



ISSUE 331 WANDONG/HEATHCOTE JUNCTION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER : **NOVEMBER, 2023** ABN 17 022 858 565

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## REMEMBRANCE DAY 2023 AT WANDONG

**Another sparkling day at Wandong for the crowd that attended the 2023 Remembrance Day service. Photos are of Wandong History Group President Karen Christensen, Jackson Kilroy (reading poetry), Peter Dore, Master of Ceremonies and Denis Krake (Event official and flag attendant).**



**IF YOU MISS AN ISSUE OF "WHAT'S NEWS" go to website <[www.wandong.vic.au/local-news/whats-news](http://www.wandong.vic.au/local-news/whats-news)>**

**Wandong - Heathcote Junction - why would you live anywhere else. Until December 2023, Allen Hall (editor)**

**NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE: COPY & ADS 2 December 2023 DELIVERY from 13 December 2023**

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SCHOOL FETE**

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## WANDONG COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS

**SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER  
AT THE  
WANDONG PUBLIC HALL**



The event has been free for several years thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Bendigo Community Bank. **Bendigo Bank**

The event will start at 4.30pm with a free sausage sizzle and Santa Claus, then the carols commence at 6.30pm. Due to renovations at the Community Centre, Davern Reserve, the carols will be held at the Wandong Public Hall.



## HISTORY DISPLAYED AT WANDONG

In the late 19th century Wandong had a thriving timber industry with a huge timber seasoning works and several saw mills and tramways in the Mt Disappointment State Forest. Wandong also boasted a brick industry from 1889 to 1892 when the Victorian Terra Cotta Lumber Company had a huge factory at the site of the current Ampol Service station. To commemorate the industry, the Wandong History Group has erected a display of the terra cotta lumber bricks and explanatory signage at the south end of the Wandong Plaza car park. Thanks to Jim Chatz (pictured) for his brick laying skills.

The factory would produce a unique and innovative product called Terra Cotta Lumber, an extruded hollow block designed for use as a fireproofing material. The product was made of three parts sawdust and two parts clay and produced a lightweight, porous material which could be cut, sawn or nailed. The material was used in many of Melbourne's high-rise buildings in the construction of partition walls, ceilings, floors, as well as an insulating material in the construction of cool storage sheds throughout regional Victoria.



# What's Happening

## WANDONG OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE



Service Phone Number:  
**0497 877 771**

Your service coordinator will be available during session times. TheirCare support is available during office hours if required on 1300 072 410

### How to Enrol

Visit TheirCare website:  
[www.theircare.com.au](http://www.theircare.com.au)  
and click on 'Book Now' in the top right hand corner to register your child's details.

### Operation Times

Before School Care	6:30am – 8:45am
After School Care	3:30pm – 6:30pm
Pupil Free Day	6:30am – 6:30pm
Holiday Program	6:30am – 6:30pm

## ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS

18 Nov Shane & Gaye Georgelin HJ  
18 Nov Avril & Lee Thomas K  
28 Nov Peter & Heather Waldie W  
30 Nov Kath & Vlado Kovacic WP  
5 Dec Paul & Tara Duncan HJ  
6 Dec Rosemary & Rob Hobson HJ  
15 Dec John & Denise Simpson HJ

## GAZEBOS AND CHAIRS FOR HIRE

For your next function why not hire a gazebo and chairs from the Wandong – Heathcote Junction Community Group.

For hire are:  
two 6m X 3m gazebos,  
a 3m X 3m gazebo  
8 wooden trestles  
and 50 outdoor chairs.

Call David on mobile  
0409 164 660  
to arrange hire.



**MYKI RETAILER**

## COMMUNITY WEBSITES

[www.wandong.vic.au](http://www.wandong.vic.au)  
[www.upperplenty.com](http://www.upperplenty.com)

## Mitchell Bushwalking Group

The group walks once a fortnight, with some evening walks during the summer months.

Please contact:

Mary 0428 479 469  
or Wayne 0451 519 734  
or email  
[mitchellwalksgroup@gmail.com](mailto:mitchellwalksgroup@gmail.com)

for more information



## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

We wish the following people a very happy birthday

15 Nov	Louise Buggy	HJ
16 Nov	Adam Georgelin	HJ
17 Nov	Ros Hulett	HJ
19 Nov	Allison Henske	W
19 Nov	Lesley Clarke	HJ
20 Nov	Marie Edwards	HJ
20 Nov	Lewis Lotherington	K
20 Nov	Christine Gordon	W
22 Nov	Richard Zimbardi	K
24 Nov	Gerard Goodison	HJ
24 Nov	Jamie Smith	W
25 Nov	Lyn Morley	K
25 Nov	Timothy Armitage	W
26 Nov	Kate MacDonald	W
26 Nov	Lynette Warburton	HJ
27 Nov	Kaye Weller	HJ
28 Nov	Jessica Ford	W
28 Nov	Tayla Albert	HJ
28 Nov	Jasleen Hall	B
2 Dec	Mark Ford	W
4 Dec	Jarrod King	Wallan
4 Dec	John Pyle	K
4 Dec	Shelley Jackson	B
4 Dec	Shelley Kilroy	W
8 Dec	Kristy Plumble	C
9 Dec	Mandy Coter	W
9 Dec	Oliver Duncan	HJ
10 Dec	Amy Batey	W
11 Dec	John Tilbrook	W
11 Dec	Kylie Plumble	C
11 Dec	Ida Zimbardi	K
12 Dec	Gemma Leech	HJ
13 Dec	Shane Georgelin	HJ
14 Dec	Megan Drenth	HJ
14 Dec	Jake Gedy	HJ
14 Dec	Mary Cawthorne	Wallan



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Remember  
"Whats News" is also available on the website  
<[www.wandong.vic.au](http://www.wandong.vic.au)>



## THE SHACK IS BACK

The Upper Plenty Community Hall

### "THE SHACK"

is open for hire.

For more information and  
bookings call Susan or Wayne  
on 5783 1456.

If not answered leave your name and  
number and we will return the call.

## TAKE YOUR RUBBISH HOME

The Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group continues to remove rubbish from Wandong streets, the Epping Kilmore Road, the Wandong Hume Freeway ramps, the Wandong Broadford Road and recently from O'Gradys Road. Much of the rubbish is thrown from vehicles passing through Wandong but there is also rubbish that can only be from our residents. To those people we can only appeal to them to look after our beautiful town and take your rubbish home.



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**5787 1911**





## LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

### Oh! oh! It's scoreboard time.

Remember my mate Charlie (At least I think he still is my mate.) He was a bit dark about my sneaky fishing tactics last trip! Well, we got to discussing religion last time! Yeah, I know what they say, if you want to stay friends never discuss Religion, Politics or Footy! Don't let on to Charl but sometimes even I must admit that occasionally he does talk sense and I love a good non-violent discussion! Last trip Charl said that he would like to know how he was progressing in his family, work and church life? Charl mentioned at the time the possibility of a scoreboard. At first that sounded to me like a reasonable request. It got me to think about the possibilities of a mythical scoreboard showing our standing with our God, something like an App on your phone that you could check on now and again! You would be in a right proper mess if you lost your phone and panic stations if your best friend found it! If God were to list every little thought or action on this imaginary App, we may want to tidy up our act a touch! In some cases, the delete button would get a work-out regularly! No, I reckoned that our Rule Book is far -and-away the most reliable go-to reference for help, in our every-day endeavours! The Bible contains thousands of promises of comfort, support, direction and assurances of eternal life!

Paul, in his letter to the Romans (ch 8 v 38) doesn't muck around, (His letter obviously was not written by a government committee) He gets straight to the point when he says, For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Wow! Lets see if Charles can gain confidence from that! I notice that he sits closer to the front in church now and seems much more relaxed. Most of us would have heard of the Bible verse John 3 v16 but have a read of John 3 v17 or, if you have time, the next few verses might be of help!

Be interesting to see if Charlie is any better at forgiving because he has been a touch distant since he found out that I was catching bigger fish than he was by using Bardys up the Murray!

Alan G. Whatever you do please don't mention scoreboards to Charlie again!

### SAVE WANDONGS HERITAGE LISTED ST MICHAELS CHURCH

Please help by donating your 5 cents  
in the collection tins at Kemps Bakery  
(Wandong) and Wandong Pharmacy

## ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, WANDONG

WANDONG AVE, WANDONG  
Enquires 9308 2452  
Services: 8.30am  
Ion 1st & 3rd Sundays  
**ALL WELCOME**

### Whittlesea Anglican Church

Serving Whittlesea, Upper Plenty.  
& surrounding areas

**Christ Church:** 9 Wallan Road, Whittlesea.

**Vicar:** Rev Ruwan Palapathwala 9014 0696

**Web Site:** [www.christchurchwhittlesea.org](http://www.christchurchwhittlesea.org)

**Weddings/Baptisms** by appointment

**Sunday Services:** 10.15am. Incl kids program

#### Services to the Community:

**Whittlesea Opportunity Shop** 7 Laurel St

9716 3144 Open M-F 10-4 Sat 9.30-12.30

**Christ Church Craft Group**

Friday 10-2, Church Hall BYO craft - any type  
we love to learn, Jenny 9715 1137

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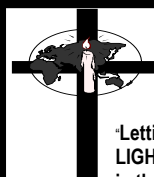
Enquiries to ;

**Pastor Frantz Heinzelmann**

**Mobile:** 0411 794 188

[www.freedomcarechurch.org.au](http://www.freedomcarechurch.org.au)

**All Welcome. Love to see you there**



### Wandong District Church

**29 Wandong Ave,  
Wandong**

"Letting the  
LIGHT Shine  
in the World"

**Services held at 5pm Sundays**

**ALL WELCOME**

**Enquiries to:**

**Pastor Allan Laurens 5787 1020**

**Or David Moran 5787 1738**



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John Perrett 0418 288 024 or  
Ron Hamilton 0481 268 471**

**Operating hours are  
Tuesday and Thursday  
9.30 am - Approx. 1.30 pm**

**email: [Kilmoremensshed@gmail.com](mailto:Kilmoremensshed@gmail.com)**

## The Kilmore & District Hospital



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Aged Care –  
Dianella Hostel and  
Caladenia Nursing Home Website:  
[www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au](http://www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au)**



## WANDONG TENNIS CLUB

Email:  
[wandongtennisclub@hotmail.com](mailto:wandongtennisclub@hotmail.com)  
or text Lisa on 0407 112 880.

Our spring night season is almost complete with only a couple of rounds to go.  
All teams will be competing in finals.  
Good luck to them all

Coaching is available at the club for all ages.  
Please contact Karl on 0423 611 317 or [kv.tennis@hotmail.com](mailto:kv.tennis@hotmail.com)

Information is posted on our  
Facebook page.  
[www.facebook.com/wandongtennis](https://www.facebook.com/wandongtennis)





# GARDEN SCENE WITH GAIL

November already and if we can have more rain, it will really boost our gardens, lawns and those beautiful mature trees. If your garden and lawns tend to dry out and crack in Summer and become wet and boggy in Winter it may be a good idea to apply Gypsum, about a good handful to a square metre. If the ground is quite dry already and hard, pop on some 'nail shoes', you can buy them from garden centres or make them, it's a lot easier on your back than trying to do it with a garden fork and then apply Gypsum directly after. Ideally, this is done just before rain is due or it has just rained. You can also follow up with top dressing, using a good all-round fertiliser such as Dynamic Lifter and always check the directions if using on native plants. If we can get our gardens well prepared for the hot months to come, plants etc will stress less and so will we so if you need to top dress, weed and mulch do so before Summer hits and if what is predicted for Summer, it's going to be very warm and not much rain at all. We need to encourage those roots down as deep into the soil as possible to avoid drying out and shallow rooting plants such as Camellia, Azalea and Rhododendron will require quite a deep layer of mulch to prevent their roots from drying out. If you come across a plant that looks dry but you have been watering it regularly, it may be telling you that its root system is unable to absorb moisture. The leaves wilt, some may go brown, you know what they look like! "I'm trying to survive but I'm a bit sick". If this happens you can dig the plant out, if that's feasible, prune the roots and pop the root ball into a bucket of a solution of Seasol. Let it sit for a little while, at least an hour, and while this is absorbing the solution, dig into the existing hole well-rotted cow manure and mix this in with the existing soil, plant back into the hole. Water in well and apply the remainder of the Seasol over the plant because the leaves will benefit from this. Sometimes, even though it hasn't rained, we feel cold because of low temperatures, and this tricks us into thinking that it's not dry enough to water however, our plants will suffer. It is more beneficial to water regularly (unless it rains), than wait until the plants look like they need it. Once a plant dries out, its root system will be weakened and the more it dries out waiting for a drink, the weaker it becomes, shortening its life span. Hanging baskets and potted plants will require watering more



often as they have no soil barrier to buffer the heat from the root system and unglazed or unpainted pots will allow the moisture to be drawn out by the sun through the walls of the pot. If you are potting up into an unglazed or unpainted pot, line the inside with newspaper or light cardboard before you pop in the potting mix to act as insulation for the roots of the plant and always use a good quality potting mix because that will be the plant's home for a number of months before it needs refreshing or repotting. Keep in mind any repotting or root pruning should be done on a cool day and Seasol is a great addition to reduce stress on our plants, pair it with Powerfeed for a great result. Fertilising your garden, lawn and plants along with regular watering will maintain their health and you will enjoy spending more time outdoors. Enjoy our last month of Spring.

Have a fantastic November  
*Gail Mains Kendrick*  
(Your Local Real Estate Agent)



## ARCHBISHOP'S VISIT TO ST JOHN'S WANDONG

On the 29th October, the Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne Diocese, Rev Philip Freier visited St John's Wandong, to celebrate the church's 90th anniversary. The weather was fine and about 70 guests attended. As well as the regular congregation, from Wandong and Craigieburn, it was pleasing to see other members of the local community attending, along with some invited guests. Refreshments were served after the service and everyone was invited to see the history of the church.

There was a display board, giving historical information about the church, including photographs. Also some ledgers and registers, dating back to the early 1920s. Di Vidal from the Wandong History Group did an excellent job collating all the material. She spent many hours on the project. Thank you Di for preserving our history. Thanks also goes to the history group for the loan of the PA system and Wandong District Church for the loan of their chairs. Thank you all for contributing to the success of the celebrations. Perhaps we can repeat it again in 10 years time for the 100th - God willing

Irene Bartlett Church Warden.

Contact details M: 0418 164 465 E: [izab.kb2@gmail.com](mailto:izab.kb2@gmail.com)



THE COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF WHITTLESEA INC.

REGISTERED # A0041714F

Established 2001

MEDIA INFORMATION

MICHAEL B HALLEY PUBLICITY OFFICER

Contacts at the Club

Glenda Vincent: Membership 0431 517 008

Cheryl Manicolo: Secretary 03 9715 1420

Email [whittleseaprobus@hotmail.com](mailto:whittleseaprobus@hotmail.com)

Fascinating she has no hat



At the Cup-Eve meeting of the Combined Probus Club of Whittlesea the ladies were asked to adorn themselves for the fascinator competition. One wag acting as a ventriloquist held hers up and it said "wait, I will go on a head".

Tradition, like the Cup itself, dictates that ladies wear head adornment. In recent years hats have given way to fascinators that are easier to manage. For the uninitiated a fascinator is a formal headwear which is purely ornamental and offers little or no protection from the weather.

The field was whittled down to six and the judges were unable to [or frightened to] select a winner so it was declared a sextuplet dead heat. Relaxed attitudes has impacted upon etiquette, which in the past said the ladies' fascinator was worn on the left as her accompanying male would be on her right.

All over the world where Australians gather the Melbourne Cup is brought into focus with various competitive activities. Whether it be attending the race meeting at Flemington, gathering with family or friends, quietly listening to or viewing the race, most people mark the first Tuesday in November.

Probus provides retirees with the opportunity to connect socially, which is so important in today's world. Small break-outs like the fascinator competition help to make the monthly meeting interesting for members.

Membership is open to anyone who is retired or semi-retired. In recent months at Whittlesea the membership register has been increased several times.



## Beyond the fateful day

On a very hot Friday, 7 February, 1969, just after 7.00am, the *Southern Aurora*, overnight express passenger train between Sydney and Melbourne collided head-on with an Albury-bound goods train, 174km north of Melbourne.

The Melbourne-bound *Southern Aurora* ran through the Violet Town crossing loop where it should have waited for the goods train to pass.

The *Southern Aurora* bore the brunt of the collision because the goods train was heavier. Nine people died (5 passengers and 4 staff) and 117 passengers were injured

Photo shows the lounge car and a sleeper car where they landed on top of the crushed locomotives. Source <https://blogs.slv.vic.gov.au/such-was-life/violet-town-railway-disaster/>







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MICHAEL B HALLEY PUBLICITY OFFICER

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## Beyond the fateful day continued

Trains had been passing through Violet Town since 1873, but none had entered the town's history like the Southern Aurora. After several months of after effects locally, and Australia wide the town returned close to how it was on Thursday 6 February.

Regional Australian towns have been undergoing significant change in this new century with some being close to abandonment. Violet Town like other towns along the railway line was isolated when the Hume Freeway by-passed. Local pride shone out and several special interest groups were formed. Maintaining population, attracting passing traffic and general tourism underpins all of them.

One is the Southern Aurora Memorial group [SAM] which has established the memorial gardens for the Southern Aurora beside the railway station. Bruce Cumming the driving force behind SAM came down to present at the November meeting of the Combined Probus Club of Whittlesea.

The memorial won the Gold Award for the Best Monument or Memorial at the 2022 Australian Street Art Awards, and in October won the Mental Health and Wellbeing Award at the Resilience Australia Awards. The project and garden is now a finalist for the National award <https://www.aidr.org.au/resources/resilient-australia-national-awards-2022/> to be announced in late November 2023 by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience.

The commemoration garden has an overall theme of *Helping Hands*. It is a way of signifying how people stepped forward to help each other, whether women or men, staff or passengers, whether voluntary or paid, or whether local or from far away. Everyone did what they could!

One of the key highlights of the garden area is embedding of words on railway sleeper plinths along the inter-twining pathways. The words are positive human attributes displayed on the day of the tragedy: -

☆ *courage, hope, love, generosity, kindness, compassion, care, humility*

Bruce explained that whilst getting ready for school at their home 12 kilometres away he heard a series of loud noises which was the train crash, then saw the ribbon of smoke high in the still morning sky. As the day unfolded he, and other students gained information about the event, and later found that their families had been intimately involved in the response, rescues and care of those affected. He explained that it had a "haunting affect" on him and others in the district.

Following a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary opening of the memorial gardens the expansion and development has been exponential. People who were on the train, or had family involvement have made contact and visited. They view the historical records that are displayed and leave messages.

A lady whose mother and sister were killed makes regular contact with Bruce. She, then five years old, was trapped under the wreckage for more than five hours and recalled the name Cumming and "Bill". [Bruce's father]. Based with those scant memories she tracked Bruce and has gained valuable insight and become a friend.

The gardens are designed as a meditation place with history lessons displayed and highlighting the human side of a tragic event. People from all over have visited, and few leave without gaining some personal or historical information.

Violet Town is about two hours' drive from Melbourne or the border and is an ideal place to take the driver's recommended break. As we were told "follow the Violet Town exit from the Hume Freeway

Teresa Carlin thanked Bruce on behalf of members and he departed to conduct a Zoom meeting. Such technology was unimaginable in February 1969.

*Composed by Michael Halley and Bruce Cumming*

Photo: Bruce Cumming and Teresa Carlin



# LIONS CLUB OF WANDONG - WALLAN INC.

President: Marilyn Moore  
PO Box 225, Wandong, Vic. 3758



Well, he's done it to me again! Our regular scribe, Mr Clyde Riley; Esquire, has left the writing of this report to me, again. Most people who know Clyde, and his antics, would think that to be a risky thing, and as I progress, I'm sure I can make their thoughts justified. However, we should start by getting into the serious aspects of The Wandong Wallan Lions Club first.

I'm going to start by welcoming our newest member, Sharon Benson. Better known by all as "Shaz", she already knows most of our members through joining us in weekly meals and get togethers. Shaz gets on well with all and is keen to help out with fund raising activities in the future. She will be an asset to our Club. Welcome Shaz!

On the 27th September we had a visit from District Governor Lyn Perera and her husband. For her visit, we met and dined at The Grove in Hidden Valley. Lyn addressed us on the activities and desires of Lions International and the need to grow our Membership to help Clubs' survival into the future. Everyone seemed very happy with the meals and the service, and a lot of pleasant conversation went on around the tables.

On a slightly less formal level, we got together with the Broadford Lions Club on the 16th October for a meal and socializing at the Broadford Bowling Club. It was interesting to see how another Club conducts Business/Social activities, while enjoying a nice meal together. Opportunities to share in activities were discussed, with immediate outcomes being the result. A Clearance Sale at Highcamp was coming up, and so it was decided that our two Clubs would combine to work a BBQ at the event. The sale went ahead, and by all accounts the combined effort of the Clubs brought about a successful result.

Our valuable member Sam, who owns/operates the IGA Supermarket in Wandong had a "not so nice" experience recently. A Mother/Daughter team apparently decided they would brazenly help themselves to whatever they wanted at the time. Sam confronted them as they headed for their car requesting they take the goods back to his shop, to which they refused. Other quick-thinking people realizing what was happening, decided they would use their cars as a barricade to prevent the people leaving with the goods. In an effort to leave, the would-be thieves damaged a vehicle at the scene. I believe the issue was finally dealt with by Police attendance. And the Lions Club have offered to pay for the repair of the damaged vehicle. I did not witness the event, but it seems "Community Spirit" came to the fore when people understood what was happening. And I think Sam would be pleased to see people come to his aid in an unpleasant situation.

Our Christmas Hamper Raffle is underway. I have approached 60+ local Business' with requests for donations and received some positive responses. In fact, some have already given me their contributions. I will continue my collecting over the next few weeks. Our ticket books have been printed, and I'd love to see all one thousand tickets sold. I'm putting Ticket Books and money tubs at various venues where they are considered "safe", and the people will let me know of sale progress. Anyone interested in purchasing Tickets, or any Members who feel they can sell to friends, workmates, family, etc, can contact me on 0416211726 . We will also be selling outside Woolies at Kilmore on the weekends, and various other locations at Wallan, and Wandong as they are established. Additionally, our "Computer WizKids" have made ticket purchasing available online by going to: [www.wandongwallanlionsclub.com.au](http://www.wandongwallanlionsclub.com.au) or via Facebook at; [www.facebook.com/lionsclubww](http://www.facebook.com/lionsclubww)

What have individual members been up to? I'll start with Bill. Bill and his lovely wife Marie attended the dinner at The Grove where our District Governor was present. Bill turned up in his best grey suit, looking like Royalty and putting the rest of us to shame. It's rumoured that Marie asked him earlier did he think he was "overdressed"? to which he replied No. He certainly looked the part, and a far cry from how he previously looked while imitating me by wearing his best woollen beanie.

Our lovely Marilyn is involved with collecting unwanted spectacles, to be cleaned/repared, and passed on to less privileged communities. She got all organized for the arrival of people who would assist her to wrap and pack the items. After a period of waiting with no assistants arriving, Marilyn realized she had her dates mixed up. Subsequently, Plan B' was put into place.

Clyde's wife Elizabeth had, for a while, become something of an "Exhibitionist" after surgery on her leg. At every opportunity she would hoist up her dress and flash that leg for all to see. And this was being done in very public venues, and Clyde was becoming extremely jealous because he thinks his legs are more appealing than Liz's. We won't put that to the vote for Clyde's sake!

I must admit to a (very rare) faux pas on my behalf. OI was assigned the job of fitting a powered jockey wheel to our BBQ trailer. During the job I tack welded the wheel bracket in place, then got sidetracked by a visit from a Neighbour wanting to borrow some tools.

CONTINUED PAGE 11



## LIONS CLUB OF WANDONG - WALLAN INC.

President: Marilyn Moore  
PO Box 225, Wandong, Vic. 3758



Continued from page 10

Getting back to the job I failed to notice I had not completed the welds and applied the paint. Job done! Next visit to the Clubs shed to do another job and here's the jockey wheel broken off and lying beside the trailer. Conclusion: welding stronger than paint.

Now to Clyde "I never do anything wrong" Riley. I'll endeavour to keep it brief, although I could fill a page or two. The Riley's were invited to join Clyde's sister Christine and her husband Brent in Queensland, an invitation they accepted. Whilst at a restaurant, Clyde experienced a turn of some sort that saw him end up face first in a bowl of soup. People quickly offered assistance to prevent the man from drowning, however a woman's voice, sounding suspiciously like Elizabeth's, was heard to say "Hold him down". Could it be the result of too much red wine on Clyde's behalf? That's a still to be answered question. Fortunately, Clyde has suffered no further ill effects.

While they were in Queensland, they stayed aboard Chris and Brents yacht. Whilst moored in the marina at Townsville, and after consuming numerous glasses of red wine, Clyde wearing his shorts, decides to try "Dancing on the transom". He had those legs gyrating like they were made of rubber, and in response most of the other Mariners untied their boats and headed far out to sea. Those who remained, realizing a lower social class were present, went below deck and closed all doors and curtains to avoid the embarrassment Clyde was creating. Such was Clyde's behaviour in Queensland.

Back in Victoria, Clyde, Elizabeth, and daughter Sarah, headed off into Melbourne to see the show "Mamma Mia". Sarah was particularly excited about seeing the show. Upon arrival at the theatre the show gets underway and to Sarah's total dismay, they are at the wrong venue, and it wasn't Mamma Mia, but a different show all together. Clearly somebody had made a big mistake, and Clyde was adamant that he was not responsible. Understandably, some of us think differently.

Is difficulty and mistakes part of Clyde's DNA? Well, a little story from a family insider tells me that difficulty is in his genes. Who, as a teenager keen on jazz functions, would have their mother spend all night knitting them a beautiful mohair jumper to wear to the next days jazz event, only to decide he wasn't going to wear it? That person will remain nameless other than to say his initials are "Clyde Riley. And after his siblings paid out on him that day, he reluctantly wore his mohair jumper to the event!

That's it from me until next time (if ever) I'm required to fill in for our regular scribe. With the year flying by, get out and start that Christmas shopping, and don't forget to buy a ticket in our Christmas raffle.

Bye for now.  
Steve Munro.

## Wandong Fire Brigade



### Santa is Coming to Town

It's almost that time of year again when you can book Santa to visit your house on the back of our fire truck. If you're looking to make your Christmas party a little different, or just want Santa to visit your kids or grandkids, then booking a Santa visit with us is the perfect thing to do. Do follow our Facebook page 'Wandong Fire Brigade' for all Santa updates.

Get in quickly, as bookings fill up fast. Let us know your address, preferred times and the number of children to visit. This service is provided by Wandong Fire Brigade volunteers, and donations to the brigade are welcomed. For bookings, contact Santa's helper Heath on 0419 359 374 or [wandongssanta@gmail.com](mailto:wandongssanta@gmail.com)

### Pre-Season Preparation of Your Property

With the weather starting to warm up it is time to think about preparing your property before the fire season. Remove fire hazards from around your house and clean out the gutters. The CFA website has some great resources on preparing your property. <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property>. Every burnoff should be logged by calling VicFire on 1800 668 511.

### Training

Training for our firefighters is on Wednesday nights at the fire station. For more information contact Lt James Stephens on 0418 221 458.

# WANDONG HISTORY GROUP

History month is done and dusted for another year; it was great to see a lot of history events happening all around. Our display on the internment camps and our prisoners of war will be left up for a while so anyone can contact us if they want to come have a look.

It was great to have Peter McHugh come along. Peter runs the Victoria forests and bushfire heritage facebook page and his posts make fantastic reading. It was great to have a good chat to Peter and learn a bit about some of the challenges facing one the groups he is part of, (The Forest Commission Retired Personnel Association), anyone who has seen the display they have at Beechworth will appreciate the work that has gone into bringing the display together. The future of this is currently under threat as the council wants the building back and at the moment there is no home for this wonderful display of forest history. We will be keeping in touch with Peter as this develops and help where we can.

Remembrance Day was on a Saturday this year and as expected to saw more people than usual there. The service started at 10.45 and was followed by morning tea. This is a special day and a chance to collectively remember the service and sacrifice that our soldiers made.

We will also be at Bunnings Craigieburn on the 9<sup>th</sup> December doing a sausage sizzle, so come down and support us. We will also be attending the Bunnings community night on the 7<sup>th</sup> December.

In conjunction with the Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group, we will be holding our mega Christmas raffle, the prizes are fantastic this year, something for everyone, so make sure you get a ticket or two.

If you would like to be part of this dedicated team looking after our history and heritage contact us we love having new members and there is a job for everyone no matter what your skill level.

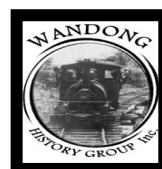
Stay safe everyone.

Karen

[www.wandongheathcotejunctionhistory.com.au](http://www.wandongheathcotejunctionhistory.com.au)

[wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com](mailto:wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com)

PH 0432120736



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## Upper Plenty Merri Catchments Landcare Group

We provide support for land management issues such as weed, pest and erosion control. Also improving soil and biodiversity by providing advice, support, and grant funding. We meet the third Wednesday of the month 6.30pm at "The Shack" 1240 Wallan road Upper Plenty 3756. Guest speakers every 2<sup>nd</sup> meet. All welcome.

See our facebook page: Upper Plenty Merri Catchments Landcare Group

Membership enquiries [membership.upmclg@gmail.com](mailto:membership.upmclg@gmail.com) or Chris Cobern 0413855490

We particularly need new members from the Heathcote Junction area. Our approximate borders are North Mountain road down to Janna road. To the west the border is Merri creek and to the east is Mount Disappointment State forest. Members don't need to live within the borders but our activities are largely in that area.





# Wandong Primary School



## Bike Ed

The Bike Ed program has been conducted with the Wandong Primary School Grade 5 and 6 students successfully for the past several weeks.

We are very pleased with the progress students have made in learning to ride skilfully and confidently and with their development of safe and responsible cycling behaviours.

Recently cyclists experienced a busy roundabout and how they can safely negotiate riding through these challenging intersections.

We look forward to our upcoming Say G'Day Trail Ride and our Great Vic Rail Trail Tour later in the term.



## Grandparents Day 2023

We were thrilled to welcome so many families into our open classrooms today, to celebrate Grandparents' Day. A memorable occasion within our school calendar - a day that allows our students to showcase their many learning achievements and classroom community with such important members of their family. It warms our hearts to see so many families engaging with our classrooms.

On behalf of all students and staff, we would like to thank everyone that took the time away from their busy schedules to join us today.



## Our School Fete is Coming!!!

- Volunteer your time to PAFA prior to or on the day with setup and the running of an event.
- Help your classroom teacher run a stand.
- Donate milo tins or some spooky stuff for the haunted tunnel.

## Key Dates

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Nov: Parent Event – Susan McLean – Cyber Cop, Keeping our Kids Safe Online. Please email or call the office to book in for this event

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov: Professional Practice Day- No students required- If your child requires care, please book in at <https://theircare.com.au/>

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec: Foundation 2024 Meet the Teacher

Mon 4<sup>th</sup>- Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Dec: Gratitude Week

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec: Whole School Transition Morning- 9am- 10am

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec: 2024 Foundation Transition Day- Teddy Bear Picnic at 9.15am

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec: Grade 6 Graduation

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec: School Fete 3.30pm- 7pm



# **Lauren Kathage MP**

## **Labor Member for Yan Yean**

For help with State Government issues such as housing, roads, transport or education, please phone my office on **9432 9782**.



📍 3/14 Yan Yean Rd, Diamond Creek VIC 3089  
✉ lauren.kathage@parliament.vic.gov.au 📞 03 9432 9782

## **HE'S HERE FOR US**

**Rob Mitchell MP**  
Member for McEwen

Rob.Mitchell.MP@aph.gov.au | 03 5716 3000

Authorised by R Mitchell ALP, 57-59 High St, Wallan.



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# Speeding drivers won't get far.

If you think you can drive over the speed limit, think again. Speeding drivers face a minimum fine of \$240 and 1 demerit point. So with police and speed cameras across Victoria, chances are you will be caught. Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.



## THE FOOTPATH IS ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE ROAD

The Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group has requested ARTC to incorporate graffiti resistant walls and embankments and to move the footpath on the eastern side of the Wandong Broadford Road / Rail Street to the western side of the road by going under the bridge thus eliminating two pedestrian crossings and a footpath that will get little or no use if on the eastern side.

**RESIDENTS IN WANDONG HEATHCOTE JUNCTION ARE URGED TO HAVE A SAY ABOUT THE ARTC PROPOSED NEW BRIDGE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE**



## Wandong Kindergarten Community Library

An initiative put forward by the Wandong Parent Advisory Committee (PAG), looking to foster a greater sense of community and engage children in reading.

The local Kindergarten group reached out to Kilmore Men's Shed, who were enthusiastic about the project and excited to help. Roger (from the Men's Shed) was assigned to the task and worked to facilitate both the Kinder's, and wider community's needs into the project.

With the finished product coming together beautifully.

The completed project launched on 31<sup>st</sup> October, with keen families and little readers stocking up and pulling from the shelves right away.

We look forward to kids of all ages enjoying the library for a long time to come!



# WANDONG WARRIORS

## UNDER 16 PLAYERS WANTED!!

Are you looking at playing for season 2024.  
We are looking for any expressions of interest to join the U16 Warriors.  
Expression of interest can be emailed to wandongjfc@gmail.com

### **Introducing 2024 committee members**

President: Sean O'Connell, Vice President: Shannan Thomas,  
Secretary: Sharna Faralla, Treasurer: Tilly Thomas

### **GENERAL MEMBERS:**

Kathryn Ricardo, Brooke Mendola, Jo Pascoe, Anthony Calleja, Lisa Bichard, Kirsty McKie, Chris George

**President update:** I would like to thank the 2023 committee members, coaches & team managers for the time and effort that they put in this season and previous seasons to keep the club thriving. We had 4 full teams this playing season and are hoping to get 5 out on the field for season 2024.

For all up-to-date news regarding pre-season, coach allocation etc. Please follow us on Facebook.



Wandong Junior Football Club

### **COACHING APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!**

Our Football Club is on the lookout for innovative coaches to join the warriors.

Season 2024 we are looking at fielding the following age groups – U9, U10, U12, U14, & U16.

If you're ready to lead the next generation, we want to hear from you.

Apply today to be a part of our coaching team for the 2024 season.

Please email all applications/enquiries to: wandongjfc@gmail.com

Special mention to the Kilroy family  
that have run our canteen for season  
2023!

Thank you, we couldn't have feed the  
hungry crowd without you.

### **2023 Presentation Day**

Well done and thank you to all our players, coaches, committee members, volunteers, sponsors and parents on an incredible year, it could not happen without you!! It was wonderful to see so many families join us for our presentation day on October 15<sup>th</sup> to celebrate our award winners. Thank you to Styles Civil Constructions for supplying the kids with the amazing Ninja Warrior course and thank you to JBL catering for the delicious lunch, and of course the ever popular Wallan ice-cream van to finish off the day.



*Thanks to our main sponsors:*





# WANDONG WARRIORS BEST AND FAIREST WINNERS

## UNDER 9'S



**Best & Fairest**

Riley Jackson

**Runners up  
Best & Fairest**

Logan O'Connell



## UNDER 10'S



**Best & Fairest**

Mason Sawyer

**Runners up  
Best & Fairest**

Declan Butterworth



## UNDER 12'S



**Best & Fairest**

Case Thomas

**Runners up  
Best & Fairest**

Fionn Whelan



## UNDER 14'S



**Best & Fairest**

Tyson O'Connell

**Runners up  
Best & Fairest**


Gaige Giachi



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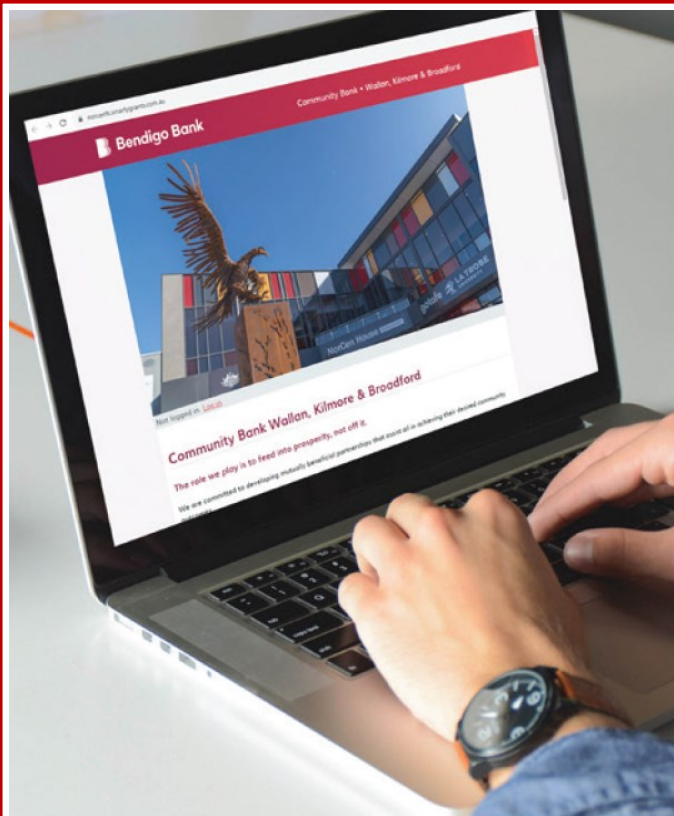
If you are young, elderly, retired or working, please consider joining a community group and enjoy the rewards of volunteering. Join one of the community groups operating in Wandong Heathcote Junction.

Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group Inc: Call 0413 832 411

Wandong Wallan Lions Club: Call 0418 142 172

Wandong History Group: Call 0432 120 736





## Introducing the online Community Impact Hub.

Apply online for your next community Grant or Sponsorship

Find all you need to know about applying for a Grant or Sponsorship on the Community Impact Hub.

[norcenfs.smartygrants.com.au](http://norcenfs.smartygrants.com.au)

**Next round closes  
November 29**

Wallan Community Bank - 5783 2422  
Kilmore Community Bank - 5781 0066  
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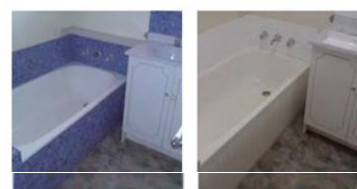
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# Darraweit Guim Primary School News



Hello from DGPS

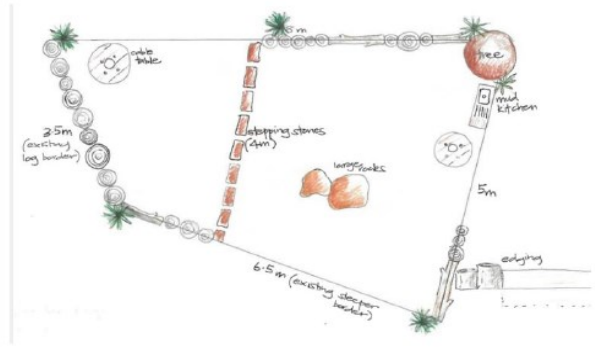
This month our students enjoyed two hours of bringing out their inner scientists as they investigated and observed states of matter and materials. They explored chemical reactions, playing with magnets and doing tests on metal wood and plastic. The students loved this experience, which has complimented the learning that the students have been doing within their Inquiry focus this term.



## NEW SANDPIT

We team of students from Craigieburn Secondary College visit our school to dig out the foundations for our new sandpit. And then our wonderful parents came for a working bee and filled our new sand pit with sand. They have done a great job and the new sandpit looks great.

We would like to thank the Lancefield Community House for giving us the funds to make this possible and to Isobel Evans for doing the leg work to make it happen.



**RESPECT**

**CARING**

**HONESTY**

**WILLING TO LEARN**

## Snuffle mats for sale

The Snuffle Mat, is great mental stimulation for your pet. It can be used to reduce anxiety, slow down a fast eater or simply as a fun reward for your fur baby. Not only good for dogs, but cats and guinea pigs all love a snuffle mat. My mats come in three sizes and are double knotted and thick, every mat hand made here in Wandong.

Email: [wandongite@hotmail.com](mailto:wandongite@hotmail.com)

Ph 0432 120 736







It has not been a good start to Spring with cool weather and spring storms to rev up later this month throughout Wandong and Heathcote Junction. Please be aware any flooding due to spring storms can create flooding with Dry Creek through the Reserve. Also be aware of snakes through the Reserve as we have had several sightings.

Our Oval drainage project is well under way and the refurbishments of the Community Centre is about to commence.

Our summer sports are in progress with their programs:

Wandong Tennis, Kilmore Cricket-(disrupted at present due to the works on the Oval), Standardbred Riding Club, Kilmore and District Adult Rider's Club

Wandong Primary- recreational activities disrupted due to the works on the Oval

What is our community up to down at the Reserve:

Walking the dogs, kids in the playground, individuals/groups doing their fitness workouts, mums with the kids in the pram, riding bikes, playing kick to kick football, passing shots in netball shooting hoops at the basketball ring, riding the horses, training dogs to behave, Wandong primary doing their sporting activities on the Oval, Wallan basketball in the Stadium, Having a hit of tennis Doing a round of activities at the newly installed exercise pod

Continued developments at the Reserve will complement our sport groups and community. We are lucky to have a Reserve that has character and bush ambiance atmosphere that complements our communities.

## **L.B.Davern Reserve Projects update:**

**Project 1:Redevelopment of the Community centre.**

### **Wandong Community Centre Revitalisation**

Revitalise the centre to contemporary standards by reconfiguring and upgrading the internal floor plan, which will create a versatile, multi-purpose centre for shared community use. This project is an \$800,000+ project. The Redevelopment of the Community centre at the Reserve is at confirmation stage of tender appointment of construction contractor, project to start in October 2023. Due to the project the Reserve committee will not be taking any bookings for the centre from November through to March 2024.



***Community Centre 2023 before the project commences***

**Project 2:Drainage improvement at the Oval.**

This successful funding agreement is part of the Country Football Netball Program. State Government will be contributing \$195,000 to the \$260,000 LB Davern Drainage Upgrade project with Council contributing the remaining \$65,000. The project will see the installation of lateral drainage to eliminate the current ponding/flooding of water in key sections of the oval and a reshape of both goal square areas. This project has started and ahead of schedual, completion of project December 2023.







CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20



If anybody in our community would like to share any photos of History of L.B Davern Reserve for us to share on what's News please send to [kooraw@bigpond.com](mailto:kooraw@bigpond.com)

Contact our booking officer

Darlene Gunter 0418 312 762.

Get in quick as bookings are coming in fast.

For all L.B.Davern Reserve Bookings to either:

-Oval Bookings, Stadium bookings and enquiries  
Mitchell Shire Council  
Recreation and Open Space unit ph. 5734 6200.

-Community Centre and Sports Pavilion contact:  
Darlene Gunter  
Booking Officer for the WHJSCC  
on 0418 312 762

**To our community,  
we need your help;**

**We need to catch any  
persons vandalizing our  
Reserve!!!!**

**If Residents notice anything  
out of the ordinary please  
contact the police on 000  
It is in our community  
interest that we all keep our  
Reserve safe for all to use!!**

**Please Note:**

Unfortunately the Community Centre is not open for  
bookings until the Refurbishments of the Centre is  
completed April 2024

Rob Telfer, President,  
Davern Reserve Committee  
12 Dry Creek Cres,  
P.O.Box 303,  
Wandong 3758  
Mobile 0408 393 250





## Neighbourhood Watch

Let's watch out for each other

### South Mitchell

## Christmas Scammers

Christmas shoppers are warned to take extra caution over the next few weeks as scam data and industry insights suggest a rampant increase of online fraud and scams leading into the holiday period.

According to SCAMWATCH, Australians have reported 234,663 cases of financial loss with a total amount of \$397,385,165 lost. We would like to put a stop to this criminal activity; or at least make it harder for scammers.

Aura.com has reported that the following scams are prevalent at this time of the year:

- Lookalike shopping websites;
- Fake social media ads for the holiday's hottest gifts;
- Gift-giving pyramid schemes;
- Phishing delivery notification texts and emails;
- Fake job postings for temporary holiday jobs; and
- Fraudulent charities and fundraising campaigns.

On our Facebook page earlier this year we covered the subject of the fact that one well known company was selling information to fraudsters.

Criminals then used this information to drain the bank accounts of the innocent online customers. The banks don't even detect these transactions as fraudulent as the customer had dealt with the online company legitimately in the beginning.

This is a concerning trend by you can protect yourself from scammers by following Scamwatch's advice:

**1. STOP – don't give money or personal information to anyone if unsure.**

Scammers will offer to help you or ask you to verify who you are. They pretend to be from organisations you know and trust like, Services Australia, a bank, government or a fraud service.

**2. THINK – ask yourself could the message or call be fake?**

**NEVER** click a link in a message. Only contact businesses or government department using contact information from their official website. If you are unsure, say no and hang up or delete.

**3. PROTECT – act quickly if something feels wrong**

Contact your bank if you notice some unusual activity or if a scammer gets your money or information. Seek help from IDCARE and report to ReportCyber and Scamwatch.

For more information, refer <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/>



**Hotlines:**

**000**

**Emergency**

**131 444**

**Police Assistance Line**

**1800 333 000**

**Crime Stoppers**

Online Reporting: <https://www.police.vic.gov.au/palolr>

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email: [newsletters.smnhw@gmail.com](mailto:newsletters.smnhw@gmail.com)





PO Box 550, Kilmore 3764  
President: Elaine De Gabrielle  
Secretary: Mark Perrott  
Contact: [info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au](mailto:info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au)

As the end of the year approaches, many of the U3A groups are planning their end of year breakup. The Kilmore History Group Christmas Party will be held at The Hunter's Tryst on Monday 4th December. They are opening especially for the group and as an added bonus, Heritage Victoria are going to open up the Kelly House. The luncheon group Christmas breakup lunch will be at Hogans Hotel in Wallan on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December and the Recorder ensemble will be finishing the year with their concert to be held at the John Taylor room on Sunday November 26th.

It has been a long wait but the JJ Clancy Pavilion has finally received a Certificate of Occupancy. The next meeting of the convenors will be held at the new venue on December 1<sup>st</sup> so we can have a look at the facilities and start to plan classes for next year. There is still some work to be done on the grounds and carpark but we are looking forward to relocating. Some of our redundant equipment has been sold at garage sales held during the past month and the rest will be moved in the coming month.

We have had a number of enquiries from people who are interested in attending craft mornings, computer classes, floristry and cooking demonstrations next year so we are looking for volunteers who are interested in running these classes. If you feel you have the skills to facilitate these subjects, please contact us at [info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au](mailto:info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au) We would love to see these classes running in our new venue for 2024.

We have a couple of new classes confirmed for 2024:

Photography using your phone: Our new convenor has vast experience and is happy to show you what to do and how exciting it can be to take great photos from your phone. If you are interested, email [info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au](mailto:info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au) and mark your inquiry "Camera Photography".

Games Morning: Due to declining numbers, we are substituting Sudoku with a Games morning. We can then utilize the cards, mah-jong, cribbage, chess and other board games that U3A already have.

Registration day for 2024 will be held at the new pavilion at the JJ Clancy Reserve, Kelly's Lane, Kilmore on 19th January from 10am to 12 midday. U3A is open to people over 50 who are no longer working full time so if you want to get involved, come along on the day and sign up for some classes. New members are always welcome.

Cheers, Amanda Oades

## WANDONG-HEATHCOTE JUNCTION COMMUNITY GROUP

P.O. Box 242, WANDONG 3758 Tel: 0413 832 411



**WEBSITE:** In September the <[www.wandong.vic.au](http://www.wandong.vic.au)> website received 1333 visits.

If any business or group has noticed any change which needs to be corrected to their entry, please let us know. To add your business or group email: [whatsnewswhj@gmail.com.au](mailto:whatsnewswhj@gmail.com.au)

Following a meeting with Mitchell Shire officers, a survey of residents will be conducted to determine the preferred sculpture to replace the rotting wooden sculpture in the Lions Park. We now feel a sculpture depicting Wandong of the past eg timber industry might be most appropriate but residents may have better suggestions.

The WHJCG has for many years implored Mitchell Shire to place the drain between the Bushfire Memorial car park and the Epping Kilmore Road underground, remove the bollards and seal the car park to make it the showpiece it should be as a major entrance to Mitchell Shire. The toilets at this location are the most used in Mitchell Shire but the Council chooses to prioritise lesser deserving projects. We are told numbers of requests hold much weight when deciding projects so we ask the WHJ community to get on board and sign our petition or better still lodge a request to Mitchell Shire.

We have asked Mitchell Shire to remove the graffiti on the Council owned pedestrian bridge but this seems to be another time we will have to keep asking or do it ourselves.

If you see anyone rubbishing our towns please let us know or report it to EPA Victoria..

# SUDOKU

Answers on  
page 26

Place the numbers 1-9 only once in each row, column & 3x3 block



## THIS MONTHS QUIZ

Answer appears on Page 26 but no cheating!

Name the capital city of these countries:

1. Afghanistan
2. Argentina
3. Austria
4. Canada
5. Denmark
6. China
7. Germany
8. India
9. Japan
10. Iraq
11. New Zealand
12. South Korea
13. Spain
14. Switzerland
15. Vietnam

## Kilmore/Wallan RSL Sub Branch

meets the last Thursday night of the  
month and open every Wednesday  
10am -12pm at Kilmore Memorial Hall

Contact Rod Dally 0417 522 835

We have Pension and Welfare Officers  
to help veterans in the area.

## MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL



How to keep up to date with Council online:

- > E-News direct to your inbox, sign up now
- > On our website [www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au](http://www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au)

Not online?

- > Fortnightly Council Ad in the local newspaper
- > Monthly radio shows

Or, contact Mitchell Shire Council on 5734 6200.

## Justice of the Peace for Victoria

Sue Marstaeller

Mobile: 0438 871 520

*Sue is available to sign documents.*

*Phone for appointment.*

## ROB & LEONIE FERRIS

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### Carer Coaching Support

A growing body of evidence shows that a carers long term outcomes improve when able to access early intervention type services such as **coaching**, counselling & peer support. In this month's newsletter I will discuss coaching a little more.

Coaching for carers is often about taking time out to think about how they are going, how they'd like things to be and how they might take steps towards making that happen.

The Carer Gateway Coaching support is offered as:

1. Self-guided coaching – Interactive on-line coaching sessions are available for carers to complete at their own pace. Each session includes information, practical tips, resources, reflection activities and stories from Australian carers. To access this on-line support visit <https://coaching.carergateway.gov.au/>
2. Facilitated Coaching – a one-to-one service where carers engage with a coach in a series of one hour sessions.

Facilitated coaching is:

- a free coaching service for carers
- evidence based
- short-term support that boosts capacity and capability of carers
- aimed at assisting carers **to acquire (or increase) skills and resilience** within their caring role

Facilitated coaching can assist carers with:

- identifying their key needs
- increasing sense of empowerment
- learn, improve or implement strategies and skills to support their own wellbeing

Facilitated coaching is non-therapeutic. It is not designed as crisis intervention.

Coaching is generally chosen for those seeking practical changes & improvements in personal lives e.g. achieve financial security, increase fitness etc.

- ✓ *Facilitated Coaching provides time, space and support you require to work out what you want your future to look like and how to move towards it*
- ✓ *Your coach will support you in working out what it is that you want to change how you want your life to be and finding ways to achieve it*
- ✓ *Your coach can support you with practical changes & improvements you would like to make in your daily life*

For more information visit the Carer Gateway website [www.carergateway.gov.au](http://www.carergateway.gov.au) or call 1800 422 737

## All Weather Training Facility - Heathcote Jct (Established 1995)

Puppy School - Social Classes  
Adult Classes - Trick Training  
Behaviour Problems



**Workshops**  
Dog Park Etiquette  
Intro to Agility  
Dock Diving  
Cross Country

## Alfoxton Dog Centre

[www.foxton.com.au](http://www.foxton.com.au)

*Boarding Dogs / Cats -short and long term Farm Stays.  
Dogs have large indoor/outdoor pens. Also big play paddocks  
where your dog has room to get out and burn off their energy.*

*Cats and little Dogs get to hang out in fully enclosed and heated  
Mud Brick Cattery*

Phone: Anne **0402 118929**

**60 Junction Rd, Heathcote Junction, Vic**

Alfoxton is a registered Domestic Animal Business - Mitchell Shire

# Weather Report - October 2023

## Heathcote Junction/Wandong

As with previous months, October passed without any significant changes. Temperatures varied considerably throughout but conditions were generally warm and dry.

One event worth noting was on 3<sup>rd</sup> October when rainfall during the day and night amassed 52.5 mls of the total for the month of 82.5 mls

### Stats

October 2023	-	82.5 mls
Previous year	-	210.5 mls
Average prev 10 years	-	84 mls
Total this year	-	538 mls
Total prev year	-	836.5 mls

## FRIENDS OF DISAPPOINTMENT

Are you interested in the history, conservation and community of the Mount Disappointment State Forest and surrounding areas.

Join "Friends of Disappointment" to share history, photos and ideas.

<https://www.facebook.com/mountdisappointmentclonbinane/>



For information about coming MBUG rides, check out the website at

< [www.mbug.org.au](http://www.mbug.org.au) >  
or contact the Secretary,  
John on 5781 1604

## QUIZ ANSWERS (from page 24)

1. Kabul
2. Buenos Aires
3. Vienna
4. Ottawa
5. Copenhagen
6. Beijing
7. Berlin
8. New Delhi
9. Tokyo
10. Baghdad
11. Wellington
12. Seoul
13. Madrid
14. Bern
15. Hanoi

**SUKODU  
solution**

4	6	2	5	9	1	3	8	7
1	3	9	6	8	7	4	2	5
7	5	8	3	4	2	1	9	6
6	9	1	7	3	8	2	5	4
5	2	3	9	6	4	7	1	8
8	7	4	2	1	5	9	6	3
9	8	7	4	2	6	5	3	1
3	1	5	8	7	9	6	4	2
2	4	6	1	5	3	8	7	9



# Whittlesea Community Network

92a Church Street Whittlesea 3757  
Ph: 03 9716 3361 Fax: 03 9716 3816  
Email [wchi@whittleseach.com.au](mailto:wchi@whittleseach.com.au)



Summer is coming and the “silly season” is just around the corner! Join us for an event or activity before things get crazy - call 9716 3361 or book into sessions directly from our website [www.wchi.com.au](http://www.wchi.com.au)

We know times are tough, don't forget that there is help at hand in your local community. Our community pantry is accessible 7 days a week and after hours and is located out the front of the House at 92A Church St. We can also assist you with pantry packs and free pet food if you stop by the office during office hours Monday – Thursday 10am – 3pm. Don't forget Food-share happens each week Tuesdays and Wednesdays behind the Uniting Church, Fir Street, Whittlesea from 11,00am – 2.00pm.

## Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme comes to Whittlesea Community House

We are pleased to announce that we are ready to accept approved containers for a !0 cent return! Visit [www.cdsvic.org.au](http://www.cdsvic.org.au) for a full list of eligible containers and instructions on how to download the app for our region. You can receive your 10 cents in cash, through the app to a bank account or you can nominate organisations to receive your 10 cents as a donation! Start collecting your cans and bottles NOW. Open Mon/Wednesday/Thursday 10am – 3pm or Saturdays 8am – 4pm.

## Community Meals

### Big Blokes Brunch

Join the blokes for brunch each week at Whittlesea Community Activity Centre:

Tuesdays 11.00am – Noon \$2.00 per person

There will be a special Big Blokes Movember celebration on 14<sup>th</sup> November – Join us for a slap up lunch and a few surprises – get to work on your moes!!

Ladies Lunch -join the ladies who lunch each fortnight at the Whittlesea Community Activity Centre

Thursday 23rd November 11:30am – 1.00pm \$2 per person

### Boat Licence

Saturdays 25<sup>th</sup> November OR 9<sup>th</sup> December 9am – 1pm \$140 per person

Students from 12 years+ (students under 16 years are not eligible for PWC endorsement)

First Aid (CPR, Provide First Aid & Provide First Aid in an Emergency in an Education & Care Setting)

Online learning + face to face Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December \$85/\$150/\$195

## SAVE THESE DATES!

Whittlesea Uke Muster will return Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2023. If you would more information call 9716 3361.

Whittlesea Community House Christmas Party Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2023.

### Fix It Friday

Fix it Friday rolls into November! Sweep your problems into a pile and bring them to our experts for real help that doesn't involve a queue or a call centre!

Meet experts from Whittlesea Community Connections, Social Worker, Whittlesea Community Legal Service, Uniting Financial Counselling, NDIS (Brotherhood of St Laurence), Centrelink, Victoria Police, My Aged Care, No Interest Loan Scheme, Naemi National mental health support, Haven Homesafe, Gamblers Help and heaps more!

Call 9716 3361 to register in advance, it's FREE

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 10am – 1.00pm

Feel free to pop in and visit us soon, we would love to see you, office hours are Monday – Thursday 10am – 3pm or you can call us on 9716 3361.

**We understand that  
retirement means you  
finally get to focus on  
living.... *save yourself  
time and stress***



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PACKED and DELIVERED  
FREE\***

**CALL US ON  
5787 1010**



**\*FOR FIRST THREE MONTHS. CONDITIONS APPLY.  
PLEASE CALL OR SEE IN STORE FOR DETAILS**



# Kilmore Golf Club Inc.



On 19<sup>th</sup> November KGC will be holding a "Try Golf Day. A day basically for golfers/anyone who does not have a handicap and would like to try golf. Register at 10 am for a 10.30 tee off. Cost is \$20 for adults & \$10 for Juniors. This includes a voucher for the sausage sizzle. Prizes include 4 x 4-month membership with NTP on every hole. Register at [helendennett@bigpond.com](mailto:helendennett@bigpond.com) or text 0407542949. More details are on our website-kilmoregolfclub.com.au

## Club Championships have been finalised for Ladies & Men

Ladies Champion: Cheryle Andersen

B Grade Winner: Helen Dennett

C Grade: Dianne Dixon

Wilson Cup & Vets: Cheryle Andersen

Men's Champion: Nick Wogan

B Grade: Ian Gray

C Grade: Barry Archbold

D Grade: Cyril Anderson

Vets Gross: Nick Wogan

Vets Nett: Cyril Anderson

## Monthly Medal winners November

Ladies: Helen Dennett

Men: Play-off Steve Maurer & John Roberts

## Medal of Medalists: Helen Dennett

Reminder of our Friday 9-hole competition- Stableford available to be played anytime of the day every Friday. Contact the club shop for more details on 57821123 or [info@kilmoregolfclub.com.au](mailto:info@kilmoregolfclub.com.au)  
At the end of your round place your score cards in the container provided in the Honesty Box. Cost \$5 ea.

Junior Girl Scholarship holders have completed the year with coach Nathan Roberts. The Club has applied for further funding in 2024 so that we can continue building up our junior base and encourage more people to play golf. It is an excellent way to keep fit and active.

The date for the Annual Par 3-day 2024 will be Sunday March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Keep this day free as places fill up quickly. The cut off is 108 players. This event is open to anyone with/without a handicap and a chance to win prizes on every hole for NTP.

Enquiries for the use of our Function continue to be [info@kilmoregolfclub.com.au](mailto:info@kilmoregolfclub.com.au) or 57821123

# WANDONG PUBLIC HALL

If you have an interest in the Hall and it being part of Wandong's Heritage we are looking for new Committee Members or a Community Representative to help with the care, use and it's upkeep now and into the future.

Our regular user groups are always keen to have more people come along they are listed below:

- Dance classes for pre-schoolers Tuesday and Thursday mornings during term time.  
Contact Claire Bennett 0420 418 425
- The Craft group attend every Monday, it's an informal group, bring along some lunch, and something to do if you feel like it.. There is always someone on hand to help with crafty questions in the group and this has been our longest running group.
- The Lightwood Flats book club meet monthly - contact is Christine Cram Ph: 0458 238 270
- Wandong Country Knitters also meet monthly, contact is Coralee Souter. Ph: 0479 163 548
- Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group hold a monthly meeting Ph: 0413 832 411

The hall is available for hire phone Christine for bookings on 0448 604770.

Christine has an answering service so please leave a message if she cannot answer the phone, she will respond promptly.



# Off-leash Dog Parks

## Where are they now....?

People love or hate dog parks. If dogs interaction goes wrong... things spiral down quickly which can end up with verbal and physical abuse (especially the humans!).

However the reality is, that in the very near future these may be one of the few options for dogs to have space too frolic, so our dog/human community must learn how to negotiate them.

Unfortunately this is hampered because dog parks are often poorly designed and undervalued by authorities.



**Dog Regulations:** Councils are responsible for providing facilities for ALL members of their regions. Dog owners pay rates AND also pay to register their dogs. This is money into the council coffers. In fact, most residents will have dogs with them far longer than having children living with them in their house. So surely our Dog Owners deserve to receive a fair share of public space and not just shoved to one side. Consider also how residents are NOT required to pay to register their children ! YET kids are provided with lots of options.

Another problem is that most Bureaucrats don't understand dogs and perhaps think they just need to set aside a patch of land and some money for fencing and water and think they meet their obligations. Worse still, often new estates have thousands of residents (many with dogs), yet Local Councils handball the responsibility to Developers to provide community facilities and effectively wash their hands of their obligations.

**What does Mitchell Offer....?** So if we check the Council website, the only Off-Leash dog parks stated are : **Kilmore Dog Park** - 25mx50m (about the size of a double netball court) and **Spring Ridge Dog Park** which is perhaps slightly bigger than Kilmore. Both have a boundary fence with an airlock entry area, a water tap and rubbish bin, apart from that virtually nothing else but dirt and grass. Other parks listed in the region recommend that dogs should be on leash, so these are NOT a dog park as you have to negotiate with kids.

**Laws in Mitchell Shire...** These regulations currently allow for dogs off-leash **IF** you have effective control (see council website for further information). However this is set to change in 2025 and the Shire will require ALL DOGS to be ON LEASH unless in a designated off leash area. But there seems little progress or even incentive for council to designate the time or money to get these projects in place in the next 12 months and even then, considering their past efforts, I doubt these will meet the need of our dogs across the Shire.

**Poor Design...** When we look around at different dog parks we can see obvious flaws **However**, it appears that common sense doesn't usually apply when council planning is done!... The best way to consider how to design an effective dog park is to imagine how kids playgrounds are utilised and then you might see how ludicrous the current plans for our dog parks compare. So open your mind and imagine ....

**What if a kids playground looked like this...** *Less than half a soccer field, a toddlers sand pit but with the swings and slides positioned next to the sand... then add in some skateboard ramps with jumps and perhaps throw in a Zip Line ... follow this up with a BMX bike track skirting the perimeter... Now Imagine a sunny day and kids of all ages converge to this one park to play.... **ABSOLUTE BEDLAM....** Crying toddlers!.... Mum/Dad screaming at the primary school kids who have rushed around and knocked over their toddler.... When parents try to chase the big kids away from the area Teenagers start swearing... "This isn't F#@&n Fair"....*

**This is similar to what we see at many dog parks...** We have our *precious* little pooches having to negotiate with the *rambunctious* Staffy... then the Labrador who just wants to be everyones *best friend*... the kelpie with *OCD* and scared that some strange dog is going to get his ball.... add that together with the owners not understanding how the different dogs think and work and we have **CHAOS** and **ANGER**.

*Council response - probably by making even MORE rules and regulations which just creates MORE confusion....*

We need to do more as the problem will only get worse. **Nearly 50,000 dwellings in this Shire**, I suspect half of these homes have at least one dog. With back yards getting smaller it is more important to find ways for dogs to get out and burn off their energy effectively. As dogs become more problematic out in the community, we could then see Governments trying to BAN dogs out in public altogether.



**Dog Owners need to demand rights for their dogs,  
Your dogs don't have a vote.**



# WANDONG NETBALL CLUB



## FINALS FEVER

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of September our 11 & Under team took to the courts to play in the Grand Final. The sun was shining, the face paint was on and the crowd was huge. The team took to the court and began the match at full pace straight off the bat. The first quarter started out pretty evenly with both teams scoring well. At the break we were up 9 to 4. By the time the second quarter began, the nerves had settled, & we broke away, scoring 12 more goals to Pyalongs 1. Q3 was an even match with only 3 goals scored between both sides. Our defenders were ran off their feet madly intercepting pass after pass. The final quarter was all Wandongs way, scoring 10 to 1. The team remains undefeated, winning the final 32 to 8.

Congrats to all the players who went above and beyond this season. You should all be so proud of yourselves. The effort and commitment at training and game day is second to none. Thank you to all the parents. You truly are the best. To Jo & Kate, our Coaching team, to the kids who always manage to have fun and to everyone who took the time to come and watch and support the team, thank you.

A special mention to Tyler who was awarded Best on Court by the Umpires. 🏆

And to our superstar Natalie who won League Best and Fairest Runners Up for the second year in a row!! 🏆



## AGM

Our AGM was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October.

After serving as the Club since prior to Covid, Vasko Nastevski has stepped down from his role as President.

Vasko saw the club through the hardest of times and was instrumental in maintaining our Clubs high standards and reputation these past few years. Vasko has been an asset to all things Wandong Netball Club and maintained his position despite having no children playing at the club due to injury for the past 2 seasons. On behalf of everyone at the Club we would like to extend our gratitude and wish you all the success for the future. Our new committee will be announced soon.

## PRESENTATIONS

The courts were dressed to impress with splashes of Green and White everywhere.

With 52 families in attendance, we packed the courts ready to celebrate the players of season 2023.

Unfortunately, the weather Gods had other plans and we barely managed to fit in our trophy awards before the rain came down. All was not lost, as the Club banded together to move indoors and continue on with pizza and music. Congratulations to all players who took the courts in the Winter season.

A special mention to Georgia Paxinos and Aleyha Johnson who have played their last junior game with the Club. We wish you both all the success as you take on Senior Netball.

## Spring Netball

The Spring season commenced once the school term began. We are please to announce that we have entered 5 full teams in the competition. All the players are enjoying continuing to build their skill sets over the course of the season in the lead up to Christmas.

## Wandong Netball Club 2024

If you have a child interested in playing Netball in 2024 please email [wandongnetball@gmail.com](mailto:wandongnetball@gmail.com) to register your interest.





# Your local team.

## Nutrien Harcourts Kilmore.

It's an ideal time for sellers! The local property market is strong and we have achieved excellent sale results for a range of properties in recent weeks. Nutrien Harcourts Kilmore combine a global network and innovative marketing techniques with our local expertise throughout the **Mitchell Shire**, **Macedon Ranges** and surrounding regions. Speak to us to find out what your property may be worth in the current market and how many buyers we have ready to purchase it today.

Ph: 5782 0400

[kilmore.nutrienharcourts.com.au](http://kilmore.nutrienharcourts.com.au)

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