

HARCOURT NEWS THE CORE

August 2019

HARCOURT NEWS – Edition 63

Harcourt Progress Association Inc

Online: harcourt.vic.au/news

The Doors are Opening — Welcome —



Harcourt Produce & General Store – artist's impression.

It seems everyone in Harcourt has been asking... "When is it going to open?"

This isn't the first renovation of the old General Store, but it probably is one of the biggest. There have been times over the last eighteen months when Annette and Bruce have wondered whether opening day would ever arrive. After all the incredibly hard work, late nights and seemingly endless rules and regulations, the Harcourt Produce & General Store will be opening on **Saturday August 31**.

They imagined so much more than a local general store. 'I wanted to bring my experience as a chef and love of growing together in a way that shows what the Harcourt region is all about,' said Annette. With Bruce's practical skills, Annette's creativity and a team of staff, contractors and helpers, the vision is finally coming together.

In the tradition of the best General Stores, there will be a range of everyday convenience items for sale – milk, in-

house baked bread, cheeses and preserved meats. A seasonal menu of both in-store meals and take-away food will be created with produce from the kitchen garden harvested daily. From small bites, to wholesome hearty meals and platters for sharing, there will be something for everyone. Harcourt Produce & General Store will be open seven days a week, including some nights, to welcome both local residents and visitors.

Annette and her team will be developing their own range using produce from the garden and their farm at the foot of Mount Alexander, Leanganook, as well as local farms and orchards. Expect to find jams, pickles and preserves where the true flavour of the spray-free, locally grown produce shines through.

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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 2019

Harcourt Progress Association

New HPA Committee Elected

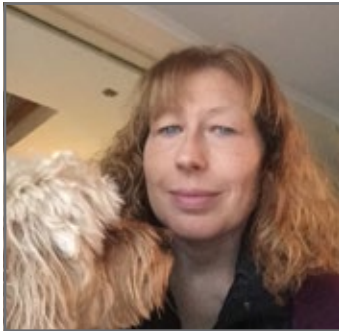
Glynn Jarrett



Hi, my name is Glynn Jarrett and I am honoured to be a part of the HPA. For the last 20 years I have worked in local government in community development roles, covering everything from Transport, Social Infrastructure, and managing Community Grant programs.

I have lived in this region for eight years and I am joining the HPA as I wish to give something back to this community that is now my home. Harcourt, as we all know, is a very special place and I look forward to helping build on what we have and making Harcourt an even greater place to live.

Karen Mierisch



Although living in the leafy eastern suburbs of Melbourne with two teenage daughters and various pets, my husband Andrew and I have always been drawn to Central Victoria. I have managed the office in our own business for many years. As it's grown in size I've developed new systems and methods to assist in its operation.

I've always been involved in the community. I spent my childhood as a member of Girl Guides and The Australian Air League, then moved on to become an adult leader spending a total of 30 years in these roles. I continue supporting Girl Guides as Unit Treasurer.

I am now involved with the creation and development of the Victorian Miniature Railway and all the joy that project will bring to the community. I enjoy book work that supports the groups that support others. (Karen has kindly offered to continue in the position of Treasurer for the HPA – Ed.)

Liesl Malan



Harcourt is destined to grow. This creates opportunities for better local services, facilities and employment. It also gives us, as community members, a responsibility to clearly communicate what we love and value about our town and how we'd like it to grow in the future.

I have been a landscape architect for the past twenty years. In 2006, I established my own practice, focused specifically on creating positive futures for regional communities. Since merging with Thomson Hay Landscape Architects in June 2019, I have happily handed the reins over, and am looking forward to

contributing positively to the changes Plan Harcourt and Shine Harcourt offer to create a strong, welcoming and sustainable future for our town.

Pauline Wilkinson



I moved to Harcourt five and a half years ago with my electrician husband Roger after purchasing Carl Gaasch's former home. We have a close-knit family of four amazing children and eight gorgeous grandchildren. We love property, and renovation is a passion for both of us. With almost 20 years in the Real Estate industry, I established Pauline's Real Estate after

discovering that there was a need for empathy and exceptional service in this area. I have joined the HPA to complement my community sponsorship programme which donates a portion of all my sale commissions to local groups and organisations. (Pauline has kindly offered to take on the role of assistant Treasurer on the HPA Committee – Ed)

Robyn Miller



While working full time for nearly forty years, I found little time to contribute to my community. Since retiring from a teaching and educational management career I have enjoyed being active in Landcare, and in the Harcourt Progress Association. Taking on the role of editing The Core has given me many opportunities.

I enjoy meeting and talking to people in Harcourt with varying interests and points of view, particularly those who work in the many volunteer organisations which benefit our community. Harcourt is set to grow, and as a community we are facing change; I believe the best way to deal with change is to engage with it and the HPA is a group ideally placed to do this.

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New HPA Committee (cont)

Sha Cordingley



I moved with my husband to live permanently in Harcourt around four years ago. I joined the Harcourt Progress Association to get involved in the community and to find a new outlet for volunteering after my move from the city. I appreciated the welcoming environment of HPA when I started attending their meetings. Currently I am the

Deputy Chair of the HPA.

I work for the Australian Community Workers Association and commute to Melbourne a few times a week. Having worked in the not for profit sector for over 30 years I enjoy utilising my governance and strategic planning skills in my role on the HPA.

Liz Rowe

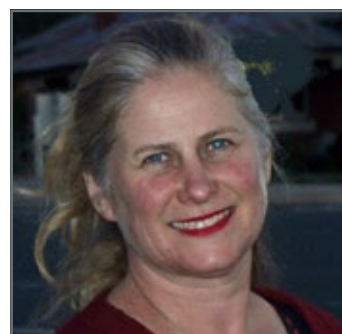


Nearing retirement, a couple of years ago my husband and I decided that we needed a project to help fill our days. We purchased a block of land in the Mount View Estate, built a house and made the big move from Castlemaine. Over the past 18 months we have been making a new garden, enjoyed the views to the mountain and loved meeting

the friendly faces at the Post Office, Goldfields Track Cafe and Service Station.

I was involved in volunteer work when my children were at kindergarten and school and am pleased to have the opportunity to be part of the Harcourt Progress Association.

Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns



Jacqueline has been with the HPA since its inception and has been the association's Secretary for the past 6 years. She has a background in volunteering, event management and community development and is now keen to support the new Harcourt Events and Tourism sub-committee. Jacqueline grew up on a dairy farm in Western

District and moved to the region 16 years ago. She lives off the grid in Barkers Creek and owns a B&B in central Harcourt. She is excited by the possibilities for the town as it embraces its rich future whilst honouring its diverse past.



HPA Annual General Meeting

The Harcourt Progress Association held its Annual General Meeting at the ANA Hall on Wednesday 24th July. The meeting provided an opportunity to hear reports and updates from the various working groups and sub-committees who are beavering way, progressing critical community projects. The HPA was very excited to welcome four new Steering Committee members: Glynn Jarrett, Pauline Wilkinson, Liesl Milan and Liz Rowe. Many thanks go to retiring members Scott Harrington and Des Raeburn-Jenkin for their commitment and support in recent years. The existing office bearers are remaining on the Committee but are looking to relinquish their roles as we induct and mentor new committee members to assume executive roles.

The HPA has a number of sub committees and working groups which have been established to progress key activities and aspirations for the community. These include:

- Harcourt Communications Sub-committee
- Harcourt & District Fruit Growers Association Sub-committee
- Adopt a Roadside Working Group
- Harcourt Events and Tourism Sub-committee
- SHINE Harcourt Working Group Harcourt
- Community Play Space Working Group

Participation in these groups is open to all. For more information please contact Jacqueline on 0425 323 005 or by email on takandjak@bigpond.com

You can follow HPA events and activities via our Facebook page. We hope to see you at a local community event very soon!

October Edition – No Harcourt News/The Core?

At The Core, we have discussed succession a number of times. We really do need to build up our numbers and share our skills so that absences and retirements can be covered. We have a great team in Bernie Schultz (layout), Genevieve Ward (advertising) and Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns (writing and editing). Personally, I would appreciate sharing the editing work with another person or persons. I am also looking for assistance with reporting on news and events.

Now we get to the "pointy end" - it is possible that for October 2019 there will not be an edition of The Core as I will not be available. Is there anyone out there who would like to put their skills forward to assist, even just for the October edition?

Please contact me if you can help: Robyn Miller 0467 670 271



The Doors are Opening

Continued from page 1

Harcourt Produce & General Store will sell local and regional wines and crafted beers, along with their own sparkling water

and cordials. Special events will showcase local producers, giving them an opportunity to talk about their work and complementing their beverages and products with seasonal flavours from the kitchen.

Local producers, winemakers, farmers and gardeners have embraced the concept. 'I am so excited about the opportunities – not just for our business, but for the whole region. It's been a long journey, and we've been grateful for the kind words of support and encouragement we've received', said Annette. It's going to be a game changer for Harcourt, and well worth the wait.

For more information see
www.harcourtproduce.com



Moxom Bridge Café, Accommodation and Tea Rooms. Harcourt Valley Heritage & Tourist Centre.



Store renovations in 1970. Harcourt Valley Heritage & Tourist Centre.

Applefest 2020 – a Vision for the Future

We are currently planning next year's Harcourt Applefest and would love to have you on board.

Opportunities exist for people to get involved in every facet of the event. There's lots of ways to get involved.

From planning to promotion; the art show to the apple display. Be it one day, one hour, or a one-off effort: if you can spare the time and share your skill / energy / passion, then we'd love to hear from you.

We are launching Applefest 2020 at the Spring Blossom Festival on 21st September: come along to find out more or contact Jacqueline on 0425 323 005.

Save the Date:

Harcourt Spring Blossom Festival

Saturday, 21st September 4pm-8pm

Celebrating the Spring Equinox and launching the
2020 Harcourt Applefest

*Live music – kids' entertainment – food trucks
(yes: more than one this time!!)*

Local cider, wine and beer

Henry's of Harcourt, Reservoir Road, Harcourt

Presented by Harcourt Events And Tourism,
a HPA sub-committee

For more information:

Jacqueline on 0425 323 005



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Harcourt Organic Co-op Update

All Go at Gung Hoe



Gung Hoe Growers are expanding their business and taking on more land at the Harcourt Organic Farming Cooperative. Shown here are Mel Willard and Sas Allardice (the Gung Hoe Growers) with Hugh Finlay beginning the marking out of their new plot, bringing the total area under cultivation to one and a half acres.

Katie Finlay told the Core, "This new patch was one of the first pieces of orchard Hugh and I planted in 1998. At that time we put in peaches and nectarines as our first experiment in orcharding that didn't involve growing apples." Now the trees are gone and Mel and Sas intend to have the acre (.4 hectare) prepared for planting by having it "yeoman" ploughed. This is a method of ploughing that does not disrupt the soil in the way that traditional ploughing does. The soil is not compacted and is opened up to allow moisture in.

The Gung Hoe girls are responding to demand for their delicious vegetables and are looking forward to a successful growing season. Find out more about Gung Hoe Growers on their Facebook page.

Sellar Farmhouse Creamery

The dairy at the co-op is nearly ready to be registered and Tess hopes to be selling milk by late August. For more information see contact Tess at tessa@sellardairy.com.au

Tellurian Fruit Gardens

Ant Wilson who runs Tellurian Fruit Gardens at the Organic Co-op had a very successful summer season, selling 90 shares under the Community Supported Agriculture model. Members pay upfront and can get 3 kg, 5 kg or 10 kg fruit boxes; with all the fruit coming from the farm and delivered to hubs around the region or in Melbourne from December to March. For more information see: www.tfgardens.com.au

Carr's Organic Fruit Tree Nursery

"The first year of sales of Heritage Fruit trees has been a success," said Katie Finlay. "We took pre-orders and had a massive open day for people to come and collect their trees. This year we have had 60 varieties of fruit trees for sale with most of the scion wood coming from the farm. We found that the multi-grafted trees sold out early. We plan to expand next year and I'm excited that we are going to try to expand the types of trees we sell. Experimenting with nut trees, citrus, figs, tamarillo and mulberries is definitely on the cards.

"At the co-op our aim is to give the consumer a wide range of certified organic food. There are openings for other operators; for example chooks, berries, herbs, honey etc. There is a selection process which requires a business plan which must establish that the business will be viable." A first step for anyone interested is to see the Facebook or web site: hofcoop.com.au/.

Female Change Rooms at Barkers Creek Cricket Club on Track

With the Cricket Season due to start in early October, Shane Renfrey President of Barkers Creek Cricket Club was pleased to tell The Core that the refurbishment of the club rooms is going to plan.

Shane said, "While the hall is a little smaller, we are excited to see the two new change rooms and a disabled toilet incorporated into the main club building. In addition there will be a new kitchen and bar. It is a first for the club to have a change rooms suitable for female players. The renovations have been enabled by State Government Sports and Recreation funding, a Shire Community Grant and a Solar Grant.

Women's Cricket is due to start this year. We are in the Castlemaine and District Cricket Association which will field four women's teams which are Harcourt, Castlemaine, Muckleford and Barkers Creek. The game is designed to be played by women of all ages, with eight to twelve players in a team. Everyone gets a chance to bat and bowl and the game goes for one and a half hours. The emphasis is on participation and enjoyment."

With both Barkers Creek and Harcourt fielding teams there is plenty of opportunity for local women to join in and enjoy this emerging sport. Contact your local club.



The new look hall: The side facing the ground has a servery for the kitchen and bar which opens onto the verandah.



Harcourt Uniting Church

As George mentioned in the Church article last month, we have been on holidays up through the Centre of Australia and down the West coast. One of our highlights was to visit the Seafarers Centre in Port Hedland. There are 28 of these centres in Australia; they were originally known as the Mission to Seamen. On their website they are described as “a Christian welfare charity serving merchant crews around the world with practical, emotional and spiritual support.” Rev Dr John Ashley began visiting ships in the Bristol Channel in 1835 as he was concerned by the harsh conditions and isolation of the crews. The Anglican Church took up this ministry world wide in 1850 when Dr Ashley retired due to ill health.

Port Hedland has the largest number of seafarers coming in to their Centre throughout Australia. Seafarers Centre staff (plus volunteers as well) go out on their launch several times a day to collect crew wishing to come ashore for the day. The Centre is able to provide: a money exchange, free internet to contact their families, a bus to take them to the supermarket, organisation of medical appointments, a chapel where they are able to sit quietly and there is a shop at the Centre for their use. The most popular items purchased at the shop are Australian made Woollen Doonas; Australian made Ugg boots, Australian made toys, Fish Oil and Baby formula as well as souvenirs. Pastoral care is a very important part of the work at the centre. Staff may notice a crew member sitting alone or looking worried and after talking with them may learn of bullying from other crew, being under-paid by the shipping company or concerns with their families at home. They may simply be there to “listen” but can also contact the appropriate authorities to follow up on these problems.

When we went on the trip around the harbour to collect crew we were able to see “close up” the loading of iron ore and the immense size of the ships and the port.

The Iron Ore boom in North West Australia and in particular Port Hedland is serviced by 19 berths in the harbour with two more about to be constructed. Products exported include iron ore, copper, scrap metal, lithium and salt. An iron ore train usually has two engines followed by 134 carriages plus another two engines and 134 more carriages totalling 37,520 tonne, with an average value of \$3,984,624! There are twelve to thirteen trains every 24 hours, so there’s continual noise day and night. BHP, Fortescue Metals (associated with Twiggy Forrest) and Roy Hill (Gina Rinehart, major shareholder) are the major mining companies serviced by Port Hedland. It was “mind boggling” to hear of the money spent by these large companies - they work in billions not just millions. For example, Andrew Forrest has just had 8 ships built each costing a cool \$90 million – that’s \$720 million! A ship on average carries between 170,000 – 270,000 tonne of iron ore. Forrest has also ordered six new tug boats and will develop a new mine expected to cost \$1.7 billion for the infrastructure and a new rail line.

Many people say Port Hedland is not their favourite tourist destination, however we found it to be such an interesting place to learn about our Australian mining industry and the work of the Seafarers Centre.

Harcourt Uniting Church Fellowship has donated to the important work of Seafarers in Australia and it was good to see the ways in which those donations are being used. Harcourt Uniting Church always welcomes you to join us on a Sunday 9am followed by a cuppa. Our split system gives us the warmth needed at this time of the year.

Jan Jenkin



Councillor Comment

Hi all,

Well it has been a big week. We have watched the Adam Goodes documentary which gave us something to think about. Then we saw the MasterChef final. That was against the backdrop of one of the judges underpaying his workers. We pride ourselves on being a nation where everyone gets a fair go, but these two examples highlight how far we have to go.

From my own perspective, I love our Australian rules football and recall putting the TV on to watch Goodes play. I certainly admired Adam Goodes the footballer, but what I saw on the documentary made me hang my head in shame.

On the Council scene, it is the year of Harcourt – we have Shine Harcourt, we have plan Harcourt, we have Stanley Park North Playspace in Harcourt and we have tenders out for a couple of bridges in Harcourt. We have female friendly change rooms in the pipeline for Harcourt and I am concerned my Council friends are just about over Harcourt!

The good news gets even better as I hear on the grapevine our Harcourt Produce and General store is about to re-open with a supply of the best quality food and featuring local produce. Congratulations to Annette and her team!

Stay well and happy. We hope for a bit more rain and then some sunshine - just what the garden needs.

Best regards to all.

Tony

AG Cordy
0439 742434

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.

Trail Maps Show the Way for Horse Riders

Mount Alexander has long been known as a destination for walkers, campers and riders. With tracks and trails to suit just about everyone, it's an outdoor experience that's attracting more and more visitors as word gets out.

While the area is becoming increasingly well-known for La Larr Ba Gauwa's 34km of cross-country mountain bike trails, it's a place that has long been an attraction for horse riders too. The quality of trails, spectacular views and seasonal flora make horse riding an incredible experience at any time of year. Horse riding can be very therapeutic and it's an excellent way to explore nature in a group or riding solo. But it's an activity that can be risky for riders and horses, particularly for the inexperienced.

In Australia alone, Safe Work Australia estimates that there are around 20 deaths from horse-related injury every year. Every time a rider mounts a horse, there is a possibility they may fall off. There are also considerable risks to horses in the event of an accident or near-miss. Technical controls and experience can reduce the chance of an accident, injury or fatality. But decisions about where to ride also have a big impact on safety.

If you're taking your horse onto trails designated for mountain bike riders, you're putting your horse and yourself at serious risk ...

Dr Sarah Jalim, a Registered Specialist in Equine Surgery at the Bendigo Equine Hospital, said:

"Riders should avoid areas in which the terrain is more challenging than the ability and fitness of either the horse and/or the rider. Areas that many horses find challenging are steep, rocky downhill sections, or steep upward slopes greater in length and elevation than their fitness allows. Riders should also remember that some breeds and types of horses are more capable of dealing with challenging terrain than others. Those that have sustained previous injuries or lameness may be more suited to flatter trails with more forgiving ground underfoot."

On Mount Alexander, plenty of tracks have been historically used for horse riding. Many of those tracks are still in use. On the La Larr Ba Gauwa Park side of the Mount, old vehicle access tracks have been repurposed as shared trails for walkers and horse riders. But in recent months, horses have been seen on trails designated for mountain bikes. This creates a significant safety issue.



Volunteer La Larr Ba Gauwa Committee of Management Chair Jason Tolland said: "Riding horses on mountain bike trails is incredibly risky. Mountain bikers travel at high speed and often around blind corners. If you're taking your horse onto a trail that's been designated for mountain bike riders then you're putting your horse and yourself at a very serious risk of an accident, injury or even death."

Dr Sarah Jalim agrees. She said:

"Riders should avoid areas in which horse riding is specifically forbidden. If a collision occurs between a cyclist and horse, it has the potential to cause serious problems for all parties involved. Collisions can result in many serious injuries, including but not limited to lacerations, fractures, tendon damage, ocular (eye) damage and even neurological impairment. Even small lacerations incurred to horses' limbs can be very problematic, as they have limited soft tissue protection over those regions, where many important joints and tendon sheaths are located. Infection in these structures can be life threatening."

Collisions and near-misses can both cause harm. Near-misses can spook horses and make it difficult or impossible for the rider to control them. Collisions and near-misses can dismount riders without warning, potentially causing severe injury.

There are many decisions horse riders can take to help keep themselves and their horses safe. First, stay on the paths, roads and tracks designated for horses. Before you set out, consider packing a few safety items along for the ride.

Dr Jalim said: "Vaccinating your horse against tetanus is strongly recommended. Small puncture wounds and abrasions of the lower limbs are a fairly common occurrence in areas of Victoria's bushland. If going on long trail rides, take a basic first aid kit for you and your horse, even

just a pressure bandage to stem bleeding. Make sure you have the number of a local equine vet so you can quickly raise the alarm if your horse is injured. Frequent trail riders should consider having a more comprehensive first aid kit at home or in your float. It should contain wound irrigation fluid and a selection of wound dressings and bandages."

Remember too that it's always safest to ride in groups. Take a mobile telephone with service in the area you're riding in. If you're riding alone, let someone know where you're planning to ride and what time you expect to be back.

Jason Tolland said "If you're heading out riding, do your research first. You can download the La Larr Ba Gauwa trail map from our website and take it with you. It shows all the trails and tracks in the park, including those that are safe for horses."

La Larr Ba Gauwa Trail Maps are available online at lalarrbagauwa.harcourt.vic.au.



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Filming Inspiring Local Stories

The Maldon & District Community Bank® recently celebrated giving \$3 million back to local communities over the last 20 years. As part of this celebration the bank board commissioned a series of short films to tell the stories of the people behind these amazing projects.

Castlemaine Secondary School (CSC) and the Nalderun Group feature in two of these films, highlighting the partnership between these groups and the Maldon & District Community Bank®.

The local secondary school received a Community Bank grant to purchase wireless headsets to support the school's music and performance program. Not only will the headsets improve the quality of performances, the school will also save money each year as this equipment will no longer need to be hired.

Commenting on the impact that grant has made, CSC School Council President

Beth Mellick, noted in the film that, "the funding that we received from the Maldon & District Community Bank has a massive impact on our students and the music program."

The Nalderun film celebrates their project 'Talking with our Elders'. A Maldon & District Community Bank® grant is supporting an oral history project capturing the stories of elders in the local community. Young members of the local indigenous community will connect with and honour their elders by creating videos of the elders' stories. The youth participants will be mentored in filmmaking, storytelling and "listening" by People Pictures' Cath South and Stewart Carter, along with local and guest indigenous presenters. This project will build confidence and empower both young and old to own their stories and have a sense of connection and belonging.

The Mount Alexander Shire-based Independent Creatives team of Simon Beckett and Nicole Quinton were engaged to produce the short films. This agency specialises in helping not-for-profit and purpose-led organisations with their communications, branding and messaging.

Simon Beckett, who directed the films said "we've been really inspired by the dedicated people who run these projects. Their hard work has a positive impact that spreads through the whole community and that's the idea behind the films. The message is keep your money local and you'll see the benefit on your doorstep!"

To see the films, hit like and follow the Maldon & District Community Bank Facebook page or search for the bank on Instagram.



Capturing stories at Nalderun



Castlemaine Secondary music students



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Update



Groundworks for Station Complete at VMR



Stage two for above ground works will commence at the Victorian Miniature Railway within the first two weeks of August. The steel supports rising above the block work are for the station clock, made by Colin Mierisch. This magnificent clock is ready to for installation and was featured in the *Core* in June this year. The large open area, which ultimately will be below the station building, is for the storage of the rolling stock.

VCAL students from Castlemaine Secondary College are on site every

Friday morning from 9 am until 1.00 pm to learn basic building and construction skills while assisting with the construction. While work continues on site, some of the VCAL students work at the Goldfields Track Café to prepare the lunch for students and staff. Students who assist Donna McMahon at the Café are recognised for their Work Experience and Donna has employed a couple of the students as casuals. When working at the Café they can gain a Food Safety and Barista certificate. The lunches have

been funded with a Community Grant from the Shire of Mount Alexander.

The Station and Platform 1 are due to be open to the public on 8 December, with the building ready to lock up in November. Grant Victor-Gordon from the Harcourt Lions Club who is on hand every Friday with CSC staff said, "We allowed for eight weeks of delays. We have lost about four weeks to inclement weather, so we are a little behind, but are still confident of the December completion date."

LIMERICK by The Bard of North Harcourt

Two friends have flown off in a Boeing.
I've got no idea where they are going.
I think there's a chance
That it could be to France
But I've really no sure way of knowing.

Phil Carlyle

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Harcourt CFA

Home Fire Safety Recap

CFA brigades attend more than 3000 house fires per year with a lot of these being preventable. Refer to the CFA Home Fire Safety Checklist below for a recap on prevention measures you can take in your home to reduce the risk of us having to respond to your address. Further information can also be found online at www.cfa.vic.gov.au using the Plan & Prepare tab at the top of the web page and then clicking on "Fires in the home". The CFA web page also has a host of other valuable information so it would be a good idea to save this site into your Favourites Folder as a handy reference.

CFA/Fire Rescue Victoria Government Legislation

The "controversial" legislation dealing with changing the CFA to a purely volunteer organisation and combining the career staff of CFA with the Metropolitan Fire Brigade in forming Fire Rescue Victoria has been passed by the State Government. For the moment it is business as usual and will have no effect on what we are currently doing and there will be no on ground changes until after the 2019/2020 fire danger period.

New Additions

There is one change in the fire services that has reached our brigade and that is the updating of Breathing Apparatus sets

to a common type across both agencies. Our brigade members who are accredited wearers have commenced training and familiarisation with the new sets as part of the roll out program.

It is also worth mentioning that the Castlemaine Brigade have been fortunate in receiving a brand new Medium Pumper (truck) and are busy training on it so that it can then "go live" and be available to respond to callouts. This state of the art pumper has many new design features to assist in the suppression of urban type fires and which make it user friendly. It can even be lowered when stationary to make it easier to access the stowage lockers.

Brigade 75th Anniversary


This year the Harcourt Brigade will celebrate 75 years of service to the Harcourt community. Preliminary planning is well underway and part of the celebrations will include an Open Day on Sunday 10th November. Put the date in your diary and keep an eye out for more information closer to the time.

While it is important to stay warm this winter, it is more important to stay safe.

Take that bit of extra care in the home and on the roads.

Tyrone Rice

Brigade Community Safety Coordinator



HOME FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

Smoke alarms

- ☐ Test and clean regularly.
- ☐ At least one on each level.
- ☐ One in every bedroom where someone sleeps with the door closed.

Chimneys and flues

- ☐ Clean yearly.

Bedroom

- ☐ Never smoke in bed.
- ☐ Don't leave laptops on bed

Electric blankets

- ☐ Turn on no more than 30 minutes before bed.
- ☐ Turn off before you get into bed.
- ☐ Remove heavy items from bed when on.
- ☐ Keep flat with controls at the side of the bed.
- ☐ Regularly check for broken and worn wiring.

Open fire place

- ☐ Always use a fire screen in front of an open fire.
- ☐ Put out fires before going to bed or going out.
- ☐ Keep 1 metre clear space around

Front door

- ☐ Never deadlock doors when you're at home. If you must keep doors deadlocked, leave your keys in the lock.
- ☐ Develop and practise your home fire escape plan – have two ways to escape each room and a designated safe meeting point outside your home, e.g. letterbox.

Heaters

- ☐ Install, maintain and operate according to manufacturer's instructions.
- ☐ Keep 1 metre clear space around.
- ☐ Turn off before going to bed or going out.

Candles


- ☐ Keep away from curtains.
- ☐ Always use on non-combustible surfaces.

Kitchen

- ☐ Never leave cooking unattended.
- ☐ Keep combustibles such as tea towels and curtains away from cooking and heat sources.
- ☐ Keep pot handles turned in.
- ☐ Keep grills, fans and cooking surfaces free of grease residue.

Laundry

- ☐ Clean the lint filter on your clothes dryer after each load.
- ☐ Let the dryer complete its cooldown cycle before stopping.



Remember...

- If your smoke alarms have removable batteries replace them every year.
- Supervise children near heating equipment.
- Turn off electrical appliances at the power point when not in use.
- Keep electrical appliances and equipment in good working order.
- Replace damaged equipment e.g. power cords.
- Don't overload power boards.
- Have and know how to use your fire blanket and extinguisher.

cfa.vic.gov.au/homechecklist



Harcourt Valley Primary School

School Concert

This term is Concert Term!! The concert will be held at the Leisure Centre Bingham's Road Harcourt on the evening of Tuesday September 17. Our concert is a bi-annual event based on a theme and this year the theme is 'Carnival of the Animals'. Each class learns two songs and dance routines and are backed by a live band. Castlemaine Secondary College students come in and provide us with sound and lights

Students will have costumes that are 'on the drawing board' at the moment, and I am hoping that some clever parents or community members might be able to find some spare time to help me out. I also am wondering if there are any 'face painters' that could just add a little more drama to our night.

Please feel free to contact me if you are able to assist in any way: hood.katrina.o@edumail.vic.gov.au

Many thanks,

Katrina Hood

Science in Action

As part of the Spinning in Space Unit, the Grade 3 and 4 students have been investigating the sun. They made sundials and tested them out. They also traced around shadows at different times throughout the day...when the sun did decide to come out!

From the school newsletter and the Flexi-buzz, the online messaging system of the school.





News From Harcourt Bowling Club

Harcourt Bowls Club Looks to its Future

For some time the Harcourt Bowling Club (HBC) has been contemplating growth possibilities to boost membership and support the sustainability of the club. The Barefoot Bowls nights held regularly in summer are a good example of community engagement which reaches out to all ages in Harcourt.

Some of the possible projects which have been explored include the construction of an all-weather green and establishing a Men's Shed facility. The Barefoot Bowls nights held regularly in summer are a good example of community engagement which reaches out to all ages in Harcourt.

A longer term aspiration has been the proposal to establish an Independent Living Retirement Village. Such a facility would see the Bowling Club become a central community facility enabling a hub of activities with a broad social program.

The initiative is supported by Mount Alexander Shire, Castlemaine Health, Maree Edwards MP and Lisa Chesters MP. A Steering Committee of HBC and community members has been established including: George Milford, Russell Maltby, Russell Timmins, John Grant and Dianne Baig. In April 2019 the opportunity to apply for Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) funding for a Feasibility Study became available. This funding did not eventuate but the Steering Committee is still determined to explore the potential of such a scheme. An agreement in principle has been reached with George and Jose Milford over a piece of land at the rear of the bowling club.

It is early days, but it is exciting for Bowling Club members and the Harcourt community to contemplate this project which aligns with key aspirations of Plan Harcourt and Shine Harcourt. It would enable local residents to have the option of staying in Harcourt in appropriate accommodation as they age. If successful, it will broaden and strengthen the range of residential infrastructure in Harcourt through activity-based lifestyle living which employs high quality cluster design principles which maintain the natural features of our landscape.

Harcourt Team has Bowls Premier League (BPL) Cup Success

On Sunday July 14th the team of Brian Smith, Gary Maddern and Tony Olsson represented Harcourt in the first BPL Cup regional event held in Bendigo.

Producing some brilliant bowls, the team won all of their matches against some State and National players in the field.

Of particular note was the last game, when one shot was needed for a win on the last end. With the opposition holding at least one, Tony turned their bowl over to give Harcourt the lead and the win!

Congratulations to the team who have done the Club proud. They will now travel to Shepparton to compete in the Regional Final on 24th August.

We wish them good luck and good bowling!

Next Friday Foodies Dates

August 16th and August 30th. Please put names in at the club by Wednesday afternoon so you don't miss out.

Chris Anderson
Secretary

Some Time Ago ...

HARCOURT.—This pretty little village bids fair to be a pic-nic resort by the holiday makers both of Castlemaine and Bendigo, for yesterday, nearly three thousand persons from the two places paid it a visit. From the earliest streak of day, conveyances were en route from Castlemaine, and the railway conveyed hundreds more. Indeed, so great was the traffic, that extra carriages had to be put on to the first trains from Bendigo, though the numbers were not quite so large. A great many availed themselves of the holiday to come down by rail, and pic-nic parties, of all sizes, from the quiet quartette, to the hundred strong, could be found enjoying themselves on the sides of Mount Alexander. To the attractions of the "Mount," indeed, may be attributed the good fortune of Harcourt, so far as attracting the attention of tourists goes, for without its beauties, Harcourt *per se* would be as commonplace a township as well could be found. If tea gardens, or some really good and comfortable public accommodation were instituted, we should imagine the proprietor would make a handsome thing out of it, for then, after enjoying a stroll over the hills, dinner, tea, or other meals, *at fresco* or otherwise, could be provided to appease the appetites that would be provoked. Whether a house of the kind would pay on the Mount itself, may be a question, though there can be no doubt that during the summer season it would do well.

From the Mount Alexander Mail Jan 2, 1863. Via Trove

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Harcourt Carpet Bowls Going Strong

So far this year our bowler members are having a fun time with a fair bit of rivalry amongst the competing teams. We currently have six teams of four players, with a few extras to fill in on nights when a team is short of players. Our teams are named as follows: Heroes, New Breed, Rebels, RSL, Castle and Maine Four. Everyone comes with a determination to win but no matter what the outcome of a game everyone goes home with a smile on their face.

Fund Raiser for Legacy

For many years the Harcourt Carpet Bowls Association has run an annual Tournament to help raise funds for the Castlemaine Branch of Legacy and over the years has raised a considerable amount of money for this worthy cause.

So once again we are holding a Tournament to which anyone interested in helping raise funds for Legacy will be made most welcome. Come along, be put in a team (no previous experience needed) and have some fun playing a set of three games. There are prizes for the winners and runners-up.

We will also be holding a Raffle with excellent prizes of a hamper, rug or bottle of wine etc.

Loretta Rice



From the Weekly Times, 9 Dec 1953, p. 5. Via Trove. The original caption reads: Carpet Bowlers' Association members. From Left: Messrs F. Fields (sec.), W. A. Carr (vp), Mrs M. R. Ely (treas.), Messrs B. Hoare (pres.), and W. Gaasch (asst. sec.).

Harcourt Carpet Bowls Tournament for Legacy Wednesday August 7th 2019

Arrive 7.15 pm (to put your name in the draw) for a 7.30 pm start

Enjoy a friendly competition

PRIZES and a RAFFLE

**Harcourt District Leisure Centre
Binghams Road, Harcourt**

Heated Hall

Enquiries to

John on 5474 2226 or Tyrone 5474 2126



**Castlemaine District
Community Health**
Facilitating Better Health

Become a Respect Ambassador

Respect Ambassadors are volunteers in the community who are trained to promote gender equity in clubs across the Mount Alexander Shire. Gender equitable clubs have environments where women and girls feel safe, respected and included in all aspects of club life.

Providing equal opportunities for all genders to participate is great for the club and for the broader community. One benefit to clubs is potentially increased club membership due to an ability to attract a broader cross section of the community. The creation of gender equitable clubs is also an important strategy in the prevention of violence against women as it addresses the underlying determinants of why family violence occurs in the first place.

Respect Ambassadors will be part of the Respect Ambassador project led by Castlemaine District Community Health (CDCH), in partnership with Maldon Neighbourhood Centre. The Mount Alexander Family Violence Prevention Network has provided strategic oversight in the development of this project. This project is proudly supported by the Mount Alexander Shire Council Community Grant Program.

Respect Ambassadors will be CDCH volunteers and all CDCH volunteers need to undergo a 'Working With Children' check and a police check.

If you are interested in participating in this project either as an ambassador or as a club, please contact the Health Promotion Officer at Castlemaine District Community Health on 54791000.



Supported by a Mount Alexander Shire Community Grant

Vocal Nosh

Vocal Nosh is a community singing event that has been occurred monthly in Newstead for 20 years.

The next Vocal Nosh is on September 1st at 6 pm in the Newstead Community Centre and will be led by the talented Scott Sanders and Tara Flinn.

The cost is \$15 or \$12 concession and includes a meal of hearty soup, bread and fresh fruit. Children can attend free of charge.

No musical experience is necessary and there is no music to read. All are welcome to come along for a good sing and good food in convivial company.

Upcoming sessions will be on: September 1st and October 6th.



Harcourt Heritage Centre

John and Margaret Code

John Code migrated from County Clare, Ireland in 1857 at the age of twelve years. After marrying Margaret Coyne in 1866 he came to Harcourt. In 1873 John Code took up land in Boatswain's Gully under the 1869 Land Act. He added to this land by purchase in 1902. Margaret's family lived nearby. John Code also had land south of the Harcourt railway station and he owned further blocks adjoining the corner of what is now Peeler's Road and Blackjack Road opposite Lupton's 'Live & Let Live' Hotel. This land was planted out in orchard. To supplement his income John Code held a position as a ganger for the Victorian Railways.

Code's orchard came to public notice in 1903 when the fruit industry was grappling with the suppression of Codling Moth. The local paper reported on the incidence of Codling Moth infestation in many district orchards and stated that Mr Code had sprayed five times during the season with the result that his crop was 95% clean. This was far and away the best result of any district orchard – "a magnificent result". It was so magnificent that Mr C French, head of the Entomological Branch of the Agriculture Department, visited Mr Code's orchard to see for himself.

Code's orchard came in for further mention in 1913 and 1914 when Eagle's Race was extended through the Harcourt Township to John Code's orchard. When the irrigation channel was completed John Code planted another 11 acres of fruit trees. This made the orchard a big undertaking. Some help came from youths placed with the Codes by the Department for Neglected Children. It was reported that John Code's son Frank was managing the orchard for his ageing parents at this time.

The children of John and Margaret Code became prominent members of the community. Each had his or her special interest. Tom, Maurice, Lawrence, Joseph and Frank frequently appeared in reports of football, cricket, baseball and mixed sports meetings. Maurice Code was a member of the Harcourt Cricket Club, playing in the 1898/99 team that won the premiership and the Newham Trophy. Frank Code was a founding member of Harcourt Australian Natives Association Branch while Tom Code (a life-long

teetotaler) was active in the Rechabite Lodge. By contrast Lawrence, who moved to Newport in 1911 to take up a position with the Railways, was quite fond of a beer. On his 90th birthday the Newport Hotel said they would give him free beer for the rest of his life. He lived to the age of 102! But I am getting ahead of myself.

From about 1900 eldest son Tom Code was an indispensable part of every social gathering in Harcourt and Barkers Creek due to his ability to play the violin. He trained at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, and taught at Allen's Music, while playing with theatre orchestras around the City. In 1915 Tom returned to Castlemaine to continue his musical career and was much in demand as a player and teacher.

After marrying in 1919 Tom Code purchased his father's orchard. His parents retired to live at Templeton Street, Castlemaine. Margaret Code died at Castlemaine on 25th February 1920 and John Code died on 2nd Dec 1923. Both were buried at Harcourt. One of the many reports of John Code's death stated that he was very popular, being of sterling character and kindly disposition. No doubt he had a beguiling Irish accent and could tell a good yarn. According to his Will his substantial estate was to be divided, more or less equally, between his five sons and two daughters and money was left for masses to be said for the repose of the souls of Margaret and John for twenty years after death.

Tommy Code threw himself into orcharding and also became a Director of the Harcourt Fruit Supply Limited. It was about this time that the 'Doctor Apple' label was developed and used by the Fruit Supply Society on all of its exports to London. The 'Doctor Apple' label was a guarantee, to the buyers, that the case held 'fancy grade' uniformly-sized apples so that the case could be purchased, unopened, in far-off English markets.

Tom kept up his father's link with the Department of Agriculture in the unrelenting war against Codling Moth. To support this campaign Tom operated an experimental fruit block within his orchard. The export market was the chief outlet for Harcourt fruit and, on behalf of the growers of Harcourt, Tom Code grew,

packed and consigned a case of Dunn's apples to the 1924 Wembley Exhibition in London. This case of fruit was awarded a Bronze Medal. In 1928 the 'Weekly Times' reported that Mr Code's orchard had 27 acres of apples and 13 acres of pears, the trees being from nine to fifty years old. Tom Code was forced off the land by poor returns in the Great Depression of the 1930s. Like tens of thousands of others at the time he received no help or support from a government unable to relieve the suffering of its people.

It is outside the scope of this 'thumbnail sketch' to recount the lives of John and Margaret Code's descendants. Suffice it to say that all members of the family have distinguished themselves in the community, particularly in their sporting achievements. But what was once John Code's vast fruit garden is not now to be seen. The entire landscape in that part of Harcourt was significantly altered by the construction of the Calder Freeway.

This is another in a series of thumbnail sketches of the pioneers compiled from the files of Harcourt Heritage Centre C H James Collection. We are indebted to the late Neil M Daly (son-in-law of Tommy Code) for much of the information.

Desperately seeking ...

The Harcourt Heritage Centre is Searching for 2010 Applefest Photos.

Do you have any photos from the 2010 Applefest?

The Heritage Centre is trying to complete records for all the years of the Applefest celebrations.

CWA Applefest Bunting

Over recent years the specially made CWA Applefest bunting has all but disappeared.

If you can help with either of these, please call in on any Wednesday to the Heritage Centre at the ANA Hall (opposite the Post Office) in High Street.

A dip into the History of the Calder Highway

Recently Melva and Andy Graham, who own the Aussie Sculpture Garden, "Woop Woop" in Harcourt, decided to track a piece of local history by driving along a section of the Calder Highway.

They were inspired by a book by local author Howard A. Carr titled, *The Calder Highway, Melbourne to Mildura: opening the Victorian Inland*. Howard has an interest in local history and has previously written two books: *Barkers Creek, Birthplace of the Mount Alexander Goldfields* and *Bridging the Generations, the story of Harcourt*.

Howard's book on the Calder was written in 2006 prior to the Calder Freeway being completed. Residents may recall that in April this year at the Twilight Market, we celebrated ten years since the Freeway opened, the last section of which bypassed Harcourt.

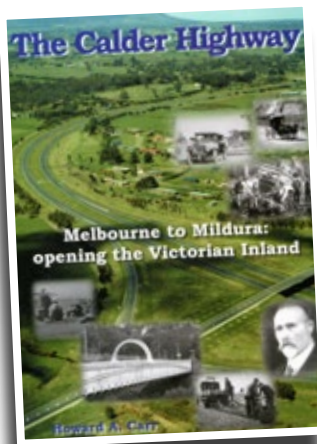
The story of the Calder Highway begins in Melbourne during the gold rush. Mount Alexander Road led to the central Victorian goldfields. The title for the road was given after gold

was discovered at Barkers Creek at the foot of Mount Alexander. Howard's book takes the reader through each town (including Harcourt) along the route of the old Calder Highway. Many of the towns along the way to Bendigo were staging points for Cobb and Co where fresh horses were provided for the next section of the journey. North of Bendigo the towns tend to be located at silos adjacent to the railway. Mount Alexander Road was re-named the Calder Highway in 1927 after William Calder, who died in that year, and had been the first chairman of the Country Roads Board and who had been instrumental in overseeing improvements to what had been appalling rural roads in Victoria.

Melva who was born in Mildura and who is a local stalwart of the CWA and husband Andy decided to travel north along the Calder. Taking two or three days they used Howard's book as a reference for exploring unique features of towns like Bridgewater, Wedderburn and Charlton. Melva was very taken by the story of a wealthy couple George Bills and his wife Annis who were animal lovers. When George died he left money in his will for water troughs for animals. Councils only had to apply to have them installed; over 500 were placed all over Australia. There is a particularly good example at Wedderburn, which allows horses and dogs to drink and surprisingly humans can wash their hands and faces in a separate section of the trough.

While Birchip is not on the Calder, Andy and Melva diverted to see an historic radio shop in Birchip. During the moon landing the shop owner had equipment which enabled him to broadcast the messages sent to and from the astronauts, to the entire town of Birchip.

Howard Carr's book *The Calder Highway, Melbourne to Mildura: opening the Victorian Inland* is available at Stoneman's Bookroom in Castlemaine. The information in the article is taken from the book.



Lisa Chesters to Meet With Ministers to Fight for Bendigo and Region

Federal Member for Bendigo, Lisa Chesters met with relevant Ministers in Canberra at the end of July to lobby for funding in the Bendigo electorate.

"I have meetings with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, the Hon Michael McCormack MP and the Minister for Regional Services, Decentralisation and Local Government, the Hon Mark Coulton MP to discuss priority projects for the region," Ms Chesters said.

"This Federal Liberal Government is yet to commit to any local infrastructure projects in the Bendigo electorate, so I am fighting for our fair share."

Regional priority projects include:

- Castlemaine District Community Health Upgrade (Mount Alexander Health and Wellbeing Hub)

- La Trobe Rural Road Trauma Research Hub
- Female change room upgrades (including Ken Wust Oval and Harcourt Recreation Reserve)
- Lighting upgrades at Canterbury Park, Eaglehawk
- Funding the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct at New Gisborne
- Provide funding to councils to construct footpaths in Maiden Gully, Epsom and Strathfieldsaye and Kyneton
- Multi-use outdoor space at Huntly Primary School
- Upgrades to the JB Osborne Theatre at Crusoe College
- Funding for emergency relief services at Cobaw Community Health

Big ticket items include:

- Bendigo Airport terminal expansion: to assist Bendigo to provide larger services to capital cities.
- Daylesford to Hanging Rock Rail Trail - Projected to attract 62,500 visitors per year, this project will deliver an economic benefit of \$4.1 million annually to towns across the region.
- Bendigo Showgrounds Redevelopment Stage 2.
"This is an opportunity for me to personally raise with the government the importance of projects around the area. With this government, it's vital that we have strong representation in Canberra. I will continue to be a strong voice and advocate for our community," Chesters concluded.



Plenty of Good News for Harcourt Valley Landcare

Nomination for Australian Community Media Landcare Community Group Award

Harcourt Valley Landcare group has been nominated for the above award. Members of the group will be attending Government House on Friday August 30 at 10 am.

In an email inviting members of the group to the awards the citation says:

“The Landcare awards celebrate the incredible efforts and valuable contributions of esteemed individuals, community groups, schools and organisations across Victoria that protect and enhance the natural environment and improve sustainable agriculture...”

Our application is currently being assessed and it will be a very exciting morning at Government House come the end of August. Rest assured the outcome will be reported in the September edition of The Core.

Agriculture Victoria Queensland Fruit Fly (QFF) Grant

The group has partnered with the Shire to improve management of QFF in Harcourt and in Mount Alexander Shire with a \$5,000 grant from Agriculture Victoria.

The focus of the grant is to develop an Emergency QFF Outbreak Plan. Workshops will be held in Harcourt and across the Shire and materials will be purchased to put together emergency kits. These will include instructions on how to use the kit, 20 traps, garbage bags, sample jars, and an information pamphlet for neighbours.

More information will become available shortly, contact Terry Willis, 0403 898 866 for details.

National Tree Day Celebrated – 400 holes dug on a Sunday Morning

Thankfully the soil at the wetland was fairly soft when Harcourt Valley Landcare members set out to dig 400 holes in preparation for a mass planting session. There was a good turnout and soon the area was bristling with stakes marking the holes. Harcourt Valley Primary School children will be participating in a planting session at the wetland in early August. Nicole Howie, Environmental Educator will lead the session assisted by parents, staff and Landcare volunteers.

At the end of all that digging, one banksia was planted to mark National Tree Day – only 399 to go!



More Fruit Fly News

Kylie Sonter has contacted The Core to tell us about making home-made fruit fly traps.

She writes: “I had a piece published in Grass Roots Magazine about making home-made fruit fly traps. Grass Roots No 252 April/May 2019. I thought you might like to let your readers know and the Fruit Fly Action Group. I write regularly for Grass Roots and I also have a monthly gardening column in Flat Matters called ‘A Little Patch in the Flat’. Flat Matters is a free Kangaroo Flat Community Newsletter, the library and Lansell Plaza (near Coles) often stocks it.”

Kylie attached the details to order back copies of Grass Roots, if readers are interested please contact me, Robyn Miller, Secretary, Harcourt Valley Landcare, 0467 670 271.

WHEEL CACTUS FIELD DAY

Our August field day will start at 10.30 am on 25 August with a demo and a brief talk for any new ‘Warriors’ before we set off for an hour or so injecting cacti, winding up with our usual tasty BBQ lunch, a cuppa and a chat.

The equipment – high vis vest, protective gloves and goggles – will be provided for the morning. You will just need a hat, stout shoes, long pants and long sleeves. Children will be welcome but must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

The venue will be announced on our website www.cactuswarriors.org closer to the date, or you can email info@cactuswarriors.org.

Heritage Centre August Tour

The Glassblower – Peter Henderson

We are constantly in awe of the skills and creativity of residents of the Harcourt Valley.

Peter Henderson has taken up glass-blowing, a skill in which he was trained while at university over forty years ago.

Peter will open his workshop to demonstrate this ancient art on Sunday 18th August.

This is the Harcourt Heritage Centre’s monthly chat/tour. Meet at the Heritage Centre (ANA Hall) at 1.30 pm to travel in car convoy to Peter’s workshop.

Afternoon tea follows, please bring a plate.

Enquiries to: 0400916527

Maya Rose – Debut EP Launch *Time*



Emerging Castlemaine R&B singer-songwriter Maya Rose returns to the scene with fresh beats, new accompanying band, and debut EP 'Time' after unleashing the single 'See You Again'.

With soulful vocals, moving lyrics and mesmerising sounds of her keyboard, Maya Rose will be taking her band to hit the road in celebration of her forthcoming EP. Her sounds are instantly welcoming; compelling the listener to lose themselves in each beat and vocal sway of this talented 20 year-old.

The EP and single will be released on all streaming platforms August 1st.

The Debut launch of Maya's EP Time will take place at:

8pm Saturday 24th August – Handle Bar, Bendigo

With special guest StrawberryJamz

More info: mayaofficial.com



Is your pet registered?

Our team will soon begin routine house checks where pets have been previously registered. If you're found to have an unregistered pet you will be fined.

Mount Alexander Shire Council thanks all responsible pet owners who have registered their animals and is warning the owners of unregistered pets that they may face fines.

"Pet registrations were due in April yet there are still many unregistered pets in the community," said Jeffery Amy, Coordinator Community Safety and Amenity, Mount Alexander Shire Council.

"With pet registrations starting at \$23, it's a lot cheaper to register your pet than risk a \$323 fine for each animal," said Mr Amy.

By law, all dogs and cats over three months must be registered and microchipped.

"It's very difficult for our Local Laws team to reunite an owner with a missing pet that is not microchipped and registered," said Mr Amy. "If you still haven't registered your pet you'll soon receive a final reminder notice in the post. "We encourage you to not wait though – please get in touch with Council to arrange registration as soon as possible to avoid a fine," he said.

"Our team will soon begin routine house checks where pets have been previously registered. If you're found to have an unregistered pet you will be fined.

"We know that the majority of people love their pets. We urge everyone with a furry friend to do the right thing and register your beloved animal," he said.

Pet registration fees go towards a range of services. These include the contract with our local shelter run by Mount Alexander Animal Welfare (MAAW), community dog bag dispensers and education programs, along with our Local Laws staff who collect and return stray animals to owners, investigate dog attacks, barking complaints and much more.

For more information regarding your pet registration please contact Council on 5471 1700.

From a Shire Press Release





Federal Member for Bendigo

LISA CHESTERS MP

PO Box 338 Bendigo 3552
Cnr. Williamson & Myers Sts, Bendigo 3550
T: 03 5443 9055 • F: 03 5443 9736
E: Lisa.Chesters.MP@aph.gov.au
@LMChesters • /LisaChestersBendigo





Weather and Water

As the end of July neared, early blossom appeared around Harcourt. In our garden it was the non-fruiting pear (pictured at bottom right – which has a tiny pear fruit on it which will not mature). In other gardens I have seen trees which I think are almonds in early flower.

While we have a constant throng of little birds on our block, we have visitors who pass through. In June and July the Currawongs came and stayed a little longer than previous years. The Song Thrush announced its return just the other day by singing loudly outside the front door. I don't know if they actually leave during the cold weather, but if they do remain during June and July, they are totally silent until there is a hint of the spring. Honey and nectar feeding birds such

as Silvereyes are flocking to the giant aloe. (Pictured at the right is an Eastern Spinebill feeding from the aloe flowers.)

In the last couple of weeks we had more settled weather but prior to that there were back to back "weather events" with strong winds and some rain. With the settled conditions I have observed the run off to our dam drying off, so perhaps we should hope for some more of those weather events!

Rainfall for July at Reservoir Road was 35 mm; the cumulative total is 248 mm which is down on last year's record at the same time of 270.5 mm.

It is really pleasing to see the total storage level of the reservoirs to our south is higher than at the same time last year.



Storage	Capacity at full supply megalitres	Current volume megalitres	Current volume % full	Volume same time last year megalitres	Volume same time last year % full
Upper Coliban	37,770	34,573	91.5%	31,084	82.3%
Lauriston	19,790	16,260	82.2%	15,690	79.3%
Malmsbury	12,034	3,223	26.8%	3,187	26.5%
TOTAL	69,594	54,056	77.7%	49,961	71.8%

Data from: www.coliban.com.au/about-us/reservoir-levels – August 2, 2019



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

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ABN: 63708909386

Protect Your Trees from All Sorts of Pests

If you've planted any fruit trees this year, make sure you protect the trunks from being eaten by random animals (in Harcourt this could be rabbits, hares, kangaroos or wallabies) because they can seriously stunt or damage your tree, and if they eat the bark all the way around it can kill the tree. Tree guards, fencing or dogs can all be effective deterrents. If the problem is hares (common around Harcourt!) you can make an organic hare-deterrent paint by mixing animal fat with any strong smelling stuff like peppermint oil, garlic, lavender, eucalyptus, tea tree etc, and painting it on the bark. Hares are herbivores and don't like strong smells, so the combination works well to stop them eating the delicious tender bark on your baby trees. However it's not very permanent so you'll need to re-apply it after rain or heat. Your trees may need protection for the first two or three years, or until the bark has hardened enough to lose its attraction.

Tree guards are a more effective (and one-off) solution. The type of tree guard you choose will depend on the type of animal you're preventing, and also the shape of the tree. If the limbs of your tree start very close to the ground (up to knee height), a tree guard just around the trunk won't be enough to protect the tree adequately, and you'll need to look at a taller structure around the whole tree. Traditionally old metal drums were used for the purpose, and you can often see the remnants of them around old fruit trees - which is one of the problems with this option, once the tree has grown, they're hard to remove! A mini-enclosure (i.e. fence) around each tree works well but is time-consuming and expensive to build if you have a lot of trees, and leads to the same problem of having a redundant enclosure that's hard to remove once the tree is mature.

So, what's the solution? There are two we recommend, and the one you choose will depend on your budget and dedication. The first is the full "repel all enemies" enclosure fence, built tall enough and engineered highly enough to keep out both kangaroos and rabbits. This is our dream solution; we wish we had one around the whole farm to exclude ALL the pests that like to eat fruit trees. The second option is much more practical and multi-purpose, and works particularly well for single trees in the garden (as opposed to a dedicated orchard area, which lends itself to the enclosure fence option). A simple hoop structure erected over the tree using star pickets and 2" poly pipe provides an affordable framework that can be used to support frost cloth, bird netting or fruit fly exclusion netting if that becomes necessary, and it can also be simply reinforced with a strip of chicken wire around the base for a year or two to stop the roos and rabbits from eating the bark.

Make Sure Your Young Trees get a Good Start in Life:

- If you didn't prune them when you planted, prune now (or before spring) so they grow into a useful shape right from the get-go. We reckon a classic vase shape suits most backyard trees.
- Once the soil has started to warm up a bit, mulch young trees. Fruit trees prefer 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. Once the trees are

established, they're better with a "living mulch" (or even just weeds, as long as you keep them mowed), but for the first year or two it's better to reduce any competition for water and nutrients.

- Fruit trees don't need watering in except in very dry conditions. There's probably enough soil moisture and you don't need to water your trees yet - they don't need any water until spring when the roots start to grow. Make sure you've got the irrigation set up and ready to go though, 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.

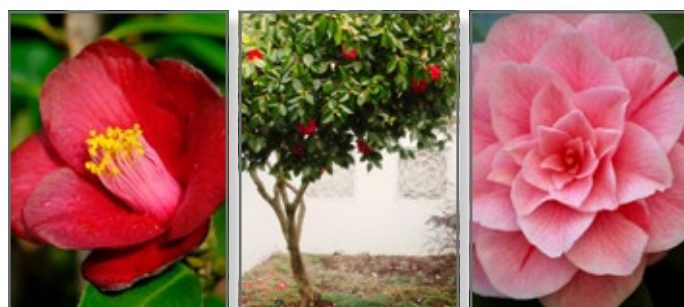
Happy fruit growing!

Hugh and Katie Finlay are certified organic orchardists, and also teach organic home fruit growing. They offer a free Weekly Fruit Tips newsletter, and free weekly online workshops called "The 5 Key Steps to Growing Great Fruit" - sign up at growgreatfruit.com/webinar-landing. They also offer more than 50 online short courses and the year-long Grow Great Fruit Home-study Program - visit growgreatfruit.com for details.

ASQ Plant of the Month **Camellias**

Camellias are hardy, versatile, flowering plants with an attractive glossy green foliage. They create a fabulous display in the cooler months of the year, adding a touch of class and beauty when many of the other plants in your garden are looking dull and bare! There are many styles and colours to choose from and they grow really well in garden beds, feature pots or as a hedge.

Visit ASQ Skydancers to see their range of beautiful Camellias!



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Council grants open

Our events and community grants programs are now open. Submit your application for a Council grant by Friday 9 August. Find out more and how to apply at www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/Grants or call Council on 5471 1700.

Youth Mental Health First Aid training

Parents and carers of people aged 10 to 25 years are invited to take part in Youth Mental Health First Aid training. You'll learn how to recognise possible emerging mental health concerns or a mental health crisis. Sessions run from 5.00pm to 8.30pm on Thursday 29 August, 5, 12 and 19 September at the Civic Centre, Castlemaine. Cost is \$50. Dinner is included. Book at www.mountalexandershiroyouth.com.au/training or contact the Youth Development Team on 5471 1700.

Works at Castlemaine Transfer Station

Minor upgrade works are underway at Castlemaine Transfer Station (waste facility) to improve customer safety and environmental management. The works are expected to be completed in October. Operating hours remain unchanged. During this time some areas may be cordoned off with temporary waste drop off procedures in place. Please follow safety instructions and signs.

Join Council meetings

- 6.30pm, Tuesday 20 August at the Civic Centre
- 6.30pm, Tuesday 17 September at the Civic Centre.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Council meetings are filmed and broadcast on the internet via YouTube.

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



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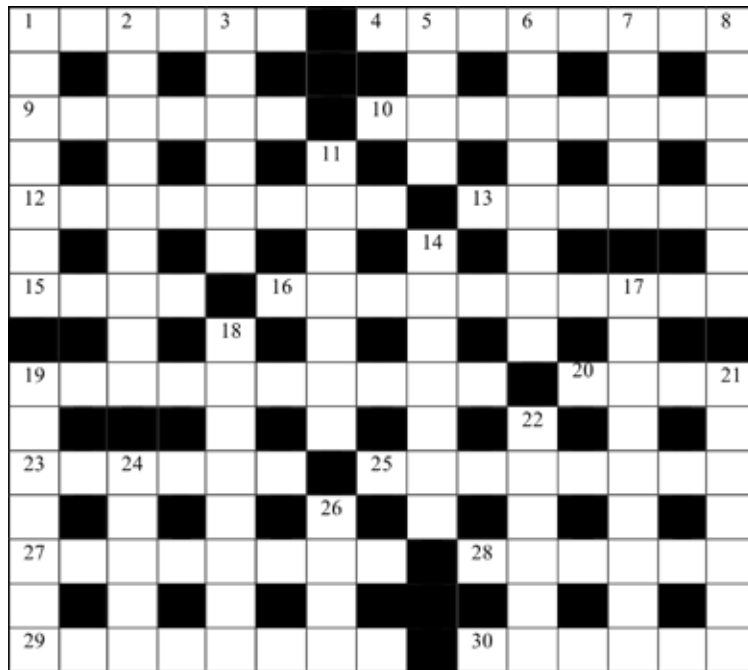
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August Xword 2019

© McW August '17



Down:

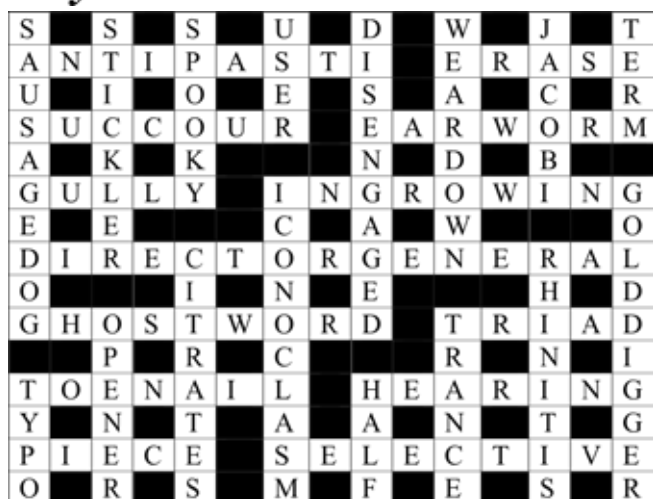
1. You and I might text amid the slashing blade, so we can still hear it. (7)
2. Like an illness that won't go away the French way to record history. (9)
3. Occupy dwelling about the team. (6)
5. How to turn back the tide of murdered English? (4)
6. Brittle metal article: leave out backwards and end in New York. (8)
7. Abrupt under-junction language. (5)
8. A short 10 and a 15th makes up its mind. (7)
11. SES has to accommodate faecal matter in some of the fixes it gets people out of... (7)
14. They might work round a property to foil foxes. (7)
17. Men in their seventies are often anorexic above all... (4,2,3)
18. Will the writer get off with the wily one's missus? (8)
19. Could I trepan that artist for tying up a boat? (7)
21. Rodent down pit mixes the church tower. (7)
22. Reserve loses a right to be thus. (6)
24. Composer now in heaven? (5)
26. A few 11s of a lemon might provide gusto... (4)

Across:

1. Indirect power-lead for agreement? (6)
4. Draped, French, scrambled and dead. (8)
9. Blunt lack of manners without direction seven and a half minutes past the hour might put one under the pump. (6)
10. It's to do with the choir, with a heritage overlay, perhaps. (8)
12. Austere hermit rule-maker. (8)
13. About to happen to him, pending a threat... (6)
15. Gretchen might scratch a plate in the middle. (4)
16. Secretary removes and observes. (5,5)
19. Choice to give politicians? (10)
20. Co-hard? (4)
23. We hear lots of European royals are found with yeast. (2-4)
25. What Troy would have liked to be in West Africa? (4,4)
27. Style, or detail, might show this look. (8)
28. Winner of cake-mix? (6)
29. Pre-Raphaelite siblings. (8)
30. Emergent Trump posted all over US... (6)

July 2019 Solution

© McW Aug '17



Down:

1. Perhaps such usage goads its canine owner?(7-3)
2. One who insists on putting an adhesive label [sticker] round a learner? (8)
3. Empty proprietary sook may be spinechilling. (6)
4. Employer puts us (erroneously) on his tax form and profits from us. (4)
5. Bored, perhaps, by aged design, we become switched-off as the gig deadens. (10)
6. How to take apart a bread = "abrade" roll? (4,4)
7. Derek [Jacob I] with ladder? (6)
8. (See 23)
14. Graven image ire cools manic breakages. (10)
15. After a rich husband in 1850s Bendigo? [Well?]
17. [Scattier] derivatives of weak organic acid. (8)
18. Early C16th woodcut [Durer's Rhino...] occasions burning nostrils? (8)
20. First to be caught in 13? [Well?]
21. Hypnotic state induced by mother-of-pearl [nacre] trembling below the [T-] junction. (6)
22. Sometimes a cause of 19. [Well?]
- 23, 8. [Harm felt] around mid-semester. (4-4)

Across:

9. Out-of-tune pianist at the appetisers. (9)
10. Use rubber as eradicator. (5)
11. We hear gullible one giving aid. (7)
12. Musical affliction possibly affecting 23? [Well?]
13. Site of watercourse to trap 20. [Well?]
- 14, 22. Not as bad as shooting oneself in the foot, but the pain down there one may now get in original form. (2-7,7)
16. Head Honcho ordering treacle. (8-7)
19. 3dn example may appear in dictionary without denotation. (5-4)
21. A dirty endless bunch of pitches stackable vertically in thirds. (5)
22. (See 14)
23. Court appearance possibly affected by 12? [Well?]
24. Sounds a bit like what Dougal Graham wanted at any price. (5)
25. "Picky" is the pejorative... [Well?]

Community Diary Dates

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

Sunday 18th August: 1.30 – 4 pm Heritage Visit to Local Glassblower. Details page “Heritage Centre August Tour” on page 16

Sunday 25 August: 10 am – 12 midday; Harcourt Valley Landcare Working Bee. Details: 0467 670 271.

Saturday 31 August: Harcourt Produce and General Store opens

Tuesday 17th September: School Concert “Carnival of the Animals” More details next issue.

Saturday 21st September: Spring Equinox Celebration. More details next issue.

October: CWA Concert. More details next issue

Bowling Club Dates: See page 12

Carpet Bowls: Wednesday nights at 7.15 at the Harcourt Leisure Centre until the end of September.

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

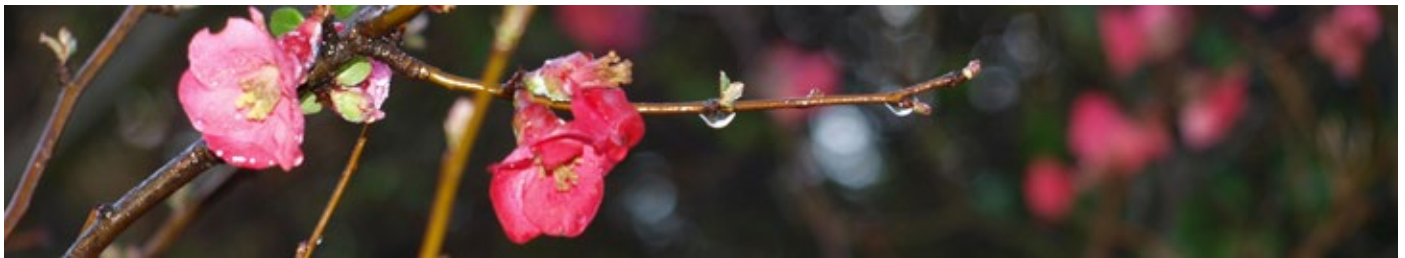
Pony Club: Second and fourth Sundays of the month from 9.30 am to 12 midday. Next to swimming pool.

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.





Maree Edwards MP

State Member for Bendigo West

Putting Community First

If you have any State or Local Government issue
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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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Junior Cycling Tour in Harcourt

A big weekend of racing on 27th and 28th July saw the Castlemaine Cycling Club hold its first junior tour in many years. Sponsored by the Castlemaine Bike Vault we saw almost 100 riders from all Victoria and interstate competing in the event from under 11s through to under 17s in both women's and men's. Overcast skies welcomed riders on Saturday but by Sunday clear skies and no wind made for some fast and competitive cycling. The club would like to thank all the volunteers and the residents of Harcourt.

Castlemaine's under 17s men's rider Kia Donaldson continued with his good form in the road races to record two fourths against a strong field and has stamped himself as a rider with a big future. Kai has set his sights on the upcoming state champs in Wangaratta to be held in mid-August and at the Australian Championships to be held in Queensland in September.

From Castlemaine Cycling Club's Facebook Page.



The Carnegie Caulfield Cycling Club posted this message about the weekend: Thanks Castlemaine Cycling Club for hosting The Bike Vault Junior Castlemaine Tour - it's been a great weekend of racing. Junior riders Zac, James, Nate, Loke, Lawson, Tom and Mia rode wonderfully over the weekend. Congratulations to Loke, placing second in the U15B, and to Nate and James who placed 1st and 2nd respectively in the U13.

Upcoming Cycle Races in and Around Harcourt

Castlemaine Cycling Club

- Saturday 14 September: Ken Maddern Memorial
- Saturday 28 September: Hill Climb or Time Trial

Bendigo Mountain Bike Club Events at La Larr Ba Gauwa Mountain Bike Park Harcourt

Winter Skills Session #5 (Intermediate Women) Hosted by Bendigo Mountain Bike Club and La Larr Bar Gauwa Park

When: Saturday 10th August 2019

*Please see La Larr Bar Gauwa Mountain Bike Park Facebook Page for details.

Harcourt Gravity Enduro

When: Sunday 5th September, 8 am to 3 pm

*Please see La Larr Bar Gauwa Mountain Bike Park Facebook Page for details.



Harcourt Football Team 1971

Harcourt won the 1971 flag by defeating Campbells Creek by 22 points in only its second year in the Maryborough District Football League. It was the club's first flag since 1937.

Back row: K. McDougall (trainer), J. Whitlock, M. Cribbs, I. Robins, M. Brown, T. Knight, R. Odgers (VC), J. Docherty, J. Grant.

Third row: C. Grant (vice president), T. Gough, N. Wilson, G. Hill, R. Leversha, N. Blakeley, I. Wilson, C. Douglas, Peter Lovell, R. Jenkin.

Second row: G. Douglass, N. Jermyn, G. Grant, B. Guest, Trevor Tonzing (C&C), L. Culpitt, A. Code, P. Moore, J. Herbert (life member),

Front row: B. McMahon (president), G. Cribbes, G. Moxom, G. Gillatt (sec).

Taken from Harcourt Lions Football Club Facebook Page

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 2019 will be valid until the end of June 2020.**

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 135, HARCOURT, VIC 3453 **OR**

☐ I have deposited \$20/\$10 Concession into BSB 633-000, Account: 151 337 409.

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.