

Creswick District News

Still Priceless

Issue 270 February 2022



AFTERMATH OF THE STORM



Photo: courtesy of Cmd Wayne Rigg FRV

As everyone is aware, the township of Creswick and surrounding areas were severely affected by the January storm. *Creswick District News* would like to extend sincere thanks to all the volunteer groups who, once again, worked tirelessly to assist residents in need. Those groups include: the CFA, Red Cross, Salvation Army and the SES who were all involved with the evacuation process and centre which was established at Doug Lindsay Reserve.

All worked alongside Police, Ambulance Officers and Shire personnel. Shire staff and relevant support services are still following up with those in need along with the ongoing job of clearing fallen trees, general debris and road maintenance. These are just a small part of the additional behind the scenes work taking place.

Once again, thank you to all, your untiring service to the Creswick community is very much appreciated.



Photo: courtesy of Cmd Wayne Rigg FRV



Hepburn Shire Community Awards

Life Membership Award Philip Greenbank



This award was presented on behalf of the Australasian Guild of Town Criers. It was due to be presented in December 2021, at the Guild's Championship in Creswick, however the event was cancelled due to COVID. Council recognises the significance of this award and the important role of a Town Crier.

Philip has competed in all of the Guild's competitions and championships since joining and has hosted several of these. In 2017, he was presented with the Peter Northfield Memorial Trophy for services to the Guild. He was elected as Vice President in March 2016 and in November became acting President and elected President the following year. Philip still maintains that position today and has written the Guild's Quarterly Newsletter since joining.

Ascot Local Awarded OAM



Photo from 2002 CDN

Artist Criss Canning was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the recent Australia Day honours for her many years of service to the visual arts.

Criss is best known for her still-life paintings and use of colour. She credits a visit to the Greek islands in 1986 for giving her the

inspiration to work in that genre and has not looked back since.

There are many examples of her work in major art galleries including the Ballarat Art Gallery, the Castlemaine Art Gallery and the National Gallery in Canberra. She has exhibited her work in dozens of group and solo shows around the nation.

Congratulations Criss.

Creswick District News

The CDN is a community newsletter imparting local information. Copy is invited from individuals and community groups reporting or advising on local events. All contributions are accepted in good faith with no intention or desire to misinform or offend. Articles must carry the name, phone number and/or email address of the sender. The Editor reserves the right to edit or not publish any article. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the CDN Team.

The next issues of CDN
17 March 2022
21 April 2022

Deadline for copy and
advertisements:
1st day of the month.

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The *Creswick District News* is available beyond this district at \$20 for 12 issues mailed to a destination within Australia only. Contact the CDN with recipient's details at cdn@cbl.com.au

The CDN is also available online at
www.creswick.net/creswick/newsletter



CDN ADVERTISEMENTS

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Price	Size:
\$20	6 x 3.5 cm
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\$375	20 x 28 cm (full page)

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Creswick District News Inc. gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support provided by the **Community Bank Creswick & District.**

THANK YOU

Creswick District News would like to extend sincere thanks to the **Victoria Street Craft Group** for their recent generous donation which will assist with *CDN's* ongoing production costs. Given the difficulties the group has experienced recently, which greatly curtailed their fund raising ability, it is even more appreciated.

If you need the services of a
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Ring 5345 7414, 0408 317 872 or 5345 7522
or visit rvahj.org.au for more information

creswick Rainfall

Monthly Totals as sent to Bureau of Meteorology by Frank Slade.

	2020 mm	2021 mm	2022 mm
January	53.5	134.5	163.0
February	34.0	13.0	
March	36.5	79.5	
April	97.5	20.0	
May	60.5	79.0	
June	62.5	99.9	
July	35.7	106.5	
August	124.5	66.5	
September	67.0	70.5	
October	73.0	91.0	
November	52.2	66.8	
December	58.5	26.3	
TOTAL	755.4	853.5	163.0

Senior Cits News

The Creswick Seniors Club began the New Year with a social day, a summer meal and entertainment.

Members from the Hepburn Shire also gave a talk on the Aged Care changes in the Shire, with a well-attended question time following.

Next social day will be 25 February with a summer meal and entertainment.

The usual activities are underway, with Scrabble and Triominos on Wednesday, euchre and bingo on Friday and indoor bowls on Saturday. New members are most welcome.

The Christmas luncheon was well-attended, making a happy end to the old year.

May 2022 be a safe and happy year for us all.

June Gray 5334 6526

Discover Creswick

Discover Creswick would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

A big welcome is extended to all the new residents of the district who are invited to become part of this Community by *joining in*.

Join a group, any group. That way friends will soon be made. Some will have children and career, and that may determine which Group they join. Some may be retired and come with highly valued skills and knowledge. No matter what, there will still be a group to suit everyone!

Just ask *Discover Creswick* – follow them on Facebook at *Discover Creswick*.

Sandy Campbell

Recent Deaths In The Community

Helen Tink

Shortly before Christmas saw the death of Creswick resident, Helen Tink. Helen and husband Graeme with their young sons settled in Creswick and ran Tait's Licensed Grocery.

Helen and Graeme became involved in the local community and were members of the Creswick Apex Club. After Graeme's death Helen remained involved in the Australian Red Cross Creswick Unit, the OASIS Club (Old Apexians Still Interested in Service) and a member of St Andrew's congregation. Helen was known for her popular ginger fluff sponges at functions. Always friendly, Helen and close friend Elaine, were often seen around town together. Helen was always interested in other people, with her greeting, 'How are you today dear?' Sympathy is extended to Helen's sons David and Andrew and their families.

Ray Laycock

Bowler – Commonwealth Games Representative

Ray Laycock, who recently passed away at the age of ninety, joined the Creswick Bowling Club in 1956, aged in his twenties. At that time he was the youngest player ever to take up membership. Ray achieved many successes over the next forty plus years on the Club, National and International lawn bowls scene.

Ray's skill was recognised at State level in 1969 when he played his first game for Victoria. Then followed 192 State games during the next twenty years. He also spent time as a State Selector and State Coach.

In 1986 Ray represented Australia at the Edinburgh Commonwealth Games, and in 1988 he came equal third in the Australian Pairs Championship competing against the nation's best bowlers. At Club and Regional level Ray achieved many successes including nine times as Club Champion, Champion of Champions; also winning the T.A. Williams and Association Singles and Association Pairs and Association Fours. The Laycock unique ability to accurately drive a bowl saw him achieve stardom on the Channel 7 World of Sport program, *Drive the Jack* - he won the event in 1978 - 79 and 1981.

Ray was awarded Life Membership of the Creswick Bowling Club in 1985 recognising his long contribution, including many years as Selector, President, Works Manager and Greenkeeper. Ray continued to be an active member of the Bowling Club for many years. Sympathy is extended to Ray's family and friends.



Creswick Brass Band

Creswick Brass Band was recently a fortunate recipient of a Community Bank Creswick & District, Community Grant to purchase new timpani drums! (See photo on page 11)

The purchase of new timpani drums supports both Creswick Brass and Jubilee Brass to prepare for competitions which include the Australian National Band Championship in June this year. Previously, to prepare, the Band needed to utilise other bands' rehearsal spaces in order to borrow items such as timpani drums. This has proven challenging during the COVID-19 pandemic. Now the Band can continue to use their own space and own equipment.

Not only will the purchase of new drums support the Band for preparation for competitions but it also allows for the development of new skills for percussion players. The Band is looking to start a percussion learning group and the inclusion of timpani drums will be beneficial to advancing percussionists. Thank you to the Community Bank for the continued support!

In further news, the Band is excited to be participating in *CresFest* over the first weekend in April to help promote the Arts in Creswick. On ANZAC Day, the Band will return to support the RSL in remembering those who served our country followed by the *Salute to the ANZACs* performance.

More information about the Band's activities and upcoming performances will also be advertised on the Band's Facebook page: *Creswick Brass Band*. For anyone interested in joining the Band or learning more about it, rehearsals are at the Senior Citizens Rooms in Water Street with Jubilee Brass rehearsing from 6.00pm – 7.15pm and Creswick Brass Band from 7.30pm – 9.30pm.

Meredith George

Creswick Australia Day Breakfast

It was with regret that the 2022 Australia Day Breakfast was cancelled. After some discussion with the organising team and the Hepburn Shire staff, it was felt that after the recent storm many volunteers had suffered considerable damage to their properties and it would be a big ask to expect them to put in all the effort required to pull off a successful event.

At the time this decision was made, it was being predicted that there could be a spike in COVID-19 cases and if any volunteers got sick or had to go into isolation, then it may not have been possible to give the community enough notice to cancel. It is understood that the Hepburn Shire is considering some community event in the near future, so keep an eye out for a notice about that.

Marj Poole

FOREVER, IT SEEMS

Vale St Joseph's Catholic Church, Blampied



Painting by Keith Crosbie

On first entering the doors of St Joseph's church Blampied in 1990, my immediate reaction was that I had stepped through a portal into a significantly earlier time. Several gentlemen's hats were carefully arrayed at the back, with a few more hanging over the pews in the not-quite-front. A cacophony of chatting and laughing shocked me, along with children's semi-restrained giggles. I had been used to the hushed tones of the spiritually precious. At about seven minutes past nine, a bell sounded and two women with guitars (Mary and Mollie) and a gaggle of children started strumming and singing away. The men, gathered outside and deeply involved in their conversations of weather, potato prices and the news of the district, strode in. The last, Max, only seated by the beginning of the second verse of the opening hymn.

Fr Peter Priestly came down and shook hands with every person at the end of the pews. He chatted freely, asked where we had come from and made us feel instantly welcome. After mass, a friendly parishioner and his daughters rushed up and welcomed us so consummately that it became absolutely impossible to do anything other than commit to a life-time of belonging to this happy, friendly, beautifully old-fashioned throng of believers.

For us, only twenty-eight years passed before 11 March, 2018 when the doors were effectively closed on that bubble of faith and community, as the last Sunday Mass was celebrated. For most others, however, generations of lives had been anticipated, welcomed, celebrated, lived, farewelled and mourned within the walls of this old church. The very stones are surely steeped in 149 years of prayer, love, kindness, fellowship, human frailty, sadness, courage and joy. The little church in Blampied is palpably an expression of the faith and sense of community of the people. The land on which it sits was donated by the Clohesy family, who have maintained, loved and protected

it for generations. The church itself was built by the collected fund-raising of the grandparents and great grandparents of so many of the current parishioners. Stained-glass windows were donated by founders of the district. Uncountable hours were spent by the women of the parish, who, often with a band of children in tow, cleaned, dusted and (for the lucky ones in latter years), vacuumed each and every Saturday. As they had forever, it seems.

The passing of time and the moving away of the younger generation, tied ultimately with the changing of our society and the shrinking of the church in general, resulted in the decision to close the doors for all but weddings and funerals. If the bluestone walls could have bulged, they would have done so on the day of the final Sunday Mass, as so many people gathered from wherever time and their lives had taken them. In fact, the day included an ecumenical flavour, as people from other church traditions and faith backgrounds, gathered in a show of camaradie and in recognition of the sadness of the breaking up of another small community. It was concelebrated by the parish priest, Fr Gary Jones, Fr Clem Cafarella (a former Parish Priest) and the Bishop, Paul Bird, who spoke inspiringly at a difficult time.

Sue Lafranchi had created a beautiful floral display as she has done forever, it seems. John Egan and Vin Richards read as they have read forever, it seems. Three generations of the Rousch family brought up the gifts, as they have forever, it seems. Claire Torpy and John Cleary gave out Communion ... as they have given, forever, it seems. The entire community joined in the singing of all hymns with gusto as they also have sung forever, it seems.

After Kevin Lafranchi had given a speech at the conclusion of the Mass, summing up many of the memories of times past and as the recessional hymn was being sung for the final time, those who were students of the little Catholic school which was originally behind the church and staffed by the Presentation Sisters, led the congregation out of the church to a standing ovation. If your eyes were dry at that point, your heart was hard indeed! After Mass and the taking of a group photo, people lingered to catch up and share many of the stories which have gone into making them who they are, while John Cleary cooked up a storm on the barbecue, as he, too, has cooked forever, it seems.

Most significant events are marked with a cake and this was no different. One of the newest members of the community, Hailey Torpy, made a cake which was cut by the two oldest members - Marie Lewis 104, who served as sacristan, before passing the baton to Carmel Rieniets, and Eunice Cleary who was in her late 90s.

Continued on next page

Vale St Joseph's Catholic Church, Blampied

Many people contributed to this final celebration but a huge expression of gratitude is owed to Frank and Colleen Stephens who both spent many, many hours organizing the Mass as well as the catering and events for this final day. They both worked tirelessly and lovingly to ensure that as many families as possible were included and to give St Joseph's the best send-off possible. Their last gift to a deeply-loved friend.

And now this heart has been removed from the body of the church which has died. It has been given another life with a new owner. Let us smile as we drive past our church and offer a silent prayer of gratitude and love to a place that gave belonging, meaning, structure and community to generations of people in this small part of the world. A more-than-heart-felt prayer of gratitude to the men, women, girls and boys, present and past, who have made this small church community such a clear expression of Christ's presence in all of our lives.

May their faith and love continue to flow out in our lives, wherever we may be, for as long as we may be. Forever. Vale St Joseph's and Amen.

Ann Gleeson

Musician for twenty-eight years only



Forthcoming Events Update

The guest speaker for the 1 March meeting is David Davidson who will speak on worms and composting. The meeting will be held at the Senior Cits with a 1.15pm start.

Also, a bus has been booked for the Melbourne International Flower Show on Wednesday, 30 March and will leave the old post office at 7.30am to make the most of the day. The cost for this trip will be \$40 which includes entry. Please pay at the March meeting if you wish to come or call Jenny on 0408 735 068. Thank you to those who have already paid. Be prepared, the bus is filling fast.

All events and meetings will be run in accordance with the COVID restrictions in place at the time of the event. The QR entry code needs to be used, visitors are required to be double vaccinated, wear masks and socially distance.

Happy gardening/cleaning up! Let the club know if you would like some help.

Maria Marco

Resilience In The Garden

by Rhonda Cotsell



Damage to *viminialis*

There are many ways we lose our gardens. We move house, they become impossible to maintain – or we suffer a huge environmental event like we did last month. The stories I heard from friends and strangers varied from devastating to not *too* bad. But one of the subjects repeated was the tremendous impact on our gardens.

My top two favourite fruit trees were decimated and a thriving but unbending *Eucalyptus viminialis*, chosen because koalas ate the leaves, literally broke in half. Many flowering shrubs were shredded to half their height, leaving stalks lined with pathetic little tags of green. Most of my apple crop, my orange with its first promise of fruit and a pot full of budding day lilies now litter the ground. Patches of lambs ears, which had been veritable bee cities, were totally flattened and are now totally bee-less.

As I sat outside absorbing the damage and drowning in self-pity, two things slowly emerged. One was that resurrecting my garden allowed room for a rethink of

previous decisions, to fix things that were not working and particularly how labour intensive it was. The second was realising that my garden lives more in my heart, the skills I have acquired over the years, an addiction to messing about with dirt and plants and not what shape my garden is in right now. Nothing survives for ever but Mother Nature does. Even the storm is hers.

My intentions now are to get realistic over my too-many fruit trees and my ability to prune. The fruit trees broken by the storm were the ones weakened structurally by bad pruning. There were many that survived without damage; willowy things with strong slender limbs that moved wherever the storm went, like some grevilleas, my silver birches and a plum. Also, I will extend my long-held aim to create a bird attracting garden to one that encapsulates all local wildlife. No more choosing plants simply because the tag says it attracts birds and giving more attention to actively checking out expert guidance, for example, from the Hepburn Shire Council Community Gardens for Wildlife Program. I will not replace my koala tree without expert opinion.

I'd like to end on something positive, so repeating what one optimistic soul said to me, 'then again, now I can plant all those things I couldn't before because I had no room'.

GOING BACK TO SCHOOL IS ENOUGH TO
WORRY ABOUT.....
BUT WE CAN TREAT NITS



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CRESWICK LIONS CLUB

Lions members have been busy over the holiday season again. On top of the regular Creswick Market BBQs, there was a fundraising BBQ at Bunnings. Keep up to date with what Lions are doing via the Creswick Lions Club Facebook page.

Lions would like to thank everyone who supported the Club through 2021 and wish everyone the best for 2022. Without support, the Club wouldn't be able to invest funds back into the local and wider community.

Barbara Urry, Secretary

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER IN CRESWICK FRIDAY, 4 MARCH, 2022

The churches of Creswick invite you to join with them on Friday, 4 March, to celebrate the annual World Day of Prayer (WDP) service. WDP is a global, ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome all to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

A warm welcome awaits you at this ecumenical worship, 5.00pm at St Augustine's Catholic Church, Napier Street, Creswick. If transport is required, please contact Brian Reasons phone 5345 1512

Beth Rule



The sooner you get in touch after an injury, the better the return to work journey.

If you're recovering from a psychological or physical workplace injury, or if you are an employer supporting an injured worker, make contact as soon as possible. It just takes a few simple words to make a big difference.

The sooner, the better.

worksafe.vic.gov.au/thesoonerthebetter



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CRESWICK STORM

Council is continuing to support recovery efforts following the thunderstorm that damaged homes and property in and around Creswick and Clunes on 5 January.

The clean-up work will likely take months and result in around \$10 million of damage to Council assets alone and around \$25 million damage to crops. Close to 150 homes were damaged in the storm, including 35 partially destroyed or uninhabitable.

If your home or property was damaged from the storm please get in touch with our Storm Recovery Team on (03) 4373 7373 so the damage can be registered. This may assist with ongoing support. The team can advise on available social, emotional and financial assistance and can arrange a Secondary Impact Assessment on private property.

HELP FOR RATEPAYERS

If you are having difficulty paying your rates please contact Council so we can review your situation and come up with a plan. We may be able to assist ratepayers by a deferral of rates (not waiving of rates), arranging payment plans and interest not being charged on the outstanding current amount.

If your property was severely damaged and is inhabitable due to the recent storm, Council can have the property revalued which may reduce the rates for the current year.

If you have any questions or you need more information please contact our Financial Services Team on 5348 2306.

TRANSMISSION NETWORK

Have you filled out our survey on the Western Victoria Transmission Network Project (WVTNP) yet? We're inviting feedback from the community to help inform our submission as part of the Environmental Effects Statement (EES) process.

Whether you're in favour of the project, or against it, let us know what you think. In February we will run information sessions to help community members create strong submissions.

Visit <https://participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/WVTNP>

LOOKING FOR YOUR NEXT ROLE?

We currently have many job opportunities...visit www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/employment-opportunities

POSITIVE AGEING

Council is in the process of developing our very first Positive Ageing Strategy. Positive ageing is the process of maintaining a positive attitude, feeling good about yourself, keeping fit and healthy and fully engaging in life as you age.

We invite you to help us to develop the strategy and ensure that it addresses the real issues that people face as they age. Your input will help to inform Council's work towards an age-friendly community for all.

We will also hold pop-ups sessions throughout the Shire. Visit <https://participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/positive-ageing> to complete the survey or find out details on the sessions. Printed surveys are available at Council hubs and libraries.

COMMUNITY AWARDS

At our civic event in January we welcomed eight new citizens to the Shire and announced our 2022 Community Award winners.

Citizen of the Year - Danny Moynihan

Young Citizen of the Year - Katie Topp

Community Event of the Year - Feast on Fraser Street – Christmas in Clunes organised by Clunes Neighbourhood House

Life membership award for services to Town Crying and the Community - Philip Greenbank.



DOUG LINDSAY RESERVE WORKS

Works to deliver the first stage of the adopted masterplan at Doug Lindsay Recreation Reserve got well underway prior to Christmas. These works include improvements to drainage, pathways and carparking. Contractors weren't able to complete the works prior to Christmas, including rectifying defects. The contractors will be back in early February to complete the works and rectify all defects. In addition, flood damage to other parts of the Reserve will be repaired in February and March.

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MUSIC IN THE COMMUNITY MORE EXCITING NEWS FROM *CRESFEST*

Following the successful launch on 4 December, the *CresFest* committee has been moving ahead planning a wonderful weekend of music from 1 - 3 April. It has been delighted with the community response to the request for volunteers and can proudly say that fifty-four people have stepped forward BUT there is always room for more! Email Neil if interested neiladammmusic@gmail.com.

We have also been thrilled by the response from local artists to the call for performers in the Shire Showcase, Youth Talent Quest and Busking Competition. Thanks to the *CresFest* supporters, the Hepburn Shire, Creswick & District Community Bank and the Creswick IGA, for making these possible. Tickets are on sale and the full program – including Festival Pass concerts and Special Events – can now be seen on the website cresfest.com.au/program. In the event of cancellations due to COVID, all tickets purchased will be offered a full refund.

You can be part of the movement!

Music in the community is growing exponentially and

CresFest will see performances by *The Creswick Kids Choir*, the *Swingalong Ukestra*, the *Creswick Street Band* as well as the much-revered *Creswick Brass Band*. In addition, funding from Festivals Australia has enabled the formation of an adults *Creswick Chorus* led by Stella Savy, which will begin meeting on Wednesdays from mid-February. For details and sign up information, go to cresfest.com.au/get-involved. This Chorus will also perform at *CresFest* alongside Stella's group *The Sweet Monas*.

Want to play ukulele?

The *Swingalong Ukestra* formed during COVID and built despite lockdown and density restrictions, had several public outings last year and had a great reception at their Town Hall debut on 4 December. Soloists from Creswick and Ballarat did the group proud. The group plans to resume in February 2022 so if you are interested in being part of it (or trying it out), please email Jenni at jennisewell6@gmail.com.

Judy Turner



CRESFEST
1-3 APRIL 2022

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IMPORTANT COMMUNITY MEETING

ALLENDALE - BLAMPYD - BROOMFIELD - CLUNES - CRESWICK DAYLESFORD - DEAN
HEPBURN SPRINGS - KINGSTON - LEONARD'S HILL - MT PROSPECT - NEWLYN - SMEATON



COVID Safe Requirements Apply



If we STAND TOGETHER, we will MAKE A DIFFERENCE

WHEN: Sunday 6th MARCH 2022

TIME: 12 noon SAUSAGE SIZZLE & FAMILY FUN
1pm SPEAKERS

WHERE: Kingston Showgrounds, Church Parade Kingston

Learn more about:

- The experiences of local people
- The legal challenge
- Hepburn Council Info Sessions
- Central Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Bid
- Tourism impact



Speak with local MP's & Hepburn Councillors

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2022 Creswick and District Foundation/Prep Students



Creswick Primary School



Mt Blowhard Primary School



St Augustine's Primary School

Creswick Brass Band



John Collins presenting cheque to Band representative Meredith George. (See article on page 11)



Creswick North Primary School



Kingston, Friends of the Avenue Inc.

Vale - Ian Flynn

Friends of the Avenue acknowledge our friend Flynnie's valued contribution and support of the Avenue over time. He was involved in its restoration and in the planning for the Rededication event held on Remembrance Day 2000. Sincere sympathy is extended to his family and other friends.

Avenue Film

In January Terry Hope and Julie resumed interviewing people associated with the Avenue. The purpose of the film is to document memories of some relatives of service men and women commemorated in the Avenue and also record the work of the Friend's group and why the Avenue is still a significant part of the community. In the future the film, along with the diorama and memorabilia, will be available for viewing at the new Resource Centre.

Books soon to be available

The second edition of Peter Rickard's *Sentinels of Service – Volunteers of the Kingston Avenue of Honour* has been printed. We acknowledge the painstaking work of Leah Armstrong and Carissah Cain-Sultana. Books can be purchased at the Commercial@Kingston and other outlets will be advised in the next *CDN* issue.

The next meeting for 2022 will be held on Wednesday, 6 April, 7.00pm at the Commercial at Kingston. Meetings are held every two months and new members are welcome. Inquiries at kingstonfoa@gmail.com.

Julie Baulch

On behalf of Kingston, Friends of the Avenue, Inc

Ian John Flynn (1951 - 2022)

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the sudden passing of Ian Flynn, Bank Manager, golfer, music lover, Rotarian, Collingwood fan; however people knew him, he will be greatly missed. Ian was a well-known and respected Creswick identity having been born and educated locally. After a long and successful career, he returned to the district two decades ago as a manager of the Bendigo Bank in Wendouree and more recently Manager of the Creswick & District Community Bank until his retirement two years ago.

Notably, while President of the Wendouree Rotary Club, Ian initiated a highly successful fund-raising initiative to procure equipment to enhance prostate cancer diagnostic capability in local hospitals. He is survived by his daughter Sarah, son Sean, son-in-law Troy and two grandchildren.

Part of the team

Creswick & District Financial Services Limited is a franchisee of Bendigo Bank and operates the locally owned Community Banks of Creswick and Clunes.

Expressions of interest are now being accepted for the voluntary position of Director.

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Creswick & District Financial Services Limited

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After a restful holiday break, it is great to have all students return for the first school day of 2022.

Once again extensive work has been done on the grounds over the summer break. A new Challenge-Course playground is well underway, as well as a new rope structure for junior students. Two existing playgrounds have had edging and chip bark upgraded. A new outdoor classroom has also been started and will be completed this term. The school has large grounds and the students are very fortunate to have such fun and exciting facilities to use.

The school would like to welcome a new teacher, Miss Meg Jessup, and is very excited to have her join the staff. Meg will be taking the year 3 - 4 class this year. The school is also fortunate to have Mrs Kim Willowwhite join the staff as a School Tutor. Kim has a wealth of experience in helping students who need some extra support. It is great to see staff and students thriving and both Meg and Kim will be valuable additions to the school community.

If anyone would like a school tour to experience our fantastic school, please call on 5345 2012.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year!

Matthew Reyntjes, Principal

(See photo on page 11)

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As twenty-six year 6 students were farewelled on the last school day in December of 2021 after two very challenging educational years, twenty-three new Foundation students to Creswick Primary School are welcomed in 2022.

All the 2021 year 6 students are wished the very best as they transition to various secondary schools, knowing that they have laid strong foundations in all aspects of their learning, social skills and routines, fully equipped to take on all the opportunities offered to them in their new settings.

The twenty-three Foundation students were very excited, and some naturally a little nervous, as they approached the classroom door for the very first official day of school. They looked so grown-up decked out in school uniforms and carrying their school books in readiness for the learning journeys ahead. Mrs Kennedy was there to greet them with lots of fun activities to start them off, and show them their new surroundings.

Each Foundation child has a grade 3/4 *buddy* to assist them in the playground, to show them what they can do and where everything is. This interaction with the buddies builds a lovely relationship as the Foundation students move through primary school. Many past students often talk about their buddies.

Some reflections on their first day at school:

Maicee: I thought at home with my brother about how I could play tag with my brother. It was good because my buddy and I played hide and seek tag at school.

Ella: I had butterflies in my tummy. Now I have unicorns which means that I feel good. I liked playing hide and seek with my buddy.

Jack: I liked playing Circle Time games outside with the class. I was really happy.

Vicky Hughes, Class Teacher

(See photo on page 11)



CEMETERY NEWS

Creswick Cemetery, like many other places in the town, suffered some damage during the storms last month, with trees damaged and fences down. These will be repaired as soon as possible, but in the meantime, we ask that visitors be careful while driving or walking through the cemetery as some of the gravel paths in the Methodist Section were also washed away and are slightly slippery underfoot.

Wendy Ohlsen

Secretary

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Tim Drylie
Creswick Ward Councillor

T: 03 5321 6423
M: 0427 503 258
tdrylie@hepburn.vic.gov.au
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REGULAR AND ONGOING EVENTS

Anglicare Emergency Food Relief – 2nd Tuesday of the month 10.30am – 12.00pm. All Concession cards welcome, ring ahead on 5333 0600 to receive your pre-packed Food Hamper. Collection is from St Johns Anglican Church Hall, Napier Street, Creswick.

Anglican Parish of Springmount: St John's Church, Napier Street, Creswick. Holy Eucharist: 10.00am 2nd and 4th Sundays. Short contemplative Eucharist: 10.00am most Tuesdays. Contact: Fr Chris Keast 0427 911 792.

Australian Red Cross - first Tuesday every month. RSL Hall 2.00pm 5345 8318 or email nstubs3@bigpond.com

Business & Tourism Creswick - first Tuesday every month. Old Creswick Railway Station 5.00pm Info 5345 2759 or contact via Facebook

Creswick Cemetery - Gates Open 9.00am to 5.00pm. Daily

Creswick & District Aquatic Centre Inc. - first Wednesday Feb. Apr. Aug. Nov 7.00pm Phone 0434 071 185

Creswick & District Historical Society fourth Thursday every month (except December and January)

Seniors' Club rooms 2.00pm. Phone 5345 2065

Creswick & District Hospital Auxiliary meets at hospital last Monday monthly 7.30pm. No meeting in June. New members welcome.

Creswick & District U3A - 0459 981 066 or email u3a3363@gmail.com or www.creswicku3a.com

Creswick Folk Club Second and fourth Friday 7.30pm, Creswick Railway Station, Contact John Harris 0428 842 234

Creswick Garden Club - first Tuesday every month (except January) Seniors' Club Rooms 1.15pm.

Creswick Havilah Lodge - fourth Thursday every month meeting 7.30pm Bob Orr 5345 2165

Creswick Library Baby Rhyme Time Sessions, Tues 11.00am Parents' Club Tue 11.30am Story Time 11.00am Wed

Creswick Lions Club second Wednesday every month. 7.00pm R.S.L. Hall Secretary Barb Urry 0423 536 794 urrybarb@gmail.com Membership Chairperson Maria Marco 0410 499 007 mariamarco3363@gmail.com

World Day of Prayer

Friday, 4 March at 5.00pm St. Augustine's Church
All welcome

Creswick Market - First and third Saturday every month 9.00am-1.00pm. Creswick Neighbourhood Centre, A happy small town market, bookings 5345 2356 creswickmarket.com.au

Creswick Probuc Club - first Tuesday every month (except January) meetings St Andrew's Hall, 10.00am. Inquiries Joan 5334 4207

Creswick Senior Citizens - last Friday each month members enjoy social day and \$5 Lunch at Seniors' Clubrooms 12 noon

Creswick Senior Cyclists - meet Sundays and Wednesdays, 10.15am Creswick Band Rotunda. All casual cyclists welcome.

Creswick Walking Group Tuesdays and Thursdays 8.30am. Meet Albert Studio, Cnr Ballarat Rd and South St. All Welcome, Rain, Hail or Shine.

Creswick Ward meeting - second Monday every month. **Cr Don Henderson** 7.00pm Creswick Railway Station

Cr Tim Drylie by appointment Creswick Community Hub Ph. 0427 503 258 Email: tdrylie@hepburn.vic.gov.au

CRWA Members Meeting - First Sunday every month 1.00pm after Working Bee. Railway Workshops Precinct Judy 5345 1374

Joey's, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers - every Thursday during school term. Enquiries via Scouts Victoria website scoutsvictoria.com.au

Museum Research Centre - Closed until further notice Email requests only to info@creswickmuseum.org.au

Music Jam for music lovers - every Friday 7.00pm-9.00pm Neighbourhood Centre. Audience welcome

Pavilion Arts & Sustainability Inc meets 7.00pm on the 1st Monday of month Creswick Neighbourhood Centre

Pole walkers - St Georges Lake car park. All ages \$2.00 week. Tuesdays 8.00am – 9.30am info. Eliz Rhook, Hepburn Health Service 5345 9150

RSL meeting - last Wednesday each month 1.00pm. RSL Hall Phil Greenbank 0490 374 006

Tipplers - third Wednesday every month. email: barrymarj@hotmail.com

VOGA Cycle Club Regular group rides that may be road, CX or MTB. Details on VOGA Facebook page. Free club membership via www.vogacycleclub.com.au

100 Years Ago

Compiled by Creswick Museum

February 3, 1922

Cricket- Creswick V Tourello – Creswick travel to Tourello tomorrow to open the second round for the season. Players are requested to be at the post office corner at 1.45 o'clock sharp, Creswick's team is as follows – Oswin, Rev. F. H. Ingamells, harridge, Morton, McNicol, Renouf, Bowley (2), Ewert, Pat Cushing, Coulson. Emergencies – Fred Ewert, Peters.

February 7, 1922

As the appeal ends next Friday for Princess Mary's wedding gift, the Mayoress (Mrs. W. P. Northcott) will be glad to receive all contributions not later than that day. They may be left at the town hall or at her residence.

February 10, 1922

Allendale – the flight of an aeroplane from the direction of Ballarat, and the unaccustomed noise of the propeller, awakened the town on Wednesday morning as the machine circled around, and after hovering around for a brief space of time, it flew away northwards. It is rarely that an aeroplane visits here, and the citizens always display curiosity, even if they have to sacrifice sleep.

February 14, 1922

Master Ronald Giles, of Long Point, has succeeded in gaining a scholarship, which will entitle him to a three

years' course at the Dookie Agricultural College. The lad is a scholar at the Creswick State School, No. 122, of which Mr. David Dimsey is the head teacher. Master Giles can be congratulated on his success.

February 17, 1922

Borough of Creswick – Applications are invited and will be received up till 5 p.m. on Tuesday, 14th March, 1922, for leasing the Residence and Grounds at Park Lake, with privileges, at a rental of 10/- per week, for a term of 12 months. Particulars at the town hall. Arthur B. Grose, town clerk.

February 24, 1922

Dean – The local young men have recently formed a cricket club, and there is every indication of the season proving a most successful and enjoyable one. Much interest has been evinced by the skilful batting and able bowling displayed by some the older enthusiasts of the game.

February 28, 1922

Creswick Junior Football Club – All persons desirous of forming a Creswick Junior Football Club are requested to attend a Meeting to be held at W. Lawrie's Tea Rooms at 7 p.m. sharp Next Saturday, March 4th. A. Goates, G. T. Praetz, Convenors.

THE ART OF LIVING

By Craig Barrett

I started writing this on Boxing Day, December 26, 2021. It is four o'clock in the afternoon – cool and breezy. Sitting on my own hand-made bench next to my veggie garden, I am looking at one of my many ornamental garden rocks, one that I picked up roadside not far from Maryborough. It is an ancient pebble conglomerate, probably formed in the bed of a long-disappeared river eons ago.

As I sit here listening to my veggies grow and rocks telling me stories of the old days, I can't help but think ... how lucky am I. The native garden that I planted is now pretty mature, full of light and shade, colour and movement – much as a painting should be.

I moved to Creswick from St Kilda five and a half years ago and now I own all this – my house, my garden and the birds in it, my view to Springmount. Oh, so very wrong. I own nothing beyond my thoughts. All the material things are not mine. I do have custody and enjoyment of them for this brief time, that is all. My house, my car, my books and record collections, my artworks. One day someone else will have that enjoyment and responsibility. I just *happened* to be here, without rhyme or reason, to be born in this country and with loving parents. I could have just as easily



been born anywhere – Alaska, Mongolia, Mali or Haiti. I just *happened* to have parents who supported me to follow my artist path, (against their rational financial arguments I might add).

I could have fallen to Earth absolutely anywhere, like a meteorite or a leaf blown on the wind.

Fast forward to me writing this now, late January 2022. Our beloved Creswick has been battered and bruised by the storms and floods. My veggie garden from Boxing Day now looks like a rotting coleslaw, everything cut to ribbons by that unbelievable hail storm. That said, I got off pretty lightly with minimal damage to my house. My heart truly goes out to all those so badly affected.

My Melbourne exhibition that was to be early last September, then late September, then February this year, is now postponed yet again till August, thanks to COVID-19. Never mind, it will happen in its own good time. I still count myself lucky to be here. This is Creswick, not Syria or Afghanistan.

Not a single day goes by when I see a fallen leaf and I think – that is me. I landed here. How lucky I am ... sheer luck.

www.craigbarrett.com.au

NO ONE'S UNSINKABLE

To all those Unsinkable Guys out there –

You might think it's safe to have a few drinks around water, skip the lifejacket when you're out on the boat or go for a swim without checking the conditions.

But statistics prove that 4 out of 5 drownings are men.

Just remember that no one's unsinkable.

Q UNSINKABLE GUY

RETHINK
TAKING RISKS
AROUND
WATER

