

Creswick District News

Still Priceless

Issue 286 July 2023



WINTER SOLSTICE COMMUNITY BONFIRE

FRIDAY, 23 JUNE

The longest night and the shortest day of 2023, the winter solstice, was celebrated in all its mystical and mythical glory at a fantastical community bonfire. To the beat of the drums, the goblins, sprites, elves and fairies were drawn to the glow and crackle of an enormous bonfire that lit up the night sky above Park Lake.

Although the day started out dank and a little dreary, by the time night fell the skies had cleared and stars shone down on the hundreds of locals who gathered to enjoy the bonfire, the drums and the BBQ donated and cooked by the Creswick Scouts. But the night really belonged to the young and old who had made a tremendous effort to let their imaginations run wild with their costumes!

Cr Tim Drylie, who got into the spirit of the evening by dressing up as, I think, a character from *Where the Wild Things Are*, was assisted by his daughter Sorrel, in choosing winners for the Best Dressed Competition. It was a challenging job as there were so many fantastic costumes. The prizes, kindly donated by IGA Creswick, went to groups of people who demonstrated great ingenuity in their costumes. Winners were a family of fairies and three young characters representing all that is magic in the woodlands from mushrooms to animals. However, the most amazing costumes went to Dianne Gibney and Tom Huberts who created stunning steampunk outfits which encapsulated the very essence of futuristic 19th century industrial steam-powered machinery.

Andrew Bell, one of the organisers of the winter solstice event, whose outstanding costume was worthy of an award, said that the night had been a great success.

'It's so good to see the community support events where, no matter the weather or the time of year, we all come together to share in something very special. Of course it's the hard working team from the Friends of Park Lake and Pavilion Arts who deserve our thanks for their commitment in organising the event. Creswick has a great heart and there are lots of people willing to make sure it keeps beating!'



Tom Huberts, Co-winner of Best Dressed
Photo: Diane Gibney

Under the watchful eye of the Creswick CFA, the bonfire slowly burnt down and the fun went long into the night. Congratulations to everyone who came to celebrate the joys of winter!

Fiona Watson

 Bendigo Bank

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

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

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19 September 2023

**Deadline for copy and advertisements:
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The CDN is also available online at
www.creswick.net/creswick/newsletter



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Additional 50%

Cats Come to Creswick

On Friday, 29 September, the *Cats Come to Creswick* Art Show returns after a four-year break.

The Show will be open from Friday to Sunday at the newly renovated Creswick Town Hall. This will be the official launch of John Curtin Aged Care's fundraising activity for a new bus. John Curtin Aged Care Inc. is a registered charity, a not-for-profit and community-owned facility. If the money isn't raised, there will be no new bus.

The Art Show will feature fifty artists who support this cause, some returning from 2019 and many new.

Entry will be \$5.00 for everyone aged over fifteen. Children and residents of the Nursing Home will be admitted free-of-charge. Artwork from the schools was featured in 2019. This time we have encouraged the residents to participate. Everyone is invited to come along to make this a successful event and kick start fundraising activities. Artworks will be available to purchase and will all feature a cat. More information on the *Cats Come to Creswick* Facebook page.

Susan Craven, President

Creswick Cemetery News

A big thank you to the Langi Kal workers, who came during the month and cleaned up around the gum trees and other areas. Also a big thank you to Peter, who has been helping with this project as well.

Remember during winter to keep to the formed roadways and be careful walking along paths. There is already water lying about and visitors need to take care while walking around the cemetery.

Wendy Ohlsen, Secretary

creswick Rainfall

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

	2021	2022	2023
	mm	mm	mm
January	134.5	163.0	9.5
February	13.0	1.0	28.8
March	79.5	49.0	45.0
April	20.0	65.5	116.0
May	79.0	39.3	70.0
June	99.9	104.5	125.0
July	106.5	51.0	
August	66.5	156.0	
September	70.5	82.0	
October	91.0	214.1	
November	66.8	129.1	
December	26.3	40.2	
TOTAL	853.5	1,094.7	394.3

Senior Cits

Wow! Halfway through the year, where has it gone? Let's look forward to having warmer weather soon, even if it's only a day at a time.

Social Day was a happy success with a yummy meal, toe tapping entertainment and Elaine and June cutting the Club's 55th birthday cake.

Next Social Day will be 28 July, when there will be a hot meal and entertainment. The Annual General Meeting will be included. Get well wishes to anyone on the sick list.

June Gray 5334 6526

**Vale
Flora Brennan**

Creswick Town Hall 1876



The Creswick Town Hall and Municipal Offices were constructed as one building in 1876, thirteen years after the creation of the Borough of Creswick.

Cr Thomas Cooper, later the Mayor, offered a prize of 50 pounds for the best design. The winner was the architect WRH Creber and the builder was J Boulton.

It sits on land previously occupied by the National School. When the Government wanted to build a larger school it was offered as exchange for the Napier/Raglan Street block. The imposing nature of the building is reflective of the confidence and prosperity in Creswick in the 1870s. The building is of importance for its unusual and distinctive design, its pre-eminence within the townscape and for its historical associations with the development of

the important gold mining town of Creswick.

The cantilevered bio-box was added later, with access via a ladder from Water Street:

'A huge programme is set down by the Creswick Picture Syndicate for their biograph show in the local town hall on Friday evening next. The "star" films will be "The Massacre" and "Idle Boast", two interesting and exciting pictures, and in addition there will be several other excellent pictures, of a comic and dramatic nature.' Trove 1914.

The Clock Tower Without a Clock

In 1876, the Council decided that a clock was a needless frill and it would be advisable to wait for better times. However, despite the economic bottom line improving, the tower remained devoid of its clock. In 1965, the Shire decided to build a modern block of Municipal Offices and vacate the Town Hall. It was at that time that the Museum collection was transferred into the Town Hall. The tower remained clock-less.

A Melbourne clockmaker, Bill Tunnel-Jones, heard of the need and offered an English made movement for nothing. All he asked was funding to cut and paint the dials and install the clock. The clock was installed in 1970 at a cost of \$900. Bill Tunnell-Jones' wife was a Creswick woman with strong local ancestry. Her grandfather was an English miner who came to Creswick in 1873.

Creswickians Love Their Gardens!



The Town Hall is dated 1876 but it was not actually completed until 1877, however that did not stop the intrepid gardeners of the district from being the very first group to hold their Flower Show in December 1876. The Flower Show went for two days with a final day Concert and a Grand Promenade.



Growing up in Melbourne in the sixties and seventies Maryann longed for a life in the country. Like many of her generation, holidays regularly included visits to farms belonging to family friends. She learnt early where eggs and milk came from, how crops grew, the importance of rain and an appreciation of the rhythm of nature and the beauty of the bush. Her husband Chris Wright grew up in Ballarat and spent many days of his youth on friends' and relatives' farms. They have two adult sons and all share a love for the country. They were fortunate to purchase a beautiful little farm in Smokeytown just outside Creswick in 2014. They have loved learning about their land and being part of the Creswick community.

Learning has been a theme throughout Maryann's life. She enjoyed school and particularly reading. She loved the magic of real and imagined worlds and people, held within the covers of a book. She was fortunate to have great teachers and a family who valued learning and expected everyone to go to university.

Monash University in the 1980s was an exciting place and Maryann was completely engrossed in her Arts degree and loved the challenging conversations in tutorials and at the Caf. She was fascinated by activism and learnt early the value of getting involved in issues, in taking action. Passive observation or idle criticism never changed anything. She volunteered at English conversation classes each Monday night at Midway Migrant Hostel in Springvale. She learnt about the traumas of war, displacement, the cruelty of *Pol Pot*, the brutal impact of napalm and more. Hearing real stories helped Maryann understand the plight of being displaced or becoming a refugee.

Maryann started her teaching career in Ballarat. She loved teaching adolescents and became particularly interested in working with students who had problems learning or challenges with school or home life. She completed study in Special Education and a Masters in Curriculum and Leadership. Eventually she moved to the University of Ballarat, later Federation University, where she was involved in secondary teacher education for eighteen years. Doctoral research included interviewing former students as they shared their early career experiences. She was particularly taken by the emotional labour involved in teaching, and the fundamental importance of operating from an ethic of care.

Maryann was fortunate to travel in rural Victoria to visit students when they were on teaching placements. She was inspired by many teachers and principals and their adaptability and pragmatism. She remembers one principal saying his job ranged from unblocking toilets to meeting the Prime Minister and everything in between. She

remains in awe of those who work in rural schools.

In 2007, Maryann began a decade long connection with education in Cambodia where she volunteered to run workshops with *Teachers Across Borders, Australia*. Working mainly in the rural city of Battambang, Maryann was fascinated by the similarities of passionate teachers and the challenges they faced. Initially there was no power in classrooms, no glass in the windows, but there were beautiful hand drawn posters and the gentlest, most engaged pre-service teachers who started each morning with: '*Good morning teacher, how were your dreams?*'. Maryann saw firsthand the power of community and the drive to receive a good education.

The opportunity to combine Maryann's passion for education, rural community building and interest in young



people arose in 2011 when she moved to the charity sector initially as senior education advisor, later CEO of *Youthrive Victoria*, formerly Macpherson Smith Rural Foundation. The purpose of *Youthrive Victoria* is to support young rural people and their communities. Located in the Old Post Office in Creswick, *Youthrive Victoria* now has over 500 alumni of the Young Rural Leaders program, has given over \$2 million in scholarships, has presented *Dream Seeds*® workshops to over 2,000 students and has introduced

the Rural Youth Network across Victoria (ryn.org.au). Youthrive led the Youth component of *CresFest* in 2022 and 2023. Working with so many amazing young rural people has been inspiring and Maryann is sure our future is safe in their hands. She notes that we all have a responsibility to provide support and encouragement to young people. Sometimes we need to get out of the way to let them develop and lead.

Maryann learnt early the strength of the Creswick community and that members of the morning walking group could provide answers to almost any question! The *Community Bank Creswick & District* has provided grants for *Dream Seeds*® programs and has recently funded one university scholarship and two vocational scholarships for members of the community. Application information is available at <https://www.youthrivevictoria.org.au/scholarships/>.

Local people have participated in intergenerational learning workshops and have generously provided probono and financial support. The work of *Youthrive Victoria* is ongoing and donations to scholarships and programs are welcomed.

Further information can be found at: <https://www.youthrivevictoria.org.au/or> info@youthrivevic.org.au – or drop into the office Monday to Thursday.



Creswick Bowling Club News

After eighteen months, Hepburn Shire has finally awarded a tender to commence repairs to the green destroyed in the January storms of 2022. Major works will be undertaken to stabilise the under structure with concrete foundations and a new green placed on top. Hopefully, it will be ready by the start of this year's pennant season.

With the new green taking shape the club has decided to upgrade its image ready to begin the season. The club will have redesigned tops and jackets available to all pennant playing members.

Webbcon Bowling Club, has generously offered the use of one of their greens for Creswick Bowling Club's home games.

Over the winter months, the club conducts pennant indoor bowls on Mondays and Tuesdays, and has one Women's Division and two Men's Divisions playing within the Ballarat Region. The women are currently sitting in fifth position and the Division 1 Men's team is sitting on top of the ladder. Division 3 are currently second on the ladder with four games left to play before the final series begin in August.

At the AGM, held in May, the Board bestowed the honour of Life Membership to Barry Yates. Barry has been a very dedicated member of the club. He has held many positions, most noticeably Bowls Director for many years as well as Tournament Director.

The club recently lost a female member. Vale Jean Rhook - another wonderful bowler and winner of many awards and championships throughout her bowling career.

Some achievements over the past few months have been:



Barry Yates

Dusty Taylor-Irwin, competing in the Australian Ladies Pair's titles held in Broadbeach; Michael Booth and Travis Hedger having success in the Regional Championships and just recently, Matthew Blackburn becoming the 2023 Indoor Club Champion for Creswick. Another member of the Creswick Indoor Division 1 side, Rod Brehaut, was a member of the triples side at the Victorian Inter Group Men's tournament.

Over the month of June, Gerry Flapper and Bernie O'Malley conducted *Rookie Rollers* in the library

at Creswick North Primary School with preps, grades 1 and 2 and the senior groups. Possibly there are some future bowlers amongst this group of students. For the last session, the senior group visited the bowling club and put their skills on the Indoor carpet into *real* practise.

On the social side of the club, *Friday Night Dinner* is held on the first Friday of each month during winter. Commencing at 6.30pm, everyone is welcome to come along to enjoy the company and have a delicious home-cooked meal and sweets. Cost to non-members is \$12.00. Please ring Bernie by 4.00pm prior if you wish to come and quote numbers for catering purposes for the night.

There are benefits to be had if you wish to join as a Social Member or as a bowler. Once the green is up and running, the club hopes to open up the green for anyone to come along and try outdoor bowls. The club is planning to conduct a *Try-Bowls* each Wednesday evening during the month of February.

Bernie O'Malley

Administration Director, Creswick Bowling Club

Mobile: 0437 102 059

Creswick-Smeaton RSL

Hall Upgrades Due to Successful Grant Applications

On Tuesday, 27 June, The Minister for Veterans The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP, and local Member for Ripon Martha Haylett MP, visited the Creswick-Smeaton RSL to see the completed waterproofing works which were funded from last year's Veterans Grant. They also viewed the area under the RSL Hall where new works will be carried out following this year's successful Veterans Grant application.

With the waterproofing completed, the basement of the RSL Hall can now have a new concrete floor as well as a concrete driveway at the back of the Hall.

Phil Greenbank, Secretary



Creswick-Smeaton RSL Secretary Phil Greenbank, Cr Tim Drylie, Creswick-Smeaton RSL President Alan Morris, Martha Haylett MP, Hon. Natalie Suleyman MP

The Art of Living

By Craig Barrett

It seems like forever that I have been obsessed with maps.

Maps engage us on so many levels, information, imagination, direction. Personally I love them also for their graphic quality, and, they definitely tug at my imagination. Not talking Google maps here by the way ... we all know they are useless! I mean real, hard copy printed maps ... and everyone needs a proper atlas. The more detail the better. When I am bushwalking, I want to know how steep that mountain is, where is the nearest fresh water. A topographical map shows me that in detail.

I have a very fine historic Johnston's Atlas from 1842 that tells me it is thirty-six days' journey from Yezd (in Persia) to Doorshalefor (in Afghanistan) for laden camels. Also, thirteen days' journey for laden camels from Punjgoor to Nal in Beloochistan. I am not currently planning either of these journeys but good to know all the same for my retirement travels – who wants to go on a cruise ship for heaven's sake!

Maps are also a great metaphor for life - they don't always get it right, (agreed folk who use Google and Sat Nav?). Sometimes they are not quite sure. My 1842 atlas marks the Millewa or Murray River, also the Hovel, Goulburn or Bayungun River. Thankfully some maps do change with more information, geographically and socially. I have some old hiking maps that had some pretty offensive names of mountain and waterways that have since been mercifully renamed. Again, some maps are just plain wrong with assumptions. Back to my 1842 Johnston's Atlas, it shows the (imagined) inland sea in central Australia. The southern edges of lakes Frome and Torrens were known by then. As many rivers flowed inland instead of to the sea, it was assumed that these two lakes flowed north of the Flinders Ranges and joined up ... somewhere, hence the magnificent horseshoe shaped Lake Torrens in my atlas, an inland sea.

Actually, the explorer Captain Charles Sturt took a twenty-six-foot whale boat on a dray looking for the inland sea in 1845. The boat was finally abandoned near my favourite desert camp in what is now Sturt National Park on the NSW, Qld and SA border. Even with a good map I have made many wrong turns in life. The map is only as good as our ability to read it.

As I gaze in the mirror upon my own ageing face, I see so many lines that map the many journeys that I have taken, some wonderful, some not so.

I arrived in Creswick on June 20, 2016. I wrote my first *The Art of Living* article in December 2017. Since then, I have written some forty articles. I think Creswick has had enough of me banging on. So, this is my last post for now ... I may pop up from time to time, but no longer as a regular. Thank you the wonderful folk of Creswick. You have given me way more than I have given you.

My old atlas marks the vast interior of Australia as *Unexplored* ... aren't we all?

www.craigbarrett.com.au

Editor's Note: Thank you Craig for, over the years, sharing with readers your outlook on life along with a generous dose of humour.

RETIREMENT OF REV ROSEMARY CARTER

Creswick-Clunes Uniting Church Cluster recently farewelled their retiring Minister, Rev Rosemary Carter, with a special service at St Andrews Uniting Church Creswick conducted by Western Victoria Presbytery Chairperson, Rev Andrew Shearer-Cox, assisted by congregation members.

Judy Turner and Neil Adam together with Tim Drylie performed musical items during the service. Guests from St Augustine's Catholic and St John's Anglican Churches were present as well as other invited guests.

Cluster Chairperson, Ian Shaw, thanked Rev Rosemary for her devotion to her congregations and the Cluster over the past seven years and particularly for her pastoral work during COVID when she kept everyone well informed and in touch with each other. Her visits, when she could, were much appreciated and her willingness to try new formats and programs was very interesting. He presented Rev Rosemary with a beautiful painting by Creswick artist Lynn Cook and wished her, together with her husband, Rev David Carter and their family, a very happy retirement. Morning tea followed.



Allan Thomas Bernaldo was born in Creswick in 1900 and was a proficient watercolourist of

floral still lifes, horses and landscapes.

We are planning a four-day exhibition over the 2023 Cup Weekend exclusively featuring the watercolours of Allan Bernaldo, to be held in the beautiful main hall of the Creswick

Havilah

Masonic Lodge.

If you have any works by Allan Bernaldo in your own collection, would you kindly consider loaning them to us for this exhibition? If so, please text or call

Andrew on 0490 930 854.





CRESWICK TOWN HALL



The restored Creswick Town Hall was officially opened in June. The upgrades included roof plumbing, a new flagpole and access ladder, accessible entry, electrical work, painting and masonry repairs. These works have renewed and revitalised an iconic historic community building in Creswick.

The project was funded by Council (\$251,017), State Government's Regional Tourism Investment Fund (\$500,000) and the Federal Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (\$432,000).



BUDGET ADOPTED

Council has adopted a \$59 million budget for 2023/2024, with investment focused on completing major capital works and delivering more than 100 services in line with the Council Plan and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan. The budget has been carefully developed in one of the toughest financial environments in recent history. Council will deliver \$19.4 million of capital works, allowing us to finalise some of the committed projects across the Shire and carry out regular renewal works. This is in addition to our day-to-day operations, which include delivering services such as libraries, community grants, parks and gardens, road maintenance, tourism, reconciliation, events and more. View the budget at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/budget



FUTURE HEPBURN

Thanks to everyone who provided input into the township structure plan surveys as part of our major strategic planning project, Future Hepburn. We are still seeking people of all ages to nominate to be part of our Engagement Pool. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss and contribute to Future

COUNCIL PLAN FOCUS AREAS



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Embracing our past & planning for the future



Diverse economy & opportunities



A dynamic & responsive council

Hepburn projects, share their views on topics of interest and represent the collective views of the community. Find out more at <https://participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/future-hepburn>



YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Council and Youth Gurus are running accredited Youth Mental Health First Aid training for community members, so they can better support young people who might be experiencing mental health challenges. The training is a blended workshop with four hours of online training (done in your own time) and one full day of face-to-face training. It's free and open to anyone aged over 18 years. Places are limited. The face-to-face session will be held on Sunday 30 July from 9.30am to 5.30pm at Creswick Neighbourhood Centre. Find out more and register at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/Young-people



CRESWICK EV CHARGER

Have you used the new electric vehicle charging station at the Creswick Visitor Information Centre? The charger is a collaboration between Chargefox, Hepburn Energy, Council and Central Highlands Water, with installation by Fells Electrical and partially funded by the State Government's Destination Charging Across Victoria Program. This program is just one component of the State Government's Zero Emissions Vehicle Roadmap which aims to install fast-charging stations in high-use regional areas and tourist locations. More stations are on the way in Trentham, Hepburn Springs and Clunes (at sites to be determined).



POSITIVE AGEING EXPO

Are you over 55 years? Come along to our Positive Ageing Expo, which has the theme 'Getting to know each other'. Learn about local support services, gain tips on ageing well and even see a demonstration on Tai Chi. Bring your friends and make new ones at this inaugural event. It will be held on Thursday 27 July from 12pm to 3pm at Trentham Sportground Reserve. Lunch is provided. The first 50 people to register will go into the draw for great prizes. To register or to find out more, call Council or visit www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/ageing-expo

CONTACT US

t 5348 2306
e shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au
w www.hepburn.vic.gov.au

facebook.com/hepburncouncil

July 3, 1923

The annual meeting of the Creswick branch of the Australian Women's National League will be held at the A.N.A. hall next Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

July 6, 1923

It was recently reported that there was a likelihood of Cr. John Leishman, J.P., after about 56 years' continuous service as a councillor, not seeking re-election to the Creswick Shire Council at the annual elections next month. It is now stated that Cr. Leishman intends to again place his services at the disposal of the ratepayers of the south riding in particular and of the shire generally. During his lengthy connection with the council, Cr. Leishman has had to fight but two elections, and on the second occasion his opponent lost his deposit.

July 10, 1923

Newlyn — A public meeting will be held tomorrow (Wednesday) evening, to decide the methods to be adopted to raise funds for the building of the proposed new hall in connection with the Mechanics' Institute and Free Library. It is hoped that there will be a very large attendance of district residents.

July 13, 1923

A junior Red Cross circle has been formed at the Kingston School with six members. Their first effort took the form of a penny concert at the school on 29th ult., in aid of funds for the Creswick Hospital. A fair number of adults also attended, and the proceeds amounted to £1/5/6. It is intended to hold these entertainments monthly.

July 17, 1923

Springmount Dairy Farm will be prepared to supply the

public of Creswick with Milk and Cream Daily. Orders left with J. B. Mader or the undersigned will be promptly attended to.

R. J. Grenfell, Proprietor.

July 20, 1923

Mr. John Thorpe, of King street, North Creswick, on Tuesday celebrated the 87th anniversary of his birthday, upon which he can be heartily congratulated, as can Mrs. Thorpe. Mr. Thorpe was a brickmaker, and carried on business in a large way when the township was being built, most of the bricks in the public buildings of Creswick being made by him, as were the bricks used in the surface works of most of the district mines.

July 24, 1923

A meeting of all returned soldiers has been convened for this evening, at 8 o'clock, at the club rooms in the town hall buildings. The business is to protest against the closing of the rooms and the sale of the billiard table and furniture.

July 27, 1923

A. Pasco, Albert Street, Creswick, has Motor Cars for Hire. Engagements made at all hours. Cheapest rates. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

Ring 'Phone 18.

July 31, 1923

A very successful concert was held in the town hall last Wednesday evening, in aid of the fund for the purpose of a memorial window for the fallen soldiers, to be placed in St. John's Church of England. Miss Sylvia Broom organised the entertainment, and can be congratulated upon the great success achieved.

Victoria Street Craft Group Special Effort Results

The Group would like to thank everyone who supported the Mother's Day Special Effort. Also, thanks to those who sold tickets and Hepburn Shire for their generous donation.

The winners were:

- 1st prize Margaret Long
- 2nd prize Kerran May
- 3rd prize Joan Hepworth
- 4th prize Judy Wright

Rita and the Group

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Kingston Friends of the Avenue News

Recently, Martha Haylett, Member for Ripon and the Hon Natalie Suleyman, Member for St Albans, also Minister for Veterans Affairs, Small Business and Youth, visited the Kingston Avenue of Honour and the *Kingston Remembers* Resource Centre.



The ministerial visit celebrated the recent successful veterans grant application under the *Restoring Community War Memorials and Avenues of Honour* Grant Program, to complete essential work in the Avenue. The works will be overseen by Hepburn Shire Council, informed by the Tree Management Plan and will start in 2024.

Hepburn Shire Council was represented by Councillor Tim Drylie, Coordinator Parks and Open Spaces Sean Ludeke and Operations Manager Tristan May along with Claire Rowlands, Greg Collins, Julie Baulch and Margaret Armstrong from the Friends group. A special thanks to Sue Gunn, proprietor of the Commercial @ Kingston, who opened and heated the venue so our group could view Stage 1 of the *Kingston Remembers* Resource Centre, which was partially funded by a previous Veterans Grant.

The Minister gave a commitment to support the Friends' work to preserve the Avenue and its stories. She also spoke of the new Victorian Veterans card and announced that the *Spirit of ANZAC* program will be seeking expressions of interest from secondary students in September.

Leah Armstrong and Julie Baulch
on behalf of Kingston, Friends of the Avenue, Inc.
kingstonfoa@gmail.com

The Annual General Meeting For Creswick District News

Will be held at the
Visitor Information Centre
4.30pm on Tuesday, 22 August.
Everyone welcome.



Creswick Capers

Napier Street is a very busy thoroughfare in Creswick with the hospital at the end of it, so it is essential that students are kept safe entering and leaving the school. This role is entrusted to Jan Hutchinson, who has been the school's crossing supervisor since 2016. In 2020, she was the recipient of the Catherine King Award for Creswick Primary School for her tireless assistance to students.

Jan, who was born in Ballarat but now lives in Broomfield, commenced her nursing career at St John of God Hospital at the age of seventeen. She travelled to many parts of the district in her nursing roles and retired in 2015. When the opportunity arose in 2016, she successfully applied for the job of crossing supervisor. Jan is a mother of two and recently welcomed a second grandchild to her family. When not spending time with her grandchildren, Jan likes to read and connect with her dogs – a topic that she loves to talk about with our students.



In rain, hail or shine, Jan greets all the students who use the crossing, getting to know each of their names, learning their interests and letting them know if their friends are already at school in the

morning. As the students leave each day, she asks them to reflect on their day and they regularly share what they have done throughout the day. Jan has also built solid relationships and connections with parents, carers and family members and is often a sounding board for them. As she said, *'It is important to acknowledge everyone in our school community as individuals and make an effort to know others'*.

Jan is particularly proud this year as the grade 6 students are the children that commenced in prep when she started in her role. *'I have been there from their very beginning through to their graduation'*, she said. Jan has thoroughly enjoyed watching their journey and these students will remember her as they move into secondary school.

Each student in the school knows that Jan's role is far wider than someone who just gets them across the road safely, but a smiling face that greets them daily, totally interested in knowing them as a person. Thank you Jan.

Vicki Hughes, , Grade 5/6 Classroom Teacher

Meet the Team



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Everyone Loved Simmy



Photo: Terry Hope

Simon McDonald was a well-loved and well-known Creswick character, who lived on the family property at Springmount, close to Creswick, for all his life from 1906-1968. He eked out a living from gold fossicking and agricultural work. He was a fixture at local pubs, particularly The American Hotel, where he would sing after work for beer and food. At a time when The Folk Wave was on, when folk music was the Rap music of its age, Simmy was called *'the best traditional singer in the British style ever recorded in Australia'*. There are still friends and relatives of Simmy's living in Creswick.

With an LP of his songs made in 1964 and a book on his life published soon after, there are also about thirty hours of reel-to-reel tapes recorded between 1959 and 1967 in the National Archives of Australia in Canberra. The tapes are of Simmy talking about his life in Creswick and surrounds, and singing the songs he learnt from his father and grandfather in a house with no electricity. The entertainment was conversation, story-telling and singing the family songs from Ireland and Scotland.

Neil Adam has been on a journey into Simmy's life, which has put him in touch with both relatives and local people who knew him, turning up some great and touching stories. The result is an intriguing show which played to sold-out houses at the Old Creswick Courthouse during *CresFest* 2022 and 23. The show ranges through tales of gold-fossicking around Creswick and grape-picking in Mildura, to songs that have their origins in Napoleonic Europe, Burl Ives and the 1960s Folk Wave. Half family and local history, half Simmy talking and singing about his life from the tapes, half Simmy's songs re-sung. It's a show and a half!

Neil will be bringing this heart-warming story back to the Creswick Courthouse at 7.30 pm on Saturday, 19 August, as a fundraiser for the Courthouse, now Creswick Theatre Company. The Courthouse is a beautiful Victorian era brick building in need of some repair.

If you missed Neil's engaging performance at *CresFest*, or you want to hear it again, book your tickets through Humanitix.com.au.

Fiona Watson



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Why Is Calembeen Park So Important?

Existing Statement of Significance

*Gary Vines Principal Heritage Consultant
BIOSYS 10/9/2019*

Calembeen Park is listed on the Hepburn Heritage Overlay for its historic and social values in relation to its gold mining and recreational past.

The Statement of Significance notes that Calembeen Park, Creswick:

IS of historical significance as an intact and operational example of the group of pools which were developed as natural water features around the State. From the early to the mid-twentieth century swimming facilities on natural waters or remnant mining features were ubiquitous throughout Victoria. The pools varied from a majority of simple sites featuring a few basic facilities for diving and easy access to the water, to a small number which could cater for highly organised competitions with crowds of thousands. Calembeen Park represents these more developed sites which combined natural assets and facilities developed by the community to accommodate major carnivals and also acted as tourist attractions.

IS of historical significance in the development of swimming as a sport in Victoria, and as a venue for major regional swimming carnivals in an era before artificial and Olympic pools became commonplace.

IS of historical significance as an inland swimming hole and park which has been adapted from a landscape which was heavily altered by gold mining, and as the only such facility to make use of a remnant excavation from a hydraulic sluicing landscape, as distinct from a creek or river mined for gold.

IS of social significance as a community swimming venue which has been in continuous use since the early twentieth century and serving as an important component in the development of swimming as a sport in Victoria.

The House is Under Renovation

The house is under renovation
Our lives are all upheaved
But we struggle through in desperation

No chance of clear evacuation
We did not think to leave
The house is under renovation

The clean-out for this restoration
Has given cause to grieve
But we struggle through in desperation

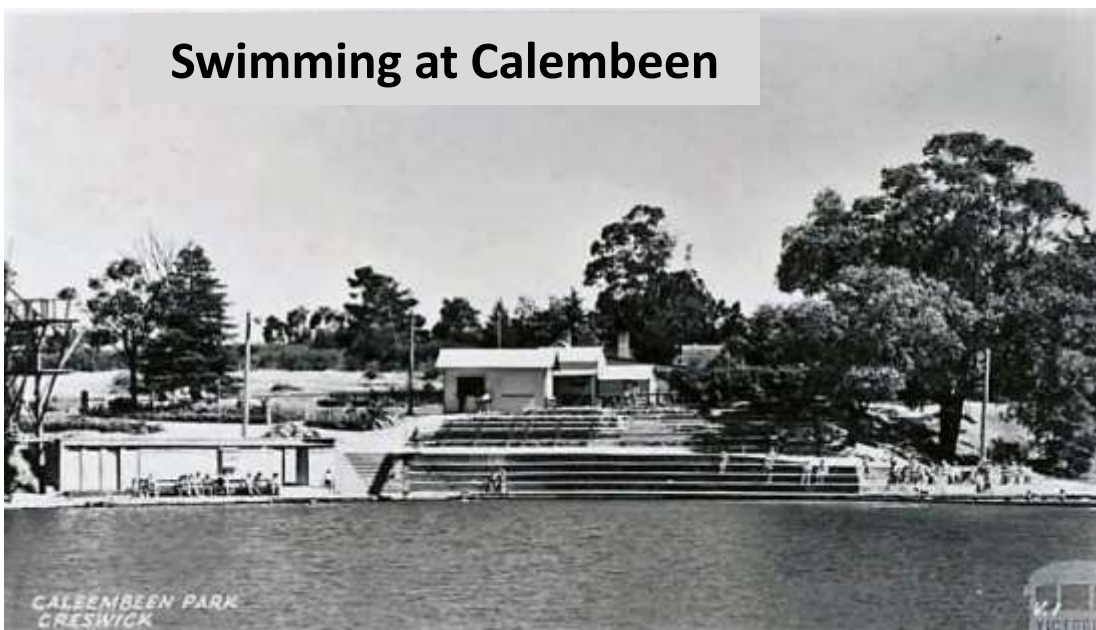
Some things we saved for celebration
Got tossed – there's no reprieve
The house is under renovation

Where's the crockery for degustation?
As cook, I should be peeved
But I'll struggle through in desperation

When all the building work is done
My word, I'll be relieved
The house is under renovation
But we will survive this desecration

Julie Moran

Swimming at Calembeen



The Black Lead Hydraulic Sluicing Company operated in the area, creating several large holes as it dredged through the alluvial deposits, piling them up behind. The dredge ponds were later beautified by the Shire to create the present Calembeen Park swimming basin.

Judy Henderson



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Creswick District News is unfortunately, just like every other volunteer organisation in town and in danger of not being able to continue after nearly twenty-five years of production.

CDN Team

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St Augustine's School

June has been another very busy month for St Augustine's. Thank you to Mrs. Paulka for being Acting Principal throughout term 2 and welcome to Mr Michael Heenan who has been appointed as the new Principal. We look forward to getting to know Mr Heenan who comes to us from St Clement's in Bulleen.

Year 6 enjoyed a fabulous three days of camp at Narmbool. Students experienced new things, learnt a lot and had fun participating in many great activities; a critter hunt, indigenous games, water sampling and exploring the beautiful gardens of the homestead. We built bush shelters and tested them out although they were not completely waterproof! A highlight of the camp was a visit from Martin Scuffins who introduced students to his birds of prey.

Year 5 experienced school in the 1850s on their two days of camp at Sovereign Hill. They got to dress up for their school day, had a mine tour and enjoyed the sound and light show, *Aura*.

The last week of term was spent swimming at the Ballarat Aquatic and Lifestyle Centre. It's really important to learn how to swim but we were all exhausted by the end of the week.

We look forward to term 3 and hope you all have had a wonderful holiday and a restful break from school.

Editorial team: Christian and Edward

ADVERTISEMENT

Martha Haylett MP Labor Member for Ripon

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CRESWICK AND DISTRICT

REGULAR AND ONGOING EVENTS

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Creswick Garden Club Learning Day, Saturday, 29 July, \$50 per head. Contact Jenny 0408 735 068 to book.

Creswick Courthouse at 7.30 pm on Saturday, 19 August. Neil Adam performing *A Journey Into Simmy's Life*. Book through Humanitix.com.au

Anglicare Emergency Food Relief – 2nd Wednesday 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 Creswick Neighbourhood Centre, Victoria St.

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 0402 820 544

Business & Tourism Creswick Inc.
Meet every second Tuesday of the month at 7pm and open to anyone who is interested. Creswick Neighbourhood Centre. Contact the secretary Margaret Giles on info@creswick.net

Catholic Parish Creswick
St Augustine's Church
Mass Sunday 9.00am
except 1st weekend month
Vigil Mass Saturday 6.00pm
Contact: Fr Justin Driscoll 0448 220 685

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

Creswick-Clunes Uniting Church Parish Every Sunday - 9.30am All Welcome. 130 Albert Street Creswick (The pretty pink church on the hill) Supply Minister: Rev Kate Tierney 0404 853 505 or email tierneycatherine53@gmail.com

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 - 0490 444 519 email info@creswicku3a.com website 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 - Meeting fourth Thursday every month 7.30pm. Bob Orr 5345 2165

Creswick Lions Club second Wednesday every month. 7.00pm R.S.L. Hall Membership Chairperson Maria

Marco 0410 499 007 mariamarco3363@gmail.com

Calembeen Parkrun Every Saturday at 8am a 5km run, walk or come to volunteer! All welcome to join this fun, free weekly activity. For more information email calembeen@parkrun.com.au or find us on Facebook

Creswick Market - Third Saturday every month 9.00am-1.00pm. Creswick Neighbourhood Centre, A happy small town market, bookings 5345 2356 creswicknc.org/creswick-market Email market@cnc.org.au

Creswick Probus Club - first Tuesday every month (except January) meetings St Andrew's Hall, 10.00am. Inquiries email creswickprobus@gmail.com

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

Friends of Park Lake First Thursday of each month, 4.00pm, Biggin Scott Meeting Room. Enquiries: sec.friendsofcreswickparklake@gmail.com Park Lake working bees 1.30pm with Wine O'clock 3.30pm on the jetty every Saturday

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

Museum Research Centre - Open Saturdays, 11am to 3pm. Email requests to info@creswickmuseum.org.au

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

Pavilion Arts & Sustainability Inc Meetings at 6pm on Mondays: 3rd July; 4th September; 4th December - Creswick Railway Station

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

Tippers - 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

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CRESWICK NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

Indigenous Naming of Program Rooms

Proud Dja Dja Wurrung Elder Jason Kerr performed the *Welcome to Country* and *Smoking Ceremony* at Creswick Neighbourhood Centre's launch of the naming of its program rooms in the language of the Djaara People.

In his *Welcome to Country*, Jason Kerr reminded those present, including Martha Howlett MP for Ripon, the Mayor and Councillors from Hepburn Shire, along with the Neighbourhood Centre's Chair and committee, that the Traditional Owners of the Land have the longest continuous living history in the world and that every story brings together community groups from all walks of life. In keeping with the theme for this year's NAIDOC week, Jason said that the Elders in the community provided guidance and support and were deserving of respect as they were the holders of cultural knowledge.

Those gathered were invited to participate in the *Smoking Ceremony* where gum, for knowledge and cherry ballart, which represents the future through youth and resilience, gave off fragrant smoke to walk through.

Jenni Sewell, Chair of the Neighbourhood Centre committee, said that Manager Chrissy Austin, staff and volunteers of the Neighbourhood Centre were very proud of what has been achieved but recognise that there is a strong sense of the community wanting to connect with First Nations' history. Naming the program rooms in the Indigenous language of the Djaara People is the first step.

Programs room: *wartangu* (we come – learning/ coming together/being together);

Computer room/learning lab: *nyakang nyernang* (seeing and hearing learning/education);

Shared Kitchen: *djakitj* (food);

Library: *djimbayang* (teaching/learning).

Both Martha Howlett MP and Mayor Brian Hood responded positively to the Neighbourhood Centre's initiative as it is a really important opportunity to acknowledge First Nations.

Another part of the day was the unveiling of an art project located in the Indigenous Food and Fibre Biodiversity Garden planted by Transition Creswick volunteers (headed up by Katherine Lewisohn), in the grounds of the CNC. Children from Central Highlands Supported Playgroup decorated hand cut wooden leaves made by the Creswick Men's Friendship Shed during *Reconciliation Week* in May. Talented local Creswick artist, Dale Oliver, then cleverly wove all the leaves into a beautiful mural which is displayed on the fence near the Indigenous garden. This is the start of a larger art project in which more Creswick children will have the opportunity to participate later this year.

Fiona Watson



Jason Kerr



Smoking Ceremony