



ISSUE 352 WANDONG/HEATHCOTE JUNCTION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER : OCTOBER 2025 ABN 17 022 858 565

Email—whatsnewswhj@gmail.com 700 copies

EDITOR - Allen Hall, 20 North Mountain Rd, Heathcote Junction 3758 Ph - 0413 832 411
Delivered to Wandong/Heathcote Junction/Wallan/Kilmore/Broadford/Whittlesea & Upper Plenty

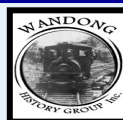
Copy online at www.wandong.vic.au



"What's News" is produced as a non - profit newsletter for the Wandong / Heathcote Junction Community. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editors. Publication of Advertisements should not be taken as endorsements of products. Letters to the editors are always welcome, but will only be considered for publication with authentic names and addresses available for publication. Although every care is taken in preparing "What's News" the editors cannot accept any responsibilities or liabilities for errors or omissions.

REMEMBRANCE DAY AT WANDONG

The Wandong History Group reminds everyone that Remembrance Day commemorations on Tuesday 11th November will commence at 10.45am and be followed by morning tea. Please join us on this special day and a chance to collectively remember the service and sacrifice that our soldiers made.



LAST MONTH THE WARRIORS, NOW THE

On Saturday 13th September the Wandong Netball Club had teams playing in a Grand Final across all KBNA divisions.

The Under 11s were runner up to Pyalong, the Under 13s undefeated all season won against Pyalong and the Under 15s won against Seymour.

SEE PAGES 18 & 19 FOR THE DETAILS

WANDONG NETBALL CLUB



Under 13 White



Under 15 White



Under 11 White

And if you thought those achievements were great.

What about twins Jack and Georgia Hadisutanto (pictured right) taking out the Under 15 Best and Fairest and Runner Up Best and Fairest League awards. See page 18.



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

Wandong - Heathcote Junction - why would you live anywhere else. Until November, 2025, Allen Hall (editor)
NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE: COPY & ADS 1 NOVEMBER 2025 DELIVERY from 12 NOVEMBER 2025
Printed by Newspaper House, Kilmore

THE NAME SAYS IT ALL IT2U

We come to you, support delivered in home or office



CALL US
0413 967 622 / 03 9028 8990



Leave The Tech To Us.
Your Local Tech Support One Stop Solution for Computer, Tablets, Software Services, Repairs, and Support.

it2u
PC, LAPTOP & TABLET REPAIRS



WEBSITE
WWW.IT2U.COM.AU

YOUR ONE-STOP TECH SOLUTION!

CONVENIENT SERVICES, WE COME TO YOU

BATTERY REPLACEMENT

VIRUS & MALWARE REMOVAL

HARDWARE UPGRADES

DEVICE DIAGNOSTICS

24/7 EMERGENCY TECH SUPPORT

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

QUICK FIXES & FAST RESPONSE TIME

WINDOWS & MAC REPAIRS

IPAD/IPHONE SCREEN REPAIRS

LAPTOP AND MAC SCREEN REPLACEMENT



CALL US
0413 967 622 / 03 9028 8990



Leave The Tech To Us.
Your Local Tech Support One Stop Solution for Computer, Tablets, Software Services, Repairs, and Support.

it2u
PC, LAPTOP & TABLET REPAIRS



WEBSITE
WWW.IT2U.COM.AU

'COME TO BEAR'S CASTLE!

NEXT TOURS: SATURDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2025

Bus tours are conducted biannually during
Autumn & Spring through the Whittlesea Courthouse Association

ENQUIRIES: JOAN TERRELL 0412 907 937
pte40164@bigpond.net.au

Bookings essential (limited seats available)
Tours leave the Courthouse at 10.00 am & 2.00 pm sharp

COST \$40.00 adults \$25 kids- refreshments included. (2 – 2 ½ hour, tours)
Tours unsuitable for children under the age of 10 years

See inside the historical site & visit the
Yan Yean Reserve's, historical 'Caretaker's Cottage'

Bear's Castle, Yan Yean:



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



Wandong Tennis Club

Wandong Tennis Club
MDTA Saturday afternoon winter 2025 premiers.

Wandong 6/36 d
Seymour 0/18

Congratulations:
Tyson Burmeister,
Lisa Kelly, Dylan Hall
and Aaron Crawford
Absent Jared Plumbe
and Riley McKendry

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



What's Happening

WANDONG OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE



Service Phone Number:

0497 877 771

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

How to Enrol

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

Operation Times

Before School Care 6:30am – 8:45am

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

Pupil Free Day 6:30am – 6:30pm

Holiday Program 6:30am – 6:30pm

ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS

20 Oct Mark & Chris Page C
29 Oct Peter & Rochelle Gough HJ
1 Nov Darren & Jodie McLennan W
6 Nov Philip & Lisa Kelly HJ
11 Nov Lisa & Adam Dennehy HJ
14 Nov Kathy & Mick Lawrence K

GET "WHATS NEWS" BY EMAIL

If you would like to receive "Whats News" by email each month, send your name and email details to :
whatsnewswhj@gmail.com

Remember
"Whats News" is also available on the website
<www.wandong.vic.au>

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



MYKI RETAILER



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

We wish the following people a very happy birthday

18 Oct	Jim Robson	W
20 Oct	Glenda Watson	W
20 Oct	Rob Dawson	HJ
20 Oct	Bobby Hall	W
23 Oct	Gerard Buggy	HJ
23 Oct	Mollie Colbert	W
23 Oct	Elisa Lehmann-Kay	WP
24 Oct	Kara Chisholm	HJ
24 Oct	Ella Stewart	W
26 Oct	Carolyn Morris	W
27 Oct	Joshua Lancaster	W
27 Oct	Candice Lancaster	W
27 Oct	Jake McLennan	W
29 Oct	Tennaia Knight	W
29 Oct	Katie McNamara	HJ
31 Oct	Tony Allen	Q
31 Oct	Bill Candy	W
1 Nov	Chris Page	C
1 Nov	Adrian Zimbardi	K
2 Nov	Daniel Bartlett	W
2 Nov	David Limbrick	B
3 Nov	Jarrad Weller	HJ
3 Nov	David Claxton	Wallan
6 Nov	Sharon Saw	HV
6 Nov	Lisa Candy	W
8 Nov	Karen Dawson	HJ
8 Nov	Jay Kneebone	W
10 Nov	Kevin Bartlett	W
11 Nov	Len Poorter	HJ
11 Nov	Jenny Amoroso	HJ
11 Nov	Robyn Hannemann	W
12 Nov	Tamara Smith	W
12 Nov	Rhonda McDermott	W
13 Nov	Debra Claxton	Wallan
14 Nov	Mark Sannwald	HJ
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

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.



Wandong IGA

*It's all about locals and
how they like it!*

***Open every day
8am-8pm***

***Come on in and support
your local store.***

**See in store for many
great specials.**

Great Range of:

**Groceries
Meat
Produce
Deli
Dairy
Freezer
Liquor**

Wandong Licensed Supermarket
3272 Epping Kilmore Rd, Wandong

5787 1911



L.B.Davern Reserve Committee
of Management

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday October 16th 2025
at 7.00pm,

Followed by General Meeting at
7.30pm

Community Centre
L.B.Davern Reserve Dry Creek
Crescent, Wandong

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
And website:

[Http://www.upmclg.org.au](http://www.upmclg.org.au)

Membership enquiries:

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.

For such a time as this....food for thought....

IS THERE REALLY ANY PEACE

*Many conflicts, all kinds of war
I need to speak of so much more
Quakes, fires, or mudslide
No matter where you reside
Winds elsewhere they do blow
Torrents of water they can flow
Possessions then washed away
This is what I'm hear to say
Farmers water and some drought
What our country is all about
People grieving, so much pain
Does any of the good remain?
Will the evil finally fall?
Are we learning, shaking us all?
Many opinions speaking their minds
All protesting, oh so many kinds!
Now seeing terror all around
In nations seems to abound
Peace, they say, there is no peace
From famine, there's no release
Will our world turn into dark
Blotting our light, not even a spark
In many things we can get caught
Our time on earth can be short
Is Jesus knocking on your door?
Are you the one He's waiting for?
Open your heart and see what's here
The Prince of Peace waiting there.*

Isaiah 30 verse 19 :He will be gracious to you at the sound of your cry. When He hears it He will answer you.

So, is it now the time to open this door to Jesus Love today. Not just acknowledging Him at Christmas and Easter. We should be so privileged to still be able to celebrate these Holy seasons and even mention His name in this nation of Australia.

Merle Croskell.

WANDONG DISTRICT CHURCH

26th OCTOBER at 5 p.m.

Dr. Detrick Gaskins with a vision for advancing the Kingdom of God.

ALL WELCOME.

Enquiries David Moran
0409164660



Wandong District Church
29 Wandong Ave,
Wandong

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

Whittlesea Anglican Church

Serving Whittlesea, Upper Plenty.
& surrounding areas

Christ Church: 9 Wallan Road, Whittlesea.

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



To equip and release people into their God given destiny

Meeting at 10.30am every Sunday

at the Freedom Care Building,
127c Northern Highway Kilmore Vic
— entrance on Willomavin Road

Enquiries to ;

Pastor Frantz Heinzelmann

Mobile: 0411 794 188

www.freedomcarechurch.org.au

All Welcome. Love to see you there



Classes held at:
R.B Robson stadium
Wallan, 3756

Recreational & Competition Gymnastics

- Morning classes from crawling to 5 years
- Afternoon classes from 5 years to adult
- Classes available Monday – Wednesday
- Trial class available for first time members

Visit our website for more information

Birraleegymnastics.com.au




Find us on
Facebook

 Phone Nathan 0419 585 773

 Email info@allprotectsecurity.com.au

- Intruder Alarm Systems
- Intercom
- Data & Networking
- CCTV Cameras
- Access Control
- Home Automation & Audio Visual

WANDONG AUSTRALIANA MOTEL - TAVERN - RESTAURANT BROADHURST LANE, WANDONG



- FULLY LICENSED • SMORGASBORD
- A LA CARTE • ACCOMMODATION

**ENQUIRIES AND
BOOKINGS:
(03) 5787 1401**

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 in-house 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.com



**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

The Kilmore & District Hospital



Rutledge Street, Kilmore Phone: (03) 5734 2000

**Urgent Care Centre
(Open 24/7 with Registered Nurses)**

Acute Ward (30 beds)

**Maternity (including antenatal classes
and dietician)**

Oncology

Surgical Procedures

District Nursing

Aged Care –

Dianella Hostel and

Caladenia Nursing Home Website:

www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au



GARDEN SCENE WITH GAIL

Hello to October, believe it or not, there's only just over two months before Santa comes to visit and let's hope he brings some rain with him. It's been quite dry, and this brings it home how important it is to be really diligent with preparation in ensuring any watering we do is not going to be wasted. If water is running away from your plants and/or not soaking into your lawn take action now to reduce stress on yourself and your garden. Treat the soil with a wetting agent, add organic matter and some fine white sand, water in well and add Gypsum, water in well again. If you can get well-rotted cow manure that's crumbly and in relatively small clumps, it would be ideal to spread it over your garden and lawn, water in well. Organic matter such as cow manure enhances the soil. If it's a sandy soil, it assists in holding moisture, if it's a clay soil (which holds lots of organic matter), it changes the structure of the soil so as to release the organic matter from the clay. Clay is amazing but unless you can get it to work for you it can be your worst enemy, cracking in Summer, muddy and badly drained in Winter. Like everything in life, if the foundations aren't good, it's hard to build on. Your plants require a good soil structure to get them started and they also need / thrive the very best if good soil structure can be maintained. Unhealthy soil can be the cause of unhealthy plants that dry out and wilt, unable to absorb any moisture, resulting in a collapsed root system. Every time a root system collapses both the plant and root system gets weaker creating a plant that may never do very well. If possible, take the plant out of the ground / pot, take off the excess soil and ensure all the roots are submerged in a solution of Seasol within about 60 seconds of disturbing the plant, grab the secateurs and prune the roots back by about 1/3 and pop back into the Seasol solution. By pruning, you open the root system up, it's a fresh wound that can absorb moisture and nutrients and hopefully give the plant a great chance to regenerate. Prepare the pot with fresh potting mix or incorporate organic matter into the soil ready for replanting, water in well and follow up with the Seasol solution. As our seasons change, they sometimes catch us off guard. As Winter leads into Spring we can forget that some Spring days can be quite warm and even warm and windy and quickly the soil may become dry, especially if the soil is exposed, poor



quality and with no mulch, protecting the ground, it's a little like us going out into the sun with no sunscreen and no drink of water, our skin dries out and we can dehydrate quickly. If we don't act promptly to ensure the soil is kept hydrated it can easily become hydrophobic and it takes a lot of time and energy to make it absorbent again and as the weather warms, we seem to be fighting against it. Pay particular attention to fruiting trees, new plantings, annuals, veggie gardens, potted plants, hanging baskets and weak plants. These will require quite a bit of TLC, they will be working hard and don't forget lawns, especially with high traffic areas, work you put in now will pay you back immensely. Have a fantastic month.

Gail Mains Kendrick (Your Local Real Estate Agent)



WASTE COLLECTION 2025. WANDONG HEATHCOTE JUNCTION.

Nov 4: Green. Yellow.
Nov 11: Green. Red.
Oct 21: Green. Yellow.
Oct 28: Green. Red. PURPLE.
Nov 4: Green. Yellow.
Nov 18: Green. Red.
Oct 21: Green. Yellow.
Oct 28: Green. Red. PURPLE.
Nov 4: Green. Yellow.
Nov 11: Green. Red.
Nov 18: Green. Yellow.
Nov 25: Green. Red. PURPLE.
Dec 2: Green. Yellow.
Dec 16: Green. Red.
Dec 23: Green. Yellow.
Dec 30: Green. Red. PURPLE.

Jan 6: Green. Yellow.
Jan 13: Green. Red.
Jan 20: Green. Yellow.
Jan 27: Green. Red. PURPLE.
Feb 3: Green. Yellow.
Feb 10: Green. Red.
Feb 17: Green. Yellow.
Feb 24: Green. Red. PURPLE.
Jan 6: Green. Yellow.
Jan 13: Green. Red.
Jan 20: Green. Yellow.
Jan 27: Green. Red. PURPLE.
Mar 3: Green. Yellow.
Mar 10: Green. Red.
Mar 17: Green. Yellow.
Mar 24: Green. Red. PURPLE.
Apr 7: Green. Yellow.
Apr 14: Green. Red.
Apr 21: Green. Yellow.
Apr 28: Green. Red. PURPLE.

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



**Have your medication
PACKED and DELIVERED
FREE***

**CALL US ON
5787 1010**



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



Upper Plenty
Merri Catchments
Landcare
Group

Below are some of the demonstrations and activities planned in the coming months. Our program below is subject to change & updated on our new website. For details about times, costs (if any many of our activities are free) and booking and further information, go to:

www.upmclg.org.au

Sunday 19th October Rabbit control demonstration Upper Plenty

Saturday 25th October Woody Weed control demonstration Upper Plenty

Saturday 8th November Agricultural Chemical users Course (ACUP) 1 day

Sunday 9th November ACUP 1080 and PAP animal control endorsement 1 day

Sunday 7th December Waterwatch (waterway health) family activity

Wednesday 18th February Pest animal control info session (Deer Rabbit Fox)

Wednesday 18th March Weed ID and control info session

Sunday 26th July National tree day planting

TBA 2026 Next box building installation and Monitoring

TBA 2026 Wildflower walks

TBA community working bees tree planting

TBA Spot lighting Mt Disappointment State forest

TBA Market stall at Wallan and other Markets

TBA Guest presenters at our monthly meetings

We meet every third Wednesday at 6.30pm at the Shack Upper Plenty. All welcome.

Contact the Secretary: Michael Watson 0412 408 048 / secretary.upmclg@gmail.com

WANDONG PUBLIC HALL

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Hall at 5pm on Wednesday 22nd October, 2025. ALL WELCOME

The Wandong Public Hall built in 1902 is a very special place in our community. It has hosted many weddings, engagements, 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

CPR Training - 3rd Wednesday of the month Ph Louise 0409512526 contact @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.



Traffic changes, bridge prep works Wandong 1 to 31 October 2025

**JOHN
HOLLAND**

John Holland will continue works to prepare for construction of a new bridge in Wandong during October. There will be long-term temporary traffic changes in place during this time.

Work being done

- Construction of temporary access road parallel to Broadford-Wandong Road
- Bridge abutment, piling and retaining wall works
- Construction of piling pads and drainage works
- Roadworks alongside Epping-Kilmore Road
- Reinforced soil retaining wall construction along Rail Street
- Service investigations, surveys and utility relocation
- Approved vegetation removal.

What can I expect?

- Works 7am-6pm Monday to Friday and 7am-1pm Saturdays
- Extended works 4.30am-7.30pm Monday 27 October
- Long-term temporary shuttle flow and traffic management on Epping-Kilmore Road and Broadford-Wandong Road
- Nearby residents may experience some noise and vibration.

Machinery used

Non-destructive digging truck, small truck-mounted piling rigs, concrete trucks, concrete pumps, excavators, asphalt paver, tree grinder, mobile crane, grader, workers using hand tools, survey equipment and traffic management equipment.

How we're managing impacts

- Traffic management and reduced road speeds
- Access will be maintained to all properties

- Environmental controls will be in place
- An arborist and qualified wildlife handler will assess all trees before removal.

Cancellation or extension of works

Works can sometimes take longer than anticipated or be cancelled at short notice and rescheduled. Should this occur impacted residents will be notified.

For any concerns phone 1800 732 761 or email inlandrailvic@inlandrail.com.au

If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, please contact B2ACommunity@ihq.com.au

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

Overnight works 7pm-5am, Tuesday 14 October to Friday 17 October

- Rail Street will be closed at the intersection of Broadford-Wandong Road during night works, with a detour via the Heathcote Junction level crossing
- Rail Street will be open during the day
- The intersection will reopen with temporary traffic controls in place
- Residential access will be maintained
- Nearby residents may notice some noise and vibration
- Impacted residents will be contacted directly.

☎ 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**

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 to 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 you 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.





THE COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF WHITTLESEA INC.
REGISTERED # A0041714F
Established 2001

WRITTEN BY MICHAEL B HALLEY
PUBLICITY OFFICER

Foster Carers Sought

Knowing that many members of the Combined Probus of Whittlesea were dog friendly, the program co-ordinator reached out to the Australian Border Force (ABF) seeking a presentation about the Detector Dog Program (DDP).

It came to pass that several puppies with ambitions to become working detector dogs came along to the October meeting, and gave their human ABF colleagues the opportunity to tell the story.

Very few people would not have seen detector dogs in action either on the daily news or in specialised programs covering many of ABF activities.

The Australian Border Force (ABF) has announced it is expanding its Detector Dog Program (DDP) foster carer network to additional regional locations throughout Victoria.

Following the success of the program in Greater Melbourne and Geelong, eligibility will now be expanded to eligible households in Ballarat and Whittlesea.

ABF puppies, aged from nine weeks of age, are co-raised by foster carers who play a key role in their development by providing a safe and caring home, and providing exposure to a range of different environments, including shopping centres and community hubs.

Foster carer candidates looking to welcome a puppy into their households do not need to have previous experience looking after animals, and are able to access 24/7 support services.

The ABF covers dog food, equipment, veterinary expenses, and are able to look after puppies if foster carers need to head away from home or have holidays planned.

Foster carers are required to have a secure yard, be willing to socialise the puppy with people and animals, provide regular opportunities for exercise, and attend the DDP facility on three occasions throughout the year for training sessions.

The DDP features a specialised breeding, development, and training program, in order to raise young puppies to prepare them for a career as a working dog.

The ABF's breeding program began in Melbourne in 1993, and since then, has developed thousands of puppies to be trained as detector dogs that are also used by other government departments, agencies, and organisations.

ABF detector dogs are deployed across Australia to international airports, seaports, cargo depots, and mail centres. They are capable of screening large volumes of cargo, people, as well as narcotics, tobacco, firearms, explosives, and currency.

ABF Superintendent, Allister Keel, said that the expansion of the program is an exciting opportunity for animal lovers who can take pride in knowing they are playing a vital role in keeping the community safe.

"We're proud to offer a greater number of Victorians the opportunity to become involved in this highly rewarding program," Superintendent Keel said.

"Detector dog foster carers play a vital role in co-raising puppies who will one day work to protect our borders, and this expansion demonstrates our strong partnership with the community."

To find out more information on how to apply to become a foster carer, visit [Foster A Detector Dog](#)

Everyone loves a puppy and the parenting desire of many members of the audience was obvious as the guests "worked the room". Those with the desired gold heart were more than attentive.

Whilst entering the foster carer program is a personal decision it is something that fits with the Probus vision of Fun and Friendship.

Any puppy fostered by a member of the club will have many aunts and uncles in the close net membership of the Combined Probus Club of Whittlesea.

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
or phone 0427 021 592



MAKE A BIG IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

From local events and community opportunities, to things that could make life a little easier for yourself and your community. We're really excited about what's ahead!

Want to hear more?
Scan the QR code
or visit www.norcenfs.com.au/contact
Let's stay in touch!



**NORCEN
FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED**

NORCEN FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED OPERATES A LOCALLY OWNED
FRANCHISE OF BENDIGO BANK, KNOWN AS
COMMUNITY BANK WALLAN, KILMORE AND BROADFORD

Part of your team

Community Bank
Wallan, Kilmore and Broadford
03 5783 2422

Bendigo Bank



**Independent
Manufacturer**

Kilmore Industrial
Estate,
123 Northern Hwy,
Kilmore, 3764

(03) 57 822 300

www.shedcity.com.au
sales@shedcity.com.au



Farm sheds, Machinery sheds,
Barns, Garages, Carports,
Garden Sheds,
Paddock shelters,
Stables, Aviaries.



For all your Steel
Roofing, guttering,
Wall Cladding,
flashing needs
made right here in
Kilmore.



**SUPERIOR
Resurfacing**

The Resurfacing Specialists



**You could save up to 70% on
replacement and renovation costs!**

Kitchens/ Bathrooms

- Splash Backs
- Benchtops
- Cabinetry
- Wall Tiles
- Timber/Laminate
- Shower Bases
- Bathtubs
- Vanities

Don't Replace, Resurface!

*We can makeover your kitchen or
bathroom surfaces to look bright and
fresh again using our exclusive product*

- ✓ No need for expensive retiling or replumbing, and no mess!
- ✓ A new kitchen or bathroom in days, not weeks
- ✓ Established family business for over 15 years
- ✓ New easy-to-clean surfaces

0407 421 292 www.superiorresurfacing.com.au



Neighbourhood Watch

September 2025

Column

SOUTH MITCHELL



Protecting your caravan

Whether you're on the road, at a campsite or in a holiday park, always keep your caravan doors and windows locked, valuables out of sight and secure your van with hitch locks and wheel clamps.

Caravans are a common sight on our roads, with around 1.5 million Australians taking off in their caravans, campers and motorhomes each year.

At the same time, caravan theft, and theft from caravan parks and campsites, is becoming more common. Around 500–600 caravans are stolen in Australia each year, while police report thieves are stealing unsecured items like fishing rods, eskies full of alcohol, shoes, bikes and even kayaks from caravan parks. Here are some simple steps you can take to avoid having your caravanning holiday ruined by thieves.

Parking your caravan

- Try to park your caravan where you can keep an eye on it, or put it in a busy location;
- If possible, don't reverse into your space. Instead put the hitch away from the normal access point; and
- If arriving at night, park your caravan in a well-lit and secure area if you can.

Securing your caravan

- Make it a habit that whenever you unhitch your caravan while travelling, put the hitch lock on straight away;
- Attach a wheel clamp to lock your caravan's wheels in place. Consider getting one that is made specifically for caravans;
- Invest in some good quality padlocks and put them on the arms of your awning and your stabiliser legs;
- If you have installed an alarm, activate it every time you leave your caravan;

- Go around and double check that all doors, windows and hatches inside your caravan are completely closed and locked every time you leave the van;
- Don't hide a spare set of car keys anywhere in or around your car, caravan or RV; and
- Put a sensor light inside your van that turns on automatically when it gets dark, to help make it look like someone's inside, even when you're not there.

Protecting personal property

- Ensure items secured to the roof racks of your car or on your caravan are secured with locks. When you're at your destination, remove them from your vehicle and secure them inside your caravan;
- Make sure bicycles are secured with a heavy-duty cable and padlock or, D-Lock to a fixed object.
- Secure gas cylinders in your caravan's cylinder bins or on the "A frame" using a heavy-duty keyed padlock.
- If you do leave your vehicle for any reason, be sure to shut and latch all windows, lock all doors and close all curtains, so others can't see inside.
- If you're heading out for the day, or going to bed at night, make sure you store outdoor accessories safely away and locked the door.

Get to know your neighbours

- When you are setting up at the caravan park or campsite, introduce yourself to your neighbours. If they know who owns the van, they'll be more likely to stop strangers from messing with it.
- Talk to your caravanning neighbours and arrange to keep an eye on each other's vans. If you see something suspicious, ring the police on Triple Zero (000) immediately.

For more information about keeping your caravan secure, visit NHW Website: <https://nhw.com.au/cars-and-vehicles/protecting-your-caravan-when-on-the-road/>

Upcoming Events

South Mitchell NHW General Meeting

South Mitchell is next General Meeting on 6 November, 2025, 7pm at the Wandong Community Centre, LB Davern Reserve, Dry Creek Road, Wandong. Everyone is welcome!

Hotlines:

000

Emergency

131 444

Police Assistance Line

Online Reporting: 1800 333 000

Crime Stoppers

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



Neighbourhood Watch
Let's watch out for each other

GROUP AREA: SOUTH MITCHELL

Phone: 0419 531 610

Email: newsletters.smnhw@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/southmitchell.nhw.inc

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

ABN:

48 947 471 718

Inc. No.

A0105968T

Registered Charity

www.nhw.com.au | www.facebook.com/nhw.vic

Find the Flora!!!

October Challenge for our Locals..

Here are locations of Flora from September Challenge..... did you find any....???

1. Big gum is half way down Glenburnie Ave on the right hand side of the road, near Wombat Ave.
2. This giant gum is on the main Broadford/Wandong Rd near the Dry Creek crossing...
3. Structural street tree can be found in Wandong Ave near the Community Hall.
4. Proud trees for the future are near no 9 Baden Drive
5. A group of wattles outside no 9 Main Mountain Rd



by...Theresa Hugger
locations published
next issue

1. This tree might seem plain now but however new generations will get to view this young Scout grow in the future.



2. A giant has seen more than any of us, still stands to watch over our children.



3. Hedges reduce road dust, although this one doesn't need to as its on a made road, however still provides great privacy.



4. Excited to see this garden tree when it comes into bloom - These mountain road owners should be proud of how well they have cared for this beauty...!



5. These were planted just over 20 years ago a corner block near where wombats junction...?

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

After another successful year coming to an end, we conducted our Annual general meeting. A new committee was installed with some new faces. The meeting was followed by our End of year presentation day. Hard work by the kids and adults was celebrated and plenty of trophies were awarded. Dodgem cars were a huge hit for both kids and parents alike. Proving you're never too old to ride the Dodgems.

We look forward to the new season and having another successful year on and off the field.

Go Warriors!



The Club also recognized a member who has gone above and beyond. She had served the club in many roles over the years and has always put the kids and club first. From team manager to committee member and everything in between. Congratulations Jo Pascoe on Being awarded Life membership at the Wandong Football club.



>>> **KBNA FINALS**

On Saturday the 13th of September our Club was ready to head to Seymour to compete for the Trophy in the KBNA 2025 Grand Final. For the first time, we had teams playing in a Grand Final across all divisions.

U11s – Our youngest team showed true Wandong spirit. After sitting 5th on the ladder all season, they snuck into finals at the last minute, upsetting Broadford and Kilmore to earn their spot in the big dance against Pyalong. While the win wasn't ours (25–7), the team played with heart, determination, and never gave up for a second. We are so proud of what they achieved! Congratulations to Annette and Kate for getting the team there.

U13s – Undefeated all season, but today was their toughest challenge yet against Pyalong. We trailed in the first half as the nerves set in, but once they lifted, the fightback was on! In a nail-biting finish, the team held strong to win by just 3 points (22–19). Huge congratulations to Abby, who was awarded Best on Court and took home the match ball! Well done to Coaching duo Jo and Kate.

U15s – What a grand final showdown against Seymour! Goal for goal, point for point, neither team gave an inch. The lead changed hands all game and it came down to the wire – Wandong taking the win by just 1 point (27–26) in a thrilling finish to cap off an undefeated season. Congratulations to Jack, named Best on Court for his standout performance! Congrats to our Coaches, Jodie and Hayley.

WANDONG NETBALL CLUB

**U11 WHITE****U13 WHITE****U15 WHITE**>>> **LEAGUE AWARDS - TWINS TAKE OUT THE BNF IN U15 CATEGORY****U15 Best and Fairest** - Jack Hadisutanto

Jack has proven himself to be an exceptional all-rounder, showing strength and versatility across the court. A natural Goal Attack, he has impressed with his accuracy, composure, and ability to create scoring opportunities, while also stepping into defensive roles when needed and excelling there too. His adaptability, determination, and consistency make him a vital part of the team's success. Always giving his best and lifting those around him, he is a worthy recipient of this season's Best and Fairest award.

U15 Runner Up Best and Fairest - Georgia Hadisutanto

Georgie has been a driving force through the midcourt, shining as both a dynamic Centre and versatile Wing player. Her speed, agility, and ability to read the game allowed her to link defence and attack seamlessly, creating opportunities and lifting the team's intensity whenever she was on court. Beyond her skill, she brings energy, determination, and a team-first attitude that makes her a true standout. Her consistency and impact throughout the season have rightly earned her the honour of Runner Up Best and Fairest.



OCTOBER 2025

>>> NETFIT CLINIC

Another sold out Net Fit Clinic was held over the school holidays at our Club.

All 70 players pushed themselves throughout the day to increase their match fitness, work on attack and defense skills as well as improve their knowledge around nutrition, mental health and recovery. We cant wait to book in the next clinic.



WANDONG NETBALL CLUB



>>> PRESENTATION & AGM

What better way to celebrate the end of an amazing Winter season than with a Silent Disco Glow Party!

Players, coaches, and parents all joined in the fun — dressed in white and neon, ready to shine on the dancefloor. The lights were low, the glow sticks were bright, and the energy was sky-high as everyone hit the floor to celebrate a fantastic season of netball.

With noise-cancelling headphones on, we expected a quiet night... but Wandong players had other ideas! 🎵 Their singing voices filled the hall as they belted out their favourite tunes at full volume — proving that a “silent” disco can be anything but silent when our teams are involved!

It was a night full of laughter, dancing, and community spirit, the perfect way to wrap up a wonderful season. Thank you to everyone who came along and made it such a memorable celebration — we can't wait to do it all again next year! 🌟

🎉 Congratulations to our 2025 Wandong Netball Club Award Winners! 🎉

Your hard work, sportsmanship and team spirit made this season one to remember.

9 & Under White		9 & Under Green		11 & Under Green		11 & Under White	
Award	Recipient	Award	Recipient	Award	Recipient	Award	Recipient
Coaches Award	Lily Zugaro	Coaches Award	Sabina Wilson	Coaches Award	Olivia Hill	Coaches Award	Neveah Tait
Most Improved	Charlie Kilroy	Most Improved	Leyla Townsend	Best & Fairest	Max Robertson	Best & Fairest	Jude Whelan
Lead Goaler	Evelyn Carbis	Lead Goaler	Pippa O'Connell	Best & Fairest Runner Up	Jayde Hall	Best & Fairest Runner Up	Wynter Irons & Jackson Kilroy
Outstanding Defence	McKenzie Bishop-Duck	Outstanding Defence	Ava Costanzo	Lead Goaler	Jayde Hall	Lead Goaler	Wynter Irons
				Outstanding Defence	Piper Phillips	Outstanding Defence	Indi Gibson

13 & Under White		15 & Under White		15 & Under Green		2026 WNC COMMITTEE	
Award	Recipient	Award	Recipient	Award	Recipient	Role	Recipient
Coaches Award	Emma Downey	Coaches Award	Taya Avola	Coaches Award	Ruby Sawyer	President	Jo Pascoe
Best & Fairest	Natalie King & Abby Welch	Best & Fairest	Jack Hadisutanto	Best & Fairest	Alexis Ward & Hayley Williams	Vice President	Jodie Carland
Best & Fairest Runner Up	Zoe Bell	Best & Fairest Runner Up	Georgia Hadisutanto	Best & Fairest Runner Up	Tayla Curtis	Secretary	Graeme Downey
Lead Goaler	Natalie King	Lead Goaler	Jack Hadisutanto	Lead Goaler	Alexis Ward	Treasurer	Kate King
Outstanding Defence	Declan Butterworth	Outstanding Defence	Heidi Hannemann	Outstanding Defence	Hayley Williams	General Committee	
						Rachel Downey	Samantha Smith
						Amy Hall	Court Bishop-Duck
						Peta Smith	Natalie Welch
						Alice Irons	Michelle Zugaro



WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL

Count Me In – Maths is Fun at Wandong!

On the 15th of September, we invited our community to join us for an evening of Maths fun at our “Count Me In” event, designed to bring together students, families and staff in a celebration of learning and connection. Throughout the evening, families worked together to complete hands-on numeracy activities and collect letter clues to help them crack the mystery code. It was amazing to see so many learners – children and adults alike – completely engaged in trying new things, celebrating achievements, and showing persistence when something was tricky. A huge thank you goes out to Mrs White for organising such an incredible event for our school community, as well as to our teachers for running the activities and manning the barbeque, and of course to all the families that were able to attend and promote the joy of learning with their children.



Learning Olympiad

Students from Grades 1-6 were invited to get a team together and sign up to take part in our very first Wandong Learning Olympiad. This student-led event was suggested by our Learning Captains, Penny and Kasim. Our 108 participants showed the school value of Curiosity while engaging in a range of different challenges across topics such including Science, Mathematics, Spelling, Auslan (Australian sign language) as well as testing their ability to work together in a team! In addition to awarding certificates for the overall winning teams, the main prize – The Spirit of the Olympiad – was presented to teams who showed enthusiasm, encouragement and teamwork. Congratulations to everyone who signed themselves up and took on the challenge!



Grade 5/6 Basketball Champions

Congratulations to both our Wandong Girls and Wandong Boys yellow basketball teams who were victorious at the Mitchell District Basketball Championships, making it through to qualify for the Whittlesea Division Finals next term!

Well done to all our Grade 5/6 students who participated and showed such great teamwork and sportsmanship.



WORKS HAVE STARTED

FOR THE Wandong Primary School Upgrade

**Lauren
Kathage MP**
Member for Yan Yean

Shop T27, 14 Alliance Avenue,
Mernda VIC 3754
lauren.kathage@parliament.vic.gov.au
03 9432 9782

Authorised by L Kathage, T27, 14 Alliance Avenue, Mernda VIC 3754



SCAN ME 

We need
your help
now more
than ever



DONATE today to support
your local hospital

Online www.nhfoundation.org.au
Phone (03) 8405 2897

Northern Health
Foundation 

**HE'S
HERE
FOR US**

ROB MITCHELL MP
MEMBER FOR McEWEN

5716 3000 robmitchell.com.au

Authorised Rob Mitchell MP, Australian Labor Party, 67-69 High St, Wallan.



**WALLAN
EQUIPMENT
HIRE**



PRETTY SALLY MITRE 10

WE HAVE ALL YOUR HIRE AND LANDSCAPING NEEDS!
96 HIGH STREET, WALLAN, VIC, 3756 PH: (03) 5783 2800

WATER MATTERS

Join us for National Water Week: 20-26 October 2025

National Water Week 2025 is a vibrant celebration of water, and we are proud to lead the way in engaging communities to understand its importance. Through a series of creative, hands-on events, we want to continue to help people value, understand, and use water wisely.



Free event - Let's Grow: Waterwise Gardens

This year's main event, **Let's Grow: Waterwise Gardens**, will be held on Wednesday 22 October, starting at 7pm at Eastbank in Shepparton. Landscape architect Louise Costa and native plant expert Cathy Olive will inspire residents to transform their yards into beautiful, waterwise outdoor spaces.

Book your seat early to attend the seminar in person and collect a free waterwise garden pack on the night, including our new gardening handbook. The seminar will also be livestreamed for anyone who can't make it to the event in person.

23 October: Register to join and support this year's **Water Night** challenge.

Join us in the national challenge to turn off all non-essential taps for five hours. Supported by Costa Georgiadis, Water Night reached over 4.2 million people in 2024. This year, we're inviting people to nominate their school, club or business to be recognised and celebrated for leading community waterwise action.



Find out more and register:
waternight.com.au



Scan to find out more and book your seat, or visit:
riverlinksvenues.com.au

School kids take part in competition to design a toilet paper wrap.

We're engaging thousands of students to create a design for the wrap around toilet paper rolls. This year's competition reinforces 'Don't Flush It' and the 3Ps (what to flush) - pee, poo and paper, sparking creativity and awareness of wastewater processes. Winning designs will be shared across GWV platforms.

Every Drop Counts - Let's work together to save water.

We all need to take action to protect precious water supplies right across the region as we move into spring and summer.

Using water wisely not only help us maintain drinking water supply, it helps the environment and can also save you money.

You'll find tips for your home and garden, a water use calculator, and reminders about **Permanent Water Saving Rules**, which apply all year round.

Visit our Save Water webpage to help you understand your water use and find practical ways to reduce it.



Scan for tips to save drips, or visit:
gvwater.vic.gov.au/save-water



Need to get in touch?

General Enquiries: 03 5832 4800

24/7 Faults & Emergencies: 1800 454 500

Email: mail@gvwater.vic.gov.au





As the weather starts warming up, at long last more and more of the community are coming down to the reserve to utilize this great facility we have in our community.

What is our community up to down at the Reserve::

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

The summer user groups are in planning mode and ready to commence their prospective season, they may have already started.

Mitchell Agility Dog Club, Junior Tennis /Saturday Afternoon Tennis, Night Tennis, Standardbred Riding Club, Kilmore and District Adult Rider's Club, Cricket, School Sports

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 atmosphere that complements our communities.

REMEMBER WHEN:



Pre Sports Pavilion-2000



Original Tennis Club Rooms-2000



Wandong Junior Football Club Change Rooms 2010



Wandong Tennis Club Rooms After Black Saturday 2009

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 on Darlene Gunter on 0418 312 762



CONTINUED PAGE 25

L.B.Davern Reserve Committee of Management

A.G.M

Thursday October 16th 2025 at 7.00pm,

Followed by General Meeting at 7.30pm

Community Centre

L.B.Davern Reserve, Dry Creek Crescent, Wandong

To our community, we need your help;

We need to catch any persons vandalizing our Reserve!!!! Or suspicious activities occurring. 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!!

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

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

-Community Centre and Sports Pavilion contact:

Darlene Gunter- Booking Officer for the WHJSCC on 0418 312 762



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

WANDONG FIRE BRIGADE



Important Reminder

Important reminder to ensure burn-offs are extinguished when done. There are strong winds predicted over the coming weeks, and unattended burn offs are a significant risk.

Fire Season

The Fire Season is fast approaching and now is the time to tidy up your property. Clean leaf litter from your gutters as these can easily be ignited by fire embers and then set the house on fire. Remove flammable items from decks and verandas, mow grass close to the house to less than 10cm high. Do not have mulch within a 10-metre radius of the house. Evaluate Fire Truck Access to your property: Are your gates wide enough? Are there overhanging branches or objects that would prevent access? Are the water sources clearly marked? Reassess or write up your Family Fire Safety Plan. For further tips check out the Fire Ready Kit at www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare and visit us on our Fire Ready Open Day..

Fire Ready Open Day

The Wandong Fire Brigade Fire Ready Open Day will be held on Saturday the 11th October 2025. Ambulance Victoria will be visiting and offering CPR guidance and tours of the ambulance. We have a sausage sizzle, treasure hunt, jumping castle, photo booth, craft corner, guess the lolly competition, tours of the fire station and fire vehicles, and the opportunity to squirt a hose! All welcome to visit and meet the friendly faces behind the uniform. Our crew are locals, just like you, volunteering their time to keep the local community safe.

Santa is Coming to Town!

wandongssanta@gmail.com

If you would like Santa to come to your house, or an event locally, just flick through a quick email to wandongssanta@gmail.com. Let us know your address, preferred times and number of children to visit. Wandong crew will transport Santa on the fire truck to locations in the Wandong Heathcote Junction zone. Bookings will be available from the 1st of December to the 23rd of December. On the 24th of December from 3pm onwards we will transport Santa to all the streets in Wandong and Heathcote Junction. It's totally FREE – however we'd certainly be happy to accept a donation.

Please note that we are an emergency service, and incidents will take priority over transporting Santa! If Santa is left on the side of road, for crew to turn out to an incident, there will be someone along to collect him shortly.

WANDONG-HEATHCOTE JUNCTION COMMUNITY GROUP

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



WEBSITE: In August the <www.wandong.vic.au> website received 742 visits. If any business or group has noticed any content which needs to be corrected to their entry, please let us know. To add your business or group email: whatsnewswhj@gmail.com.au

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.

Pickett Walk was affected by Inland Rail work to install a pipe from Rail Street to the Epping Kilmore Road. Most of the walk was closed for the work but much of it has reopened since. However the walk cannot be fully opened and regretfully will probably be closed for the duration of the project due to the unusable work area on Rail Street.

We continue to clear rubbish from our town - it is a pity that we have to keep doing this with little help from the community. If only we had other residents with the same commitment to keep our town beautiful. Even collecting any rubbish around the street in front of your property would help - particularly on busy streets like Rail Street and North Mountain Road.

We held our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 10th September with the following committee elected:

President:	David Moran
Vice President:	Rob Jensen
Secretary:	Allen Hall
Treasurer:	Shelley Kilroy

Caring for a loved one?
You are not alone!

Get FREE tailored
support from
Carer Gateway.

Contact us today
and let us help you
find the support
you need!



carergateway.gov.au

1800 422 737 Monday-Friday 8am-5pm



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





LIONS CLUB OF WANDONG – WALLAN INC.

PRESIDENT: SAM BEDI

**PO Box 225
WANDONG. VIC. 3758**

Back again. Both Steve and I were away last month but we are back now and ready to go.

We had a lunch at the Grove yesterday which was very pleasant. I still can't get any dirt on the president but I am working on it. It was good to see so many of us there and having a good time. We are back on the Bunnings circuit and have a BBQ next month. Sam has reinstated the donations trolley at IGA in Wandong and we are ready to get stuck into things after a quiet winter.

We have a new seat for the Lions park in Wandong. It looks quite impressive. Now we just need to get it concreted in. I believe Sam knows someone who can do this. It will go in near the three wise echidnas.

Hugh who has dealt with the Christmas cakes for several years has handed that task to Sharyn. She not only has taken on the cakes she has control of the mints and the collection tins. She is a dynamo. Faster than a stationary train, able to leap small rocks in a single bound, who is it? It's Super Sharyn!!

Marilyn has been in hospital. She had a serious operation but is now on the mend. It takes a lot to keep Marilyn down.

Biker Bill is still hooning around on his machine. He wanted to join The hells angels but they thought he was too rough. He is now going to the Ulysses bike club who think that they can handle him.

Steve and Tania were in Queensland last month, he was catching up with his family. He is away again on the drag circuit. I don't know what outfit he is wearing this time but I am sure he will be a standout. Tania as usual has been left at home.

As for me, I've been everywhere man. A cruise along the Kimberly coast, a few days in Broome and a very long drive along the coast to Perth. Liz did most of the driving.

Apart from falling out of bed and giving myself a black eye and a blood nose and a few other minor problems like falling out of the toilet at one of the roadhouses I was very well behaved and could not be faulted. It was a great trip. Western Australia is so big and so empty.

Having now come back to reality I have to do exciting things like mowing and weeding. I will catch you next time.

Clyde the champion Riley.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE - BECOME A VOLUNTEER

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

Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group Inc: Call 0413 832 411

Wandong Wallan Lions Club: Call 0418 142 172

Wandong History Group: Call 0432 120 736

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/mountdisappointmentclonbname/>

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.

Dog Diets - Breaking Down Some Myths....!

There is often discussions about what is acceptable to feed dogs... friends say one thing, perhaps the vet another and don't get me started on TV/Internet advertising designed to convince us to part with our hard earned cash. We keep hearing statements such as "Dogs can't eat Human Food" ... "Dogs can't eat Garlic" ... "Commercial Food is Balanced"... "Raw Meat is Bad"... Often advice can be confusing, even contradictory. So for many it is easier to just give in and buy a bag of kibble with a picture of your dog breed... Perhaps I can offer another point of view to help you decide your best option.



First, Consider the Dog - Dogs have evolved over thousands of years to be 'Opportunistic Carnivores'

Meaning a dog primarily eats meat (a Carnivore) but will also consume other food sources when available. Thus they have a flexible diet which allows them to thrive in diverse environments and survive even if food is scarce. However some breeds (perhaps thru haphazard breeding or poor introduction to raw diet) can develop gut issues.

I look back to my youth of the 60's and 70's where dogs were fed predominately raw meat, bones and leftovers. Yet we didn't see or hear much in the way of allergies, cancers or dental problem. Also in this era many dogs were still healthy and active at 15 years of age and common to see dogs living till 18 years or so.

Commercial Pet Food appeared in the 80's and in the 90's the marketing of processed foods meant most were adding these foods to their weekly supermarket purchase. Hence a **multi-billion dollar** industry is was born... now they looking at ways to get YOU to put more of YOUR dollars into THEIR pockets.

It is understandable that Companies aim to make a profit.. So they can look to improve profit with ingredients in a cheaper format. Hence we now have a base for kibble called meat meal... This is basically a protein such as beef/ chicken etc that is steamed and pulverised into a powdered form, however the majority of the nutrients can be lost in the cooking process, so they need to add the nutrients back in... perhaps using a synthetic premix powder.

Who should you listen to ... ? Many Pet Professionals will recommend you feed an "all dry food diet" and they will state that dry kibble "has all the nutrients that your dog will ever need" - often added comments like - "provided you buy a good quality one", and they happen to have for sale on their shelves. Consider also most Vets are **NOT** pet Nutritionists (they are actually like a GP) yet seem happy to just regurgitate information provided by the commercial pet food companies. However these recommendations may often be based on research funded/ supplied by the pet food manufacturers !

It is also common for pet food Companies and even the vets tell you that the problem with a raw diet is that your dog can be exposed to bacteria that will make them sick - however if using standard procedures for your pet food as you would with human food.... i.e. refrigerate etc.... Then foods would be as safe as it is for us humans.

Who are the Specialists ... ? The information out in the public can be confusing to the average dude. Social Media Groups provide lots of personal experiences and ideas, but you have to filter thru a great deal of dubious information and now also AI generated "facts" to find solid knowledge - and that is such a headache. Hence we took a different approach and decided to source the facts direct from Independent Research Professionals.

At a Conference in San Diego, I met **Wendy Volhard** who has researched dog diets for the last 30+ years and was a wealth of knowledge. Back in Australia a vet, **Dr. Bruce Syme**, had been developing his own feed program... It would seem that both of these Specialist Dietary Professionals have independently found the same health issues with the commercial foods and hence developed very similar programs. Some concerns noted.

1. Most research has been conducted by feed manufacturers. Hence they own the studies and can pick and choose what information they wish to share.
2. Consider also Manufacturers value profits this can become a higher priority than any concerns for the health of dogs.
3. Nutrient values published on the pack **are prior to cooking**. Just watch any cooking shows on TV and we can appreciate that there are significant changes to the food once you start the heating process.



Alfoxton Tip : Feeding your pet heavy processed food would equate to allowing a children to eat McDonalds for every meal....

SUDOKU

Answers
on page 32

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

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

THIS MONTHS QUIZ

Answer appears on Page 32 but no cheating!

1. What is the best-selling book of all time?
2. Who plays Barbie in the 2024 live-action film?
3. What's the national flower of Japan?
4. How many days does it take for the Earth to orbit the Sun?
5. What happened on July 20th, 1969?
6. What city do The Beatles come from?
7. Which travels faster: Sound or light?
8. Who is the villain in "Peter Pan"?
9. What country has the largest population of tigers?
10. How many legs does a lobster have?
11. What is the name of the fairy in Peter Pan?
12. Who was the first member of The Beatles to be married?
13. What country are the band ABBA from?
14. What is the capital city of India?
15. What is the capital of Texas?
16. What is the most populous city in Europe?

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

Or, contact Mitchell Shire Council on 5734 6200.



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

< www.mbug.org.au >

or contact the Secretary,
John on 5781 1604

ROB & LEONIE FERRIS

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
REC 3028



- *Light & power points
- *Security systems
- *Underground Mains
- *Stove & hot water repairs
- *New houses & rewires
- *Safety switches & smoke detectors
- *Commercial & Industrial
- *Austel Licensed phone points

Phone 5782 1746
Mobile 0418 323 838

Hello Readers,

In this edition I'd like to tell you about our recent visit to the Melbourne Museum, where we enjoyed an interesting exhibition on the Galloway Hoard, a treasure trove of finely crafted silver and gold jewellery pieces discovered by some enthusiastic prospectors on land owned by the Church of Scotland .

Archeologists determined the pieces may have been Viking in origin and buried in or around 900 AD, but can only speculate on the reasons for burying the precious items.

To top off our day, we had some unexpected extra exercise as neither the lift nor the escalator were functioning at Southern Cross Station. I'm happy to report we all survived the challenge of those extra steps.

Our monthly lunch was a hit, this time at the Royal Mail Hotel Whittlesea, where we savoured some rather delicious meals with a dessert included for seniors. The meals were more than ample and well priced too. Thank you Carol, another good choice!

I'm happy to report our newly formed singing group has a dedicated 10 members, who have been diligently practicing a number of well known popular songs. Novices we are, however we already have two gigs ... that's music industry talk... booked for the very near future, where we hope to delight our audience and get toes tapping.

In a joint session, Kilmore and Wallan U3A members will take part in a Trivia and Morning Tea, following the successful event of last year.

The run up to Christmas will have many more opportunities for our members to enjoy, but more on that next time.

Please check our website for details or ring John our President on 0413 083 089

Till next time

Bye for now

John Lanphier



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Committee of Management, Wandong Public Hall will hold the Annual General Meeting at the Wandong Public Hall (Rail Street Wandong) at 5pm Wednesday 22nd October 2025.

ALL WELCOME Everyone interested in the operation and upkeep of the hall and surrounds is encouraged to attend.



Philman Excavations

House and Shed Sites, Driveways,
Horse Arenas, Retaining Walls

★ Excavator ★ Bobcat
★ Truck and Trailer ★ Float Hire

★ **AUGER & ROCKBREAKER**

Supply and deliver crushed rock, sand and topsoil

Phil Mansfield

0418 532 969

OH&S and fully insured



ALL TOWING

Tilt Tray Tow Truck

ANYTHING MOVED

Cars Boats Caravans

OLD CARS REMOVED FREE

Competitive Rates

GOOD OLD FASHIONED Country Service

Aaron - 0425 832 466

A & J Metal Recyclers - ABN 67103013404

All Weather Training Facility - Heathcote Jct (Established 1995)

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



Workshops
Dog Park Etiquette
Intro to Agility
Dock Diving
Cross Country

Alfoxton Dog Centre

www.alfoxton.com.au

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

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

Phone: Anne **0402 118929**

60 Junction Rd, Heathcote Junction, Vic

Alfoxton is a registered Domestic Animal Business - Mitchell Shire

Weather Report - Heathcote Junction/Wandong SEPTEMBER 2025

The first month of spring was predictably damp and blustery but fortunately without serious damage to property in our area.

Rainfall was light compared to previous years. The months tally of 37 mls was recorded on 17 days and mainly consisted of between 1 - 3 mls on each day except for the 7th which had 13 mls recorded.

Our supply dam, Sunday Creek was recorded on the 25th September at 69% capacity.

Stats

September 2025 - 37 mls
Previous year - 52 mls
Average prev 10 years - 65 mls
Total this year - 465 mls
Total prev year - 601 mls

All the best for the month
Norm Hulett

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

QUIZ ANSWERS (from page 30)

1. The bible
2. Margot Robbie
3. Cherry blossom
4. 365
5. Apollo 11 landed on the Moon
6. Liverpool
7. Light
8. Captain Hook
9. India
10. Ten legs
11. Tinker Bell
12. John Lennon
13. Sweden
14. New Delhi
15. Austin
16. Paris

SUKODU solution

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



*Kilmore
&
District*

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

During October, the Victorian Seniors Festival is on across the state and there are thousands of free and low cost events on for older Australians to enjoy.

As part of the Seniors Festival celebrations in Mitchell Shire, the U3A ukulele group have joined forces with the Broadford ukulele group and the Broadford singers to perform at four venues across the Shire. As part of Morning Melodies, they will be holding the last two singalongs at:

Wallan, on Thursday 16 October

Beveridge on Thursday 30 October.

Details are on the Mitchell Shire website so why not check it out and come along?

The combined Kilmore U3A and Wallan U3A Morning tea held at the JJ Clancy community hub during Seniors week last year was such a success that we decided to repeat it. On Friday 3rd October we got together for a trivia competition and a ukulele singalong followed by an excellent morning tea. It was well attended, a lot of fun and the trivia contest was very competitive. I think this will be an annual event going forward.

The Recorder and Ukulele groups are staging a Concert at the JJ Clancy Centre on Friday November 7th. It will be starting at 1pm with an expected finish around 3pm with light refreshments available in the intermission. These Concerts give group members experience in playing to an audience and fulfil an aim for the many hours of practice over the year.

Note the date on your calendar and join us for this musical afternoon.

The Gardening and Lunch groups continue to be very active, with regular outings throughout the shire. The convenors of these groups put in a lot of effort ensuring a wide variety of experiences for the members and both are a great opportunity for getting together and sharing common interests. The garden group also share knowledge, plants and seeds

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

Cheers, Amanda Oades

Kilmore Golf Club Inc.



The 2025 Jan Reeves Memorial Tournament was held on Thursday 18th September. 36 ladies enjoyed the day and the lunch. This is an Annual event sponsored by TJ Scott & Family and the Club thank them once again for their continued support.

The Kilmore Toyota Par 3 Day held on Sunday 21st September was enjoyed by 84 players which included 7 juniors and 40 players without a handicap. This section of the event is proving to be popular and perhaps gives many players the opportunity to play golf and perhaps win a car. Once again, the Club thank Kilmore Toyota for their continued support for the 9th year in a row.

The greens have been cored in preparation for the Club Championships which commence towards the end of October.

Green Fees: Weekday Green fees \$25 Weekend \$30

Carts \$40 which must be pre- booked. Contact the Club Ph: 03 57321123 OR text 0437712973

Competitions are played Wednesday & Saturday. Shotgun start @ 9.30 am

With warmer weather predicted it may be an opportunity to take up the game of golf perhaps using one of the following options.

Social passes can be purchased now. \$300 for 12 months valid until Oct 2026.

New membership or Distance Membership (40Km) \$400 p.a. Pro rata rates apply

Information can be viewed on our website

Contact the Club for further information:

Email: info@kilmoregolfclub.com.au

OR Ph : 03 57321123

Whittlesea Community Network

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



Farewell football, hello sunshine! Time to learn something new, join a group or take up volunteering! Head to www.wchi.com.au to check out what's happening and to book online!

Visy Recycling

BBQ season has officially started and 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 9th & 23rd October 11.30am – 1.00pm Gold Coin Donation

FREE Tax Help

Get your return finalised for FREE! This great service is open to low income earners and will run until the end of October. Appointments are limited, call the office for times.

Walking Group is BACK

Join us for a walk each week on Wednesdays between 10am – 11am (and for a cuppa afterwards). Dogs and prams are welcome and best of all its FREE!

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! You will need at least one Smartphone to participate.

Sunday 19th October 10.30am – 1.30pm FREE

Op Shop Tours

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

18th October Edible Forest and Alowyn Gardens (\$60 pp includes all entry fees)

Pop Up Pre Loved Fashion Boutique RETURNS

Saturday 25th October 9.00am – 1.00pm Whittlesea Community Activity Centre

FREE ENTRY and FREE BARISTA COFFEE (you must bring your keep cup to be eligible)

Call the House for details, more routes and bookings or head online to book 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 18th October 9.00am – 1.00pm \$150 per person

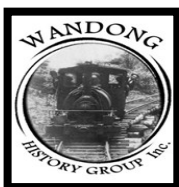
Saturdays 8th OR 22nd November 9.00am – 1.00pm \$150 per person

Fix it Friday

Fix it Friday will return in on 24th October! 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. The Victorian Ombudsman is also in attendance for all complaint matters related to government entities (eg councils, state government, Fines Victoria, VicRoads, Worksafe). 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 HISTORY GROUP



I would like to say that spring has sprung and how lovely our town is looking, sadly that's not the case, it's a mess and we need to make sure we hold Inland Rail to account when it comes to reinstating that which has been worked so hard for over many years. Fortunately, we have images of the before so we can make sure they know we are watching and expecting that our town will eventually be reinstated better than ever.

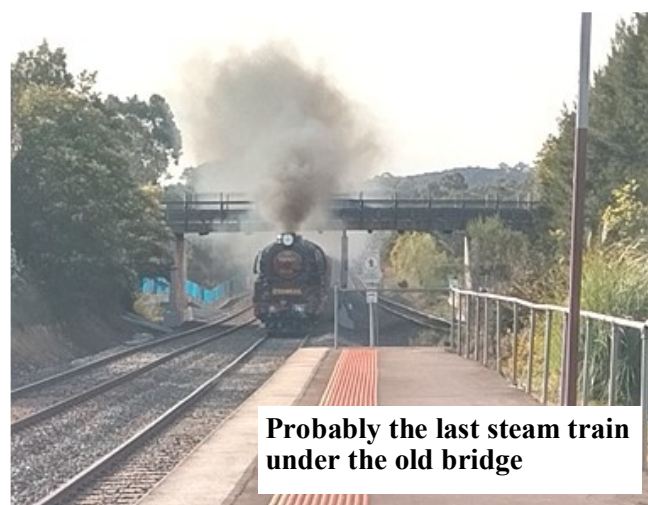
We are looking forward to being part of the School Fete this year, we will have the church open for visitors and a display up, so we hope to see many people coming through.

Our AGM will be held on October 21st at St Michaels church at 1.00pm. All welcome.

And don't forget Remembrance day on the 11th of November starting at 10.45am at the Memorial.



A view of the worksite



Probably the last steam train under the old bridge

Karen Christensen
President, Wandong History Group
wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com
<https://wandongheathcotejunctionhistory.com.au>

Save the Date

Wandong Primary School
154th Birthday Fair
– Friday 28th November



WANDONG HAS A NEW BOOK 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





Southern Cross Gold Site tour

20 Oct
5:45pm-
7:45pm

Would you like to know what exploration involves?

Join us on 20 October from 5:45pm for a guided tour of the Sunday Creek and proposed tunnel site and learn more about Southern Cross Gold's exploration activities firsthand.

You'll see drill rigs in action, see what gold and antimony looks like when it's removed as core from the earth and hear about the historic Clonbinane goldfields.

Places are limited and registration is essential. Access tickets via the QR code below or visit southerncrossgoldcommunity.com.au and follow the links by 17 October.

We'd love to see you there!



1800 717 638



community@southerncrossgold.com.au



www.southerncrossgoldcommunity.com.au