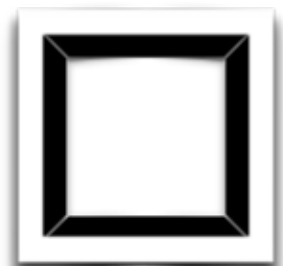
Your report should identify the car, describe the person, describe the litter and how it was disposed of, and the time and place where it happened.

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Harcourt Group's Boots are Made for Walking

Castlemaine District Community Health's Harcourt Walking Group is thriving as participation rates continue to climb. Annual participation data shows that the group completed 27 more walks than last year. That's an estimated additional 100 kilometres. Nearly 500 individual walks were completed throughout the year, again up from last year.

*Nearly 500
individual walks
were completed
throughout the
year*

"Castlemaine District Community Health thanks our Harcourt Walking Group volunteers whose hard work means this group is flourishing. Their support means we can make a genuine difference to the health and social wellbeing of people who live in Harcourt", says Prevention and Allied Services Manager Louise Falconer.

The group meets at 9.30am on Monday and Thursday mornings at the Harcourt ANA Hall and Museum and welcomes new participants. There is no cost for the walk, but a \$1 donation is collected for refreshments after the walk. Bookings are not required, just turn up ready to walk.

For further information phone Castlemaine District Community Health on 5479 1000.



Calling All Sculptors-

The Castlemaine State Festival is commissioning a sculpture to go outside the Castlemaine Art Museum for the 2019 festival and beyond.

The artist will be paid \$15,000

Submissions close September 6th

castlemainefestival.com.au/home/eucalypt-commission



Harcourt Bowling Club

New Season, New Shirt

Coming in to the warmer weather we are looking forward to the new bowling season with renewed vigour and enthusiasm at the Bowling Club.

Many of the improvements started before winter have either been completed or are almost there: new seats; new shade, new clubroom front fascia, trees in the carpark etc. The Club is very fortunate to have skilled members to do these works and there are also many who work behind the scenes to assist with the planning and raising the necessary funds.

During the off-season a lot of work has also gone into the funding, designing and manufacture of the new club shirts and it will be good to see all members in their new attire.

The Greens committee have also been working hard to maintain and restore the green from a pretty brutal winter.

The Friday social evenings continue to provide an opportunity for the community to get together. The members' draw is at 6.30 pm and followed by the ever-popular drawing of the raffles – everyone is made welcome.

SEASON OPENING DAY

On Sunday 16th September the Club will hold its opening day of the season. After the Official Opening and a social game of bowls, members and guests will be treated to afternoon tea.

Members are required to wear the new club shirt. The new shirt will be available for collection at the club on the Friday before.

Coming up ...

Pennant Season will commence for the Midweek Competition on Monday 15th October and for the Weekend Competition on Saturday 20th October.

This year we will be fielding teams in Division 4 and 5 for Midweek and Divisions 3, 5 and 8 in Weekend Pennant. Division 6 has gone up a grade following their magnificent Grand Final win last season.

President's Day 28th October

The President Russell Maltby will host an afternoon of bowls for members and guests on Sunday 28th October from 12.30pm.

Visual Artists – Get on Board! Toot! Toot!

A travelling feast of miniature artworks from a collection of Central Victorian Artists

Small art works, curated and presented to a high standard, will 'pop up' at different destinations along the historical railway line from Melbourne to Bendigo.

A group show taking art to people.

Details: www.popupart.com.au/artist-eoi/

Applications close Friday 21st September

Pet of the Month



Kelpies Lexi and Roux are brother and sister, and being full of beans can cause a bit of chaos around Jodie and David Pillinger's property. But this photo proves that they can be very well behaved!

Love your pet? Send us a picture!

Send your photos to the editor:
news@harcourt.vic.au
with a statement about why you love your pet.

The sky is the limit By Anita Le Lievre

There is beauty in the air
If you can stop to see it for a while
There is a song that floats within it
In every creak and croak of life
No body or voice to sing it
Hanging in the oxygen
Like the molecules that bring it
Truth and beauty will exhibit
In the air if you keep breathing
In your dreams if you keep believing
There is nothing in what you are leaving
Remember the truth can be deceiving

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TO OUR DEAR PATIENTS,

We would like to advise that Woodend Hearing Centre and the Hearing Aid Specialists Bendigo have merged and changed the name to **THE HEARING CLUB** - your local independent audiology clinic.

Our focus will continue to be on **ongoing relationships**, **excellence in service** and **continuity of care**.

Our phone number has been updated to **1800 627 728**. We are still located at the Brooke Street Medical Centre and 60 Bridge Street, Bendigo and our business hours are 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday.

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Weather and Water

Early signs of spring are evident; however August has finished with a drizzly and windy flourish. Rainfall this month was 71.5 mm which was up on last month's total of 55.5 mm. The cumulative total for the year is 341.5 mm which is 59 mm less than at the same time last year. Here at Reservoir Road we always rely on a heavy downpour to properly fill the dam. Last year in April we had 121 mm and with good follow up rain the dam was full at the start of summer. This year we haven't had that sort of downpour to date and I noted on the 27 August that the inflow had ceased. The rain of the last two days has been enough to wet the inflow, but there is no run off. With some areas of Victoria to go under Fire Restrictions in September, I'm starting to wonder if the

Central and North Central regions will be included.

The total storage volumes of the three reservoirs to the south have increased from last month by 13.6%. Malmesbury Reservoir appears to be low, but it is fed from the other two reservoirs as required.

Coliban Water: Our storage volumes

Below is a summary of storage levels and rainfall for our three major catchment storages near Kyneton. These storages are required to supply the townships and areas of Castlemaine and Kyneton, and to supplement supply to Bendigo.

Storage	Capacity at full supply	Current volume		Volume same time last year	
	megalitres	megalitres	% full	megalitres	% full
Upper Coliban	37,770	37,890	100.3%	37,970	100.5%
Lauriston	19,790	17,840	90.1%	19,140	96.7%
Malmesbury	12,034	3,306	27.5%	9,376	77.9%
TOTAL	69,594	59,036	84.8%	66,486	95.5%

Source: www.coliban.com.au/site/root/water_security/reservoirs.html



Local photographer Suzanne Dwyer captured snow at Bullarto/Trentham on Sunday, 19 August.

Stephen Ryan's Tugurium garden set for colourful spring opening

Open Gardens Victoria will open Stephen Ryan's fascinating garden at Macedon on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd September.

Tugurium is the private garden of renowned garden expert, radio personality and nurseryman, Stephen Ryan. Set on a peaceful country lane at Macedon, the garden represents the decades that Stephen has spent collecting rare and unusual plants – placing them in stimulating combinations of foliage, texture and colour.

A September opening means Tugurium will be filled with spring colour. This is a wonderful garden for exploring, with winding paths meandering through woodland plantings, a restful pond and circular lawn with a small orchard and neighbouring vegetable garden. (From a Press Release)

ADDRESS: **Tugurium**
8-10 Centenary Avenue,
Macedon

OPEN: Saturday 22 September &
Sunday 23 September
10am - 4.30pm

ENTRY: Entry \$8 (children U18 free)
Students \$5

EXTRAS: botanic artwork by Craig Lidgerwood
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Spring Tasks to Guarantee a Great Fruit Season

With spring just starting to burst around us, it's important to pay close attention both to our fruit trees and the weather, because a rainy spring is not the friend of the fruit grower! Rain can increase the chances of your trees getting a fungal disease, which can be quite devastating.

Peaches and nectarines are prone to Leaf curl (it doesn't affect other types of fruit trees), and a bad case can set back a tree's growth significantly, and even infect the fruit, which can sometimes cause it to fall off. Luckily it's quite preventable by using an organic fungicide on the trees at bud swell. Bordeaux (a mixture of 50g each of copper sulphate and builder's lime in 5 litres of water) is an easy spray to mix and use at home. The tricky bit is that each variety will reach bud swell at different times (the later varieties are just getting to that point now, while the early varieties are already in bloom, so it's too late to spray them).

While you're spraying, you may also want to put a Bordeaux spray on your apricot trees to prevent the dreaded Blossom Blight, a fungal disease that can cause the flowers to rot on the tree and destroy any chances of getting a crop. For extra security, follow up the first spray with another one 10 days later, and unless we get a downpour of more than about 25 mm of rain, that should be enough to keep the trees healthy and fruitful.

Here are some other tips for your fruit trees at this time of year:

- If you've just planted new fruit trees, make sure you protect the trees with tree-guards;
- If you planted new trees this winter but haven't pruned them yet, prune now so they put their energy into growing branches in the right place (i.e. where you want them);
- Once the soil has started to warm up a bit, mulch young trees. Fruit trees prefer a woody mulch like sawdust or

wood chips, or use old straw. It's a good idea to put a layer of compost or worm castings under the mulch to make sure you're still feeding your soil microbes;

- Make sure you've got your irrigation system set up and ready to go, because it's not unusual to get a sudden hot spell in spring. If you've mulched, make sure you can either deliver the water under the mulch, or leave the irrigation on for long enough to be sure the mulch is really soaked and the water is getting through it to the soil below. Alternatively, wait until the weather really starts to get hot before you mulch the trees.

Hugh and Katie Finlay run Mt Alexander Fruit Gardens, an organic orchard in Harcourt. They offer a free weekly newsletter called *Weekly Fruit Tips*, and run online courses for gardeners interested in learning how to grow their own organic fruit. Go to www.growgreatfruit.com for details. They also offer a free weekly webinar (online workshop) called "The 5 Key Steps to Growing Great Fruit" - sign up at: growgreatfruit.com/webinar-landing/.



ASQ Plant of the Month Azaleas

Azaleas are a popular evergreen shrub which produce an abundance of bright flowers.

This shrub looks its best when mass planted beneath deciduous trees and is the perfect planting partner for Camellias. Azaleas can also be planted in pots and hanging baskets, making them a very versatile addition to your garden.

Azaleas love to soak up the morning sun and grow best in a slightly acidic soil with good drainage.

So, if you want to add an easy to grow plant which will provide a splash of colour to your garden, visit ASQ Skydancers this month to see their range of Azaleas!



Some Time Ago

A Pretty Place.—Harcourt.—Dear Aunt Connie,—I have written to you once before, but my letter was not published. I suppose you get too many to publish. We take "The Weekly Times;" have been doing so for the last fourteen years. We do not live very far from Mount Alexander; it is a pretty place. We are about one mile from the Harcourt Reservoir, which is a nice sheet of water. There are a great many wild ducks about there. I have three brothers and three sisters. The names of my sisters are Elsie, Mabel, Ruby. My brothers are named James, Ernest and Vivvy. I go to school and I am in the fifth class. Our school is situated on a small hill one mile from our house. I learn music on the organ.—With love, I remain, your affectionate niece, Ida Ely.
(Yes, Ida; we get too many letters to publish all, so we have to select the more interesting.—Aunt Connie.)

The Weekly Times, December 7, 1895. Via Trove

Small business workshops

Two low-cost workshops are coming up in October and November to help local business operators develop skills as part of our small business workshop series. 'Creating Effective Digital Content – what works and why' will be held from 6.00pm to 8.00pm on Monday 8 October. 'Selling or succession planning – how to exit successfully' will be held from 6.00pm to 8.00pm on Monday 12 November. Both workshops will be held at the Civic Centre at Castlemaine. Tickets are \$20 each. For more information or to register visit www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/BusinessResources.

Are you recycling right?

If you are confused about what goes in which bin or want to learn more about what can and can't be recycled come along to our next Sustainable Living Workshop. The Recycling Right workshop will debunk some of the common myths about recycling and help you to become a recycling expert. The free session will be held from 10.30am to 12.30pm on Saturday 22 September at the Senior Citizens Hall, Mechanics Lane, Castlemaine. Contact Tracey Roberts to book your place at T.Roberts@mountalexander.vic.gov.au or 5471 1700.

Tourism mentoring opportunity

If you run a local tourism business you may be interested in a new digital mentoring program that aims to improve the digital capacity of small and micro tourism businesses. Retail, accommodation and hospitality businesses across the Bendigo Regional Tourism area, which includes Mount Alexander Shire, may apply. Applications can be submitted online at www.brtmentoring.digital.

Stay in touch with Council

Our spring edition of Shire News is now out. Sign up to receive our quarterly newsletter straight to your inbox at www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/ShireNews. Keep an eye out for our public notice each week in the Midland Express, read the latest news on our website and follow us on Facebook [@MountAlexanderShire](https://www.facebook.com/MountAlexanderShire) and [@CastlemaineMaldonSurrounds](https://www.facebook.com/CastlemaineMaldonSurrounds).

Council meetings

- 6.30pm, Tuesday 18 September at the Civic Centre
- 6.30pm, Tuesday 16 October at the Civic Centre.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Civic Centre

Corner Lyttleton and Lloyd Streets
P.O. Box 185 Castlemaine VIC 3450

t (03) 5471 1700

e info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au

w www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au

Castlemaine Bus Lines Harcourt Services Monday to Friday

	am	pm	pm
Market St/Harmony Way (Harcourt)	8:55	12:10	2:25
Coolstore Road/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:56	12:11	2:26
Coolstore Road/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:57	12:12	2:27
Blackjack Rd/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	9:03	12:18	2:33
Halford St/Barker St (Castlemaine)	9:05	12:20	2:35
From Castlemaine to Harcourt Monday to Friday			
Castlemaine RSL/Mostyn St (Castlemaine)	8:45	12:00	2:15
Wimble St/Barker St (Castlemaine)	8:48	12:03	2:18
Blackjack Rd/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:53	12:08	2:23
Coolstore Rd/Midland Hwy (Harcourt)	8:54	12:09	2:24
Market St/Harmony Way (Harcourt)	8:55	12:10	2:25



GRANITE HOUSE B & B
HARCOURT

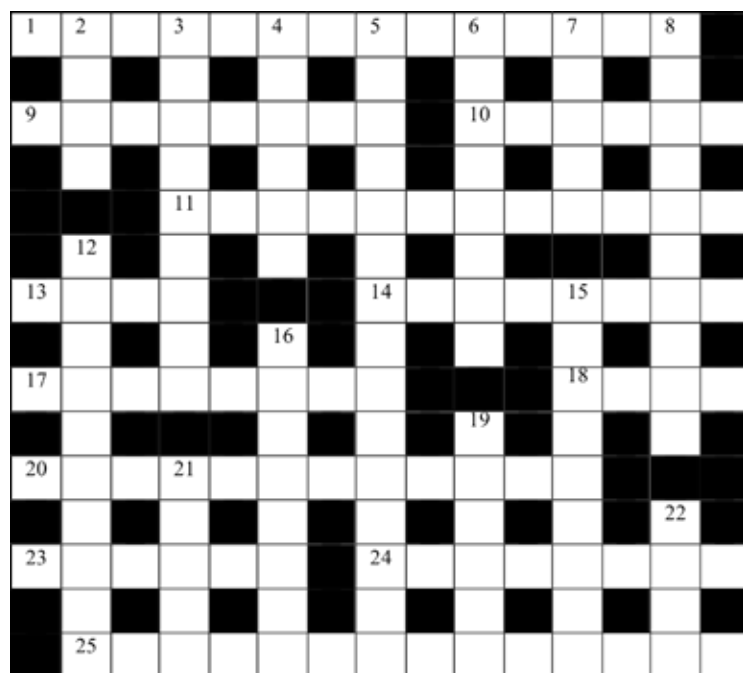
0467 670 271

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September Crossword 2018

© McW May '17



Down:

2. Would leap into the unknown offer a supplication? (4)
3. Practice heals rare memory-lapses. (9)
- 4 and 15. If staid heretics, with dirtiest as chief, were thrown into the sadistic fire, they'd have had their needs met by the number of anagrams. (6-9)
5. One of 25 and complement needed for some of 25 clue. (6,3,6)
6. Xenophobia might not alter a more liberal attitude. (8)
7. (see 19)
8. Stick to the basics, or on even the sanest isle, where the sea listens, you'll not eat sinless... (10)

12. It might produce a pasty flame, but it won't burn you... (6-4)
15. (see 4)
16. A (sweet) dreamer? (8)
- 19 and 7. If coarse bet begets super-aggressive skiting, can I force beast in to briefcase? (6,5)
21. Was Diana eco-friendly in comeback all at sea? (5)
22. Perhaps a tremolo greets the nasty one of 19 and 7? (4)

Across:

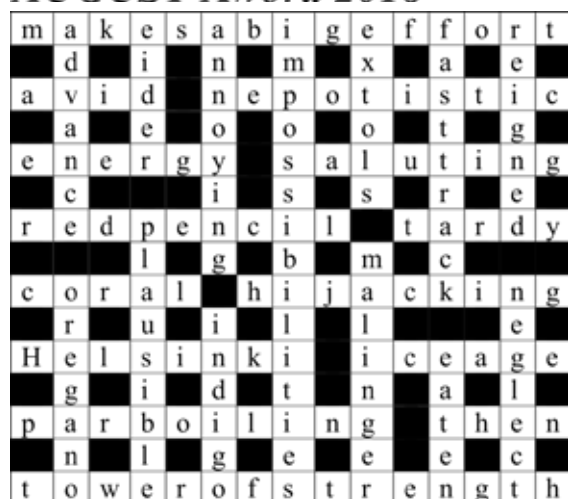
1. Repeat bloating may land you on this! (9,5)
9. Could this canter where she retails shells? Certainly jumps about a bit... (3-5)
10. Communicate, co-operate: i.e. sail into his office and talk... (6)
11. How to trace angelic speeding-up? (12)
13. (see 17)
14. In go cats among pigeons of religion, but this one won't rock the boat much, 'cos he just doesn't know... (8)

- 17 and 13. A dweller near the library could be like this—if she accommodates dwellers, alas! (4-4, 4)
18. Cash-register of prankster? (4)
20. Hey, conscript—make free with the napalm! (12)
23. Could provide visual evidence of a Merc., a boot-load of guns, a gangster—anything, if you look carefully. (6)
24. Longings drop annual bit for pay. (8)

25. Dense pain lends itself to dressmaking phenomenon. (4,3,7)

AUGUST Xword 2018 SOLUTION

© McW April '17



Down:

2. Proceed with publisher's early funds. (7)
3. Deride quacker after losing one of the pair. (5)
4. Any gin? No pestering! (8)
5. I optimise bliss—I deal in self-contradictions! (15)
6. Praises previous [ex-] money-box entry [slot] rising.
7. Stack raft to expedite speediest departure. (4-5)
8. Precipitated thrown one, they said. (7)
14. Ups (the possibility of being all over the place = [labile]), but quite believable. (9)

16. Under second degree [MA], hang around, take a sickie... (8)
18. Empty [one] herb into [organ]. (7)
20. Desuetude by undersight? [Well?]
21. Thirties (Ellington, also 1957, 1958, 1960, 2014—Fitzgerald, Simone, Day, Lennox) blue emotion/mood?
24. Each of a dozen, less two, consumed. (5)

Across:

1. Megastar, off bike, manufactures a large, determined attempt to get back on. (5,1,3,6)
9. Keen, but retiring cantatrice. (4)
10. Disposition to favour nephew? [Well?]
11. Vim to be argued over, shockingly, by exponent of 17? (6)
12. Until gas undid them, they were showing respect to the officers. (8)
13. Teacher's tool led Prince to make a mark.

15. A bit late to bitumen an empty day. (5)
17. No right for the reef to get in the way of this! (5)
19. Hi! Nick Jag and we'll be into Grand Theft Auto.... (9)
22. Could he use his elk in the winter games here? (8)
23. Freezer that is [i.e.] an enclosure?

25. Boring pal subject to preliminary hot-water treatment in kitchen manoeuvre. (3-7)
26. Past now passed? [Well?]
27. Great pile of support is not the wrongest fort... (5,2,8)

Community Diary Dates

Friday 7th September: 6.30pm Harcourt Valley Landcare AGM, Goldfields Track Restaurant, meal followed by AGM. Contact Secretary: 0467 670 271.

Monday 10th September: 7.30 pm Harcourt Applefest Organising Committee, ANA Hall.

Sunday 16th September: Bowls season opening day. After the Official Opening and a social game of bowls, members and guests will be treated to afternoon tea.

Sunday 16th September: Working Bee, 10.00 am to 12 midday; Harcourt Valley Landcare and Barkers Creek Landcare and Wildlife Group. Meet at the the corner of Bingham's Road and Mills Road.

Sunday 23rd September: 1.30pm, Fireside Chat: The Ely Family Letters. Harcourt Heritage Centre, ANA Hall. Please bring a plate of afternoon tea.

Thursday 4th October: 1.00 pm CWA Annual Concert. Everyone is invited to come along to the Harcourt Leisure Centre.

Bowling Club Dates: See page 17.

Heritage Centre: Open every Wednesday at the ANA Hall from 10 am to 4 pm or by appointment. Call : 0400 916 527.

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

Walking Group: Every Monday and Thursday at 9.30 am. Meet at the ANA Hall.

Uniting Church: Every Sunday at 9 am in the Uniting Church, Buckley Street Harcourt, followed by morning tea. All welcome.

CWA: First Thursday of the month; 1.30pm at Harcourt Leisure Centre.

Harcourt Lions Club: Meetings every third Friday of the month at 7.30pm at the Victorian Miniature Railway, Harmony Way. For further information, contact Di Selwood 0488 148 358.



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

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HARCOURT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.



MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Harcourt Progress Association is an incorporated association, governed by 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 regular 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 and encourage initiatives which benefit and 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 20kms radius of the Harcourt Township - some exceptions apply - do enquire. 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 then able to formally vote and join the Steering Committee. Annual subscriptions fall due on 1st July each year. Any renewals or new memberships paid in 2018 will be valid until the end of June 2019.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

I request to become 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

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

TELEPHONE:.....EMAIL:.....

SIGNED:.....DATED:.....

☐ I enclose the sum of \$20/\$10 Concession for Annual Membership
Please mail this completed form and payment to HPA Inc, PO Box 132, HARCOURT, VIC 3453 **OR**

☐ I have deposited \$20/\$10 Concession into BSB 633-000, Account: 151337409.
Please indicate your name and state "Membership" when paying online.

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.