HARCOURT NEWS THE CORT

November 2018

HARCOURT NEWS - Edition 55 http://harcourt.vic.au/news Harcourt Progress Association Inc

Harcourt Organic Farming Co-op Launched



The Harcourt Organic Farming Co-op members: left Mervyn Carr, Tess Sellar, Ant Wilson, Mel Willard, Sass Allardice and Hugh Finlay. Missing is Katie Finlay, but see page 5.

WHAT HAS BEEN KNOWN AS MOUNT ALEXANDER FRUIT GARDENS, owned by Katie and Hugh Finlay, has become HARCOURT ORGANIC FARMING COOPERATIVE. There was a positive buzz in the air as the cooperative was launched on Sunday October 28. A large crowd gathered to celebrate the launch and to attend the talks from each of the business's members. The Cooperative is a unique succession plan for Katie and Hugh; Katie has completed extensive searches as part of establishing the business and to her knowledge it is the only model of its kind that exists!

The Cooperative is distinctive in that members lease the land they are using. This is one of the major benefits – as it does away with the

necessity to buy a patch of land. The supply of irrigation through the Coliban Modernisation System has also been a drawcard. It is expected that all members will benefit from the shared resources a cooperative arrangement brings and each must be a profitable business in their own right. The first to take up the concept were vegetable growers Sass Allardice and Mel Willard of Gung Hoe Growers, followed by Ant Wilson who is taking over the fruit orchard and renaming it Tellurian Fruit Gardens. Tess Sellar who is establishing a micro dairy is the most recent to sign up.

After initial funding to assist with developing the cooperative concept, Katie and Hugh *Continued on page 5* ...



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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.



MEMBER 2018





YAPENYA - Uncle Graeme Kerr - photo credit Aunty Linda Ford

The Dja Dja Wurrung people have been involved in many events across the year and on November 17 will present YAPENYA, a new ceremony. In addition to song and dance, YAPENYA will feature audio-visual reminders of ancient heritage alongside contemporary Djaara culture. Involving more than 1000 Djaara people and the public, YAPENYA's important community and ceremonial significance reminds us of the living culture of the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which the RCC 2018 takes place.

Saturday 17th November in Rosalind Park at 8pm. Free event.

Victoria's First Regional Centre (RCC) for Culture draws to a Close in December

An unprecedented showcase of creativity has enlivened the cultural communities of four municipalities in central Victoria throughout 2018 as part of Victoria's first Regional Centre for Culture program. Approximately 250,000 people have enjoyed the 700+ events to date with another 300 events filling the final months of 2018.

An initiative of the Victorian Government, the inaugural Regional Centre for Culture (RCC) has been delivered in partnership with the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, the City of Greater Bendigo and the Shires of Central Goldfields, Hepburn and Mount Alexander.

The RCC presentations have delivered economic benefit through tourism and employment and offered increased local access to creative experiences in regional communities small and large.

The program has provided platforms from which local stories have been shared through art forms ranging from theatre and dance to visual arts and music. Many artists and organisations based in the RCC have received grants to make and present new works while existing festivals and other grass-roots events have received a boost to expand their programs.

From a Press Release

Have your say on the future for Harcourt

Council invites the community to join an information session in November to find out more about a town planning project for Harcourt and how to get involved.

Two information sessions will kick start an eight week community consultation period to inform a strategic plan and planning processes to shape the future of the growing town.

Harcourt is identified for residential expansion and population growth in the Mount Alexander Planning Scheme and the Loddon Mallee South Regional Growth Plan.

"We need to complete this strategic planning work to ensure there is enough land supply and the right infrastructure to accommodate the predicted growth," said Shannon Meadows, Manager Development Services, Mount Alexander Shire Council.

"At the same time we need to continue to protect the use of land for agribusiness and horticultural activities, the irrigation network, important landscapes and environmental values and other cultural features."

This project will build on the plans previously prepared for Harcourt.

"It is important for council to understand if the vision and actions in these plans are still relevant to the community, and what other planning matters need to be considered," said Mr Meadows.

The strategic planning project will be completed in three stages.

Stage one involves reviewing current plans and presenting a discussion paper to the community and stakeholders to test if they are still relevant to the aspirations for the town.

During stage two, council will prepare a strategic plan and supporting planning documents, which will be released for community feedback around mid-2019, before they are finalised.

Once the plan is adopted by Council, it will prepare a planning scheme amendment to bring the plan into effect in the planning scheme. Stage three is expected to occur in 2020, and will require approval from the Minister for Planning.

"We're holding two information sessions to launch the project and give community members a chance to find out more," said Mr Meadows.

"Come along to meet the planning team including our Strategic Planning Coordinator, Dominique Trickey, who is leading this project for council."

Over the next few months the project team will meet with different community groups, and use pop-up spaces at various locations in town where people can drop in to see displays, ask questions and provide feedback.

"We'll also have the option of a survey and interactive map as another way for community members to share their ideas and feedback," said Mr Meadows.

Harcourt planning information sessions
Thursday 15 November – 6pm to 7.30pm,
Harcourt Bowling Club, 1 Warren Street, Harcourt
Friday 16 November – 11am to 12.30pm,
Goldfields Track Café, 92 Harmony Way, Harcourt

For more information contact 5471 1700.

From a Press Release





New monthly market for Harcourt

A new monthly produce market is set to be launched in Harcourt on Saturday 24th November.

The Harcourt Twilight Market combines live music with kid's activities, food trucks, licensed bars and local producers showcasing their wares. It's a destination event for friends and families to catch up, and for visitors to the region to experience country hospitality and enjoy fresh food and produce from our talented local farmers.

Harcourt is home to some extraordinary food and beverage producers. These include apple, pear and berry growers, vegetable farmers, beekeepers, award winning wineries, cider makers, gardeners, egg producers and ethical meat farmers. It's also an incredibly creative community populated by musicians, artists and sculptors.

The Castlemaine Farmers Market began life in Harcourt, when it was based in the carpark of what is now the ASQ Skydancers Cafe and Nursery and the Harcourt Applefest, now in its 27th year, was one of the region's first, small town festivals. Harcourt loves a celebration and the Harcourt Twilight Market will celebrate and showcase local producers from throughout our region.

In the 2013 Harcourt Community Plan, local residents identified supporting the region's producers along with hosting more community events to attract visitors to our town as two key aspirations. The Harcourt Progress Association is very excited to auspice the new Harcourt market to help realise these goals. Secretary of the HPA, Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns is herself a local producer and has experienced first-hand the benefits of country produce

"We attend a monthly market in a tiny goldfields town. Every month we are amazed at the benefits which the market brings, attracting 1000's of visitors. It's great for our business but it's also a really great thing for small country towns. I am very excited to be involved in bringing this opportunity to Harcourt."

The first Harcourt Twilight Market will take place on Saturday 24th November from 4pm till 8pm in central James Park, High Street, Harcourt. The market will feature live music from Los Impenetrables, who are members of the Sugar Fed Leopards and TEK TEK, playing a fascinating mix of country, calypso and Mexican sounds, designed to get you on your feet.

You can follow the Harcourt Twilight Market on Facebook or contact the HPA Secretary for more information, telephone 0425 323 005 or email takandjak@bigpond.com

CNAV Conference October 2018

In October I attended the 13th Annual Conference of the Country Newspaper Association of Victoria. Held at the RACV resort at Creswick, the conference's main program is on the Saturday. This is a great opportunity to not only catch up with others who work on their local papers, but also to experience valuable professional development.

The Keynote speakers this year were from the State Library of Victoria which is responsible for the Community Newspaper Archive. The collection of community newspapers held by the library is an extremely valuable research tool and is of cultural and heritage significance. The archive was opened in

Bron Willis, finalist in the Best Feature Story Award, CNAV Annual Awards 2018.

1856 and the earliest item stored is a handwritten Melbourne Advertiser dated 1st January, 1838. All newspapers are required to lodge a copy with the library and fortunately as we have moved into the digital age, it is possible to send a copy as an attachment in an email. The Library has huge archival storage with kilometres of paper editions of newspapers. In a significant new development the National Library in Canberra and our State Library will be

able to share digital versions of newspapers with NeD (National e Deposit) which is to be available in 2019. When a newspaper wants to deposit a copy the upload only has to be done once and it will be available in both libraries.

On the Saturday we had the choice of two a workshop with Lisa Interviewing. Dennis, the Editor of



of three workshops. I Lisa Dennis, Editor of the Castlemaine was delighted to attend Mail shares a story in the workshop on

the Castlemaine Mail, who gave some excellent tips on interviewing and who also revealed to us her experiences of with sensitive topics and difficult interviewees. In the other workshop we discussed how to survey our readers – which is often a challenging task but one we could consider for The Core.

Saturday night saw the group gather for a celebratory meal and presentation of Annual Awards. This year The Core's writer Bron Willis was a finalist in the Best Feature Story Award for her profile on the builders who constructed La Larr Bar Gauwa Mountain Bike Park. Well done Bron!

Robyn Miller





·VMR



Outstanding Volunteer Effort has Substantial Rewards for all Involved

"Collectively, the volunteers from the Lions Club, Café and VMR committed more than 30 hours of time per week to make this program happen every Friday."

The Youth Engagement Program facilitated by the Harcourt Lions Club in early 2018 was a collaboration with the Victorian Miniature Railway (VMR) and the Goldfields Track café in Harcourt. It commenced on Fridays, in Term 2 of this year and has run for the past six months. The program offered Castlemaine Secondary College (CSC) students from the VCAL, FLO and Nalderun Projects an opportunity to participate in 'hands-on', practical work experiences in the Harcourt Community. Collectively, the volunteers from the Lions Club, Café and VMR committed more than 30 hours of time per week to make this program happen every Friday. This included preparing lunches for all the students and volunteers every week, so they could share in a sit-down meal together; arranging transport to and from the College; preparing the students for community based work experience; providing instruction on the safe use and operation of plant and supervising the students during the construction of nearly 2kms of railway track.

"... the program that began with 6 students has now grown to 40 students from years 7–12."

The program was initially funded by the Harcourt Lions with the support of the Café and VMR. The Mount Alexander Shire Council (MASC) provided \$3,500 Community funding to support the project in Term 3. This allowed the program to continue from Term 2 through to Term 4 this year. After 26 weeks, the program that started with six students has now grown to more than 40 students from years 7–12. They have continued to work at the Café and VMR on Fridays and their enthusiasm for the program was the catalyst for the 'Pick My Project' funding submission in Term 3.

The 'Pick My Project' submission was to build the miniature railway station, signal box and platforms at VMR. The submission was selected from 450 other projects in the local area, to proceed to 'public voting' to decide which projects were to be funded. Only a small number of these local projects were to be chosen for funding. The students and staff from the Castlemaine Secondary College worked tirelessly with the VMR and Lions Club over several Fridays and weekends to man voting stalls in Harcourt and Castlemaine, to promote the project and assist the community to understand the project and encourage their vote. Their efforts were rewarded with the announcement that the project would be funded.



Maree Edwards visited the VMR project to congratulate the Harcourt and District Lions Club, VMR, Goldfields Track Café & Castlemaine Secondary College on securing the Pick My Project funding to build the Railway Station, Signal Box and Platforms at VMR in 2019.

The Railway station will be a replica of the Maryborough Railway Station with a 14m high clock tower. Local tradespersons will be engaged by VMR and the Harcourt Lions Club to complete these works. Students from the CSC will be continue to be provided with work experience opportunities at the Goldfields Track Café, VMR as well as each of the trades that will be involved in the build. This will provide the students with a more diverse range of work experiences in 2019, whilst still supporting the local Community.

More information on the selection process for the local tradespersons will be provided in coming issues, as we find out more about the funding arrangements from the State Government.

We invite anyone interested in volunteering their time for a few of hours on a Friday to supervise and mentor the students, to contact Grant Victor-Gordon from the Harcourt Lions Club on 0410 261 338.

Finally, the Harcourt Lions Club recently donated time to man the BBQ for the 'Buy a Bale' drought relief fundraiser, organised by the staff from the Castlemaine IGA Maxi. It was a great success and raised over \$12,000 so they can buy a semi-trailer load of hay to send to the farmers in need. The Harcourt Lions also made a donation to cover the costs of St John's Ambulance attending an event in Chewton to encourage girls to play soccer. All-in-all it's been a very busy month for the Harcourt Lions!

Grant Victor-Gordon



were invited to apply for a Food Source grant by Regional Development Victoria. The grant for infrastructure was successful and the plan is to use two shipping containers: one as a packing shed for Gung Hoe growers and the other for a commercial kitchen. A gable roof will cover the containers for water collection, with a new water tank being purchased as part of the grant. With the farm shop already operating, the new additions will give added capacity for tours and events in the future.

Some years ago Katie and Hugh had their own tree change and moved back to Harcourt to learn about owning and running an apple orchard from Katie's father, Mervyn Carr. After using traditional methods, Katie and Hugh decided to grow their fruit organically; they expanded into stone fruit and cherries as well as apples. They gained NASAA (National Association for Sustainable Agriculture Australia) organic status and subsequently all the co-op businesses have qualified and joint certification has been achieved.

After the launch the crowd broke into groups and was treated to talks by each of the business owners. Listening to the new members of the cooperative was inspiring. These young people bring talent, principle and energy to their enterprises. All are driven by heartfelt values about organic food production and are being as inventive as possible while being mentored and cheered on by Hugh and Katie.



The Co-op members in the orchard: from right Mervyn Carr, Hugh Finlay, Katie Finlay, Sass Allardice, Mel Willard, Tess Sellar and Ant Wilson. Photo by Oliver Holmgren from the Co-op's Facebook page.



A section of the crowd gathers to hear from Gung Hoe Growers.

At the launch Katie's father Merv congratulated all involved and told how his father had milked cows on the property and then he, Mervyn, established the apple orchard. He said, "Small apple orchards no longer exist in Harcourt and it seems there is no place for small family farms. However, I am encouraged by the energy of these young farmers. I am so pleased the farm is continuing; our small family farm is thriving, and I feel I have a new family!"

The Co-op is producing a regular digital newsletter; more information can be found the Harcourt Organic Farming Co-op Facebook page.



To acknowledge the fabulous work of volunteers in our community

Harcourt Progress Association

invites all volunteers in Harcourt

to a free Morning Tea

to celebrate
International Volunteers' Day

10 am, Sunday 9 December at Goldfields Track Café RSVP: by Thursday 6th December HPA Facebook Page or Ph: 0467 670 271



Connecting Country (Mount Alexander Region) Inc Inc No. A0053363V

2018 AGM & Threatened Species Forum: All welcome

4.00 pm – 7:00pm on Saturday 10 November 2018 Campbells Creek Community Centre

Welcome to Country followed by AGM and guest speakers, and a light meal

Professor Andrew Bennett, La Trobe University: Can revegetation reverse woodland bird decline in rural landscapes?

PhD candidate Jess Lawton: 'Results of Connecting Country's Brush-tailed Phascogale monitoring'.

Bookings: Tanya on 5472 1594 or tanya@connectingcountry.org.au



Chatting with Harcourt CWA Let's Celebrate

And celebrate we did. Our annual

concert was a huge success. In song and dance and to the applause and laughter of a full house, we celebrated the ninety years of service and friendship that the CWA of Victoria has provided for women and their families from 1928 to 2018.

We told of the history from the early days, when country women and their families were finding it tough going, to today when city and country women



Lyn and Marlene - Let's Celebrate 90 Years.

come together to lobby and advocate for women everywhere.

The role of women in the 1950s and '60s was changing, and our ladies joyfully expressed their delight to the tune of 'Advance Australia Fair'.

Australian Mums let us rejoice For we have been released, With Dishlex and Electrolux Our working days have ceased. Our kids have gone and set us free To do what ever we care When Thursday comes we get our pay, Advance Australia Fair.

Our famous Walking Frame Dancing Grannies enjoyed the 1950s and '60s too and entered the hall to that old time favourite, 'Silver Threads Amongst the Gold' and then, to the delight of the audience, began rocking and rolling to Bill Haley's 'Rock Around the Clock'. After much applause the dancers retired to 'As Time Goes By', another reminder of the many years that have passed.

The 1970s and '80s saw substantial improvements in the status of women. Margaret Thatcher was elected as British Prime Minister and Sigourney Weaver burst onto our screens as Warrant Officer Ripley in 'Alien' which ultimately opened the doors to a much wider range of roles for Hollywood's female heroes.

Two more women who took the 1970s by storm were Agnetha Fältskog and Anni-Frid Lyngstad, the female vocalists from the famous Swedish Group, ABBA.

Not to be outdone by the Dancing Grannies, our very own Harcourt Dancing Queens took to the stage. Whether it was high kicks, doing the splits, or the famous knees up, these ladies amazed our audience with their creative interpretations of the song made so popular by ABBA, 'Dancing Queen'.



The Grannies rocking and rolling

Finally, our very own Harcourt Rapper, Judi Kent, wrapped up our concert with the following Rap

We're children of the 60s And we like to socialise We stitch a pretty pinny And we bake a mean meat pie

Our scones are legendary Our jams we make with berries Apricots, plums, chutney And best of all mint jelly

Our needlework is clever Our sponges are sublime And when we need to darn it A stitch in time saves nine

Abreast of social issues We're always to the fore To help and aid our sisters Provide sustenance for the poor



Dancing Queens

At knitting we are masters Crochet too it seems Making knee rugs for the oldies And beanies for the teens

Our singing's sometimes suspect Our voices have been better But when it comes to enthusiasm We've got it too the letter

When we meet with our sisters We like to have our say They call us chicks with attitude, We're the girls of CWA



Robyn and Lyn - Australian Mums

So come along and join us As we celebrate today A very special birthday For our beloved CWA

For 90 years she's been here Fostering friendship through the land In city town and country CWA extends her hands.

Those who came to our concert said it was the best ever, and although we often hear this comment, I think I might have to agree this time.

Lyn Rule Harcourt CWA, Publicity Officer.



Judi's Rap



Harcourt CFA



Fire Restrictions have Commenced

Fire restrictions commenced in the Greater City of Bendigo on Monday, 22nd October and will begin for Mount Alexander Shire on Monday 5th November. This now means that no open air burning is to occur unless you obtain a written permit issued by a Municipal Fire Prevention Officer or a

CFA District Office. Fire restrictions also put conditions and restrictions on a number of other activities in relation to campfires, BBQs, use of chainsaws, mowers, tractors, slashers, carrying out welding, grinding and gas cutting activities, etc. And to use a gas powered scare gun, you must obtain a Schedule 14 permit and comply with each and every condition. These can be obtained from CFA Headquarters at 45 Chapel Street in Bendigo or call on 5430 2200. To find out more, obtain a copy of the "Can I or Can't I?" publication available online at www.cfa.vic.gov. au and scroll down under the map of Victoria to "Check what you Can or Can't Do". Alternatively, call into the fire station of a Sunday morning between 9.00 am and 9.30 am and asked a member for a printed copy to keep as a reference.

Community Fire Ready Safety Information Meeting

Our Community Fire Ready meeting is on Monday 26th November at the Harcourt Fire Station from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm. This meeting is delivered by a trained CFA presenter who will provide a broad range of information on being ready and prepared for summer. We are fortunate to have Sue Bull back as our presenter this year. She was here for two community meetings in 2016 and was well received. Brigade members will also be in attendance to answer questions of a local matter. If you have been before, you are most welcome to come back again as you will always learn something new as well as being a refresher on what you already know.



Fire restrictions in Mount Alexander Shire begin on Monday 5th November

Brigade Activities

The brigade has had a number of callouts for October which included a couple of burn offs that got out of control and we supported Castlemaine at a shed fire in the early hours of the morning. Members have been busy preparing for the bushfire season with regular refresher training

drills as well as doing the mandatory "Burnover Protection" drill. This is a yearly safety requirement stipulated by the Chief Officer of the CFA before being allowed on the fire ground. The yearly fire plug inspections have been carried out during late September and October as well as the regular Sunday morning testing, checking and vehicle runs. So we are prepared and hopefully you are too. Have you checked your emergency kit bag? Do you have a fire plan? Have you checked it and had a practice run? Have you cleared your driveway of overhanging branches so our fire trucks can fit? If you want to know more, come along to our Fire Ready meeting.

We look forward to seeing you on the 26th November.

Tyrone Rice Brigade Community Safety Coordinator

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Magical milestone - banking on safer drivers

Over 400 safer and more confident drivers on our roads... that's worth celebrating. And that's just what happened in October when the milestone of 400 graduates of Maldon & District Community Bank® Branch learner driver program was reached.

Six young learner drivers from the region completed the course during the recent school holidays, bringing the total graduates to over 400!

Amongst these graduates was Maddison Vearing from Harcourt. She is the fourth member of the Vearing family to complete the course, with her older siblings Bryn, Joel and Adam taking part in previous years.

Maddy said, "the course was a wonderful and enjoyable experience and I would recommend it 10/10."

The Maldon Bank has contributed over \$350,000 to run the hands-on intensive driver training program since 2003. This funds learner drivers to participate in a tailored 5-day program. The participants drive in a group of three, with

a qualified instructor, in a range of different environments and traffic conditions, including un-sealed country roads, highway and city driving, and defensive driving.

"We are so incredibly proud of reaching the feat of 400 graduates. We established this program in 2003 after a series of accidents and near misses involving young drivers in our region," said Branch Manager Adam Balzan.

"The program equips learner drivers with skills and exposure to a variety of driving experiences; to ensure their safety and the safety of everyone on the roads. This flagship course for Maldon & District Community Bank® Branch is just one of the ways we support our community, and in particular our youth."

Contact the Maldon Branch on 5475 1747 or <a href="mailto:





Maddison Vearing from Harcourt

The 400th graduate celebrations



memoirs, family history, oral history novels, short stories, anthologies, e-books negotiable prices short print runs from 1 to hundreds

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George Milford Receives Heritage Council Award

A surprised George Milford has been recognised for his work promoting the heritage of Harcourt, its unique granite houses and for his volunteer work involving house museums, art galleries and vintage machinery clubs and associations in the broader Goldfields region. The Ray Tonkin Heritage Volunteer Award was presented by Professor Stuart Macintyre, chair of the Heritage Council of Victoria in Bendigo on 27 October. "While inspecting heritage sites around the Goldfields in March this year, the Heritage Council was constantly surprised and delighted to find George's repeated presence. We were impressed by his dedication and knowledge of so many places in the region, and of the power of his advocacy for their importance," said Professor Macintyre.

George's work began in the 1970s as an office bearer of Castlemaine Art Gallery and Historical museum and Harcourt cemetery. He has also been a trustee of Buda house museum since 1981. And he has lent his time and talent to conservation works at Duneira historic hill station in Mt Macedon.

The Roy Torkin
Hellage Volunteer
A W A R D

Francisco and the second and the seco

George Milford and Professor Stuart Macintyre (right) display the certificate of the Ray Tonkin Award from the Heritage Council of Victoria.

As a former employee of Thompsons Engineering Works in Castlemaine, he was also involved in efforts to preserve and save the extraordinary collection of machinery and drawings from Thompsons – some ending up at the Maldon Vintage Machinery Museum and in the archives of the University of Melbourne. George said, "When I learnt that the drawings were being disposed of I and others drove to the Eaglehawk tip to find they were already ploughed in. With great effort the rest of the drawings were rescued."

He has been heavily involved in all manner of volunteer work to promote the history and heritage of Harcourt – from Secretary of the organisation that celebrated 150 years of settlement in 1995 to the Harcourt Valley Heritage and Tourist Centre Inc as well as writing the definitive history of the granite houses of the region.

At the presentation Diana Cork said, "At Harcourt Valley Heritage our motto is: By researching the past we enrich the present. Many people use Google to find information, we have an even better research tool which we call 'George'. This is like having a speech activated research program for Google. No matter what the query, George will know something; who married whom, how the granite was cut or why apple varieties changed apple production and always the hatch match and dispatch of residents. His knowledge of the Harcourt Valley is encyclopaedic. His interest is all encompassing of this area. He continues to uncover items of interest from our vast data base that he writes up for The Core and for our monthly meeting, telling the present reader or listener of today, about the heritage of the past."

In addition to a framed certificate, George has been invited to nominate a recipient organisation for a \$2000 heritage project donation from the Heritage Council.

The Ray Tonkin Award, named after the former Executive Director of Heritage Victoria, was created eight years ago by the Heritage Council of Victoria in recognition of the significant role volunteers play in the maintenance and preservation of Victoria's cultural heritage.

It is awarded on merit to individuals who have displayed an outstanding commitment and service to heritage in Victoria.

From a press release issued by Kerry Taylor on behalf of the Heritage Council of Victoria





Harcourt Uniting Church



Several weeks ago I noticed mince tarts and puddings on display in the supermarkets and now the tinsel and Christmas trees are appearing to remind us that it's nearly

Christmas. We are very aware that many families struggle with preparations for Christmas. "Share the Joy" is a project of the Uniting Church and supports families by providing hampers of festive food and quality gifts. Church members and friends in our Castlemaine Parish donate money to buy the contents of hampers and these are distributed in liaison with organisations able to identify families in need. Harcourt members assist in donating money and packing these hampers. This is a very rewarding way to Share the Joy (of Christmas) with others.

Last month I wrote about Frontier Services; another service of the Uniting Church is the Mission Liaison Group (MLG) based in Melbourne. This group of volunteers receives, sorts and packs goods to send to Pacific Islands in times of natural disaster and assists in improving the every day lives of the population and in particular the children. Members of our Harcourt Adult Fellowship have been supporting MLG by donating backpacks filled with school items such as pencils, textas, work books, scissors, lunch boxes, drink bottles etc. These are items that we take for granted but children who receive these are very excited to have their very own backpack. We also send money to assist in freight expenses for this important work.



Thinking of selling?

I have a buyer looking to relocate to the area

He is relocating from Melbourne

He is hoping to keep within a budget of \$400,000-\$450,000

He is a member of the Victorian Miniature Railway and as such has a keen interest in trains so something close to the railway line is quite desirable.

He is looking for a modest home for himself with a large shed for his miniature train.

Do you or someone you know have something that would suit this man?

Call me now to arrange a **free** market update so that we can make this happen for you both.

Pauline Wilkinson 0468 543 589

Little Billy was just six years old. One evening his Mum asked him to get the mop from outside. Billy looked very frightened and said, "I'm scared of the dark." His Mum replied, "You don't need to be afraid because Jesus is everywhere and he will protect you." Timidly Billy opened the door and looking out into the darkness he called out: "Jesus please pass me the mop."

Jan Jenkin

LIMERICK by The Bard of

I met a devout vegetarian,

He was also, I think, Sagittarian.

One day, with emotion

He changed his devotion,

Ate meat and became Rastafarian.

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.







HARCOURT FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB IS LOOKING FOR PLAYERS FOR THE 2019 SEASON

Junior Football

Under 11.5, Under 14.5 & Under 17.5 Contact: Amy Ardley – 0406 314 378

Netball

Under 13, Under 15 & Under 17 Contact: Jacqui Searle - 0438 569 884

Reserves Football, Senior Football & Senior Netball

Contact: Kathie Teasdale – 0447 305 343

If anyone is interested in a coaching position at Harcourt for any of the above age groups for the 2019 season they can also contact Kathie Teasdale – 0447 305 343



Sound genetics. An asset to your herd.

Jenny & Keith McKenry Dandura 121 Fenton Drive Harcourt North, Vic 3453 03 5439 6525 0428 479 050 alpacas@dandura.com www.dandura.com



Harcourt Valley Fruit Fly Regional Action Plan 2018-2019

Harcourt Valley Landcare has developed the Harcourt Valley Fruit Fly Regional Action Plan 2018-2019 to prevent Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) from establishing in the area. The first action is to form the Harcourt Valley Fruit Fly Action Group that will coordinate, monitor and implement the plan.

If you would like to join the Action Group please contact us on harcourtfruitfly@gmail.com or Harcourt Valley Fruit Fly Action Group on Facebook.

The action plan can be read online or downloaded from: issuu.com/harcourt.vic.au/docs/fruit_fly_action_plan_2018-2019

- We are taking a summary of the Plan to the next council meeting in November. We will discuss the importance of the plan and Council engagement/support needed.
- The official launch of the Plan will take place at the Twilight Market on Saturday November 24.





Description of Adult Queensland Fruit Fly

The adult is wasp-like, red-brown with yellow marks, and about 8 mm long. Unlike cucumber fruit fly there is no central yellow mark down the length of the dorsal surface of the thorax between the wings. Fruit flies hold their wings outstretched in a horizontal position when walking. They flick them in a characteristic manner.

The photos and information have been taken from the Queensland Government Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. To read further see: https://www.daf.qld.gov.au

Many thanks go to Terry Willis and Dr Jess Drake for their work getting the Action Plan up and ready.

All residents will need to be on the alert for fruit fly this summer as it has been experienced in Bendigo. How do we battle this pest? Come to the launch to find out, consider joining up to the group and do your best to help horticulture in the Harcourt Valley.





News from Harcourt Bowling Club

Pennant

A blustery start to the Season of Midweek Pennant was experienced on Monday 15th October with both teams playing Castlemaine; the conditions presenting a challenge at home and away.

Division five skips Judy Ewing and Heather Harris put on a good show in their debut roles with a good tussle at Castlemaine in the windy conditions.

Meanwhile at home, Division four enjoyed a close encounter with Castlemaine – the lead changing a number of times throughout the day.

It was a mixed start to the first round of Pennant on Saturday 20th October for the Weekend Pennant teams with Divisions 3 and 8 recording good wins at home although Division five were not so lucky in their journey to Marong.

Pennant Results for round one were:-

Midweek

Division 4 – Harcourt 15/66 def Castlemaine 1/58: Judi Miles 22/20; Joan Bath 25/19; Heather Braid 19/19

Division 5 – Castlemaine 12/50 def Harcourt 2/44: Judy Ewing 21/29; Heather Harris 23/21



Weekend

Division 3 – Harcourt 100 defeated Kangaroo Flat 83: Tony Olssen 17/21; Gary Maddern 27/25; Leo Moloney 31/25; Danny Pettingill 31/12

Division 5 – Marong 117 defeated Harcourt 63: Russell Maltby 14/34; Brian Buchanan 17/35; Ken Tribe 14/27; Ron Douglas 18/21

Division 8 - Harcourt 53 defeated Castlemaine 36: Russell Timmins 34/13; Kay Francis 19/23

Barefoot Bowls and Barbies have returned and a fun time was had by all who attended the first night on 23rd October. Sixteen players bowled 2×8 ends ending the evening with hamburgers, barbecued sausages and coleslaw. Brian Leech and John Grant were the winning skips.

This is a fun opportunity for members and visitors to the club where they can join in on these social nights.

To help with arrangements please put names on the list on the board at the club.

Arrive before 5.30 to allow time to put the teams together, find bowls etc to allow for a 6 pm start.

President's Day

President's Day was celebrated on the afternoon of Sunday October28th with social bowls and afternoon tea. More about this in the next edition.

Coming up in November

Barefoot Bowls and Barbies have returned! The next nights will be Tuesday 20th November and Tuesday 4th December. This is a fun opportunity for members and visitors to the club where they can join in on these social nights.

To help with arrangements please put names on the list on the board at the club.

Arrive before 5.30 to allow time to put the teams together, find bowls etc to allow for a 6 pm start.

Wednesday Social Bowls continue each Wednesday afternoon from 1.30 to 3.00pm. Members and visitors all welcome – names on the Board by Tuesday please.

Sponsors' Night – 13th November

Round one of the two Sponsors' Nights will commence on Tuesday 13th November. We invite all of our Sponsors to participate in this social event at the Club. It is an opportunity for our sponsors and members to get together in a social environment and have some fun at barefoot bowls, ending the evening with a barbeque. The winning business over the two nights will have their business entered on the Chappy's Challenge Cup.

Ladies Invitation Triple Tournament will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday 21st November. This annual tournament is usually well attended and clubs are invited to enter their teams.

Kidman Invitation Fours Tournament

As they have done for the past five years, Life Member Brian Kidman and Wilma Kidman, previous long time members and supporters of the club, will return to Harcourt to host the Kidman Invitation fours tournament which they sponsor. This event will be held in Sunday 25th November.





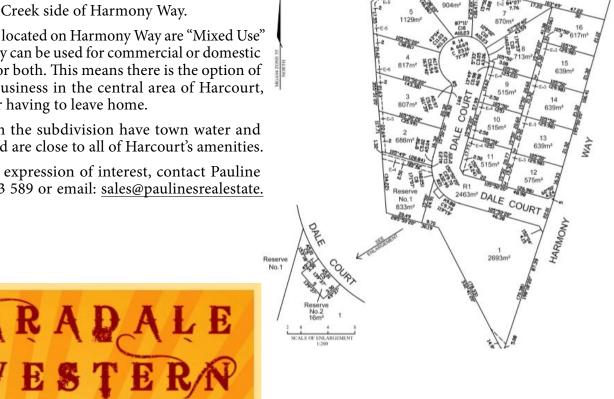
Subdivision on Harmony Way Now Ready

Local Real Estate Agent Pauline Wilkinson is ready to take expressions of interest from people considering purchase of a lot in the much awaited subdivision on the Barker's Creek side of Harmony Way.

Lots directly located on Harmony Way are "Mixed Use" meaning they can be used for commercial or domestic purposes – or both. This means there is the option of running a business in the central area of Harcourt, without ever having to leave home.

All blocks in the subdivision have town water and sewerage and are close to all of Harcourt's amenities.

To lodge an expression of interest, contact Pauline on: 0468 543 589 or email: sales@paulinesrealestate. com.au





Taradale Town Hall November 17 2018 7:30-midnight



Tickets \$32/28 con. Available from Taradale Wine & Produce and at trybooking.com/YEED Supper provided, drinks at bar prices. Return bus service from Castlemaine and Kyneton available.

Proceeds help fund the entertainment for the next Taradale Mineral Springs Festival, March 2019. Contact 0417 547 270 for more info



Assistance with understorey planting, rabbit and weed control

Connecting Country is seeking expressions of interest from property owners for planting, weed and rabbit control for areas over 1ha in the Mount Alexander Shire and immediate surrounds for the latest phase of its habitat restoration program.

Eligible landholders may receive direct assistance for activities such as:

- Weed and rabbit control
- Planting of understorey plants
- Grazing exclusion
- Technical advice and support

Expressions of Interest close November 21, 2018

More information: Jacqui on 5472 1594 or info@connectingcountry.org.au www.connectingcountry.org.au/on-ground-works





Harcourt Heritage Centre

Samuel Sutton—Harcourt's Pioneer Horticulturalist

At the end of the 1850s, Harcourt was almost deserted. The unwelcome truth that Harcourt soil was not gold-bearing caused the population to decrease rapidly, as gold-mining was the sole object of almost everyone in those days. Harcourt would have again become a sheep run but for the fact that some of the inhabitants discovered a new source of wealth-creation. Mr. Samuel Sutton, arrived here in 1853 and started the first garden. At first he grew vegetables which were carted to Castlemaine in a dray, one load each day, and two loads on Saturdays, and sold at £5 per load. The first vegetables grown were principally turnips, carrots, peas, onions, etc. Afterwards he grew fruit trees. Fresh vegetables were not a common sight in the early days of the diggings and some commentators remarked upon the tedium of the diet of mutton and beef, while others realized that they were in danger of scurvy due to lack of vegetables in their diet. It was no wonder, therefore, that Samuel Sutton's produce was rushed when he offered it for sale in Castlemaine.

Samuel Sutton hailed originally from Warwickshire in the English midlands, a county of which the south-east portion was famed for its orchards and market gardens. Samuel had been born in 1825. At the age of 21 he married Eliza Rice in Birmingham. The next year the couple was blessed with the arrival of a son, Frederick. The couple kept a Family Bible and entered Frederick's name at the top of a page which eventually was to list ten offspring. Unfortunately for Eliza and Samuel, their next three children died as infants. Named Samuel, Edward, and Eliza, they were never to be forgotten although they rested in an overcrowded English churchyard. Determined to start a new life, Samuel, Eliza and little Frederick took passage as 'unassisted passengers' on the ship "Calphurnia", arriving in Port Phillip during April 1852 to learn that gold had been discovered in the colony less than a year previously.

We do not know the whereabouts of the little family for the next few months but by 1853 Samuel had identified good garden conditions at newly-surveyed Harcourt and set about growing a crop of vegetables. The growth and production of the first crops was phenomenal. In the same year the Suttons had another child, named William, who was to live to a ripe age. Harcourt was good to the Suttons, and, in due course the names of Elizabeth, Frances, Mary Ann, Samuel (Jr) and Eliza were to be added the list in the Family Bible.

Samuel was not prominent in public affairs as he had a lot to do growing and marketing his produce, tending to the horse and getting firewood for the stove. In March 1867 he took a day-job as a sawyer to help support his family.

At about half past eight on 11th March 1867 Sam was engaged in the bush in what is now Mills Road while Joel Leversha and another man were working felling a tree about fifteen yards away. Sam heard a crack, looked up to see the tree fall and kill Joel Leversha. Sam then got a dray and took the body to the Talbot Inn to await the arrival of the Police and the Coroner. A verdict of 'accidental death' was returned by the jury at the inquest held that afternoon.

In 1871 Samuel Sutton left Harcourt, to work as gardener for John Marriott in a garden at the south-west corner of Main Road and Princess Street, Campbell's Creek. Marriott's orchard was written up in extravagant and complimentary terms in the Mount Alexander Mail in November 1883. The garden was 10 acres in extent and contained (in the Mail's opinion) some of the best trees and plants in the colony. The soil had been trenched to the depth of fourteen feet while hundreds of loads of soil and manure had been brought in. The trees showed that pruning and skill had been exercised with great discretion. Mr. Marriott gave full credit to Mr. Samuel Sutton for his able assistance with the garden and the adjacent plant nursery.

John Marriott had been described as 'a great prize taker at agricultural shows for fruit and vegetables'. He died in March 1891. Sam Sutton kept up the orchard on behalf of Mrs Marriott.

On 23rd March 1894 Samuel took ill while at work in Mrs. Marriott's orchard and died soon after. Due to the sudden nature of his death the police arranged for a magisterial enquiry before Mr C Tolstrup J P. A policeman reported the death to the Registrar of Deaths. Family historians generally find in these circumstances that family particulars are sketchy or noted as 'not known' but on this occasion Mrs. Sutton took the Family Bible to the Campbell's Creek Registrar, (Thomas Pattle) to ensure that he would record, with precision, all the particulars of Sam Sutton's parentage, his marriage and his children.

Samuel Sutton was a skilful and energetic gardener. In the early history of the goldfields he had charge of a fine orchard at Harcourt. His obituary said he was of a jovial disposition and was well-liked. This was a rare accolade by the Mail. In 1910 the writers of "A Short History of Harcourt" made sure that they recorded the achievements of the genial young man who had broken the soil at Harcourt and done so well out of his vegetables in 1853.

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





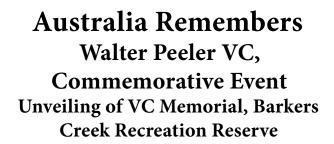
Harcourt Represented at Canberra

A display of 62,000 handcrafted red poppies on the Australian War Memorial's grounds is the centre piece of commemorations marking the centenary of the end of World War I. The field of poppies symbolically representing Australian lives lost in the First World War was officially opened on October 5.

A group of Harcourt knitters has contributed a large box of poppies and the names of the Harcourt men who died.

"It is also sobering to walk through our field, and really feel the meaning behind every one of those blooms."

(Quote taken from the blog about this event, see: 5000poppies.wordpress.com)



Mount Alexander Shire has set up a memorial to Walter Peeler VC. The memorial plaque is set into a large boulder at the Barkers Creek Recreation Reserve, corner Specimen Gully Road and Peelers Road, Barkers Creek. The Mayor, Cr Bronwyn Machin, will officially unveil the memorial at 2.30 pm on Sunday 11th November 2018. The general public is invited to attend. Relatives of the district's only Victoria Cross winner, together with members of the RSL and the Western Front Association, will be in attendance.

Walter Peeler, who was born at Barkers Creek, was awarded the VC for conspicuous bravery on 4th October 1917. He arrived home in Victoria just before the end of World War I. Australia's VC winners had been recalled from Europe, by the then Prime Minister W M Hughes, to assist in the recruiting drive. But General Monash's tactics had meant that, by the time the VC winners arrived back in Australia, the end of the Great War was definitely in sight. Walter Peeler VC arrived in Castlemaine in the third week of October 1918, to be met by a cheering crowd of several hundred people.







Walter Peeler VC The Bendigonian, 1/12/1917 Via Trove

It is suggested that those intending to come to the unveiling arrive a little before 2.30 pm. Afternoon tea will be served immediately after the unveiling. However, it would help with catering if you could bring a plate (with something on it) in the traditional manner.

Annual Remembrance Day Service at Harcourt

11.00 am on 11th November, 2018 Stanley Park

100 years ago World War I ended when the Armistice was declared at the 11th hour on the 11th November, 1918





Councillor Comment

Hi all,

On a personal note, it's been a busy time at home on the farm with shearing in full swing. The shearing was delayed a week with the rain but a week of good weather will see it finished by the end of October.

Shearing is an interesting exercise in team building with some new staff, some old shearers and a wool classer well into his seventies, showing the young ones how to sort the wool into lines that will be sold at auction for processing in China, Italy France or Japan. With better wool prices our farmers will be better able to continue to support our local economy.

When Council, on behalf of the community, has to make decisions which involve significant expenditure there is always robust debate; the decision gets made and we move on – just like any other business. "Rates, Roads and Rubbish" is core Council business; I feel that the ongoing interest in the landfill operations is getting a bit old. Please be assured that Council works very hard to ensure best use of Council resources. Yes, Council built Cell 4 at the landfill at great expense and it is now nearly full. Council has decided when Cell 4 is filled that our waste will be transported out of the Shire. Our tip site will become a transfer station where hopefully we will continue to recycle as much waste as possible. Looking forward, I am sure we will continue to see high quality works and services provided by our Council.

I was recently in the position as a member of the Council audit committee to sign off on our annual financial statements. I was happy to do that because I am satisfied that Council is well managed, our skilled staff are appropriately resourced and Council is in a sound financial position.

At Council's next meeting we will be appointing the Mayor for the coming twelve months.

Very best regards to all, Tony

AG Cordy 0439 742434



CACTUS FIELD DAYS FINISHED FOR SUMMER

Cactus field days have finished for the summer months due to heat and snakes. We'll be back in action on 26 May 2019.

In the meantime, we wish everyone a very happy and safe Festive Season.

A Very Special House Concert with all Proceeds going to Support Rural Australians for Refugees

Featuring a wonderful double bill



Keith McKenry
The Lies That Made Australia



Fay White
Songs from the Grassroots

Sunday 11 November 2018 at 2pm
Dandura Alpacas, 121 Fenton Drive Harcourt North
Admission: \$25

Bookings: phone 5439 6525 or email fangedwombat@bigpond.com

About the performers:

Keith McKenry is a leading Australian folklorist and award-winning performance poet. A featured performer at all major Australian folk venues and also at festivals in the USA and UK, his first solo album Bugger the Music, Give Us a Poem! won the prestigious Golden Gumleaf for Album of the Year at Tamworth. The Lies That Made Australia provides a unique take on our national history and character. Keith examines the myths we Australians embrace as part of our national self-image.

Fay White is a singer-songwriter and community arts worker passionate about the benefits of singing — especially in groups. It's been her life's work to contribute to Australia becoming a singing culture. Fay brings to her concerts a wonderful set of stories and poetry in song, mainly about life as we know it, out of the radar of the daily news round. She has produced a dozen CDs of songs, for adults and children, and a number of songbooks for singing groups.

ELPHO JAM SESSIONS

You are invited to our monthly Jam Sessions at Elphinstone

These sessions are informal get-togethers of people who want to make some music and have some fun!

Aimed at the over 50s, but open to all. Sessions: 3rd Saturday of the month (1:00pm-4:00pm)

We play Electric Blues, R'n'B, '60s, Rock & more

For more information Email: elphojamsessions@gmail.com



Disability Advocacy Group

The Mount Alexander Shire Disability Advocacy Group MASDAG is hosting two workshops to raise awareness of issues that people living with a disability face.

The workshops will be held on the 7th November and the 21st November - being a repeat.

The workshops are aimed at Retailers, Healthcare professionals, and anyone wanting to increase their knowledge and understanding of disability.

WHERE: To be confirmed

WHEN: 7th and 21st of November 11.0am - 4.00pm

REGISTRATION: masdag@cch.org.au or phone Cathy 0439 964 179

A free light lunch is included.

Facilitated by LeadershipPlus and the Disability Discrimination Legal Service.

A Tourism Model for Harcourt and Surrounds

Jan Roberts of Barkers Creek (standing back left of photo) was, in her working life, a tour guide in Australia. Who better to organise a group of golfing friends on a visit to the Central Goldfields? The group of 26 made Harcourt their focus for accommodation and meals.

The visitors stayed at Tread Motel, Haven on Barkers and the Scout Hall. On their first evening they dined at the Goldfields Track Café with Scott Harrington of Blue Elephant providing a wine tasting. Breakfast at Skydancers was followed by a day of touring and they celebrated the end of their short tour with a casserole dinner provided by Donna at Goldfields Track, using the Scout Hall as the venue.

When we took the photograph at Skydancers they were about to head out for the day. Jan said, "I'm going to let them loose in Castlemaine!" During their stay, the group visited Mica Grange Sculpture Garden, the Green Folly in Wesley Hill, Specimen Gully and had a private tour of the Castlemaine Art Gallery. Buses were supplied by Castlemaine Bus Lines.





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:

- Generate new advertising sales
- Maintain relationships with existing advertisers
- Manage accounts administration
- Work collaboratively with the editorial team
- Write articles to feature advertisers' businesses

You will have:

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel and Outlook
- Good organisation and time management skills
- Experience in administration and accounts

Training and mentoring will be given to the successful applicant.

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.

Photo source: Clem Onojeghuo on Unsplash

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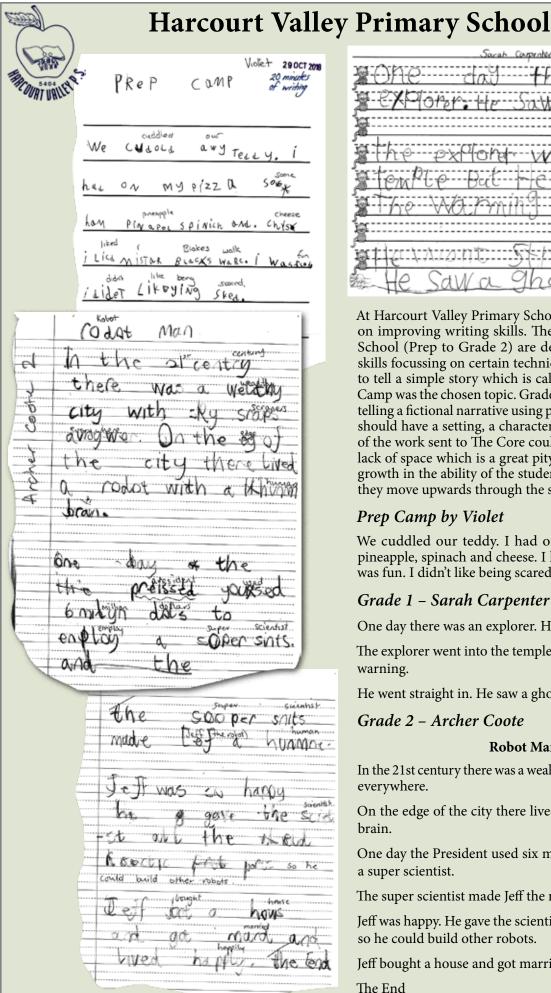
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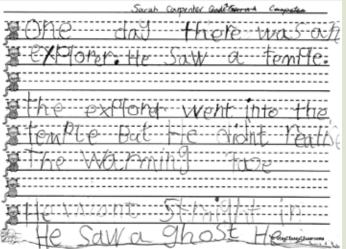


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At Harcourt Valley Primary School, there is an emphasis on improving writing skills. The students in the Junior School (Prep to Grade 2) are developing their writing skills focussing on certain techniques. Preps are learning to tell a simple story which is called a recount. The Prep Camp was the chosen topic. Grade 1 and 2 are focussed on telling a fictional narrative using paragraphs. These stories should have a setting, a character and a problem. Not all of the work sent to The Core could be shown here due to lack of space which is a great pity, as it is a joy to see the growth in the ability of the students with their writing as they move upwards through the school.

Prep Camp by Violet

We cuddled our teddy. I had on my pizza some ham, pineapple, spinach and cheese. I liked Mr Blake's walk. It was fun. I didn't like being scared.

Grade 1 - Sarah Carpenter

One day there was an explorer. He saw a temple.

The explorer went into the temple but he didn't realise the warning.

He went straight in. He saw a ghost!

Grade 2 – Archer Coote

Robot Man

In the 21st century there was a wealthy city with sky scrapers everywhere.

On the edge of the city there lived a robot with a human brain.

One day the President used six million dollars to employ a super scientist.

The super scientist made Jeff the robot a human.

Jeff was happy. He gave the scientist all the old robot parts so he could build other robots.

Jeff bought a house and got married and lived happily.

The End



Veronica Budnikas Community Leader

Before Veronica Budnikas decided to apply for the LMCLP she had already demonstrated her leadership abilities in our community. This year Veronica is the President of Harcourt Valley Primary School Council having served as Vice President for 2–3 years. "I love it!" she said as we discussed her community commitments.

For nine months from February to November, participants in the LMCLP take 24 days out of their normal routine to attend a range of activities which involve visits outside the immediate area to learn from others in the region. "I really enjoyed the connections I made and I visited places I've never been to before," she said. "Each of us has taken a turn at hosting a visit within our own council area. Highlights for me were the visit to our State and Federal Parliaments. I was inspired by Maree Edwards MP when we met her in Melbourne. We arrived in Canberra during the week of the leadership spill; the atmosphere was electric. Prior to our Canberra tour, the group decided to advocate for an issue which was important to people living in regional Australia. We selected our topic: 'Tackling Loneliness and Social Isolation in Rural Communities', by a majority vote. We were treated to dinner at parliament and were broken into our three sub-groups to sit with National Party members Andrew Broad and Damien Drum, and our local Labor member Lisa Chesters. Each group presented the paper on the selected issue to their local MP. The day after when we attended question time Lisa referred to our group in the public gallery and referred to our advocacy for rural communities which we had raised at the dinner."



Loddon Murray Community Leadership members visited La Larr Bar Gauwa Mountain Bike Park. Veronica is in the front row, second from left

A significant challenge of the LMCLP is that each participant must take on a project in their home community which they are not doing already. Veronica's background in education and in the design of on-line learning materials attracted her to assist with a project for Applefest. The festival applied for a successful grant to develop an Events Management Manual. While Cass Ewing is collecting and recording the details of all the tasks involved in preparing and presenting Applefest, Veronica's contribution will be to turn that information into an outline for the manual. Her plan is to make it organised and therefore easy to use. She will also create an events template which will be freely available on line, easy to use and to share.

Veronica works full time and in addition to her President's role on the School Council she organises the Friday cooked

lunches at the school and assists in the organisation of the apple pie baking for Applefest. She and her husband David Ling have been in Harcourt nearly six years and decided to live in Harcourt because of its position in relation to Bendigo and Castlemaine and because of the Primary School. She will graduate from the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program on November 9.

It is well known that Harcourt has for a number of years had consistent representation in the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program (LMCLP). We are fortunate to have so many graduates of the program who contribute to the fabric of Harcourt in a meaningful way as the town changes and grows.

To learn more about the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program see the website Lead Loddon Murray.



Lisa Chesters (centre) met with the participants at Parliament House Canberra. Veronica is to Lisa's right.



What: Free Fire Ready Safety Information SessionWhere: FIRE STATION – 56 HIGH ST, HARCOURT

When: 7:00PM to 8:00PM Monday 26th November 2018

Find out: Must-have fire information for this season

For more information:

Contact CFA District 02 Office (1800 735 202)

Don't understand English? Require an AUSLAN interpreter? Need assistance to access the venue?

Let us know and we'll do our best to help.

If you belong to a community group or club, talk to us about arranging a customised session.

Please note that CFA postpones all community meetings when the Fire Danger Rating is Code Red, Extreme or Severe



cfa.vic.gov.au/meetings



HARCOURT VALLEY HERITAGE CENTRE

House & Garden Tour of the Granite Hills of Harcourt North

Sunday 18th November, at 1.45pm

The 'Fireside Chats' are over for this winter. To celebrate the coming of spring, the Heritage Centre is going to Harcourt North to enjoy two secret spring gardens.

The two houses are nestled high up in the granite hills, giving expansive views of the surrounding countryside. Both houses have been sensitively designed to fit into the dramatic landscape.

Registration & payment, \$10 pp at the

ANA Hall from 1pm-1.30pm where you will receive the addresses & instructions of both houses.

It is a short 10 min drive to the first house. Complimentary afternoon tea will be served in the courtyard at the second home. Strictly no dogs

Contact: Diana 0427 396 211



Would you like to buy a
Christmas tree
and support the Harcourt
Valley Primary School
Christmas Fund Raiser?
If interested contact
Veronica Budnikas on
0416 374 563
By November 20



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Please phone for an appointment on **5472 3295**

No referral necessary

All are welcome





- Register at: www.growgreatfruit.com/ webinar-landing/
- Sign up for free "Weekly Fruit Tips" newsletter at www.mafg.com.au



La Larr Ba Gauwa Builds its Profile



October was a profile-building month for La Larr Ba Gauwa Park. It played host to a Women's Mountain Biking Weekend, was

a focus of a national forum on Bicycle Tourism, and featured in QANTAS' inflight magazine.

The Women's Mountain Biking Weekend took place over 19-21 October. The Friday began with a workshop on bike maintenance, before a group of eight women were taken through the MTBA Level 0 Skills Instructor Course under the guidance of Jodie Willett, a professional rider who represented Australia at World Championships. On the Sunday, two skills clinics were conducted for groups of Beginner and Intermediate women riders respectively.

The Weekend was organised by Mountain Bike Australia, and was supported by Change Our Game, an initiative of the Victorian State Government. Feedback from the clinics—and about the Harcourt Trails at La Larr Ba Gauwa—was extremely positive.

Then, on Friday 26 October, Peter Skilbeck spoke about the development of the La Larr Ba Gauwa Park to a national Bicycle Tourism workshop held in Bendigo. This event was a prelude to the Australian Walking and

Cycling Conference held on 29 and 30 October. The workshop attracted many of the key people involved in the development and operation of mountain bike trails across the country, many of whom took the opportunity to ride the Harcourt trails during their stay.

Finally, La Larr Ba Gauwa got a mention in the current edition of the QANTAS Spirit of Australia -the airline's inflight magazine with a reach of 420,000. The feature covered various regional destinations, giving great exposure to travellers from farther afield and positioning La Larr Ba Gauwa alongside wetter stopovers like The Taproom and Bress Winery.

Keep up to date with events and other activities at Lar Larr Ba Gauwa Park via the Facebook page or look up details at the website at lalarrbagauwa.harcourt.vic.au

Harcourt's Little Library

is at the Heritage Centre Leave, borrow or take a book. Wednesdays from 10am to 4pm

New name, same excellent service!

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.

We look forward to continuing to service your hearing needs.



Call us on 1800 627 728 to check your hearing health today!

Phone: 1800 627 728



Locations: Benalla, Bendigo, Euroa, Gisborne, Kerang, Kilmore, Kyneton, Seymour, Woodend.

Email: hello@thehearingclub.com.au







Weather and Water

We had a little more rain in October – 26.5 mm - which was a relief after the record dry in September. However the Bureau of Meteorology predicts a drier than usual summer with an increased chance of an El Nino event occurring. We can expect that November to January days and nights will be warmer than average.

So there's not a lot of joy in the forecast. I have been grateful for what I feel was moderate spring weather and pleased

that our garden was not too battered by the severe winds which we have experienced earlier in the year. The garden is always in full flower at the end of October and the air is filled with the scent of them.

Reservoir levels of the Coliban system are shown below; levels are holding up well and should see our district well supplied through the summer.

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 | 37,572 | 99.5% | 37,771 | 100% |
| Lauriston | 19,790 | 20,180 | 102% | 19,280 | 97.4% |
| Malmsbury | 12,034 | 2,971 | 24.7% | 10,313 | 85.7% |
| TOTAL | 69,594 | 60,723 | 87.3% | 67,364 | 96.8% |

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

Halloween - a first for Harcourt?

The photo shows the gathered children and some adults in costume for Halloween which was celebrated in Stanley Park on October 31.

Jodi Tolesvki posted her thanks on the Harcourt Facebook site:

"A huge thank-you to all Harcourt residents who participated in Halloween. You brought so much joy and fun to the evening. All the kids had such a great time. Fantastic to see so many come together to celebrate. There were smiles all round."



Playing with Words

by Neil Anderson

"SHORT RAINS" muttered the farmer looking skywards as he lent on his fork.

"SHORT REINS"
shied the horse
his jockey pulled up short
which made him baulk.

"SAUTE RAIPINS" sniffed the chef oiling his pan with his eye on the clock.

"SHORT REIGNS" sighed the King as he laid his head upon the block.

"CLAUDE RAINS, hate him" hissed the film fan, he made life hell for Bogie in Casablanca."

"SHORT RANGE" yodelled the cowboy, Riding into the sunset On his horse BIANCA.



Coliban Water: Encouraging Females to Consider a Career in STEM and **Supporting Workplace Gender Equity**

As part of Coliban Water's continued commitment to provide an inclusive, flexible and diverse workforce, it is encouraging females in the region to consider a career in science, technology, engineering or maths (STEM).

Executive General Manager Strategy and Governance Roslyn Wai said the water corporation is proud to support STEM careers through a range of programs and initiatives.

"This includes our education program with primary and secondary schools to promote careers within the water industry that are based on STEM subjects, a vacation program in a range of disciplines to provide experience for university undergraduates and a graduate rotation program focused on engineering. This can lead to longterm job prospects in these areas and assist with attracting women into the engineering profession.

"We also work with La Trobe University to offer work-integrated learning opportunities to undergraduates so they can learn valuable skills in engineering, with a focus on encouraging females into these roles if possible," she said.

"We have a continued focus on gender equity, with females in the Coliban workforce increasing in the last year from 38 per cent to 41 per cent." The ten-person Leadership Team is comprised of an equal representation of males and females. "We are continuing to implement our Diversity and Inclusion Policy and Action Plan," Ms Wai said.

Coliban's General Manager Information, Digital and Cyber, Amanda Finnis is an advocate of females in STEM-related fields, and feels the barriers to entry are slowly being overcome. Ms Finnis suggested finding a mentor could be a great step for those considering a move into a STEM career.

For Water and Sewer Planning Manager Christine Grundy, her pathway into engineering has been anything but traditional. "I started out as a social worker but I wasn't quite settled. My first maths class was like coming home. It just felt right," Ms Grundy said. "I started in environmental engineering and then got into the water industry. I've always been a strong advocate of following your passion.

From a Press Release



Coliban Water is encouraging females to consider a career in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths). From left is Control Systems Engineer Bronwyn White, Water Quality Risk Management Coordinator Carmel Cumming, Environmental Specialist - Projects Lisa Cox, General Manager Information Digital and Cyber Amanda Finnis, Manager Strategic Opportunities and Initiatives Jenny Stewart and Water and Sewer Planning Manager Christine Grundy



Connecting Country has received funding through the Victorian Government to provide free training to community members who are volunteering in the environment space, doing conservation work on their land, or interested in joining a Landcare or Friends group. This informative training is tailored to Landcarers needs, and will be presented clearly and concisely by an experienced trainer.

Governance Training Friday 23 November (12 - 4 pm)

- How to run an efficient, effective, and fun meeting.
- How to achieve your group's goals.
- What are you responsible and liable for?

Attracting, Recruiting and Retaining Friday 30 November (12 - 3 pm)

• How to attract, recruit and retain volunteers for your Landcare group.

Please email: margaret@connectingcountry.org.au with your name, email address, phone number, and the course you are interested in, at least one week before the training date.

Call 5472 1594 if you have any questions.

ASQ Plant of the Month

Tree Peonies

Boasting large fragrant blooms against their unique green leaves, the tree peony is a must have for every flower lover!

Known as the 'King of Flowers' and famous for being the national flower of China, tree peonies are surprisingly well suited to the harsh, dry conditions and water restrictions here in Central Victoria.

Visit ASQ Skydancers this month to see our range of tree







Have your say on Harcourt

Council is preparing a town plan for Harcourt that consolidates the significant strategic planning and community consultation previously undertaken. Council will hold two public information sessions to explain the process and outline the different ways community members can get involved.

Session one: 6.00pm, Thursday 15 November at Harcourt Bowling Club. 1 Warren Street.

Session two: 11.00am, Friday 16 November at Goldfields Track Café, 92 Harmony Way.

Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information contact the Strategic Planning Team on 5471 1700.

Prepare now for summer

There are a few things you can do to protect yourself, your family, property and neighbours in the lead up to the Fire Danger Period. Make sure you have an emergency plan that outlines when to leave, where to go and what to take. To prepare your property clear rubbish away from around your home, cut grasses, clear gutters and relocate woodpiles away from buildings. Don't forget to check what your insurance covers. For more information visit www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/FirePrevention.

Works complete at school

Council has cleaned up Ulambara, the area of native bushland at Harcourt Valley Primary School. This will allow the school stadium to be declared a Neighbourhood Safer Place — Bushfire Place of Last Resort in November. Thank you to staff, students and parents for your support of this work.

Do you need a succession plan?

If you are thinking of selling your business or considering a change of management come along to Council's next small business workshop. The Selling or Succession workshop will be held from 6.00pm to 8.00pm on Monday 12 November at the Civic Centre. Cost is \$20. Secure your place at www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/BusinessResources.

Collect native plant seed

Want to learn how to collect native plant seed? Come along to a two hour workshop and learn all the tips. The free session will be held from 10.30am – 12.30pm on Saturday 24 November at Campbells Creek. To book contact Council on 5471 1700 or info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au.

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

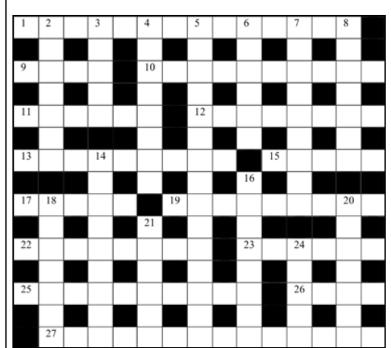
WWW.STAYZ.COM.AU





November Xword 2018

© McW June '17



Down:

- 2. Leave your interlocutor minus any idea of what you're on about? (7)
- Trademarks developed from the word? (5)
- 4. Tiffin in America used to be revolutionary; now it's quite right. (3-5)
- 5. If Angel 13 appears in the fleeting rain post-nuclear strike, you can bet your all that it's dangerous! (4-11)
- 6. Hitler's bunker in charge of some uni students? (6)
- 7. It didn't pay in Rolls-Royce areas to be this way... (2,7)

Crazy poet lines up for duty.

14. Come out Nancy, without a single article, in a crisis

situation. (9)

- 16. G'day Lynn—sounds like a plant. (4,4)
- 18. Will it clasp the little fish in its noxious embrace? (7)
- 20. Candidate for 21? (7)
- 21. The nice little dog in the Datsun goes across the floor... (6)
- 24. Cheat to inculcate lesson. (5)

Across:

- 1. When to expect solutions forthcoming within all elite groups. (2,1,6,5)
- 9. You can put your arms back in this comfortable bar. (4)
- Affable, embracing one of the stock market's elements usually lumped together, but can be bought. (10)
- 11. The place is every bit as real as kayaks and trappers make it. (6)
- 12. Rosie the philosopher might put her thoughts together thus. (8)
- 13. When the donkey comes in, all are yesmen! (9)
- 15. Atlas so loved holding the world up, but needed a rope to secure it... (5)
- 17. The work Edward chose. (5)
- 19. Stoically abraded to form thick skin. (9)
- 22. Again I leave glue to frame speech. (8)
- 23. Café Van Gogh won't serve sautéed ear, yet they do smashed avo! (6)
- 25. Peace, or anything under these conditions, probably extends the dollar value to the limit... (2,3,5)
- 26. What WWII turned on, or one side of it? (4)
- 27. To unscramble crappy short erg might require these... (14)

October Xword 2018 solution © McW May '17



Across:

- 1. Often good to *cop an eyeful* of wood before winter... [Well?]
- 9. Can alpaca join a flower? Only by bumping off gangster. (8)
- 10. Rodent neck-wear not limited to neck [Well?]
- 11. Do they drink absinthe, laze about and speak *only* French? Not likely—they were centuries earlier. (12)
- 13. I'm taken aback twice by N-W spirits. (4)
- 14. Footage, quality, etc., of records covered in dust. [Well?]
- 17 How heir entered fortune? [Well?]
- 18. Acts for the ladies in northern forests [Well?]

Down

- Cheese from internet reservoir? [Well? e-dam]
- 3. *Period of remorse* in the past? (2,3,4 or 5-4?)
- 4. Beginning of power rip-off? [*Well?*]
- 5. Oh dear! An odd alias for one totally without aspiration! (4,2,1,8)
- Burner Corporal [NCO...] dance? [Well?]
- 7. Simple knot for recent contrarian? [*Well?*]
- 3. The attritions that could collapse time? [Well?]

- 12. The feel of Goldfinger? [Well?]
- 15. Indian 18 [does] sans half a grand for the big island. (9)
- 16. Why doppelganger can't be heard? [A slightly obscure one, I suppose? No correspondence will be entered into... etc.]
- 19. <u>Island high on shu</u>n-list for '40s Oz? (6)
- 21. Where to find early Peruvian after shooting with Cecil?
 [Well? Ah! Pre-digital days...]
- 22. Oils ain't oils in the grain bin...
- Divest [strip...] evidence of Leak for Phantom's hunting ground? [Well?]
- Smallest change [one "c"] in union makes for big Mick's ambassador. [Well?]
- 24. Two donkeys +in line for one killer. [Well?]
- 25. Portable abacus for counting workers? [Well?]



Works complete at Harcourt Valley Primary School

"The stadium is expected to be declared as a Bushfire Place of Last Resort in November."

An overgrown area of native bushland at Harcourt Valley Primary School has been cleaned up and is now available for students to enjoy, as part of an arrangement with Mount Alexander Shire Council.

The area known as Ulambara is located at the corner of Mills and Coolstore Roads. It is next to the school's basketball stadium that will soon be declared as a new Neighbourhood Safer Place – Bushfire Place of Last Resort.

Council officers worked with staff, parents, the Department of Education and Training and the CFA to identify the stadium as a Bushfire Place of Last Resort and carry out the works to ensure the building was suitable.

"Any area that is designated as a Bushfire Place of Last Resort needs to have minimal vegetation nearby," said Luke Ryan, Municipal Fire Prevention Officer, Mount Alexander Shire Council.

"By cleaning up the area near the stadium, it now meets the strict requirements and the added bonus is that students now have a larger area to play and explore," said Mr Ryan.

The works included pruning overhanging branches, cutting back and removing vegetation and brushcutting.

Harcourt Valley Primary School Principal Andrew Blake agreed the partnership benefits students and the community.

"The area is now far more accessible for students, and the space certainly provides more opportunities for learning, particularly for environmental studies," said Mr Blake.

"We are lucky to have a place that students can enjoy the environment on school grounds," he said.

The stadium is expected to be declared as a Bushfire Place of Last Resort in November and will be the only such location in Harcourt.

"It's important to remember that you only head there if your emergency plan doesn't work out," said Mr Ryan.

"Everyone should prepare a bushfire plan which incorporates leaving your home early, particularly if you live in or close to a high fire risk area.

"A Bushfire Place of Last Resort is not manned during an emergency, but will provide some level of protection if a fire goes through and you haven't left home in time," said Mr Ryan.

"Remember that they are a place of last resort – you'd be better off leaving your property well before a fire goes through," he said.

For further information on how to develop your Bushfire Plan visit the Fire Prevention page on Council's website at www. mountalexander.vic.gov.au/FirePrevention or the CFA website www.cfa.vic.gov.au.

Other Neighbourhood Safer Place – Bushfire Place of Last Resort are located at:

- Castlemaine Mostyn Street and Victory Park precinct
- Campbells Creek Campbells Creek Community Hall
- Guildford John Powell Reserve
- Maldon Bill Woodfull Reserve and Pavilion
- Newstead Newstead Community Centre
- Taradale Taradale Hall

From a Press Release









Genevieve Ward

Career Coach

Job Search Strategist

0409 070 930 gen@thegoodlifecareers.com.au

PO Box 121 Castlemaine Vic 3450



Community Diary Dates

Thursday 8th November: 7.30 pm Harcourt Valley Landcare Meeting, ANA Hall.

Sunday 11th November: 11.00 am Annual Remembrance Day Service at Cenotaph in Stanley Park.

Sunday 11th November: 2.30 pm unveiling of memorial to VC winner Walter Peeler. For details see Page 17.

Thursday 15th November: 6 pm to 7.30 pm, Town Planning Information Session with Mount Alexander Shire representatives, Harcourt Bowling Club, 1 Warren Street, Harcourt.

Friday 16th November: 11 am to 12.30 pm, Town Planning Information Session with Mount Alexander Shire representatives, Goldfields Track Café, 92 Harmony Way, Harcourt.

Sunday 18th November: 1.00 pm Heritage Centre event. Meet at the ANA Hall to travel to two secret gardens in Harcourt North. Cost is \$10. For details see page 21.

Saturday 24th November: 4 – 8 pm Twilight Market, James Park. For details see page 3.

Saturday 24th November: 4 – 8 pm Launch of Harcourt Valley Regional Action Plan 2018 -2019 at the Twilight Market, find us at the Harcourt Progress Association information table.

Saturday 25th November: 10 am to midday, Working Bee

Harcourt Valley Landcare. Turn right into the Picnic Ground, north of the bridge on Harmony Way. Contact Secretary: 0467 670 271

Monday 26th November: 7.00 – 8 pm CFA Bridge Street Harcourt, Fire Ready Safety Information Session. For details see page 20.

Tennis Club: Thursdays 7 pm Social night tennis at the Leisure Centre courts. Cost is \$2 per person.

Bowling Club Dates: See page 12.

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; 1.30 pm 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.



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

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A full colour version of *Harcourt News: The Core* is available on the Harcourt Community website: http://harcourt.vic.au/news Harcourt News/The Core is printed with the assistance of the Mount Alexander Shire and Castlemaine Office Supplies. The views or remarks expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editor, nor of the Steering Committee of the Harcourt Progress Association. No endorsement of service is implied by the listing of advertisers, sponsors or contributors.



