

HARCOURT NEWS THE CORE

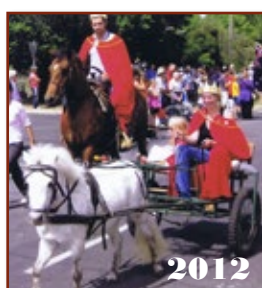
September 2019

HARCOURT NEWS – Edition 64

Harcourt Progress Association Inc

Online: harcourt.vic.au/news

Nominations open for Applefest 2020 Royalty



Do you have what it takes to be next year's event ambassadors? See inside for more details.

The Harcourt Applefest is calling for event ambassadors to take up the mantle as Harcourt Applefest Royalty, helping to represent, celebrate and promote our premier annual community celebration.

Nominations are now open for the roles of Harcourt Applefest Royalty and for the supporting role of Granny Smith.

These event ambassadors play a pivotal role in connecting with the broader Mount



Alexander Shire community, informing them about the event and sharing information about Harcourt and the Applefest.

It's a great way to get to know people and to represent your town.

Harcourt's Lady Jonathon from 2014, Gen Ward said "I was amazed how receptive and supportive people were when we visited the Castlemaine Farmers Market. They were really keen to find out more about the Applefest and to take the promotional material we were handing out. It's an old school tradition that people really warm to."

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DEADLINES & PUBLICATION DATES

We aim to publish by the 6th 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 Chair Message

Do you get to go to all the HPA public meetings? No? Well now you need not experience FOMO: the committee has decided on a small monthly update to keep those who can't attend in the loop. As you will have seen in the last month's Core, five new committee members were elected at the AGM.

At the first meeting of the new committee we elected the following positions. Sha Cordingley, Chair; Glynn Jarrett, Deputy Chair; Liesl Malan, Secretary; Karen Mierisch, Treasurer;

Pauline Wilkinson, Deputy Treasurer; and Liz Rowe, Membership Officer. And whilst we were very sad to see Scott Harrington and Des Reaburn Jenkin retiring from their positions, we are very pleased that Michael Henry has now joined the HPA as a representative for the Harcourt Fruitgrowers Association. Robyn Miller, our hard working past Chair will continue as the Editor of The Core and Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns will continue to bring flair to the Harcourt events we have come to love and rely on. Jacqueline and Michael Henry will also

focus on tourism and events in our town.

We are also very pleased that thanks to the generosity of The Harcourt Heritage Centre, we have found a permanent meeting place at ANA Hall and a home for HPA's new photocopier. Having a proper meeting space and a larger committee gives us a greater diversity of skills and interests, and a greater capacity to address some of the outstanding items on Harcourt's bucket list. Consequently, we now have several sub-committees and working groups including events and tourism, finance, governance, communications, Shine Harcourt, Fruit and Produce Growers Association, Adopt a Roadside (the infamous roundabout) and the play space working group. We plan to keep up the pressure for the resumption of a rail service for our town. Watch out for copies of the petition around town and get your family and friends to sign.

We have made a commitment to report on anything significant either through The Core or the Facebook pages attached to Harcourt. We hope to see you at the next public meeting and eventually have every family in Harcourt join the Progress Association. Until next month enjoy the spring weather.

Sha Cordingley, Chair,
Harcourt Progress Association



The new Harcourt Progress Association Committee. Past members of the HPA Committee were thanked and presented with gifts of Harcourt products. L to R: Sha Cordingley, Chair; Michael Henry, Fruitgrowers; Robyn Miller, Editor of The Core; Liz Rowe, Membership Officer; Liesl Milan, Secretary; Glynn Jarrett, Deputy Chair; Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns, Harcourt Events.

Twilight Market returns

The Harcourt Twilight Market returns to James Park, Harcourt with a series of great community celebrations kicking off on Saturday 26th October. Showcasing local growers, bakers, makers and producers, the market will feature live entertainment and kids entertainment along with food trucks and licensed bars. This year's market has seed funding to support it so expect it to be bigger and better than before! A special Christmas market will occur on Saturday 21st December.

Put Saturday October 26th from 4pm-8pm in your diary now and join us at the Harcourt Twilight Market!

Enquiries and bookings to Jacqueline on takandjak@bigpond.com

Lmct:10769

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Sorry!

Harcourt Spring Blossom Festival POSTPONED TO 2020

Cancellation of Spring Blossom Festival

The inaugural Harcourt Spring Blossom Festival scheduled for Saturday 21st September has been postponed until 2020 due to issues with planning permits. The event was due to occur amongst the apple and pear trees at Henry of Harcourt and was scheduled to coincide with the Spring Equinox.

Planning for this year's event was quite developed and the interest was staggering. Venue host Michael Henry observed "We had over 18,000 views of the event on Facebook and a huge number of people sharing the post." There were also over 30 stalls booked in to attend the event, and a full afternoon of music and entertainment programmed.

HPA event organiser, Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns, worked extensively with council officers to resolve the issue. "We have had a lot of support and encouragement from Council's tourism, marketing and economic development officers. Unfortunately, however, the planning department took a less enthusiastic view. They felt very strongly from a legal, compliance level that we needed to do some further work, consulting with neighbours and achieving the necessary planning permits for the sites. It's a disappointing outcome."

Fortunately council has committed to work with the HPA to ensure this event is part of a larger calendar of events proposed for Harcourt in 2020. "Following the success of the Winter Solstice Bonfire we have decided to create a Harcourt Winter Festival," said Jacqueline. "This festival will kick off with the Winter Solstice and go right through until the Spring Equinox in September. The Spring Blossom Festival represents the end celebration of this new festival and we are very pleased that Council has committed to partner with the HPA to help realise this goal for 2020. It's disappointing that we can't run the event this year, but great to know that it will take place next year bigger and better with funding to fully support it."

Jacqueline Brodie-Hanns

Yes! There will be an October Edition of The Core

Thanks to the assistance of our layout person Bernie Schultz and Sha Cordingley and Lois Denham, *The Core* will be produced as usual for October 2019.

I am delighted that community members value the paper to the extent that they will volunteer in my absence. I am sure the Harcourt community will appreciate their efforts. When you see these people, thank them!

Editor, Robyn Miller

Nominations for Applefest Royalty are Open

Continued from page 1.

Last year's royalty, Jarrod Coote and Rebecca Edwards had a similarly positive experience. "It was a hoot," said Rebecca, "I was really surprised how much I enjoyed it and how proud I was to represent our town. Jarrod was a natural when it came to talking to the media. This wasn't something I would normally do, but I am really pleased I did it."

You can nominate yourself individually, or yourself and a friend/partner as a pair, or nominate another couple altogether. We are looking for people comfortable representing Applefest at several community events conducted in the months preceding the event, including the Castlemaine Show, Harcourt Twilight Market and the Castlemaine Farmers Market. The Royalty and Granny Smith will need to be available and participate on the day of the event. More details and nomination forms are available at the ANA Hall, Goldfields Track Cafe and Harcourt Produce Store. Follow our Facebook page for more information.



Victorian Local Government Women's Charter

The Victorian Local Governance Association presents

Charter Champions Afternoon Tea Loddon Campaspe Region

We invite you to join us and other Women's Charter Champions, women councillors and prospective candidates in the Loddon Campaspe region for afternoon tea.

This is a great opportunity to network with local women and discuss how the Charter supports the progress of gender equity, diversity and active participation in your council.

DATE

3:00pm - 4:30pm, 25 September 2019

VENUE

Castlemaine Senior Citizens Centre, Mechanics Lane, Castlemaine
Hosted by Mount Alexander Shire Council



RSVP by 6 August to Deborah Wu, Women's Engagement & Project Officer
deborah@vlga.org.au | 9349 7999 | www.vlga.org.au | f vlga_women

VLGA
Victorian Local Governance Association

LOCAL GOVERNMENT 101

What do councils do? What is the role of a councillor? How do I become a candidate and how do I get elected?

If you have ever asked yourself these questions, or need to know more before you take the leap and decide to run for council, this free and informative workshop is for you.

Local government delivers essential services to the community on a daily basis, often on behalf of the other two tiers of government.

As the level of government that is closest to the people, councils should reflect community values and aspirations.

If you want to make a difference in your council, come along and find out more.

A free workshop for people considering running for local government.

DATE
25 September 2019

TIME
5:30 - 7:30PM

VENUE
Civic Centre
27 Lyttleton Street
Castlemaine

Register online by 18 Sept
<http://bit.ly/loddon-campaspe-LG101>

VLGA Victorian Local Governance Association
LOCAL WOMEN LEADING CHANGE
MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE COUNCIL
VICTORIA State Government

vlga@vlga.org.au | www.vlga.org.au | [f viclga](https://www.facebook.com/viclga) | [@_vlga](https://www.instagram.com/_vlga)

Council elections will be held in October 2020

Are you a potential candidate for Mount Alexander Shire Council?

Local Government 101: Is for You

What do councils do? What is the role of a councillor? How do I become a candidate and how do I get elected?

In September, the VLGA (Victorian Local Governance Association) will be running a free workshop for residents of the Loddon Campaspe region who are considering running for local government in 2020 answering all these questions and more.

People across the state have a significant contribution to make to public life. Their connections to their community, their skills and their unique perspectives mean they are rich with potential to be great local Councillors.

Local government delivers essential services to the community on a daily basis, often on behalf of the other two tiers of government.

As the level of government that is closest to the people, councils need to reflect community values and aspirations. It is critical that we encourage people from a diversity of backgrounds, experiences and abilities to run for local government.

This workshop forms part of the VLGA project, Local Women Leading Change, which recognises the important roles that women play in their communities, working with others to achieve positive change.

The VLGA is here to connect the community with

the knowledge, skills and contacts to do that on a larger scale – as local government Councillors.

Thanks to the support of the Mount Alexander Shire Council, we invite residents from across the region to participate in this free and informative workshop.

5:30pm – 7:30pm, 25 September 2019
Civic Centre, 27 Lyttleton Street, Castlemaine
Register online by 18 September 2019
bit.ly/loddon-campaspe-LG101

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Open for Business

The opening of Harcourt Produce and General Store marked another step in the evolution and sophistication of our town. After Aysha Hull performed her first traditional Welcome to Country, with Auntie Julie McHale as support, MC Colin Brady Head of Bendigo Bank's Community Development arm also greeted all present, and was the first to congratulate Annette Larsen Rae and her husband Bruce on a wonderful achievement.

Annette spoke of her vision for the store incorporating collaboration with local producers and businesses. "I had a vision for the store and it is now fulfilled; we are looking forward to an exciting future with a great team, the majority of whom live locally. We are committed to supporting local producers, makers and brewers and our range of food will showcase local ingredients as much as possible. We are working with local Elders and community members to bring indigenous foods to a wider audience and to supporting local wine producers with our Wine Hub." The business was successful in receiving funding for the Wine Hub from State Government's Wine Growth Fund. MP Maree Edwards said, "The hub will enable a number of wineries to promote wine directly to the public. The Wine Hub will provide flow-on benefits to other local businesses across the valley." Ms Edwards declared the Harcourt Produce and General Store open to much applause and the clink of champagne glasses. Local notable George Milford spoke of the progress made in Harcourt since the freeway bypass in 2009 and listed a number of significant achievements for the town since that time. He commented: "The revitalised store will bring critical mass to the commercial centre of Harcourt." The formal proceedings concluded with three hearty cheers, led by George.

Invited guests included Bronwen Machin, Mayor of Mount Alexander Shire; Maree Edwards, Member for West Bendigo;



The official part of the afternoon was held outside on the verandah in the sun. Shown here are Maree Edwards MP for Bendigo West and Annette Larsen Rae after the official opening.

Rachel Lee, Regional Director of Regional Development Victoria; Marg Allan, Regional Director of the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning, and friends and supporters of Annette Larsen Rae, who has driven the project for over one and a half years. The store has been renovated inside and out and is a wonderful addition to the social and business life of the town.

Opening Hours are:

Monday to Thursday: 8 am to 8.30 pm

Friday to Sunday: 8 am until late.



Michael Wolfe stands between two of his paintings. Michael's works, part of a series titled "After the Goldrush", are the first to be hung at the Produce Store. Michael's other landscapes in this series are on display at the Loom Gallery, The Mill, Castlemaine. Exhibitions by local artists will be another feature of the Harcourt Produce and General Store.



Xtreme Inc's Youth Festival to Engage and Inspire

The absolutely huge 2 The Xtreme youth festival (2TX) will be held over two jam packed days on 21-22 September at the Western Reserve - Skate Park in Castlemaine. The festival is described as a "one of a kind multicultural youth festival."

The Maldon & District Community Bank® is a major supporter of this event.

"We are proud that our recent grant program could support this great local event. We expect young people and families from Harcourt, Maldon, Newstead, Castlemaine and around the shire will go along to this exciting weekend of activities," said Maldon Branch Manager Adam Balzan.

"We love that this festival made for and developed by young people, provides a safe and inclusive environment for them and their families."



Sarah Cook receiving a grant for the festival from Maldon Community Bank's Lara Mulholland.

The Maldon & District Community Bank® supports local communities to be more vibrant places for all. The bank loves to invest in events and programs for youth and young people.

The festival celebrates 10 years of Xtreme Inc's youth projects. Xtreme Inc. founder Sarah Cook is passionate about engaging and empowering young people in central Victoria. The festival is one of the ways that the youth-led organisation helps young people to develop skills and confidence, share ideas and connect.

"Xtreme Inc. is dedicated to continuing to provide a platform for young people to share, create, grow and be inspired, creating the next leaders in our community," said Sarah Cook.

"The whole community will benefit from the positive outcomes of this event which will provide opportunities that support young people from all walks of life to participate, express themselves creatively, engage imagination and feel like valued and connected members of the community."

The weekend festival features competitions and activities that cater to all ability levels – from novice to professional – including skate, scoot and BMX competitions, girls' skate competition, parkour workshops and competition, hip hop / break battles and cultural workshops. Skaters, scooter riders and parkour enthusiasts are encouraged to compete to develop skills and showcase their talents. Expect some amazing displays of action!

Music and art play a big part of the festival, with live music and DJs including headline act Dallas Woods. There will be a young makers market, sumo suits and jumping castles, as well as the opportunity to create sculptures from recycled material.

Find out more at www.2thextremefestival.com



Business Update

Cass Ewing Circleworks

Cass Ewing has amassed business and life experience to complement her skills in assisting others to achieve projects large and small, via her business Circleworks. "My studies at university were a combined Arts and Landscape Architecture/Urban Design. I spent my last year of study in Seattle at the University of Washington. On my return I went into landscape design and construction but I've also worked outside that field, including driving 250 tonne dump trucks for a gold mine in Western Australia."

"I enjoy assisting individuals, sole traders and small business to manage their finances, and a myriad other tasks which help their businesses run smoothly. I am a visual person and can lay out processes for a business so that they are understandable and easy to follow. As a small business operator I know the pressures of balancing work and all its commitments with personal and family time. It's also interesting to find out what people are doing around here! I have worked for freelance writers, graphic designers and others making a living in creative ways."

"When I worked near Kalgoorlie, I started out as a relief admin person in the office of Safari Bore, but my goal all along had been to drive the huge trucks as the pay was so good. My aim was to get a deposit for a house. I asked the manager if I could drive the trucks, he was a little reluctant, but put me in one as a passenger/observer for a week. I went to Kalgoorlie for lessons; after one lesson the instructor said, 'The licence tester is in town today, do you want to have a go?' I said 'Yes!' I got my Heavy Rigid Licence on the first attempt and I still keep it up to date. It was an intense time for me as we worked four weeks on with one week off, and everyone was a FIFO (fly

in, fly out) worker. Shifts were for twelve hours a day; I did the job for three years. It was an easy job to dress for – hard hat, steel cap boots, high vis shirt and blue heavy denim pants. That was it – I had no decisions to make in the morning about what to wear – it saved a lot of time! I finished there and went back to Perth; I bought a house and worked in landscape architecture for two years, before returning to Victoria."

Cass has recently settled in Pippin Court and is enjoying the village feel of Harcourt, the views, and the convenience of being near the centre of town. "Harcourt is so conveniently located, but it's small enough so you feel you belong. I'm near family and I'm getting to meet my neighbours. It's also a great place to walk my dog Lenny every day; he has settled in well here too."

Cass has experience working for volunteer organisations. This year she built a web site for the Castlemaine Pioneers and assisted them in understanding the new technology and associated functions and vocabulary. One of her current tasks is a project for the Applefest Committee in the development of an Events Manual, to aid in the organisation and management of this complex event. The work has been funded by a Mount Alexander Shire Community Grant, but in addition, Cass has put in multiple volunteer hours on this task. She hopes to see the manual complete by the end of the year in time for the 2020 Applefest.

Cass Ewing, Circleworks can be contacted on: 04084 871 346 or by email: hello at circle works.com.au; website: www.circleworks.com.au.



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"STEP WITH CARE AND GREAT TACT, AND REMEMBER THAT LIFE'S A GREAT BALANCING ACT." - Dr. Seuss



154th Anniversary Celebrated at Harcourt Uniting Church

On August 11th we celebrated the 154th Anniversary of our Church with the usual amazing presentation by George Milford reading out the details in the original certificate of Conveyance with all the "thus and thou" wording of 154 years ago. As is the tradition every Sunday, George went to ring the bell prior to the service and came in to say "it's snowing!" Of course some of us rushed out to watch it gently falling. Morning tea was a delicious spread along with a cake – but not with 154 candles!

With the Voluntary Assisted Dying Act Victoria being adopted recently we held an informal discussion with our minister Reverend Sarah where members expressed their thoughts and shared experiences. A recent meeting of the Uniting Church Synod in Victoria and Tasmania held in Melbourne came to the decision that the Uniting Church: "Honours the diversity of ... responses

within our Churches and gives people the freedom to follow their own conscience in this matter." We enjoyed having Rev Sarah share in morning tea with us as she usually has to leave straight after our service to be back in Castlemaine for their 10.30 am service.

We welcomed members of Castlemaine Legacy to our service on Legacy Sunday and heard of the important work of Legacy in our area supporting war widows and any dependent children. It was interesting to hear that in the next 5–6 years, their work supporting widows is expected to decline as widows pass away – the question then asked was: "Do they support any widows from recent wars in the Middle East?" Members of the armed forces in these recent wars are mainly based in Melbourne and Queensland. The decision was made that Legacy will continue their work to support families in those areas.

HARCOURT UNITING CHURCH ADULT FELLOWSHIP

BLUMES FASHION

HARCOURT LEISURE CENTRE
OCTOBER 15 AT 10.30 AM
THE CHARGE IS \$8 WHICH INCLUDES
MORNING TEA.
THE RANGE OF CLOTHING CATERS FOR ALL
TASTES AND ALL CLOTHING IS FOR SALE
NOTHING OVER \$59.95.

By the way, you don't have to be dressed in Blumes Fashions to join us any Sunday at the Harcourt Uniting Church in Buckley Street at 9 am.

Jan Jenkin

HARCOURT UNITING CHURCH BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

STANLEY PARK
SUNDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER, 10 AM

YOU ARE ALL WELCOME
TO BRING YOUR PETS.



1992

Nikki Renfrey, Applefest Royalty in 1992.



Muckleford & Harcourt
Cricket Club and Radio 88fm
present the annual

A Day on the Green

Celebrating the 2019 Seniors Festival
Seniors from Mount Alexander District
play the Over 60's Victorian Country XI

Sunday 6 October 2019 - 11am to 3pm
at the Harcourt Recreation Reserve

Come along and enjoy the day - Bring a chair, hat, sun block
Thanks to Harcourt Cricket Club a BBQ lunch & drinks will
be available at a small cost

All amenities on site
& wheelchair friendly



For further information: phone 0401 628 340
Tune in to Radio 88fm Seniors Radio for more Information



Harcourt CWA Member Celebrates 90th Birthday

At our meeting in August we celebrated a birthday. Now this wasn't just any birthday, this was a ninetieth birthday.

Our Poet Laureate, Melva Graham, penned this poem.

In 1929 a flower bloomed
In a Miner's Cottage in Barkers Creek.
The last of five, a lovely Blume,
A "passion flower" so to speak.
And now just ninety years later,
That flower is still a lovely bloom.
Colleen, you'd enhance anyone's garden
And you still brighten any room.
Love and best wishes from your friends at Harcourt CWA.



Harcourt CWA celebrate Colleen Hall's 90th birthday.

We held a special afternoon tea to celebrate the occasion and were privileged to listen to a speech from Colleen's long-time friend Joy Robertson; through thick and thin and in between these two ladies have shared a friendship spanning 53 years. Their common interest in anything and everything creative has resulted in many stunning displays at our various functions, and our concerts just wouldn't be the same without these two.



Colleen and Joy are always a highlight of our concerts.

It is no wonder that when CWA members are asked what they enjoy most about their Branch, the answer is always the friendship, the togetherness, and being there to lend a hand whenever a hand is needed.

Come October we will once more be presenting our Annual Concert, and this year we will be honouring the women who made the Wild West wild. You are all invited to join us on October 3 at 1.30 pm at the Harcourt Leisure Centre to sing along to some of the songs made popular by the Wild West and laugh as the Wild Ladies of Harcourt strut their stuff.

Entry is \$10 which includes:
a delicious High Tea, Door Prize and Trading Table.

RSVP 26 September to Lynette on 5472 3463 or
0476 527 911 or by email to Helen at:

s.j.hand@bigpond.com

*Lyn Rule
Publicity Officer., Harcourt CWA*



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40th ANNUAL BEEKEEPING FIELD DAY

Sunday October 13
9.30-3.30

Harcourt Leisure Centre
63 Bingham's Road

Trade stalls,
Demonstrations &
Catering available

ALL WELCOME

Adults: \$10 (\$7 Concession)
Children: Free

Phone: Carol 5446 7911

Harcourt Valley Primary School

Book Week:

Reading is my Secret Power

To celebrate Book Week this year, all students and staff were invited to dress relating to the theme: Reading is My Secret Power. Students were encouraged to dress up as characters from their favourite book such as Dora the Explorer, or even Scarecrow or Tin Man from The Wizard of Oz. Grandparents or children's special guests were invited to come along and participate in reading activities after the parade. There was a tremendous turn out for the character parade and school readathon. The Principal, Andrew Blake thanked all families and staff for making the occasion a special one by creating some terrific costumes and spending some time reading with the students.

Save the Date

Don't miss out! The School Concert is on
Tuesday 17th September at 7pm
at the Harcourt Leisure Centre.

Dressed for Book Week


Prep



Grades 3 & 4




*From the school newsletter
and Flexibuzz, the school's online media presence.*




Harcourt Valley Primary School

Transition Program for Preps starting school in 2020

Bring your kindergarten child along to the transition sessions so they can get a feel for the school, meet the teachers and have some fun beginning their learning at school.



Tuesday 29th October 9am-10am
(stay for coffee and meet the Principal and other parents)
Tuesday 12th November 9am-10.30am
Tuesday 26th November 9am-11am
Tuesday 10th December 9am-12noon



Wednesday 27th November
7pm-8pm
Parent Information Night

Harcourt Valley Primary School
Wilkinson Street
Harcourt Vic 3453
T: 03 54742266
E: harcourt.valley.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
W: www.hvps.vic.edu.au

Education for a Sustainable Future

Keeping the Trophy in the Family

Liz and Peter Ward moved from Melbourne to Harcourt three years ago and quickly became part of the community. Shortly after arriving, Liz took up an offer to attend a "tryout day" at The Castlemaine Croquet Club. Having enjoyed the experience she encouraged Peter to also have a game and they soon became members of the club.

In 2018 Liz and her playing partner, John Brennan, won the inaugural Doug McConville pairs tournament. This year it was Peter's turn to win the trophy and Liz had the pleasure of passing it over.

If anyone wishes to learn more about croquet or have a tryout at the club, Peter would be most happy to oblige and can be contacted on 0429 422 197.



Good Weather Aids Progress at VMR

It's a relaxed and friendly workplace at VMR for Castlemaine Secondary College VCAL students. Students are bussed to the site on Friday mornings. They work in the morning and then are treated to a lunch prepared at the Goldfields Track Café, before returning to school in Castlemaine.

A few days have been lost to bad weather in the construction of the station and platform, but on the Friday I visited, the weather was perfect and the students were working well. The goal is to finish the station and the platform to lock up by early December.



Tim Meir, supervisor, demonstrates the use of a staple gun. Here the students are working on the underfloor of the station building. The space they are working in will be used to store engines and carriages. The platform will be constructed above and to the left of the storage space.

Andrew Mierisch, President of VMR is a leader in the field of construction of miniature railway carriages. He pioneered the use of laser cutting to produce the carriages using a computer program called CAD (Computer Aided Drafting). This ensures that the models have perfect measurements and are to scale. I once made the mistake of calling the engines and carriages "replicas", this is not so as a replica is an exact copy. Hence the railway station is a miniature as are the engines and carriages - all built to scale. Andrew specialises in producing miniatures of V Line engines and carriages, another member of the group, Tony makes scale models of Commonwealth Railway engines. The dedication to all the elements of this project by VMR members goes beyond being called a hobby; it's a passion if not a lifetime's occupation.



Bus Driver Erin, daughter Megan and student Ben, who aims to be a diesel mechanic, had a break in the sun. (Megan was attracted to the gravel pile, so...)



New Garden at Post Office Lifts Spirits

Liz Ward lives near the Post Office and noticed the little garden at the front needed a bit of attention. She has filled in the space with bulbs and succulents from her own garden and made a cheerful addition to the front of the Post Office. Thanks Liz!





Harcourt CFA CFA Advises Action

“Spring” into Action

Spring is the time to start preparing for the coming Summer Bushfire Season.

It is worth observing current fuel loads and grass growth as the cold of winter wanes and we start seeing more sunshine and warmer temperatures. Take a look at the grass that has grown (and needs mowing) on the median strips on the approaches to the roundabout as an example. This growth transitions to fuel load once cured and the more growth we see in spring will result in higher fuel loads in summer.

CFA / MFB New Smoke Alarms Advertising Campaign

There are about 3800 home fires in Victoria every year. These incidents result in property damage, injuries and sometimes death.

All residential properties in Victoria must have working smoke alarms.

The CFA and MFB have recently launched their new combined smoke alarm advertising campaign featuring new advice on smoke alarm systems.

It is now recommended that smoke alarms be installed in all bedrooms as well the previous location of between each sleeping area and the rest of the house.

It is also recommended that smoke alarms are interconnected so when any alarm activates, all smoke alarms will sound.

Remember that smoke alarms must meet Australian Standard AS3786, should be installed on the ceiling at least 30 cm from the wall, be tested monthly, dusted or vacuumed (and battery changed if older type) annually and replaced every 10 years. CFA and MFB recommend smoke alarms with a 10 year lithium battery. For more fire safety information visit mfb.vic.gov.au or cfa.vic.gov.au

Kitchen Fires Snapshot Statistics

Most kitchen fires are caused by unattended cooking, and the peak time these fires are reported to 000 is between 6.00 and 7.00pm. Always stay in your kitchen while cooking, pay attention, especially when using your stove top.

Brigade Activity

There were two callouts for the month of August. The first was an assistance call while the second was as support to the Walmer Fire Brigade to a shed fire that was fully involved. This was an early start to the day for members receiving the call at 5.20am.

Late Winter Reminder – Especially for next year

“Chimneys are like prostrates. Check them annually to avoid the burn.” (From Baddaginnie Fire Brigade’s Community Message Board.)

Tyrone Rice

Brigade Community Safety Coordinator

Plan Harcourt and Shine Harcourt Update

We’ve been out and about in Harcourt over the last 12 months working with the community on planning for future growth. We’re updating the Harcourt Framework Plan which will include recommendations for future zonings to guide land use, and plans to enhance the town centre, improve connectivity and protect important assets.

The plan’s structure is based around five themes identified through the Plan Harcourt community engagement that occurred last summer. We’re now finalising a draft plan that will be released for community discussion and feedback towards the end of the year.

We’ve also been busy with Shine Harcourt Leanganook, a Council led and federally co-funded economic stimulus project. Guided by Hello City and the Shine Harcourt Partnership, the project set out to define an economic direction for Harcourt with creative input from locals that shines a light on the best way forward.

In May more than 1,000 ideas were harvested and fed through to a lab where experts from around the region tested them for suitability and sustainability. These ideas form the foundation of the final report.

We’re now in the final stages of refining the document while ensuring it aligns to the broader strategic planning as part of Plan Harcourt. We’re excited about this work so watch this space!

From the Shire Spring Newsletter

Malmsbury Village Fayre

Malmsbury Botanic Gardens

Sunday 17 November 2019, 10 am–4 pm

This year’s theme is

Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland



Enjoy over 80 local produce and craft stalls
around the lake while the kids are entertained
by unique family activities
plus an all-day live music program.

LIMERICK by The Bard of North Harcourt

Unless I am really mistaken
Vegetarians will not eat bacon.
They only eat vegies
And fruit grown on hedges
All manner of meat is forsaken.



WALKING TOGETHER – Towards Reconciliation

Weather Knowledge of the KULIN Nations

In some regions the Kulin Nations observed and named seven seasons of varying length in a year; each season happens when certain stages are reached in the natural world. The local Dja Dja Wurrung clans of the Kulin Nation, however, divided the year into six seasons.

The name Poorneet, meaning tadpoles, is given to the time in September and October when temperatures are rising, although there is still plenty of rain. Tadpoles are found in the water holes, and pied currawongs are louder and cheekier than ever. Days and nights are of equal length.

Plants like the Murnong (Yam Daisy) are flowering, so it's time to dig for the yam tubers. Murnong, once abundant all over Victoria, rapidly became scarce after colonists brought what were soon vast numbers of sheep into the region.

Yams may make a comeback as a food source, since Aboriginal communities in East Gippsland and the NSW south coast have begun experimenting with yam cultivation. In his book *Dark Emu*, Bruce Pascoe tells how the very first records of European explorers and pioneers give evidence that Aboriginal people were farming the land. But to the newcomers, for whom the crops and agricultural methods were totally different from the familiar ones of home, they meant very little. All too soon, grain stores, tilled land, eel traps, houses and wells returned to the soil from which they had come.

Nalderun is a service that supports the Aboriginal Community, led by Aboriginal people. Many people and organisations in the Mount Alexander Shire contribute to Nalderun; the name is a Dja Dja Wurrung word meaning "all together".

More information can be found at www.nalderun.net.au

TIME FLIES

By Anita Le Lieve

The sun is peeking through the clouds
It's bringing warmth back to the air
Petals creeping out from winter's coat
Trees are eager and prepared
Darkness floats by and clears the sky
Lined with argent tears
Washing the cold away
Anticipating another year
The coil is tight and wound
And ready for release
The chill of night is tired
And is waving a flag of peace
As the wind carries minutes
Towards the great unknown
This place is coming alive
With perfect rhythm and tone

Some Time Ago

HARCOURT NATIONAL SCHOOL. — The opening of this school was celebrated by a tea meeting, which was attended by upwards of 400 persons, on Friday last. The school room, in which the celebration was held, was profusely decorated with flowers and evergreens. One monster nosegay attracted the attention of all, from its gorgeousness. It was contributed by Mrs Martin of the Porcupine. In the regretted absence of Dr Barker, from indisposition, the chair was occupied by Mr Slattery, the hon. sec., who said the school room (which is a neat building, 30 feet by 15 feet) had cost £105, all of which had been subscribed by the inhabitants of the district, the government having contributed nothing but the ground. He congratulated the meeting upon the success of the first movement towards making Harcourt that place of importance which its situation and many natural advantages must make it within a very short period. The meeting was addressed by the Revs J. Storie and A. Crawford, who, after congratulating the inhabitants upon the gratifying fact of the building they were in being free from debt, exhorted them to great care as to the qualifications of the teacher whom they would have to choose, and to strengthen his hands by a careful teaching of the children at home. The proceedings of the evening passed off most pleasantly.

Harcourt National School. — The opening of this school was celebrated by a tea meeting, which was attended by upwards of 400 persons, on Friday last. The school room, in which the celebration was held, was profusely decorated with flowers and evergreens. One monster nosegay attracted the attention of all, from its gorgeousness. It was contributed by Mrs Martin of the Porcupine. In the regretted absence of Dr Barker, from indisposition, the chair was occupied by Mr Slattery, the hon. sec., who said the school room (which is a neat building, 30 feet by 15 feet) had cost £105, of which had been subscribed by the inhabitants of the district, the government having contributed nothing but the ground. He congratulated the meeting upon the success of the first movement towards making Harcourt that place of importance which its situation and many natural advantages must make it within a very short period. The meeting was addressed by the Revs J. Storie and A. Crawford, who, after congratulating the inhabitants upon the gratifying fact of the building they were in being free from debt, exhorted them to great care as to the qualifications of the teacher whom they would have to choose, and to strengthen his hands by a careful (t)eaching of the children at home. The proceedings of the evening passed off most pleasantly.

Mount Alexander mail, 18 November 1859. Via Trove.

Phil Carlyle

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phil@thefoliagefellers.com.au

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What's happening at La Larr Ba Gauwa

Wet weather has helped bed the trails down and made for great riding over the winter months. Surprise snow in August created a winter wonderland: many visitors captured the spectacle in videos and photographs, which the park's social media pages have keenly reposted.

La Larr Ba Gauwa continues to be popular with locals, tourists, community groups, schools and mountain bike clubs, who all enjoy the trails and incredible views across Harcourt.

Horses, dirt bikes and mountain bikes don't mix

Recently, there has been evidence that horses and trail bikes have been on La Larr Ba Gauwa's mountain bike trails, which have been designed with bicycle wheels in mind. It's worth noting that horses are welcome on the pre-existing access tracks throughout the park, but that only pedal-powered bikes are permitted on the mountain bike trails.

Both horses and riders are at serious risk if they go where they're not permitted. Riders who ignore the rules drastically increase the risk of injury to themselves and others.

Anyone who breaches the rules and regulations that govern the park may also face financial and criminal penalties.

To report misuse of trails: phone Crime Stoppers on 1800 33 00.

Economic Impact Assessment

DELWP recently commissioned an Economic Impact Assessment to evaluate how La Larr Ba Gauwa has influenced business, tourism and development in Harcourt and the Mount Alexander Shire. It is expected that the assessment will look at how the park is tracking against the visitor and economic projections that were part of the original business case.

The Victorian Government will publish a report on DELWP's Economic Impact Assessment later this year, with a summary to be included in The Core.

Volunteer trail crew

Keeping La Larr Ba Gauwa and its facilities in top condition is a priority to ensure that the park continues to be an appealing destination. The Landmate program performs occasional weed clearing and management within the park, but that's only the beginning.

Maintenance of the park's 34km of trails is a big job. On a day-to-day basis, it's a responsibility that's been picked up by a volunteer Trail Crew.

The Trail Crew includes local residents, keen riders and representatives from nearby community groups. They're in touch with the park's Committee of Management and they monitor word-of-mouth and social media for alerts about arising issues. The crew regularly head out to cut and move fallen trees and clear the trails when they hear about an issue.

If you've noticed anything that needs attention, get in touch with the Committee of Management via the park's website at lalarrbagauwa.harcourt.vic.au or its Facebook page [@lalarrbagauwapark](https://www.facebook.com/lalarrbagauwapark).

Harcourt Gravity Enduro

On 14 and 15 September 2019, Bendigo Mountain Bike Club will run a Gravity Enduro event at La Larr Ba Gauwa. Over

that weekend, there will be an event hub near the Oak Forest, where food and coffee will be available.

Gravity Enduro is a race format that can be great fun for all ages and abilities. This event will be the first of its kind for the central Victorian mountain bike community. Competitors will ride six timed race stages, mostly downhill. Their race times for each stage will be added together and the fastest total race time will be the winner. The event has been capped at 200 contestants, and it looks like being a sell-out. Around 100 visitor cars are expected. Camping will not be permitted in the Oak Forest on the night of Saturday, 14 September and the mountain bike trails will be closed to general riders on Saturday and Sunday.

Get in touch

Got questions or feedback? Get in touch with the La Larr Ba Gauwa committee of management via the feedback form on the Park's website or email the Committee Secretary Michael Scott atm.scott@mountalexander.vic.gov.au. You can keep up to date with what's happening in La Larr Ba Gauwa by following us [@lalarrbagauwapark](https://www.facebook.com/lalarrbagauwapark) or [instagram.com/lalarrbagawamtb](https://www.instagram.com/lalarrbagawamtb)

Janine McCarthy

Harcourt Heritage

Fire-side Chat

Sunday 22nd September
1.30 pm

ARCHIVAL SURVIVAL

What do you do with all the treasured family items you have stored in the back of your cupboards? How do you care for the dozens of letters and photos from the past? What to do with THAT wedding dress?

At Harcourt Heritage, we might be able to answer some of these difficult questions at our next fire-side chat.

Topics covered will include how to care for old photos and paper items, textiles and china. Precious mementos can be preserved for future generations.

No white gloves are required to be worn.



Federal Member for Bendigo

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Harcourt Heritage Centre

Robert F Davey

Robert Davey was born in 1828 in the fishing port of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, England and, inevitably, went to sea at age 13. Rising through the ranks of ship's boy, Able Seaman and First Mate he became a ship's Captain in his early twenties. He had been in coastal ships until being engaged for a voyage to India at the age of 18. At that time he was described as: height five foot five and a half inches, hair brown, eyes hazel, complexion fresh with two anchor tattoos on his left arm. After being shipwrecked three times Captain Davey retired from the sea, married and emigrated to Australia, arriving in Melbourne in October 1857.

We next hear of Robert F Davey when he opened a school in Barkers Creek just before Easter 1858. He had been recruited by the Denominational Schools Board in Melbourne. The school, which opened with 43 pupils, was auspiced by the Wesleyan Church. Some of the pupils came from Harcourt, which at that time had no school. A competing school – a slab building with a canvas roof – was also operating in Barkers Creek under the National Board of Education. This National School closed in 1862.

In the meantime, Robert Davey was becoming an unforgettable and prominent resident. Community life at Barkers Creek centred on the Wesleyan Church, the Rechabite Lodge, the school and the cricket club. Writing in 1906, Miss Tilly Aston tells:

“A well-remembered figure (at Barkers Creek) was Mr. Davey, the man who always had a good nautical tale to tell at a tea meeting or other festive gathering. He was very popular on such occasions, and his cheery addresses were often referred to in the reports sent to the (Wesleyan) *Chronicle*.”

The talks must have been of the anchor lost, the watch set, of becalmed ships, slack sails, canvas drooping, or of heavy seas, the decks awash, of ships passing in the night, of lighthouses sighted after long searching, of the cry of ‘Land ahoy!’ from the crow’s nest, of ships crawling along fog-bound coasts, of stately tall ships sailing down river with the tide.

The little village of Barkers Creek was fortunate to have, as its Head Teacher, one who had seen the world in all its variety and strangeness. No doubt the children’s education was all the better for their teacher’s breadth of experience.

Administrative and philosophical changes to the Victorian education system resulted in the passage of an Act requiring education to be free, secular and compulsory. This resulted in a flurry of construction of new school buildings, suitable to accommodate all school-age children. A new, brick school was to be erected at Barkers Creek. This new school, No 1607, opened with 80 scholars in May 1875.

Robert Davey’s first wife had died in 1868 leaving three children. Robert remarried and had a further nine children of whom one died in infancy. The Head Teacher must have been very busy with his young family and his school duties. Robert Davey took on even more community duties when he became the village postmaster. Barkers Creek Post Office had commenced in October 1858. As there was never a building for the post office, it was operated from the Old England Store. In 1877, when JH Walter decided that he did not want the Post Office business, it was transferred to the school. In later years, the post office was operated by Robert Davey’s widow Jane, and then by her daughter Ruth, Mrs. Robert Hallett, until 1965.

Robert Davey visited England in 1882. Upon his return in October 1882 Mr. Davey gave a lecture at the Wesleyan Church, Barkers Creek, on the topic of his visit to England. His son Edgar gave a recitation of the Midshipman’s Mite at the same event. The nautical theme of the recitation is noticeable. In the religion of those times hymns such as ‘Let the lower lights be burning’ and ‘Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?’ had a prominent place.

But a rocky shore loomed ahead. In December 1884 the *Mount Alexander Mail* reported:

“Mr. Robert Davey, who has been a teacher for 25 years at Barkers Creek, died on Friday. About four years ago he had an apopleptic fit, and, though

after his recovery he enjoyed robust health, yet he received a second stroke the day following the Agricultural Show, which he came to see at Castlemaine. After a severe struggle he rallied but other ailments proved fatal. Numerous friends sympathise with Mrs. Davey and her family of twelve at her bereavement, and regret the loss of a kind and estimable man.”

In writing of Robert’s death, the *Bendigo Advertiser* stated

“Captain Davey was an artist of no ordinary merit. His oil paintings are known to many. They were truly nautical, and his ships *Halcyon*, *Petrel*, *Stream*, *Seabird*, H.M.S. *Nelson*, *Cotopaxi*, *Velocity*, H.M.S. *Bieg*, and the *Governor Phillips* (before and after her wreck), are masterpieces of his art.”

Additional light on Robert’s paintings is shed by a report in the *Mount Alexander Mail*. It seems that Robert was conscious of the poet Coleridge’s line “as idle as a painted ship, upon a painted ocean” and tried to create a tension and a sense of movement in his paintings by depicting choppy seas and rolling waves.

“Mr. Davey was a clever painter in oil colours, particularly of sea pieces. His ships were drawn and finished in details with the eye of an old seaman, and they were invariably seen in a ruffled sea with long waves crusted with foam.”

Four of Captain Davey’s paintings are displayed at Harcourt Heritage Centre.

Barkers Creek State School is today a burnt-out ruin, with local children attending schools in Harcourt or Castlemaine.

George Milford

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



COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE GRANTS

Mt Alexander Community Enterprise has opened this year's round of Small Grants for community groups. Local, not-for-profit enterprises can now apply for up to \$1,000 to assist with their projects.

'These funds come from Bendigo Bank and Bendigo Telco who pay us a small commission on every account linked to Mt ACE,' said Secretary Robyn Lewis. Grants open on September 1st and close on the 30th. MtACE funds are managed by a voluntary committee and we welcome new members to our group. The group recently donated funds to Castlemaine District Community Health for 5 training defibrillators and for the L to P Learner Driver program.

Full details regarding the grants can be found at www.communitygrants.com.au or forms are available at the Castlemaine Bendigo Bank branch.

Mt Alexander
Community Enterprise

Community Grants Program

Grant Recipient:

Project Name:

Amount Awarded:

Date:

YOUR
GROUP

\$1,000




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.

Damian Kelly to Speak at AGM



If you love birds and observing birds, then Damian Kelly can enlighten you on the best places to find them. Damian is the author of Castlemaine Bird Walks and will discuss his knowledge of walks and where to find many of the birds in this area. The book has well laid out maps of every walk and tips about the sites. Find out more at the Harcourt Valley AGM.

Harcourt Valley AGM

Thursday 12th September

6.30 pm Meal at Goldfields Track Café

Please RSVP by Tuesday 10th September

We will adjourn to the ANA Hall for Damian's talk and a cuppa.

RSVP: Robyn Miller: 0467 670 271

Harcourt Valley Landcare gets a Gong in the Landcare Awards



Members of the group attended Government House on Friday August 30th to receive a certificate in recognition of effort in the Australian Community Media Landcare Community Group Award. Shown here are Terry Willis, Sonny Willis, Rhonda McKay and Trevor McKay.

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.

The winner was Malmsbury District Landcare Group. Highly Commended: Harcourt Valley Landcare and Swifts Creek Ensay Landcare group.



Brush Away the Winter Blues at Harcourt Bowls Club

As we brush away the winter blues the Club is in full preparation mode for the upcoming Bowling Season.

Although bowls has been in recess there has still been a great social atmosphere at the Club, particularly on Friday nights.

Our ever-ready and valuable volunteers have been busy too, tending to the green and clearing out the drains and gutters. The Club room chairs have had a makeover (the decision was taken to sustainably re-upholster 30 chairs instead of purchasing new ones), and the processes are in place to purchase new tables. Our front sign has also had a makeover and an upgrade. So generally it is all systems go into the 2019–2020 Season.

Season Opening Day Sunday 15th September

On Sunday 15th September Harcourt Bowling club will celebrate our official Opening Day of the new bowling Season. President Russell Maltby, the Board and members will welcome visitors and new members. The day will commence at 1.00 pm (for a 1.30 start) with a short game of social bowls (weather permitting), followed by afternoon tea. Members are asked to wear their uniform and bring a plate to share.

Bendigo Bowls Pennant Competition

In the upcoming Pennant Season commencing in October, Harcourt will field Midweek Pennant Teams in Divisions 3 (because of the Grand final win of last season) and 5 to be played on Mondays.

The Weekend Pennant teams will be Divisions 3, 5 and 9 to be played on Saturdays. Bendigo Bowls Division has included the Division 9 to accommodate an increase in bowling memberships and requests from a number of clubs. This will mean that Division 8 will have 3 rinks and Division 9 will have 2 rinks.

With limited rink space, Harcourt has elected to change from Division 8 of last season to Division 9.

Bowls Premier League (BPL) Cup

On Sunday August 24th the team of Brian Smith, Gary Maddern and Tony Olsson travelled to Shepparton with a band of supporters to compete in the Regional Final of the Bowls Premier League Cup. They had previously had a good win at Division level to get to this game.

Feasibility Study Funding for Aged Care Development

Unfortunately the funding application to DHHS for \$70,000 was not successful. However, a new round of applications are in place and notification will be made if successful.

Harcourt Bowling Club and Project members are determined to get a good and sustainable outcome for the community.

Friday Foodies

The popular Fortnightly Friday Foodies will resume in September when we can look forward to delicious affordable dishes from Ossie and Rick. The dates were not confirmed at time of print, so look out for notices at the Club and local venues.



Local faces front 2019 Seniors Festival

Local seniors Brian McCormack — 2018 Mount Alexander Senior of the Year — Dot Pollard of Chewton Senior Citizens and Ian Braybrook of Radio 88FM will be the faces of the 2019 Mount Alexander Seniors Festival and will feature on posters, banners and on the cover of the local Seniors Festival events booklet.

More than 1500 Mount Alexander Seniors Festival events booklets listing local Seniors Festival events will be distributed to strategic locations around the Shire in early September.

The Festival gets under way with the Seniors Expo in Castlemaine's Market Building across the weekend of 4–6 October and will be officially opened on Saturday 5 October by the Mayor, Cr Bronwen Machin.

The 2018 Seniors Festival was awarded Community Event of the Year at the Shire's Australia Day celebrations in January. The organising committee is aiming to make the 2019 Seniors Festival even better.



**Castlemaine District
Community Health**
Facilitating Better Health

Native orchid tour

CHIRP's walking tour on September 25 will be an opportunity to find native orchids in Harcourt.

Volunteer Wendy Barron is a Harcourt resident with an interest in native orchids. Participants in previous years were rewarded with sightings of rare native orchids, including Greenhoods and Spider Orchids.

Meet at the Harcourt Leisure Centre at 10 am on September 25 for the gentle one-hour walk. Remember to bring your walking shoes, hat and water bottle.

For further information, call Castlemaine District Community Health on: 5479 1000



**Castlemaine District
Community Health**
Facilitating Better Health

CHIRP UP

Save our Local Community Health Services!

CHIRP/Castlemaine District Community Health has been delivering community health programs and services for more than 35 years to the people of Mount Alexander Shire.

We work in close partnership with local GPs, Castlemaine Hospital and the Shire Council to ensure that people in Mount Alexander Shire have access to a wide range of vital health and community services.

We have been working in close partnership with Castlemaine Health, Maldon Health and Mount Alexander Shire Council over the past eighteen months to strengthen and integrate our services. We have a shared vision for a Health and Wellbeing Hub that will provide a sustainable future for community health services in our Shire.

We are, however, at a critical point. Vital community health services currently delivered by CHIRP can no longer be sustained as Government funding has not kept pace with service delivery costs. Services that are likely to be impacted include those that support some of the most vulnerable in our community. These services include our diabetes and nursing services; alcohol and drug services; mental health services; and our group activities and homelessness services.

We have no commitment for funding that would maintain our current service levels. The lack of commitment by Government to meet rising costs is particularly apparent in smaller rural health services like ours. We are small but our rural health services matter.

We call on the State Government to

continue to support community services in small rural communities by funding and supporting CHIRP, as well as working closely with the Federal Government to explore ways of extending these services.

Specifically, we call on the State Government to:

- Keep our community services local
- Maintain our community's current health and social serviced by providing an additional \$350,000 per year in funding
- Give back the relocation grant that was taken away to secure a short term home for service delivery
- Commit to funding the first stage of a Health and Wellbeing hub for community health and wellbeing services in Mount Alexander Shire
- Support a community model of health and let CHIRP get on with delivering vital services for our community.

If you want to maintain and expand your local community health services there are a few ways that you can do this:

- Contact The Hon Jenny Mikakos, State Minister for Health, Victorian State Government at: jenny.mikakos@parliament.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 9096 8561 and copy us in or send to saveCHIRPservices@cdch.com.au
- Let us know if it is ok to share your information or story if you do send us your information
- Contact our local MP – Maree Edwards to see how she is supporting us

- Contact the Hon Greg Hunt, Federal Minister for Health, Federal Parliament: minister.hunt@health.gov.au to highlight the issue given that we have reached out for support for capital funding and support for the Health and Wellbeing Partnership. He has indicated that funding has already been allocated however there was a call this week for further infrastructure funding from the Federal Government.

- Sign a petition – we have some at 13 Mostyn Street and at GP practices. Let us know where else we should have these. CHIRP received a grant last year to update their website and logo and this will be happening in the next week. When this is up there will be a link to a change.org petition

CHIRP, with the help of our local website designer is developing postcards of support. When these are available, all you need to do is fill one in and either pop in the post or drop it into us and we will post them for you.

Help spread the word about our situation, and campaign and keep the campaign going. We intend to do everything that we can to keep health services local and accessible.

Dianne Couch, CEO

Castlemaine District Community Health

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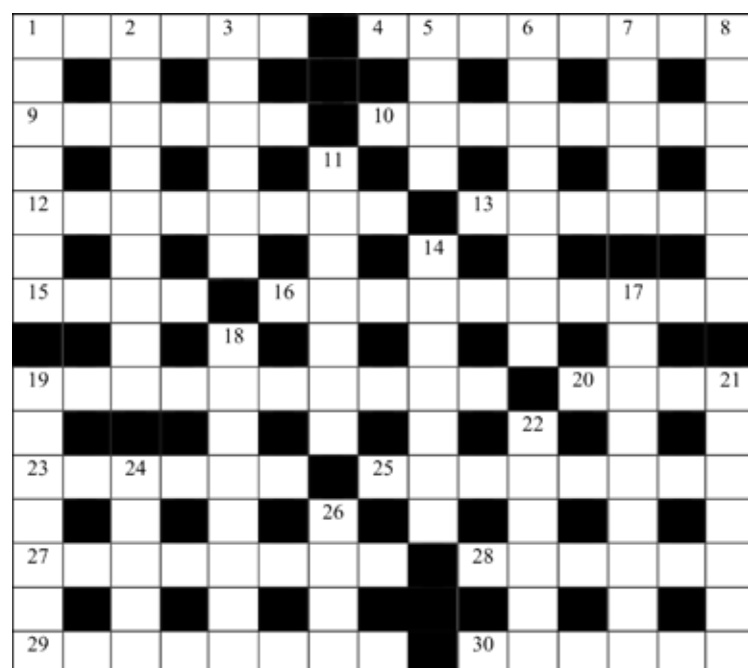
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September Xword 2019 © McW August '17



Down:

1. The French straw, not to mention the family fortune, is tossed about by this prodigal... (7)
2. Tautological leading edge? (9)
3. Larundel element very much a coachman's finery? (6)
5. Song from Berlin winds around Eric. (4)
6. Trousers make roads over swamp. (8)
7. Turn away from a gaping hole. (5)
8. My story? Well, not exactly: it's unknown, really. (7)
11. Capitals of Prussia, France, England, two African nations and two Mediterranean ones have no use for German small change. (7)
14. Unimportant sound of chooks? (7)
17. With all the busy wedding preparations, you could note troth like a horse hurrying past. (2,3,4)
18. Your old rellie is non-specific, so—recant! (8)
19. Danish girlfriend sounds very kinaesthetic. (7)
21. Young girl ate painter. (7)
22. Compassionate member of genus homo? (6)
24. In utmost discretion, I don't have to actually inform you of our arrangement. (5)
26. We hear you go the CEO in these suits! (4)

Across:

1. Polly sweet-talk? (6)
4. Diana's assertion to do the opposite... (8)
9. I try to get rivets to go in the right places. (6)
10. PR adjective in 1688? (8)
12. To convert a barking dog or two Elizabethan neck-warmers to hoi polloi, put AI back in place of "W". (4-4)
13. Nautilus expected now might keep them down... (6)
15. Lurk heavily above textile worker? (4)
16. Tolkien research turns on the six-legged? (10)
19. Outward show to sensibly describe it. (10)
20. This cell research met some resistance. (4)
23. Emotion strong, headgear scarlet. (6)
25. You get into this messy piece of clothing and you have a dispute on your hands. (8)
27. Lo! Doing in place, but moving about. (8)
28. John L, despite what Paul said... (6)
29. In written version, streak is reassembled for a star. (8)
30. We hear ferrous zest (or non-). (6)

August Xword 2019 solution © 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=le way to record history. (9)
3. Occupy dwelling about [re-] the team. (6)
5. How to turn back the tide of murdered English? (4)
6. Brittle metal article [an]: leave out [omit](backwards) and end in New York. (8)
7. Abrupt under-junction language. (5)
8. A short 10 (decade) and a 15th (of March?) 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... [Well?]
18. Will the writer get off with the wily one's missus? [Well?]
19. Could I trepan that artist for tying up a boat? [Well? TWO clues!]
21. Rodent down pit mixes the church tower. (7)
22. Reserve loses a right to be thus. (6)
24. Composer now in heaven? [sorry...]
26. A few 11s of a lemon might provide gusto... [Well?]

Across:

1. Indirect power [AC]-lead for agreement?
4. Draped, French, [scrambled] and=et dead.
9. Blunt lack of manners [rudeness] 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. [The rule of Saint Benoit was somedel street...]
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. [Well?]
19. Choice to give politicians? [Well?]
20. Co.-hard? [Well?]
23. We hear lots of European royals are found with yeast. [Well?]
25. What Troy would have liked to be in West Africa? [Well?]
27. Style,or detail might show this look. (8)
28. Winner of cake-mix? (6)
29. Pre-Raphaelite siblings. [Well?]
30. Emergent Trump [posted] all over US... (6)



Weather and Water

Too dry here but reservoir levels high

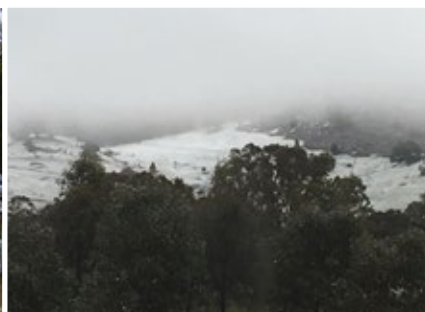
Those of us who rely on the Coliban system, and that's all of us in Harcourt and Castlemaine, will be heartened to see the current reservoir levels at Malmsbury showing 92.6% as at today's date.

Rainfall for August was 41 mm with a cumulative total for the year of 289 mm, which is 52.5 mm less than at the same time last year. We saw snow and had very cold weather in August.

While the apple trees are still in bud, the leaves of our non-

fruiting grape vine are unfurling and yesterday I found a sole rose bravely showing its early colour. Birds in the garden are becoming more active, magpies are gathering in large groups, fighting over nest building scraps and then dispersing.

L to R: Joseph Young Drive and the summit of Mount Alexander (Tom McWilliam), Faraday (John Macintyre)



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	37,850	100.2%	37,890	100.3%
Lauriston	19,790	18,630	94.1%	18,440	93.2%
Malmsbury	12,034	7,933	65.9%	3,095	25.7%
TOTAL	69,594	64,413	92.6%	59,425	85.4%

Data from: <https://www.coliban.com.au/about-us/reservoir-levels> – September 5, 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

Wheel Cactus Field Day

Our September field day will be Sunday the 29th. We will start at 10.30 am with a demonstration and a brief talk for any new 'Warriors' before we set off for an hour or so injecting cacti. The morning will wind 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.

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The Grafting Machine

Nick Quirk has spent most of his life working in the apple industry in Harcourt. After years of picking, pruning, grafting and putting to use his other skills around local farms, he has now semi-retired.

Nick said, "Backyard and boutique orchards create a huge demand for rare and interesting apple trees." He has teamed up with Heritage Apple Trees of Beaufort and is now helping produce their product. "The root stock and scions are delivered in mid-August; usually the order is for between four and five thousand trees. My job is to graft the scions to the root stock to create a new tree. Grafting has to be completed before the growing season begins, indicated by the blossom and leaf opening, so August to September is the best time to graft."

"The scion determines the variety of tree," he said. "This is last year's new growth cut from the tree in winter. The root stock is simply the base of the tree. However, root stocks determine the size of the tree, and some are resistant to certain diseases and have different growth habits. Depending on the root stock used the result will be a very large, medium or semi-dwarf tree. Stocks are assigned numbers such as M111, M102, M27 etc; each label indicates the expected size and characteristics of the tree." The M stands for Malus which is the genus in the family Rosacea, (the Rose family) which includes 30 – 55 species of small deciduous shrubs and includes apples. (Source: Wikipedia)

Nick spends three to four weeks in the shed at home using a purpose made grafting jig of his own design, which he adapts each year. This year he is grafting between 150 and 200 varieties of tree. He needs to be quick but also accurate in his grafting, and needs to keep meticulous records. Each variety is labelled and bundled and stored in a cool room before being transported to Beaufort to be grown for a year and then sold next winter.

"The grafting jig I am using this year has a clamp which is operated with a foot pedal and holds one tree at a time, and this is the best one I have made. A few years ago I made a jig with a wheel where I could clamp eight stocks at a time and spin the wheel to graft each one, but this year's is the simplest and the best." Watching his orderly and regular movements to graft with the aid of the jig, it's possible to see man and jig combine to become a grafting machine which produces thousands of new trees each year.



Nick holds the root stock and cuts it in preparation for the graft of the scion

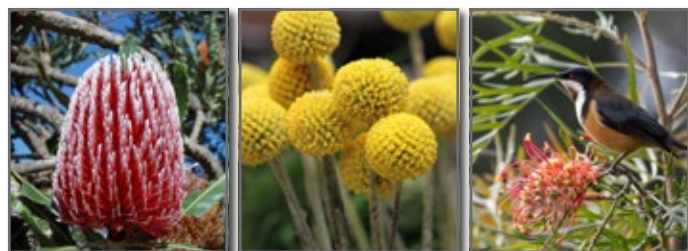
ASQ Plant of the Month

Native Plants

This month ASQ Skydancers are celebrating the start of spring with a display of beautiful native plants!

Natives not only look beautiful, but they also require minimal time and water to care for. From Kangaroo Paw to Grevillia, Billy Buttons, Eucalyptus and Banksia, there are so many options when planning your no-fuss native garden. Whether you need ground covers, screens, shrubs or blooms there is sure to be a native to suit your style and budget – and the team at ASQ Skydancers will be happy to help!

Visit ASQ Skydancers to see their range of beautiful natives this spring.



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The grafting jig clamps a root stock ready for grafting – note the bare roots.

Nominate your favourite business

Do you know an outstanding local business? Nominate them for the Mount Alexander Business Awards. The awards are designed to encourage and showcase business excellence in the shire across nine categories:

- Manufacturing, Construction and Trade • Agribusiness
- Retail and Hospitality • Tourism and Events
- Micro Business • Professional Services • Accessibility
- Creative Industries • Health and Wellbeing

Nominate at www.mountalexanderbusinessawards.com.au by Monday 9 September. The awards are proudly run by Council in partnership with the Midland Express / Castlemaine Mail. Find out more at bit.ly/MtAlexBusinessAwards19.

Run for local council

Council elections will be held next year and the Victorian Local Government Association is holding free pre-candidate information workshops.

Victorian Local Government Women's Charter networking session – join Women's Charter champions, female councillors and prospective candidates in the Loddon Campaspe region. Held from 3.00pm to 4.30pm on Wednesday 25 September at the Senior Citizens Centre, Mechanics Lane, Castlemaine. Afternoon tea provided. Hosted by Council. RSVP to Deborah Wu on (03) 9349 7999 or deborah@vlga.org.au.

Local government 101 – Outlines the role of councillors, how to become a candidate and the election process. Held from 5.30pm to 7.30pm on Wednesday 25 September at the Civic Centre. Light supper provided. Book at bit.ly/Loddon-campaspe-LG101.

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

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e info@mountalexander.vic.gov.au
w www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au



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Community Diary Dates

Thursday 12th September: 6.30 pm AGM Harcourt Valley Landcare, Goldfields Track Café; speaker Damian Kelly, author of Castlemaine Bird Walks.

Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 September: Harcourt Gravity Enduro at La Larr Ba Gauwa.

Sunday 15th September: Bowls season opens at Harcourt Bowling Club.

Tuesday 17th September: 7 pm School Concert "Carnival of the Animals", Harcourt Leisure Centre.

Saturday 21st September: Spring Equinox Celebration. See back page.

Sunday 29th September: 10 am "Blessing of the Animals", Stanley Park, Harcourt Uniting Church everyone is welcome to bring your pets.

Thursday 3rd October: 1.30 pm Harcourt Leisure Centre. CWA Concert: The Wild West.

Sunday 6th October: 11 am to 3 pm Cricket Match, Mount Alexander Seniors vs Over 60's Victorian Country XI, Harcourt Recreation Reserve.

Tuesday 15th October: 10.30 am Blumes Fashion Harcourt Leisure Centre; Harcourt Uniting Church Fellowship.

Bowling Club Dates: See page 17

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
please contact my office for assistance

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

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- ✿ Market stalls featuring local produce
- ✿ Enjoy live music and kids' entertainment
- ✿ Food trucks, licenced bars

James Park, High Street Harcourt
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Oct. 26, Nov. 23, Dec. 21, Jan. 25, Feb. 22

4th Saturday of every month (3rd in Dec.)