

# HARCOURT NEWS

# THE CÖRE

FEBRUARY 2014

HARCOURT NEWS - Edition 2

HARCOURT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

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

For inclusion in the monthly edition of The Core please email: [rmillerharcourt@bigpond.com](mailto:rmillerharcourt@bigpond.com) or call 0467 670 271

The Core will be distributed through the Harcourt Shop & Post Office and will be uploaded to the Harcourt Progress Assoc blog site.

## Harcourt's Citizen of the Year

A large crowd gathered on Sunday 26 January, to celebrate Australia Day.

The Harcourt Lions Club hosted the event as they have done for many years.

Menya thanked sponsors of the event and those who assisted to make the event a success - including John Jenkin for the sound system and Elizabeth Teed for playing the keyboard for the National Anthem. Elizabeth's son, Chris also played some cool jazz to those who arrived early for the breakfast.

Lions Club President Menya Williams noted that the club had been running for 30 years but could no longer continue. Sadly for the Club and the Harcourt community, they will be disbanding after this year's Applefest.

Menya presented certificates to the Committee of the Harcourt (continued Page 2)

Lorelle Huntly proudly displays her Certificate of Commendation presented on Australia Day, in recognition of her long and generous service to the Harcourt Community. (For more photos see inside.)



### INSIDE

- Applefest News
- Community news
- Mountain Bike Proposal
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### DEADLINES & PUBLICATION DATES

We aim to publish by the 3rd of the month except January, when any news will be on the Harcourt Progress Association's blog (see address at top of page). The deadline is the 24th of the month prior. Advertisers and Community Groups will be sent reminder emails.

### ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card	\$10
Double Bus Card	\$20
1/4 Page	\$50
1/2 Page	\$75
Full Page	\$150

*Printing of this edition of The Core is courtesy of Lisa Chesters, Federal MP for Bendigo*



## Harcourt's Australia Day Celebration (from Page 1)

Recreation Reserve, who had a combined service record of 134 years. Mt Alexander Shire is now in charge of the Reserve.

Menya also recognised George Milford "as an all-round good bloke". George was invited to say the Australia Day Prayer and began with a talk about the Harcourt Community Plan and comments made by the Primary School children. George used these comments to discuss what makes a successful community, using planning to ensure success.

After the prayer, and singing of the National Anthem, last year's Harcourt Citizen of the Year, Jan Hull raised the Australian Flag.

Australian poems were read by Lions members Steve Jenyns and Leon Blakely; these were in turn sentimental and amusing, and much appreciated by the crowd. Colin Fraser also entertained the crowd with Australian Country Music.

Harcourt's Citizen of the Year, Lorelle Huntly, was then announced and presented to with her Certificate of Commendation.

Menya outlined Lorelle's extensive contribution to the community in both Harcourt and Castlemaine. Lorelle has been especially in-

involved in organisations focussing on youth, including Harcourt Kindergarten, Playgroup, Harcourt Swimming Pool, Primary School, Junior Football Club, Junior Netball, Indoor Cricket and Applefest. In Castlemaine Lorelle has contributed to the Junior Football

Club, and Youth Girls Football. She is currently secretary of the Castlemaine Football/Netball Club.

Lorelle said she was delighted and humbled by the Award.

The crowd was also delighted with this Award to Lorelle and greeted the announce-

ment with hearty applause.

Last but not least, those who attended enjoyed the delicious breakfast prepared by the Lions Club.

ROBYN MILLER



**Picture above** shows Lions Club members: L to R back row: Steve Jenyns, Leon Blakely, Ray Rice, Ron Everett. L to R front row: Jenni Jenyns, Menya Williams, Loretta Rice and Jean Everett (helper).  
**Picture below:** The crowd listens attentively to one of the speakers at the Australia Day Breakfast.





# Harcourt Fire Brigade

It's time to Update your Fire Awareness

The new VicEmergency website is in operation and a new and improved version of the FireReady app is now available for downloading.

VicEmergency includes emergency information on fire, flood, storm, earthquake, power outages, hazardous material incidents and traffic incidents that provide alerts, warnings and recovery information.

The new version of the FireReady app is more reliable, faster and easier to use than the previous version. It will provide real-time warnings and information on incidents attended by CFA, MFB and DEPI and has been upgraded to withstand the heavy demand during peak periods of fire activity. The FireReady app retains the features of the old app such as being able to set watch zones, provide warn-

ings and information on Total Fire Bans and Fire Danger Ratings.

But you should not rely on only one source of information during an emergency. It is important to stay aware of conditions through other sources including radio and television emergency broadcasters, emergency services social media channels and the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240667.

To visit the VicEmergency website go to [www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au) and the FireReady app can be downloaded at the Apple app store or Google Play.

The Harcourt Brigade has been busy so far this Summer but the fire season is not over yet with more hot weather to come, so be prepared, be informed and be aware but most importantly stay safe and have a fire plan.

TYRONE RICE

## SEND YOUR GROUP'S NEWS TO THE CORE!

It's simple: email to the Editor

[rmillerharcourt@bigpond.com](mailto:rmillerharcourt@bigpond.com) or call 0467 670 271

For deadlines see the front page.

## Harcourt Uniting Church Adult Fellowship

Our Adult Fellowship starts its year on Tuesday February 18th at the Harcourt Uniting Church hall. We are a bunch of women from ages 50+ to 80+, but would love to have younger women as well.

We start our afternoon around 1.30pm with a short business meeting, then a guest speaker or activity and always finish with a delicious afternoon tea.

What do we actually do? Among other things, we visit house-bound oldies in the Harcourt community and those in the Castle-maine hostels and Ellery House, raise money so that we can give it away and are very friendly.

If you would like to join us for a non-threatening afternoon contact Marie on 5474 2739 for further details.

MARIE TWYFORD



## Harcourt CWA

Firstly we are going to have a stall at Applefest on the 8th of March 2014 between 9.am and 3.00p.m. As always the ladies will be selling raffle tickets ready with a big smile, and the offer of a seat for those in need of a rest up from the hectic activities!

We welcome people to stop by and buy a raffle ticket and have a talk to the ladies about the CWA and what we are doing this year.

Any prospective new members can also have a chat and perhaps even sign up! You will not regret it..the Harcourt ladies are a hoot!

In December the Harcourt CWA was honoured to receive a Certificate of Appreciation during the International Volunteer day celebrations at the old Marketplace Building.

The building was filled with a variety of wonderful organisations and Lynette Carter (President of Harcourt CWA branch), Robyn Mc Conville (Treasurer of our branch), Sandra Webb (Vice President of our branch ) and myself as Secretary of our branch, were also given a Certificate of Appreciation.

As proud CWA members we were indeed aware that our whole branch is responsible for the wonderful work we achieve each year.

And we are also very excited to announce that we have a blog up and running!

As an avid blogger myself we have worked on getting Harcourt CWA their own blog as a way of reaching out and sharing events and information as well as fun pictures, hints, recipes and remedies!

It will evolve as we see what the broader public likes and wants from the CWA so there are exciting times ahead indeed.

Our new blog address is:

<http://cwaharcourt.wordpress.com>

At the moment this is all I have at hand as our schedule is still evolving with the New Year!

I look forward to sharing either through Lyn or myself more of the events an awards that come along in 2014.

With roughly 338 years of experience between us all I am sure we can find interesting ways to reach out to the wonderful community in Harcourt!

And as always we are really keen to get some new members and boost our branch.

BEV GREEN

## King and Queen of Applefest Crowned

Husband and wife team, Rob and Jacqui Cue were crowned King and Queen of the 2014 Applefest on the night of the Harcourt Community Plan Launch on December 13, 2013



### **HARCOURT APPLEFEST: 8th MARCH 2014**

Roll up, one and all for the 2014 Harcourt Applefest!

This year's Applefest sees some great new changes designed to enhance your festival experience. The main festival activities have been re-located to Stanley Park, where you'll enjoy the Festival Market and staged performances from a wide variety of musicians and entertainers.

Families, kids and young people are well catered for with both a Kids Carnival and dedicated Youth Zone featuring a climbing wall, petting zoo, hip hop display, pony rides, BMX bike demos, face painting and circus performers. Thanks to the Bendigo YMCA and Mount Alexander Shire Council, the Harcourt Pool will be open free to the public and offer fun aquatic activities and pool inflatables.

This year's festival focuses on Homegrown Harcourt with local wine and cider available to taste and purchase, a series of workshops and seminars on cooking and gardening, and the opportunity to try a variety of apples and the chance to meet the fruit growers themselves. There's old festival favorites including the pet parade, belly dancers and ferret races while the celebrated annual Harcourt Art Show has expanded to incorporate a dedicated Tea-Cosy Display.

There's a huge array of entertainment ranging from traditional brass bands to up-tempo ska. You can catch King Stone performing alongside jazz diva Meg Corson, or enjoy the play-off between the Castlemaine Highland Pipe Band and Bendigo's Clan McLeod. The legendary Thompson's Foundry Band will also be making an appearance. Visit the Homegrown Harcourt stall in the Festival Market in leafy Stanley Park, pick up a local wine or cider and sit back and enjoy an afternoon of great music.

This year's Applefest has the unique honor of hosting the 2014 Australasian Guild of Town Criers' Guild Championships. Harcourt resident Chris Beggs is the Town Crier for the entire Mount Alexander Shire and a member of the Guild. "We're excited to be coming to this year's Applefest", said Chris. "The Town Criers will be performing briefly on Saturday, but the main event will take place on Sunday when Town Criers from all over Australia will descend on Harcourt to compete for championship trophies. There will be a lot of colour and spectacle for everyone to enjoy."

For more information visit the Applefest website at [www.harcourtapplefest.org.au](http://www.harcourtapplefest.org.au) or follow the action on Facebook.



## APPLEFEST ART SHOW

Harcourt Art Show celebrates a new craft category featuring a Tea Cosy Competition.

The Harcourt Art Show and Sale is a highlight of the annual Harcourt Applefest. The Art Show provides an opportunity for artists from around the region to enter, exhibit and sell two-dimensional painted works. This year the Art Show has a new category and is awarding a craft prize, thanks to a generous bequest. The theme of the 2014 Craft Prize is "Tea Cosies".

Craftspeople are invited to submit a tea cosy (or a representation of a tea cosy) knitted, sewn, embroidered, sculpted or otherwise fabricated (with or without tea-pot). Organisers expect that this quirky theme will attract a wide range of colourful, amusing, useful or decorative items.

All art show entries will be eligible to win a prize. The usual range of awards, for best local subject, best oil, best watercolour and best other medium, are expected to attract a high standard of paintings. Previous year's shows have received entrants from as far afield as Bendigo, Woodend and Melbourne. The items must be available for sale. The entry form requests that submitters nominate a price for their article, with 20% of the proceeds to be retained by the Harcourt Heritage Committee.

Entries are invited for craft work, to be displayed at Harcourt's ANA Hall/Heritage Centre in addition to the two-dimensional paintings (40 cm by 49 cm) normally on show.

The range of exhibits, and awards, for the Art Show & Sale has been expanded so as



to embrace more of our district's creative people. Entry forms may be obtained by email request to [georgeamillford@harcourt.vic.au](mailto:georgeamillford@harcourt.vic.au).

The Art Show and Sale kicks off on the Friday preceding the Applefest and is open to the public throughout the entire Labour Day long weekend.

Residents and visitors of Harcourt and surrounding region are invited to join the opening launch celebrations on the evening of Friday 7th March at the Harcourt Heritage Centre, High St Harcourt.

The Harcourt Art Show and Sale will be open Saturday, Sunday and Monday with a special artists talk conducted on the Monday afternoon.

Refreshments are available throughout the weekend and for more details visit [www.harcourtapplefest.org.au](http://www.harcourtapplefest.org.au)



## AUSTRALASIAN TOWN CRIER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mary-Beth Stonehouse, Secretary and Protocol Officer of the Australasian Guild of Town Criers, has given final details of the Guild Championship, to be held at Harcourt in conjunction with the 2014 Applefest.

This is the Silver Anniversary of the Guild Championships. Town Criers have had a long association with Harcourt, with local residents Don Latimer and now Chris Beggs carrying on the ancient tradition of Town Crier.

The Town Criers will make a brief appearance on Centre Stage on Applefest Saturday at 1.30 pm, competing for the trophy for the loudest cry.

The main action will be on Sunday between 11.00 am and 3.30 pm in Stanley park adjacent to the Heritage Centre, when

Chris Beggs (below) Harcourt's Town Crier (and last year's Applefest King as shown here)



the Town Criers will give their Home Cry and compete for trophy for the best cry on the topic of "Your Festival and Mine" This will be followed by a marionette performance and award presentations. Afternoon tea will follow.

Town Criers from other states and from overseas are expected - costumed ambassadors from many interesting places and attractions. This will be a spectacle and an event that will prove really entertaining. Sunday 9th March 2014, right here in Harcourt.

## Harcourt Valley Landcare Group

Members of Harcourt Valley Landcare enjoyed their pre- Christmas Barbecue at the Oak Forest. Are you aware of the new facilities at the Oak Forest? Read more...



For its December meeting, Harcourt Valley Landcare celebrated the new barbecue facilities including two new picnic tables, which the group had built and then installed over the course of 2013.

There are now 3 steel barbecues and the two sturdy picnic tables for the use of the community and public.

This much loved area is being improved upon in stages by the Landcare group. Other work completed at the Oak Forest includes new directional signage and a beautiful interpretive sign with information about the history of the Oak Forest and the types of trees to be found there.

## Community Diary Dates

16th Feb, 2014	Heritage Centre Third-Sunday-of-the-month tour. 1.30 pm
19th Feb, 2014	Harcourt Progress Association, Harcourt Primary School, 7.00 pm
7th March, 2014	Opening of Art Show & Sale, ANA Hall, 7.30 pm
8th March, 2014	Applefest Stanley Park (North)
8th March, 2014	Applefest Art Show & Sale, ANA Hall
9th March, 2014	Australasian Town Criers Championships, James Park
9th March, 2014	Applefest Art Show & Sale, ANA Hall
10th March, 2014	Applefest Art Show & Sale, ANA Hall
20th April, 2014	Easter dawn Celebration (includes breakfast), Stanley Park, 7.30 am

Harcourt Valley Landcare meets for regular meetings on the second Thursday of every month and has activities on the fourth Sunday of the month.

This coming year the group has activities centred around Barkers Creek. Planting and learning about our native trees and plants, and great morning teas are on offer. Activities are suitable for every member of the family. For more information contact the Secretary, Robyn Miller on [rmillerharcourt@bigpond.com](mailto:rmillerharcourt@bigpond.com) or phone 0467 670 271.

## Harcourt Co-operative Cool Stores Ltd. Est. 1917

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# Mountain Bike Plan for Harcourt

Mount Alexander has been selected as the site for potential Mountain Bike activities.

Damian Drum, MP for Northern Victoria was in Harcourt on December 23 to announce an exciting development for Harcourt. Goldfields Tourism Inc will explore the feasibility of a mountain bike park on the slopes of Mount Alexander with the help of funding from the Vic Coalition Government's \$1 billion Regional Growth Fund. The initiative is entitled the Mount Alexander Mountain Bike Park Master Plan. The project will investigate the possibility of up to 30 kilometres of trail routes graded

for various ability levels and with connecting links to the iconic Goldfields Track.

The Regional Growth fund will contribute \$30,000 towards the project, with funding partners Goldfields Tourism Inc, the Mount Alexander Shire Council and the local Rocky Riders Mountain Bike Club to provide the balance of \$10,000 to make a total project worth \$40,000.

The fund is aimed at investment in community led projects to boost the economy of small towns and regions, by stimulating local business and job opportunities.

Other towns such as Forrest in the Otway Ranges have

shown increased economic activity, including retail, accommodation and food outlets. Forrest now has its own brewery, which is also a café.

Mountain biking involves riding on trails which follow the contours of the land to reduce erosion caused by water run-off. The proposed site for the trails – green (easy, family friendly), blue (intermediate difficulty) and black (difficult) – is in the Pine Plantation which is accessed via the Oak Forest.

As the project progresses, The Core will bring updates.

ROBYN MILLER



Photo above shows Victorian MP Damian Drum (side-on centre in white shirt) discussing the announcement of the funding proposal with members of the Rocky Riders Club and members of Goldfields Tourism Inc, observed by Harcourt community members

**NEWSFLASH:**  
**Harcourt Pool will remain open until Monday, 10th March 2014**

The Harcourt Swimming Pool has been a great place for families to escape the heat this summer. How fortunate we are to have saved this vital community resource.

However, let's not ever be complacent and assume that the pool will always be there for us. We need to support and encourage the pool operators to meet the needs of our community.

Mount Alexander Shire Council is conducting a Pool User Survey to obtain feedback and gauge if the hours, facilities and service provided is meeting community expectations.

Please take the time to fill this in. Copies of the Survey are available at the pool, from the Harcourt General Store or by calling Tamara Payne, recreation officer at Council, on 5471 1741

## HARCOURT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Next meeting:

19th February, 7pm at the Harcourt Valley Primary School

All welcome

Come meet your Federal MP, Lisa Chesters, who will outline how she can help Harcourt.

We will also be discussing plans to continue developing and improving Harcourt's Town Centre. Come and be part of the conversation and continue your ideas and vision for downtown Harcourt.

## SJK EXCAVATIONS - YOUR HOLES OUR GOAL

Stuart King is the owner/operator of SJK Excavations and has recently taken over the phone number from Brian (Buzz) Nunn. SJK Excavations will provide earthworks within the Shire of Mt Alexander and surrounding areas.

SJK Excavations is a new business offering a friendly service and free quotes for all services. Our services include: Drainage, Fill and Rubbish Removal, Site Cuts and Clean Ups, Footings. Post Holes, Tipper, Bobcat (posi Track), 5tn excavator - all for hire.

Please call Stuart for a free quote on 0407 514 797



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## Defibrillators now in Harcourt

## Pruning Workshops with Mount Alexander Fruit Gardens

Need to brush up your pruning technique? Interested in learning how to grow your own fruit trees?

Mt Alexander Fruit Gardens is a certified organic orchard and teaching farm in Harcourt, offering our "Grow Great Fruit" workshops and Monthly Growing Program. We're kicking off the year with two workshops on Sunday February 16th

AM: Summer grafting (budding): Learn how to grow your own trees, preserve heritage varieties and continuously expand the number of varieties in your garden, without having to buy trees.

PM: Summer pruning (apricots and cherries): Apricot and cherry trees are best pruned in summer; we'll teach you the skills to keep your trees happy and fruitful.

Workshops are \$44 each, with discounts if you book 2 or more (either one person attending both workshops, or two people coming to the same workshop), and an extra discount for 6 or more bookings at the same time.

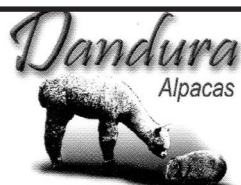
Make 2014 the year to improve your fruit growing skills...visit our website ([www.mafg.com.au](http://www.mafg.com.au)) to book, or contact us on 0409 012 090 for more information.

Defibrillators are now installed at two locations in Harcourt. It might be handy to know that Harcourt Bowling Club and Harcourt Recreation Reserve (Leisure Centre) have each obtained an AED unit for use in emergency situations. These simple-to-use, portable units give an effective treatment for certain life-threatening heart conditions. The technical name of the unit is AED – Automated External Defibrillator. They permit a quick and successful response by a bystander with minimal training. The secret of their successful use is in the fact that ventricular fibrillation and cardiac arrhythmia may occur in a heart which is fundamentally healthy.

Defibrillators were once quite rare. This changed in 1990 after media mogul Kerry packer had a heart attack and, purely by chance, the ambulance that responded to the call carried a defibrillator. After recovery, Kerry packer donated a large sum to the NSW Ambulance service in order that all ambulances should be fitted with a personal defibrillator. In the succeeding years, the units have been made more 'user-friendly'. Col Curnow, of Harcourt Bowling Club, says that, after a little training, he would be quite confident to use the AED. "the machine itself takes you through the steps of what do" says Col.

Carol Waddington, of Castlemaine District Community Health, will answer any queries about the units now located at the Bowls Club and at the Leisure Centre. Keep this in the back of your mind. It might be handy to know this, one day.

GEORGE MILFORD, with a little help from Wikipedia "Defibrillator"



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