



**BOOK LAUNCH**  
at the Kingston Fire Station on  
18 November 2017

**SENTINELS OF SERVICE -**  
Volunteers of the  
Kingston Avenue of Honour  
By Peter D. Rickard

*Kingston Friends of the Avenue member, Heather Leishman presented copies of the book to local organizations.*

*Photo: Terry Brennan, Principal, St Augustine's Primary School, Creswick; Isla and Mia Keating, Emmie, Georgie and Abby Righetti, and Heather Leishman.*

*The children are relatives of brothers Alfred Charles Marshall and Robert Marshall, who are remembered with trees in the Kingston Avenue of Honour.*

## Creswick Celebrates Australia Day 2018

A joint organising group of local clubs are again putting together a program for the Annual Australia Day Breakfast at Park Lake. The format will be similar to that of previous years. The volunteer group is comprised of members of:

- Creswick & District Historical Society,
- Creswick Lions Club,
- Creswick-Smeaton R.S.L,
- Creswick Football/Netball Club,
- Creswick Scouts and Venturers, and
- Mount Prospect Tennis Club

### CRESWICK ACHIEVERS FOR 2017

The organisers would again like to acknowledge Achievers in Creswick and District. There are many talented people in our community so if you know of an individual or group worthy of recognition as a Creswick Achiever for 2017 please email their contact details and a brief outline of their achievement to [tacey55@gmail.com](mailto:tacey55@gmail.com).



### Australia Day Breakfast at Park Lake, Creswick

**Friday 26 January 2018**

**Official Ceremony 8.00 am**

**Breakfast Served after ceremony**

**BYO Plates, Cups, Cutlery and Chairs**

Please collect tickets from Shire Offices, Creswick or the Creswick Visitor Information Centre at no charge, before Monday 22 January to assist with catering.

For further information contact Pat on 0429 581 591



### Barefoot Bowls Australia Day

Creswick Bowling Club 11.00 am—2.00 pm

See details on page 2

## 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 issue of CDN will be available on 22 February 2018**

**Deadline for copy and advertisements: 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month.**

Newsletter printed by **FRP PRINTING**

### ADVERTISING

**Contact CDN: 0407 352 982  
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**Mail: PO Box 384, Creswick 3363**

Email advertisements or drop handwritten copy into the CDN Box at the Visitor Information Centre.

The *Creswick District News* is available beyond this district at \$15.00 for 12 issues mailed to a destination within Australia only. Overseas destinations to be negotiated. Contact the CDN with recipient's details at [cdn@cbl.com.au](mailto:cdn@cbl.com.au)



### CDN ADVERTISEMENTS

Price Size

#### Black and White editions:

\$15	6 x 3.5 cm
\$25	6 x 4.5 cm
\$40	8 x 6 cm
\$80	12 x 8 cm
\$100	14 x 10 cm
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\$300	14 x 28 cm

Coloured advertisement prices on application



**CRESWICK**  
UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

## 2018 U3A Expo

**Thursday, 18 January 10.00am till 3.00pm**

**Creswick RSL Hall and Creswick Town Hall**

### Australian Hearing bus outside the RSL

Free hearing tests will be available during the day to everyone regardless of age.

Guest Speaker Sue Ryan *Downsizing in your Home* presented in RSL at 11.00am.

Displays of Creswick U3A activities in the Town Hall.  
Tutors in attendance to answer any questions.

Activities currently offered by U3A include  
Ballroom Dancing, Tai Chi, Yoga for Seniors,  
Mahjong, Scrabble, Philosophy, Croquet, Cards, Table Tennis,  
Craft, Bush walking, Creswick History,  
Luncheon Group, Mosaics and more.

Activities proposed for 2018 Staying Strong,  
Introduction to Chess, The Book of Moses Fact or Fiction,  
Clogging and Tai Chi for Arthritis.

Contact U3A Creswick and District AOO53344W  
P.O. Box 434, Creswick 3363. Web [www.creswicku3a.net](http://www.creswicku3a.net)  
Email [u3a3363@gmail.com](mailto:u3a3363@gmail.com) Phone 0459 981 066



## Barefoot Bowls

### Australia Day at Creswick Bowling Club

**Everyone welcome, all ages: 11.00 am—2.00 pm**  
**Sausage sizzle supplied. Gold coin donation**  
**Only flat soled shoes are allowed on the green!**

## creswick Rainfall

**Monthly Rainfall Total as sent to Bureau of Meteorology**  
**by Frank Slade, Creswick.**  
**December 2017: 58.5 mm**

## VALE: Stan Baker, J.P.

Local resident Stan Baker died on 23 December, 2017 and was farewelled with a large funeral held at St. Andrew's Uniting Church in Creswick on Tuesday 2 January.

### *Accolade for Creswick Honorary Justice of Peace*

(This article was originally published in the CDN in September 2016)

"Long term Creswick resident, Mr Stan Baker, received his Long Service Certificate from the President of the Honorary Justice of the Peace of Victoria, Mr Norman Wittingslow JP, in Melbourne on Friday 12 August 2016, in recognition of thirty-five years of service. The Awards ceremony followed the annual address by the Attorney General, The Hon. Martin Pakula MP.

Stan Baker continues to serve as Assistant Chaplain at the St John of God Hospital in Ballarat. He was also Deputy Chairman to the Honourable Gordon Bryant as a member of the Northern Regional Board of TAFE and a member of the Steering Committee which commissioned the very successful Broadmeadows College of TAFE. Stan was also involved for over three years visiting prisoners at Pentridge Jail and is a Lay Reader for the Uniting Church of Australia.

These are just a few of the voluntary positions Mr. Stan Baker has held or taken on during a lifetime of service to the community of this district and State. Congratulations!"

Gayle Cooney



### **Creswick & District Community Bank® Branch Supporting Junior Cricket and the Neighbourhood Centre**

The Creswick & District Community Bank® Branch has been proud to sponsor the Creswick Imperials Cricket Club under 13s for the second year running. They are the only Creswick Junior Cricket team and prior to last year there was no local junior cricket team at all. This year the Club has grown to 23 members registered – a wonderful local success!

The Branch also sponsors the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre to the tune of \$5,000. This sponsorship will assist the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre to continue running well into 2018.

Well done to all the hard workers of the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre in their efforts for the Creswick community. For more information, please check out their website <http://creswicknc.org.au>

Top right: *Chairman Marcus Walsh with the Creswick Imperials Cricket Club Under 13s*

Right: *Director Jeff Unmack presenting the cheque at the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre Christmas Party*



## Two Peas in a Pod

### Heather Leishman and Laurel James

If you thought that Heather Leishman and the late Laurel James were sisters, you are not the only one. They considered themselves sisters, and treasured their relationship, in spite of the fact that Laurel was Heather's aunt by marriage.

Heather James was born at Springmount the daughter of Leslie Robert (Bob) James and Clara Merle Sonsee.

She grew up between the Murphy's and the Flynn's. When Heather was twelve the family moved 'lock, stock and barrel' to Creswick. The home still sits proudly on the rise at 103 Albert Street in the heritage listed garden planted by Heather's father.

Laurel was born in Creswick in 1927 and died on 5 September 2017. Laurel was the second child of Herbert George and Margaret Anella Mitchell. Much of her childhood was spent in Smeaton before moving to Kingston where her dad and mum ran a small farm. Laurel attended Kingston Primary School.

On 28 January 1950 Laurel married Ray James the younger brother of Heather's father. Heather was Laurel's bridesmaid. Ray was fondly known as Skip to his family and Unc to everyone else. Laurel and Ray took up residence in the old Kingston school house and later built a home at the Smeaton end of town where they raised their family of five.

In 1957 Heather married Arthur Leishman, a Kingston farmer. They moved to the Old Bank House in Kingston, formerly the Australasian Bank and later the shop. Here they raised their family of three. Arthur farmed and Heather ran the business. Heather was fondly known as the Mayoress of Kingston, named by Bernie Charleston. In 1987 they moved to live at the farm house at the corner of Kingston Road and Alcorns Road. When asked what it was like living in the Avenue Heather replied, 'I loved the wonderful views and the different seasons, especially autumn. It is a very peaceful place and I have always loved trees.'

Heather's affinity with trees started at an early age. Her father worked for the Forestry Commission. Her mother's brother Allan Sonsee, a renowned botanist, lived over the road at Springmount and planted an arboretum. Young Heather was his keen assistant and she recalls her mother saying, 'You watch her Allan! Don't let her stand on a snake!'

Heather and Laurel both created beautiful gardens. Many plants were started from cuttings shared by others. Laurel always had a pair of secateurs in her hand bag. Unc was renowned for his vegetable patch, whilst Arthur was a broad acre 'gardener' growing potatoes and crops. They all



Heather and Laurel

encouraged others to become gardeners and to grow ornamental and edible plants. Simone Broad, Laurel's granddaughter of *Creswick Flowers at Olicartia*, is testimony to her enthusiastic encouragement.

As young mothers Heather and Laurel both became involved in the community and continued this voluntary work throughout

their lives. Amongst other community groups both were members of the school Mother's Club, Youth Group, Kingston Hall Committee, Sunday School, and Red Cross. Heather was the Treasurer of the Kingston Red Cross for seventeen years. Then there was involvement with the Newlyn Football and Netball Club and the Kingston Tennis Club as the children grew up. Laurel judged the flowers at the Kingston Show for many years and the Leishman Cup was proudly presented to the exhibitors of the Champion Clydesdale.

Heather supported Arthur in his role as Lieutenant of the Kingston Fire Brigade for many years. She was the voice at the end of the telephone line in the event of a fire, before electronic alert systems. She also cleaned the CFA for many years. Laurel was ever present at the Kingston Primary School either as a guest at Special Person's Day or assisting with the reading program. Heather was involved in organizing ANZAC Day services engaging the primary school and RSL.

In early 1999 a new opportunity came along to make a difference in their community. Heather and Laurel became founding members of Friends of the Avenue that formed as a subcommittee of the Kingston Community Recreation Centre. The group set about raising funds and awareness to begin urgent restoration work. Laurel's uncles, Francis and William Mitchell and Heather's great uncles Arthur Sonsee and Charles Sonsie are commemorated in the Avenue. When asked about the difference in spelling of the surnames, Heather suggested it was misread hand writing.

Laurel later moved to Creswick where she became a volunteer at the Creswick Visitor Information Centre. Heather moved to Creswick to care for her parents where she continued her Red Cross involvement. In 2014 when Kingston Friends of the Avenue regrouped and became an incorporated body, Heather was and is still there.

The legacy of these two women serves as an example to others. It is possible to make a difference in a community with dedication, commitment and vision. It also helps when you have a friend you can rely on and be honest with.

Julie Baulch

# THE ART OF LIVING

*By Craig Barrett*

The volcanoes .... Wow!

I wish I could have been here in the time our volcanoes were active. It must have been a spectacular sight.

I am standing by the side of the road drawing Mt Kooroocheang in front of me and Mt Moorookyle behind me, just 20km north of Creswick. My pencil traces across the delicate, sensual lines of this landscape. I look around and see gentle bumps rising from the plains in every direction. I see the serene patchwork of fencelines separating crops from pasture, and beautiful chocolate coloured freshly ploughed fields. It all looks so gentle and peaceful.

Hard to believe it wasn't always so.

Once this landscape would have been violent, noisy and toxic. These now long dead volcanoes were spewing ash and poisonous gases into the air. Most of these hills – Mt Moorookyle behind me, Kangaroo Hills near the volcanic maar (lake) we now call Hepburn Lagoon – were scoria cones, mainly froth and bubbles. Some, like Kooroocheang, also had lava flows that shaped the country, and gave us the rich volcanic soils we now farm.

Major Mitchell, passing through this district in 1836 also noted the patchwork landscape of the 'Mammaloid Hills' as he called them. For countless generations the Dja Dja Wurrung had been fire farming here, creating a mixture of grasslands and forest to generate the best food resources. I can only wonder at their understanding of these volcanoes and the stories generated by them. Many of our local eruptions were well within recent human history.

Unfortunately, the historical violence of this district was not only geological.

Over Christmas 1839 a massacre of six Dja Dja Wurrung men occurred not far from Clunes at Blood Hole on Middle Creek – part of a larger plan to drive the aboriginals off what was then becoming pastoral land.

When I am drawing those ancient redgums along the spectacular gorge area of Tullaroop Creek my mind wanders to those who walked, camped and fished here long before me.

That is how it should be. When we draw, or paint, or take a photograph, or write a postcard or a poem, we should always allow room in our thoughts for the past, the present, and of course – the future – to make the picture complete.

*Craig Barrett*

[www.craigbarrett.com.au](http://www.craigbarrett.com.au)



*'Mammaloid Hills' view looking north from Springhill. Mount Kooroocheang on right*



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# Celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Kingston Agricultural Show

## Community Support Spells Success

The 150<sup>th</sup> Kingston Agricultural Show was held at the Kingston Showground on Sunday 17 December in perfect weather, having had to be postponed from 3 December due to adverse weather that occurred over that weekend.

Despite being a week before Christmas, the Show was very well attended by a large number of quality horses and riders. Unfortunately, a dairy goat judge could not be found for this day so those classes will be held on Sunday 21 January.

Thanks go to the many volunteers, judges, stewards and sponsors for making the horse classes of the 150<sup>th</sup> Show such a success. In particular, thanks go to the Platinum Sponsor Just Copiers of Howitt Street, Ballarat who printed the programs again, and to Gold Sponsors the Hepburn Shire Council and the Creswick & District Community Bank® Branch.

Mayor Cr Cottrell and Fern Wallis from Creswick & District Community Bank® Branch presented the Supreme Champions with their awards. It is trite but true that there would be no show without the community's support and hence no opportunity for families and friends to enjoy such a healthy outdoor activity – so thank you to everyone! Anyone interested in helping out with the 151<sup>st</sup> Show is most welcome to email [kas@kingstonshow.org.au](mailto:kas@kingstonshow.org.au)

*Chris Hastings, Secretary  
Kingston Agricultural Society Inc.*



Supreme Champion Ridden Show Hunter winner *Wimborne Prodigy* ridden by Lucy Thorman, with (L-R) Jane Lovejoy, Bec Kent and Rachel Samsonenko (Judges); Mayor Cr Cottrell and Fern Wallis of the *Creswick & District Community Bank® Branch*  
(Photo Wayne-Rex Brereton)



*The Kingston Showground. Photo Wayne-Rex Brereton*



## Creswick Lions Club 2017 Thanks, 2018 First Activity

As the Club moves into the New Year it's time to reflect on the past year and the many successful activities conducted, the groups and individuals supported financially and others helped with physical assistance. All members should be congratulated on their efforts.

The final activity for 2017 was the Christmas raffle for which the prize was the wonderful rocking horse made by members of the Creswick Men's Shed. In the time it was stabled at the Bendigo Bank and finally grazing in front of the supermarket, it generated many compliments and the members of the Men's Shed received great praise for their workmanship. Well done gents. The Rocking Horse was

won by Leonie Naylor, the hamper by Jodi Passalick and the Lions Christmas Cake and wine won by Karen Craig. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets or made a donation.

Lions Club continues to be on the lookout for new members. The volunteers' BBQ will be held at the RSL Hall on Monday, 22 January and prospective members would be welcome to join in and find out what Lions is all about. If coming to this BBQ please contact Pat on 0429 581 591 by Friday, 19 January.

*Pat Tacey Secretary Creswick Lions Club —  
tacey55@gmail.com*

## 100 years ago

*Compiled by Creswick Museum*

### January 4, 1918

The King's Call to Prayer – Town Hall, Creswick. A special service will be held on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1918 (Next Sunday) at 3.30 pm. A preliminary meeting to make all arrangements will be held in the Bank Chambers TO-NIGHT, at 8 o'clock. All interested are urged to attend. T. A. Wilson, Mayor

### January 8, 1918

Borough of Creswick – Tenders will be received until 5 pm on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> instant, for the erection of a Bathroom at the Caretaker's Residence, Botanical Reserve, Creswick. Specifications may be seen at the Town Hall. Arthur B. Grose, Town Clerk. Town Hall, Creswick, 7-1-18.

### January 11, 1918

Allendale – Vital Statistics – The local vital statistics for 1917 have been compiled by the local registrar, and the births registered were males 3, females 11, total 14; which is a slight increase on the previous year. The deaths registered were males 3, females 4, total 7; all of whom were adults of mature age; indicating the general good health of the community.

### January 15, 1918

A meeting to arrange for the annual Easter Monday sports at Creswick will be held at St. Augustines' hall tomorrow (Wednesday) evening at 8 o'clock, when all interested are invited to attend. It is hoped that there will be a large attendance, for these are the only sports held in the town during the year.

### January 18, 1918

Cr. Fred H. Carter, of Dean, a member of the Creswick Shire Council, has been appointed a justice of the peace for the Southern Bailiwick. Once again the shire council is composed of nine honorary magistrates.

### January 22, 1918

A social will take place in the Creswick A.N.A. Hall next Thursday night to celebrate the recent "No" victory. Dancing will be indulged in till 2 am. All are welcome.

### January 25, 1918

Blampied- Race Club meeting – members of the Blampied Race Club are requested to attend a meeting of the club, to be held at La Franchi's Hotel, Blampied, tomorrow (Saturday) evening at 8 o'clock in order that arrangements can be made for the annual St. Patrick's Day races. Permission has been obtained from the department to run the race meeting.

### January 28, 1918

The fire bells of the town were rung early on Saturday afternoon, the cause being a grass fire in the vicinity of Red Streak. Several paddocks were burnt over before the conflagration was stayed, and over 100 acres of grass was destroyed by the flames

## Creswick FLOWERS at *Olicartia*



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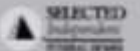
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# MUSIC NEWS

## Community Performances

Piano students wound up a successful year of community performances at the Art Gallery of Ballarat, the Mechanics Institute and at fundraising events for Zonta and Christ the King Anglican Cathedral. Their hard work and perseverance were rewarded with excellent exam results and at the Royal South Street piano competitions. Twenty students shared thirty-six awards including seven first places and five of the adjudicator's encouragement awards.

### Organs of the Ballarat Goldfields Festival

The *Organs of the Ballarat Goldfields Festival* is taking place from 12 to 21 January and included an organ recital at St John's Church Creswick on Monday 15.

The Festival will continue on Thursday 18 January at Clunes at 11.00am at the Former Wesley Church, with Haydn and Vivaldi Concerti for Harp, Viola, Flute and Organ, and at 2.15pm at St Paul's Anglican Church, with Organ and Flute. To be followed by afternoon tea in support of the restoration of St Paul's Church and its heritage organ.

At 4.30pm at the Clunes Town Hall there will be a special visit from Queen Victoria who will lead the singing of a National Anthem composed for the New Nation of Victoria in 1860!

Details: [www.ballarat.com/organs](http://www.ballarat.com/organs)

### 2018 Don Huntley Memorial Piano Recital

Important diary date: One of Australia's leading pianists, Kristian Chong will give the 2018 Don Huntley Memorial Piano Recital, on Saturday April 28 at 7.30pm at the Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts.

Bronislaw Sozanski



## Creswick Cemetery News

Please remember to slow down in the cemetery grounds. Also remember no extra pots or glass jars are permitted on lawn graves and large ornaments should be removed from these graves as they are a hazard to visitors. No large vases or ornaments are allowed in the new rotunda as they could be a tripping hazard. If you wish to put a vase on the wall, please speak to our Secretary first.

The cemetery apologises for the lack of grass on some graves but hopefully this will be remedied very soon as there is a plan to finish the refurbishing of the lawns as soon as weather permits.

Thank you, and wishing everyone a very Happy New Year.

Wendy Ohlsen

## Senior Cits News

The festive season is happily over and a New Year for Seniors Club is on the way. The Members Christmas Lunch was well attended and enjoyed by all.

The successful winners of the activities during the year were: Tina King and Norah Stubbs for Scrabble, Annie Vinke for Bingo, Ted Stewart for Triominos, Norah Stubbs and John Lawson for Euchre, and Annie Vinke for Bowls.

The Club looks forward to another full year of activities and companionship.

The next Social Day will be Friday 23 February consisting of lunch at noon and a game of Trivia.

June Gray, 5334 6526



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## PAVILION ARTS Memorable 2018 To Come

Pavilion Arts & Sustainability, along with Creswick & District Regional Arts Community, are keen to make 2018 a year to be remembered! Will you assist to promote Art Exhibitions by both known and budding artists? To celebrate Mother's Day with a tribute from students? To repeat the joyful celebration of another Lantern Festival? Music let loose? Or more....

Feel free to contact with your ideas or come to meetings. Pavilion Arts look forward to working with everyone to build a strong inclusive society. Can you spare an hour or two so that this area throbs with shared enjoyment? The Facebook page is there to share activities within the local district.

Audrey Winther  
Secretary 0421 492 332 or  
email [pavilionarts3363@gmail.com](mailto:pavilionarts3363@gmail.com)



*The portrait sketch (above) by a Creswick Primary School student, was entered in the Pavilion Arts Art Exhibition held at the Scout Hall in November 2017.*

# Paying Respect - Gilbert Joseph Brinsden

Extract from speech given by Geoffrey Tisdall

Remembrance Day 2017 at Kingston War Memorial Service



The Avenue of Honour, Kingston, Victoria

286 Elm Trees planted 1918

Tree West 16 commemorates

**GILBERT JOSEPH BRINSDEN**

Born Kingston 5 June 1878 – Died 12 October 1917 Paschendale, Flanders, Belgium

Graphics courtesy of the Brinsden family and Geoffrey Tisdall. Painting by David Williams

Every elm tree with a bronze plaque in this beautiful Avenue of Honour can tell a story. Tree West 16 represents the life of my maternal grandfather's brother, Gilbert Joseph Brinsden, who perished at Paschendale in Belgium exactly 99 years and one month ago. Gilbert had enlisted the previous year leaving the family business in Kingston in the hands of his brother Arnold – who had become the Shire Rate Collector. It was a General Store in which their father Samuel had been involved since the 1860s. It was sold soon after the War, but the shop and the residence next door burnt down in 1920. The residence was called *Devonia* and these fertile hills reminded their father of his birthplace – Devon in England. No doubt he would have approved of these grand elm trees.

Gilbert's sister Jane made copies of his letters home and sent them to various family members. His last letter home five days before he died begins, *'My dear ones at home,'* and says at one point, *'The more I see of war, the more I am convinced that some other means of settling international differences will have to be found'.* And a bit further on, *'I thank God most sincerely that I have come through so far and trust that He will continue to watch over me throughout this trying time.'* He concludes, *'Much love and affection to you all. Your loving brother Bert'.*

The final resting place of Gilbert, or Bert as his family knew him, is unknown. As his company advanced, a shell exploded and a fragment severed one of Gilbert's arms. A couple of contemporary accounts survive.

Private Charles Sharp stated, *'He was wounded in the arm very badly going over in the morning in the attack at Passchendale. I was acting as runner. At about 4.00pm I was back behind our original line and saw Brinsden's body lying on a stretcher. He had evidently died when being carried down to the D(ressing) S(tation)'.* L/Cpl J McIntyre was alongside Brinsden when he was wounded in the morning. *I have heard him speak of it, . . . I know nothing of Brinsden's burial.'* Private Ben Buchanan stated, *'I saw Brinsden after he was dead (he was my friend) . . . He was buried at Passchendale'.*

Various family members have visited that battleground and witnessed moving Remembrance ceremonies and have been pleased to see on the Menen Gate Memorial, (Ypres, Belgium), the name of Gilbert Brinsden. Here at home the family had to settle for an inscription at the family plot in the Creswick Cemetery as well as a tree in this Avenue. Not long after the news of the death of Gilbert, his sister Jean wrote to my grandfather in Mildura, *'It is terrible to me that dear bright fellow will never come back to us again'.* She went on to reflect, *' . . . I am sure he went because it was his duty'.*

*The Rev'd Canon Geoffrey Tisdall*

*Note: There are various spellings of Paschendale even in Belgium. Our family uses the version of the name of a street close to our grandfather's home near Mildura.*  
*Geoffrey Tisdall*

## Grace Buchanan

A memorial for former resident, Grace Buchanan was held at St. John's Anglican Church in Creswick during December following her recent death. A long term resident Grace had moved to Melbourne about ten years ago to be close to family. Grace's story appeared in the November 2000 issue of the CDN.

Grace grew up in Beaufort and lived in Hamilton before returning to her childhood home where she was the Physical Education teacher at the local high school until retirement. Her training in PE at Melbourne University also demonstrated her determination. Grace had flat feet and one of her lecturers told her class that people with flat feet cannot jump. Not only did Grace jump, she ran, swam and played netball (basketball then) and tennis.

Grace Buchanan's petite stature belied her strength, determination and commitment. She was widowed when her four children were young and each of their successes are a reflection of their proud mother. Grace continued to confound others with her experience at the Sydney Olympics in 2000 where she had an hour's walk to and from work as a volunteer each day.

Since her retirement, Grace has travelled extensively and worked as a Volunteer for Isolated Student's Education in Outback Queensland. She was no greenhorn at the computer, having attended classes at Creswick Adult Learning Centre (now Creswick Neighbourhood Centre). Read on for her recollections of a marvellous experience as a volunteer at the Sydney Olympics.

### My Olympic Experience by Grace Buchanan

(Article originally published in CDN in November 2000)

'OH SYD-E-NEY, how you did us proud! From Fanfare to Fireworks, from Harbour to Homebush, from Hockey to Humble Handball from Veteran to Volunteer (in some cases synonymous!) it was MAGNIFICENT.

As one of the latter (volunteer/veteran) I will savour this experience! However, I must admit that it meant sacrificing my usual occupation during Olympic or any other big sports event, of being a couch potato! That was a big sacrifice for me!

What motivated me to apply to become a volunteer? Having been in Melbourne for the 1956 Games, where, the programme for the Opening Ceremony cost two shillings (twenty cents) and attending the Opening Ceremony in Montreal in 1976 cost U.S. \$20.00, the original information that tickets for Sydney events could be in the hundreds of dollars, the only way I could BE THERE, was to be a Volunteer. And so, the long operation began.



Grace Buchanan with her Olympic Volunteer Uniform

I first applied in October 1998, then waited and waited. Months later, my application was acknowledged and the process was in train. Next, was to organize accommodation which resulted in my staying with an old friend from primary school days. So, she too, became a volunteer - one of the thousands of unsung heroes of the Games, doing exactly that - housing volunteers from interstate - no uniform, no free travel, none of the excitement of participation - just the

same old household duties of cooking, shopping, washing, ironing. I salute you all.

At last, after much to-ing and fro-ing including two visits to Melbourne, I was appointed an 'Accreditation Officer', for the duration. Then came a trip to Sydney to collect my uniform and at last check out the place where I would be working. That served to quell the nervousness I was feeling about what I had taken on! According to authorities, the average age of Volunteers was 60+. However, I met many young people on the job, some of whom had come from overseas simply to be a volunteer.

My training at the Computer began on my first duty day, 15 September, 2000. My instructors/supervisors had been working in the back-rooms of power since May. They had me working (fairly) confidently by the end of the day. The venue known as the U.D.A.C. (Uniform Distribution and Accreditation Centre) in Redfern, was a marvellous cavernous old brick building which was a dis-used Railway Workshop, transformed by temporary walls, beautifully carpeted floors, cardboard office furniture, dividing it into multiple computer bays.

All history now - I enjoyed it all.'

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to Creswick District News**



## Kingston Friends of the Avenue Preparations for Centenary of Planting of Avenue

It is hard to believe that 2018 has arrived. The Kingston Friends of the Avenue look forward to working with a range of different community groups and organizations throughout the year as we prepare for the Centenary of Armistice and the centenary of the planting of the Avenue event to be held on Remembrance Day. Planning for the event is well under way. The Friends welcome your input and invite you to submit ideas via our email address [kingstonfoa@gmail.com](mailto:kingstonfoa@gmail.com).

There are very few copies of Peter Rickard's book *Sentinels of Service – Volunteers of the Kingston Avenue of Honour* still available. Please see Rob or Rosemary at the Creswick News agency and if you have missed out please leave your name and a deposit with them. Another print run will be organized.

Biscuit tins were very popular Christmas gifts and are still available from a range of local businesses. The Friends plant stall at the Creswick Market will resume once autumn comes.

Perhaps you have visited the Avenue recently and taken some photographs? Maybe you have photographs of relatives commemorated there? Please post these on our Facebook page.

On behalf of Kingston Friends of the Avenue, best wishes for the New Year.

Julie Baulch



## Local Kids Benefit from School Breakfast Club

The State Government's expanded School Breakfast Clubs have now served more than three million meals across Victoria – giving school children a healthier start to the day.

Since the launch of the program at the start of last year, School Breakfast Clubs have been providing 50,000 free breakfasts every week at 500 Victorian schools.

Research has shown that since the program started, nine out of ten teachers have seen improved student concentration in the classroom.

Local schools participating include Creswick North Primary School, Clunes Primary School, Creswick Primary School and Newlyn Primary School.

## Creswick Garden Club 2018/2019 Calendar of Events

Happy New Year to all our fellow gardeners.

The next meeting of the Creswick Garden Club is on 6 February - an informal meeting at the Senior Citizen's rooms where the 2018/2019 calendar of events will be distributed.

There will also be a light luncheon at a cost of \$5 per head. If you would like to join us, contact Phyllis on 5345 2514 or Leanne on 0437 518 159 before Tuesday 30 January.

Phyllis Wright

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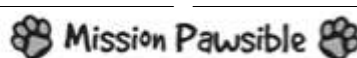
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## Funding to Commemorate Veterans in Creswick

The State Government has provided funds to help Creswick and Smeaton commemorate the sacrifice of local veterans, and educate the wider community about their service.

Creswick-Smeaton RSL will receive \$1,910 under the Community War Memorials and Avenues of Honour Grants Program.

The funding will be used to repair damage to the WWI and WWII honour boards located in the foyer of the Creswick North Primary School.

The program supports communities in Victoria to ensure local war memorials, honour rolls and avenues of honour are restored or improved to reflect the service history of the local community. For more information on these and other veteran grant opportunities visit: [www.dpc.vic.gov.au/veterans](http://www.dpc.vic.gov.au/veterans)



## New Grants Program for Volunteer Firefighters

Volunteer firefighting brigades in Western Victoria can now apply for grants of up to \$250,000 from a new \$10 million program funded by the State Government. The new program will be administered by the CFA to support vital volunteer brigade equipment and facility upgrades, as well as local initiatives that strengthen volunteerism and brigade culture.

Grants will be provided to projects that address a range of key criteria, including:

- Addressing immediate needs and enhancing operational capability
- Improving culture, diversity and fairness
- Strengthening volunteer leadership skills
- Encouraging recruitment, retention and recognition of volunteers
- Reflecting the evolving needs and demographics of the communities that volunteer brigades serve.

Brigades in Western Victoria have until the end of February 2018 to apply. For more information, visit [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au).

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**Catherine King MP**  
Federal Member for Ballarat

**STANDING UP FOR  
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**5 Lydiard Street North, Ballarat 3350**

**Fax: 03 5333 7710**

**Email: [catherine.king.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:catherine.king.mp@aph.gov.au)**

Authorised by Catherine King MP, 5 Lydiard Street North, Ballarat VICTORIA 3350



## Locals Warned Against Mozzies These Summer Holidays

Residents and visitors to Western Victoria are reminded to take precautions during summer to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes.

While the higher numbers of mosquitoes during summer are mostly a nuisance factor, some mosquitoes can transmit diseases such as Ross River Virus and Barmah Forest Virus diseases.

Local councils and the Department of Health and Human Services have programs in place to monitor and, where needed, reduce mosquito numbers.

Mosquitoes are at their most active at dawn and dusk, although some species can be present and bite throughout the day.

Residents can remain protected by:

- Fitting insect screens to doors and windows, and ensuring they are in good condition.
- Wearing long, loose-fitting clothing and using a suitable insect repellent containing picaridin or DEET as an active ingredient on exposed skin areas.
- Using mosquito nets at night, while camping, in your tent or cabin, and using mosquito coils in the small enclosed areas outside of your accommodation.

It is also important to get rid of stagnant water around homes and campsites. Mosquitoes can breed in any receptacle that can hold water including old tyres and rubbish, poorly maintained swimming pools, unsealed water tanks and pot plant holders and animal drinking containers.

A range of information relating to protecting against mosquito bites is available on the Better Health Channel website: [http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/bhcv2/bhcarticles.nsf/pages/Beat\\_the\\_bite](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/bhcv2/bhcarticles.nsf/pages/Beat_the_bite)



## Support for Mums and Bubs Affected by Family Violence

The State Government is increasing support for new mothers and their babies experiencing family violence through extra Maternal and Child Health (MHC) service consultations and nurse training.

An additional \$11 million has been announced for extra consultations that will benefit women and children in Western Victoria experiencing, or at risk of, family violence.

In an Australian first, a statewide rollout has allowed MCH nurses to provide additional outreach visits to those at risk of family violence, with the new funding estimated to provide up to 12,000 hours of additional service.

Given discussing family violence with women can be difficult due to the presence of a partner, or insufficient time, the additional consultations will allow discussions to take place at a time and place that suits the mother and her kids. MCH nurses will be provided with professional development and support so they can confidently discuss family violence with parents, assess risk, and respond in a timely and meaningful way.

## Friends of Park Lake Meeting

The first meeting for 2018 of the Friends of Park Lake, will be held at 10 South Street, Creswick, on Monday, 5 February at 9.00am. Join us to add your support for the restoration of your Botanical Reserve under the new President. Come and help the 'Pixies' of a Wednesday, 9.00am in the Park.

Enquiries to the Hon Sec. on 5345 1310

## CRESWICK DISTRICT NEWS

is now available on-line.

Visit Creswick Business and Tourism website  
[www.creswick.net/creswick/newsletter](http://www.creswick.net/creswick/newsletter)

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As with all school years they come to an end and this is particularly felt by the grade six students and their families. At the recent Graduation Ceremony, there was the exhilaration of looking forward to the challenge of secondary school, but also the sadness of leaving the learning environment of the primary setting where they have spent seven productive and formative years.

This year the grade six students celebrated their graduation by having a meal with their peers and some past and present staff. The meal was prepared by the Canteen Manager, Alma Bailey, with assistance from Parents' Club members and was served by the 2016 School Captains. After the meal, the Multi-Purpose Building filled with over two hundred parents and friends who came to recognise the students' achievements and appreciate the poise and confidence each displayed whilst presenting their individual speeches.

The thirty-one graduating students will now move to twelve different secondary settings. The audience and the staff gave the graduates, three hearty cheers to both recognise their efforts during the past seven years and to wish them

## Creswick Capers

### Grade 6 Graduation For 2017



*Lots of thought and effort went into dressing up for the big night.*

all the best on the years to follow.

Congratulations to the students and good luck to them all as they embark on the next adventure!

*Ron Sawyer, Principal*

## BANK BACKING LOCAL FARMERS



*Marcus Walsh, Chairman pictured with staff. John Collins, Kristin Living, Natalie Lee and Louise Clarke*

As the only Australian-owned and operated dedicated agribusiness bank in the country, Rural Bank is backing farmers and the farming community in conjunction with the Creswick & District Community Bank® branch of Bendigo Bank.

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Rural Bank's partnership with local Bendigo Banks and Community Bank® branches ensures ease of access to specialist farm finance solutions and expertise in the community and on the farm, as well as contributing to the local community via the Community Bank® model.

Creswick & District Financial Services Ltd. Chairman, Marcus Walsh said the branch enjoyed having the opportunity to support the local farming sector.

'As a member of the community of Creswick and surrounding districts, we understand the seasonal challenges and opportunities that local farmers are presented with,' Marcus said.

'Whether it is for capital improvements, seasonal input purchases or expanding land holdings, Rural Bank's financial tools provide the flexibility to make quick decisions based on individual needs at any particular time.'

To find out more about Rural Bank's specialist farm finance tools, contact Gavin Svanosio on 0437 957 164 or the Creswick & District Community Bank® branch on 5345 1233 to arrange an on-farm visit. Alternatively visit the branch at 1 Raglan Street, Creswick.

*Narelle Barrett*

*Creswick & District Financial Services Ltd*



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## BAND NEWS

### Exam Success for Junior Band Members

Readers will recall that in the last Band News it was mentioned that five junior members were sitting for their music exams in early December. The Band is pleased to report that they all passed, with both Alexander and Sorrell earning High Distinctions! Fantastic effort by the kids, and by Katrina and Fran to help them reach a new high level.

As always in December, the Band was very busy. Carols at Doug Lindsay was again a success, even though the wind blew cold as the sun descended. The Band was asked to provide musicians for the Carols services at both the Anglican and Roman Catholic Cathedrals in Ballarat this year, and have received some very nice compliments on the music that was played.

Members of the Band were also out and about during December caroling throughout Creswick, including at Mr and Mrs Santa Claus' house on 23 and 24 December. The Band sends out a huge thankyou to the people of Creswick, who donated over \$1,000 during December as they played. It's very gratifying to know how well the Band is supported by the community.

As we go to print, the Band has just returned from playing at the Maryborough Highland Festival. Although it's sometimes hard to be up playing on the morning of New Year's Day, we enjoy parading down the main street of Maryborough to show what Creswick can do.

This year is going to be a big year, with both the Creswick Band and Creswick Youth Brass heading to Melbourne over Easter to compete in the National Championships – everyone is practicing hard already (aren't you!!)

Before then we'll see you at the Australia Day breakfast, where the Band will be playing again.

Rehearsals for 2018 began on 11 January – 6.00pm for Youth Brass and 7.00pm for Senior Band.

*Roger Clark*



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Come and see our colourful additions to the kids' section in our new interactive read and play area!

### Baby Rhyme Time

Every Tuesday and Wednesday 11.00am

### Parents' Club at the Hub

Mothers, fathers and carers of babies and pre-school aged children are invited to this informal group to connect with other parents in the Creswick area.

Every Tuesday at 11.30am, after the 11.00am Tuesday Baby Rhyme Time Session.

### Home Library Service

This is a free home library service for members of the community who have difficulty accessing, or are unable to visit their public library.

Hepburn Libraries provides a friendly and personalised service that will endeavour to match library material to clients.

For more information, contact Creswick Hub.

### Art Exhibition Space available

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# Upcoming Events & Happenings in Creswick & District

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday January 11,** Creswick Band rehearsals recommences Band rooms 6.00pm for Youth Brass and 7.00pm for Senior Band

**Thursday January 18, 2018**

U3A Expo, RSL Hall and Creswick Town Hall, 10.00am – 3.00pm

**Thursday January 18,** Organs of the Goldfields Festival 11.00am at Former Wesley Church Clunes, Haydn and Vivaldi Concerti and at 2.15pm St Paul's Anglican Church, with Organ and Flute

**Saturday January 20, 2018**

Creswick Market, Creswick Neighbourhood Centre 9.00am – 1.00pm. A happy small town market [creswickmarket.com.au](http://creswickmarket.com.au)

**Friday January 26,** Australia Day celebrations. Park Lake 8.00am Featuring Creswick Brass Band, Official Ceremony 8.00am, Breakfast Served after ceremony, collect free tickets by January 22 from Creswick Shire Office or Creswick Visitor Information Centre. Info Pat 0429 581 591

**Friday January 26,** Barefoot bowls Creswick Bowling Club, 11.00am-2.00pm

**Saturday February 17,** Creswick Market, Creswick Neighbourhood Centre 9.00am – 1.00pm. A happy small town market [creswickmarket.com.au](http://creswickmarket.com.au)

## REGULAR AND ONGOING EVENTS

**Anglicare Emergency Food Relief** - second Tuesday. Centrelink card holders. Blankets available winter months. St Johns Anglican Church Hall, Napier Street 10.00am-11.30am

**Australian Red Cross** - first Tuesday every month. RSL Hall 2.00pm 5345 8318 or email [jackandnorah@vic.australis.com.au](mailto:jackandnorah@vic.australis.com.au)

**Business & Tourism Creswick** first Tuesday every month. Farmers Arms Hotel, 4.30pm 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. Ph 5345 1310

**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](mailto:u3a3363@gmail.com) or [www.creswicku3a.com](http://www.creswicku3a.com)

**Creswick Garden Club** - first Tuesday every month (except January) Seniors' Club Rooms 1.15pm. Phyllis 5345 2514

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

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

**Creswick Lions Club** second Monday every month. 7.00pm R.S.L. Hall. Fourth Monday location to be advised Carolyn Garguilo Pres. 0417 349 049

Pat Tacey Sec.0429 581 591

**Creswick Market** - Creswick Neighbourhood Centre, Third Saturday every month 9.00am-1.00pm. A happy small town market, Bookings 5345 2356 [creswickmarket.com.au](http://creswickmarket.com.au)

**Creswick Museum** - Open 11.00am-3.30pm Saturday and Sunday every week and Public Holidays 5345 2845 [creswickmuseum.org.au](http://creswickmuseum.org.au)

**Creswick Pre-School Childcare** Fridays - School Terms. 9.00am to 1.00pm Bookings ECKA 5339 5055

**Creswick Probuss Club** - first Tuesday every month (except January) meetings St Andrew's Hall, 10.00am. Inquiries Bob 5345 2165

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

**Creswick Visitor Information Centre** - volunteers meet first Thursday every month 10.00am RSL Hall

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

**Folk and Acoustic Club** Second Friday 7.30pm American Hotel; fourth Friday 7.30pm Creswick Railway Station. Enquiries Kate 0409 179 481, John Harris 5345 2095

**Joeys, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers** - every Thursday during school term. Tony or Verena 5345 6154 or Amanda Pascoe 5345 2228

**Movies at Court House Theatre** - third Friday every month. 7.30pm entry by donation.

**Museum Research Centre** Cnr Raglan and Cambridge Sts. Friday and Saturday 11.00am – 3.00pm every week

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

**Playgroup** - John Curtin Function Room every Wednesday 9.30am Amanda 0427 502 568

**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 12 noon. RSL Hall Michael Clark 0409 421 547

**Tipplers** third Wednesday every month. email: [wheeler@cbl.com.au](mailto:wheeler@cbl.com.au)

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Our customers create change every day. A change for good. A change for better.

You need a bank you can trust to give you the products and services you need. We need you to help us make a difference.

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Drop into your nearest branch at 1 Raglan Street, Creswick or phone 5345 1233 and see the change your banking can make.



Creswick & District Community Bank® Branch

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