



ISSUE 359 WANDONG/HEATHCOTE JUNCTION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER : JUNE 2026 ABN 17 022 858 565

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

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"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.

Congratulations Fearny!



At Wandong Primary School, Mr Fearn is known as an absolute legend, and he has been given a trophy to prove it! The school is proud to celebrate his win of the 2025 School Sport Victoria Recognition Award! Mr Fearn is

the backbone of events at Wandong Primary School, on top of the significant effort that goes into organising events for the local area through School Sport Victoria. He does all of this for the love of it, never wanting any attention or recognition of his efforts. Unfortunately for Mr Fearn, he does not write for this newsletter and doesn't get a say, so Wandong Primary School would like to share a massive CONGRATULATIONS and an endless THANK YOU for everything that he does to contribute to the school and to the local sports community.

The staff and students at Wandong Primary School.



THANK YOU FROM THE WANDONG COMMUNITY
Only a month after Alpine Petroleum has told the Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group it was no longer required to be involved in any aspect of ongoing maintenance of Wandong Plaza, we are lucky to have another community member with similar intentions to keep the Plaza presentable. A huge thanks to Marlene Gerard, while visiting her daughters in Station Avenue, for planting out the flower boxes

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 July 2026, Allen Hall (editor)

NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE: COPY & ADS 4 July 2026 DELIVERY from 15 July 2026

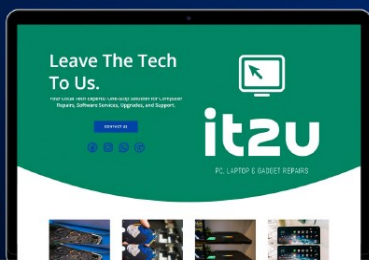
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What's Happening

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

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

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

14 Jun	Murray Carter	HJ
14 Jun	Christian Bellomo	HJ
14 Jun	Fletcher Thomas	B
15 Jun	Jenny Kelly	W
15 Jun	Peter Gough	HJ
15 Jun	Daniel O'Connor	HJ
16 Jun	Sandra O'Connor	HJ
16 Jun	Natasha Mitchell	HJ
17 Jun	Lindi Leddin	HJ
17 Jun	Phil Waite	W
18 Jun	Gary Watson	W
19 Jun	Luke Villanti	HJ
20 Jun	Chloe Belfiore	HJ
20 Jun	Carol Ryan	KE
23 Jun	Jordan Cole	W
24 Jun	James Dennis	HJ
25 Jun	Adrian McMahon	HJ
26 Jun	Debbie Hanson	W
26 Jun	Barry Kemp	W
26 Jun	Goran Coter	W
27 Jun	Melanie Spadafora	K
27 Jun	Shae Chisholm	HJ
27 Jun	Cathy Lancaster	W
27 Jun	Jazmin Wightman	W
29 Jun	Kevin Candy	W
2 Jul	Kristy Walsh	HJ
3 Jul	Adam Dennehy	HJ
3 Jul	Taylen Limbrick	B
3 Jul	Tyler Cole	B
4 Jul	Melissa Watson	W
5 Jul	Lyn Peachey	HJ
5 Jul	Micholas McIntyre Ellis	W
5 Jul	Andrew Brown	UP
7 Jul	Grace Hannemann	W
8 Jul	Laurie Lancaster	W
8 Jul	Rosalie Dove	W
9 Jul	Grant Pearce	W
9 Jul	Kane Pearce	W
9 Jul	Elizabeth Humphries	W
9 Jul	Beth Gutterson	W
9 Jul	Rhonda Cole	B
10 Jul	John Dean	W
11 Jul	Gaylee Dennehy	HJ
12 Jul	Rob Chisholm	HJ
12 Jul	Doug Stewart	B
13 Jul	Cindy Flannery	W
14 Jul	Ella Hall	W
15 Jul	Brad Dawson	HJ
16 Jul	Noelene Pyle	K
16 Jul	Olivia Allen	HJ

ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS

2 Jul Geoff & Liz Symons HJ
9 Jul Graeme & Marie Edwards HJ
12 Jul Doug & Helen Stewart B

Wandong PHARMACY
MYKI RETAILER

myki

RINGING OUT A JOYFUL SOUND

*Checking churches in this Shire
Not all of these do have a spire
Let us begin then in Seymour
Different ones to then explore
Baptists, Central, Salvos all are near
The Latter Day Saints are located here
Anglican, Catholic, Uniting, we find
Our country has many of this kind
Been on knees for many an age
As our world continues to rage.
Please don't forget Tallarook
Cruise on in, worth a look
Into Broadford, Prezies, others praise
Even around their whole new maze.
The Salvos are there to lend a hand
Been saved to serve across our land
Kilmore - Central, Orthodox amongst the old
"Great Church, Big Church" the meaning told
Freedom Care been placed here
Making it easier for people to fare
Divert a while, over the creek
In Clonbinane we shall seek
Winding around, up the hill
Mitchell Fellowship we find them still
Then down into Wandong next
Community here may be vexed
The District, St Johns small are they
Still these people meet and pray
So further along the road we go
The Sikhs do care, we all know
Wallan, Wallan East, we duck around
Not trains, but buses we have found
Big cross where the children are taught
Gateway swung open, needs are sought
Through hills and valleys, done the search
Surely, we can find that certain church!
Also too where What's News reaches
There you will find more Gospel preachers
So, anyone can make their choice
As in this country we can still rejoice!*

Written by Merle Croskell



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Meeting at 10.30am every Sunday
at the Freedom Care Building,
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— entrance on Willomavin Road

enquiries to ;
Pastor Frantz Heinzelmann
Mobile: 0411 794 188

www.freedomcarechurch.org.au

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Services: 8.30am

on 1st & 3rd Sundays

† ALL WELCOME †



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

**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

LIONS CLUB OF WANDONG – WALLAN INC.

President; Sam Bedi

PO Box 225, Wandong Vic 3758



OK it is time for another literary masterpiece.

We have decided to go into hibernation over July and will resume again in August. So there will not be a July report.

We will have a lunch meeting in June to induct some new members and have a social get together. The current office bearers are going on for another year. Despite getting on their knees and begging they were totally ignored. Anyway if you're on a good thing why change it.

The club purchased some flowers for Rose Dove, Elizabeth and I delivered them to her. Brian has been an active member of the club for a long time and was a long serving secretary. Rose has been in care for some time.

Bill and Steve have been out on the bikes again. Firstly to Lancefield, Steve with his pink stilettos and Bill in his Marlon Brando jacket. Poor Lancefield didn't know what had hit them. Second trip was to Kyneton to a do at the airfield. They got lost. Bill got out his GPS and they got even further lost. They eventually saw a plane and followed its path to their destination.

Steve is in Queensland again chasing drag racing. Tania is flying up to meet him.

Tania is travelling by train these days because she bent her car. Steve arranged for the trains to be reinstated just for her. He has been photographing trains on his way north. He tells me that he wears a hi-vis vest over his tutu so that the trains don't run him over. He's not silly.

Sharyn lost a hen to a fox. She purchased another which went missing. The poor fox got the blame. The missing chook was found safe and sound. On the other side of the fence. Same hen escaped again. This time it's way up a tree at night. Imagine if you will Sharyn next door in her pyjamas with a torch making chook noises to entice it down. The mind boggles.

Elizabeth and I have a wedding anniversary coming up. Don't you think that she is extremely lucky to have me for 60 years. I let her drive the tractor, the mower and use the whipper snipper. How lucky can you get. Who else would take their young bride to central Australia in a mini. She even got to dig the car out of the sand. That was a great adventure. I might even write about it one day.

My brother Lindsay was staying with us for a few days. I introduced him to Peter Dore who was drinking his cup of tea at Kemp's. "Commiserations" said Peter. Is my reputation so bad that people have to sympathise with my relatives?

Do you know Denise King. I don't know why but she is always whacking me. I asked her partner John and he showed me his bruises. It is getting so bad that I am too scared to walk passed her. When she reads this I will probably get hit again.

OK this will do I have probably created enough scandal.

Be good and always tell the truth like me. See you, Clyde Riley

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

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



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Whittlesea Anglican Christ Church

We are located at
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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
5-9 Wallan Rd, Whittlesea.

Phone: 9716 2042

Open Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm,
Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm.

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.

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
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email: Kilmoremensshed@gmail.com

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www.kilmoredistricthospital.org.au



GARDEN SCENE WITH GAIL

Gee this year has gone so quick, already Winter but it feels as though we were just recovering from Summer only a little while ago and our shortest day is this month. But I love the cooler days, a chance to really warm up in the garden with transplanting, selecting new plants to include in our gardens, top dressing and rejuvenating garden beds, lawns, potted plants and also our hanging baskets. A lot of our plants will gear down with flowering and growing over the cooler months so it's a great time to repot particularly if your deciduous potted plants have dropped all their leaves. Yes, some may be dormant but it's still essential to follow the normal routine of watering well prior to disturbing them from their current pot including an application of Seasol. Prepare the pot they are going into with fresh good quality potting mix, allowing room for the depth the plant is currently, ease the plant out of the pot, you may need to tap around the outside of the current pot to loosen the potting mix from the sides of the pot, and pop it directly into the new pot. Top up around the edges with fresh potting mix, water well and then apply a solution of Seasol. If you are not able to increase the pot size you can freshen up with new potting mix by taking the plant out of its pot, after it has soaked in a Seasol solution, gently use a garden hand fork to remove excess potting mix, this may expose fibrous roots so don't delay in getting it settled back into its pot. With some roots exposed, prune them lightly and settle it back into fresh potting mix in the original pot and top up around the plant. After you have watered it, you may notice around the edges sinking, you can top up a little more to ensure the plant is settled in well. My Fuchsias in hanging baskets are still flowering and when they finish flowering I will repot them with fresh potting mix. Of course, we can't forget our plants flowering at this time of the year, and they will benefit from some TLC, a liquid fertiliser weekly will maintain their flowering and replenish the goodness that the plants have used from the soil or potting mix. It's an instant feed for them unlike a pelletised or long-acting fertiliser which requires the temperature of the soil to be around 18 degrees to be activated. Some of the plants flowering at this time of the year include Camellias, Daphne, Solanum Potato Vine Blue, Pandorea jasminoides (native climber), Banksias, Hardenbergia (also a native climber), Grevilleas, Hellaboires (Winter Rose), Pansies, Violas and Cyclamen, and it's fantastic to see a display of colour in Winter when the weather can be quite drab. And what about the veggie garden, Winter sees Broccoli, Broad Beans, Snow Peas, Sugar snap Peas, Radishes, Garlic, Carrots, Spinach, Silverbeet, Cabbage, Parsnips, Cauliflower and Beetroot. It's worth remembering if you have planted root vegetables in the garden, the next planting in that garden would be leafy green vegetables; e.g.: Beetroot then Broccoli. Garlic is fantastic planted between Roses to help deter Aphids and you can also use Society Garlic with its pretty lilac delicate flowers, (it's edible). Veggie gardens need a quality soil; carrots do really well

with a free draining soil to allow for good strong roots and keep the watering regular to hopefully avoid splitting and cracking. If seedlings are crowded, it's worth thinning out to ensure the root system has plenty of room to develop. For heavy soil in gardens and lawns apply Gypsum now, preferably just before it's due to rain and if possible, aerate the soil prior, to assist in the Gypsum soaking in well. Lime can be used but some plants will object, such as Azaleas, Camellias and rhododendrons, they don't like Lime and Lime doesn't like them and not only that, but Lime can also change the pH of the soil whereas Gypsum won't. June is a great month with plenty to do in our gardens. Have a fantastic month.



Gail Mains Kendrick
(your local real estate agent)



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THE COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF WHITTLESEA INC.

REGISTERED # A0041714F

Established 2001

MEDIA INFORMATION

MICHAEL B HALLEY PUBLICITY OFFICER

Silver Semaphored

The use of flags to deliver messages is a system developed in the mid-nineteenth century and is still widely used. The Probus flag flying high on the corner of Church and Fir Streets Whittlesea on the morning of May fifteenth semaphored a special event programmed at the Bowls Club during the afternoon.

Almost Twenty-five years ago to the day, on 17 May 2001, the Combined Probus Club of Whittlesea [CPCW] was formed after being sponsored by Whittlesea Rotary. Probus is a Community Service Activity of Rotary Clubs. The day dawned bright and sunny and the planning of several months to mark the Silver Anniversary came to fruition.

Whittlesea Bowls Club is the venue where the monthly meetings of CPCW are held and the Committee arranged for a High Tea at the Bowls Club at the appropriate time for such an event. The Bowls Club graciously donated the venue as acknowledgement of the occasion and past patronage.

Responses to the invitation by members made up six tables which were elegantly furnished to accept the sumptuous finger food as a prelude to the traditional High Tea fare and the mandatory scones with jam and cream. Each member on arrival was handed a free drink and a door prize certificate.

Formalities revolved around the Foundation Members and Benefactors of CPCW. Our local Member of Parliament Lauren Kathage MP was required at "the house" but provided a generous donation. Electoral Officer Pam McLeod deputised for Lauren.

CPCW is part of Probus South Pacific Limited and the Chairman Michael Ransom sent a congratulatory letter. A certificate from PSPL was presented to our 2026 President and goes into our archives. Geoff Aldous Chair of Whittlesea Bowls Club accepted a certificate of appreciation and gave a short address about the history of both clubs.

Special acknowledgment was made to thank two people who assisted in the planning, but were unable to attend. Sue Holland made a birthday book for members to ascribe and Shelly Paxton helped decorate the otherwise sparse conference room.

A distinctive table was set aside for the seven [7] Foundation Members that attended. The years have been kind to them and their memories of the last quarter of a century are strong. There was a lot of personal reminiscence at that table recalling things that have happened at the Probus Club.

A birthday cake was especially baked and decorated by Life and Founder Member Mary Wood. She and the other ladies gathered for the extinguishing of the candles and the cutting of the cake.

A secret ballot was held and Shirley McKenzie gained the honour of cutting the cake. Roma Harris extinguished the candles in a novel way by using a handheld fan.

The cake was then cut into bite size pieces and distributed to all in attendance. Folks were enjoying the cake and social banter when the official proceedings came to an on time end.

Twenty-fifty-one [2051] is the year when the Golden Anniversary of The Combined Probus Club of Whittlesea will be convened. It is uncertain how many of this year's assembly will be in attendance! But with artificial intelligence the whole shebang could be in the room!

On a positive note, a survey of attendees gives hope that one of our members will attain their hundredth birthday in the intervening period.

The semaphore flag became a segue when it was flagged that the current Secretary and Treasurer will definitely not retake their positions next year. Without those positions filled CPCW will fold. We may have to fly our flag upside down!!



Road closure and pavement works Wandong 1 to 30 June 2026

**JOHN
HOLLAND**

John Holland will continue works to construct the new roundabout at the Broadford-Wandong Road and Rail Street intersection in June.

Work being done

- Continued roundabout construction and roadworks on Broadford-Wandong Road, Rail Street and Epping-Kilmore Road
- Construction of access track
- 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**
- Continued 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 Broadford-Wandong Road bridge
- Reduced speeds and periods of short-term temporary single-lane shuttle flow on Epping-Kilmore Road
- Refer to electronic signage for updates. Please allow additional travel time and follow all signage, detours and traffic management
- No pedestrian access in works area
- Nearby residents may experience some noise 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 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.

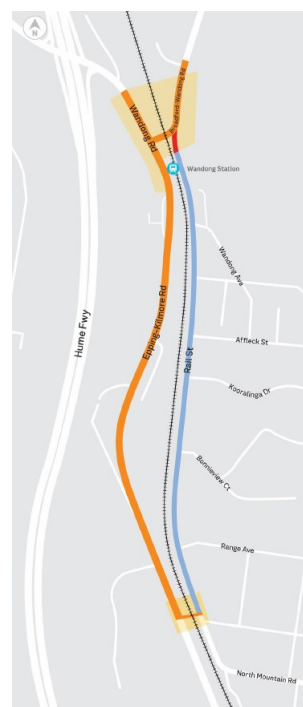
Talk to the team

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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WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL



Education Support Staff Appreciation

In May, we celebrated Education Support Staff Appreciation Day. We are so lucky to have a massive team of ES staff at our school, who support our students in classrooms, in the front office, in intervention and wellbeing programs, and in maintaining our grounds. A huge thank you goes out to all these legends – we are so grateful to have you with us at school!

Education Week 2026

This year, the theme of Education Week was “Showcase your school”. We celebrated by hosting an open classroom afternoon, with families and special visitors sharing in different learning experiences and students able to showcase some of the amazing pieces of work they have completed. A special commemorative artwork piece is also being created, celebrating all the things that makes Wandong PS a great place to be. Thanks everyone who attended and made this such a positive and celebratory event!



Cross Country

Our Grade 3-6 students (and a few speedy Grade 2 students from Miss Yarni's developmental squad) participated in our school cross country trials, which were held at LB Davern Reserve. For some students, this was a much-anticipated run after a rigorous training schedule in the lead up to the event, and for others, it was an opportunity to enjoy some beautiful sunshine and a nice walk with friends on a Friday afternoon. As always, it was great to see everyone cheering on the runners and showing encouragement to their peers. The students who successfully made the school cross country team then headed off to Broadford on the 29th of May, to compete in the District Cross Country event against other schools in the area. We are so proud of the grit, pride, and team spirit that was shown by these athletes! Whether they qualified for the next level of competition, earned a ribbon, a personal best time, or simply gave it their all, our amazing runners have so much to be proud of.



Congratulations Fearnly!

At Wandong PS, we all know that Mr Fearn is an absolute legend, and he has been given a trophy to prove it! We are proud to celebrate his win of the 2025 School Sport Victoria Recognition Award! Mr Fearn is the backbone of events at our school, on top of the significant effort that goes into organising events for the local area through School Sport Victoria. He does all of this for the love of it, never wanting any attention or recognition of his efforts. Unfortunately for Mr Fearn, he does not write this newsletter and doesn't get a say, so we would like to share a massive CONGRATULATIONS and an endless THANK YOU for everything that he does to contribute to our school and to the local sports community.



NEW CLASSROOMS OPEN

THANKS TO
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School Upgrade**

**Lauren
Kathage** MP
State Member for Yan Yean

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



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WANDONG FIRE BRIGADE



Wandong Fire Brigade Trivia Night

The Wandong Fire Brigade Trivia Night on Saturday May 16th was a brilliant community night and fundraiser for the brigade. We were treated to an awesome performance by firefighters Tom and Jacob, with support from Kasey and Sarah. The vibe was brilliant, with a full house of locals and visitors, plus members from SES Kilmore Unit and Clonbinane fire brigade. The vibe extended after the event with so many people helping to stack chairs and tables, and even lending a hand to vacuum the floor. The trivia winning table was Table 10 "Twin Peakes", followed closely by Table 12 "Golden Girls", and then Table 5 "The Captains".

Our major raffle was drawn on the night. Congratulations to our winners 🏆, and big thanks to everyone who bought a ticket. Big thanks to Flame'N Good Firewood for their donation of firewood. Check them out for your firewood this winter.

1st prize \$1000 fuel - Kate A. 2nd prize DeWalt Chainsaw + pruner kits - Gabrielle B.
3rd prize 1 tonne Firewood - Amelia G. 4th prize. DeWalt Drill kits - Amanda R.

Artwork created by one of our firefighters, Kasey, was auctioned at the trivia night. The piece was created following the Longwood fires in January 2026. Kasey kindly donated it for auction with proceeds to go to the brigade. Bidding was competitive, with a member from the Southern Cross Gold table the final winner, with a bid of \$800.

Big thanks to our supporters DeWalt, Flame N Good Firewood, Property Maintenance Australia, Wandong IGA, and Lauren Kathage. Also thanks to Tom, Jacob, Kasey, Sarah and the rest of the Wandong crew for their work leading up to and during the trivia night.

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 continue to train for their General Firefighter Qualifications. You may see them out training on Wednesday nights as we are heading out to more locations around town.

Juniors

The Juniors have had a focus on hose bowling lately and invited the Senior firefighters in for a bowling challenge. Hose bowling is a valuable skill to get a rolled-up hose from the truck, rolled out to its full length, so it can be used to fight a fire. You want hoses to be bowled straight and to the full length in one go. A junior reported to me that one of the juniors team was the ultimate winner.



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

ਕੰਮ ਦੀ ਜਗ੍ਹਾ 'ਤੇ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਸਾਡੀ ਆਮ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਹੈ

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।

Workplace safety is our **common language**

Understand your rights and
responsibilities, so you can talk
about safety at work.

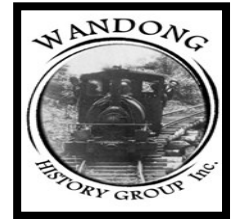
To speak to WorkSafe with an
interpreter call 131 450, or visit
worksafe.vic.gov.au/languages



Scan for information
in Punjabi.



WANDONG HISTORY GROUP



We recently met with Peter Rickard who has for some time been writing books on soldiers from local areas who enlisted in World War One. Peter presented us with three of his books, A local Wandong area one, and books for Broadford and Wallan.

In his books Peter has reached out further than most memorials can and has added families that have some connection to the region he is writing about.



It's great to see the military history of areas such as ours and larger areas being added to in the way, and from talking to Peter he has many more books soon to be published. We thank Peter for his work and dedication to the task which is easy having trawled through thousands of records I what a daunting task this can be.

It was sad to see our old bridge go, in a short time with the large machinery it was demolished and soon we will be using the new roundabout, and our poor old bridge will be consigned to history. We await the day the first double stacked train comes though. I've added a photo of the last steam train under the old bridge for old times' sake.

Despite winter arriving with gusto we are still working away on our projects, winter is always a quiet time for us, and we work mostly from home as the church is a little chilly this time of year. But we can always be contacted via our email or through our website.

Karen Christensen
President, Wandong History Group
wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com



<https://wandongheathcotejunctionhistory.com.au>

PROBUS CLUB of WALLAN

Wallan Probus have been busy, with a stall at Wellington Square as a membership drive which was successful. We have been on trips to Studley Park, the Werribee Mansion, a mystery trip to wineries and Nagambie for lunch. Our coffee mornings every Friday morning between 10am and midday at Hogans Hotel are very successful.



If you are interested in us, come to a coffee morning and meet us. Also some went to the Kilmore Morning melodies, our walk took us to Wallan Park behind the scout hall, it is a pleasant walk with playgrounds, seats and lots of bird life. Coming up are a trip to the Fire Museum, Werribee Zoo and more morning melodies just to name a few.

We meet second Wednesday of the month at 10.30am at Hogans Hotel in the back room near the back door.

Contact: Leigh Gascoigne on
0409199654



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WANDONG TENNIS CLUB

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or text Lisa on 0407 112 880.

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



Our Autumn night season has now finished with our section 2 Thursday night singles Team finishing runner up for the season.
Well done Jared Plumbe, Olly Duncan and Riley McKendry



Our Spring night seasons will commence in August.

Saturday Winter juniors and seniors has now commenced.
Good luck for the season

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

WANDONG WARRIORS SPONSORS



Our Town's Football Club

As June rolls around, so does winter and the cold weather. Perfect for footy. We have had a big month with plenty of games being played at home and away. All teams will be at home on the 28th of June against Yea and Shepparton United. So, get down and support your town's Club.

Congratulations to all our player's of the week recipients who have all been awarded certificates from our generous sponsors.

Kings Birthday weekend brings a well-earned break for our hard-working Warriors and their families. There will be no games over this weekend. Training will continue as normal.

Time to rest up and get set for the balance of the season. GOWARRIORS!

New merch has landed

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WANDONG-HEATHCOTE JUNCTION COMMUNITY GROUP

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

Over a month ago the Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Group asked Mitchell Shire Council to investigate the cause of damage to the mesh fence between Rail Street and the railway reserve at Heathcote Junction.

Mitchell Shire will probably refer it to VicTrack but the fence responsibility was handed to Mitchell Shire years ago so we have asked Mitchell Shire to repair it.



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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The L.B.Davern Reserve is open to all our community, so please come down and enjoy this great facility, join the various clubs, just walk along the Say G-Day trail, take the kids down to play on the play equipment or just play and exercise on the oval.

Winter has arrived with cold and showery conditions, we have been lucky with the unseasonal weather being

dry but be cautious of the trails throughout the reserve as trees can fall due to the wind and be aware the creek can flood at any time. Dry Creek may mean our creek is Dry but it can change.

Don't let the cold and up and coming wet weather stop you from coming down to the Reserve to enjoy on what there is to offer.

It's good to see the Reserve full of life with our community back in supporting their groups and other activities enjoyed by those who participate.

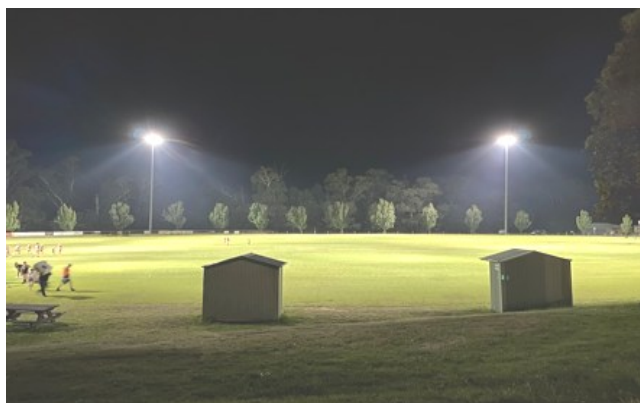
Walking the dogs, kids in the playground, individuals/groups doing their fitness workouts, mums with the kids in the pram, riding bikes, playing football, passing shots in netball, shooting hoops at the basketball ring, riding the horses, training dogs to behave, Wandong Primary doing their sporting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

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

Our Community at its Best!



ABOVE - WINTER AT THE RESERVE JUNE 2026
BELOW LEFT—SUE MARSTAELLER SPORTS PAVILION
BELOW RIGHT TRAINING UNDER LIGHTS



**Our community, we need your help;
We need to catch any persons vandalizing our Reserve!!!!
Keep our Reserve Safe**

If Residents notice anything out of the ordinary please contact the police on
000

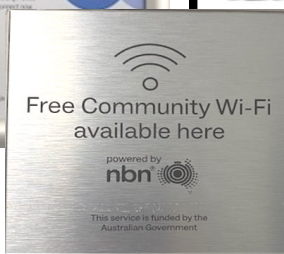
It is in our community interest that we all keep our Reserve safe for all to use!!





Wi Fi @ the Community Centre

The Mitchell Shire was successful with Federal Funding in setting up and funding Wi Fi at the Community Centre, powered by the NBN Network.



Just think in years gone by you could take the train to Kilmore from Wandong /Heathcote Junction - Could we ever see a walking/ bike/horse track to Kilmore/Bendigo!



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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Bringing Home a New Pup ...!

By Anne Zelvys IACP-CDT

This is an exciting time for families... A new pup is a new member of the household... *So is this going to be a great journey or a regrettable decision..!*

Getting Started

A new pup is a big responsibility so you really have to think about what is the best way to integrate a pup into the home. It is important to know that the better you understand how a dog works, the better the chance for a successful outcome.

Remember your dog will generally find our human world very confusing and as us humans are meant to have the 'bigger brain', it is really up to us to help the pup thru this transition period. So let's start with creating the basics for an easier home life.

TERRITORY - Your dog needs a safe and defined territory to live, this is the space that your dog sees as the Family Territory. It is very important that your dog feels connected to his family den, not penned off down the end of the backyard. (Pens are useful when the dog's family is away but otherwise your dog prefers to be close to the action). Your dog should have time inside with the family but also to be comfortable outside on their own. Regardless of where your dog spends most of their time, when outdoors, dogs require shelter, perhaps a kennel or a raised bed preferably under the roof on the back deck where he can see the family thru doors.

Regardless of how big a block you live on, you should have a backyard and there should be a physical barrier that defines this Territory. Nothing beats a good sturdy fence, not only will this contain your dog, but it will ensure that your dog is safe from threats from outside, such as other dogs, people or wild life. This fence should restrict your dog within the backyard, hence will also allow access for public to your front door without being harassed by your dog.

Dogs often prefer having a buffer zone in place between your territory and any outside threat. Having the front yard as a Buffer Zone to the street will often prevent the dog feeling constantly on guard, he doesn't have to worry about who is going back and forward in the street, but only to bark to warn his family if someone approaches the front door. Sometimes your dog feels the boundaries are threatened. Perhaps the neighbour's dog charges the side fence and your dog becomes scared and retaliates. Often the solution is to construct a temporary fence to create about 2 metres of 'No Mans Land' this buffer should immediately defuse the situation.

HEALTH - A proper diet is essential to the welfare of your dog. BUT beware of the marketing hype which is designed to make you spend money on the latest trends. For many it is so confusing - constantly bombarded with advertising that is often intending to make owners feel guilty ... However, consider what we know about processed food with human kids - We have many kids overweight, poor teeth, allergies, plus other health issues. The same applies to your pets.... Even tho the packaging will try to lull you into thinking they are good for your dogs, these are generally full of preservatives and additives. (Note: sugar and salts are preservatives but are classed as 'natural' products). This allows kibble to be packaged, then trucked all over the country and stored for many months. Also remember that the nutrient details displayed on packs is the value of the raw ingredients **prior** to cooking but kibble generally uses three heating processes in production. So with any diet *"just like with humans..... as close to natural is best"*.

A good relationship with the vet is invaluable. To monitor general health, such as dogs weight as well as making sure their teeth, ears, eyes and anal glands are all in working order. However, also question what is being offered by the clinic and ensure that this is best for your dog. Seek the help you need and don't be afraid to get a second opinion.

EXERCISE - Each dog is different and the physical and mental exercise that suits your dog can be difficult to place in time or kilometres per day. The trick is to ensure that there is variety, this will allow for mental stimulus, i.e. your walks should sometimes cover new territory, perhaps go to parks where he can meet new dogs. These new experiences will help to tire your dog much quicker than the usual walk.



The best way to know if you have success with finding the right exercise is when your dog gets home after an outing and is ready to chill out and relax. The more often your dog has the chance to chill the easier he/she will be to live with, however if your dog doesn't achieve this state of mind **at least** three times per week you will have problems.

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SUDOKU

Answers
on page 31

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

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

THIS MONTHS QUIZ

Answer appears on Page 31 but no cheating!

- Who won the F1 drivers championship in 2025?
- What was Ron Barassi's jumper number?
- How many times did Peter Brock win Bathurst?
- Which single grand slam did Ash Barty fail to win?
- Which AFL ground has the largest playing surface?
- Which chain has the most take away stores in Australia?
- What is Australia's top selling beer?
- When was the White House built?
- Which country built the new Spirit of Tasmania ships?
- How many Australians were on the Titanic?
- Which company made the first public mobile phone?
- Who opened the Sydney Opera House?
- What is Uluru (Ayres Rock) made of?
- How much butter is in peanut butter?

Sheree Tivendale

Civil Celebrant
0417 808 922

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Hello Readers,

This month our U3A Wallan members participated in a number of activities that provided much needed social contact, mental stimulation and physical involvement for each person's health & wellbeing.

With a steady number of new arrivals joining us, we now have well over 70 members.

Mahjong is a very popular class, held each Tuesday morning between 9.45am & 12 noon at the Wallan Neighbourhood House.

The class caters for all levels of players, learners are most welcome, as instruction sheets & books are provided and after a couple of weeks of playing you will be able to become totally involved.

Our Pilates classes are held twice a week, on Mondays between 9.30am & 10.30am and Thursdays between 1.30pm & 2.30pm. Again, classes cater for all levels of physical ability, chair Pilates also being available. Our tutor, Tatiana, has many years of experience, we use floor mats, fit balls, therabands & weights.

Fun Cooking is conducted in the kitchen of the Wallan Neighbourhood House and is held on the 3rd Friday of each month between 10am & 12noon.

Sharon, our volunteer chef, has many years of experience and provides a variety of dishes for members to prepare, cook and take home for their consumption.

We occasionally have a guest chef to provide a sample dish of their country's cuisine.

Morning Melodies at the Kilmore Trackside this month was well attended by our members, providing another social outlet for our community.

The Hoffmans, a husband & wife duet had everybody singing along & dancing all morning to a number of popular songs & tunes.

Another very popular outing for our members is our lunch, held at a local establishment, usually on the last Friday of each month.

This month's venue was Mac's Hotel in Kilmore. Members are most welcome to invite a friend to come along & enjoy the atmosphere of a friendly environment.

Finally our 'Singing Group' gets together every Tuesday afternoon between 3pm & 4.15pm at the Wallan Neighbourhood House. We have been rehearsing a number of songs for the past month, for our next 'gig' on Friday the 29th May at the Caladenia Nursing Home, located next to the Kilmore Hospital.

Our members get enjoyment out of seeing the residents singing along & participating in our show.

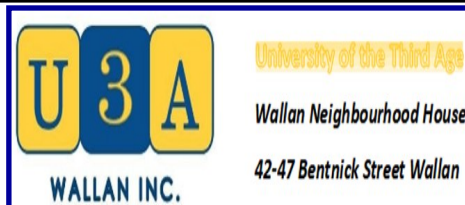
We are always looking out for new members to come along & join in, singing is great for your mental & physical well-being.

All the above mentioned activities and many more are available at U3A Wallan and I encourage you all to come along and enjoy the fun.

For further information, please contact myself, John Lanphier on 0413 083 089.

Until next time.

Bye for now. John Lanphier



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Weather Report

Heathcote Junction/Wandong

May 2026

The last month of autumn had a variety of weather but mainly cold and wet under foot. The rainfall of 92.5 mls, consisted of 49.5 mls in the first half of the month and 42.5 mls in the second half of the month.

Our supply dam Sunday Creek was recorded at 36 % capacity as of 26th May. Let us hope the recent rains will adjust the total leading into the next season.

Stats

May 2026 - 92 mls
Previous year - 16 mls
Average prev 10 years - 70 mls
Total this year - 274.5 mls
Total prev year - 167 mls

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 29)

1. Lando Norris
2. 31
3. Nine times
4. U.S. Open
5. M.C.G.
6. Subway
7. Great Northern
8. Between 1792 and 1800
9. Finland
10. Six (4 crew, 2 passengers)
11. Motorola (1973)
12. Queen Elizabeth 11
13. Sandstone
14. None

SUKODU solution

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



News from the Upper Plenty Merri Catchments Landcare Group.

Due to our growth in the services we offer our members and the wider community we have **Volunteer vacancies** as follows. If you think you can offer an hour or so a week or a morning every month or so, for a good cause, **Please let us know.**

Social Media Manager: We need someone to help with our social media posts including developing flyers of our meetings events and activities on our website and FB page.

Weeding and Planting.

We have a few sites where we are revegetating Public areas with locally native seedling stock and need to prepare sites. Volunteers are welcome to help with any of the jobs needed. We run morning sessions and provide equipment and morning tea. **We also expect to have a toilet on site for all our field activities.** Our Outdoor activities are insured and we would welcome groups. We provide training and safety induction.

Admin services: We would love some help with taking and publishing the minutes of our meetings.

Want to restore some Native Veg. on your own rural property?

We run planting days for our Landcare members where we can inspect and recommend species to plant and what preparation needs to be done. We can also offer seedlings for free or at very low cost. We are running propagation sessions where you can learn to strike your own cuttings. We also source tree guards and stakes to protect young plants from grazing.

Litter cleanup

Not a pleasant job but done as a community event. After a short session collecting rubbish we wind down with morning tea and a chat. We have pride in our area so if you want our community to look its best, come down. Events advertised on our webpage and facebook group

Environmental monitoring

Not much is known about our biodiversity, so we are planning to conduct monitoring of our wildlife. If you have an interest in the environment you can assist us in Nest box installation, frog and reptile, bird and aquatic invertebrate monitoring and reporting for citizen science activities. Also spotlighting nights in our local forests.

If anything above is of interest contact us at secretary.upmclg@gmail.com our FB page Upper Plenty Merri Catchments Landcare group or www.upmclg.org.au. We also attend the Wallan Scout Market every second month. We have our meetings at "The Shack" every 3rd Wednesday at 6.30pm

Kilmore Golf Club Inc.

Pennant. The finals of the Men's pennant were washed out and rescheduled for Sunday June 14th.

The **Ladies** team having won all their matches during the season unfortunately were beaten at Euroa by Seymour/Alexandra.

Monthly Medal. Bron Gunn & John Reeves won the May Medal

Kilmore Ladies team consisting of Sandy Wicking, Sophie Banon & Robyn McPherson won the Strathbogie Bowl

Mixed Foursomes Rd 1 winners were Ron Campbell & Cheryle Andersen

Rd 2 winners were Bron Gunn & Rod Williams.

Overall winners were:

Scratch: Andrea & Mark Boland after a playoff. **Handicap:** Cheryle Andersen & Ron Campbell

On Thursday June 18th Kilmore will host the Gordan Howell Bowl.

Kilmore Golf Club now has a visiting PGA professional Bryan Wearne who visits the club on Fridays and Sunday. His contact number to arrange lessons is 0407844500. He will also be holding "Come & Try days" as well as Free clinics for Ladies. Keep an eye on Facebook for further information.

The Club has had renovations completed on the 1st & 10th tee boxes. The old wooden sleepers have been replaced by concrete sleepers and paths redone by an enthusiastic group of members. The work has enhanced and neatened the area enormously and the Club wish to thank all those who contributed and worked on this project.

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





Neighbourhood Watch

June 2026

Column

SOUTH MITCHELL



Driving in the Winter Months

When winter arises, the visibility drops and your driving risks rise. Poor visibility is one of the most challenging and hazardous situations motorists can face.

Whether it's heavy rain on the freeway, dense fog first thing in the morning or bright glare from the sun reflecting on wet roads, the visibility whilst driving in winter is significantly decreased during winter. This is why the most common accident on the roads during winter is being rear-ended.

Understanding how to adapt your driving to poor visibility conditions is essential for staying safe on the road. Poor visibility reduces your ability to see hazards, judge distances and react in time. It also makes it harder for the other drivers to see you. In addition, there are slippery roads and other visual distractions.

The safest things you can do is slow down, increase the distance between your vehicle and the one ahead of you and drive to the conditions of the road.

Other tips for safer driving this winter include:

Keep your windscreen clean. A dirty windscreen will scatter light and make glare worse. Check your windscreen wipers are not leaving streaks.

Use your demisters and air-conditioner functions (with heat) to clear your windscreen before driving.

Pull over if you are blinded by condensation or glare on the roads until it clears

Visit For more information: 'Driving in poor visibility' racv.com.au

Safety Innovations in Vehicles

Timing is critical in serious road accidents. The faster emergency services can respond, the faster they can administer life saving treatment and reduce the severity of injuries.

One of the more important safety innovations to emerge in recent years is eCall, as known as emergency call or crash notification technology. Designed to automatically alert the emergency response centre after a serious accident when the airbag is deployed, eCall has the potential to dramatically reduce response times.

Whether activated automatically, or activated by pressing the SOS button inside the vehicle, once activated the vehicle:

- automatically places a call to an emergency response centre
- transmits key data such as GPS location, time of crash and vehicle details: make, model, etc.
- opens a channel so occupants can speak with specialised response agents

Older cars may not have this option. But everyone with a smart phone can download the free 'SafeZone' app which will help keep you and those around you safe. In the event of an emergency, the app allows you to quickly share your location and details with the local response team who is then able to get the right assistance to you.

If working alone, or feeling vulnerable, this app has a check-in and check-out timer feature which allows the app to share your live location with responders.

Next meeting:

Thur. 11 June, 2026, at 7pm at Wondong Community Centre, Dry Creek Road, Wandong

Hotlines:

Emergency: 000

Police Assistance Line: 131 444

Crime Stoppers

1800 333 000

Online Reporting:

<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

Whittlesea Community Network

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



Welcome to Winter! There's loads of new things on the menu here! Our semester 2 Brochure is about to hit the streets! Most of the new activities are already on the website so you can 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. 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: June 11th & 25th 11.30am – 1.00pm Gold Coin Donation

NEW NEW NEW

Financial Superwoman Workshop Friday 3rd July 9.00am – 4.00pm in Sunbury. We will be taking our Bus and you can come along. Get the lowdown on all things financial from the experts in banking, superannuation, loans, financial counselling, law, debt consolidation, property and careers. It's FREE includes lunch but places are limited.

Toastmasters Speechcraft 6 weeks from Wednesday 24th June 1.00pm – 4.00pm. Hone your speaking skills and learn to deliver messages with impact. FREE to members of Clubs and Groups or \$5.00 per person.

FREE TAX HELP returns from July 24th appointments will be available on selected Fridays through to October. Call the office for a suitable time. To be eligible you must earn less than \$75K per year, no ABNs or trusts.

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 26th June

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 Fixers from Mortgage Stress and Tenancy Assistance Advocacy have recently joined us. 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

Lazarus Alive and Passionate

Former Prime Minister John Howard after a successful regain of Liberal Party leadership described himself as Lazarus with a triple bypass. Others have had heart surgery but Tehree Gordon better John Howard as she has had a triple bypass compounding her multiple sclerosis and other issues.

These medical interruptions have not abated the passion and commitment to wildlife protection and security as was found out when Tehree presented her life story to members of the Combined Probus Club of Whittlesea.

Tehree Gordon OAM has spent most of her life-saving animals and helping people in need. Over the course of her life she has given home and succour to many children, teenagers and even adults. She has won countless awards and was awarded her Order of Australia Medal and was Senior Australian of the Year 2004

It was a great honour that this lady accepted an invitation to visit Whittlesea, which is almost two hours' drive away [and the same return] and communicate with members

Jirrahlinga Dingo Conservation & Wildlife Education Centre has been a place of refuge, both for animals and people since it was formed over fifty years ago. [Jirrahlinga is an Indigenous Australian word that translates to "seek a home for a kangaroo."]

Tehree and husband Hamish commenced a sanctuary for injured native animals at Barwon Heads, but expanded to embrace education and community care.

But a mission to save dingos at a breeding operation [Australian Dingo Farm] facing destruction after the Ash Wednesday bushfires led to relocation of the Barwon Heads facility to Chewton.

Jirrahlinga has gained national recognition for its tireless work treating burnt and traumatised wildlife and educating school children and visitors to the centre. But it is the mystique of *Canis Dingo* that focuses attention.

Canis familiaris is the most widely accepted name for all dogs, ancient and modern and *Canis lupus dingo* highlights a lineage as a subspecies of the grey wolf. But the Australian uniqueness gives the Dingo rights to its own scientific name.

Today, Jirrahlinga is home to dingoes and other native animals. It is a not-for-profit, powered by volunteers, donations, and a small passionate team. More than that, it is a place where rescue leads to recovery, where animals find safety, and where people find connection. After fifty years, the spirit is unchanged: - care, respect, and the promise of sanctuary.

Arguably, Tehree Gordon is the most entertaining presenter that has graced the Whittlesea Podium for many years. She kept the audience spellbound as she related stories about dingoes and people. Relating the stories in print cannot relay the compassion and the often heartbreaking feelings relayed.

Troubled people helped regain pride range from babies to a man aged 98 years. One man who was living in a dumpster and a soldier badly affected by PTSD were examples of association with Dingoes bringing them back to normality. The message was animals never judge and dingoes bond within their pack and also with human companions.

Over 5000 calls to assist with wildlife struck by cars were answered, which mostly occur in night hours and are attended to by a Jirrahlinga volunteer.

Sadness came over when the separation of aged pet owners and their companion was addressed. This adds markedly to the trauma experienced leaving home and family for aged care. It has become a practice to replace the live animal with a stuffed toy which has bean-bag innards. This has a calming effect.

Collecting gum leaves for an injured Koala at 3.00 am in the morning and mistaking cannabis for tomatoes plants plus speeding to find a veterinarian are some of Tehree's involvement with the Law, but good works more than balance the books.

Just a touch of history to conclude a memorable presentation: -

Tehree and husband Hamish tendered for and were successful in acquiring the 15-acre Chewton property, formerly known as the Australian Dingo Farm in 2005.

There were 295 adult dingoes and more than 200 pups on death row, facing euthanasia, when they took over the facility. True to their commitment to preserve the purity of the dingoes, they quickly implemented a de-sexing program of the many hybrid dingoes and have spent a considerable amount of time and energy since securing the facility, managing the health and wellbeing of the local dingo population and re-vegetating and enhancing the property.

The conservation and wildlife centre is open to the public Monday-Sunday 10am to 4pm (closed Wednesdays). The ticket price includes close encounters with various furry, cuddly and scaly residents at the Centre.

Tehree and her assistant Denise remained after the formal meeting for luncheon with Teresa Carlin who organises presenters for the Club. Teresa had previously given Tehree a token of appreciation. A number of members stayed behind to chat with Tehree and Denise much intercourse with members who also dined at the Bowls Club.

Composed by Michael Halley





End of Financial Year Reminder (for pensioners & soon-to-be retirees)



If you're thinking about getting your affairs in order before 30 June, pre-paying a funeral can be a practical option — and for many people it doesn't count toward the Centrelink assets test (there are some exceptions).

One option is a secured funeral bond, held with a regulated friendly society where you can set aside money specifically for funeral costs. The amount that can be exempt is capped at the government-set threshold currently \$15,750

If you'd like a free, no-obligation information pack, contact us at anytime.

General information only — everyone's situation is different. If you're unsure, check with Services Australia or your adviser.



**FINAL EMBRACE
FUNERALS**
PH: 5756 3740
82 ANZAC AVE, SEYMOUR



Australian Plants Society Mitchell Group Inc



**Annual Spring
Plant Expo & Sale**
Saturday 5 September
9.00am—3.00pm

**Wallan Multi-purpose
Community Centre**
42 Bentinck St, Wallan

Native Plant Floral Displays
Australian Native Plant Sales
Gardening & Plant Book Sales

FREE ENTRY

Website:- www.apsmitchell.org.au

Contact:- aps.mitchell@gmail.com

Wallan & Kilmore
Community Bank branches



**W.H.J
Community
Group BBQ.**
**Supporting your
local community as
they support us.**



Presents

2026 Student Art Display and Student Awards day

Featuring amazing student art works created in our very own Wandong studio, by kids from 6 years, up to adults.

Four wonderful independent judges will award our students artworks as the best in their category. This is a great opportunity for these artists to show the world their unique talents.

When : Sunday August 30th, 10am-3pm

**Where: Wandong Heathcote Junction
community centre, Wandong**

For more info contact Sharon -0409 131 663



**Community event, all welcome, come along and vote
for the people's choice award.**



**FREE ENTRY
FREE COFFEE**



Produce Sustainably
Community Bank
Water, Air and Environment



Thanks for the support

Games and activities on the day.