



“WHAT’S NEWS”

ISSUE 358 WANDONG/HEATHCOTE JUNCTION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER : MAY 2026 ABN 17 022 858 565

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ANZAC Day at Wandong

Over 250 people attended the Wandong ANZAC Day service. See pages 20 and 21 for details and photos.



OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW

Overnight on Friday 1st May 2026, the old Wandong railway bridge was demolished and 650 tonnes of rubble removed. Photos provided below courtesy of Inland Rail show before and after the bridge removal - another dramatic change to the landscape of Wandong.



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

Wandong - Heathcote Junction - why would you live anywhere else. Until June 2026, Allen Hall (editor)
NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE: COPY & ADS 30 May 2026 DELIVERY from 10 June 2026

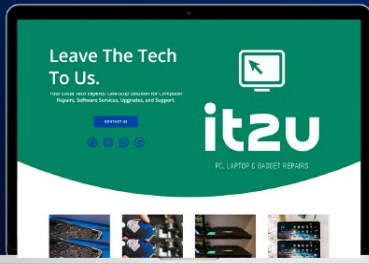
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What's Happening

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

9 May Phillip & Maureen Buggy HJ
16 May Brian & Rose Dove W
17 May Neil & Chris Douthwaite HJ
17 May Norm & Anne Rose 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
mitchelwalksgroup@gmail.com

for more information

HIRE THE WANDONG PUBLIC HALL

To hire the hall contact Christine for bookings or other information on 0448 604 770.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

We wish the following people a very happy birthday

19 May	Lewis Coter	W
19 May	Mathias Kelly	HJ
21 May	Oscar Spadafora	KE
20 May	Carol Jarvie	Dromana
23 May	Julie Milton	W
23 May	Dylan Woods	K
23 May	Gerry Vallance	W
24 May	Mitchell Seeley	HJ
25 May	Luke MacDonald	W
26 May	Claire Rayner	Wallan
26 May	Graeme McSolvin	W
27 May	Alex MacDonald	W
29 May	Kym Champion	HJ
29 May	Debbie Hastie	K
29 May	Ken Jackson	HJ
30 May	Amira Hall	B
1 Jun	Pauline Candy	W
1 Jun	Pat Awad	W
2 Jun	Nadia Amoroso	HJ
3 Jun	Maureen Buggy	HJ
4 Jun	Tyler Dennehy	HJ
6 Jun	Roger Flannery	W
6 Jun	Karen Hobson	HJ
7 Jun	Missy Sannweld	HJ
8 Jun	Casey Seeley	HJ
8 Jun	Matthew Day	UP
8 Jun	Billy James Flannery	W
9 Jun	John McCarthy	HJ
9 Jun	Sandra Bartolo	UP
12 Jun	Scott Sannweld	HJ
13 Jun	Heather Waldie	W
13 Jun	Terri Burns	HJ
13 Jun	Kate Smith	W

Wandong
PHARMACY

MYKI RETAILER



THE SHACK IS BACK

The Upper Plenty Community Hall
"THE SHACK"
is open for hire.

For information and bookings call Susan or Wayne on 0499 907 017

FOR PRIVATE SALE

Land in Rail St, Wandong
Walking distance to school,
train and shops.

PHONE: 0432 120 736

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

PLEASE TAKE YOUR RUBBISH HOME

The Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group continues to remove rubbish from Wandong streets, the Epping Kilmore Road, the Wandong Hume Freeway ramps, and Wandong Broadford Road.

Much of the rubbish is thrown from vehicles passing through Wandong but there is also rubbish that can only be from our residents. To those people we can only appeal to them to look after our beautiful town and take your rubbish home.

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.

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, WANDONG WANDONG AVE, WANDONG

Enquires 9308 2452

Services: 8.30am

on 1st & 3rd Sundays

† ALL WELCOME †



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

"Letting the
LIGHT Shine
in the World"

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

**Enquiries to:
David Moran
5787 1738**

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

Get me to the Church on time!

I've been mentioning the little Church on the hill lately and it would be quite rude of me not to explain more about this special place. For a start it is hard to find. In Clonbinane you go across a lovely little country bridge (It flooded and cut off the community completely recently for a few hours,) up a hill, round a sharp corner and there it is next to the fire station in the most delightful setting of any church you will see in a day's march. It's almost like you're in Heaven! (Sorry I got a bit carried away there, but I would like to be in Real estate!)

There's always someone on the door I think it's to check for sharps! But no! It's an order-of-service so you can check what's happening before you go in, there's no trickery here!

Welcome to Mitchell Christian Fellowship Church! (Action starts at 11 am.)

Pick a seat, no, better not Joe's he can Arc up a bit at times.

They'll take up an offering soon, before the sermon (just in case you don't agree with the speaker) then settle back and enjoy the company of a group of folk from all walks of life and all areas of our country, leaving the concerns and stress of the day outside the doors. Did I say all areas, we have a Gentleman drives from Canberra to attend our church each week! (Also to reunite with his family.) there's some interesting characters that attend regularly here. One such man has to sit up the back so if he collapses, they can get him out without any interruption to the service. If you strike any drama, ask for big Andrew, he's a fixer from way back. I mentioned folk from all walks of life yes, well, sprinkled among our congregation you would find= plumbers, lawyers, panel beaters, carpenters, Mothers (Lots of em), musicians, computer experts, and a sprinkling of ordinary people. (Just like me I suppose.) Where they hail from would make Google maps overheat!

Now it would be remiss if I overlooked our Minister (he's too shy for me to mention names.) but I can tell you it's hard for me to get much sleep once he starts preaching. He seems to be able to interpret the Bible into today's language and demonstrate its relevance for living so that one feels refreshed to go home, to work, to meet with friends to have a new grasp of your emotions a different attitude to life's challenges, a new calmness in this world of decisions, decisions. I now feel out of my pressure cooker, ready to be more like a calmer neighbor, friend, husband, work-mate, and be part of the cure not part of the problem.

Hey! After that heavy stuff guess what, there's food, not just a cup of tea and some stale biscuits, no! some delicious country tucker and kids! Sweets to follow! Come along on Sunday, bring the kids and the mother-in-law and say hello to a group of people just like you who understand that there is something more to life than footy, and little things with lots of buttons that tend to govern our lives! (I'm not sure about the Mother-in-law!)

There I go again I've fouled up and its only Monday!

P.S. This man that sits up the back in church looks so old that he was browsing in an antique shop in Niddrie last Wednesday when an old lady started ruffling around his shirt collar, apparently she was looking for his price tag!

A.G. (I sit up the back.)

Whittlesea Anglican Christ Church

We are located at
5—9 Wallan Rd, Whittlesea.
Phone: 9716 2042

Sunday service is at 10.30am
All are welcome to stay back for a cup of
coffee, tea, scones and biscuits.

Services to the Community:

Whittlesea Opportunity Shop
The Op shop is now on site at
5-9 Wallan Rd, Whittlesea.
Phone: 9716 2042
Open Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm,
Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm.



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Meeting at 10.30am every Sunday
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— entrance on Willomavin Road

nquiries to ;
Pastor Frantz Heinzelmann
Mobile: 0411 794 188

www.freedomcarechurch.org.au

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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



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Ron Hamilton 0481 268 471

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Caladenia Nursing Home Website:
www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au



GARDEN SCENE WITH GAIL

Well, May already, it's gone so quick but is that because as gardeners we keep ourselves so busy with what we love doing? The last month of Autumn and we could do with more rain to maintain the lovely green grass we now have and kind of damp soil, but it's drying out pretty quick with warm winds and really warm days. This is evident in our deciduous plants dropping their leaves perhaps earlier than normal. Beautiful colours in the Ornamental Pears, Varieties of Oak trees, Golden and Claret Ash trees, Elms, Chinese Pistachio, Maples, varieties of Cotinus, Forest Pansy and many others, just stunning. We need to maintain thorough watering of all the plants until the dryness breaks, and we get some good rain which brings with it Nitrogen and living plants, grasses just love it and need it as it drives good green leafy growth and it's essential to enable plants to convert sunlight into energy and it's also required for protein production, so, so good. After it rains plants appear to be really happy, lifting their branches upward in thanks. This is a great time to prepare plants to absorb all the moisture they can get over cooler months, hopefully wetter and if your garden is elevated it's imperative that no moisture/rain runs off, plants need to catch what they can with no wastage and that also applies even if it rains heaps. I have been weeding around even my larger plants and creating a 'dam' wall around the lower side of the plant so it catches water and holds it around the roots of the plant until it soaks in and I have employed the help of Seasol Wetting Agent, it works a treat, even on dried out soil (don't allow it to come into contact with any foliage), then I have top-dressed with well-rotted cow manure and followed up with a generous layer of mulch and if those rascally rabbits dig up my work, I'm going to call them names. It's so satisfying to know when you water it's not running off. May is a lovely month to enjoy the early blooms of Camellias, both Sasanqua and even some Japonica varieties. Sasanqua Yuletide is a ripper with deep red blooms and yellow stamens, very showy and it tolerates warm positions in the garden, it loves plenty of light. Hiryu hiemalis (a cross between a Sasanqua and Japonica), is a stunner and it has already started blooming with deep rose-pink open flowers and yellow stamens. After Camillias have finished flowering prune them to reshape or to just encourage a bushier plant. They adapt to almost every form of growing whether it be pots, topiary, garden beds, hedges or singular as a feature plant and their glossy green leaves look great, especially behind deciduous plants of similar or a smaller size. If you have never visited the Rhododendron Gardens at Olinda, you're really missing out, put it on your to do list in September/October. Like Azaleas, Rhododendrons and Camillias are surface rooting so a good layer of mulch and minimum disturbance around the root system is preferable. If you're planting on an incline, plant a little lower than the ground so water is sure to reach the roots and not run off. Daphnes are budding up ready to burst into flower and give us that beautiful perfume that we look forward to ensure they don't dry out. You may have noticed that Jonquil and Daffodil bulbs are pushing through the ground, I've accidentally broken some off as I've been weeding. Keep these well-watered, don't let them dry out as the eventual blooms will suffer if they have experienced dry conditions. I think we think they are pretty tough plants, but a bit of TLC goes a long way. Enjoy the month & a Happy Mother's Day to all the Mum's out there.



Gail Mains Kendrick
(your local real estate agent)



WANDONG TENNIS CLUB

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

Information is posted on our
Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/wandongtennis

Our autumn Tuesday and Thursday night competitions are almost finished. Good luck to all teams in the finals.

Our junior winter season started on Saturday 9th May.

Good luck to all players especially our new players.

All members should have received an email regarding their membership. If you didn't receive one please contact Lisa 0407112880

Coaching is available at the club. Please contact Karl on 0423611317

Or kv.tennis@hotmail.com



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LIONS CLUB OF WANDONG – WALLAN INC.

President; Sam Bedi

PO Box 225, Wandong Vic 3758



OK another report is due and I don't have much to say for a change. The biggest event was Anzac Day at Wallan and Wandong.

Marilyn and her grandson laid a wreath while President Sam did the same at Wandong. There were good turnouts at both venues. Marilyn was particularly impressed by the Sikh community who had a choir there as well as giving out food. The local primary school kids marched from the site to the park.

At Wandong, which is later in the day Sam presented the wreath, which I mentioned earlier. There was a good turnout and the local Sikh community was again in attendance. Wandong primary school kids were involved as they are every year.

Biker Bill has been in hospital. He had to have his blood vessels reamed out. I offered my electric drill but the hospital declined saying that they had one of their own. He is a new man. Able to leap small sticks and stones if he gets a run up. His daughter Linda was giving him a hard time. I heard this from a reliable source, Bill. He was not allowed to do work on his bike and other things. "sit in that chair and be quiet" was the command. Now those of you familiar with bill will know that being quiet is not in his thinking. He will make up for it now that Linda has gone home.

Elizabeth and I have been on holiday in Queensland. Three days on the boat in Moreton bay was really relaxing, I didn't fall over once. When we got back to my sisters place on Macleay island it didn't stop raining. Not like Victoria which was warm and sunny. Queensland, beautiful one day soggy the next.

Didn't hear much about Sam's holiday in Bali but I did notice bright lights and loud music in the shop at night. Perhaps they were just packing shelves.

Marilyn would like people to know that she has sorted out a lot more wool and that she would welcome more knitters. I would like to acknowledge Letice who knitted some very pretty baby clothes. Marilyn was very pleased to receive them.

I think that I am just about out of puff. We have a business meeting in May and are also planning a dinner meeting where we will induct the new members and I will be able to get some scandal.

Until next month be good like me and don't get into any trouble. See you.

Clyde the champion Riley.

Kilmore Golf Club Inc.



The following competitions have been completed during April mainly in beautiful Autumn weather

Pennant. Two Men's pennant teams will be playing in the finals at Lancefield with an early morning start and is the culmination of 4weeks of Sunday golf playing at local golf courses in the GGDA district.

The Ladies team has won all their matches so far so hopefully the team will be looking at the finals

Monthly Medal. Helen Dennett won the April Medal with Jack Reeves winning the May Medal

Muller Butcher held over two weeks competition won by Mark & Andrea Boland

McNamara Reeves. A two -week competition won by Molly Bell and Steve Maurer

Successful Anzac Day 4BBB won by Ian Wood & John Roberts

Foursomes Cup & Plate won by Cheryle Andersen & Andrea Boland

Keep in mind the Club is offering Social passes (pro rata) and Membership to new residents @ \$400 (pro rata) or those who have never been a member in the past.

Contact the Club – info@kilmoregolfclub.com.au OR for further information visit our Website; kilmoregolfclub.com.au

Phone 5782 1123

Kilmore Golf Club



Road closure and pavement works Wandong 12 to 31 May 2026

**JOHN
HOLLAND**

John Holland will continue works to construct the new Broadford-Wandong Road bridge during May.

Work being done

- Construction of new roundabout and road works on Broadford-Wandong Road, Rail Street and Epping-Kilmore Road
- Roadwork upgrades to Heathcote Junction detour
- Construction of retaining wall
- Installation of drainage and public lighting
- Landscaping.

What can I expect?

- Works 7am-6pm Monday to Friday and 7am-1pm Saturdays
- Works 4am-7pm Monday 25 May
- Temporary closure of a section of Rail Street
A detour is in place via Heathcote Junction
- Long-term temporary single-lane shuttle flow on the newly constructed Broadford-Wandong Road bridge
- Reduced speeds and periods of short-term temporary single-lane shuttle flow on Epping-Kilmore Road
- Nearby residents likely to be impacted by out-of-hours works or restricted access to properties, will be notified ahead of time
- Refer to electronic signage for updates. Please allow additional travel time, follow all signage, detours, and traffic management
- No pedestrian access in works area
- Nearby residents may experience some noise, lighting from light towers, and vibration.

Machinery used

Cranes, trucks, concrete pumps, excavators, pumps and rollers. Workers using hand tools and traffic management equipment.

How we're managing impacts

- Traffic management and reduced road speeds
- Residential property access maintained
- Environmental controls are in place.

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.

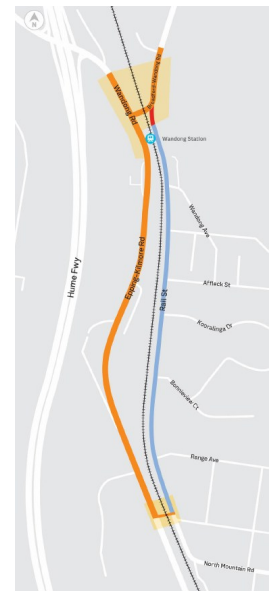
Talk to the team

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.

-  Works area (no pedestrian access)
-  Road closed
-  Traffic management
-  Vehicle detour
-  Wandong Station



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

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Caravan Security at Home & Away

The simple things you can do to protect your caravan can help your holiday be an enjoyable get-away. These tips can also keep your caravan safe & secure at home.

Before you tow your caravan tips:

Things you need to know before you tow your caravan

- Make sure your vehicle is rated to tow your caravan and that both the vehicle and trailer are in good mechanical condition.
- Evenly distribute the load in your caravan.
- Drive to the conditions on the day. Caravans are less manoeuvrable and will take longer to stop especially in wet weather.
- Avoid sudden braking, heavy acceleration and sharp cornering.
- Turn off pilot lights must be extinguished before entering a service station.
- When getting fuel, lock your car or motorhome when you go to pay.
- If you need a quick power nap, park in a well-lit location – such as a shopping centre car park or outside a police station – and make sure your vehicle is locked.

Safe at home and away:

We have put together some hints to keep you safe on and off the road whilst you are out with your caravan:

- Don't leave the engine of your recreational vehicle running if it is unattended.
- Don't reverse into your space. Instead put the hitch away from the standard access which means that a criminal would have to turn your car and van (or motorhome) around to escape – and that takes longer.
- Consider using additional security such as a wheel clamp, hitch security device, alarm, steering lock, engine immobiliser or tracking device.
- Lock all windows and doors when you leave your caravan or recreational vehicle even if it is parked on your own property or you will only be away for a short time.
- At night, park your caravan or recreational vehicle in a well-lit and secure area, if possible.
- Don't hide a spare set of car keys anywhere in or around your car, caravan or RV.
- Install a light which switches on automatically when it gets dark to make the caravan look occupied. You may even install some external sensor lights for when you are caravanning out in the bush or away from a caravan park.



Secure your caravan at home:

- Store your caravan when it is not in use in a securely fenced yard, locked building or commercial storage facility. Keep in mind that if you usually park your van on the front lawn or in your drive, when you go on holidays it will be very obvious that you are away.
- Lock all windows and doors when you leave your caravan or recreational vehicle even if it is parked on your own property. Close the curtains so that the interior of the caravan is not readily visible.
- Don't hide a spare set of car keys anywhere in or around your car, caravan or RV.
- Consider using additional security such as a wheel clamp, hitch security device, alarm, steering lock, engine immobiliser or tracking device. If the van is regularly parked at your home, install sensor lights.
- **Never leave valuables visible in your caravan when you leave it. Remove them or put them away in a drawer, cupboard or security box.**

Upcoming Events

South Mitchell NHW General Meeting - 14 May

We will be hosting our next meeting on 14 May, 2026, 7pm in the meeting room, at the Wandong Community Centre, LB Davern Reserve, Dry Creek Road, Wandong.

Everyone is welcome!

Wandong CFA Trivia Night, 16 May, from 6pm

Craigieburn Bunnings Sausage Sizzle, 24 May

Hotlines:

000

Emergency

131 444 Police Assistance Line

Online Reporting: 1800 333 000 Crime Stoppers

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



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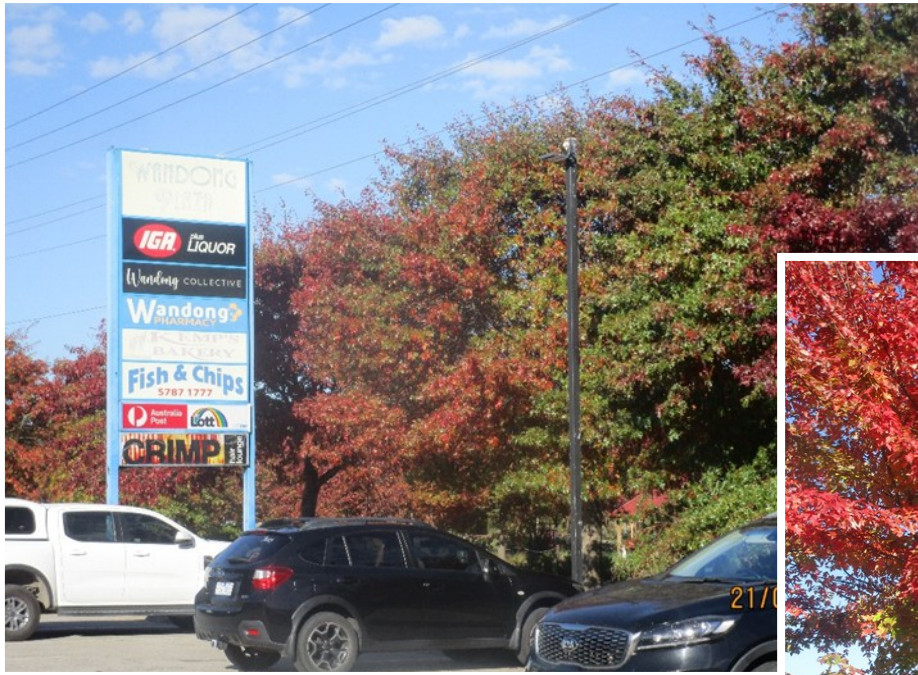
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AUTUMN IN WANDONG



WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL



Buildings & Grounds Update

We are pleased to have another stage of the ongoing improvement works at our school completed! The administration team have been able to move back into the newly-renovated front office building, which now features additional work and meeting spaces. Staff are also enjoying an updated staffroom, with enough room to actually fit our ever-growing number of people, as well as providing an extra space for teachers to meet and work collaboratively. This also means that the STEM and Art teachers have been able to move into their new purpose-built classrooms at the top of the block. We are very excited to have all these new and beautiful spaces up and running!

The works on our play spaces are now well underway, after demolition began at the end of last term. The old basketball court and 'Little Land' building are being replaced with a fantastic new Covered Outdoor Learning Area, which will create even more opportunities for student play, sport and connection. It has been exciting for students to see the machinery at work and check in on the progress behind the fences!

The school holidays also saw the return of our beloved school chickens, after the completion of an incredible overhaul of their enclosure. This project has been a labour of love from our school community, made possible by the passion of Ms Pollock, who along with her family, has given up so much time and energy to make this a reality. After much time spent nailing, painting, installing, designing, and planting, the most beautiful new house in Wandong belongs to some very lucky chooks!



Foundation enrolments for 2027

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MONDAY 20 APRIL

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ANZAC Day

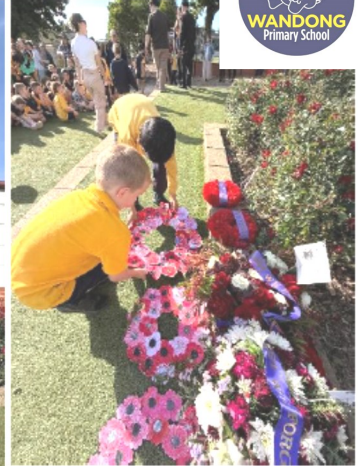
We were honoured to welcome special guests and families to join us for our whole-school ANZAC Day Ceremony.

Mr Roland Gardiner returned to act as our MC for the event, with members of our senior leadership team contributing poetry readings and thoughtfully written personal reflections on what ANZAC Day means to them.

Our SRC representatives each laid a poppy tribute on behalf of their classes. The following day, our senior student leaders also represented our school with pride at the local Wandong community service.

SEE PHOTOS PAGE 15

WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL



PROBUS CLUB of WALLAN

Are you retired, or semi retired. Are you bored, don't know what to do.
Come and join Probus.

Probus provides community, fun and friendships, social networks for retirees.

Wallan Probus meets 2nd Wednesday of the month, at Hogans Hotel, in the back room,
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We have morning tea every Friday at Hogans 10am-12pm. Come to a morning tea to meet us first.

We also have bus trips, mystery
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know where you will end up.

Cost is your own morning tea
and lunch.

We have a walking group, trips
coming up to Werribee Zoo, Fire
Museum, Werribee mansion. We
attend morning melodies at
Craigieburn and Whittlesea.

Contact: Secretary Leigh
Gascoigne on 0409 199 654

or secretarywallanprobus@gmail.com



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THANKS TO
Wandong Primary School Upgrade

Lauren Kathage MP
State Member for Yan Yean

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lauren.kathage@parliament.vic.gov.au

03 9432 9782

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



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ਆਪਣੇ ਅਧਿਕਾਰਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਜ਼ਿੰਮੇਵਾਰੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਸਮਝੋ,
ਤਾਂ ਜੋ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਕੰਮ 'ਤੇ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਬਾਰੇ ਗੱਲ ਕਰ
ਸਕੋ।

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131 450 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਜਾਂ
worksafe.vic.gov.au/punjabi 'ਤੇ ਜਾਓ।

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WANDONG FIRE BRIGADE



Wandong Fire Brigade Trivia Night

We are getting excited about the Wandong Fire Brigade Trivia Night coming up on Saturday May 16th. There are still a few tickets available if you are interested in coming along. Doors open at 6pm, you are invited to bring your own food and drinks. There will be door prizes, games, and competitions, as well as trivia!

Big thanks to our supporters DeWalt, Flame N Good Firewood, Property Maintenance Australia, Wandong IGA, and Lauren Kathage.

Raffle tickets are available even if you can't make the Trivia night. \$20 per ticket, with a 1 in 200 chance to win \$1000 fuel vouchers, DeWalt tools or a 1 tonne of ready-to-burn firewood.

Burning Off

Mitchell Shire Council allows burning off in town areas on Wednesdays and Saturdays between 10am and 3pm. You must register your burn-off by calling the CFA Burn Off Line on 1800 668 511 or via the website <https://firepermits.vic.gov.au>

Training and new recruits

Our 9 new firefighter recruits have begun training for their General Firefighter Qualifications. They have been working on equipment familiarisation, hose bowling, different ways to get water into a truck, how the pump works, and how to get water out of the truck. It has been lovely to see our more experienced brigade members pairing up with the newbies and working together.

Juniors

Juniors also have 4 new starters, with two of our previous juniors moving up to seniors. Elections were held with Ethan being elected as Captain and Fox as 1st Lieutenant. On ANZAC day, the juniors, led by Ethan and Fox laid a wreath at the Wandong ceremony on behalf of the brigade.

Juniors have been working on similar skills to the seniors, practising their hose bowling and learning about the equipment that is carried on the fire trucks.



WANDONG FIRE BRIGADE

2026 TRIVIA NIGHT +

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Message us on Facebook @ Wandong Fire Brigade
With name, contact number and number of tickets required. Bank transfer & cash payments available

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Use Name + Contact phone number as the descriptor

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

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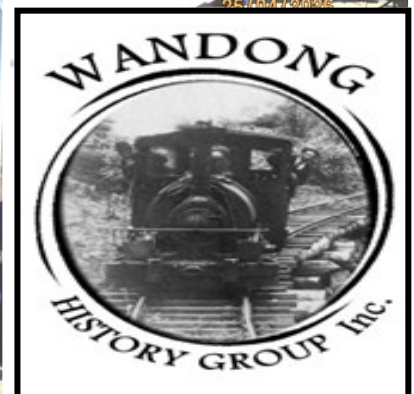
WANDONG IGA

CFA

OVER \$2500 IN PRIZES.

ANZAC DAY AT WANDONG

The 2026 ANZAC Day service held at the Wandong War Memorial Park was attended by over 250 residents and visitors. The MC for the ceremony was Mr Peter Dore, the Wandong Fire Brigade members formed the four person catafalque party and the students of the Wandong Primary School Leadership Team read the ANZAC day addresses. A huge thank you to the Wandong History Group led by its dedicated President, Karen Christensen who every year spends many hours preparing and conducting the ceremony. This year the ceremony remembered the eight airmen who died in plane crashes on Mt Disappointment. A special presentation by Seraat Kaur was a highlight and has been copied on page 21 for all to read.



ANZAC DAY AT WANDONG

Seraat Kaur's ANZAC Day Speech

Today, we gather to remember. To pause. To reflect on courage, sacrifice, and the shared strength that defines the Anzac spirit. When we talk about the "Anzac spirit," we aren't just talking about a military record. We are talking about a shared sense of duty built on courage, resilience and that quiet stubborn resolve to keep standing for the person next to you and the many left behind.

When we think of Anzac Day we often picture shores of Gallipoli, the rising sun, and the soldiers who stood strong. Let us also reflect on those whose stories are not always told but are no less part of this legacy - equally powerful and of great significance for us and those coming after us to understand that this resolve and courage didn't belong to just one face or one faith.

Among them are the Sikh Anzacs. Standing shoulder to shoulder with Australian and New Zealand troops at Gallipoli and beyond, were the Sikh soldiers. They faced the same harsh conditions, the same uncertainty, and the same danger. Some enlisted directly into Australian and New Zealand forces, while many more served in the British Army, where Sikh regiments formed a significant part of the fighting strength. In total, thousands of Sikh soldiers were part of that global conflict. They were not separate from the Anzac story - they were part of it.

Their service was shaped by a way of life. In Sikhi, there is the idea of the Sant-Sipahi - the saint-soldier. A life where compassion and courage are not opposites, but companions. A Sikh is taught to live with compassion and humility, but also with the courage to stand against injustice and protect others. So, when Sikh soldiers went to war, they did not leave their beliefs behind. They carried them with them.

Seva - selfless service, meant duty beyond self-interest. They believed in Sarbat da Bhala - welfare of all, irrespective of caste, religion, social standing, or nationality, for humanity itself. And even in the harshest moments, they carried Chardi Kala - a spirit of resilience, optimism, and rising above adversity.

At Gallipoli, the 14th Sikh regiment showed extraordinary courage under relentless fire. On the Western Front, Sikh regiments continued to serve with distinction, often in situations where survival itself was uncertain. What stands out is not only their bravery, but the quiet strength that did not break under pressure. That strength reflected belief, faith, not just training.

Many of these soldiers were far from home, in unfamiliar lands. Yet Sikhi does not restrict service by geography or identity. It is standing up wherever there is need, wherever there is injustice, wherever others must be protected.

And that is where their story meets the Anzac spirit. Not in sameness, but in shared values, In endurance, and in duty. In the decision to keep going when it would be easier not to.

Today, as we remember all who served, we remember the Sikh soldiers not as an addition to the story, but as part of its foundation. Their legacy lives on - not only in history, but in the values they carried. Values of service, justice, courage, and compassion. Values that still matter. Values that still guide. Values that still connect us. So, this Anzac Day, as we stand in silence, let us remember fully. Let us honour all who served- know and unknown, remembered, and rediscovered. Let us recognise the deeper principles that guided them. And let us carry those principles forward - in how we treat others, in how we stand up for what is right, and in how we serve.

Lest we forget.



PROUDLY BACKED BY OUR 2026 SPONSORS

SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT OUR CLUB



@WandongJuniorFootballClub



<https://wandong-junior-football-club.square.site/>

Our Town's Football Club



It has been a busy month at the club. Football is well underway. With three rounds already played. The weather has been kind, and our Sundays have continued to be perfect for footy.

Last week the club remembered the ANZACS with the last post played and a minute silence observed before each game. Special thanks to Corey Finger for organizing the morning.

The reserve is looking fantastic with a raft of new Sponsors having signage installed around the ground. Our Sponsors are essential in the running of our club and getting the kids out on the field. Without their generous support the club would not exist. Take a moment to look over our sponsor page and take note of the local businesses who support our club, children's sport and the Wandong / Heathcote Junction community. GO Warriors!

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WANDONG-HEATHCOTE JUNCTION COMMUNITY GROUP

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



For many years the WHJCG has asked VicRoads and Mitchell Shire to provide safety turning lanes on the Epping Kilmore Road at Heathcote Junction, Wallan Whittlesea Road, Beveridge Road, etc but has largely been ignored. Then recently to accommodate a detour when Rail Street was closed for ten weeks, Inland Rail and John Holland widened the roadside by a metre of bitumen to create a half baked turning lane and a chicane on the Epping Kilmore Road, must be for the houligans. Another opportunity missed to fix one of our safety issues.

For 22 years the Community Group has had a great relationship with the management of Wandong Plaza always through consultation and always with both our best interests for the Plaza, but also the Wandong Heathcote Junction community which the Community Group represents in so many ways and to so many departments and organisations. The beautification of Wandong township has been largely due to the efforts of the Community Group - the tree lined avenue, the gazebos, bushfire / war memorial / rose garden park, etc and the cleanliness of THE PLAZA. Our members regularly visit the Plaza after 8pm at night when the car park is empty and spend hours to shovel and sweep up all the dirt and rubbish between the concourse and the car tyre barriers. We spray weeds that accumulate at the edge of the concourse and clean rubbish around the Plaza including the four rubbish bins inside and out. The WHJCG recently raised a issue with Alpine Petroleum which lead to this statement aimed at ending our 22 year relationship: **The Plaza is privately owned and is maintained by Alpine Petroleum in conjunction with our appointed agents who now handle any issues relating to ongoing maintenance and general management of the Plaza. We do not require the Community Group to be involved in any aspect of this endeavour. We would rather rely on our own staff and Management Company to direct any and all activities at this location.** The WHJCG has asked Alpine Petroleum to post their contact numbers in the Plaza for reporting issues now the WHJCG has been given the flick.



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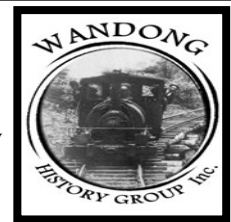
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WANDONG HISTORY GROUP



How lucky are we to live here, the weather for our ANZAC Day service was fantastic, the park looked amazing, credit to the council ground crew for having it looking lovely and a huge crowd in attendance.

This year we focused on remembering the eight airmen who perished in the line of duty on Mount Disappointment. While we love our mountain it can be a dangerous place and for the families who lost their loved ones there a difficult place. As a community we need to remember that although those men did not live here, they are as much a part of us as anyone else who lives in and loves this place.

Huge thank you to the Wandong Primary School, not only did we have the immense pleasure of attending the school service but had the assistance of the school leaders for our community service, a fantastic bunch of children and absolute pleasure to be around.

Also big thanks to everyone else who helped, the Community Group for manning the sausage sizzle, the Sikh community for the mountains of delicious pasta, and all those who made the day work. It's a big effort with everything having to be transported back and forth from the park so every helping hand is very much appreciated.



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



Upper Plenty
Merri Catchments
Landcare
Group

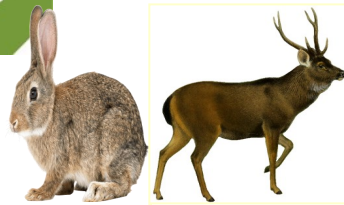
Upcoming Events

Are you having problems with **FERAL** animal pests on your property?

Public Meeting for interested local Rural Landowners wanting help in controlling invasive feral animals.

6.30pm Wednesday 20th May

2026 at The Shack 1240 Whittlesea Wallan Road Upper Plenty 3756



This Photo This Photo by



The Upper Plenty Merri Catchments Landcare Group will be hosting a presentation by:

Tammo Frisch, from The Mount Sugarloaf Hunt Club

Marc Preston, Commercial Deer Harvester

Who will provide information and support in helping control feral animals on your property, **free of charge.**

Come along and listen, ask questions and sign up.

This event is part of our Partnerships against Pests program

The presentation will be followed by supper before our general meeting at 7.30pm.

Also we are holding our first Activity on the Merri Creek with a litter cleanup.

9.30am-11.30am Sunday 28th June, at the corner of South Mountain road and Epping Kilmore Road Upper Plenty.

The Merri creek is an important waterway in our shire and needs our help. The cleanup will be followed by morning tea. A toilet will be on site.

Sponsored by Melbourne Water and facilitated by the Merri Creek Management Committee

For further information please check out our website <http://upmclg.org.au> or our facebook page or call or email the secretary Michael 0412408048 secretary.upmclg@gmail.com.



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The L.B.Davern Reserve is full of activities for 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.

Junior Football has commenced their competition heading to round 4 and Netball Club heading into their 26th competition season, Watch out for them and please support our Junior Clubs.

Auskick to commence on a Wednesday night, watch out for registration and commencement date.

Tennis continues with their ever increasing membership with Tuesday and Thursday nights. There will be a short break before recommencing the winter season of Tennis competition in juniors and afternoons.

The Wandong Primary School continues with their sporting activities programs down on the Oval and Stadium.



The Kilmore Adult Riders Group and Standard Bred Riding group are well into their programs down at the Reserves horse arena area. When their programs are on please be aware that horses are in the area of Reserves entrance to the Stadium, Oval and Tennis club so please observe the cautions and speed limits in that area.



The Dog club will return to the Kilmore cricket club for their winter programs.

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-kick to kick and goal shooting practice, passing shots in netball, shooting hoops at the basketball ring, riding the horses, training dogs to behave, Wandong primary doing their sporting activities on the Oval, Wallan basketball in the Stadium.

LB DAVERN Reserve

The Proud Home to

Website: www.lbdavernreserve.com.au

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

L.B.Davern Reserve Projects update: Netball/Tennis –Sports Shelter project: Completion by mid-May

This project was not possible without the help of the following organisations:

- Tiny Towns Grant-\$11,000.
- Bendigo Bank-\$5,000.
- Inland rail-\$4,000.
- Wandong Netball Club
- Wandong Tennis Club
- L.B.Davern Reserve
- Committee of Management





Oval lights project:

We have also been successful in funding for the upgrade of Oval lighting to be converted to L.E.D and new poles. \$250,000 from the State Government’s Local sports Infrastructure Fund and Mitchell Shire.

Cricket pitch Redevelopment:

Cricket Victoria Grant and Mitchell Shire to replace the centre wicket on the Oval. The pitch will see the pitch sit roughly 20-30mm above the surrounding turf area and the pitch length extended to comply with Cricket Victoria Standards. This grant also extends to the Wandong Netball Junior Club in kind contribution. Updates in the June addition of what’s News.



**The Community Centre is open for bookings, enquire now
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. Darlene Gunter on 0418 312 762

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

- Oval Bookings, Stadium bookings and enquiries - Mitchell Shire Council Recreation and Open Space unit ph. 5734 6200.
- Community Centre and Sports Pavilion contact:
Darlene Gunter, Booking Officer for the WHJSCC on 0418 312 762

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



**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.

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

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

SOCIAL CONFLICT or AGGRESSION ...

By Anne Zelvys IACP-CDT

What is the Difference !!!

Dealing with Conflict: Most dog owners have trouble dealing with conflict.... ANY type of conflict. So when a dog growls or barks the human will often misinterpret the situation and often becomes emotional themselves. The human may then respond in one of two ways.



1. Human often become overly protective and try to settle the dog by patting and stroking. Their objective is to reassure the dog "Everything is Alright" and use soft voices and continue to pat and stroke even thou the dog is still reacting. They might even try to distract dog with treats or toys but the dog cannot think when he is fixated.
2. Human starts to worry that their dog might be aggressive, so will try to avoid situations which seem to trigger the dog. They might take the dog for a walk late at night when people are not around. Often when their dog sees a strange dog he begins barking and growling, then owners turn and avoid this situation as well.

Neither of these approaches are likely to help. Instead you are just displaying to the dog that YOU lack confidence and are worried about the situation. Dog then feels that if his owner is scared then of course he should be scared as well. Really we need to show the dog we are confident and BLOCK the dog from using the mouth.

Define Aggression: Aggression is NOT a trait, this is a behaviour. Consider if this was a Trait, the dog would show aggressive all the time, their energy is primed to be reactive. It is obvious that this is not possible. It is however correct to say, that given certain circumstances then a dog will show aggressive behaviour. If we assess what situations a dog is likely to show aggression we can work out how to handle this dog.

Define Social Conflict: Generally when domestic dogs want to get their own way they use a form of **Social Conflict**. Perhaps your dog meets a new dog and wants to keep a toy. They might growl and snap and if this is successful, the dog moves away so will continue to use this method. But then he meets a different dog and this dog uses a different technique and snaps back and perhaps even pins your dog down. Your dog has learnt a new lesson, because it is thru trial and error that dogs learn to compromise.

Social Conflict VS Aggression:

Both Social Conflict and Aggression show similar behaviours: growling, pushing, stand over tactics or even one dog pinning another dog to the ground with their body. So the question is - how do you know what is normal dog behaviour and so leave them to sort it out....and then... how do we know when something is wrong and then step in and make the dogs stop....? In greetings, dogs will often make a bit of noise, pushing and shoving but their teeth are usually not connecting, at least not for more than a nip where perhaps a bit of fur is grabbed – this is when we can stand back and wait - leave them to sort it out. This is Social Conflict and is how dogs learn to think thru and solve their own problems.

Scenario Example of Social Conflict: Two dogs meet but are not comfortable. Perhaps Dog 1 is being pushy – Dog 2 growls and stands his ground and might even make a grab to show he is not happy. Dog 1 then adjusts to this unwanted behaviour and steps back - then Dog 2 eases off. This is NOT aggression. **This is normal social conflict** where the dogs are working out what is an acceptable response to the social meeting. In fact humans should view this as constructive and try to stay out of the process.

Scenario Example of Aggression: If we consider the same scenario however this time when Dog 2 growls and pushes back Dog 1 does not adjust to the unwanted behaviour but keeps pushing and escalating the bad behaviour. Now Dog 2 may continue to push back, however this is when we might have problems. This is not acceptable as there is no learning involved, just that Dog 1 is being a Bully and Dog 2 may feel he has no option but to retaliate and then both dogs can end up in a fight.



Alfoxton Tip : Public Dog Parks are NOT the place to try and teach your dog how to socialise. They are however a terrific place once you and your dog have the experience to deal with minor conflicts.

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SUDOKU

Answers
on page 35

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

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

THIS MONTHS QUIZ

Answer appears on Page 35 but no cheating!

- 1) What is the capital of France?
- 2) What is a leprechaun's profession?
- 3) What did the "Three Little Kittens" lose?
- 4) How many sides does a decagon have?
- 5) What does 'Fitz' mean at the beginning of a surname?
- 6) What is the currency of France?
- 7) Which country invented gun powder?
- 8) By what name were the Egyptian kings/ rulers known?
- 9) What is the main ingredient in bread?
- 10) What is the main ingredient in chocolate?
- 11) Which country has the most volcanoes?
- 12) Dogs sweat through which part of its body?
- 13) What is the most common human blood type?
- 14) In which US city is Broadway located?
- 15) Name the best-selling book series of the 21st century?
- 16) What happened on July 20th, 1969?
- 17) Name Disney's first film?

Sheree Tivendale

Civil Celebrant
0417 808 922

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL



How to keep up to date with Council online:

- > Download the My Mitchell App
- > E-News direct to your inbox, sign up now
- > Follow us on socials
- > 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

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Hello Readers,

While there is a lot of uncertainty in the world at the moment and the cost of living is crippling so many people, rather than focusing on all that noise around us, let's focus on some positivity, we do live in The Lucky Country, a phrase first coined by Donald Horne in the sixties.



We need to continue to take care of our mental and physical well being and connection with members within our community.

At Wallan U3A our members enjoyed a spirited monthly trivia session with John at the helm. One lucky team walked away with the jackpot prize after answering the final question correctly. Well done!!

Kilmore Trackside held another ever popular Morning Melodies which was well attended by our members. It was a great day with dining, dancing, singing and toe tapping. Our fearless leader John, was lured onto the stage to perform a Sonny and Cher duet "I've got you Babe", which had the crowd in stitches. You're a good sport John!

Also in April, our singing group brought smiles to the faces of the residents at the Kilmore Grove Nursing Home, as they sang a varied selection of songs from the 60s and 70s. The performance brought joy not only to the residents, but to the singing group itself, who sing for the love of music and song.

Our monthly lunch outing will be in Seymour, after a free train ride there and back. While in Seymour I predict some members will scour the OP shops in the hope of bringing home a bargain or two.

We continue to welcome new members and are always open to suggestions for new activities, classes and outings.

Please call our President John on 0413 083 089 for further details.

That's all for now.

Till next time,

Bye, John Lanphier

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

Philman Excavations

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 Behaviour Problems



Workshops
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 Intro to Agility
 Dock Diving
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www.foxton.com.au

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 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
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60 Junction Rd, Heathcote Junction, Vic

Alfoxton is a registered Domestic Animal Business - Mitchell Shire

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 33)

- 1) PARIS
- 2) Tailor and cobbler
- 3) Their mittens
- 4) Ten
- 5) Son of
- 6) Euro
- 7) China
- 8) Pharaohs
- 9) Flour
- 10) Cocoa
- 11) Indonesia
- 12) Its paws
- 13) O positive
- 14) New York
- 15) Harry Potter
- 16) Apollo 11 landed on the moon
- 17) Snow White, 1937

Weather Report

Heathcote Junction/Wandong

April 2026

The diurnal temperatures have started
 to cool but still produced some glorious
 warm days.

The recorded rainfall for April
 was the lowest since 2018 (14 mls).

Rainfall was recorded on 6 days
 during the first half of the month
 and nothing in the second.

Our supply dam Sunday Creek was rec-
 orded at 36% capacity as of 27th April-
 same time last year, it held 45%.

Stats

April 2026 - 22.5 mls
 Previous year - 32.5 mls
 Average prev 10 years - 75 mls
 Total this year - 182.5 mls
 Total prev year - 151 mls

SUKODU solution

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



*Kilmore
&
District*

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

Things are getting even busier soon at the JJ Clancy Reserve not only with all our Classes underway now but also progress with the Car Parking Works and the Local Football Rosters getting under way. Our Members Morning Tea was very successful, and our thanks go to Danielle for her great presentation on Tai Chi which was enjoyed by all.

The Memoir writers got off to a slow start this term but have settled down now. Dawn enjoys hearing what each person has written during the preceding weeks. They share their aspirations and Dawn shares hints and tips and excerpts from other peoples' memoirs. They also enjoy a cuppa together. If you are thinking of making a start on your life story, please ring Dawn for more information.

U3A Kilmore History Group had a very interesting tour of Wandong hosted by Wandong History Groups, Lyn Dore and Karen Christensen. The next topic for May is The Bacon Factories of Kilmore. Kilmore was a very progressive town from the 1850's with many mills to process grain, breweries and cordial factories, tanneries, blacksmith forges and saddlers, several newspapers and of course many religious establishments with schools attached and the numerous hotels. Only one day's drive from Melbourne it was a popular stop off to the Goldfields of Bendigo and the Ovens Valley.

DID YOU KNOW

The Australian Bureau of Statistics are hiring over 30,000 people for the 2026 Census. That's a whole sports stadium filled with Census field team superstars. We'll need people in every part of Australia, and more than half the jobs don't require any experience. If you think you might be interested you can apply for a Census job now at census.abs.gov.au/jobs

You can get a 4c per litre fuel discount from United Petroleum?

The following Fuel Discount information is from the Victorian Seniors Website seniorsonline.vic.gov.au

Victorian Seniors Card, Seniors Business Discount Card and Victorian Carer Card holders can now save 4c per litre at participating United service stations with the free United mobile app. United Petroleum is an independent, 100% Australian-owned fuel and convenience company with around 500 sites Australia-wide.

How it works

To apply for the free United mobile app, visit the United website unitedpetroleum.com.au Alternatively, call United Customer Solutions on 1300 383 587, open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm (AEST/AEDT) for assistance. Don't forget to check it out

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. If you are interested in joining us, further details can be found by or contacting us at: info@u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au or checking out our website u3akilmoreanddistrict.com.au

Christina

WANDONG PUBLIC HALL

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 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](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.



Get a coach in your corner

In-person Coaching supports you in finding a balance between your responsibilities as a carer and your own needs.

In-person Coaching gives carers the opportunity to work one-on-one with a coach who supports you towards improving your overall wellbeing. You can work out what you want to change in your life and how to make it happen.

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In-person Coaching is carer-led and caters to your unique circumstances. Your coach will support and empower you to:

- Identify what you need to improve your situation
- Find opportunities for change
- Set goals for the future
- Take steps towards your goals

Working with your coach

With your coach's support, you can figure out what you want in life and learn skills and strategies to achieve it.

Having that dedicated, one-on-one support helps you:

- Build resilience
- Manage daily stresses
- Develop a more positive mindset
- Make plans for your future

How In-person Coaching works

In-person Coaching is flexible and free. You'll get six, one-hour coaching sessions that can be structured around the same topic or different topics, depending on your requirements. You also have the option to attend face-to-face, over the phone, or remotely online. It's completely up to you.

To find out more about In-person Coaching, please contact us at **Carer Gateway**.

1800 422 737 Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

Emergency respite is also available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on this number

carergateway.gov.au

Whittlesea Community Network

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



We survived the school holidays, now it's time to start carrying a beanie wherever you go.....! As the weather turns wintery there's still lots of classes and plenty of activities to keep you warm, the current program can be picked up from the office or jump online www.wchi.com.au to check out what's happening and to book online!

Visy Recycling

Our merry band of volunteers is still counting CANS AND BOTTLES! Over the counter recycling is available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week 10am – 3pm and Saturdays from 8am – 4pm. Please note we are not open on Public Holidays. Unfortunately, we must also close when we reach our bin capacity – it's a good idea to visit us as early in the day as you can.

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>.

Whittlesea Fresh Food Co-Op

We are pleased to announce that we are embarking on an expansion program for the Food Co-Op! Stay tuned for more information on locations across the region! Meanwhile, prices are going through the roof and our boxes are GREAT value. Full Box \$25 and Half Box \$15. Locally sourced, straight from the farm produce with minimal freight cost means savings for you! Membership is just \$10 and you can find out more on the website www.wchi.com.au

Community Meals

Big Blokes Brunch can be found 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 – Please RSVP

May 14th & 28th 11.30am – 1.00pm Gold Coin Donation

Highlights for May

First Aid – 13th May CPR \$85, Provide First Aid \$150

Paint and Sip returns with a new tutor – Saturday 30th May - \$30 per person

Law Week – “Breaking Up is Hard to Do” presentation on all things separation and divorce with our panel of experts Friday 22nd May 12.30 – 1.30pm

Uke Muster – Save the date!

The Uke Muster will roll back into town on Saturday 29th August at 9.30am. Join us for a full day of all things Ukulele! Register now and receive updates as they happen check the website <https://www.socialplanet.com.au/request/guest/activity?id=48333> It's fun, it's FREE and everyone is welcome.

Op Shop Tours Returning in July!

Jump on the bus with us and snap up a bargain. These tours sell FAST! \$25 per person bus leaves from the House at 9am sharp and returns around 4pm

18th July Country

15th August Lilydale, Warrandyte and beyond

19th September City Fringe

17th October Victoria and South Melbourne Markets

Fix it Friday – Friday 22nd May

Fix it Friday is BACK. 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). NEW Fixer from Mortgage Stress will join us in May. We also have free Barista made coffee to keep you fuelled up. Call us to register for assistance 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.



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

WRITTEN BY MICHAEL B HALLEY
PUBLICITY OFFICER

Crime and Passion

The May meeting at The Combined Probus Club of Whittlesea was addressed by Peter Brilliant a former Victorian Police Detective who now works as a private consultant in industry based crime prevention such as drug effected workers.

He joined Victoria police in 1976 at 20 years of age and progressed through various squads and locations until around 1987 when he was selected to become a member of the Major Crime Squad.

The Victoria Police Major Crime Squad (MCS) was an active unit tasked with tackling serious and complex crimes across Victoria, primarily focusing on homicides, organised crime, drug operations, using specialised tactics both overt and covert.

The Assistant Commissioner of Crime was the determinant that an event was a Major Crime. Such cases revolved around the top ten criminals in the state who may be involved in crimes that would normally be in the domain of local Criminal Investigation Branches or even specialised squads.

Crimes that would be given to MCS to investigate were, all adult escapers either from police cells or actual jails, high value aggravated burglaries or shootings involving police. Kidnappings or extortions were generally given straight over to MCS.

Peter displayed the squad's logo the bottom line of which was the Latin words *nusquam abscondere*. Basic translation is nowhere to hide! This was a message to the criminal fraternity but the message was also reflected in the office! Like any group of Australian workers nick names were allocated. The one in keeping was a member called torch who "would not go out"!

The logo graphically depicts what Mr Brilliant called the MCS tools of trade. The shotgun, a sledge hammer and handcuffs.

In the sub-set of kidnapping Mr Brilliant reflected to Mr Cruel an unidentified Australian serial child rapist who attacked three girls in the northern and eastern suburbs of Melbourne in the late 1980s and early 1990s. He is also the prime suspect in the 1991 abduction and murder of a fourth girl, Karmein Chan.

Peter described Mr Cruel as highly intelligent. He meticulously planned each attack, conducted surveillance on the victims and their families, ensured he left no forensic traces, protected his identity by covering his face at all times and left red herrings to divert family and/or police attention. Peter believes he knows Mr Cruel's identity but is missing the final evidence.

Several anecdotes about criminal and police behaviours kept the audience enthralled. One easy capture was the result of inept criminals. They had broken into a building and removed a safe. In attempts to open it the safe was rolled onto its side. When MCS arrived at the scene they noticed blood on the floor from under the safe. The blood was from finger that had been severed in moving the safe..

Unlucky was the man with the missing digit because his fingerprint remained at the scene of the crime.

Peter was giving character references for many of our infamous criminals when the time ran out and his exciting presentation came to an end. He did explain a particular trait of Mark Brandon "Chopper" Read and claimed that the Kane Brothers were very dangerous clients.

With that information members applauded him whilst he was given a small token of appreciation.



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**Seymour
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**Wallan Office
& Meeting Rooms
03 5783 4713**

**Whittlesea
Office & Chapels
03 7064 0504**

**Bundoora Office
& Meeting Rooms
03 8467 0730**