



ISSUE 342 WANDONG/HEATHCOTE JUNCTION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER : NOVEMBER 2024 ABN 17 022 858 565

Email—whatsnewswhj@gmail.com 700 copies

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Delivered to Wandong/Heathcote Junction/Wallan/Kilmore/Broadford/Whittlesea & Upper Plenty

Copy online at www.wandong.vic.au



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WANDONG COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2024

COMMUNITY CENTRE, DAVERN RESERVE

DRY CREEK CRESCENT, WANDONG



Festivities commence at 4.30pm with a free sausage sizzle, a magic show and face painting between 5pm and 6pm and the Wandong Fire Brigade Santa Claus at 6pm.

The carols commence at 6.30pm and feature the Joy of Life Choir, soloist Vivian Kenney, the Wandong Primary School Choir, the Tangent Choir and the violin ensemble "Whiz Kids".

This will be the last chance to purchase tickets for the Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group / Wandong History Group Christmas raffle (3 prizes) as the winners will be drawn during the carols.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CAROLS A LUCKY MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE WILL TAKE HOME A FLOOR ROBOT VACUUM VALUED AT \$1,000

THIS EDITION OF WHATS NEWS PAYS TRIBUTE TO JIM CHATZ WHO WE OWE MUCH GRATITUDE FOR THE MANY PROJECTS THAT IMPROVED OUR TOWN - SEE PAGES 16 AND 17



KIDS - DON'T FORGET TO COME TO THE MAGIC SHOW AT THE WANDONG CAROLS..



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

Wandong - Heathcote Junction - why would you live anywhere else. Until December 2024, Allen Hall (editor)
NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE: COPY & ADS 30 November 2024 DELIVERY from 11 December 2024
Printed by Newspaper House, Kilmore

WANDONG FIRE BRIGADE



Santa Visits

Wandong Fire Brigade have once again been asked to escort Santa on a tour of Wandong and Heathcote Junction on Christmas eve. Check out our Facebook page for more information, and times as we get closer to the big day. We are also taking bookings for Santa visits on the fire truck between the 1st and 23rd December. To make a booking please contact us on wandongsanta@gmail.com with your preferred dates and times, your address, the number of children to visit and contact name and phone number. Donations are appreciated for this service.

Fire Season

Victoria is one of the most fire prone areas in the world. All Victorians need to know how to plan for and respond to fire. We had a successful street corner meeting on the corner of Baden drive and Kooralinga drive in October with many residents coming to gain information on how best to prepare their families and properties.

Fire Restrictions

CFA fire restrictions have begun to be instated across the State. Restrictions will be brought into effect in November in the Mitchell Shire, date to be confirmed. The Fire Danger Period is when CFA restricts the use of fire in the community. This is to help prevent fires from starting. During the Fire Danger Period you cannot burn off unless you have a permit or comply with certain requirements. Find out what you can or can't do during the declared Fire Danger Period, and on days of Total Fire Ban at www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-bans-ratings-and-restrictions/can-i-or-cant-i

Training

Our firefighters have been busy participating in training recently, with 3 members completing their Breathing Apparatus (B.A.) training. We have hosted two large group training exercises recently, with brigades from around the area meeting at Wandong and heading up Mt Dissa to work on Tanker tactics, tree hazard awareness, draughting, and activities in case of entrapment by fire. This was a great opportunity to work on communications within and between

brigades in preparation for the upcoming fire season.



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



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

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

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

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
26 Nov	Jasleen Hall	B
2 Dec	Mark Ford	W
4 Dec	Jarrold King	Wallan
4 Dec	John Pyle	K
4 Dec	Shelley Jackson	B
4 Dec	Shelley Kilroy	W
8 Dec	Kristy Plumbe	C
9 Dec	Mandy Coter	W
9 Dec	Oliver Duncan	HJ
10 Dec	Amy Batey	W
11 Dec	John Tilbrook	W
11 Dec	Kylie Plumbe	C
11 Dec	Ida Zimbardi	K
12 Dec	Gemma Leech	HJ
13 Dec	Shane Georgelin	HJ
14 Dec	Megan Drenth	HJ
14 Dec	Jake Gedye	HJ
14 Dec	Mary Cawthorne	Wallan



MYKI RETAILER

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LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

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



Wandong District Church
29 Wandong Ave,
Wandong

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Services held at 5pm Sundays
ALL WELCOME

Enquiries to:

Pastor Allan Laurens 5787 1020

Or David Moran 5787 1738

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, WANDONG

WANDONG AVE, WANDONG
Enquires 9308 2452

Services: 8.30am
on 1st & 3rd Sundays
ALL WELCOME



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— entrance on Willomavin Road

Enquiries to ;

Pastor Frantz Heinzelmann

Mobile: 0411 794 188

www.freedomcarechurch.org.au

All Welcome. Love to see you there

AS WE HOLD HANDS IN THE STORM, WE SHARE TOGETHER IN THE PRESENCE AND POWER OF GOD.

Jesus said "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Matthew 18 : 20.

Have you noticed how, in the midst of stormy times, human beings seek one another out and bunker down together. Then, troubles tend to drive them into one another's arms, producing a strength that transcends the abilities of any single individual.

When trouble hits, we feel tossed by wind and wave. But the gracious miracle is that we are usually hurled right into someone else, and find comfort in the storm through fellowship with two or three other people doing battle.

Perhaps you are facing stormy days. Until the tempest is passed, you probably won't notice how God has sustained you and strengthened you during this time. But it is indeed a blessing to look back and see that the winds just didn't wreck havoc. They have usually chiselled something wonderful and essential into your character as well.

AS WE HOLD HANDS IN THE STORM, WE SHARE TOGETHER IN THE PRESENCE AND POWER OF GOD.

Shirley Kawalski, Uniting Church, Broadford.

WANDONG HISTORY GROUP

As the weather warms up so more activity is starting to occur around the area. The end of the year is always a busy time, the history month event celebrating 150 years of rail history in the area has been run and we were pleased with a reasonable attendance on what was a beautiful day.

Our Christmas raffle in conjunction with the Community Group is up and running and we will be selling tickets around the town and at Wellington Square, also on December 1st and 22nd we will be at Bunnings Craigieburn doing the famous sausage sizzles, so make sure to buy a sausage from us on the way in and out of the shop. These fundraisers keep the History Group and Community Group going so without them we would not be able to run events such as ANZAC Day Australia Day etc, they are a very important part of keeping groups such as ours solvent so whenever you're at Bunnings please help out whichever group is there. Just to be clear Bunnings supply the barby and the gas, the groups supply everything else, often people seem to be unaware of this.

On a sadder note we have recently lost another wonderful Wandong person. Jimmy Chatz was a great friend to the history group and he was always willing to help out with our community projects including the landscaping around the war memorial, just one of the many projects he helped with. He happily provided his machinery and time all for the good of others. Jim will be sadly missed as a much-loved member of the community, by his family and all those who knew him.

<https://wandongheathcotejunctionhistory.com.au>
email: wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com



THE SHACK IS BACK

The Upper Plenty Community Hall
"THE SHACK"

is open for hire. For 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.

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/>



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**Anyone wishing to join
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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
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Caladenia Nursing Home Website:
www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au



GARDEN SCENE WITH GAIL

Well, it's November again, the last of our months of Spring and most years our Summer season, brings with it, heat, dry conditions and depending on the amount of rain we get, an uphill battle to maintain moisture to our plants and lawns. If you haven't prepared your garden for those hot months, get stuck into it now. Weed around plants, garden beds and your lawn, fertilise and incorporate a wetting agent into the soil taking care not to spill any liquid wetting agent onto any of the foliage as this can kill the plants, I found that out firsthand my mistaking it for Seasol. Add Gypsum if needed and water all in really well. Top dress with a thick layer of mulch and don't allow the worked soil to dry out because if it dries out too much it may repel water instead of allowing it to penetrate the soil where it's needed. Spare a thought for any older, mature plants in our garden and treat them with TLC with thorough deep watering, no disturbance to their roots or any items that may cause them to lose their bark or indeed, become ring barked, mulch them well. Plants that have a lot of root competition also need special care because they are fighting for any moisture / fertiliser they can get during the hotter months. Our potted plants that may not have been re-potted recently require extra care to help them cope during Summer and if they dry out to the point of wilting this can weaken their root system so consider placing these pots into a saucer to hold excess moisture so they can really enjoy a good drink and mulching our potted plants is so beneficial. To stop moisture loss, prior to re-potting, line Terracotta pots or pots that are not glazed with newspaper before planting in them. This can stop the heat being able to draw moisture out through the pot. As our Spring flowering Camellias finish flowering, prune them back to maintain shape and promote new growth and if you haven't pruned your Daphne yet, you can do it this month. Ideally, the best time to prune your plants is when they have just finished flowering. Liquid fertilise your spring flowering bulbs before you trim away any brown leaves once they have died down completely, and if your roses have started flowering take some of the blooms inside to spread their perfume throughout the home and this will bring on more flowering. Keep a watchful eye out for those pesky aphids on the new buds and on new growth, you can spray for this, but nature will assist here, lots of tiny birds will thank you for a feed of aphids. You can also pop on some gloves and physically wipe away the aphids and garlic planted amongst roses will deter them. They can do so much damage to our rose



buds and in such a short time frame. Keep in mind, roses need a thorough watering often because they're working hard during the flowering period. Lawns can really benefit now with some attention. If you have a clay soil top dress with gypsum, fine white sand and a good lawn fertiliser, apply onto a damp lawn and water in well after top dressing. Select a fertiliser specifically suited to lawns because the ratio of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium will differ from fertilisers for flowering plants. A sandy soil will benefit from a generous top dressing of a good organic fertiliser, this will help retain more moisture so there is time for the roots of the grass to draw it up as opposed to water draining through the soil quickly.

Have a fantastic November.

Gail Mains Kendrick (Your Local Real Estate Agent)



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.upmcldg@gmail.com

or Chris Cobern 0413855490



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CLONBINANE C.F.A.

With summer fast approaching now is the time to ensure you have a bushfire plan in place in case an emergency occurs. During emergencies not everyone is able to think clearly therefore it is best to take steps to get prepared before the fire season. Things to consider when making a bushfire plan include;



Should I leave early?

Leaving early is the safest option to protect yourself and your family.

This means leaving the area before there are any signs of a fire – you may consider leaving on certain fire danger rating days. By leaving early you are avoiding panic, being trapped, making the wrong choices and risking serious injury or death

Defending Your Property

Planning to stay and defend is a big decision.

By staying and defending your property you are putting yourself and your family at serious risk of death or injury from uncontrollable fires on Extreme and Catastrophic fire danger days. Most homes in bushfire risk areas are not designed for Catastrophic conditions and we cannot guarantee that we will be able to get a fire truck to you. For more information about defending your property please visit the CFA website cfa.vic.gov.au – the information provided on this page can help you decide whether you are capable of defending your property or not, you can also find information about the risks and preparations involved to defend your property

How to plan

All family members should be involved in making your fire plan, as each member may have different needs that need to be considered.

Information and templates can be found at cfa.vic.gov.au in the Fire Ready Kit.

1. Which Fire Danger Rating is your trigger to leave?
2. Will you leave early that morning or the night before?
3. Where will you go?
4. What route will you take and what is your alternative in the event that a fire is already in the area?
5. What will you take with you?
6. What do you need to organise for your pets or livestock?
7. Who do you need to keep informed of your movements?
8. Is there anyone outside your household who you need to help or check up on?
9. How will you stay informed about warnings and updates?

What will you do if there is a fire in the area and you cannot leave?

Remember to decide who will do what as part of your plan.

Your destination and journey

Where will you go when you leave? It's up to you to decide on a suitable place to go when you leave early on a fire risk day. Things to consider include going to areas that are low risk such as, visiting a friend/family's house or community facilities such as libraries, shopping centres, swimming pools or cinemas. Communicate with your family and friends about how you'll know when to leave and where to go to stay safe. If you rely on others for care and support, your only safe option on serious fire risk days is to leave early – never wait to receive a warning.

Why write down your plan?

Writing down your plan and having it accessible to all family members is important as you may not be able to think clearly if you're surrounded by smoke, heat and flames.

If you do not already have a plan in place the CFA have a template that can be used [bushfire planning template – Leaving early \(PDF 2.6MB\)](#) – this can be found on the CFA website.

Share your bushfire plan

Bushfires can cause a lot of stress to neighbours and loved ones especially if they do not know where you are, or what your plans are in an emergency.

It is best to share your plan with family, friends and neighbours.

Remember, any bushfire plan – written or not – is better than no plan.



LIONS CLUB OF WANDONG - WALLAN INC.

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



Welcome all to November and the rapid approach of Christmas. It's time to keep your eyes open around town for our Christmas cakes and puddings in some Banks and Retail Outlets in Wallan, Wandong and Kilmore. Our tireless "Cake Manager" Hugh has taken on something of a Father Christmas role employing his Elves, Shaz, Clyde and Elizabeth to distribute his wares in the three Communities. If you haven't tried one of our cakes or puddings, do so. You won't be disappointed. We will also have a Cake Stall at the Wallan market on 9th November and the 14th December.

Some of our members caught up at the Wandong Public Hall recently to view the "Down The Line" Exhibition, a collection of historic photos and articles on Wandong/Heathcote Junction. A nice, informative little exhibition. We followed up with coffee in Wandong.

Our long time Member Brian has had a second Pacemaker fitted and is doing well. Apparently he asked if they'd accept a Trade In on the old one, and they said to keep it as it had too many K's on the clock.

Bill has gone and bought himself a motorcycle at the young age of 83. He saw the movie Easyrider a while ago and realizing he was as young and good looking as Peter Fonda, it was an easy decision.

Peters house is nearly completed. As our Treasurer, he thinks his share of the next Bunnings BBQ profit should see him and Family in the new abode. (Yes, even the Lions has its Underworld element)

After coming back from the last Drag Racing meeting in SA, I went in for a Hernia operation. Thinking it might cut the cost down, I took my own piece of plastic flywire to be inserted, but sadly they used their own and charged me full price.

Our Elizabeth had two nights at the Northern Hospital recently after suffering severe Heartburn, but understandably thinking the worse. She was discharged with a clean bill of health after two nights/days of observation. When she got home she had to explain to Clyde why he had slept alone the last two nights. A caring man is our Clyde.

Sadly, we are losing our President due to job commitments in Queensland, and a farewell function will be held soon for Daniel and family. We wish him well in the future and feel sure that once he and the family gain that Bronze Aussie tan, they will be back again to temperate Kilmore.

A photograph has been circulating showing Clyde fishing, on his knees, at Mt Martha. When asked about it, he said he was merely relaxing his legs. But apparently, he was overheard praying that, for once, he would catch a fish bigger than what Elizabeth had caught. And on the subject of Clyde, a fox visited and took all his chickens. In readiness for some new chickens, Clyde has shifted his bed and rifle out to the chicken house with the view that there'll be no repeats.

Bill has been seen consuming "Medicinal" Red Wine in greater amounts than usual, and when asked why, he said that he wanted to keep the old Ticker well lubricated so as not to need a pacemaker like Brian. We all drank to that, but with a slight degree of skepticism.

The unnamable "Bag Lady", who scours the bins for bottles and cans to cash in, has taken to carrying a donation hat. She takes breaks and sits on street corners where people feel sorry for her and "drop a coin". She is doing well. But Di S has always been an innovator.

Ok that's it for now. Get out and start that Christmas shopping realizing that there is no one you know who doesn't deserve a Lions Christmas cake or Pudding. Steve

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Ageing with Grace



Bringing a smile to the day of an older person

Throughout many small towns in regional Victoria, there are older people listening, smiling and laughing with their volunteer visitor.

A community librarian let Bill know about the Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme a government funded program that supports bringing connection and companionship to older Australians in their local community. Older Australians are at a considerably higher risk of loneliness and isolation than their younger counterparts, which is why the Australian Government introduced the Aged Care Volunteer Visitor Scheme (ACVVS) over 30 years ago (previously known as the Community Visitors Scheme).

Bill now meets with Denise on a regular basis, with the two becoming firm friends as they share stories of their lives, sometimes enjoying lunch at a local eatery together or going for a drive and enjoying the countryside.

Denise cared for both of her parents and misses them dearly; she finds that volunteering for the Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme helps her feel connected to the older generation and brings her a sense of joy.

While out in another part of country Victoria, Di visits the local aged care to visit Doreen. Doreen had to say goodbye to her cat when she moved into residential care and Di has made it her mission to train her adorable kitten to walk on a lead so she can walk through the halls and rest on Doreen's lap for a cuddle and a pat. For Doreen, who is experiencing dementia this small connection to her rich history brightens her day and brings deep satisfaction to her volunteer visitor Di.

Ageing with Grace is a small charity funded by the Government to provide this free service for any older person living in residential aged care or who is approved or waitlisted for a home care package, and we are always searching for volunteers.

Our volunteers are kind-hearted, generous and caring people who make time in their week to give back to their community and who are repaid by knowing they make a difference to an older person locally.

If you are interested in volunteering, we would love to hear from you and connect you to an older person who could do with a new friend.

You can contact Lydia, Aged Care Programs Coordinator, Ageing with Grace at lydiaz@ageingwithgrace.org.au or by phoning 0476 653 332.

WANDONG PUBLIC HALL

The Wandong Public Hall built in 1902 is a very special place in our community. It has hosted many engagements, weddings, receptions, Art Shows, Australia Day Celebrations, birthdays, anniversary parties and many other events and even the occasional funeral service.

Our regular user groups are always keen to have more people joining them and they are listed below..

The Craft Group meet every Monday, it's an informal group, bring along some lunch and an activity. There is always someone to help with crafty questions.

The Lightwood Flats Book Club meet monthly - contact is Christine Cram Ph : 0458 238 270

Wandong Country Knitters meet monthly- contact is Coralee Souter Ph: 0479 163 548

Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group meet monthly Ph: 0413 832 411

Rock N Roll Dance Sunday Arvo meet monthly Text 0408 548 524

We are always in need of new members from the community who would like to assist in the care of the hall - ENQUIRIES to Christine 0448 604 770.

To hire the hall please contact Christine for bookings or other information on 0448 604 770. Please leave a message or text for Christine to follow up.



Wandong Primary School

HELP NEEDED – Help us prepare of your child in 2025?

Parent Payments for 2025 are now live... PLEASE HELP US PREPARE FOR YOUR CHILD IN 2025. We ask that this small contribution towards your child's curriculum consumables is put at the top of the list to ensure the school is able to prepare early and purchase the required resources and equipment for the coming year. Please note that this should be prioritised over all optional items like camp.

Staffing Update

Every year brings about some changes and once again we are incredibly grateful that the wonderful reputation we have in our local and broader community has allowed us to be fully staffed for 2025. It is exciting to think that our last positions were finalised in the first week of this term, while many schools still have a number of positions unfilled.

Next year we wish Ms Elliott and Ms Blakis a wonderful year off as they both prioritise some family time and we look forward to welcoming Deb and Jessye back in 2026. We sadly say farewell to Ms Kaitlyn Hall who is heading into a new career at Assumption and I know she will love those big humans over there. Ms Matilda Smith will be heading to sunny Queensland and we all hope the big move and transition goes smoothly. This year we also farewell Vanessa and Nicola and wish them every success in their new journeys ahead.

In 2025, we are excited to welcome new staff Kristie Tyrrell, Kaitlin Pike, Ashely Koeleman, Brooke Miller, Tracey Richardson, Pru Gardner and we are excited to welcome Courtney McCulloch back in Term 3. Congratulations to our newly appointed allied health professionals – Vishnu Priyab, our full time Psychologist and Patrick Walsh, our full time Occupational Therapist. Joining our every growing Education Support team will be Bianca Owens, Felicity Arnott and Ruby Rickards. And last, but not least, we welcome our Buildings and Grounds manager, Tom Schweis.

World Teachers' Day 2024

On Friday 25th of October, the world celebrated teachers. Wandong is blessed with the best teachers in the world (I'm not biased either ☐) so please find a way to cherish your child's teacher. We have a strong culture of gratitude and I know that every note, email, card, token gift, kind word does not go unnoticed. In fact, it is often shared far and wide in our staffroom. Our teachers arrive early, leave late, miss personal functions to attend school events and constantly put in well and above for our wonderful kids. Please show them you care in your own small way. ☐

Hats At School in Term 4 – no hat, no play

Even though the sun seems to come and go, students are still required to wear a school broad brimmed hat. This is to ensure we are meeting our obligations in our SunSmart Policy. Hats will be required to be worn daily from Term 1 & Term 4 2025. All students must wear a sun protective hat that shades the face, neck and ears for all outdoor activities.

Bullying Misconceptions and Truths

Often children will say "I'm being bullied" and at times parents report that they or their child is being bullied. When our staff investigate the incident, it is often the case that another child has been mean to them, hurt them, or said or done something to upset them. This is not bullying, but not ok all the same. Bullying is more than just a fight or disliking someone. It's being mean to someone over and over again. Bullying is ongoing or repeated misuse of power in relationships, with the intention to cause deliberate (on purpose) psychological harm. Bullying behaviours can be verbal, physical or social. It is important that our children know the difference between someone doing something mean and someone who is being a bully. I urge you to chat to your child's teacher, Mrs Woods (Wellbeing AP), Ms Pollock or myself if you'd like to ask any questions about this.

KEY DATES

NOVEMBER 2024

Friday 15th Foundation transition #2

Monday 18th Foundation 2025 Information Session - Webex 5:00pm - 6:00pm

Monday 18th - Wednesday 20th Grade 3/4 Camp - Log Cabin Camp



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Riding without a helmet
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Know the e-scooter rules and ride safely.



tac.vic.gov.au/e-scooters



Neighbourhood Watch

Let's watch out for each other

South Mitchell

Neighbourhood Watch Award of Honour

We are proud to announce the Neighbourhood Watch Victoria Award of Honour to David Moran for his 15 years of dedicated service to NHW South Mitchell.

David has played a pivotal role in organizing community events, including sausage sizzles and clean-up initiatives, demonstrating exceptional leadership and commitment. As the Catering Coordinator, David's meticulous planning has ensured the success of numerous events, fostering a strong sense of community. His willingness to go above and beyond, along with his ability to inspire others, has made a significant positive impact on the safety and unity of his neighbourhood. We are thrilled to honour David for his contributions.



What NOT to leave in your car

There are several items which RACV have found should not be left in vehicles, and the reasons might surprise you.

- **Electronic devices** can be stolen from vehicles but they also start vehicle fires due to the hot temperature in parked cars in the sun;
- **Medicines** can become less effective if not stored correctly at room temperatures;
- **Aerosol cans** can explode in high temperatures especially if placed in direct sunlight;
- **Sunscreens** are less effective if exposed to heat; and
- **Glasses** can warp if they are plastic or metal glasses can become scorching hot if left in hot cars.

For more information, visit: <https://www.racv.com.au/royalauto/transport/cars/things-never-keep-in-car.html>

Upcoming events:

- **Crime Prevention Week** is being celebrated in Bunnings in Craigieburn. Our volunteers will be there between 3pm and 5.3pm on Thursday 7 Nov. & Tuesday 12 Nov. and between 1pm & 3pm on Sunday 10 Nov. Plenty of crime prevention strategies available, including anti-theft screws, and activities for the children.
- **Bunnings Sausage Sizzle** – here is your chance to support our group and buy a sausage in Craigieburn Bunnings on Saturday 9 November, 8am to 4pm.
- **Wallan Police Station** – Open Day on Saturday 30 Nov., between 10am & 2pm. Come and check out the specialist unit, tour the police station or Wallan CFA station, or chat to the other emergency volunteers available on the day.

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

DECEMBER 2024

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- LOCAL PREFERRED**

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WANDONG COMMUNITY CAROLS

SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER

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OF THE 2024 CAROLS
A LUCKY MEMBER OF
THE AUDIENCE WILL
TAKE HOME A**

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VACUUM**

VALUED AT \$1,000

New bins on the way

The new bins will be delivered
from November to February -
ready to use from **March 2025**.

Visit: mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/bins



A TRIBUTE TO A LOCAL HERO - JIM CHATZ

On 13 October 2024, the Wandong Heathcote Junction community lost a true champion when Jim Chatz passed away after a four year battle with silicosis. Jim was admired and loved by everyone and a tower of strength while supporting the Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group for over 20 years on so many projects that have made our town such a beautiful place to live. Some of these projects include:

Twenty years ago, about 50 residents came together over several weekends to create what is now named Pickett Walk beside Wandong railway station. What was an overgrown weed and blackberry eyesore was transformed into a picturesque walk and entrance to Wandong. This would never have been achieved without all the heavy lifting by Jim with his machinery. He made the pathway, the waterway, built two bridges over the waterway and even built a gazebo to shelter a picnic table.

The WANDONG sign on the station embankment is another Jim creation.

When you pass the Wandong Public Hall remind yourself of what it looked like before another Jim project. He and the community group transformed an unusable slope into a tiered landscape with a giant staircase to the hall's main entrance. Jim was also responsible for the construction of the storage shed beside the hall.

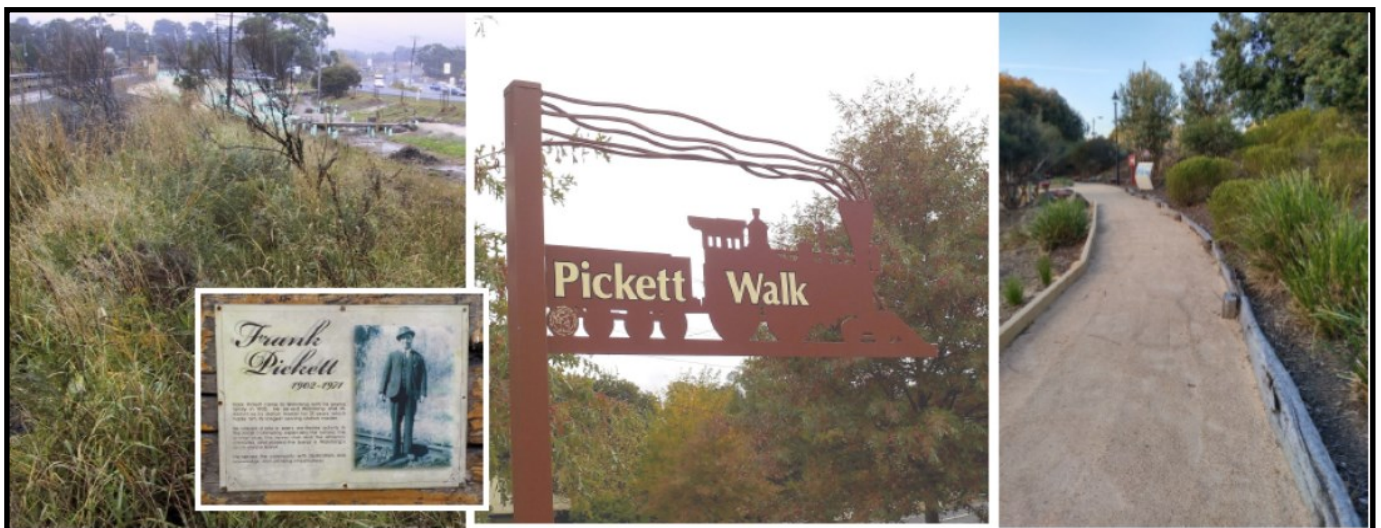
Jim performed much of the work to install the Wandong War Memorial including its foundations and the hundreds of pavers laid in the forecourt.

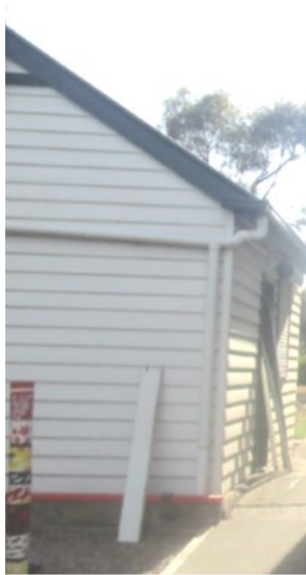
The last community project that Jim did was only a few months ago when he built a small terracotta brick wall in the Wandong Plaza carpark to remind us of days past when the Wandong Terra Cotta brick factory once stood on that site.

Jim and Debbie lost all their prized possessions, except Jims valiant, in the 2009 bushfires but undeterred built a beautiful new home in the town he loved.

The Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group will always be grateful for his friendship, devotion and remarkable contribution to our town. In 2020 Jim was presented with our towns Australia Day award in recognition of all that he has done for our community.

Jim was a beautiful and amazing friend to us all and we will miss him so very much.





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

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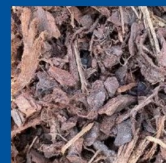
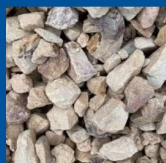
Authorised by R Mitchell ALP, 57-59 High St, Wallan.



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VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Join us for a special talk from **Stephanie Larkin** from **ENVU** - introducing a new herbicide effective against woody weeds and blackberry

Wednesday 20 November
7pm - 8:30pm

The Shack, Upper Plenty
After our monthly committee meeting

\$2 Entry

For more info: Michael 0412 408 048
secretary.upmclg@gmail.com

Wandong Playgroup

New members are welcome
at playgroup.

You can start anytime of the year.
Come along and check it out.

The first session is free and
then it's \$5 per family
plus payment of Playgroup Victoria
membership to cover insurance.

Playgroup is for parents,
guardians, grandparents and
careers and their
0-5 year old children.

Come and look!

Anytime is a good time to start.

Every Tuesday
(during school terms)
9.30am till 11.30am

At Wandong Community Centre,
LB Davern Reserve

Dry Creek Cres, WANDONG

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ABOUT PLAYGROUP CONTACT:

Briony Schaeffer 0413 828 175

WANDONG TENNIS CLUB

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

Information is posted on our
Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/wandongtennis

Our power has finally been restored to the club including our court lighting after five weeks. Thanks to Mitchell shire for the extensive repairs.

Also thankyou to our local clubs who helped us out during this time by allowing us to reschedule matches at their courts.



**Congratulations to Dylan Hall on winning a
singles tournament over the cup weekend at
Lakeview Tennis Club Reservoir.**

Our AGM is to be held on Monday 25th November
at 7.30pm at the clubhouse.

We need some new faces on our committee.
Come along and join us.

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



Upcoming Presentation

Aged Care Assist is a FREE Service providing support to understand and access aged care & other support services for older people.

Wednesday 27th November

11:00 am

Wandong Public Hall,

Corner of Rail St and Wandong Ave,
Wandong VIC 3758



For any questions call our Aged Care Assist team:

 **0438 849 400**

Spring has not been a good start, with a cool start 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 as we have had several sightings.

Our summer sports are in progress with their programs:

Mitchell Agility Dog Club., Wandong Tennis, Kilmore Cricket (Friday nights and Saturdays), Standard-bred Riding Club., Kilmore and District Adult Rider's Club, Wandong Primary recreational activities, Auskick (AFL Goulburn Valley program) Wandong Netball .

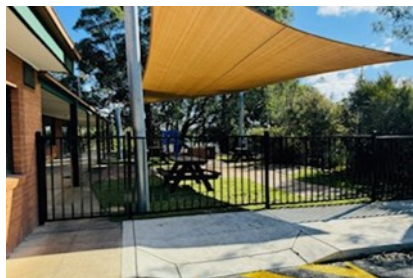
What is our community up to down at the Reserve, a lot at present but once the sun comes out more activities will come and the following will apply:

Walking the dogs, kids in the playground, individuals/groups doing their fitness workouts, mums with the kids in the pram, riding bikes, playing football-Kick to kick and Goal shooting practice, 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 activities at the newly installed exercise pod.

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

Vandalism at the L.B.Davern Reserve

Back in September, it is with disappointment that the L.B.Davern Reserve was hit with major vandalism that disrupted the activities of the Reserve. The Reserve was attacked with copper theft of our major cabling that cut power to the Stadium, oval lights, tennis /netball court lights and Tennis Club Rooms. Damage also occurred to various bollards, the netball/tennis courts, the Wandong PreSchool Sign, other signs and Oval gate lock was cutoff. The Police and the Mitchell Shire are following up with this investigation and camera footage has been obtained. If any locals have any information on the vandalism please contact the police. We are now back, all damage has been rectified, the Tennis club is back with their programs and the Stadium has also resumed.

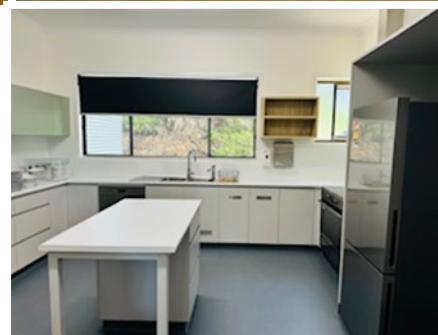


"Community Centre is Back for Bookings". We are now taking bookings, enjoy the new refurbishments of the Community Centre. Sports Pavilion normal business applies.

Our Community building is a great asset to hold Kids parties, family type events and private functions of all sorts. Please consider when planning a function. You can contact our booking officer **Darlene Gunter** on 0418 312 762.

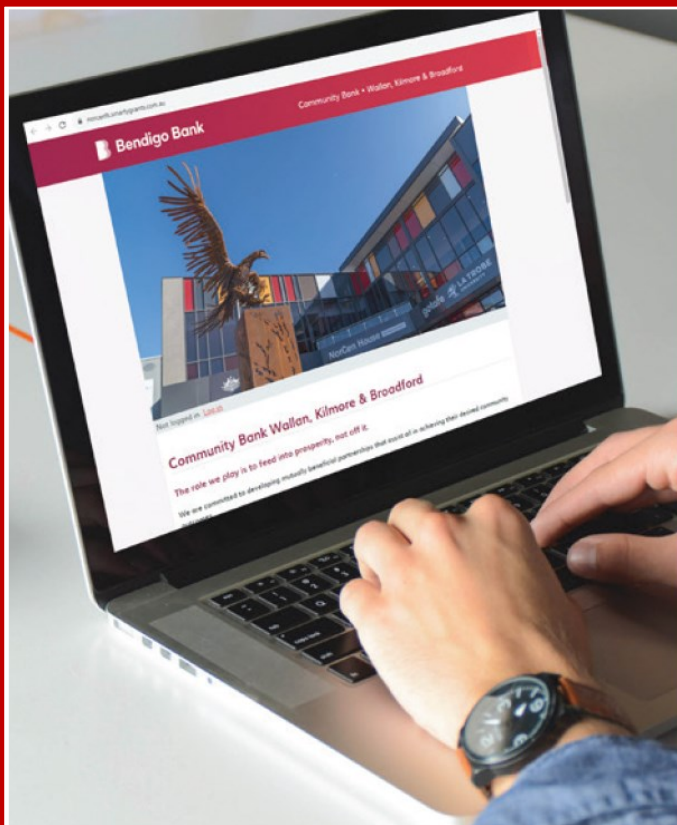
For all L.B.Davern Reserve Bookings to either:

- **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



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

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



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**Next round closes
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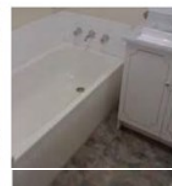
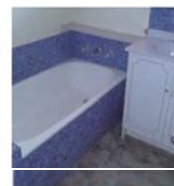
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By: Anne Zelvy's IACP-CDT

Build the Essential Skills from the Start !

Essential Skill 1 - " Know Their Name "

Objective: *The most important thing your dog will ever learn is their NAME. Your dog should realise that when he hears his name, then you are asking for his attention. The more 'active' you are with his name, the more attention you want. (Remember : the Dog's name should always be used to invite the dog to find you - There is no point just yelling if the dog doesn't respond.)*

Start a system: Working with the dog in the back yard have a few treats in your pocket and just wander around with no particular intentions. Then using an excited voice repeat the dog's name 'TIGGR' over and over - bend low and wave your arms at the dog's eye height. (Your body movement will help to direct the dog towards you) As dog comes towards you then praise 'GOOD DOG' and offer a piece of food, initially you may even throw the treat a few feet in front of you in direction of the dog. This will encourage the dog to continue towards you.

Next continue moving around the back yard, don't look at the dog, don't talk to the dog. Ideally wait until the dog is slightly distracted with something else. Then you repeat the exercise as before. By the third or fourth repeat the dog is likely to respond quickly as the dog can see the pattern and reward.

Create the habit: If you repeat this exercise a few times over the next week your dog will recognise the pattern and turns to look for you once they hear their name. Now you are setting the dog up to develop a good habit. Maintain encouragement when you want a dog to come to you. **The dog must see the profit in finding you.**

Caution: If your dog attempts to dodge and weave around you they are trying to play games. If you lunge at him to catch the dog then you are showing dog that you are prepared to play, Instead you should turn and walk away - there is a good chance then your dog will drop the silly behaviour and run to you and seek your attention.

Essential Skill 2 - " Give To Pressure "

Objective: *If your dog understands 'Give to Pressure' he will become easy to walk on a lead by anyone, of just about any age. Your dog will also develop the patience to wait quietly when tied up anywhere. Initially a dog will understand a **physical pressure** on his collar.... But with practice dogs learn to accept **mental pressure** and this also allows dogs to back off when challenged by humans or other dogs.*



Start in Fixed Position: Place the dog/pup on a soft lead (approx 2 metres in length) Maintain a position you feel comfortable. Now your role is to ensure that the dog understands not to place you under any pressure. Dog may decide to pull away from you to explore - you TUG the lead then RELEASE. Tug and release continually until dog stops pulling. You maintain your place DO NOT use any voice command just ignore the dog. (The tug must be sharp and strong enough to unbalance dog but the release must go to loose lead).

Remember, You are teaching the dog to 'Give to Pressure' the dog is **not** required to sit so if there is light contact just leave dog to choose either sit or stand. Dog is also free to move around as long as he doesn't pull against the lead. It is certainly acceptable in the early stages for him to circle around you, just swap the lead around your body and maintain your position. This will take time and repetition which can be frustrating. The aim is that the dog realises that when they pull against the lead they are made uncomfortable. When dog starts to back off from a lighter pressure then occasionally test and see whether dog will back off before you Tug/Release.

Walk on Lead: Dog does **not** need to walk on the left... nor do they need to be close at all times. It can take a great deal of practice before a dog will walk on a loose lead so don't give up hope. Be prepared to stop regularly to reinforce the idea of "give to pressure". Ensure when walking you move at a brisk pace, do not let dog stop and sniff at everything and do not talk to dog.... Look forward and move like you are on a mission. Don't worry about using treats initially, you will likely find it difficult to co-ordinate yourself, dog, the lead let alone treat.

Long Term Problems: An older dog will often have a tendency to pull on the lead and drag therefore harder for them to change their habit. They have learnt to ignore the human on the end of the leash, hence the level of the TUG you need to give an older dog is much higher and more dramatic. There must be a TUG and then Release. Without the release the dog just continues to lean on the lead and ignores the human at the other end.

Remember Your Objective - Dog to see the benefit of 'Give to Pressure'.



SUDOKU

Answers on
page 27

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 27 but no cheating!

1. Mount Cook is in which country?
2. Which country is Gallipoli in?
3. Which two countries border the USA?
4. What island has the largest number of quokkas?
5. What is the capital of Denmark?
6. What horse won three Melbourne Cups?
7. In which country was the origin of Halloween?
8. How many books in the bible?
9. What causes ocean tides to rise and fall?
10. Who is third in line to the British throne?
11. Why are bikes called BMX?
12. How long is a cricket pitch?
13. What year was the Eiffel Tower opened?
14. When did Australia Come independent?
15. Who was Albert Namatjira?

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
- > Monthly radio shows

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With the permission of Sue Marstaeller's daughters Kim and Ali
"Whats News" now shares their beautiful poem tributes at Sues eulogy

POEM FOR MUM - written by Ali

*Somewhere in our hearts, beneath all the grief and pain,
Is a smile we wear at the sound of your name.
Our mother, she was our world, but always causing a fuss,
But now our hearts are breaking because she is no longer here with us.
She is going to watch over us from above,
To guide us and let us know that we are still loved.
A wonderful mother who shall never grow old,
She loved helping people and had a heart of gold.
Your love of scrapbooking and crafts we will always treasure,
We will never forget you were so clever.
Being a Mother and Nanny made you incredibly proud,
The greatest achievement you wore so loud.
Our world has been shattered, our hearts a gaping hole,
But we have so many stories of you to be told.
When we think of your kind and generous heart through all those loving years,
Our memories surround us and we can't hold back the tears.
There is no more hurt, suffering or pain.
Our sad loss is heavens gain.
We know you'll be joining every group and committee up there,
Organising everyone and taking it all in into your care.
It was truly heartbreaking watching you take your final breath,
But we want you to know we will continue to love and honour you even after death.
We want to thank you Mum for teaching us so well,
But now the time has come to say farewell.
We will remember all you've taught us and make you proud, you'll see.
Thank you for all the love you showed us we will always remember your legacy.
Forever in our memories and our hearts,
When we think of you, it will feel we are not so far apart.
We will make you one last boiling hot cup of black tea,
For now, you can finally be free.*

Legacy of Love (read by Kim)

A wife, a mother, a grandma too, This is the legacy we have from you. You taught us love and how to fight, You gave us strength, you gave us might. A stronger person would be hard to find, And in your heart, you were always kind. You fought for us all in one way or another, Not just as a wife not just as a mother. For all of us you gave your best, Now the time has come for you to rest. So go in peace, you've earned your sleep, Your love in our hearts, we'll eternally keep.

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
or call 1800 422 737

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Lighting and Powerpoints

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0403 242 665
Clonbinane based

Weather Report - Heathcote Junction/Wandong **OCTOBER 2024**

**At long last we can anticipate
some decent spring conditions.**

**The diurnal temperatures showed
an increase compared to last month
with several warm days but nocturnal
temperatures remained rather cool.**

**Total rainfall of 57.5 mls consisted
of 15.5 mls in the first two weeks of
the month recorded on four days and
the balance of 42 mls was recorded
on two days in the last two weeks.**

Stats - Rainfall

October 2024	-	57.5 mls
Previous year	-	82.5 mls
Average prev 10 years	-	87 mls
Total this year	-	658.5 mls
Total prev year	-	539 mls

QUIZ ANSWERS (from page 24)

1. New Zealand
2. Turkey
3. Canada and Mexico
4. Rottneest Island, WA
5. Copenhagen
6. Makybe Diva
7. Ireland
8. 66 (39 Old 27 new)
9. Moons gravitational pull
10. Princess Charlotte
11. Bicycle motorcross
12. 22 yards (20.12 m)
13. 1889
14. 1 January 1901
15. Aboriginal artist (1902-1959)

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



*Kilmore
&
District*

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

As the Christmas break gets closer by the day, many groups are now planning their end of year celebrations. The luncheon group will be having their final get together On December 10th at Hogans Hotel in Wallan as they did such a great job last year. It will pay to get in early if you want to come. Not a member? No problem there; if you join now you will be covered for next year.

The gardening group are out of winter hibernation and judging by the photos they are sending, they have been visiting some magnificent gardens in and around the area. They share knowledge, cuttings and seeds, having a great time in the process, always followed by a cuppa and a chat. They meet on the second Thursday of the month at 1pm.

The morning tea trivia and singalong that was held in conjunction with the Wallan group to celebrate the 40th birthday of U3A was such a success that we have decided it will be an annual event to coincide with senior's week. The Victorian festival runs throughout October every year, with free and low-cost events providing thousands of opportunities for older Victorians to take part in.

The ukulele group have been very busy, performing not only at their regular monthly gigs at Caledonia and Dianella respectively, but also providing the children's entertainment at the Halloween community event run at the Kilmore Community House. It is time to break out the Aussie Christmas carols as next month will be the final gig for the year at Caledonia and "Deck the shed with bits of Wattle" went down a treat last year.

If you are not a member of U3A and would like to benefit from the many and varied classes available, it really is a good option. There are exercise classes, yoga, walking with dogs, music, dining, history, creative writing, craft and many more. The venue at the JJ Clancy Community centre is great with easy access and plenty of parking.

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. We are a friendly and approachable bunch and if you already belong to another U3A branch, you can join as an associate member for only \$5.00. Check out the website at <https://u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au/> or contact us at info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au

Cheers, Amanda Oades

Hello Readers,

I think we can all agree this year has absolutely flown by at lightening speed and we are nearly at that magical time of Christmas.

Speaking of Christmas, our dedicated luncheon co-ordinator Carole has arranged our Christmas lunch at the Moonee Valley Racecourse, where not only will we enjoy a delicious meal in the company of our dear Wallan U3A members, but perhaps also view the beautiful gardens at the Racecourse.

This lunch, being the final get together for the year, our committee have generously decided to hire a coach to transport us to the venue, how good is this..... perhaps a little wine!

As I write this, our members have danced the night away at our final social for the year. For our dancing and singing pleasure, we listened to the dulcet tones of Noel Pearson who entertained us all evening with his vast catalogue of songs and music with which we are all familiar. This was accompanied by a yummy selection of pizzas and delicious desserts and plentiful snacks.

This year we have gained a number of new members who are participating and enjoying our Pilates classes and Mahjong sessions.

We hope to attract more members in the New Year when once again we undertake our U3A promotion at the Wellington Square shopping centre in Wallan.

Please check out our website, <http://u3awallan.org.au> or call us on 0438 107 300 for further information.

That's all for now.

Till next time, Bye



University of the Third Age
Wallan Neighbourhood House
42-47 Bentnick Street Wallan

Whittlesea Community Network

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



Hello! The year is speeding by but don't let that stop you from getting out and having a go at something new! Find out what's on at the House via our website www.wchi.com.au where you can book online or call us on 9716 3361.

Visy Recycling

It's BBQ season (and Spring Racing) so SAVE THOSE CANS AND BOTTLES! Over the counter recycling is available Monday, Wednesday and Thursday each week 10am - 3pm and Saturdays from 8am - 4pm. Please note that we are not open on Public Holidays.

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 meet 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 14th & 28th November 11.30am - 1.00pm \$2.00 per person.

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

Online learning + face to face Saturday 30th November \$85/\$150/\$195

Boat Licence - Makes a great Christmas Gift!

Our next Boast Licence

Saturday 23rd November OR 7th December 9.00am - 1.00pm \$150 per person

Students from 12 years are eligible, PWC issued to >16 years

White Card

Friday 15th November 9am - 4pm \$150 per person.

Op Shop Tours

We are trekking to Op Shops all over Melbourne twice a month in 2024 and you can join us.

Different route each month! These trips sell out fast so grab a friend and join the fun:

Saturday 7th December 9am - 4.30pm \$20 per person

Feel free to bring a snack to share on the Bus there will be a lunch stop.

Metal Detecting

Saturday 16th November 1.00pm - 4.00pm \$10 per person

Fix It Friday RETURNS!

Fix it Friday is returns this month! 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, Espresso 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 November 10am - 1.00pm

Pop in during open hours for a cuppa Mon - Thurs 10am - 3pm.

Food relief pantry packs are available during office hours or visit our community pantry 7 days a week open all hours (out the front of the House - 92A Church St).

Pet food relief is also available for dog and cat food during office hours.

Kilmore Golf Club Inc.

Club Championships have finished after 3 weeks and we congratulate the following members

Ladies Champion; Cheryle Andersen

B Grade Scratch, Seniors Trophy, Wilson Cup; Helen Dennett.

C Grade Scratch; Di Dixon

Men's Champion; Adam Gardener

B grade; Tony McGregor

C Grade; Mick Roberts;

D Grade; Rod Williams;

Best nett score; Mark Boland

Veterans; Barry Archbold



The Club has a number of Special Deals.

Football/ Netball players can play golf for \$350 any day of the week. Get a handicap and enjoy membership benefits. This offer ends 31st March 2025. If interested contact 0427258081 or visit our website

Distance membership \$400 pro rata if you live more than 40 km from Kilmore. Enjoy the benefits of playing on a well maintained and quiet course.

Social Pass. \$300. This offer finishes 31st March 2025. Play golf at a time to suit you.

The golf shop is not always tended so if players wish to hire carts please contact the club via phone 57821123 or 0437712973 a day before. Carts will not be hired after 12.30 pm.

For walking players use the Honesty box to make payments \$25 weekdays & \$30 weekends.

Alternatively, payment can be made by direct debit (instructions in the box)

The function room is available for hire for community groups by emailing

info@kilmoregolfclub.com.au or ph.: 57821123 and leaving a message.

Enjoy a game of golf without the crowds in peaceful surroundings and play a well-maintained golf course. Meet our friendly members.

WANDONG-HEATHCOTE JUNCTION COMMUNITY GROUP

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



WEBSITE: In October the <www.wandong.vic.au> website received 1498 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

For the last four years we have been hearing about the huge bridge that ARTC has been proposing to build over the rail lines at the northern end of Rail Street. Recently we met with the John Holland PR reps who discussed our wishes for the landscaping of an extended Pickett Walk and bridge surrounds. It is difficult to finalise anything without having a final plan which is now not available until January.

After years of campaigning Mitchell Shire for the revamp of the Wandong bushfire park car park, we have been advised that the plan will be produced shortly. Hopefully we will get a say in the design.

Mitchell Shire has received 12 submissions for a replacement artwork in the Lions Park adjacent to the Wandong railway station car park. We were involved in the evaluations and a decision will be made shortly with a view of the project being completed by April 2025. The WHJCG and the Wandong History Group, have favoured the submissions that display our history.

It was with much sadness that we lost one of our greatest supporters when Jim Chatz passed away recently. We will never forget Jims devotion to our town and all the help he gave the WHJCG to implement projects, we certainly would not have achieved all the improvements without his help. Apart from this he was a true friend to all of us and we will miss him so much. Our thoughts are with Debbie, Jaron and Mary, Coby and Kelsey and families.

The Wandong Community Carols return to the Community Centre at Davern Reserve following its \$800,000 renovation. Come along for a free sausage sizzle, magic show and face painting, Santa of the Wandong fire truck, followed by the carols and a huge giveaway to a lucky member of the audience.

Upper Plenty Merri Catchments Landcare Group



Last month we had a number of corporate volunteers lend a hand to help plant 150 native species on a local farm. This has been an ongoing project to establish a safe green corridor for smaller animals and birds to move between locations. This can help to sustain their numbers as it limits the amount of open air movement they must make in the way of predators. Thank you to all those who came to help.

On the 19th October Neil Devanny from the Victorian Rabbit Action Network presented an intensive whole-day workshop on Rabbit Management. This session was attended by approximately 30 people consisting of not only locals, but farmers as far as Bairnsdale! The session equipped attendees with the knowledge on how to reduce rabbit numbers not only as individuals but how to work as a community to succeed.

We learnt that the rabbit's principal weakness, and the key to their control, is to deny them a habitat. By removing cover that will encourage potential burrowing, such as gorse and blackberry. By ripping or imploding existing burrows, this significantly reduces their numbers. The session included lunch and afternoon tea with a big thanks to Viv, and allowed for networking between local land holders and managers. The day ended with a call to action to get engaged with your local neighbours, community or Landcare group to start reducing numbers.

Neil's sessions are always valuable, and we thank him again for his time and expertise in telling the story of what the rabbit problem is, and how it can be addressed. We are planning a practical demonstration of warren ripping for the first quarter of next year. If you'd like to stay informed, keep an eye out on our social media or reach out to us.

UPMCLG also hosted members of the Friends of Merri Creek for a tour and short working bee at our Dry Creek restoration project adjacent to the Mahadys Road intersection with Wallan Whittlesea Road. The Friends of Merri Creek provided seed funding and support for the initial establishment of our Landcare Group, so it was nice for us to show them one of our projects. Approximately 36 Friends participated in some weed control activities, targeting hawthorn and gorse at the site, along with an explanation of the project and a pretty good afternoon tea. A big thanks to our secretary Michael for organising the site and arranging tools and equipment, and to Claire Weekly of the Friends management for organising the visit.

The Dry Creek restoration project is our local Landcare community project on public land, and we look forward to hosting the Friends and other volunteers there in the future.

This month we also had our Landcare facilitator Chris, along with some handy volunteers set up nesting boxes in an effort to give our native species a home in vulnerable areas. These nesting boxes are specifically designed and painted to promote a safe and 'natural' feel in the animal's environment. These boxes may be utilised by a number of species from birds such as treecreepers and nightjars, to phascogales and gliders - even microbats have been known to use nesting boxes as a safe haven.

Our Landcare have regular nest box making days so feel free to reach out to us if you would like to get involved or think the native species in your area could benefit from a nest box.

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday 20th November 2024: UPMCLG Committee Meeting – The Shack (Upper Plenty Mechanics Institute Hall): 6:30pm – 7:00pm

Wednesday 20th November 2024: Presentation from Stephanie Larkin from Envu introducing a new herbicide for woody weeds and blackberry – The Shack (Upper Plenty Mechanics Institute Hall): 7:00pm onwards (after the committee meeting)

TBD: Rabbit Management Demonstration Day – Early 2025



WANDONG
"COUNTRY
MUSIC CLUB"
STARTING SOON

- **SINGERS**
- **MUSICIANS**
- **LISTENERS**
- **SINGALONGS**

PHONE:

VIVIAN C. KENNEY
680 O'GRADY'S RD
WANDONG

• **0413 156 204**

ENQUIRIES:

9AM TO 9PM MOST DAYS

ALL INVITED
REGULAR
GET TOGETHERS

