



ISSUE 349 WANDONG/HEATHCOTE JUNCTION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER : JULY 2025 ABN 17 022 858 565

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

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## 'Train of Life' Art Unveiling

On Thursday 26th June Mitchell Shire Council and the community of Wandong and Heathcote Junction unveiled a new public sculpture called "Train of Life". The sculpture was by local Clonbinane artist Tai Snaith and was possible when Mitchell Shire obtained a grant for artwork and selected the location to replace a wooden sculpture that had rotted over time. The sculpture reflects the town's strength through the Black Saturday bushfires and honours its proud legacy of trains and timber.



### *Train of life, 2025* Tai Snaith



Bronze, cement and River Red Gum (E. Camaldulensis)  
Commissioned by Mitchell Shire Council

Artist Tai Snaith has created this train of three giant echidnas in bronze, charred redgum and concrete as a tribute to Wandong's railway history and its resilient community after the Black Saturday fires.

Echidnas are remarkably adept at surviving bushfires, often emerging with scorched quills but remaining alive. Echidnas can go deep underground and stay in a torpor state for months.

Male echidnas have been observed forming a train behind a female during mating season and the last one remaining becomes her mate.

26 June 2025

26/06/2025



PHOTOS include artist Tai Snaith, Mitchell Shire Councillor Tim Hanson and Wandong Primary School Captains, Alyssa and Annabelle,.



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

Wandong - Heathcote Junction - why would you live anywhere else. Until August 2025, Allen Hall (editor)  
**NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE: COPY & ADS 2 AUGUST 2025 DELIVERY from 13 AUGUST 2025**

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## WANDONG TENNIS CLUB

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

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



Congratulations to our our  
section 2 green team who won  
their grand final in the Autumn  
MDTA grand finals

Well done Tyson Burmeister,  
Lucas Vicary, Aaron Crawford,  
Russ Vicary,

Absent Peter Cretchley  
and Hayden McCarten

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

## WANDONG-HEATHCOTE JUNCTION COMMUNITY GROUP

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



**WEBSITE:** In June the <[www.wandong.vic.au](http://www.wandong.vic.au)> website received 823 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](mailto:whatsnewswhj@gmail.com)

Our representations to VicRoads regarding the lowering of the speed limit on the Epping Kilmore Road through Heathcote Junction has apparently been received favourably. We wait with anticipation.

We understand that Pickett Walk was affected by Inland Rail work to install a pipe from Rail Street to the Epping Kilmore Road but we were not told Pickett Walk would be closed for an extended time and that the work would impact much more of Pickett Walk than we would expect. We have asked Inland Rail to explain its intentions.

With regret two of our pin oak trees had to be removed and a further three on the Epping Kilmore Road and eight on the Wandong Broadford Road will also be removed for the road alterations.



# What's Happening

## WANDONG OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE



Service Phone Number:

**0497 877 771**

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

### How to Enrol

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

### Operation Times

Before School Care 6:30am – 8:45am

After School Care 3:30pm - 6:30pm

Pupil Free Day 6:30am – 6:30pm

Holiday Program 6:30am – 6:30pm



**MYKI RETAILER**

## 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](http://www.wandong.vic.au)

[www.upperplenty.com](http://www.upperplenty.com)

## Mitchell Bushwalking Group

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

Please contact:

Mary 0428 479 469  
or Wayne 0451 519 734  
or email

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

for more information

## GET "WHATS NEWS" BY EMAIL

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



## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

We wish the following  
people a very happy  
birthday

|        |                 |        |
|--------|-----------------|--------|
| 16 Jul | Noelene Pyle    | K      |
| 16 Jul | Olivia Allen    | HJ     |
| 18 Jul | Michael Mason   | W      |
| 18 Jul | Andrew Fletcher | HJ     |
| 19 Jul | Kayla Johnson   | HJ     |
| 19 Jul | Nicholas Rhead  | HJ     |
| 21 Jul | Dale Dwyer      | Wallan |
| 22 Jul | Steven Barnes   | HJ     |
| 22 Jul | Brian Dove      | W      |
| 23 Jul | Hayley Day      | UP     |
| 24 Jul | Bianca Gardiner | B      |
| 25 Jul | Brok Wightman   | W      |
| 27 Jul | Vicki Seeley    | HJ     |
| 27 Jul | Jessica Barnes  | HJ     |
| 27 Jul | Sarah Dwyer     | Wallan |
| 29 Jul | Amelia Kovacic  | WP     |
| 29 Jul | Ben McMahon     | B      |
| 30 Jul | Elidh Murray    | HJ     |
| 30 Jul | Steven McCarthy | HJ     |
| 30 Jul | Jake Duncan     | HJ     |
| 31 Jul | Dawn McCormack  | HJ     |
| 3 Aug  | Jessica Kelly   | HJ     |
| 3 Aug  | Jenny Mifsud    | W      |
| 4 Aug  | Mick Lawrence   | K      |
| 4 Aug  | Ben Dodds       | W      |
| 4 Aug  | Terry Swanwick  | HJ     |
| 5 Aug  | Erin Hanson     | W      |
| 5 Aug  | Casey Johnstone | W      |
| 6 Aug  | Kasey Georgelin | HJ     |
| 7 Aug  | Brett Smith     | W      |
| 7 Aug  | Nicole Marshall | HJ     |
| 7 Aug  | Robyn Robinson  | HJ     |
| 7 Aug  | Holly Ellison   | W      |
| 8 Aug  | Karen MacDonald | W      |
| 8 Aug  | Brian Smith     | W      |
| 8 Aug  | Craig Stewart   | W      |
| 9 Aug  | Sue Bausch      | HJ     |
| 9 Aug  | Graham Robinson | HJ     |
| 9 Aug  | Helen Stewart   | B      |
| 9 Aug  | Jaymi McLennan  | W      |
| 10 Aug | Robyn Likos     | HJ     |
| 12 Aug | Gail Plumbe     | C      |
| 13 Aug | Joanne Waldie   | W      |
| 14 Aug | Helen Stewart   | W      |
| 14 Aug | Kate King       | Wallan |

## Mitchell

## Photography Club Inc

Visit our website

([www.mitchellphoto.org](http://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.





# Wandong IGA

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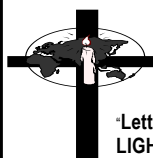
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3272 Epping Kilmore Rd, Wandong

**5787 1911**



## LOCAL CHURCH NEWS



***Wandong District Church***  
**29 Wandong Ave,  
Wandong**

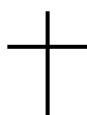
*Letting the  
LIGHT Shine*

**Services held at 5pm Sundays  
ALL WELCOME**

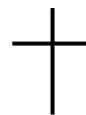
**Enquiries to:  
David Moran 5787 1738**

## ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, WANDONG

**WANDONG AVE, WANDONG**  
**Enquires 9308 2452**



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



## 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](mailto:membership.upmclg@gmail.com)  
or Chris Cobern 0413855490**

## THE SHACK IS BACK

**The Upper Plenty Community Hall  
"THE SHACK"**

**is open for hire. For information and book-  
ings call Susan or Wayne on 0499 907 017  
If not answered leave your name and number  
and we will return the call.**



## Help! I'm stuck!

I promised last month to pass on some sneaky details about Aunt Edith but first I must slip in something that happened to her prized vehicle. I will write a full article one day about the workings in a busy garage just after the war, but for now I'll tell you about a sunny day at Northcote. Years ago, supplies, parts and tools were either in short supply or not available and a lot of the time we had to improvise. Things like gasket cement was made or topped up every Monday morning by the apprentice made out of Shellac flakes and metho, you just mixed them together and added to the mix in the overflowing pot on the bench, needless to say the bench was a smelly mess most of the time. Mid-morning, along wandered second year Andy and sat on the sticky mess, not being aware of anything unusual.

Lunch time came around at the same time as Aunt Edith's car was ready to pick up. Aunt was out getting some of the boys' lunches, so Andy parked her Standard Vanguard across the street in the sun and proceeded to eat lunch in the car.

Half an hour later in drives Andy winds down the window and sheepishly says "I'm stuck". Stuck! we make a top-quality gasket cement at our place. (never had a failure!)

We used about a pint of metho and a bagful of rags to separate Andy and the Vanguard. We treated all the seats to the metho wash and the result looked quite professional by the time Aunt returned from shopping. Because of the metho smell I explained what had happened and she took it surprisingly well and couldn't wait to tell Norm when she arrived home.

It was quite a lively discussion with Reverend, as they now call Aunt, in the lunchroom that day as the staff swapped stories of misfortunate things they had experienced and how they had reacted at the time.

Aunt, not one to miss out on a chance to mix Christian principles with modern day living suggested to the staff that they bring to the meetings things that they notice that could have been handled differently with maybe a better outcome. The staff were now comfortable with Aunt quoting from the Bible and telling of her life's experiences, finding interest in a previously taboo subject! Verses from Jesus who said it would be better to remove the log from your own eye then you will see clearer to take the sawdust out of your brother's eye! (like, before you criticize your mate take a good look at yourself.) Some had not heard the story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10/25-37. Or John 3/16-17, John 10/28-29, Mathew 6/34, Romans 8/28 or worth learning 8/31.

They were intrigued by stories of writers of some of the most powerful hymns and that some preachers like the Wesley boys had penned over 5000 religious songs.

Some of the lunch times seem to be getting longer and longer but I don't mind, the change in tempers and attitudes are quite noticeable and though I notice Aunt drops in for 'lunch' quite often I am grateful for 'Reverend' to visit any time.

A.G. (There's no charge for last month's batteries incident after the gasket cement issue!)

### **Whittlesea Anglican Church**

Serving Whittlesea, Upper Plenty.  
& surrounding areas

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

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

**Weddings/Baptisms** by appointment

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

#### **Services to the Community:**

**Whittlesea Opportunity Shop** 7 Laurel St

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

**Christ Church Craft Group**

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

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**Mobile: 0411 794 188**

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

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



Classes held at:  
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## Anyone wishing to join Kilmore District Mens Shed Should contact John Perrett 0418 288 024 or Ron Hamilton 0481 268 471

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

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

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Caladenia Nursing Home

Website:  
[www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au](http://www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au)





# GARDEN SCENE WITH GAIL

Well, we've passed our shortest day and into the second month of Winter, and we still have heaps of jobs to do in the garden. Weeding, of course is our biggest headache, the weeds grow quicker than our plants and they get such a head start and harder to get out once they are established. Sheep sorrel (common name) is a real pain, and it germinates at this time of the year with such tiny flowers that are really hard to see. The leaves are similar in shape to an arrowhead, and it has an extensive rhizomatous root system allowing it to pop up anywhere. Flower/seed, distribution by wind, animals, humans etc make this a real survivor and because of its resilience it's a real chore to get rid of particularly when it's mixed in with flowers, bushes and/or ground covers and given the inability to dig it out in close proximity to our plants it's the type of weed that just keeps on giving and it may take several attempts to get on top of it. The good thing is that if you have Sheep sorrel in your lawn or other broad leaf weeds you can apply 'Weed & Feed', it's a fertiliser that is great for bladed grass however, on broad leaf weeds it settles on the broad leaves and the sheer accumulation of the product on the leaf burns the surface, killing the weed. Not suitable amongst your plants. Weed removal is certainly easier while the soil is softer and if we can keep on top of it with feeding, treating the soil and mulching it will be a much easier task as the warmer months progress. July can be a busy month apart from weeding, there are fruit trees to prune, if we haven't already done so and our beautiful roses. My roses suffered over Summer with the very lengthy dry periods, hot winds and not being able to keep as much water up to them that they needed to flourish, towards the end of Summer/Autumn I was just happy not to have lost any of my plants, but it was an uphill battle. Prune your fruit trees to an outward node, maintaining a vase shape, remove any dead or damaged branches or any that are crossing over other branches and if possible, keep the tree low enough to access the fruit easier without climbing too high up a ladder. If you have a plant that is not as healthy as it should be, take care to clean your pruning tools really well before you use on the other plants. July is the month to apply Sulphate of Potash to our fruit trees, roses, or any Spring/Summer flowering plants. If you have a plant that pushes lots of foliage but very few flowers, it may be low in Sulphate of Potash. First application can be done now, repeat in three weeks and again in another three weeks. Ensure that it is watered in well so it can be absorbed by the root system and here's where if our soil is drier than it should be our plant/s will suffer. If our plants are unable to absorb nutrients, moisture etc and nitrogen from the rain they are behind the eight ball already. Soil quality needs to be right otherwise our plants can't thrive. When it comes to pruning roses, I usually wait until the end of July to mid-August, hopefully to avoid frost damage to the new growth. It is really what works for you, the area



you are in, the amount of frost you get or don't get, and the time frame your plants start to throw new buds? It is the same for pruning hedges, weeping plants or reshaping plants. 'Bare rooted' plants are available now but always buy from a reputable supplier to ensure, come Spring, foliage will appear, and you won't be disappointed. When planting, prune the roots lightly and submerge into a solution of Seasol and use that solution on the plant after you have watered in well. Check out deciduous plants/trees now, they are well worth including in your garden if you have the room, beautiful Autumn colours, and great microclimate plants as in lovely shade trees in Summer and they let in the Winter sun. Have a lovely month.

Bye for now!

*Gail Mains Kendrick* (Your local Real Estate Agent)



## 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

Happy Cat Yoga - Tuesday evenings 7 to 8 pm Ph Hannah 0468 397 426

CPR Training - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month Ph Louise 0409512526 contact @[ehssol.com](mailto:ehssol.com)

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.

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# LIONS CLUB OF WANDONG - WALLAN INC.

President; Sam Bedi

PO Box 225, Wandong Vic 3758



Welcome all to a wintery July in Wallan/Wandong where frosty mornings have been greeting us.

Now that winter has set in and the Club's activities have reduced, the Committee are only meeting every second month, or if important issues arise that require full, Committee input. However, our "unofficial" Friday night get together for meals and frivolity is still happening at the Magpie and Stump with growing numbers. It has been particularly good having long term Lions Club member Brian Dove joining us each week. Brian is something of a historian when it comes to the W.W.L.C being able to recall stories many have forgotten. He can confidently cite a Club Rule, to be quickly accused by Clyde of "just making it up".

The issue of our Bench Seat for the Lions Memorial Park in Wandong has become somewhat dragged out due to unavoidable circumstances, but the Mitchell Shire grant is in the bank, and the supplier is ready to manufacture the seat. We have chosen a design we feel will appeal to Club members and the public alike. We will advise of further progress. And speaking of the Park, some new artwork has been placed via Mitchell Shire and local Artists further enhancing the site.

Member Shaz (affectionately known as The Postie) has grasped her job as Lions Mint distributor with enthusiasm. She will also be helping Hugh with the Christmas Cakes when season approaches.

Bill "The Biker" has taken possession of his new motorcycle, and with me, is participating in rides to the local Coffee and Cars events, as we brave all weather conditions in our pursuits. It's become another "unofficial" Lions Club event with a few Members and friends regularly joining us for coffee.

Bill's lovely Wife Marie recently had a milestone birthday for which celebrations were held at Hogans Hotel in Wallan. It was a great turnout of fellow Lions and Maries friends over a nice lunch.

Cliff and Di have returned from their holiday in New Zealand having enjoyed their time under the Long White Cloud.

Clyde and Elizabeth have been taking off on holidays at every opportunity. A sojourn through North-east Victoria, over Mt Hotham and back through Gippsland was undertaken recently. Now they are in Vanuatu after a series of minor disasters which seem to follow Clyde. A cancelled flight, a substandard night's accommodation, and a broken-down bus are the tip of the iceberg for the current adventure. Check August "What's News" on release for further details!

I had a trip to sunny Queensland for a Drag racing event in perfect weather which endured to Albury on my return. By Kilmore I was back in miserable wet and cold conditions. Contrary to Clyde's claims, I watched Drag Racing and didn't "race in drag".

Congratulations to member Rawad and his wife Hania on the arrival of their new baby

Ok, that's it for now from me. Take care, stay warm and watch out for those Kangaroo and Deer when driving!

Steve.

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## 200 YEARS AGO HUME AND HOVELL TRAVELLED THROUGH WANDONG AND WALLAN - LOCAL GROUPS ARE PLANNING A MEMORIAL

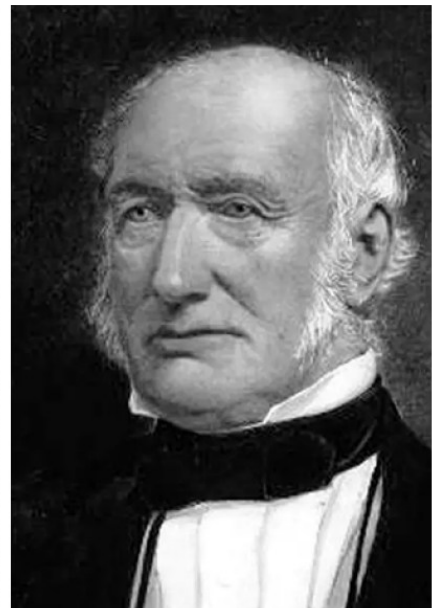
Research published by the Royal Historical Society of Victoria has revealed the path of Hamilton Hume and William Hovell in 1824 in this region and revealed that they travelled straight through the middle of Wandong.

Reverting backwards a few miles in their journey, Hume and Hovell approached Mt Piper, Broadford, on the afternoon of the 12th December, 1824 on a compass bearing of nearly due West to the lay person. They camped that night at the junction of Sunday Creek and Dry Creek, Broadford. Next morning they went seven miles nearly due South, to Waterford Park to find the first passable crossing of Sunday Creek.

The party was short of food and were desperate to get clear of the mountain ranges. Hume led them through a series of natural low passes, briefly South-West, then generally South along what later became the Wandong-Broadford road. It took them straight through the middle of Wandong, across Arkells Lane and up to the watershed peak on the Great Dividing Range that is 1260 metres South of Arkells Lane.

Having crossed the peak Hume continued to ride in front along Eastern Ridge, Wallan (Happy Valley) to about the now Emelia Court intersection, according to the accurate measurements left by William Hovell.

Hume led the party off the ridge to the left in a South by East direction and they camped that night on the Merri Creek at about present-day Kelby Lane, Wallan.



## WANDONG HISTORY GROUP

Sad news in the village, we lost another of our locals, Eric Ryan passed from this life, his simple but moving funeral service was held in the Wandong Public Hall and many of his family and friends were there to honour his passing. Vale Eric.

We also lost Colin Williams from Heathcote Junction, Colin was a lovely caring man and I spent some time working with both him and Sue many years ago. Our sympathy to Sue and the family, another sad loss for our town.

The next few months will be quiet ones for the group, we will be working away in the warmth of our homes on projects that are upcoming, so the time will be put to good use. I was fortunate to be just walking past the church when some visitors arrived looking for some "family history", turns out they were relatives of Emma Dau one of the Children of Heather Farm, so it was fortuitous that we happened to be there at the same time. I spent some time with them sharing information and am pleased that they are keen to be part of any projects we do on the family. More to come on that soon.

Happy Winter everyone.

Don't forget to check out our website [wandongheathcotejunctionhistory.com.au](http://wandongheathcotejunctionhistory.com.au)

Karen Christensen  
President

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







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WRITTEN BY MICHAEL B HALLEY  
PUBLICITY OFFICER

## Oh Deer! Six Degrees

The six degrees of separation theory came into focus during the lead up to the July meeting of the Combined Probus Club of Whittlesea. *Johannes Wenzel*, Chair, Victorian Deer Control Community Network had been engaged to make a presentation about Feral Deer and the impact on the environment, farming, and the public in general. Closer than six degrees latitude away [but used for emphasis] from Whittlesea is Flowerdale. Plenty Valley Produce that farms there suffered a total loss of organic vegetables when feral deer invaded the property. Over just three nights, deer ventured from public land onto the farm, stripping paddocks of valuable crops to the value of \$100,000.

Feral deer are emerging as one of Australia's most serious environmental and agricultural threats and Victoria has possibly the largest deer population in Australia, estimated at more than a million animals.

The deer population is expanding rapidly and invading new areas. With a lack of predators, occurrence in vast and remote areas and great habitat flexibility, deer are set to become one of Victoria's, and ultimately Australia's, most damaging pest animal invaders.

The Victorian Deer Control Community Network (VDCCN) was established in 2021 to provide a platform for state-wide collaboration of all groups and individuals over matters related to reducing the impact of feral deer. The VDCCN encourages people and organizations to join and contribute to the network, and the only prerequisite is being interested in reducing the impact of feral deer.

The presentation was enlightening, yet concerning! Mr Wenzel who lives at Belgrave South related that in 2010 he noted a small deer in one of his paddocks which in the next five years became a herd. He had developed a large espalier fruit fence to go with his vegetables and his wife's Rose garden. This was deer manna from heaven and soon the garden was stripped.

Neighbours and residents in the adjoining localities were also under attack and in 2020 formed Cardinia Deer Management Coalition to address the several issues arising. The 1983 bushfires wiped out all helmeted honeyeater colonies in Upper Beaconsfield and surrounds destroying the dense riparian vegetation (vegetation along waterways) that the Helmeted Honeyeater relies on for food and shelter. Unfortunately feral deer contributed with the habitat degradation so that the helmeted honeyeaters did not recover. Melbourne Water's Cardinia Reservoir was found to be a refuge for Deer as the surrounding land is fenced and not accessible to the general public.

Local councils became aware of the environmental impact that feral deer were and would have in the future and joined the Coalition. Melbourne Water independently became aware of the impact and risk to water contamination of feral deer. The management policy was changed to eradication. The Reservoir was re-fenced and over the next 2 years professional deer controllers removed 675 feral deer from 13 square kilometres around the reservoir. The Victorian Government's Deer Control Strategy was announced in 2020 as a co-ordinated approach to reducing deer numbers in Victoria. It is Victoria's plan to reduce the impact of deer on the environment, agriculture, Aboriginal cultural heritage and public safety. The strategy is being delivered under the Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037 and is also a commitment under the Sustainable Hunting Action Plan. We learnt about modern methods of feral deer control including helicopter and drone thermal imaging, licensed shooters and some legislation that gives landowners approval to cull deer. An approved shooter must in one shot hit a target 100 meters distance.

Estimations are that by 2051 the costs of loss and damage attributable to Feral Deer will rise to AUD\$2.1billion. Instanced was the high cost that pine plantations incur due to deer destroying young saplings. Forty percent [40%] of new plantings get destroyed!

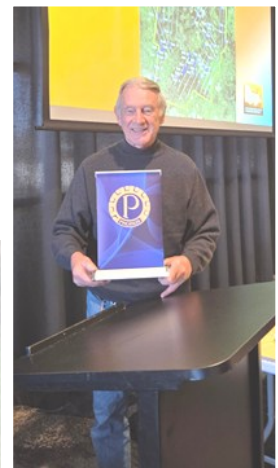
The introduction of deer is an example of early settlers wanting to Briticise Australia and the result being devastating. The first imports were in 1860 and until 1900 they were protected and allowed to expand uncontrolled. In the 1940s Deer were allowed to be hunted and in 1975 became a "game species". Another failed "get rich quick" scheme was deer farming which resulted in farmers releasing herds into the public lands.

A number of the members attending had personal involvement with feral deer and contributed to the discussion. Mr. Wenzel encouraged us to join the Victorian Deer Control Community Network to get expert advice as how best to minimise loss and damage and to report any deer sightings on the Deer Scan app [visit [www.deerscan.org.au](http://www.deerscan.org.au) or download the Feral Scan App (free download from [Apple](#) and [Android](#))]

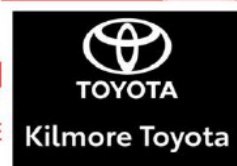
Mr Wenzel was applauded by the members and given a small token of appreciation by Speaker C0-ordinator Teresa Carlin

The tenants of Probus are Fun and Friendship in Retirement. Make new friends, listen to interesting guest speakers, learn a new skill, and explore new interests and hobbies. Contact

[whittleseaprobust@hotmail.com](mailto:whittleseaprobust@hotmail.com)  
or phone 0427 021 592



# Wandong Warriors 2025 SPONSORS



Wandong Junior Football Club

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





# Our Town's Football Club

With lots of cold and wet weather some of our Warriors have racked up some big milestones this month. One being Jackson Fraser playing 100 games for the club. Something that doesn't happen too often at the warriors. We have also had Aliyah and Jude both pick up their 50 games which is a big achievement. The club looks forward to plenty more players in the coming months achieve this milestone , well done guys. Go Warriors!

## Weekly Training Times

Tuesdays and Thursdays

U9,10,12 4.30pm

U14 5.00pm

U16 5.30pm



Well done to Aliyah and Jude on your 50 games. Fantastic effort guys! True Warriors!

## Congratulations on 100 games Jackson 'Jacko' Fraser

100 games at one club is a massive achievement. This will have Jacko join an elite few at the Warriors who have hit the milestone and even fewer who have done it at the one club.

Jacko started at Wandong Warriors in 2017 in the Under 10s. Since then, he has not looked back not missing many games along the way. He has been involved in leadership roles at the club, a dual club Best and fairest winner and has been selected for the Goulburn Murray inter-league team on several occasions.

Always in the hot spots, he gets plenty of the ball every week. Great hands, deadly accurate on both feet and an engine that runs all day. Entertaining to watch and putting in 100% whether it's training or on gameday. Congratulations from the Warriors!



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# CLONBINANE C.F.A.



## Home Fire Safety

In recent weeks brigades across the state have been responded to house fires, some of which being caused due to electrical faults.

To help prevent electrical fires you should:

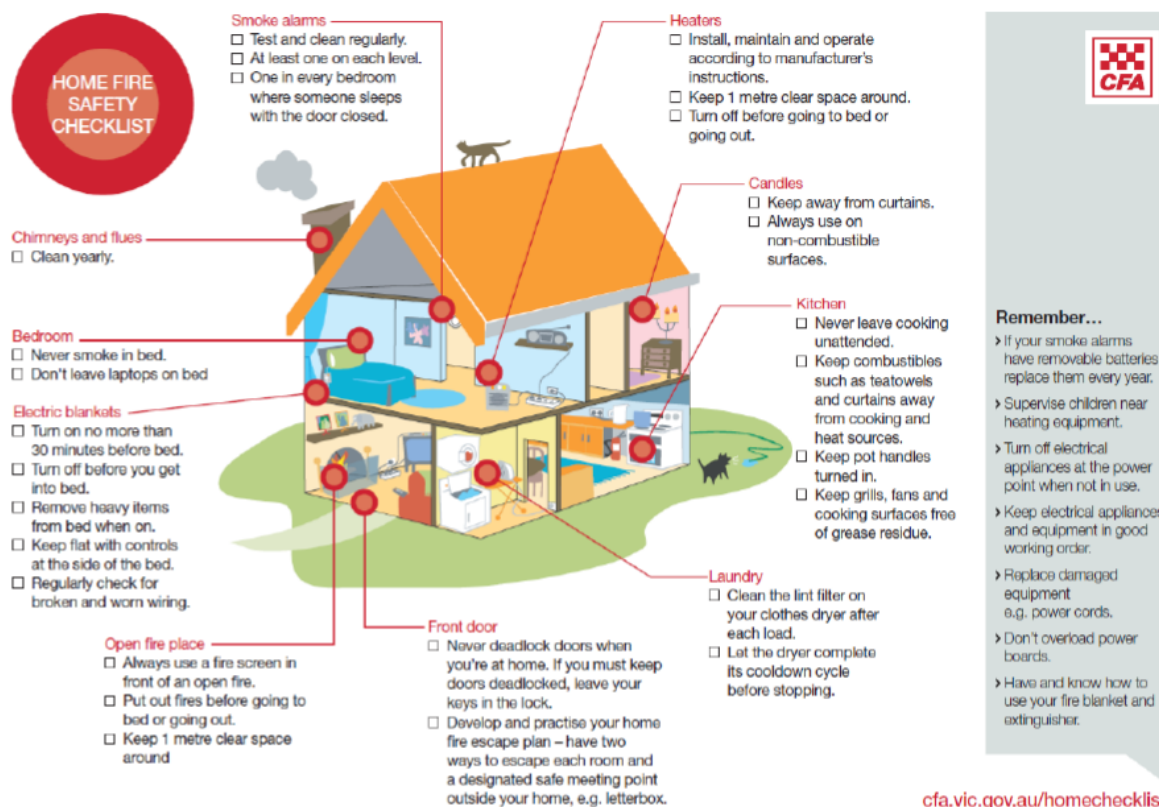
- Check that your appliances are in good working order and have no damage
- Don't overload powerboards
- Don't leave electronic devices such as phones, iPads, laptops etc sitting or charging on your bed or blankets
- Make sure that devices like laptops and monitors are ventilated and free of dust
- Turn off your electric blankets before getting into bed

If a fire were to start in your home, would you know how to escape?

All family members should know:

- The two quickest ways out of every room
- How to exit from upstairs if your home has a second storey
- Where your meeting place is once you exit the home
- How to call Triple Zero (000) - do your kids know your address should they be the ones to call for help?

For more information head to [cfa.vic.gov.au/escape-plans](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/escape-plans)



## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Melbourne Firefighter Stair Climb

This year 4 of our members will be taking part in the Melbourne Firefighter Stair Climb on 6<sup>th</sup> September to help raise money to fight cancer, depression and suicide.

Damian, Henry, John and Lew have started training for the 28 floors of steps they will be taking in September. At the end of June Wandong Fire Brigade hosted a group training session where our crew along with members from Beveridge and Broadford spent their morning climbing the steps of the Wandong railway bridge - Thanks Wandong Fire Brigade for arranging this.

If you would like to support the crew from Clonbinane you can do so by following the link below.

<https://www.firefighterclimb.org.au/station/cfa/mitchell-shire-group/>



What's happening in the world of water  
[www.gvwater.vic.gov.au](http://www.gvwater.vic.gov.au)

# WATER MATTERS

WINTER 2025

ISSUE #2

Our Water Matters Winter 2025 edition offers an insight into everything the 135,000 people who live in our 54 towns should be aware of when it comes to their water supply and sewerage services. This edition we look more into water restrictions, Water Week and our support for customers who need some help.

Get\o/aterFit

## Calculate your water use

For a better understanding of how people use water at home, the Water Conservancy GetWaterFit calculator helps inform customers how they can be more water-savvy and recommends relevant, personalised products to help reduce water wastage.

All you need to do is type in your postcode and follow the prompts. You will be asked some really simple questions and when you are finished you will be able to access the results.

Through a series of easy to understand graphs the calculator will provide you with some easy wins and, importantly to many of us, will show potential saving and a comparison to households of a similar size.

You can access the GetWaterFit calculator at [GetWaterFit - Water Usage Calculator](#)

Water restrictions are now in place in Euroa and Violet Town as a result of Victoria having not only its driest summer since 2013-14, but the fourth warmest summer on record - and it is dry across our whole region.

We are encouraging all customers to use water wisely. Residential demand accounts for most of the water use across the region, meaning household changes can have a big impact.

By making simple changes, such as taking shorter showers and only running dishwashers and washing machines with full loads, you can significantly lower your water use.

For tips on how to save water visit [www.gvwater.vic.gov.au/save-water](http://www.gvwater.vic.gov.au/save-water)



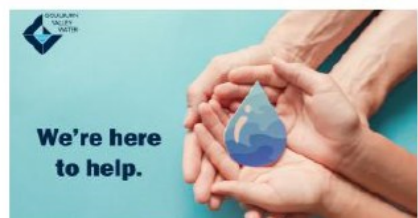
This year's Water Week theme is Don't Flush It and thousands of students are now busy creating toilet paper wraps for our annual competition.

Each week our operators remove blockages in the sewerage system due to the wrong items being flushed. The Don't Flush It toilet paper wraps will feature messages encouraging the 3Ps reminding people to only flush Pee, Poo and (toilet) Paper.

On Wednesday, 22 October we will be conducting a free Waterwise Gardening seminar at Shepparton's Riverlinks at 7pm.

We will also be encouraging people to participate in Water Night, which is on Thursday 23 October from 5pm until 10pm.

Visit our website for details.



If you could do with some support, or advice, when it comes to your water bill We're Here to Help.

Whether you're struggling with a high bill, worried about leaks or want to save water, we're offering support that can make a difference to your budget and the environment.

We've launched a new program to help eligible customers fix leaks, improve water use efficiency, and access flexible ways to manage bill payments.

You could qualify if you're a residential customer facing financial challenges, you hold a concession card, or you have received a higher-than-usual bill.

Every Drop Counts - and right now so does every dollar.

Call 1300 360 007 and one of our friendly Customer team can help you.



# WANDONG FIRE BRIGADE



Wandong Fire Brigade recently held their brigade elections, with several long-term position holders stepping down from their positions. The executive committee for the next two years will be:

**Captain – Heath McSolvin**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant – Yorin Miller**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant – James Stephens**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant – James Peake**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Lieutenant – Fiona Manson**  
**Communications – Yvette Curlis**

**President – Liam Edwards**  
**Secretary – Kasey Styles**  
**Treasurer – Carole McMahon**  
**Community Safety – Kylie Shingles**  
**Junior Leader – Kylie Shingles**  
**Safety Co-ordinator - Matt Lowden**



We want to offer our heartfelt thanks to the following members who have stood down from the following positions: Yorin Miller (Captain), Sandra O'Connor (President), Jen Moore (Secretary), Michelle Kendrick (Treasurer), and Shane Moore (3<sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant). Their service to the Wandong Fire Brigade, and our community, has been outstanding and deeply appreci-

ated. We are grateful for their dedication, hard work, and commitment over many years. Their contributions have helped shape the brigade into what it is today, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

## Melbourne Firefighter Stair Climb

Our 4 firefighters Tom, Robert, Jacob, and Kasey taking on the **Melbourne Firefighter Stair Climb** (MFSC) on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of September have been raising the intensity of their training. You may see them training on the blue bridge stairs. The MFSC supports Lifeline, the Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation, and the 000 Foundation. Our firefighters are training hard and would appreciate your support for these worthwhile causes.

[www.firefighterclimb.org.au/station/cfa/wandong/](http://www.firefighterclimb.org.au/station/cfa/wandong/)

## Juniors

The juniors had a visit from the District 12 Headquarters Brigade Rehab Unit, and learnt how they monitor firefighters' health during extended or intense incidents. They had a visit from the outgoing Captain Yorin Miller and were able to interview him on his experience of Captain of Wandong for the past 12 years. The juniors have also been working on their Search and Rescue techniques, including using the fog machine to smoke up the engine bay, and working on team work and communication skills to locate and rescue injured persons in the fog.



**Wandong - CFA  
Melbourne Firefighter  
Stair Climb**



Scan here to donate to our climbing crew.  
Raising funds for: Lifeline, Peter MacCallum  
Cancer Foundation and 000Foundation



## Southern Cross Gold Consolidated exploration tunnel update

Southern Cross Gold Consolidated (SXGC) has finalised its work plan to construct an exploration tunnel and will submit the application to government agencies in early July.

As part of the plan technical experts were engaged to assess potential impacts of the project on people, property, infrastructure and the environment, and have recommended ways to mitigate and manage impacts. Risk mitigation and monitoring measures have been incorporated into the plan to guide SXGC's exploration activities.

"We know the exploration tunnel is of enormous interest to our neighbours and surrounding communities which is why we've distributed information about the project widely via [our community website](#), newsletters, newspaper advertisements, [tours of the site for neighbours](#), social media and drop-in sessions," SXGC Managing Director Michael Hudson said.

"We were pleased to speak to over 470 people throughout the tunnel's engagement campaign and hearing our community's feedback provided us with a valuable opportunity to incorporate it into the project design.

"Our engagement hasn't stopped there. We will continue to provide up-to-date information to our community throughout the approval process and, should the project be approved, throughout its construction, exploration and rehabilitation phases.

"We've created fact sheets based on the technical experts' reports and encourage residents to head to our website to read them."

The fact sheets outline the scope, methodology and results for each technical assessment, along with the mitigation measures that have been incorporated into the project plan. Fact sheets are currently available for noise, dust, ecology, water, visual amenity and vibration reports and can be found at [www.southerncrossgoldcommunity.com.au/exploration-tunnel/fact-sheets](http://www.southerncrossgoldcommunity.com.au/exploration-tunnel/fact-sheets).

SXGC will continue to keep the community informed about the tunnel's approvals, plans and design, and share information in-person and via communication channels throughout the project's development.

SXGC is available to answer questions on [community@southerncrossgold.com.au](mailto:community@southerncrossgold.com.au) or 1800 717 638. Further information about the exploration tunnel can be found at <https://www.southerncrossgoldcommunity.com.au/exploration-tunnel/overview>.

# WORKS HAVE STARTED

## FOR THE Wandong Primary School Upgrade

**Lauren  
Kathage MP**  
Member for Yan Yean

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Mernda VIC 3754  
lauren.kathage@parliament.vic.gov.au  
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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.

Winter has certainly arrived and with the cold, frosty, foggy and wet conditions be cautious of the wet trails throughout the reserve. Don't let the cold weather stop you from coming down to the Reserve to enjoy on what there is to offer.



The L.B.Davern is full of life with our community supporting their groups and other activities enjoyed by those who participate.

Walking the dogs, kids in the playground, individuals/groups doing their fitness workouts, mums with the kids in the pram, riding bikes, playing football-, passing shots in netball, shooting hoops at the basketball ring, riding the horses, training dogs to behave, Wandong primary doing sporting activities on the Oval, Wallan basketball in the Stadium

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.

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

### **Shade Structure @ Courts 5 & 6 and 3&4 We need help to complete this Project!**

The L.B.Davern Reserve was successful in the Tidy Towns Fund Grant for the purpose of providing Shelter at Courts 5&6. This shelter is double sided and will also provide seating and shelter for courts 3 & 4. This project was successful through the support of the combination of L.B.Davern Committee, Wandong Netball Club and Wandong Tennis Club. But we are still short in funds to complete if anybody in the community are interested to donate funds in kind you can contact Rob Telfer on 0408393250



### **Our Community building**

Is also 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.

### **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.
- Darlene Gunter on 0418 312 762  
Booking Officer for the  
Community Centre and Sports Pavilion

**Community Centre  
photos on page 21**

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 21**



## COMMUNITY CENTRE PHOTOS



**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!!



**Rob Telfer**  
**President**  
**L.B.Davern Reserve Committee**  
**12 Dry Creek Cres**  
**P.O.Box 303, Wandong 3758**

# Traffic changes and utility works Wandong 1 to 31 July 2025

**JOHN  
HOLLAND**

John Holland will undertake road realignment and utility relocation works in Wandong in preparation for construction of the new bridge. These works will require traffic management, including long-term lane closures and shuttle flow in some locations.

## Work being done

- Raising and realigning a 250m section of road requiring long-term shuttle flow and traffic management on Wandong and Epping-Kilmore roads
- Utility relocation requiring short-term shuttle flow and traffic management on Rail Street
- Under bore and trenching works for utility relocation on Rail Street and within the Pickett Walk. A section of Pickett Walk will be closed for up to six weeks
- Utility relocation and earthworks along Broadford-Wandong and Epping-Kilmore roads
- Relocation of private property fence lines for new road alignment. Impacted landowners have been notified
- Site clearing and construction of a hardstand and piling pad at the project worksite on 765 Wandong Road
- Site establishment activities at 33 Broadford-Wandong Road
- Service investigations, surveys, ongoing utility relocation and approved vegetation removal.

## What can I expect?

- Works 7am-6pm Monday to Friday and 7am-1pm Saturdays
- Round-the-clock works Monday 30 June to Monday 7 July
- Extended work hours for rail deliveries, 5am-10am Sunday 27 July

- **Extended work hours, 4.30am-7pm Monday 28 July**
- Residents impacted by out-of-hours work will be notified prior to works
- Long-term temporary traffic changes will be in place during construction
- Traffic management and reduced speeds. Allow extra time when travelling through the area
- Medium levels of noise with some high levels of noise at times. Nearby residents may notice some vibration.

## Machinery used

Non-destructive digging truck, small truck mounted drill rigs, excavators, tipper trucks, cranes, compaction rollers, loaders, graders, concrete trucks, workers using hand tools, survey equipment and traffic management equipment.

## How we're managing impacts

- Traffic management and reduced road speeds
- Works within Pickett Walk will be carefully managed with no significant vegetation impacts expected
- Environmental controls will be in place
- An arborist and qualified wildlife handler will assess all trees before removal.

## Cancellation of works


Works can sometimes be cancelled at short notice. Should this occur, works will be rescheduled.

For any concerns or enquiries phone 1800 732 761 or email [inlandrailvic@inlandrail.com.au](mailto:inlandrailvic@inlandrail.com.au)

Thank you for your patience and cooperation while we carry out these works.

☎ 1800 732 761    @ inlandrailvic@inlandrail.com.au

✉ PO Box 217, Collins Street West, VIC 8007

 Please call our free translation and interpreter service on 131 450 (24 hours a day) if English is your second language and you need help reading this document

**INLAND  
RAIL**

## Carer Gateway – In Person Peer Support



An Australian Government Initiative



**Holstep  
Health**



Hi everyone,

This month I would like to have a quick chat about Carer Gateway's In Person Peer Support program.

### What is In Person Peer Support?

In Person Peer Support is the opportunity to learn from peers through the sharing of lived experience. For carers, sharing of knowledge and the support of a peer who 'has been there' can offer reduced levels of worry, tension and distress.

Studies have shown the benefits of peer support to include gaining skills, increasing self-knowledge, sharing positive experiences and forging connections with others.

### What is an In Person Peer Support Group?

The In Person Peer Support Group is a FREE facilitated peer support group for carers enabling connection with other carers. The group allows for personal connections and sharing of personal stories and experiences amongst carers.

Over 4 – 6 weeks the group will cover the following four topics:

- Connection
- Finding Community
- Making Meaning of Now
- Finding Purpose

All sessions are flexible and tailored to different groups of carers.

Importantly In Person Peer Support is suitable for ALL carers, including young carers.

### I'm interested – what do I do now?

Great! For more information or to register your interest please contact Angie Spiewak the In Person Peer Support worker at Familycare. We run a number of groups across the region including Wallan, Seymour, Shepparton, Benalla, Cobram and online. Angie can be contacted on 0438 346 657

Until next time,

Jason

## WANDONG HAS A NEW BOOK

**THE BOOK IS TITLED :  
“WANDONG HEATHCOTE JUNCTION - A RAILWAY HISTORY”**

**THE BOOK RETAILS FOR \$45 AND IS AVAILABLE ONLY BY PHONE ORDER**

**- CALL DAVID ON MOBILE 0409 164 660**







## Bad Dog... Bad Dog... Watch..ya..gonna..do ?

### Common Dog Complaints... Part II

Last month the discussion was about 'Barking' and 'Jumping'.... This month we will move on to a couple of other common complaints .....

### Number 3 Complaint... RECALL (or more so the failure to...)

Families tell me - "I just want my dog to Come when I call him !"

Seems a fairly straight forward request and yet humans seem to find it frustrating. The owner is calling / yelling meanwhile the dog is distracted by something and

doesn't even realise what his humans are wanting - the dog just goes about his business and ignores their humans. So consider the following points....

- Once again it is common to be told that you need obedience training... but again... obedience will NOT work because the dog is now environment that is much more interesting than responding to his humans. Hence dog is concentrating on these distractions instead of the human family.
- You will often be told - Don't let dog off-leash until the recall is \$110% .. again this will NOT work because it is impossible to train a dog to be 110% of ANYTHING.... So you will end up never letting your dog off-leash.
- Even IF you keep the dog on-lead you could be walking and then distracted, suddenly dog sees something and takes off... you accidentally drop the lead and your dog is charging down the street to chase a cat/rabbit/dog and no hope on getting the dog to come back.
- Perhaps you never take your dog out of the yard... however there is a time someone leaves a gate open and suddenly your dog is off and running. Dog then runs across the road and hit by a car.... You might end up with a vet bill of a few thousand dollars OR worse a dead dog !!!



The real problem is the dog and human often don't have good communication... the human repeatedly yells, screams, shouts..... " FENTON... COME ... FENTON COME ... BL00DY HELL FENTON... COME HERE... STUPID DOG GET HERE... ETC.." but Fenton the Dog has his brain on dog things and doesn't even know what the human wants and all your yelling just becomes white noise.

### Number 4 Complaint... DOG PULLS ON LEAD ...

So your dog is great at paying attention at home, but once you get out in the community everything is too exciting and the dog doesn't behave.... Dog sees something and just wants to go and inspect. Suddenly you are being dragged along the road feeling like you need new brakes.



- Now your damm dog is getting older (& more defiant) you try to crack down and do MORE obedience training. Dog might even do really well in class exercises, but when out in the real world it just just seems to falls apart...
- You talk to Trainers or Google HELP and the advise is to use treats to walk and distract your dog. This might work at times until he loses interest in the food and instead prefers to rush forward to meet another dog.
- You go to the Petstore and get confused with equipment choice but are advised you need a no-pull harness, but your dog still pulls... so you try a Halti... but your dog still pulls.... You might even try an e-collar but.....
- Now frustrated you try to go out walking at odd hours so you can avoid the dog being over-stimulated.... But then new situations happens or people suddenly appear and your dog just pulls....
- So now you give up and drive him to the dog park hoping you can just let him go into the park and run off his energy... but if there are other dogs in the park you know he is too excited, so you leave and drive home again.

The problem here is your dog doesn't hear you. The dog brain is fixating on the object or activity that is new and exciting. This is just a "Dog being a Dog" your dog just shuts down his brain to you and leans into the collar/harness and drags forward to the new object.... now dog is labelled ' Reactive' as your dog has no self-control.

**What can you do now....?** Sorry but again, there are no quick fixes....

Drilling obedience into your dog does not help the dog understand what is happening in our human world.



Your dog must get out and about in varied situations to build his understanding and tolerance of our human world so he can then Self-Control. Instead of relying on gadgets or avoiding the problems, you must help your dog deal with these exciting situations. Then you have to... Practice... Practice... Practice...

When you are struggling, don't rely on bloody Google... if you are going to a Trainer and their advice is not helping... find another trainer... One who can understand you and help you find solutions that work for YOU and your DOG.

# SUDOKU

Answers  
on page 28

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

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

## THIS MONTHS QUIZ

Answer appears on Page 28 but no cheating!

1. Which player has polled more brownlow votes than any other?
2. What is the capital of India?
3. What is a group of stars called?
4. Which country is the top producer of coffee?
5. Which bird is the symbol of peace?
6. What USA city is known as the "Windy City"?
7. What star sign is symbolized by a pair of scales?
8. Which famous musician was nicknamed "Satchmo"?
9. What country is known as the "Emerald Isle"?
10. How many edges does a cube have?
11. What is the only continent without native ants?
12. What is the name of Batman's butler?
13. Which brand owns the trademark "Just Do It"?
14. The group ABBA is from which country?
15. What does BMW stand for in English?
16. Which country has the most pyramids?

## MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL



### How to keep up to date with Council online:

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

### Not online?

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

Or, contact Mitchell Shire Council on 5734 6200.



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

< [www.mbug.org.au](http://www.mbug.org.au) >

or contact the Secretary,  
John on 5781 1604

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**REC 3028**



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- \*Safety switches & smoke detectors
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- \*Austel Licensed phone points

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**Mobile 0418 323 838**



Hello Readers,

I know I'm stating the obvious when I say it's been an exceptionally cold winter so far, however, at the Wallan Neighbourhood House our members are staying warm and cosy as we continue our many varied and interesting activities.



First off, I'd like to give a big thank you to our very dedicated and much loved Manager Pauline, who has been the manager of the WNHH since the very beginning and who has now taken the decision to move onto the retirement phase of life. On Saturday June the 24<sup>th</sup> a number of our members enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea in Pauline's honour. We all wish Pauline and husband Bob a very happy retirement.

At the same time, I'd like to welcome our new manager, Maria, who is already proving to be indispensable.

I'm also happy to report that we have welcomed some enthusiastic new dancers to our Tuesday afternoon social ballroom dance class. We always have room for more, so please come and join us for a free first lesson or just a look!

On Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> we enjoyed our monthly lunch, and this time lunch was at the Royal Oak Hotel in Kilmore where we dined on Vietnamese cuisine. All I can say is, I'd certainly go back again, it was yummy!

Our outing this month will be to the Seymour Resource Centre where we will learn the importance of recycling correctly and about what happens to our waste. In this day and age, recycling has become so important for the wellbeing of our planet, and I'm sure this excursion will be most enlightening.

Please check our website for more information on all our activities or give us a call on 0413 083 089 for further details, we'd love to see you, John Lanphier - President, U3A Wallan Inc.

Till next time.

Bye for now. John Lanphier

## Probus Club of Kilmore District Inc

Are you retired, semi retired or simply looking for new friendships and activities?

Kilmore Probus are looking for new members and you would be most welcome.

Our meetings include guest speakers and inhouse fun. Activities include weekly morning teas supporting local businesses and fortnightly/monthly lunches.

Our monthly meetings are held on the third Monday of each month (except December) at Trackside, East Street Kilmore at 10.15am. Come and join us.

Enquiries to: Margaret Jakymczuk  
Mobile: 0412 335 657

Email: [margaretjakymczuk1@gmail.co](mailto:margaretjakymczuk1@gmail.co)

## 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 carers 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



## Neighbourhood Watch

Let's watch out for each other

### South Mitchell

### Illegal dumping on the rise

**Mitchell Shire Council has experienced a massive increase in illegal dumping of rubbish through-out the shire.**

Aaron Bray from the Local Laws department at Mitchell Shire Council reported that the increase in illegal disposal of household and building waste had increased from 43 in 2023 FY to 617 in 2024 FY and already it is up to nearly 800 for 2025 FY. Last year alone, Council collected over 750 tonnes of dumped rubbish, including more than 1,000 tyres, at a cost of \$273,000 to ratepayers.

Council is now stepping up efforts with a new 'Dob in a Dumper' campaign to encourage residents to report illegal dumping. "Illegal dumping is not only expensive - it's unsightly and harms our environment," said Mayor John Dougall. "We're asking our community to help be our eyes and ears."

Every ratepayer receives five Resource Recovery Centre vouchers every year, worth up to \$40 each, which can be used at Broadford, Pyalong, Seymour or Wallan to legally dispose of most household items. and there are other options for free recycling of e-waste through the Resource Recovery Centres. Any item with a plug, battery or power cord is considered e-waste and they should never be placed in any kerbside bin.

Let's Work Together to keep Mitchell Shire Clean  
What you can do if you witness dumping:

- Record vehicle details and number plates.
- Note the date, time, and location.
- Take photos or videos (only if safe).

How to report it:

- Report it tool - [mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/reportit](https://mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/reportit); or
- My Mitchell app



### Mitchell Shire Council fines for illegal dumping

Penalties can reach up to \$3,000 for individuals , with higher amounts possible for repeat or serious offences, and even higher penalties for companies.

A family recently decided to de-clutter various household goods including boxes and toys but made a very costly mistake by illegally dumping this on a vacant block. It was very costly for them as they were caught on camera, identified and then fined \$3,500 for their actions.

### Upcoming Events

#### Chain of Survival - 14 Aug. 25 @ 1pm & South Mitchell NHW Meeting - to follow

On Thursday 14 August, at 1pm, we are hosting a "Chain of Survival" presentation by Ambulance Victoria. This session will help teach the public how to recognise and respond to cardiac arrest, heart attacks and stroke emergencies.

This session will be followed by our August meeting in the meeting room. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please RSVP via email to Carolyn at [secretary.smnhw@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.smnhw@gmail.com).

**Hotlines:**

**000**

**131 444**

**Online Reporting:**

**1800 333 000**

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

**Emergency**

**Police Assistance Line**

**Crime Stoppers**

For more information, visit:

<https://sites.google.com/view/south-mitchell-nhw/home>



[www.facebook.com/southmitchell.nhw.inc](https://www.facebook.com/southmitchell.nhw.inc)

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



**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](http://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 JUNE 2025

The first month of winter was cold and wet. The rain was gratefully received for those on tank and dam water. The rainfall was double that amount recorded same time last year with rain on 17 days over the month.

Our supply dam, Sunday Creek, was recorded at 42% on the 1st July compared to 99% same time last year.

### Stats

June 2025. - 84 mls  
Previous year - 38.5 mls  
Average prev 10 years - 81 mls  
Total this year - 249 mls  
Total prev year - 421 mls

All the best for the month  
Norm Hulett

## Kilmore/Wallan RSL Sub Branch

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

at Kilmore Memorial Hall  
Contact: Graeme McSolvin

**0413 701 040**

We have Compensation & Well-Being  
Officers, please call for an appointment.

### 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/  
mountdisappointmentclonbnane/](https://www.facebook.com/mountdisappointmentclonbnane/)

### QUIZ ANSWERS (from page 25)

1. Gary Dempsey (Foots/North)
2. New Delhi
3. A constellation
4. Brazil
5. Dove
6. Chicago
7. Libra
8. Louis Armstrong
9. Ireland
10. Twelve
11. Antarctica
12. Alfred
13. Nike
14. Sweden
15. Bavarian Motor Works
16. Sudan

### SUKODU solution

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



*Kilmore  
&  
District*

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

Winter has now arrived but despite the inclement weather, the U3A classes are well attended and our members continue to enjoy learning new skills and socialising. The ukulele group and the recorder ensemble are putting together a programme for a combined recital, singalong and afternoon tea to be held later in the year. These events are always a lot of fun for all and we are practicing madly to get the musical pieces just right. Watch this space for more details in the coming months.

The Tuesday Luncheon club continues to be a roaring success and bookings must be made early to ensure a place. Recently they attended the Epping RSL which served great food, was very reasonably priced and the senior's meals included just the best banana fritter. The latest outing was a lovely get together at the new Vietnamese restaurant Minh Khoi on a cold miserable day in Kilmore. The timetable for the rest of the year is on the website so if you wish to come along, contact the convenors.

Indoor bowls meet on a Wednesday afternoon at the JJ Clancy Community Hub and also continue to be very popular. There is plenty of room for more members so if you are interested in joining them, contact Elaine, the convenor. They are a very social group and the afternoon tea alone is worth coming along for. Elaine also looks after the darts class and their players are getting very skilled and competitive now. They could do with a few more members so why not give it a go?

The U3A history of Kilmore Group at their last meeting learned about the abandoned Heathcote Junction to Bendigo train line. Sections of this line still exist, much of it on private land. The class watched a very interesting and instructive Youtube video which can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tf3B5JoTEo> The group convenor then highlighted the changes that have happened since. The History class meet on the first Monday of every month from 1.30 until 3.00 pm. The convenor has a lot of local knowledge and the class is very informative.

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. Check out the website at <https://u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au/> or contact us at [info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au](mailto:info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au)

Cheers, Amanda Oades

## Kilmore Golf Club Inc.



Winter has meant that little golf is being played except for a few hardy souls who brave the intense cold and wind.

Steve Maurer won the June Monthly Medal but unfortunately there were not enough Ladies for this competition and it has been rescheduled.

Our Par 3 day which was to have been held in March will be held on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September this year. Keep this date free as bookings will be opening soon.

As mentioned previously Kilmore Golf Club is running an on-line auction which opened Monday June 30<sup>th</sup>. Anyone/ everyone can look at items for sale but to purchase an item you must register.

The aim as mentioned previously is to raise funds to repair the damage inflicted on the greens by corellas during the summer months. They need extensive work done to repair them and to return back to an acceptable state.

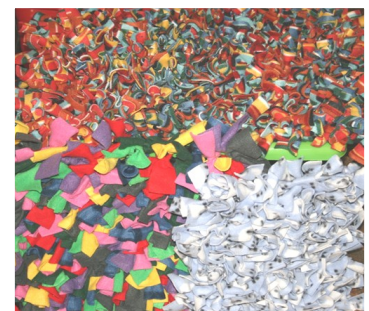
Contact details are: 32auctions OR check our website. [www.kilmoregolfclub.com.au](http://www.kilmoregolfclub.com.au)

Please pass on the details to all your friends.

## Snuffle mats for sale

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

Email: [wandongite@hotmail.com](mailto:wandongite@hotmail.com) Ph 0432 120 736





# Whittlesea Community Network

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



Hello! Can you believe we are half way through the year? Fear not, there's still time to learn something new, join a group or take up volunteering! Head to [www.wchi.com.au](http://www.wchi.com.au) to download the new program!

## Visy Recycling

It might be getting colder but our hardy team of volunteers is still counting CANS AND BOTTLES!

Over the counter recycling is available Monday, Wednesday and Thursday each week 10am – 3pm and Saturdays from 8am – 4pm. Please note 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 are back at the Whittlesea Community Activity Centre on Tuesdays! Join the blokes for brunch each week (even during School Holidays): Tuesdays 11.00am – Noon \$2.00 per person

## Women's Lunch

Thursdays 24<sup>th</sup> July, 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> August 11.30am – 1.00pm Gold Coin Donation

## Special Event Workshop – Building for a Greener Future

Whether you are building a new home, renting or trying to make your older home more sustainable – this session will introduce you to a whole new world of possibilities. Meet the experts and find out how to make your home cheaper to run and better for the planet!

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 11am – 12.30pm FREE

The session will be held at the Whittlesea Community Activity Centre and you must register to attend 9716 3361 or head onto our website [www.wchi.com.au](http://www.wchi.com.au)

## Special Event Cooking Classes with Sophie Gray the “Destitute Gourmet”

Join us in August for FREE workshops with fabulous food writer Sophie Gray as she shows us how to get more from our food budget!

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August – Cooking for 1 or 2 10am – 12.30pm

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August – Cooking Kickstarter 2.00pm – 4.30pm

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August – Families on a Budget 2.00pm – 4.30pm

Bookings essential, we will be sampling each session's menu so get ready to have your taste buds tickled!

## Introduction to Geocaching

Geocaching is a real life treasure hunt that is suitable for all ages and abilities! This FREE workshop includes classroom time as well as an outing to try your new skills!

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October 10.30am – 1.30pm FREE

## Op Shop Tours

The Op Shop Bus will be leaving from the House at 9am on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of each month! Loads of new locations only \$20 per person.

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August Airport West 9am – 4pm \$20 pp

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August Country 9am – 4pm \$20 pp

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August Vic and Sth Melbourne Market 9am – 4pm \$20 pp

Call the House for details, more routes and bookings or head online to book [www.wchi.com.au](http://www.wchi.com.au)

## Boat Licence

Get on the water safely! Students from 12 years are eligible (you must be 16+ for PWC endorsement)

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 9.00am – 1.00pm \$150 per person

White Card: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 9.00am – 4.00pm \$150 per person

## Fix it Friday

Fix it Friday will return in on 25<sup>th</sup> July! Get real help from a real person and sleep better at night. Talk to us about problems that relate to legal matters, housing, finance, NDIS, My Aged Care, Centrelink, Fines, Mental Health as well as No Interest Loans and Police matters. We have free Barista made coffee to keep you fuelled up. Worried about something? Talk to us today on 9716 3361.

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 dogs and cats during office hours.

# WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL



## End of Term Two

We have ended Term Two with some very cold and wet weather, but that hasn't stopped our students from having a great time playing outside! We are now heading into the Winter School Holidays, and we wish all our families a warm and restful break before school returns on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July. Thank you for all your continued support to make this term so successful for our students.



## St John First Aid Incursion

In the last week of term, all classes were lucky enough to get a visit from St John Ambulance Australia to learn what we could do to help someone in an emergency. Some of the things that we learned about included the DRSABCD acronym, how to call 000 using a mobile phone, how to check if someone is responding and put them into the recovery position, and our Grade 5/6 students even learned about CPR.



## Leadership Day

Our Student Leaders took part in their very own Leadership Day, designed and run by Ms Yarni and Mrs Crawford. Throughout this special day, they took part in team-building challenges and reflective discussions, explored the qualities of great leadership, worked collaboratively with their peers, and deepened their understanding of how to lead with confidence and kindness. As always, we are so proud of the respect and enthusiasm shown by this incredible group of young leaders.



## 'Train of Life' Art Unveiling

Our SRC Captains, Alyssa and Annabelle, represented Wandong PS at the official unveiling of the new 'Train of Life' artwork, created by Tai Snaith. At the ceremony,

Alyssa and Annabelle shared how students from our school had contributed their ideas to the project. We are excited to see our school mascot – the Puggle – represented in the completed art installation of three echidnas.



# timber place

Wandong



Ashley Thorsen

Director

☎ 0433 311 100

✉ [ashley@thorsen.com.au](mailto:ashley@thorsen.com.au)