"WHAT'S NEWS"

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FREE

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THIS NEEDS TO STOP

Why do some people decide to rubbish our beautiful country. It is impossible to avoid the many dumps of used vehicle tyres around Mitchell Shire and it would be great if VicRoads and Mitchell Shire Council would investigate to determine the perpetrators and prosecute them. It is also so disappointing to see household roadside rubbish, sometimes in great heaps like the one pictured below. Someone must know who is responsible and he/she should do the right thing by reporting it to the authorities.

ABOVE:
One of the tyre dumps on the Seymour bound ramp at the Hume Freeway interchange at Wandong.

RIGHT:
A load of household rubbish. dumped on the Wandong Broadford Road

VALE DES RYAN

Members of the Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group, Wandong History Group, Wandong Wallan Lions Club extend their sincere condolences to the family of Des Ryan who passed away on the 29th February 2024.

IF YOU MISS AN ISSUE OF "WHATS NEWS" go to website <www.wandong.vic.au/local-news/whats-news>

Wandong - Heathcote Junction - why would you live anywhere else. Until April 2024, Allen Hall (editor)

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CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY AT WANDONG HEATHCOTE JUNCTION

Unfortunately we only had four volunteers but still managed to collect a tray load of rubbish on just one kilometre of the Epping Kilmore Road between Wandong and Heathcote Junction. Maybe next year we will get more residents interested.

Help Shape.

New public art proposed for Wandong/ Heathcote Junction.

Drop in session
8.45am to 10.45am, Tuesday 19 March
Crumbs and Co, Wandong

Other ways to get involved

- Hard copy survey in letterboxes
- Take online survey
- Contact Council

Survey closes
5pm, Tuesday 2 April

(03) 5734 6200
engagingmitchellshire.com

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL

WANDONG TENNIS CLUB

Email: wandongtennisclub@hotmail.com
or text Lisa on 0407 112 880.

Wandong Tennis Club

Information is posted on our Facebook page.
www.facebook.com/wandongtennis

Congratulations to our Section 3 junior team who won their grand final on Saturday 2nd March

Well done Riley McKendry, Henry Mayr, Max Markoski, Blake Seipolt, Kane Seipolt, absent Isaac Notley

Good Luck to our Senior teams playing in the Grand Finals on Saturday 16th March

Coaching is available at the club for all ages. Please contact Karl on 0423 611 317
or kv.tennis@hotmail.com

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 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

23 Mar Adam & Sharon Saw HV
30 Mar Kerry & Chris Bellomo HJ
30 Mar Jenny & Graeme McSolvin W

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.

COMMUNITY WEBSITES

www.wandong.vic.au
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
for more information

Mitchell Photography Club Inc

Visit our website (www.mitchellphoto.org) and click on "About Us"

meets third Wednesday of the month (except January) at 7:30pm

Broadford Community Centre

Contact Sarah 0438 847 577 for more information.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

We wish the following people a very happy birthday

17 Mar	Catherine Humphries	W
17 Mar	Andrew Ryan	KE
17 Mar	Kylie Warburton	HJ
17 Mar	Abigail O'Sullivan	W
19 Mar	Jackson Kilroy	W
20 Mar	Mark Seeley	HJ
20 Mar	Margie Sanders	B
21 Mar	Ben Marshall	HJ
22 Mar	Helen McMahon	HJ
22 Mar	Steven Burns	HJ
22 Mar	Kim Tierney	UP
22 Mar	Kaitlin Dodds	W
23 Mar	Jenny Sannweld	HJ
24 Mar	Sandy Brown	HJ
24 Mar	Emma Ryan	KE
24 Mar	Mark Shingles	W
26 Mar	Brad Candy	W
26 Mar	Galen Sartore	W
27 Mar	Kayla O'Sullivan	W
28 Mar	Jason Harrington	HJ
28 Mar	Gerard Hibbert	W
29 Mar	Hayley Seeley	HJ
29 Mar	Joshua Walsh	HJ
30 Mar	Greg Gibbs	W
30 Mar	Chris Bellomo	HJ
31 Mar	Nicholas Villanti	HJ
3 Apr	Sarah Hanson	W
3 Apr	Mia Albert	HJ
4 Apr	Lachlan Hardwick	Wallan
5 Apr	Don McNaughton	HJ
6 Apr	Kaylah Sanders	HJ
7 Apr	Travis Symons	HJ
7 Apr	Lyn Gutterson	W
9 Apr	Jared Plumbe	Cl
10 Apr	Lachlan Gough	HJ
11 Apr	Abby Maree Miller	W
12 Apr	Katherine Kovacic	WP
13 Apr	Georgia Shingles	W
14 Apr	Simone Burns	HJ
14 Apr	Jason Watson	Y
15 Apr	Kelsey Batey	W
15 Apr	Chris Ryan	KE
16 Apr	Neil Douthwaite	HJ
16 Apr	Vincent Hutchison	HJ
16 Apr	Shelby Reeves	W
16 Apr	Georgia Limbrick	B

Wandong PHARMACY
MYKI RETAILER

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5787 1911

IT IS HAPPENING, AND SOON.

Over the last two years we have been hearing about the new higher bridge that is to be built at the northern end of Rail St. This bridge will replace the old structure that we have at the moment.

The reason for this rebuild is the extra height that will be required for double stacked container goods trains to be able to pass under the road bridge. To obtain the extra height the new bridge will need to be more than two meters higher than the one we have now.

Over the last twelve months I have spoken to many people about the new bridge and the changes that will occur with construction time of more than a year, and the difference to the whole area with this huge structure right in the middle of our town. The main response that I have had from so many Wandong residence is that it will never happen, the government does not have the money for such a large under-taking.

To those who are doubting that it will happen, please ask the people of Wangaratta. They are in the process of having a new bridge and other infra structure going on in their town NOW. Talk to the residence of Benalla, Euroa, and Seymour, all of them are suffering changes to their towns so that BIGGER, HEAVIER, NOISIER trains can use the line. all hours day and night.

A.R.T.C., the organisation given the job of building these new bridges and what goes with them, have been trying to let you the people of Wandong/Heathcote Junction know what is to happen and when. They will be displaying more detailed plans at their shopfront at Wandong Plaza from some time in March, so please pop in and talk with them and let them know your thoughts on what they want to do with our town.

If we don't stand up and fight for what we want before they start construction, it will be too late.

DON'T WAIT TILL IT IS TOO LATE and then say "WHY WASN'T I TOLD".

Get involved and have your say. They are open every Monday morning from 10am till 1pm, I am sure that Hamish would love to talk with you.

DAVID MORAN.

President,
Wandong Heathcote Junction
Community Group

THIS LIGHT IS ALWAYS ON

Hello readers, recently we experienced some darkness and maybe some dark times in our circumstances interrupting our normal, daily lives. At time of writing, many further afield are still waiting for reconnection.

No matter what days we are living in, we can always have our hope in God as the darkness has begun to cover the earth and shroud many people and their minds with some in society becoming more desperate, violent and greedy. Even making evil appearing good and good can appear evil. No matter how dark life can become here, there is One who will forever shine into our lives if we ask Him.

Habakkuk 2:13 : And the nations grow weary for nothing, that is things which have no lasting value.

Thank goodness there are still solutions for our world where we won't have to grope around trying to decide what is the right answer or direction for us.

Psalm 119:105 : Your word (the Bible) is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path.

The promise is even there also when darker times will come to our planet - huge earthquakes, the moon turning to a blood colour, the sun being blotted out, the stars falling from the sky. Then all mankind will have to make decisions on what or who we are going to believe in. FEAR NOT!

Another promise for us *Matthew 28: 20* Jesus' own words, *teaching us to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*

May I suggest you switch onto Jesus, the only hope of lighting your way in life while on earth.
I may seem to be speaking strongly on this subject, but time seems to be speeding along and our world is changing very quickly.

Merle Croskell.

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

Wandong District Church

29 Wandong Ave, Wandong

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Services held at 5pm Sundays
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Enquiries to:
Pastor Allan Laurens 5787 1020
Or David Moran 5787 1738

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Enquiries to ;
Pastor Frantz Heinzelmann
Mobile: 0411 794 188
www.freedomcarechurch.org.au
All Welcome. Love to see you there

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
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
Anglican Care: quality provider aged services www.anglicancare.com.au
Jobs at Anglican Care www.careerjet.com.au

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, WANDONG

WANDONG AVE, WANDONG
Enquires 9308 2452

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Ion 1st & 3rd Sundays
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Kilmore District Mens Shed
Should contact
John Perrett 0418 288 024 or
Ron Hamilton 0481 268 471

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Tuesday and Thursday
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email: Kilmoremensshed@gmail.com

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Dianella Hostel and
Caladenia Nursing Home Website:
www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au

GARDEN SCENE WITH GAIL

Autumn is here again and that brings us the beautiful leaf colours that our deciduous plants provide to us, nature is just wonderful. I've got to say that I am so glad to welcome this season, cooler days, yes, but such good weather to get jobs done outside and I think the plants deserve this nice break in the weather. As the temperature cools, we can prune those straggly branches that we keep hitting our head on when we weed, prune our hedges and any weeping plants that need a trim. If you want to encourage a bigger canopy on weepers trim to an upward facing node, the new growth will grow up and gravity will encourage it level and down when it gets some length to it. If the weather has been dry ensure that the plant to be pruned has been watered well and seasol has been applied prior to pruning and again after the next watering. This aids in less stress to the plant and better recovery. Pruning reshapes, encourages new growth and relieves plants of dead and damaged branches. If you are pruning Lavender, never prune into the dead wood as they can turn their toes up and die. If you need to take quite a lot of growth off try to do so over a couple of years with mini prunes in between, when you cut a bunch to dry, give as a gift or take inside this in effect is pruning the plant, works well. (Years ago, Lavender was used to deter Silverfish) Cuttings strike well and what a fantastic gift to give but ensure some of the hardwood is taken if you are trying to grow the cuttings and perhaps use an aid such as honey, rooting hormone gel or powder on an angled cut, this provides more surface area. I prefer to start planting after the first good rain in Autumn, it allows the root system a longer time to establish and as Winter progresses, good soaking rain settles the plant into its new home. Thorough watering is so essential to encourage roots deeper, reducing shallow roots that can be more susceptible to drying out. Mulching helps retain the moisture in the ground and year-round mulching is so beneficial and it works wonders with shallow rooting plants such as Camellias, Rhododendrons and Azaleas. Weeds seem to be the biggest bug bear in the garden but at least in the cooler months the task is not so arduous and with a little persuasion, the weeds should come out, roots and all. It is important to remember that as we dig to get the weeds out it can be easy to damage roots of our plants and then, down the track, we notice suckers coming from around the base of our plants. Suckers are the result of roots being damaged by sharp objects cutting into them under the ground and the wound then reacts by sending up a shoot or sucker. You can keep pruning them at soil level or just below, if you can see where they're coming from however, if this has happened to a grafted plant and you allow the sucker to grow, it will be the stock plant growing, which in most cases is stronger than the scion, and it will take over and weaken the scion, perhaps killing it. Strong winds can do so much damage particularly with grafted plants, snapping them off at the graft or curving the stem over, damaging the standard plant. If this has happened get to it as soon as possible. Stand it up straight again and use stakes around the stem, up to the head of the plant but not into the head, maybe two or three, use them as a splint and tape them tight around the stem of the plant. Using the tape (any tape you may have available) on the outside of the stakes, wind it around the stakes supporting the plant, from the bottom to the top, this aids in keeping water out of the tapped area. Water that may be trapped close to the stem of a plant encourages dampness, softening the wood and allows pests to burrow into the wood, stem, weakening the plant. They can be so resilient and it's amazing how they recover if we can intervene every so often. Have a fantastic March and happy Easter to all.

Bye for now.

Gail Mains Kendrick

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WANDONG HISTORY GROUP

Its been a quiet start to the year but here we are in Autumn already. The Group, with the Community Group had two sausage sizzles at Bunnings Craigieburn, these are major fund raisers for our group without them we probably couldn't keep going. Cost of running the website, putting on events and insurance are biting harder each year, so if you are at Bunning's make sure you support whoever is there. Every group that does the Sausage Sizzles are community not for profit groups and all deserving of help, if you don't eat sausages, just make a donation, it all helps.

Our next event is the "Back To Wandong", lunch this year at the Magpie and Stump, it will be on the 17th of March its not too late if you want to come along, just let us know.

April is just around the corner and our big event for the year, ANZAC Day is not far away. Each year this event gets bigger. We have been trying to convince the Shire that we need shade over the memorial area, but despite there being grants available they keep refusing to apply and will not let us apply either. Its not like its going to cost them much, just an hour of someone's time to put an application in. Very poor outcome and the shire should be ashamed of themselves, little care for the veterans of our community who deserve better.

Here's hoping for a nice Autumn in Wandong, nice days cool nights and the magnificent trees dressed in their Autumn glory, I love this time of year.

See you on the 25th April for our ANZAC Day service starting at 12.00 followed by a gold coin donation sausage sizzle.

Stay safe everyone.

Karen.

Wandong to adopt Wallan as a sister city.

Rumour has it that a move is imminent for the township of Wandong in the north of Melbourne to adopt the neighbouring town of Wallan as a sister city! The citizens of Wandong have long admired the other town and at the last meeting of the council it was agreed in principle to consult the local residents about this latest idea.

Of course, this suggestion has taken many completely by surprise. The first thing contemplated was that Wandong folk pay the rates of Wallan homeowners for at least one year just to give them some help in these trying times.

The council has generously offered to install petrol stations at each corner to give Wallan folk more choice! (Five are not near enough!)

In addition, extra traffic lights are to be installed to aid traffic flow and most thoughtfully some on Pretty Sally hill to give the truck drivers time to rest. (Five are not near enough!).

Some unintended consequences occurred when Wandong offered to repair the shopkeeper's favourites potholes on the side road. The mayor did not realise the tourist attraction value of these 30 year old holes, so much valued that some shopkeepers have installed security cameras to catch council workers trying to effect after-hours repairs.

One of the most interesting moves (which is almost a foregone conclusion) is the blue pedestrian bridge over the rail line at Wandong has been sold to MacDonalds in Wallan to erect between the store and the kid's playground in Hudson Park. MacDonalds reckon that the bridge will help kids to safely cross the busy road. It has been suggested by one cynic who uses the bridge regularly that the real reason for the bridge purchase was that by the time you walk over the bridge you will be that hungry you will buy twice as much!

Whisper has it that the meeting was held on the first of April.
(YOU BIG APRIL FOOL)

P.S. Wallan residents would like to thank Wandong folk for their generous and thoughtful gesture and would like them to consider if a swimming pool would be stretching the friendship too far?

A.G. (part time fool!)

Wandong Fire Brigade

Bayindeen Rocky Road Fires Taskforce

One of our 2023 recruits Andrew was deployed to the Bayindeen Rocky Road fires for 3 days as part of Taskforce 2499, made up of firefighters and vehicles from the Hume area. The brigade is so proud of our new recruits, and their willingness to step up and experience all parts of the CFA.

Good Friday

Wandong Fire Brigade has been a longtime supporter of the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal. We will be collecting money for them again this year, on Epping-Kilmore Road, Wandong, and encourage you to drop by and say hi and drop in your coins. Good Friday is on the 29th March, at the beginning of the school holidays, so we are hoping for some good traffic coming through and donating to this worthy cause.

Change your Clock. Check your Smoke Alarms.

Daylight Savings ends Sunday 7th April, and it is the perfect reminder to check your smoke alarms. Smoke alarms are compulsory in all Victorian homes. Residential tenants are responsible for regularly cleaning and testing smoke alarms in their homes and to report any faults to the landlord or agent. 10-year lithium battery smoke alarms are now available. All smoke alarms should be tested monthly and vacuumed yearly. If you have a 9-volt smoke alarm, this is the time to replace the battery. After 10 years, replace smoke alarms regardless of the type.

Wandong Fire Brigade offers a service to vulnerable community members to install 10-year lithium battery smoke alarms. If you, or someone you know, could benefit please contact Yvette on 0417545228.

Wandong Fire Brigade Juniors

The juniors have started back and begun learning about tanker tactics (fighting a running grass fire from the back of a truck) and burn-over drills (how to protect the crew if the truck is surrounded by fire). We have a great lot of kids this year, and it is awesome to see them as their skills develop.

What I like about CFA Juniors (from H)

1. ***Bowling hoses***
2. ***Being prepared***
3. ***Knowing what to do in a situation***
4. ***The people***
5. ***Using a hose***

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 0499 907 017

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.

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

Have your medication PACKED and DELIVERED FREE*

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Wandong PHARMACY

*FOR FIRST THREE MONTHS, CONDITIONS APPLY.
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LIONS CLUB OF WANDONG - WALLAN INC.

President; Daniel Rossignoli.
PO Box 225, Wandong Vic 3758

It's hard to believe we are into March already with Christmas memories still fresh in our minds. Is it just me, or do the years pass a lot quicker the older we get? I remember the last year of school when I was fifteen and old enough to start work at the end of that last school year. That year seemed to drag on forever. Now they seem to be evaporating before we know it. I guess the "more mature" of us know where I'm coming from. OK, enough reminiscing on my behalf, and on to Wandong Wallan Lions Club business.

One of the nicest aspects of being a Lion is contributing to a good community cause. Staff at Kilmore Primary School run a Breakfast Club for the students on designated days. The attendance has grown to around 50-60 students, and there was the need for a Conveyor Belt Toaster. Our Club was approached with a request, and we were gladly able to help out with the purchase. A handover of the toaster was carried out at the school, to the delight of the Staff and Students involved.

Also along the lines of helping the Community, our Club was able to make a generous donation to the Seymour Flood Assistance fund.

As mentioned in the last issue of "What's News", Australia Day celebrations were carried out at Wandong and our resident "Master Cheff" Clyde helped out on BBQ duties producing perfectly cooked (according to him) culinary delights. Whether or not it was by pure coincidence, an Ambulance was stationed nearby containing Paramedics rumored to being well versed in treating food poisoning.

Kimberly, a Social Worker from Kilmore Primary School, attended our recent business Meeting. Kimberly runs the afore mentioned Breakfast Club. She gave us an informative talk on the operation and activities of the Breakfast Club and her plans to set up a "Healthy Cooking" program for both the Students and Parents. As well as creating healthier diets for the Students, it is envisaged the program may help establish better relationships between Students and Parents. Kimberly expressed her gratitude for our contribution to her program.

It was good to see Lion Hugh back at our Meeting after an absence due to health issues. Among other things, Hugh has been the driving force with distribution and sales of our Christmas Cakes and Puddings. Welcome back Hugh!

Bill and his wife Marie were present at the last Business Meeting, but hearing the happy noises of the Knitting Club girls next door, Marie made the decision to go and join the fun. This is the second time she has done that, and I'm sure it's really because she finds Clyde's unprofessionalism far too hard to handle.

Speaking of Clyde, he's done it again! Asked by his loving wife Elizabeth to put the wheelie Bin out for the Garbo, he obediently took on the simple (to most mere humans) task. When a considerable time had passed and he hadn't returned, Eliabeth thought she should investigate. She found Clyde leaning on the bin with the garbage strewn all over the road and a serious laceration to his arm complete with dripping blood. Apparently, "He who never does anything wrong" had lost his footing going down the driveway, tipping the bin over, and following the bin to the road on his back. After leading the injured Clyde back to the house, Elizabeth had to call on her first aide skills to deal with the injuries incurred. Not the first time Nurse Elizabeth has tended to Clyde's injuries, and unlikely to be the last.

Lion Steve, and Lioness Tania joined Cliffy and Di on a trip to Sovereign Hill to witness the nighttime Sound and Light Show. The show is led by a 3D documentary in the indoor theatre, followed by the outdoor show at the Eureka Stockade. We stayed overnight at the Sovereign Hill accommodation, heading home the next day via Daylesford where we enjoyed a nice lunch. Definitely recommend checking it out. Indecently, on the way to Ballarat we stopped at "Shezzas Cafe" in Ballan, a fifties style Cafe for food and coffee. This is another must do, with great food and very friendly staff.

I'd like to clarify an important issue here by saying I have a long association with the sport of Drag Racing, which I attend regularly. Unlike Clyde's wildly incorrect claims, it does not involve men in womans clothing racing each other. As most would know, it involves purpose-built cars racing side by side over a quarter mile course. Statements pertaining to me, in drag, coming to grief through failed stilettos, is purely a figment of Clyde's imagination. He has been given my Solicitors business card, and should any further derogatory comments be seen in future issues of "What's News", my solicitors services will be engaged.(well, maybe not!)

Anyway, that's it from me for now. Stay safe and be happy.

Steve Munro

Wandong Primary School

Meet the Teacher was a hit!

Our Wandong staff found the Meet the Teacher meetings incredibly valuable to connect with parents and carers. These meetings provided a valuable opportunity to establish a strong foundation for supporting each child throughout the school year. Gathering insights into student perceptions, homework, organisation, reading habits, individual interests, and any health or family-related information enables our teachers to tailor their approaches and set meaningful learning and well-being goals for every student. We extend a heartfelt thank you to all parents and carers for making time to meet with us throughout the week. Additionally, a big thanks to our amazing staff, who, despite the late night, maintained their enthusiasm and positivity all week long.

School Review!

This year is an exciting year! It is our school review year, where we get to celebrate all our wonderful achievements over the last four years and begin planning for our next goals. Last year, Wandong moved into the INFLUENCE school performance category in reading, school climate and student attitude. This means that our performance is high to very high and has been maintained consistently over three years and is on a positive improvement trajectory. Wandong is acting as an influencer and system leader.

The Department of Education (DET) conducts reviews of schools every 4-5 years. This rigorous process is conducted by the Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority (VRQA) and the evaluation is completed with support from a DET reviewer. As part of our process, we will be seeking multiple perspectives, from our key stakeholders, our kids, to our families, community and staff. We look forward to your insights into our highlights, what is working well and suggestions for the future!

IMPORTANT DATES
March 2024

Friday 15th Casual Clothes Day - for an Easter themed donation
Monday 18th Foundation 2025 Touring Wandong - 6pm
Monday 25th Working Bee - 1/2N, 3/4C & 5/6H 2.30pm - 3.30pm Parents welcome
Tuesday 26th Foundation 2025 Touring Wandong - 10am
Tuesday 26th Easter Raffle Drawn
Tuesday 26th Icy pole Day $1 each - cash taken in the morning & icy poles delivered at lunch time
Tuesday 26th Purple Day - Epilepsy Awareness Day - More information to follow
Wednesday 27th Curriculum Day - No Students – If your child requires care, please book in at https://theircare.com.au/
Thursday 28th End of Term 1 - 2.30pm dismissal

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 on the third Wednesday of the month at 6.30pm at "The Shack" 1240 Wallan road, Upper Plenty 3756. ALL WELCOME

See our facebook page: Upper Plenty Merri Catchments Landcare Group
Membership enquiries membership.upmclg@gmail.com or Chris Cobern 0413855490

MAKE A DIFFERENCE - BECOME A VOLUNTEER

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

THE
WHAT DAY
IS IT BIT
Victoria's bathing experiences are a short trip from home, but light years from the real world. Don't be alarmed by that strange feeling – that's just your stress melting away.
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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.

Australian Labor

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96 High St. Wallan PH: 5783 2800

CLONBINANE C.F.A.

Clonbinane members recently had the opportunity to visit the Mount Hickey Fire Tower located in the Tallarook State Forest. There are 80+ towers located throughout Victoria which are managed by Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMV) These towers are staffed by lookout observers throughout the summer period anywhere from 8-10 hours a day.

These observers play a huge role in protecting our communities by detecting/reporting smoke from unplanned fires. The Mount Hickey tower is staffed by local observer Phil. Phil has over 30 years of experience in this role and his ability to pinpoint smoke sightings has been invaluable to our local brigades over the years. Once Phil sights smoke, he checks it against a compass point and often triangulates the smoke with other towers (such as Pretty Sally and Mount Puckapunyal Fire Towers) to get the correct map reference before passing the information onto the dispatch centre who then page brigades.

The Mount Hickey Fire Tower stands 18 metres off the ground and offers an amazing view of our district. On clear days Phil has been able to see landmarks such as top of the Rialto building and Mount Kosciuszko (approx. 300kms away)

Did you know that our lookout observers are not the only ones that assist with smoke sightings? Commercial airplanes have also been known to report smoke in areas such as our state forests.

Fire Weather

Although our summer has been kind so far, we still want to remind residents to remain vigilant. Actions to take include ensuring that you continue to prepare your property, knowing your fire plan and what your trigger is to enact your fire plan.

Good Friday Appeal

Easter is just around the corner, which means that Clonbinane CFA are back raising much needed funds for the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.

Our members will be out in force on Friday 29th March, rattling tins and knocking on doors. For those of you that will not be around on the day, don't worry, as we have set up a virtual tin. A link to our virtual tin can be found via our Facebook page.

Stay Safe
Tom Snaith, Clonbinane Captain

WANDONG
NETBALL CLUB

PRESEASON TRAINING

Preseason training is underway. A huge thank you to all the families who endured the heat for our first sessions and came down to the courts. It was a great turn out and we were pleased to see some new faces as well as welcome back returning players.
We have 2 more sessions in March, Wednesday the 6th and Wednesday the 13th 4:30 – 5:30pm.
Feel free to come and have a go, meet the committee, and see what the club is all about.

The 2024 Team announcements will be made at the end of the final preseason training session and team training will commence the following week.

SEASON 2024

2024 Season Registrations are now open!

To register, download or open the Netball Connect app on your device,
Select "Register" select your player or add new, search for our post code, 3758 select search, scroll down to find the Wandong Netball Club, and follow the prompts.

The season will start on Saturday the 20th of April and will run for 13 weeks, breaking for the Kings B'day weekend and school holidays.

SPONSORS WELCOME

We invite you to join us in supporting the Wandong Netball Club for the 2024 season!
The Wandong Netball Club (WNC) is the fastest growing sporting community in Wandong and we take pride in creating a secure and inclusive space for children to flourish.

	Bronze $500	Silver $1,500	Gold $5,000 (1 x Sponsorship Available)
Signage on Fence • Small • Large	✓ small	✓ large	✓ large
Naming rights on pole pads			✓
Large signage at BBQ for all home games			✓
Business logo printed on Coach and Team Manager hoodie sleeve		✓	✓
Business branding in newsletter and on social media	✓	✓	✓
Acknowledgement at club events, i.e., Awards Night	✓	✓	✓

HELP US REACH
OUR FUNDRAISING GOAL OF $12,000.00

This year our fundraising will go towards the updating and purchase of some new equipment, upskilling coaches and providing players and their families with better facilities at the courts.

Our goal for 2024 is to continue creating an environment that supports the ongoing development of netball skills for young people in our community.

We offer a playing pathway for children to learn the skills of the game as well as developing lifelong skills such as teamwork, respect, cooperation, and positivity towards physical activity.

We are looking for Gold, Silver and Bronze sponsors to partner with us in achieving our goals but ***would love to hear from anyone who would be willing and able to contribute to the club, business or personal.***

As a sponsor, you and or your business will have the opportunity to be a part of the community's success by supporting local sport and helping us provide a safe and inclusive environment for children to thrive.

Email wandongnetball@gmail.com to secure your sponsorship and share in the success of the Wandong Netball Club.

Stop kidding yourself. If you drink, don't drive.

Thinking about driving after a couple of drinks? Think again. If you blow .05 or over, you could face serious penalties, including fines, losing your licence, getting an interlock installed in your car and having to blow zero for three years.

TAC VICTORIA State Government

Southern Cross Gold community update

Southern Cross Gold (SXG) is based in Clonbinane and has been exploring for gold and antimony since 2020. We are operating on the same exploration footprint as miners from the late 1850s-1920, when over 41,000oz of gold was mined in the Sunday Creek area.

We're investing long-term in our community and think, buy and support local. In fact, our Managing Director Mike Hudson's family has been in Mitchell Shire for six generations and his family's legacy lives on via Hudson Park in Kilmore!

Community reference group
Are you interested in joining SXG's community reference group (CRG) and helping us balance the needs of our local community and environment with that of our business? Members of the CRG will ensure community interests are raised, acknowledged, considered and resolved.

The CRG is independently chaired, will meet four times per year and membership is voluntary.

We are accepting nominations until 12 April 2024 from community members and groups from Clonbinane, Kilmore, Broadford, Wallan and surrounding areas. If you would like to receive a nomination pack, please email CRG@southerncrossgold.com.au. Further information and FAQs can be found at www.southerncrossgoldcommunity.com.au/CRG.

How we partner with our local community
SXG is proud to partner with local organisations that make a big impact in the community.

- We continue to work with local emergency agencies including the Clonbinane CFA and are pleased to play a part in Clonbinane's safety by participating in the Safer Together Project.
- We recently worked with the Sunday Creek-Dry Creek Landcare group to control blackberries in the area. Blackberry is a weed of national significance and regarded as a significant environmental threat due to how invasive it is.
- We have a wonderful partnership with disability support services Goulburn Options and have been lucky to welcome a participant from their employment program into our team.
- We donate to Love in Action Broadford, Freedom Care and the SES to help those in need in our community.

We look forward to working closely with our local community in 2024. If you would like to meet SXG to discuss any areas of interest or would like SXG to present to your business or organisation, please get in touch on info@southerncrossgold.com.au or call 1800 717 638.

LOCAL COMMUNITIES MAKE A TOUR OF SOUTHERN CROSS GOLD AT CLONBINANE

On Saturday 2nd March, the Wandong History Group joined other community members for a visit to the Clonbinane gold mines and site of the old Clonbinane township. We are very grateful to Manager Lisa Gibbons and her team who escorted the group and Trevor Vienet who organized the event. Pictured below are photos of the visitors to the SXG drilling station and the Golden Dyke mine.

Our Town's Football Club

Registration Night 7th March 5pm

Come on down and register to play for the upcoming season. The committee will be on site to help with sign ups. Sausage sizzle to follow.

New players more than welcome

All age groups play at the same venue

Family friendly club

The lowest registration costs in the area

PRE-SEASON TRAINING

Tuesday's

U12's & U14's 4.30pm – 5.30pm

Thursday's

U9's, U10's, U12's, U14's 4.30pm – 5.30pm

The coaches are looking forward to seeing you all there.

If you or your business would like to sponsor the club please enquire at the email below

Please email the club for all enquiries: wandongjfc@gmail.com

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

Wandong Junior Football Club

We would like to thank our current sponsors, without their generosity our club would not exist.

TAX EQUITY ACCOUNTANTS Whittlesea

KILMORE CARWASH

THOMAS FAMILY tree services

Thanks to our main sponsors:

J&K Styles Group Local Equipment Hire

M.T.I. QUALOS

ALL ABOUT EXPRESS TRANSPORT

GOULBURN MURRAY JUNIORS 2024 SEASON FIXTURE - SEYMOUR

GMJL Goulburn Murray Junior League

Round 1 — APRIL 14

ALEXANDRA	v	BROADFORD
WANDONG	v	YEA
ST MARY'S	v	TABILK
SEYMOUR		BYE

Round 2 — APRIL 21

TABILK	v	WANDONG
YEA	v	ALEXANDRA
BROADFORD	v	SEYMOUR
ST MARY'S		BYE

Round 3 — APRIL 28

WANDONG	v	SEYMOUR
ST MARY'S	v	BROADFORD
TABILK	v	YEA
ALEXANDRA		BYE

Round 4 — MAY 6

YEA	v	ST MARY'S
BROADFORD	v	WANDONG
SEYMOUR	v	ALEXANDRA
TABILK		BYE

MAY 11-12

GENERAL BYE
MOTHER'S DAY

Round 5 — MAY 19

ST MARY'S	v	ALEXANDRA
TABILK	v	SEYMOUR
YEA	v	BROADFORD
WANDONG		BYE

Round 6 — MAY 26

BROADFORD	v	TABILK
ST MARY'S	v	SEYMOUR
ALEXANDRA	v	WANDONG
YEA		BYE

Round 7 — JUNE 2

SEYMOUR	v	YEA
ALEXANDRA	v	TABILK
WANDONG	v	ST MARY'S
BROADFORD		BYE

JUNE 8-9

GENERAL BYE
KING'S BIRTHDAY

Round 8 — JUNE 16

BROADFORD	v	ALEXANDRA
YEA	v	WANDONG
TABILK	v	ST MARY'S
SEYMOUR		BYE

Round 9 — JUNE 23

WANDONG	v	TABILK
ALEXANDRA	v	YEA
SEYMOUR	v	BROADFORD
ST MARY'S		BYE

Round 10 — JUNE 30

SEYMOUR	v	WANDONG
BROADFORD	v	ST MARY'S
YEA	v	TABILK
ALEXANDRA		BYE

JULY 6-7

GENERAL BYE
SCHOOL HOLIDAY

Round 11 — JULY 14

ST MARY'S	v	YEA
WANDONG	v	BROADFORD
ALEXANDRA	v	SEYMOUR
TABILK		BYE

Round 12 — JULY 21

ALEXANDRA	v	ST MARY'S
SEYMOUR	v	TABILK
BROADFORD	v	YEA
WANDONG		BYE

Round 13 — JULY 28

TABILK	v	BROADFORD
SEYMOUR	v	ST MARY'S
WANDONG	v	ALEXANDRA
YEA		BYE

Round 14 — AUGUST 4

YEA	v	SEYMOUR
TABILK	v	ALEXANDRA
ST MARY'S	v	WANDONG
BROADFORD		BYE

Finals

Finals Week 1	AUGUST 11
Finals Week 2	AUGUST 18
Grand Final	AUGUST 25

Please note all times are subject to change.
This fixture is correct as of 13 December, 2023

Times

FOOTBALL		NETBALL	
UNDER 9 /10	9:45AM	11 & UNDER	11:00AM
UNDER 12	11:00AM	13 & UNDER	12:00PM
UNDER 14	12:30PM	15 & UNDER	1:15PM
UNDER 16	2:00PM		

WHJ SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

The L.B.Davern Reserve is open to all our community, so please come down and enjoy this great facility, join the various clubs, just walk along the Say G-Day trail, take the kids down to play on the play equipment or just play and exercise on the oval. Tennis is on, Cricket finals are in progress, Dog Club, and the Horse Clubs, the Stadium activities -Basketball, preschool and Wandong Primary are all operating.

Junior Football and Netball Clubs are busy organizing their Registration days and preseason has started, watch out for them and please support our Junior Clubs.

Kilmore Cricket Club are at the Reserve, Senior, Junior and the Female teams on Saturday mornings and afternoons.

The Wallan Junior Football club is at present training at the Reserve, on a Monday due to works over at the Wallan Greenhill Reserve.

Please be cautious around the Reserve at present due to various siting of snakes being reported. Also as the Reserve is busy with activities just a reminder to all when driving to be cautious and the speed limit is 10 kilometres

The L.B.Davern Reserve Committee has named the back recreational area at the L.B.Davern behind the Wandong Stadium the Allen Ryan Paddock in honour to Allan due to his commitment and dedication to the Community of Wandong/ Heathcote Junction.

L.B.Davern Reserve Projects update:
Project 1:Redevelopment of the Community centre.

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 well under way with the construction stage with the building now fenced off to the community. Due to the project the Reserve committee will not be taking any bookings for the centre until mid-2024.

Progress is happening very quickly as the Community centre transforms to a updated facility.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

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

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!!

Far left:
Wandong Netball/ Tennis 2004

Left:
Entoucas Courts Wandong Tennis 2010

Please Note:

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

RIGHT:

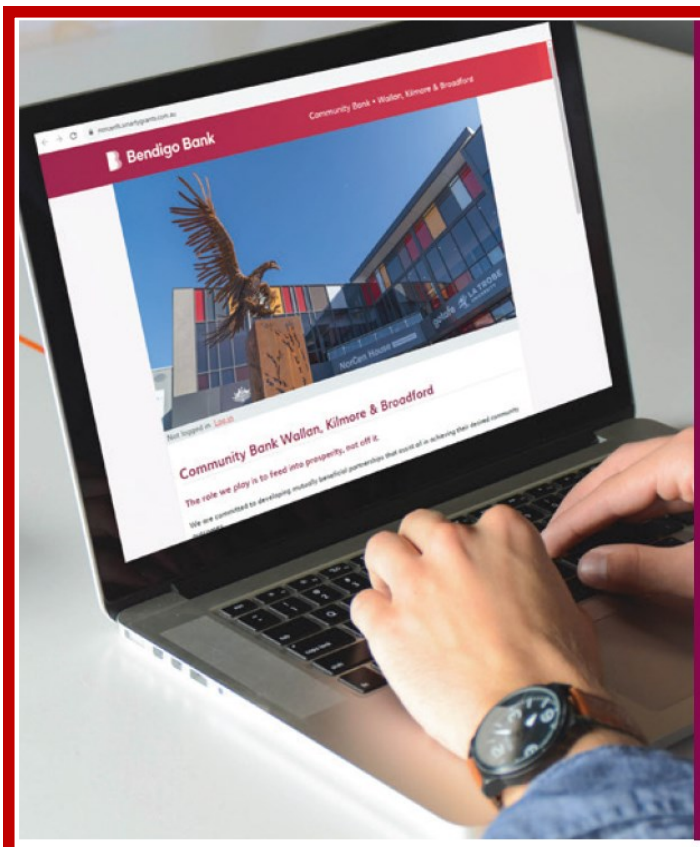
Community Centre 2004

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

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



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

Next round closes March 29

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Kilmore Community Bank - 5781 0066
Broadford Community Bank - 5454 1233

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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

Pomp and Circumstance

The phrase "pomp and circumstance" has an interesting history. It was popularized by Shakespeare in his play Othello, However, the expression appears in Philip Massinger's play "Bashful Lover", written around 1640 and published a few years later: "The Minion of his Prince and Court, set off " With all the pomp and circumstance of greatness.".

The election of the new committee of management at the Combined Probus Club of Whittlesea on Monday 4 March 2024 took place at the Annual General meeting and had a feeling of pomp and circumstance. The outgoing President Keith Miller delivered a written address to members.

In part it reads "Our profile has been raised by the numerous articles in magazines" "At the risk of sounding like an Oscar recipient I would like to thank the committee for all their work" "I trust you will support the incoming President and Committee"

The ceremonial aspect continued with all positions declared vacant, and Sue Sims was appointed as Returning Officer. There being no duplicate nominations for any committee position the time lapse between the outgoing and incoming President was short.

The outgoing Secretary and Vice-President Cheryl Manicolo had nominated for President and being the only applicant was installed. Ms Sims declared:- "Cheryl Manicolo you have been elected as President of the Combined Probus Club of Whittlesea and as such it becomes your responsibility to uphold the Aims and Objectives as set out in the Club's constitution."

"As the leader of your Club, emphasis should be placed on the core values of friendship, fellowship and fun within our Probus Community." "It is my honour to present you with the President's Chain of Office as the new President of the Probus Club of Whittlesea"

The Chain of Office was then placed on President Manicolo to loud applause from members. This passes for the Pomp of the meeting! In previous times the pomp was greater as the Chain of office was the quaintly named Collar of Office which originated in the middle ages!

The less exacting duties of President will come as a relief to Cheryl who has been an outstanding Secretary and Vice President with detailed on time minutes and agendas produced for every meeting. Greg Eddy was elected as Vice President to assist Cheryl whilst her replacement at the Secretary's desk is Helen Bowtell. Keith Miller assumes Ex Officio status!

Other committee positions incumbents are basically unchanged except for Bev Horan who did not nominate for a position. Beryl Lucas nominated for the Meet and Greet position vacated by Bev whose contribution had been acknowledged at the previous Committee meeting. Roma Harris is an associate member who delivers newsletters to members who do not have emails and are unable to attend.

Other Committee Members:

Teresa Carlin Guest Speakers
Sue Giri Assistant Hospitality
Michael Halley Publicity
Sandra Hocking Newsletter
Beryl Lucas Meet and Greet
Kaylene McKay Hospitality
Rita Miller Dine Outs
Alessandra Testa Treasurer and Day Trips
Glenda Vincent Membership and Welfare
Mary Wood Tours

Probus is dedicated to promoting the development of friendship, fellowship and the advancement of Intellectual interests for active retirees. This is broken down to friendship, fellowship and fun.

The management committee at Whittlesea has committed to members to build on the core values and deliver exceptional meetings. They only have to continue on the success of the past year when the membership increased and new talents came to the fore!

The first meeting under the new regime is on Aril 8 th when Nesta Russell from the Whittlesea Courthouse Visitor Information Centre will be the guest presenter.

Written by Michael Halley

Neighbourhood Watch

Let's watch out for each other

South Mitchell

Fighting Home Theft

Millions of dollars are lost through theft and vandalism across Victoria. New homes, old homes, country properties – the criminal doesn't distinguish the difference.

Although we promote safety strategies regularly in order to deter the criminal, we also acknowledge that some criminals are not to be deterred and there are always new opportunist criminals looking for easy targets. Knowing you neighbours and identifying suspicious behaviour can be one of the strongest tools to fight crime with.

Identifying Suspicious Behaviour

What is suspicious behaviour?

Behaviour is suspicious, not people. It's when someone is doing something that seems unusual and out of place from what's normal. It can include:

- People loitering around the site and checking it out when workers and tradies have left.
- People removing building materials or other goods from the site outside construction times.
- Vehicles regularly and continuously driving around the area, particularly at night. Be alert to vehicles that have obscured or missing number plates.
- People climbing over fences or testing gates and locks.
- Equipment noise such as angle grinders coming from the site outside of construction hours.

Reporting suspicious behaviour

If the suspicious behaviour is happening now, call Triple Zero **(000)** immediately. If the suspicious behaviour has passed and doesn't need police attention straight away, or you need to report any thefts or vandalism, call the Police Assistance Line on 131 444 or report it online at www.police.vic.gov.au/palolr

Recording some of these details may help police:

- Time, date, location and what happened?
- Description of person such as height, build, gender, clothing, and any features such as a beard or tattoos
- Description of vehicle, especially distinguishing features such as damage, stickers, colour and rego number
- Only take photos or video if you can do it safely

NHW Home Security Competition

South Mitchell Neighbourhood Watch group are currently running a Home Security Competition. The prizes which are offer might increase your security, and therefore your peace of mind. Our competition has been extended and closes 15 March, 2024. There are some T&C's (refer below), you need to live in Mitchell Shire and be over 18, etc. and the competition is completely ***free to enter***.

For our Terms & Conditions: **https://d2te.short.gy/u56N2g**

Enter our Competition: **https://d2te.short.gy/gN3pLd**

Hotlines:	**000**	**Emergency**
	131 444	**Police Assistance Line**
	1800 333 000	**Crime Stoppers**

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

For more information visit:
https://sites.google.com/view/south-mitchell-nhw/home

www.facebook.com/southmitchell.nhw.inc

email: newsletters.smnhw@gmail.com

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

Classes are now in full swing at the new JJ Clancy Community hub. The games group have had their first class with eighteen attendees who had a lot of fun learning new games and playing old ones. The class is held on the first and third Tuesday of the month from 9.30am until 11.00am and is followed by a cup of tea and a chat.

There is also a new craft group being held on the 4th Thursday of each month at JJ Clancy. Start time is 1.30pm until 3pm. All are welcome to come along and enjoy time with others who are happy to share crafty ideas and have a chat along the way. This group does all sorts of craft such as embroidery, patch-work, knitting, crochet, making Christmas and other decorations. Any type of craft you are interested is most welcome.

The Exercise Group has moved to a new day and time for 2024. They now meet at the new premises at the JJ Clancy Facility each Monday (except public and school holidays) at 10.00am till 11.15am. Are you feeling in need of some gentle exercises to get you started on a fitter and healthier you in 2024? Then join us for some exciting new routines to try, along with our favourites from last year. Come along and see what we have to offer in 2024.

The lunch club continues to be very popular and have their social calendar booked twice monthly for the rest of the year with a range of different venues. It is necessary to book well in advance to ensure a seat. Most venues offer a value for money senior's meal. Details are on the website.

Our AGM will be held on Friday, March 15th at 10am at the JJ Clancy Community Hub. Reports will be presented, the election of office bearers conducted and a Guest Speaker from Kilmore Football Netball Club will help us get to know a bit more about "The Blues". Morning Tea will follow the AGM and you are welcome to bring a plate. We hope to see you there.

U3A is open to people over 50 who are no longer working full time and is a fun and cost effective way to learn new skills, to meet like-minded people and to socialise. Our members are friendly and approachable so if you want to get involved, please check out the website at: https://u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au/ or contact us at info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au

Cheers, Amanda Oades

WANDONG-HEATHCOTE JUNCTION COMMUNITY GROUP

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

WEBSITE: In February the <www.wandong.vic.au> website received 1344 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

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. For a copy of our submission to Mitchell Shire Council please refer to pages 34 and 35.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

A HUGE THANKS to Rob Jensen, Ricky and Dylan (Broadford) and Jeanette Kenney for helping to remove rubbish from the Epping Kilmore Road between Wandong and Heathcote Junction and around Wandong Plaza. It was disappointing that we did not get more helpers so we could cover a larger area - maybe next year.

Something has to be done about all the car / truck tyres being dumped on our roadsides. Most are dumped on Vicroads controlled roads such as the Hume freeway and ramps so we will pursue the issue with Vicroads. Maybe tyres should be marked as they are removed from vehicles so owners / perpetrators can be prosecuted.

SUDOKU

Answers on page 30

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

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

THIS MONTHS QUIZ

Answer appears on Page 30 but no cheating!

1. What is the only planet in our solar system that rotates clockwise?
2. What are the primary colours?
3. What does a camel store in its hump?
4. Quito is the capital of which South American country?
5. What instrument did Louis Armstrong play?
6. How many bones do sharks have?
7. What scale is an earthquake measured on?
8. How many legs does a crab have?
9. What is a perfect score in bowling?
10. Which country did Ikea originate in?
11. What colours is the flag of the United Nations?
12. What colour are Mickey Mouse's shoes?
13. Which continent is closest to Antarctica?
14. What year did the Titanic sink?
15. In what decade was the Internet created?

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

Not online?

> Fortnightly Council Ad in the local newspaper

> Monthy 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

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

REC 3028

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Carer Gateway – Looking after yourself – Part 2 (Physical Health)

An Australian Government Initiative

Hello again,

Last month we chatted about ways to look after your mental health, however it's also important for you to stay physically healthy, because being physically healthy can help to keep you mentally healthy.

To stay physically healthy, it's a good idea to follow a few simple do's and don'ts.

Do

- Eat well – eat a wide variety of foods, including fruit, vegetables, grains, meats or other proteins, and milk or other dairy products. You should also limit how much salt, sugar and fats you eat. The Australian Guide to Healthy Eating has tips on how to choose foods for good health https://www.eatforhealth.gov.au/guidelines/australian-guide-healthy-eating
- Sleep well – most adults need 7–9 hours of sleep each day, but carers can find this hard to get. The HealthDirect website has tips on how to get more sleep, and your doctor can also give you some advice https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/sleep
- Exercise – there are many ways to exercise, from taking a regular walk to joining a gym. Some exercise every day is good, even if it is just taking the stairs instead of the lift, or standing instead of sitting down. The HealthDirect website has tips on how to get active https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/tips-for-getting-active

Don't

- Smoke – if you're a smoker, one of the best things you can do for your health is quit. The Quit Now website, https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/smoking-and-tobacco/how-to-quit-smoking has tips and tools to help you quit, or you can call the Quitline on 13 78 48
- Drink too much or take drugs – alcohol and drugs can affect your physical and mental health, and can make it hard for you to give good care. Healthy adults should drink no more than 2 drinks a day. The Australian Government Department of Health website has information on how to manage your drinking https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/alcohol

For more information and support, please reach out to the team at the Carer Gateway by calling 1800 422 737 or heading to the website https://www.carergateway.gov.au/

Until next time,

Jason

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.alfoxton.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 -
Heathcote Junction/Wandong
February 2024

Summer temperatures finally arrived, sometimes reaching up to the high thirties throughout the month and occasionally accompanied by strong winds.
Farewell to the last of summer.
Rainfall for the month was low and was consistent with previous years. The total for the month consisted of 20.5 mls which was recorded on the 13th Feb with the remainder in the second half of the month on only two separate days.
Our supply dam, Sunday Creek, was recorded at 98% on the 12th February.

Stats - Rainfall

February 2024	-	22.5 mls
Previous year	-	20 mls
Average prev 10 years	-	20 mls
Total this year	-	193.5 mls
Total prev year	-	39.5 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/

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

QUIZ ANSWERS (from page 28)

1. Venus
2. Red, yellow and blue
3. Fat
4. Ecuador
5. Trumpet
6. None
7. The Richter scale
8. Ten
9. 300
10. Sweden
11. Blue and white
12. Yellow
13. South America
14. 1912
15. 1960's

SUKODU solution

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

Training Dogs…. Breaking down the Myths….

It can be great fun to have a dog in your life. Once you get a puppy and start out with Pre-School your pup learns SIT, DROP, STAY, STAY…. All seems great at first but as the pup gets to about 5 months there are problems that develop, pup is biting, jumping up on you, scratching at the door, or barking constantly at people. When the dog gets even older he seems more headstrong and harder to deal with so now you might look further to solve your troubles. You speak to the vet or Google your problems, ask advice from friends, even post on social media looking for advice. However the information that comes back can be overwhelming and confusing.

So consider, some of the statements I have heard regularly over the years.

1. " Must have ONLY one handler per dog for training - otherwise you will confuse the dog… "

Definite Myth - Dogs are perfectly capable of being trained by different members in the family.
I have run classes for decades and often have 2-3 people with each dog and we have seen how well the dogs cope with the variation of handler skills. The objective is for each human member to develop their own connection with the dog and then the dog will try to follow them. However when it comes down to how kids can cope with 'teaching' a dog, it really depends on the individual kid. Most kids are about 10 years old before they have the comprehension and self control needed to teach the dog what they are after.

2. " You must be the Pack Leader (Alpha) so the dog will do as they are told… "

Somewhat Myth - YES, the dog needs to take you seriously. Remember that dogs are a pack animal and a Pack works in a very similar fashion to a human family. So like a human family, sometimes Dad will call the shots, but sometimes it is Mum, at other times Mum and Dad have to fit in with the kids schedule. With dog packs each individual dog within the pack has to adapt to all the other members of the Pack. In our family situation the dog learns he might get away with something with Dad but not with Mum…. That is up to the family to work out how they will deal with boundaries needed regarding the dog… for example: Dog is NOT allowed on the couch, therefore everyone should really aim to keep the dog off the couch!

3. " I can't train my dog… I should send it off to a professional to have them Train it for me…"

Expensive Myth - Sure you can send the dog off to a professional for a board and train. This could cost upwards of $2,000. In my opinion this is really the sign of a lazy owner. The Training facility will teach your dog to SIT, DROP, STAY, COME… just like you tried at puppy school… but when the dog comes home generally within about 3-4 weeks the dog will revert to some (if not most) of the old behaviours. You have to alter the behaviour at home to create new habits and then aim to get long lasting effect in multiple environments.

4. " My dog needs to be taught Obedience… He has to do what he is told… "

Confusing Myth - Obedience does NOT solve problems, particularly if your dog is dog-reactive or barks/ snaps at humans. Obedience is just an attempt to control a situation (a bit like programming a machine). But a dog is NOT a machine, and even so we cannot 'program' for every scenario. Often something unexpected happens and then everything goes to s#!t and we have lost control the dog.

5. "My vet says he needs to have his balls off… that will fix the problems… "

Professional Myth - It has long been recommended by vets (even rescue groups) that to de-sex your male dog will stop the following behaviours: Urinating, Humping, Aggression, Barking, Jumping, etc…. But in fairness to the vet, they are an animal GP, they are generally not a Dog Behaviour expert. But the truth is the aforementioned problems are all 'Behaviours' and even IF you desex the dog he will still continue these behaviours. The only reason that it seems to improve is just co-incidence with the dog maturing out of the habit. However, we can change behaviours by ensuring they understand the 'boundaries'. If your dog tries to Hump other dogs/ furniture/your kids… it is your job to tell him off - stop him EVERY time he tries then the behaviour will diminish.

Alfoxton Dog Centre
Heathcote Junction
0402 118929

I find that most people are looking for a quick fix.
In reality, there is no ' *magic wand* '
Training Dogs is about making a strong connection
Then dogs looks to work with you.

Author: Anne Zelvys IACP-CDT

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Whittlesea Community Network

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

There is a definite nip in the air some mornings! Why not sign up for something new while we still have longer days! Here are some things to get you thinking!

Save the Date

The Hearing Bus is coming to Whittlesea Library on Wednesday 20th March from 9am – 3.30pm. Bookings for a test are essential and are being handled by the Library staff call 9716 3028.

Visy Recycling

Buried in cans and bottles from all those BBQs? We can help! Over the counter recycling is available Monday, Wednesday and Thursday each week 10am – 3pm and Saturdays from 8am – 4pm.
Got some time on your hands and looking for an easy and regular volunteering role (perhaps to meet your Centrelink obligations). Look no further! Our recycling team is seeking volunteers for regular shifts call 9716 3361 to discuss.
Are you a group or club? Did you know that you can register as a donation partner and receive the 10 cent return on recyclable items as a donation from the community. Go to https://cdsvic.org.au/donation-partner-registration.

Community Meals

Big Blokes Brunch has already kicked off 2023 at the Whittlesea Community Activity Centre on Tuesdays! Join the blokes for brunch each week:. Tuesdays 11.00am – Noon $2.00 per person.

Ladies Lunch -join the ladies who lunch each fortnight at the Whittlesea Community Activity Centre Thursday 28th March 11.30am – 1.00pm $2.00 per person.

Catering for Community

As part of our ACFE program for 2024 we are looking for students to join our Catering for Community course. The course is FREE to eligible students and you will learn how to cook for a crowd as we cater for the fort-nightly Ladies Lunch. Thursdays 28th March, 9th & 23rd May and 8th & 13th and 27th June 9.00am – 1.00pm.

Employable Me

This course is perfect for anyone trying to enter the workforce. Set up your resume, tune up your interview skills and learn how to get noticed on employment sites!
Tuesdays from 23rd April 10.00am – 1.00pm FREE

First Aid (CPR, Provide First Aid & Provide First Aid in an Emergency in an Education & Care Setting)
Online learning + face to face Saturday 13th April $85/$150/$195

Boat Licence

There's still time to get your licence before Easter!
Saturday 23rd March 9.00am – 1.00pm $140 per person
Students from 12 years are eligible, PWC issued to >16 years

Op Shop Tours return for 2024

We will be trekking to Op Shops on a monthly basis in 2024 and you can join us. Different route each month!
Saturday 13th April 9am – 4.30pm $15 per person
Also, Saturdays 11th May and 8th June.
Feel free to bring a snack to share on the Bus there will be a lunch stop,

Fix It Friday RETURNS!

Fix it Friday is back in 2024! 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, Expresso Legal, Uniting Financial Counselling, NDIS, Centrelink and Neami National (Mental Health Program), Victoria Police, My Aged Care, No Interest Loan Scheme, Haven Homesafe, Gamblers Help and heaps more! Call 9716 3361 to register in advance, it's **FREE**
Friday 22nd March 10am – 1.00pm.

We can't wait to see all your smiling faces. A more comprehensive list of what is coming up at the House can be found on our website www.wchi.com.au or you can pick up a brochure from the House or call to book any of the above on 9716 3361. See you soon!

Kilmore Golf Club Inc.

Our season is in full swing now. The finals of the John Carr Cup and Pat Johnstone Memorial Trophy have been completed with the finals of the Kilmore Cup being held in mid-March.

The greens will be cored commencing 4th March necessitating the closure of the course for three days. This is an annual process and the timing is to take advantage of the warmer growing conditions to enhance the greens.

There are membership opportunities at KGC so check our website for a package which suits you. Further enquiries can be made to info@kilmoregolfclub.com.au

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
Ph 0432 120 736

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.

The Wandong Public Hall (1902) is a special place and the place to hold your special event. In recent years it has hosted weddings, wedding receptions, Australia Day celebrations, art shows, birthday parties, even funerals. While the Wandong Community Centre is under reconstruction, the Hall even hosted the Wandong Community Carols in 2023. It was so successful many attendees asked for it to be held at the Hall annually but unfortunately the Hall cannot seat more than 100 inside.

The Committee of Management recently had the opportunity to purchase cheap rolls of instant buffalo turf which now covers over half of the second level. We always intended to lay turf on the second level but because it is not the ideal time to plant instant turf you will see us there daily keeping it saturated.

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

- **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.

Submission to 2024/2025 Budget

- as advertised in North Central Review of 20/02/2024

REQUEST TO INCLUDE THE UPGRADE OF THE BUSHFIRE MEMORIAL CAR PARK AT WANDONG IN THE 2024/2025 BUDGET.

For many years the Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group has pleaded with Mitchell Shire to put the massive drain between the Wandong Bushfire / War Memorial car park and the Epping Kilmore Road underground, remove the bollards adjacent to the road to allow easier access and egress and to seal the surface which Mitchell Shire is called upon almost bi monthly to fill in the potholes.

Five years ago the community group met with Tim Partridge of Mitchell Shire who had a plan for upgrades to the car park. At the conclusion of that meeting we were left with the impression that work would be done to resolve the issues and council would begin a staged approach to remedy the carpark problems. This has not occurred.

In the past Mitchell Shire led us to believe that the drain along the roadside was not its responsibility but we have now been informed that it is the property of council, see recent correspondence of 19 January 2024 from Lauren Kathage MP copied on page 3, therefore this is no longer an impediment to proceeding with the project.

This car park has the most used toilets in Mitchell Shire. The bushfire park with skate park and barbeques, as well as the Wandong War Memorial are among the top attractions visited in Mitchell Shire but they are not supported by appropriate car park facilities. Disabled parking spaces are poorly marked and controlled and are situated next to the busy RV waste disposal point. The disabled car parks should also be upgraded and made compliant as part of the upgrade and we suggest they be two parallel parking spaces adjacent to the Epping Kilmore Road by removing the drain opposite the toilets.

The attached photos of the car park (pages 4 and 5) highlight the never ending repairs required. The cost incurred with these constant repairs over the years could have paid for much of the remedial work requested.

The current car park is barely usable but if altered as per the attached sketch (page 6), so vehicles can pull in and reverse out and leave by a separate exit, the whole of the car park would be accessible and without impacting traffic on the Epping Kilmore Road.

Our community has been extremely disappointed that the Council officers and councillors continue to neglect this project year after year when it should be one of the top priorities. The community and visitors to the car park are concerned that nothing has been done to improve the carpark and have joined with us by signing a petition with 157 signatures as attached (pages 7 to 13).

Wandong is a main gateway to Mitchell Shire and this project should be a top priority to make the car park fully usable and attractive to complement our beautiful Memorial Park and to improve the impression of Mitchell Shire. The estimated cost of the project is well under $100,000 and we ask for it to be promoted to and included in the 2024/2025 Mitchell Shire budget as a top priority.

Please make this happen to rectify this serious oversight.

COME ON MITCHELL SHIRE - FIX OUR CARPARK

Kilmore under 11 cricket team finished with a great win over Romsey.

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

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