

town crier



March 2024
VOLUME 393

Registered by Australia Post. Publication No. VBH 8051. ISSN 2208-2247
Town Crier copies can be viewed at: <http://whittleseahistoricalociety.org.au/town-crier-2/>

FREE

Community Festival

Civic Centre lawns

25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang



**17
MAR
2024**

**11AM
UNTIL
5PM**



**FREE
EVENT**

Join the fun with an exciting line-up of live music, cultural performances, cooking workshops, a pet expo, food trucks, community stalls, and a range of activities for all ages.



**City of
Whittlesea**

arts.whittlesea.vic.gov.au



Drug driving? The consequences will blow your mind.

Police are conducting drug tests across Victoria, which helps to keep our roads safe. Being caught with illicit drugs in your system could result in a minimum fine of \$577 and possible licence suspension.

Drug driving? Chances are you will be caught.

Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.

TAC

VICTORIA
State
Government





ABN: 33 551 756 907

EDITOR and for COPY: Betty Harvey 8401 3330
towncrier2019@gmail.com

FOR ADVERTISING: Karen Mace 0410 324 326
karen_macetc@yahoo.com

ACCOUNTS/INVOICES: Karen Mace 0410 324 326
karshapublishing@yahoo.com

New POSTAL ADDRESS: 2 Panorama Close, Bundoora 3083

The Whittlesea Historical Society now have copies of the Town Crier on their website, they can be viewed at:
<http://whittleseahistoricalsociety.org.au/town-crier-2/>

The Town Crier is a strong community based magazine, proudly owned and published by Karsha Publishing Pty Ltd.
Please feel free to direct enquiries to any of the above telephone numbers or our postal address.

DISTRIBUTION - 3,100 plus

Arthurs Creek, Beveridge, Broadford, Bundoora, Craigieburn, Diamond Creek, Donnybrook, Doreen, Eden Park, Epping, Greenbrook, Greensborough, Hazeldene, Hurstbridge, Kalkallo, Kilmore, Kinglake, Laurimar, Lalor, Mernda, Mill Park, Pheasant Creek, Plenty, Rivergum, South Morang, Strathewen, Thomastown, Upper Plenty, Wallan, Wandong, Whittlesea, Wollert, Yan Yean, Yarrambat.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE \$50 - incl.GST (Contact Karen)

ADVERTISEMENTS

Please Note:- Cancellation of advertisements must be received in writing before booking deadline.

ALL NEW ADVERTISING & ALTERATIONS ARE REQUIRED IN WRITING BY 15th OF THE MONTH

ADVERTISING RATES per month (Including GST)

Trade Space (5cmH x 6cmW)	\$50	Colour	\$60
1/8 page	\$95	Colour	\$105
1/4 Page	\$135	Colour	\$190
1/3 Page	\$175	Colour	\$180
1/2 Page	\$245	Colour	\$360
Full Page	\$450	Colour	\$660
Colour Back Page	\$800		
Inside Back or Inside Front Page	\$660, 1/2 \$360, 1/4 \$190		
COSTS For	COMPILING	ALTERING ADS	
Trade Space	\$20	\$15	
1/8 page	\$30	\$20	
1/4 page	\$35	\$25	
1/3 page	\$38	\$28	
1/2 page	\$40	\$30	
Full Page	\$45	\$35	

Other requirements by negotiation.

Special artwork may incur an additional charge

PAYMENT FOR ALL ADVERTISING IS NOW REQUIRED BY THE 15th OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH

CLASSIFIED RATES: \$15 per advert for 3 months (inc. GST)

If more than one item, you may need to pay for multiple ads

BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS: \$25 per month for 4 lines and \$6 for each additional line (incl. GST)

Ask Karen about special rates for longer terms

Deadline for all advertisements, copy, or alterations to existing entries is no later than 15th of previous month

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in all editorial matter are not necessarily those of the editor unless expressly signed.

Letters to the editor are always welcome, but will only be considered for publication with authentic names and addressed available for publication. All advertising copy is the responsibility of the advertiser, NOT the Editor.

Contact details must be supplied with all items submitted to the Town Crier.

Front Cover photo: Sacred Heart Cathedral, Bendigo
Photo Supplied by: Betty Harvey

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Autumn is well underway and this month we have the long weekend for Labour day, and Easter at the end of the month with school holidays into April. If you are going away for either or both breaks then please take care, and if driving take breaks and come back safely.

From: <https://parade.com/966564/parade/fun-facts/>

- 13. Canada is south of Detroit (just look at a map).
- 14. The original name for the search engine Google was Backrub. It was renamed Google after the googol, which is the number one followed by 100 zeros. (about.google)
- 15. The oldest-known living land animal is a tortoise named Jonathan, who is about to turn 190 years old. He was born in 1832 and has lived on the island of St. Helena in the Atlantic Ocean since 1882. (guinnessworldrecords.com)
- 16. Bats are the only mammal that can actually fly.
- 17. Wombats are the only animal whose poop is cube-shaped. This is due to how its intestines form the feces. The animals then stack the cubes to mark their territory. (bbc.com)
- 18. The most common wild bird in the world isn't the sparrow or blue jay—it's the red-billed quelea, which live in Africa and have an estimated population of 1.5 billion. (audubon.org)
- 19. The heart of the blue whale, the largest animal on earth, is five feet long and weighs 400 pounds. The whale in total weighs 40,000 pounds. (nationalgeographic.com)
- 20. For comparison, an elephant's heart weighs around 30 pounds. And a human heart? A mere 10 ounces.
- 21. Elephants can't jump. (smithsonianmag.com)

Regards, Betty



Comedy for a Cause

Saturday 13 April 2024

Doors: 6pm / Show: 7pm / 13+

Featuring comedians from Sydney & Melbourne International Comedy Festivals

TICKETS \$50

Book your tickets at: comedyforacause.net/MRWS

Flowerdale Community Hall
3380 Whittlesea-Yea Rd
Flowerdale

In support of:
Murrindindi Ranges Wildlife Shelter



CAREER PATHWAYS THAT LEAD TO A SAFER COMMUNITY

Create change from the inside out

Working in Youth Justice allows you to make a positive impact on the lives of young people in custody. And with full training, good pay and a supportive team around you, it could change your life too.

Find out more at justice.vic.gov.au/youthjusticecareers

RECRUITING NOW



Justice and Community Safety

FSA/DJCS0001-06

A SHEEP DOG'S TALE By Matt Dickinson

THE GATE TO NOWHERE

We dogs often find humans hard to understand and today is one of those days.

Tim and I went with Jack and Tom the Clydesdale pulling the cart into the field right to the centre of the field and dug in two gateposts and hung a gate, but it is on its own, no fence with it.

I said to Tim, 'What's going on?'

Tim had no idea either, and it became even stranger when 100 yards away Jack made a small sheep pen, too small a pen to work in crutching sheep. We had no idea what was going on. That evening Tim and I were lying quietly on the old mat beside the warm fire when Jack said to Sarah, 'I've set it up I will start training Tim for the novice sheep dog trial.'

'That's good Jack as long as you remember she's only a young dog trying to learn. Don't do your block with her and start swearing and carrying on.'

'Carrying on, I won't do that. I will train her in the evening twilight for the next few weeks.'

The next evening in the field was Jack, Tim and me. Jack sent us out to gather three sheep at the far end of the field. He then sent Tim to gather these three sheep and fetch on the sheep through the lone gate. Gradually Tim understood what was needed to get the sheep through that gate and not around it. This was



the first lesson of many evenings showing Tim the basics of a Sheepdog trial course.

After some time, I heard Jack tell Sarah that Tim is coming on well and she is nearly ready for a Sheep

dog trial as a novice sheep dog.

Sarah said, 'Be good with her, Jack she's doing her very best.'

Jack said, 'I know that well woman.'

THE SHEEP DOG TRIALS

This morning I heard Sarah asking Jack, 'How are sheep dog trials scored and won?'

Jack said, 'It's very simple, Sarah. Each dog is given the maximum points as they start the course points are taken away for errors by the dog and the handler, the winning dog is the one with the most points remaining.'

It seemed complicated to me but I'm just a collie, a sheepdog.

The day of the trials arrived Jack took his son Jim with him. Tim was clean and brushed and Sarah sprayed me with something that made me smell nothing like the bitch I am. I hope I don't meet Tom from Dyke Nook farm he would wonder why I smell scenty and not like a lady bitch at all. I like Tom a lot.

We all watched as the novice dogs

tried their best, doing the dog trial course. The time allowed is twenty minutes and there is no advantage in finishing early. But most new dogs didn't finish the tasks in the time allowed.

Tim did well she gathered the sheep and fetched on slowly to the fetch gate then she had trouble one sheep wanted to miss the gate.

Tim got the sheep through the gate and to her handler, Jack at the bottom marker in the field. Tim was doing fairly well at turning the sheep around her handler Jack.

Little Jim was watching and shouted, 'Good dog, Tim.'

This distracted Tim hearing a familiar voice. Jack shouted, 'Come by, Tim', to control his dog again, but time was lost.

A farmer said, 'Tell that lad to keep quiet.'

Tim continued but the time trial ran out and Jack shouted, 'That will do Tim, good dog.'

Tim ran back to where Jack stood and got a big pat. Good dog. Tim did well for a first run but other dogs were more experienced, and Jack was very pleased with Tim's first go. Before the senior dog trial started Jack and Jim went to the van and got pies, chips and a drink. Little Jim slipped me his piecrust while Jack was talking to another dog owner Tim got some of Jim's chips.

More of Nell next month

TASMAN FLAX LILY

After we moved into our present house, the children and I built a large fishpond in the backyard. We then planted dozens of grasses and other plant seedlings around the pond. One of these grasses was the local native lily, the Tasman Flax Lily. We planted two of these, one in a sunny position and the other in part shade. As the soil around the pond area is dry clay and very stony I was unsure if these would survive such conditions. The Tasman Flax Lilies had minimal maintainance, which is only watering them for a while until they get established. To my pleasant surprise, both these grew well; they not only survived, but also thrived. Later I bought three more seedlings and planted them around the pond, two in full sun and the other in part shade. They also grew well.

It is a dense clump-forming plant with long broad leaves, bright blue starry flowers and yellow anthers borne on elongated, slender, erect stems in spring and summer, followed by beautiful blue berries.



Continued on page 7



**Intrusive questions,
intimidation,
suggestive jokes...**

**Gendered violence comes in many forms.
All are OHS issues. All are unacceptable.**

🔍 WorkSafe Gendered Violence



Reducing workplace harm.



SANDY HEROES By Denys Potts

The Vietnam War is known as the 'Helicopter War'. Whilst helicopters played limited roles on the Second World War and Korean War, mostly for medical evacuation, missions, helicopters were involved with nearly every facet of the war in Vietnam: rapid troop transport, close air supports, resupply, medical evacuation, reconnaissance and rescue.

Jet aircraft, known as 'Fast Movers' carried on the war against the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong but another aircraft of considerable significance was the single seat, piston engine, single-seat Skyraider, designed during the Second World War to meet United States Navy requirements for a carrier-based, single seat, long range, high performance, dive/torpedo bomber.

The Skyraider (A-1) was 11.84m long, 4.7m high with a wingspan of 15.2m. It was powered by a Wright R-3350 18-cylinder air-cooled 2,700 horsepower radial piston engine and had 15 external hardpoints with a capacity of 3,600 kg of bombs, unguided rockets and gun pods. (The Second World War B17, Flying Fortress was capable of carrying 2,000 kg of bombs on long distance raids of 3,500 km)**

During the Vietnam War the United States Navy still had the Skyraider as the medium attack aircraft in many carrier wings, but it was planned to be replaced by the jet-powered A-6A Intruder.

As they were released from Navy service they were introduced into the Republic of Vietnam Air Force (RVNAF) The United States Air Force (USAF) also took them over, specifically for Special Operations of the tactical Air Command for search and rescue air cover.

They were also used by the USAF to perform on of the plane's most famous roles, the 'Sandy' helicopter escort on combat missions where they had the ability to fly over a downed airman for an extended period complemented by its massive firepower as jet aircraft often had to leave an area for refuelling or rearming. The Sandys could provide nearly continuous suppressive fire until the helicopters could do the extraction of the downed airman.

It has been established that the term Sandy was founded in late 1965 by Captain J W George during an A-1 replacement flight to one of several A-1 groups that rotated through Udorn, Thailand who, after landing was asked what call sign he would like to use whilst there and his answer was 'Sandy' which was retained by his replacement and became the call sign of all Skyraiders assigned to a rescue mission.

Rescue helicopters were too vulnerable to operate alone so they had an escort of a flight of Sandys whose guns and bombs kept enemy forces at bay. The Sandy's job was, as well, to conduct a general search for the downed aircrew, talk to the survivors by radio and determine their exact location whilst suppressing any hostile forces that were in the vicinity.

In the rescue area, the Sandys usually separated into a low element and a high element. The low element searched for survivors and directed the rescue while the high element orbited above, conserving fuel and standing ready to assume a more active role when called upon.

The A-1 received various nicknames, including 'Spad' and 'Super Spad', derived from the aircraft's AD designation, its relatively longevity in service and an allusion to the French Spad aircraft of the First World War, its old-fashioned appearance noticeable against the jet-age aircraft in service.

Two United States airmen were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor (equivalent to the Victoria Cross) for conspicuous gallantry.

Major Bernard F Fisher:

His citation reads:

On duty as an A-1 pilot near A Shan on the 10th March 1966 the special forces camp came under attack by 2,000 North Vietnam Army Regulars who had positioned themselves between the airstrip and the camp. Other troops had surrounded the camp and were continuously raking it with automatic weapons fire. The tops of the 1,500 foot hills were obscured by an 800-foot ceiling, limiting aircraft manoeuvrability and forcing pilots to operate within the range of hostile gun positions which were able to fire down on attacking aircraft.

During the battle Major Fisher observed a fellow airman crash-land on the battle torn airstrip. In the belief that the downed pilot was seriously injured and in danger of imminent capture, Major Fisher announced his intention to land on the airstrip to affect a rescue. Although aware of the extreme danger and likely failure of such an attempt he elected to continue. Directing his own air cover, he landed and taxied almost the full length of the runway which was littered with battled debris and parts of an exploded aircraft.

While effecting a successful rescue of the downed pilot, heavy ground fire was observed, with nineteen bullets striking his aircraft. In the face of the withering ground fire he applied power and gained enough speed to lift off at the over-run of the airstrip.

Major Fisher's conspicuous gallantry, his profound concern for his fellow airman and the risk to his life above and beyond the call of duty reflect great credit on himself and the armed forces of his country.

Lieutenant Colonel William A Jones III

His citation reads:

On the 1st September 1968, as the one-scene commander in an attempted rescue of a downed US pilot, his aircraft was repeatedly hit by heavy and accurate anti-aircraft fire. On one of his low passes he felt an explosion beneath his aircraft and his cockpit rapidly filled with smoke.

With complete disregard of the possibility his aircraft might still be burning he continued to search for the downed pilot and on this pass he sighted the survivor and a multiple-barrel gun firing at him from near the top of the karst formation. He could not attack the gun on that pass for fear he would endanger the downed pilot and by leaving himself exposed to the gun, attacked it with rocket and cannon fire on two successive passes.

On his second pass the aircraft was hit with multiple rounds of automatic weapons fire, one of which impacted the Yankee Extraction System behind the headrest igniting the rocket. The aircraft burst into flames in the centre fuselage section, with flame engulfing the cockpit area. He jettisoned the canopy which made the fire burn with greater intensity for a few moments but since the rocket motor had already burned out the extraction system did not pull Lt. Col. Jones from the aircraft.

Despite searing pains from severe burns to his arms, hand, neck, shoulders and face he pulled his aircraft into a climb and attempted to transmit the location of the downed pilot and enemy gun position to other aircraft in the area. His calls were blocked by other aircraft transmissions repeatedly directing him to bail out and within seconds his transmitters were disabled and he could receive on only one channel.

Disregarding his injuries, he elected to fly his crippled aircraft back to base and pass on the essential information for the rescue rather than bail out. He landed successfully and passed the information on to a debriefing officer while on the operating table. As a result of his heroic actions and complete disregard for his personal safety the downed pilot was rescued later in the day.

Lt.Col. Jones' profound concern for his fellow man at the risk of his life was above and beyond the call of duty.

The US Navy lost 65 Skyraiders whilst the US Air Force lost 201 on Vietnam service.

**

A B52 has a bomb load of 32,000 kg which can be carried, un-refueled, over 14,200km.



Skyraider

Continuing TASMAN FLAX LILY from page 5

The leaves grow to a height of about 90cm and the flower stem to 1.5 metres high. The most dramatic stage is after flowering when the long lasting glossy violet-blue berries appear. The berries are not edible. The Tasman Flax Lily spreads by vigorous suckers that often emerge some distance from the original parent plant. It will grow in full sun or semi sunny positions, or even very shady spots. While they prefer a moist and cool position, it is tough and will grow in difficult conditions, like the poor soil in our yard. It is frost tolerant and will also stand some dryness once established.

Aboriginal people used the strong, fibrous leaves of Flax Lilies for making string. The long leaves were opened and the fibre twisted to make a strong twine. The leaves were also used for making baskets.

In the wild they grow in open forests in N.S.W, Victoria and Tasmania.

Tasman Flax Lilies are superb native grasses for planting in the garden and especially go well around water features. They also look great in containers.

The Tasman Flax Lily is an attractive, vigorous and hardy plant. With its beautiful star shaped blue and yellow flowers, lovely deep blue berries and dark green leafy foliage it has a lot in its favour and I will certainly be planting more of these wonderful native grasses in our garden.

Steven Katsineris, September 2007



FAMILY CORNER

PLEASE NOTE: It is a requirement of the law that anyone submitting articles, notices etc.. for publication must have the writers contact details attached, but not necessarily for publication. Anything received without these details will not be included.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

1/3/2024 - Tasi Lemi
24/3/2024 - Camille Couper

BIRTHDAYS



TASI LEMI - 1/3/2024

Happy birthday to a great guy, a wonderful example to everyone. Your loving family Lemis, Murphys, Coupers and Nan

CAMILLE COUPER - 24/3/2024

Happy birthday, Camille, have a great day, lots of love from your darling husband Chris, the Murphy and Lemi families, and your loving Nan xxxxx



Front Cover Photo: SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL, BENDIGO, VICTORIA,

is the Cathedral church of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst and seat of the Bishop of Sandhurst. The cathedral is located in the provincial city of Bendigo, Victoria, Australia, it was designed in the Gothic style in 1895 by an architect of the firm Reed, Barnes and Tappin. Sacred Heart Cathedral is one of Australia's largest churches and the third tallest after St. Patrick's Cathedral and St. Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne. It is exceptionally large for a provincial city cathedral in Australia and its construction was made possible chiefly through the estate of Henry Backhaus (1811 - 1882), a German from Paderborn and the first Catholic Priest on the Bendigo goldfields. Backhaus was very skilled in financial matters and accumulated considerable property - not least through encouraging his gold mining parishioners to contribute some of their finds to the work of the church. Backhaus left his wealth for the benefit of the church and enabled the cathedral among other things to be built.

In 1895, Martin Crane, an Augustinian and the first bishop of the diocese called for the competitive designs for a cathedral from several architects.



Kinglake
Chinese
Medicine

Dr Angela Palmer
CMRBV Reg 1347
AACMA Memb 2154

- ACUPUNCTURE
- HERBAL MEDICINE
- CUPPING THERAPY
- CHINESE MASSAGE

5786 1889

U2/1 Victoria Road, Kinglake 3763
Workcover & Private Health Fund Approved



The winning architect was William Tappin of the firm Reed, Barnes and Tappin, a firm established by Joseph Reed one of Melbourne's most significant architects. It was built in the Gothic Revival style from sandstone quarried from the Geelong area. The large pipe organ built by Bishop & Son of London was installed late 1905.

After a long interval work recommended on the cathedral in 1954 and was completed in 1977, the later works were designed by Bates, Smart and McCutcheon, the successor of Reed, Barnes and Tappin, the spire was of lighter construction than that originally designed being steel framed and clad with a masonry veneer.

Sacred Heart Cathedral is 75 metres long and has a ceiling height of 24 metres, the main spire is 87 metres high.

WHITTLESEA SENIOR CITIZENS Inc.

P.O. BOX 50, WHITTLESEA
Community Activity Centre
57-61 Laurel Street, Whittlesea

New members are most welcome.
We meet at Community Hall, Library, Laurel Street, Whittlesea 12.30 - 3.30pm every Wed.

MARCH DATES

6th 1pm General meeting, afternoon tea
13th 1pm Bingo, afternoon tea
20th 1pm Trivia, afternoon tea
27th 12noon Royal Mail Hotel, Easter Lunch

President: **Bill Beasy,**
0408 997 841

Vice President: **Joan Stroud,**
408 363 074

DATES TO REMEMBER 2024

Labour Day - Monday 11 March
Good Friday - Friday 29 March
Easter Sunday - Sunday 31 March
Easter Monday - Monday 1 April
ANZAC Day - Thursday 25 April
King's Birthday - Monday 10 June
Daylight Saving ends - Sunday 6 October
Melbourne Cup Day - Tues. 5 November
Christmas Day - Wed. 25 December
Boxing Day - Thursday 26 December

ADVERTISEMENT

HE'S HERE FOR US

www.robmitchell.com.au

Rob Mitchell MP

MEMBER FOR McEWEN

57-59 High St, Wallan

E: rob.mitchell.mp@aph.gov.au

Ph: 03 5716 3000



Authorised by R Mitchell
ALP, 57-59 High St,
Wallan VIC 3756.

Australian
Labor

WHITTLESEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY YAN YEAN, ITS HIDDEN HISTORY

By Barbara Miller, Whittlesea Historical Society

It is generally accepted that the name 'Yan Yeau' originated in the 1850s from the aboriginal tribes which frequented the swampy, fertile lands around the Plenty River. The waters were rich in fish, eels and birds, which provided an abundant food source for the inhabitants. Two scar trees were noted in the area during a 1989 archaeological survey.

White settlement of the Plenty began soon after the establishment of the town of Melbourne, with the area at first being known as Ryder's Swamp. Settlers made use of the fertile lands to grow their own produce, and also to supply Melbourne's growing population. Homesteads, farms and businesses were quickly established, and this spelled the end of the way of life of the original inhabitants.

Although there are many historic buildings now missing from the Yan Yeau area, it's surprising how much history is still there to be seen if you wander down some of the back roads and take the time to stop and look. The Whittlesea Historical Society bus tour in March will be searching out some of these locations, and visiting a significant homestead as well. Did you know that Yan Yeau has an Avenue of Honour? Did you know that the small red brick bridge by Plenty Road is a 1901 Monier bridge, built by engineer William Lockwood?

Yan Yeau was a thriving town during the time of the construction of the reservoir, with a population at one stage of over 1000 people. These families lived in tents and slab huts during the three years that construction was under way. There would have also been the sorts of shops and businesses necessary to support the population and the construction works.

Have you ever noticed the big square tank on She Oak Hill? This tank was imported in steel sections from England in c.1934 and erected by Ian Kerr and Ernie Lear. It was capable of holding 50,000 gallons of water pumped from the MMBW aqueduct, which was used in Kerr's new Burnside Dairy on the opposite side of Donnybrook Road.

Do you check the big red shed on Old Plenty Road for community notices? This shed was originally the goods shed for the Yan Yeau general store, which stood just to the south of this building. The general store was a popular meeting place for the locals when picking up the mail and the groceries.

Did you know that the railway platform at Yan Yeau (still there!) was a very busy station, with timber, fruit from the Arthur's Creek orchards, and milk from the various dairy farms in the area being transported to Melbourne. A small siding was used by milk trains from 1926 to 1945. The station also became the destination of visitors from Melbourne, who would then walk to the reservoir to spend the day picnicking and enjoying the beautiful surrounds of the reservoir park.

The Yan Yeau Reservoir is celebrating 170 years since the turning of the first sod by Governor LaTrobe in 1823. There will be an event held at the reservoir on the 24th of March, organised by the Friends of Tourourrong. There are some great activities being planned, including a re-enactment of the ceremonies of the day. Whittlesea Historical Society will be there, and we'd love to meet you and hear your stories and memories of local history too. See you there!

WHITTLESEA PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

What a busy start to the year we have had. We hosted a well-received 'Introduction to Photography' course last month. This was designed to go back to basics and encourage anyone with a new camera, or had an older one sitting on the shelf, to explore what you can do when you understand how your camera works and some of the fundamental rules of photography. Modern cameras can do amazing things in Auto mode but learning the skills to feel confident turning those dials around to manual mode can take your photography journey so much further. The other beauty of modern digital cameras is we can see whether we have failed or succeeded straight away. If we have failed we just try again. Coming up at our March meeting we are lucky to have guest presenter Chris Hopkins, a well-known photojournalist and street photographer and this is exactly what he is going to discuss with us. This genre of photography can be very challenging so having someone of Chris's calibre come to give us hints and tips is a great opportunity. Also a fantastic chance to get some know how in the lead up to one of our club competitions later in the year which is 'Street Photography'.



Come and see our displays and activities at the 170th year celebration of the Yan Yeau Reservoir.

We also specialise in family histories for the City of Whittlesea region.

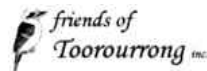
Bring your memories and talk to our skilled helpers.

24th March 11:00 - 3:00pm
Yan Yeau Reservoir
Recreation Road, Yan Yeau

www.facebook.com/whittleseahistoricalsociety

www.instagram.com/whittleseahistoricalsociety

www.youtube.com/@WHS3757



FROM MOUNTAIN



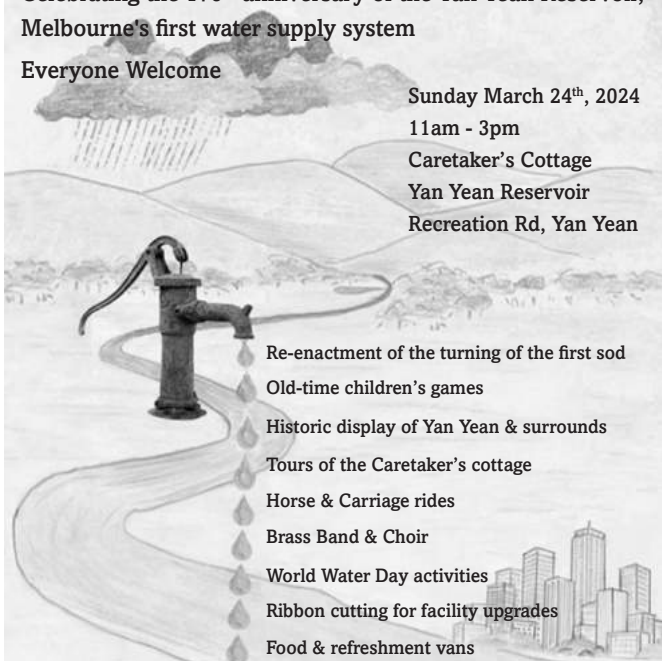
(Photo - Yan Yeau Reservoir, Oil painting by William Short, 1880)

TO MELBOURNE

Celebrating the 170th anniversary of the Yan Yeau Reservoir, Melbourne's first water supply system

Everyone Welcome

Sunday March 24th, 2024
11am - 3pm
Caretaker's Cottage
Yan Yeau Reservoir
Recreation Rd, Yan Yeau



- Re-enactment of the turning of the first sod
- Old-time children's games
- Historic display of Yan Yeau & surrounds
- Tours of the Caretaker's cottage
- Horse & Carriage rides
- Brass Band & Choir
- World Water Day activities
- Ribbon cutting for facility upgrades
- Food & refreshment vans

Email: fotoorourrong@gmail.com



NEW KILMORE MRI SCANNER COMING IN 2024

Empathy and Care

Radiologist on-site • All referrals accepted • Walk-ins welcomed

Our services include:

- All general, dental and chiropractic X-rays.
- All general ultrasounds, pregnancy ultrasound, MSK (musculoskeletal ultrasound) and doppler ultrasound (leg arteries).
- CT scans both contrast and non contrast of any body part.
- CT angiogram with guarantee report within hours.
- Bone densitometry for osteoporosis screening.
- Cortisone joint injections.



www.radskillimaging.com.au | info@radskillimaging.com.au

KILMORE MEDICAL IMAGING
Phone 5781 0033 | Fax 5781 0044
107 Powlett Street, Kilmore
Open Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm

WHITTLESEA MEDICAL IMAGING
Phone 9716 0278 | Fax 9716 0273
2-3/81 Church Street, Whittlesea
Open Monday – Friday 9am – 6pm
Saturday 10am – 4pm

WHAT'S IN A NAME - ORMOND

Ormond became known by that name in 1897 after Caulfield Council had been asked to honour the name of Francis Ormond. His father had been a Master Mariner and it was after him that Point Ormond had been named. Francis Ormond was a very successful businessman and Western District farmer. He was a significant public benefactor in particular to the Melbourne University residential college, Ormond College. He had a passionate belief in the importance of education, wanting young men from pastoral backgrounds to be able to access the benefits of university. His benefactor contributions over the years amounted to 100,000 pounds. He also gave 5,000 pounds to St. Paul's Cathedral and another 5,000 pounds to a fund that was to set up the Working Mens College that became the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, now known as RMIT University. Earlier, local residents had wanted Ormond Station to be called 'Warrien' but the railways called it North

Road South before the 1897 change. The main thoroughfare through Ormond is North road and carries large volumes of traffic. A Post Office opened on 1 January 1870 and closed in 1884 but reopened in 1907. Ormond is home to an impressive array of restaurants with upwards of 10 different cuisines styles on offer. The former ANZ bank now a restaurant, was the scene of a robbery in 1965 by escapees Ryan and Walker. Ryan was the last man executed in a Victorian jail in 1967.

During 2016, Ormond railway station together with Bentleigh and McKinnon stations were demolished as part of the Victorian Governments major works to remove level crossings and place rail under roadways.

From 'Golden Days Radio publication compiled by David Pollock, sponsored by the East Malvern Community Bank. Segments are broadcast every Thursday at 4.07pm on Golden Days Radio, 96.7fm. Streaming available, www.goldendaysradio.com

**The next Town Crier is due out Monday 1st April.
Deadline is no later than Friday 15th March
FOR ALL ADVERTISING
Call Karen 0410 324 326
karen_macetc@yahoo.com**



Are you aged 50+ and retired or semi-retired?
Do you want to keep your brain and body active and make new friends?
Do you want to share your skills and experience with others?
Then join us at Whittlesea U3A.

We offer a wide range of activities all managed and run by volunteers
WHITTLESEA U3A has commenced offering classes at the Greater Beveridge Community Centre

If you have just moved into the area and are interested in U3A classes and activities drop in to the Greater Beveridge Community Centre have a coffee, a chat and see the classes and activities offered at the Centre.

How to join or renew your membership

Joining or renewing online - Visit our membership management system to join or renew your membership online.

Joining or renewing by form Download a PDF membership Form here **The completed form can be:**

Emailed to secretary@whittlesea3a.org.au, or Mailed to: **Secretary, WhittleseaU3A Inc. P.O. Box 1157 Lalor, VIC, 3075**, or Delivered to the office during office hours.

EXPANDED CLASS & ACTIVITIES PROGRAM AT MERNDA SENIOR SUPPORT CENTRE

Speakers' Discussion Group Mondays 1:30 pm to 3pm.

DESCRIPTION: This activity explores a number of interesting subjects from history, geography, health, and community engagement. Each week there will be a new speaker focusing on topics like the history of the Sydney Opera House, historical places around the world, how to access medical information etc. Attend the session you are interested in or attend them all. Topics will be organised a term in advanced.



THURSDAY CYCLING GROUP – A BIG HIT AMONGST PARTICIPANTS

Tutor Allan Fowler has again gotten his band of enthusiastic cyclist together, with additional new members, for the beginning of Term 1 2024.

Our first ride was a nice short 25km flat and 'relaxing' (as always) post-holiday ride to Doreen, to get the legs going again, on a beautiful summer's day. This ride extended along the Mernda Rail Trail to the developed and developing new residential estates on the northern edge of Melbourne's suburban area.

With the mid ride 'coffee' stop at Magnolia on Orchard, it was great to catch up with our wheely friends after the break – see photo.

Future rides will take us to Alphington, Wollert (including the developing area of Rathdowne) and Brunswick.

There are still places available in this activity if you are interested. Here is a description of the activity which is held every Thursday throughout the year. COURSE CODE: 244THU05

Distance of rides 25km and 35km. Speed: Leisurely/relaxed/moderate
The rides are mainly on bike paths/trails/back streets
BENEFITS: Cardio exercise improves health and wellbeing A social - fun outdoor activity. Riders either drive with their bikes in their car or ride their bikes to the starting point. Nobody gets left behind we all wait for each other. If we get separated, we can be in contact by mobile phones. We also have a coffee stop as well.

If you are interested enrol in the class and Allan will contact, you.

ARE YOU INTERESTED: In 2023 Whittlesea U3A trialled several sessions to introduce 2 new programs at Epping Leisure Centre. These were Pickle Ball and Walking Cricket. If you are interested in taking part in these activities, could you please contact **communication@whittlesea3a.org.au** or the office to record your interest. We would really like to hear from anyone who would be able to lead these groups if we started them as a class on our calendar.

DIGITAL LITERACY HELP CONTINUES - Need help with your smart device – **PHONE:** iPhone or Android or **TABLET:** iPad or Tablet at Lalor Library on Thursdays (1pm and 3pm), Mernda Senior Support Centre Fridays (10am to 12) and Thomastown Library on Fridays (1pm & 3pm).

MONTHLY MORNING TEA – The Whittlesea U3A monthly morning tea is at Epping RSL on the first Monday of each month commencing at 10am where information on how to access the **VICTORIAN VIRTUAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT AND EPPING PRIMARY PRIORITY CARE EPPING SERVICE** will be demonstrated each month.

The full calendar of Classes and Activities are available on the Whittlesea U3A website www.whittlesea3a.org.au. You can enrol online or by contacting either course coordinator on **0412 230 561** or **communication@whittlesea3a.org.au** or the office.

THE I GET IT, I THINK BIT



Lose yourself at one of Victoria's renowned galleries or artist workshops. You'll find plenty to your taste – or not. And that's the fun of it.

Get curious at cultural institutions like Bendigo Art Gallery.

VISITVICTORIA.COM

VICTORIA EVERY BIT DIFFERENT



COLLAGEN: THE STUFF THAT BINDS AND SECURES

You may have recently been reading about how amazing collagen is, and how it is beneficial to the body but may have wondered what exactly is this stuff of joints, skin and hair etc...

Collagen is the connective tissue in the body. It makes up our tendons that hold the muscles firmly to the bones, articulates the joints and forms the basis of ligaments that hold our joints together. It adheres cells together of our skin, the lining of the gut, respiratory system and all the fascia that hold our organs in place. It also forms the matrix upon which our bones are made with the calcium and magnesium and all the fabulous minerals that give us our structure. It even strengthens our hair along with silica (that is the basis of sand and windows) to keep it lush and strong. Indeed, collagen is the 'glue' and structure that allows us to be strong flexible and basically not fall apart.

Now we produce collagen very well when young but as we age, our production is greatly reduced, especially after the age of 40 and do need to start supplementing our diet to keep our joints nimble and strong and skin elasticity and structure. This reduction of collagen can result in narrowing of the joint space and therefore lead to Osteo Arthritis gut issues and weaker bones.

You may have been to an Asian restaurant for a Pho/soup and noticed there are ones with tendon that usually makes some cringe at the thought. However, when cooked for 48 hours with bones etc, they soften and become digestible and allow us to absorb the collagen that it is along with many other minerals. This is the basis too of many bone broth suggestions you may have heard and indeed why the best soups are made of whole chicken or joints, not just the muscle that has good iron and protein, but none of the collagen and trace minerals to keep our joints healthy.

For many who don't have a slow cooker or the time. There are now many collagen and bone broths now available at our clinic and good food stores. For the vegetarians out there, there is collagen available that is made from the lining of an egg (yes, the connective tissue). And for vegans keeping conscious of a wide variety of good quality proteins that include amino acid peptides such as glycine, proline and amyline as well as good sources of zinc and silica (found in good amounts in sesame seeds, especially black ones, nuts and seeds). It is worth keeping an eye out for a good protein supplement that has bio-available amino acids to maximize your own production of collagen.

For all the above ways to boost our collagen levels require good amounts of Vitamin C and zinc that enable maximum absorption and synthesis of collagen and keeping active and flexible by stretching and weight bearing such as yoga, going to the gym and squatting to keep the knees nimble into your older years.

**Until next time, stay well, Dr Angela Palmer
Registered Chinese Medicine Practitioner
B.AppSc Human Biology, B.AppSc T.C.M. R.M.I.T
Kinglake Chinese Medicine,
1 Robertson Road, Kinglake 3763 Phone: 03-5786 1889**



HELP US TO HELP YOU

Advertise your business with us and we will make sure more than 4,000 people see it. Life has affected us all these last few years, and if you advertise with us, you will not only be helping yourself, you will help us too. We want to express our sincere gratitude to our loyal advertisers who have continued to advertise with us throughout these difficult time.

BUT, we need more help to continue producing the magazine. With a high loss of advertisers, higher costs for us, the future is beginning to look very disappointing indeed.

HELP KEEP THE TOWN CRIER ALIVE

**Thank you, Karen Mace. 0410 324 326
karen_macetc@yahoo.com**



**HALL'S
FUNERAL SERVICES**

An Australian owned and operated family Funeral business that understands the needs of people at a time of grief.

Offering a wide range of services including pre-arranged and prepaid funerals.



Phone: 9438 5416

24 hours a Day, 7 Days a week

**15 Station Street, Diamond Creek
50 Church Street, Whittlesea**

www.hallsfunerals.com.au

WHITTLESEA COMMUNITY HOUSE

SAVE THE DATE
The **Hearing Bus** is coming to Whittlesea Library on **Wednesday 20th March from 9am – 3.30pm**. Bookings are essential and being handled by the Library staff call **9716 3028**.

VISY RECYCLING - Buried in cans and bottles from all those BBQs? We can help! Over the counter recycling is available Monday, Wednesday and Thursday each week 10am – 3pm and Saturdays from 8am – 4pm.

Got some time on your hands and looking for an easy and regular volunteering role (perhaps to meet your Centrelink obligations). Our recycling team is seeking volunteers for regular shifts call **9716 3361** to discuss. Are you a group or club? Did you know that you can register as a donation partner and receive the 10 cent return on recyclable items as a donation from the community. Go to <https://cdsvic.org.au/donation-partner-registration>

COMMUNITY MEALS
Big Blokes Brunch has already kicked off 2024 at the Whittlesea Community Activity Centre on Tuesdays! Join the blokes for brunch each week: Tuesdays 11am – Noon \$2.00 per person

Ladies Lunch - join ladies who lunch each fortnight at the Whittlesea Community Activity Centre. Thursdays 14th & 28th March, 11.30am – 1pm \$2.00 pp

CATERING FOR COMMUNITY
As part of our ACFE program for 2024 we are looking for students to join our **FREE** Catering for Community course, eligible students will learn how to cook for a crowd. Thurs 14th & 28th March, 9th & 23rd May and 8th & 13th and 27th June. 9am – 1pm

EMPLOYABLE ME - This course is perfect for anyone trying to enter the workforce. Set up your resume, tune your interview skills and learn how to get noticed on employment sites! Tuesdays from 23rd April 10am-1pm. **FREE**
First Aid (CPR, Provide First Aid & Provide First Aid in an Emergency in an Education & Care Setting) Online learning + face to face Saturday 13th April \$85/\$150/\$195
Boat Licence - There's still time to get your licence before Easter! Sat. 23rd March, 9am – 1pm \$140 pp. Students from 12 years eligible, PWC issued to >16 years
OP SHOP TOURS FOR 2024 on a monthly basis you can join us. Different route each month! Saturday 9th March 9am – 4.30pm \$15 pp. Also Saturdays 13th April, 11th May and 8th June. There will be a lunch stop.
FIX IT FRIDAY is back. Meet experts from Whittlesea Community Connections, Social Worker, Expresso Legal, Uniting Financial Counselling, NDIS, Centrelink and Neami National (Mental Health Program), Victoria Police, My Aged Care, No Interest Loan Scheme, Haven Homesafe, Gamblers Help and heaps more! Call **9716 3361** to register it's **FREE** Friday 22nd March 10am – 1pm



BUCKET LIST 2024

By Sue Lloyd



Something happened last week. The culmination of years of effort, perhaps you could call it a tick off the bucket list or fulfillment of a goal. Either way it was personal and one to be celebrated and shared with my family. This was hard won. There have been many steps along the way, fraught with difficulties and obstacles.

The weather has been instrumental, too hot, blustery drying north winds, cloudless azure skies, relentless blistering sunshine. Too cold, chill winter winds blowing up from the southern ocean, bringing stinging rain, leaden grey skies and sometimes sharp frosts. Cold fronts accompanied by heavy squally rain, even occasionally hail stones and beating soaking rain.

Much as I cherish the garden birds they have sometimes been at odds with my efforts. Then there has been the insect population, from brilliantly coloured to less noticeable butterflies. Ever present companions, diligent at particular times of the year.

Moving house frequently over many years, the goal has received numerous setbacks when a complete re-think and restart has been needed. This has occurred due to periods of pre-occupation. Selling, buying and moving house is both costly financially, mentally and physically as anyone will know who has found themselves in a similar position. In many instances regular protracted overseas travel made the pursuit of the goal unattainable and impractical.

Not surprisingly my aim has been tied to the seasons, to the waxing and waning of the sun, to the earth's rotation, to daylight savings ending and beginning.

Throughout the years it has remained, supported by the continual quest for relevant information and advice. The sharing of knowledge has also been important. Probably by now you will have realized what this achievement is. So simple. An academic qualification was not needed. All that was really necessary was a willingness to be flexible, to experiment, to remain focused on the objective, and vigilant in 'fighting the good fight' with marauding pests and insects.

Last week we had a meal in which all of the four vegetables were home grown. Not a single one purchased from a shop!

What's the message in this simple story? Although the goal is trivial by comparison it does highlight the benefit of believing that ultimately what you strive for can occur.

On the path to finally producing this bounty of freshly grown garden vegetables there has been determined opposition from rats, mice, possums, rabbits, snugs, snails, caterpillars and that did not include the weather as already mentioned. There was also an invasion from two bottle fed lambs who did not see the fence as any sort of obstacle. On occasions when moving house the soil proved unsuitable for one variety or another, the vegetable garden had to be repositioned due to lack of sun which would often involve clearing large patches of overgrown grass or on one occasion blackberries.

Perhaps this can be likened to situations in life. Rejections of work applications, derogatory comments from others, unhelpful criticism, financial difficulties etc. etc. It has been said that such events can make one stronger and more determined, hard as that may seem at the time. Meanwhile I am rejoicing in my small achievement and victory. It would have been easy to spray or poison all the attackers, but finally we have enjoyed the vegetables without resorting to any of those methods. With all the doom and gloom, good wishes to everyone for 2024.

WHITTLESEA COMBINED PENSIONERS

(Reg. A0025361A)

President Lyn McKinnon opened February 2024 Meeting. Guest speaker next meeting on March 7th is **Rob Mitchell, MP, Federal Minister for McEwen.**

Thursday 21st March we will travel to Roxborough Park Hotel for our Easter Luncheon. \$20 12noon.

Thursday 18th April, we will be travelling Bendigo to explore the largest Stupa in the Western World. A Stupa (also known as a Pagoda), is the most sacred building in Buddhism. Times TBC. **Cost \$60** includes a 2 course lunch at the Bridge Hotel.

Thursday 16th March, we travel to Daylesford. **Cost \$60**, times and lunch TBA.

Thursday 15th August we travel to Abbotsford Convent. **Cost \$60**

Times and lunch TBA.

Whittlesea Combined Pensioners & Superannuants Association of Victoria Inc. is opened to all types of pensioners and their carer's and funded Superannuants. Annual Membership is \$20. Trips and Luncheons are partly subsidised by the Club except for the 5 day trip.

Trips and Luncheons are partly subsidised by the Club except for the 5 day trip.

Meetings are held 1st Thursday of each month, and Trips are on 3rd Thursday of each month.

Trips and luncheons are partly subsidised by the Club, all trips are \$60 p. p. and lunches \$20 p.p. All trips must be paid by 1st Thursday of each month.

If members would like to attend any of the above trips but are

STICKS N STONES



GARDEN & BUILDING SUPPLIES

STOCKFEED, FIREWOOD & LANDSCAPING SUPPLIES

- Sand
- Soil
- Mulch
- Cement
- Sleepers
- Mud Rock
- Compost
- Pinebark
- ELGAS

We Deliver

5783 1773

1180 Wallan-Whittlesea Road
Upper Plenty, Victoria

www.sticksnstonesgardensupplies.com.au

SCRAP METAL BUYERS

- COPPER
- BRASS
- STAINLESS
- ELECTRIC MOTORS
- ALUMINIUM
- RADIATORS
- BATTERIES
- CABLES

9467 5505

20 CLEMENTS AVE
BUNDOORA
MON - FRI 7.30AM-4.30PM



United Metal Recycling

unable to attend the next meeting they can contact
Nella Palmieri on 0433 114 960

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday 7th March**, at the Whittlesea Community Activity Centre at 1pm.

New members are always welcome.

'til next time stay safe & well, Nella Palmieri, Social Secretary

MOUNTAIN DRAGON By Steven Katsineris

When I was at High School in Hobart in the 1960s a couple of boys would bring lizards to school to show other students. They called them rock lizards and told us they caught them up in the hills on the bush fringes of the Eastern Shore's suburbs. One boy got tired of keeping the lizards he had and wanted to give them away, I took them home and released them in a rocky area on the hill behind our house. In hindsight it may not have been the right place to let them go. It was many years later that I found out these lizards were in fact Mountain Dragons.

When I was older I spent a lot of time camping and bush walking around the East coast of Tasmania and saw many of them in the wild there I observed them on warm days sunning themselves on rocks or logs.

Mountain Dragons are fairly small, stocky lizards, reaching about 20cm in overall body length, including the tail. Mountain Dragons have rough scales, baggy skin and a spiny tail, with a quite large head. They have a row of large, pale, diamond shaped markings on both sides of the back, usually joined together and running along the extent of the body to the end of the tail.

They can alter the pigment in their skin in order to change colour to match the environment in which they live. Their colour ranges from grey through to red and inhabit dry woodlands and heaths, places where they can get the plentiful sunshine they need to maintain a warm body temperature.

They shelter under large logs at night and when it is cold. In cooler places they also lie dormant over winter under logs. As with other Dragon lizards, Mountain Dragons lay eggs. The

female lays 2-9 eggs in a short burrow in sandy soil in spring or early summer. The hatchlings emerge in late summer. They feed on mainly on ants and other insects. In Tasmania, they are found in the north, on the East Coast and on several islands, including Bruny Island, Flinders Island and Badger Island. They are also found in southeastern Victoria and southeastern NSW.

Their numbers have decreased in suburban fringe areas, due to a combination of factors, predation by domestic and feral cats, fires and land clearing resulting in the removal of large logs used for habitation. In the remainder of their range Mountain Dragons seem safe.

One of my delights when walking in hilly areas was to come across these beautiful lizards; I'd take pleasure in seeing them sitting still on a rock in the sun or scurrying amongst the forest undergrowth hunting for insects.



 **City of Whittlesea**
FROM CHAIR
ADMINISTRATOR,
LYDIA WILSON



Hello everyone, This month at the City of Whittlesea there are quite a few events and programs to look forward to – it's very exciting to be right back in the swing of things.

We are eagerly anticipating our annual Community Festival which will be held on Sunday 17 March. Set within Council's Civic Centre lawns and Plenty Ranges Arts & Convention Centre in South Morang, the Festival's theme is 'Connections', promising to connect our community through a day of activities for all ages. From live music and cultural performances, to cooking workshops, ageing well activities, a pet expo, a family zone with face-painting, community stalls and more, this free event offers something for everyone. We will also be announcing the recipients of our Community Awards at the festival. We've had many outstanding nominations for people who doing wonderful things in our community, and I look forward to being able to present the awards to the worthy recipients. Come along and join the lively celebration and make memories with our vibrant community. Keep an eye out for the full program at arts.whittlesea.vic.gov.au.

The new Community Local Law 2024-2034 has been developed in consultation with the local community and will come into effect from 1 July 2024. The new 10-year Community Local Law aims to strike a balance between safety, personal freedom, and community responsibility to help people live harmoniously in our local community. Some of the main changes include allowing the use of recreational fire pits provided they don't cause a nuisance to others and the restriction of long-term parking of trailers, caravans and boats on Council land, including on local roads. We've also simplified the language to make it easier to understand. Over the coming months, we will be helping our community better understand the changes, including through explainer videos, frequently asked questions, and translated material, which you can access at engage.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/LocalLawReview.

Our Whittlesea Hub, which opened last year in the heart of Whittlesea, provides residents in the north of our municipality a convenient point of contact with Council, closer to home. In addition to being able to pay your bills and have your say on a range of community consultations, you can also come in and speak to one of our specialist staff who are based at the hub on the following days:

- * Monday 10am-2pm, Emergency Management
- * Tuesday 9.30am-4pm, Business Concierge
- * Wednesday 9.30am-4pm, Building Services
- * Thursday 9.30am-4pm, Planning Services.

It is very pleasing to see a number of local events coming to life with the support our Community Grants Program. First up is the Promisetown Picnic and Markets on Saturday 2 March at Thomastown Recreation & Aquatic Centre from 1pm-5pm. This free event is sure to entertain with performers on the community stage and a market filled with local makers and their handmade goods. Also on the same weekend is the fabulous Whittlesea Garden Expo; a project of the Rotary Club of Whittlesea on Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 March which I will be attending along with my colleague Administrator Peita Duncan. This is a great opportunity to meet and network with the wider Victorian garden community and purchase local products and services within our municipality. Head along to the Whittlesea Showgrounds from 9am – 3pm to see expert presenters and various stallholders over the weekend. For more information on these events, visit www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/events. **For further information on our Community Grants Program, visit www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/grants.**

Take care, Lydia Wilson Chair Administrator



WHITTLESEA MONDAY MARKET

EVERY MONDAY

8 am to 1 pm

WHITTLESEA SHOWGROUNDS

Food, Plants, Tools, Hardware, Collectables,
Second-hand goods, Clothing, Toys, Bric-a-brac,
Stockfeed, Auctions & More!

Enquiries: 0428 821644



The next Town Crier is due out Monday 1st April Deadline is no later than Friday 15th March FOR ALL ADVERTISING Call Karen 0410 324 326 karen_macetc@yahoo.com

ARCHITECT APPOINTED

On our
\$11.7 million
 upgrade to
**Whittlesea
 Secondary
 College**

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



- 📍 Suite 3, 14 Yan Yean Road,
Diamond Creek VIC 3089
- ✉ lauren.kathage@parliament.vic.gov.au
- ☎ 03 9432 9782

Authorised by L. Kathage, Suite 3, 14 Yan Yean Road, Diamond Creek VIC 3089.

Samantha Heyfron B Physio, APAM
Adam White B Physio, APAM
Tanvi Tiwari B Physio, MSc MSK Rehab
Luke McMurray B. Physio, B. Appsc, APAM
Maighan Cann B. Appsc, M. PhysioPrac

Whittlesea
PHYSIOTHERAPY
 and Clinical Pilates



2/17 Church Street, Whittlesea Victoria 3757
 Tel: 03 9716 2250 Fax: 03 9716 2275



1990 THOMASTOWN BY-ELECTION By Glen Davis

The Victorian State seat of Thomastown primarily sits in the area covered by what was until recently the Whittlesea Council. It also covers parts of the Cities of Darebin, and Moreland. It is one of the strongest Australian Labour Party, (ALP) seats in Victoria. Since its inception in 1985 it has been a solid ALP seat. However, there was one election when the victory was not exactly smooth sailing.

In 1990 Victoria was in turmoil. The State ALP government led by John Cain was badly on the nose. Victoria was beset by a string of economic problems such as the collapse of the Victorian Economic Development Corporation, also massive discrepancies in the finances of Workcare. We had Pyramid, a privately owned building society that was insolvent, yet the directors convinced the Victorian Government their finances were fine. Thus, Ministers spruiked the Pyramid Line only to have it blow up in their faces as Pyramid collapsed leading many investors, and depositors, to lose lots of money.

Compounding their difficulties was a lock out of tram workers in January. This was in response to the introduction of the scratchies. These were a ticketing system designed to modernise Melbourne's public transport system as passengers scratched their tickets whenever they started their journey but ostensibly it meant tram conductors lost their jobs. One of those locked out tram workers was Monica Harte who ran in the Thomastown By-election as an independent candidate.

By-elections give voters a good chance to whack the government on their failings, real and imaginary. Thomastown was the ALP's second safest seat yet here it found itself facing a serious challenge as a throng of contenders threw their hats in the ring. On February 3, 1990, final votes went in, then the numbers were counted. The ALP primary vote fell by 24%, with a final swing of -18.69 against it. As is often the case in By-elections the informal vote rose, going from 8.09% up to 12.74%. In 1990, the two-party preferred breakdown saw the ALP's Peter Batchelor was elected with 53.68% of the final tally, recording victory over Christine Craik of the Australian Democrats who finished up with 46.32%, she gained a very high number of preferences.

Does anybody remember the Australian Democrats? They certainly had a presence in this election. With 19.5% of the primary vote, they ended up running second to the ALP. Was it just a high protest vote in a safe seat, was it that the Democrat candidate Christine Craik had the benefit of the donkey vote from her position on the ballot paper; whatever it was, noticeably the Democrats ran ahead of the main opposition, the Liberal Party in the final tally.

Monica Harte, the tram worker, ran as an independent picking up the fourth highest tally of votes, 1,531, a tally of 5.35%. Many years later Monica again found herself running in an election this time being elected to the Northwest ward of Merri-bek Council. This area is not too far from the Thomastown Electorate.

As it was in 1992 the Victorian ALP Government suffered a large defeat at the hands of the Liberal Party led by Jeff Kennett. Thomastown though actually saw a swing back to the ALP, and to this day it remains a strong ALP seat. At the most recent State election, 2022, the ALP's Bronwyn Halfpenny retained the seat with a final tally of 24,658 votes after preferences, gathering 66% of the votes in a two-party preferred breakdown. Interestingly there was a swing of 11.4 % against the ALP, the largest swing against them in Thomastown since the 1990 By-election. Does this mean anything? The future is unwritten.

WHITTLESEA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

**Congratulations to the 2023 Whittlesea
 Community Christmas Tree Extravaganza
 winners!**



Business winners: 1st Anna Howe aka Miss Jingle Belle
 2nd Julez Cake Creations 3rd Whittlesea Photography Club
Community winners: 1st St Mary's Primary School 2nd Whittlesea Primary School 3rd Homecrafts W.A.S

Thank you to everyone who entered and came to view the display. If you are interested in entering a tree this in 2024 please leave your details via email info@whittleseashow.org.au or phone **03 9716 2835**.



1st place Business



1st place Community

PUZZLE PAGE

Beach

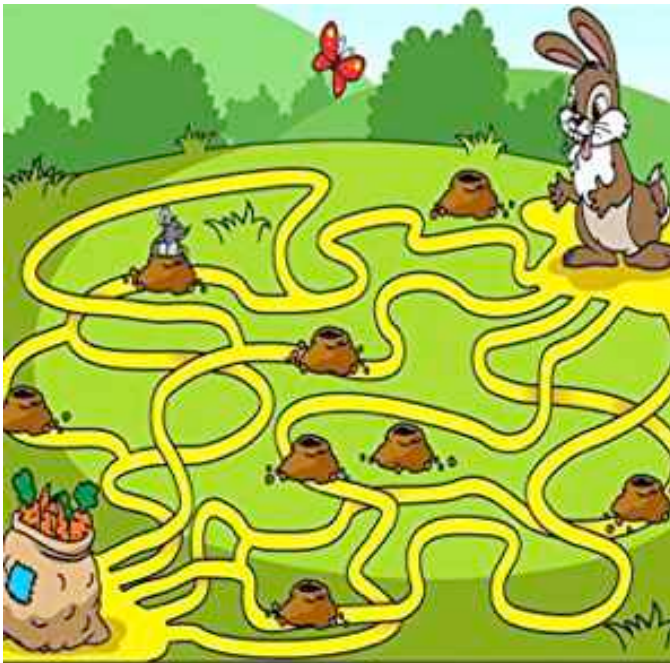


- | | | |
|--------------|-------------|------------|
| Barnacle | Hat | Sarong |
| Bikini | Hermit crab | Seashell |
| Board shorts | Ice cream | Starfish |
| Bucket | Lagoon | Sunglasses |
| Coral | Lifeguard | Swimming |
| Deck chair | Reef | Towel |
| Dolphin | Sand | Waves |
| Driftwood | Sandals | Wetsuit |

Courtesy of www.word-search-printable-beach.com



Courtesy of PrintColorFun.com



Puzzle courtesy of <https://printablemazes.net>



Courtesy of <http://www.kidpid.com>

Happy Easter!



HALL FOR HIRE

Uniting Church hall, Schotters Rd, Mernda
AVAILABLE FOR REGULAR BOOKINGS,
MONDAY TO FRIDAY Eg. Dance groups, Karate,
 Exercise classes, Craft groups etc...
NOT AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE PARTIES
 For information: **BRENDY STANLEY 0427 329 736**

TRADESMEN'S SECTION



Phone 0418 357 549

Geoff Browne

- TREATMENT PLANTS
- SEPTICS • GENERAL PLUMBING

Keep your garden green all year round with a FUJICLEAN Treatment Plant

brownesplumbing@gmail.com

www.wynnslocksmiths.com.au



LOCKSMITHS

- Servicing Whittlesea since 1989 -

Steven Wynn

Mobile: 0400 336 699

Office: 9716 1566

Email: steven@wynnslocksmiths.com.au



24 HOUR MOBILE SERVICE

GRASS SLASHING

- * Fire Breaks
- * Vacant land
- * Paddock Slashing

Whittlesea and surrounding area

Graham 0434 322 495

SEPTIC SERVICES

We specialise in:-

- ▶ Septic Locating
- ▶ Septic Cleaning
- ▶ Grease Trap Cleaning

"Reliable & Prompt Service"

Jeff 0421 764 072



ALLROUND ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Rec. No. 12570

- * Industrial
- * Commercial
- * Residential

JAMES THEUMA

Mob: 0417 594 342

Ph/Fax: 9715 1465



STAYING CONNECTED WITH PROBUS

Fun, Friendship and Fellowship in Retirement.

BEYOND THE FATEFUL DAY

On a very hot Friday, 7 February, 1969, just after 7am, the Southern Aurora, overnight express passenger train between Sydney and Melbourne collided head-on with an Albury-bound goods train, 174km north of Melbourne. The Melbourne-bound Southern Aurora ran through the Violet Town crossing loop where it should have waited for the goods train to pass. The Southern Aurora bore the brunt of the collision because the goods train was heavier. Nine people died (5 passengers and 4 staff) and 117 passengers were injured. Photo below shows the lounge car and a sleeper car where they landed on top of the crushed locomotives.



Source <https://blogs.slv.vic.gov.au/such-was-life/violet-town-railway-disaster/>
Trains had been passing through Violet Town since 1873, but none had entered the town's history like the Southern Aurora. After several months of after effects locally, and Australia wide the town returned close to how it was on Thursday 6 February.

Regional Australian towns have been undergoing significant change in this new century with some being close to abandonment. Violet Town like other towns along the railway line was isolated when the Hume Freeway by-passed. Local pride shone out and several special interest groups were formed. Maintaining population, attracting

passing traffic and general tourism underpins all of them.

One is the Southern Aurora Memorial group [SAM] that has established the memorial gardens for the Southern Aurora beside the railway station. Bruce Cumming the driving force behind SAM came down to present at the November meeting of the Combined Probud Club of Whittlesea.



The memorial won the Gold Award for the Best Monument or Memorial at the 2022 Australian Street Art Awards, and in October won the Mental Health and Wellbeing Award at the Resilience Australia Awards. The project and garden is now a finalist for the National award <https://www.aidr.org.au/resources/resilient-australia-national-awards-2022/> to be announced in late November 2023 by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience.

The commemoration garden has an overall theme of Helping Hands. It is a way of signifying how people stepped forward to help each other, whether women or men, staff or passengers, whether voluntary or paid, or whether local or from far away. Everyone did what they could! One of the key highlights of the garden area is embedding of words on railway sleeper plinths along the inter-twining pathways. The words are positive human attributes displayed on the day of the tragedy: - **courage, hope, love, generosity, kindness, compassion, care, humility.**

Bruce explained that whilst getting ready for school at their home 12 kilometres away he heard a series of loud noises which was the train crash, then saw the ribbon of smoke high in the still morning sky. As the day unfolded he, and other students gained information about the event, and later found that their families had been intimately involved in the response, rescues and care of those affected. He explained that it had a 'haunting affect' on him and others in the district.

Following a 50th anniversary opening of the memorial gardens the expansion and development has been exponential. People who were on the train, or had family involvement have made contact and visited. They view the historical records that are displayed and leave messages.

A lady whose mother and sister were killed makes regular contact with Bruce. She, then five years old, was trapped under the wreckage for more than five hours and recalled the name Cumming and 'Bill'. [Bruce's father]. Based with those scant memories she tracked Bruce and has gained valuable insight and become a friend.

The gardens are designed as a meditation place with history lessons displayed and highlighting the human side of a tragic event. People from all over have visited, and few leave without gaining some personal or historical information.

Violet Town is about two hours' drive from Melbourne or the border and is an ideal place to take the driver's recommended break. As we were told 'follow the Violet Town exit from the Hume Freeway'.

Teresa Carlin thanked Bruce on behalf of members and he departed to conduct a Zoom meeting. Such technology was unimaginable in February 1969.

Composed by Michael Halley and Bruce Cumming

Town Crier March 2024 17

BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

TAXI SERVICES

CROWN CABS – Your Local Taxi Service.
Call **9310 5422** including wheelchair/maxi or
www.crowncabs.com.au for online bookings

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

If you would like to advertise here call
Karen 0410 324 326
karen_macetc@yahoo.com



RECREATION

NETBALL – Open aged & Mixed Netball.
Any teams or persons interested in playing
Wednesday evening at RMIT University
Bundoora contact Elise **0433 702 326**. Females
Thursday night too.

TENNIS- Whittlesea Tennis Club, Laurel St,
Whittlesea runs social tennis Thursday nights
from 7.30pm on our fully lit 8 court family
friendly facility. \$5.00pp to pay for lights. Like
us on FB for weekly updates. Enquiries Call/text
mobile **0439 355 877**.
www.whittleseatc.com
email: Info@whittleseath.com

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH CENTRE

Whittlesea Community Activity Centre

57 - 61 Laurel Street
Consultations by appointment only
Tel: 9404 8888

Immunization by appointment only
www.trybooking.com/eventlist/cityofwhittleseaimmunisation

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE TOWN CRUER

With more than 3,100 copies printed
and delivered each month, your ad
will reach a wide area.
The Town Crier is a cost effective
way to get your business
recognised. We've had clients
cancel because of the efficient way
their ad has received coverage.

Karen 0410 324 326
karen_macetc@yahoo.com

HALLS FOR HIRE

ARTHURS CREEK HALL - For enquiries and bookings
contact Ruth White **9714 8438** or **0423 864 542**

ARTHURS CREEK UNITING CHURCH HALL
Comfortable venue for small groups. (to 50)
Contact: Malcolm **9714 8220**

BUNDOORA HALL ANNEXE meeting Room, holds
approx. 80 people, at Contact Community Centre, Noorong
Ave., Bundoora. For information & enquiries **Lyn 0438**
248 950 or email: rieel429@gmail.com

DIAMOND CREEK BOWLING CLUB INC.,
Recreation Reserve, Diamond Creek. Ideal for Functions,
Birthdays, Engagements, & other parties, up to 150 people.
Excellent kitchen & catering facilities. Large covered BBQ
area. Fully air conditioned & heated. P.A. System, Fully
licenced bar, abundance of toilets & off road parking.
Disabled access. reasonable hire rate. NO 18ths. Contact
Geoff Corner **0419 547 465** E: sellcor@bigpond.net.au

DIAMOND CREEK MASONIC HALL, 46 Main
Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek. Ideal for family &
community functions. Heating & Cooling. Excellent
kitchen & facilities. Chairs & trestle tables. Can be
inspected. Contact Des **9435 4208**, bonview@tpg.com.au

**GREENSBOROUGH & DSITRICT ANGLING CLUB
INC., HALL**, 161 Para Road, Greensborough. Ideal for
functions, birthdays, Training Seminars etc. New floor,
ample tables & chairs up to 80. Can accommodate 100.
Covered deck, BBQ, full disabled facilities. Off street
parking, full kitchen, split system heating/cooling. Some
availability for permanent hire by groups.
Web: www.gdac.com.au 0400 208 465

GREENSBOROUGH DISTRICT MASONIC CENTRE,
23 Ester St Greensborough. Ideal for Family Functions, up
to 100 people, Seminars, Groups etc. Round & long tables,
modern chairs. Some permanent bookings available. Ample
off street parking. Modern full kitchen, full disabled access,
heating & cooling. Web: gdmchall.org.au Enquiries welcome
Lindsay **0409 687 755** or **9465 2534**

HURSTBRIDGE BOWLING CLUB, 36 Graysharps
Road, Hurstbridge. All amenities available. **FREE HIRE**.
Bookings: **9718 2159**.

KINGLAKE COMMUNITY CENTRE, Cnr. Main &
Extons Roads, Kinglake Central. Rodney **5786 5603**

KINGLAKE WEST HALL – A beautifully restored and
refurbished hall with stage, separate meeting room, modern
well appointed kitchen and large undercover verandah.
Enq:- **0435 414 110**

MERENDA UNITING CHURCH HALL – Schotters
Road, Mernda. Available for regular bookings for: Dance
Groups, Karate, Exercise Classes, Craft Groups etc.
Monday – Friday. **NOT** available for private parties. For
information phone **Brendy Stanley 0427 329 736**

PLENTY HALL – Ideal for family celebrations. New
internal toilet facilities. Phone **0455 223 867**

STRATHEWEN HALL – Modern fully equipped kitchen,
separate meeting rooms, large flexible hall space, AV
facilities, off street parking. Bookings contact Karl Apled
0418 350 345, strathewenhall@gmail.com
www.strathewenhall.com

WHITTLESEA COMMUNITY HOUSE
92 Church Street, Whittlesea. Enquiries **9716 3361**

WHITTLESEA FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB Inc.,
Yea Road, Whittlesea. Fully refurbished rooms. Inspection
welcome. Suitable for Weddings, Birthdays, Engagements
and other parties up to 120 people. Full catering available.
Contact Kaye **0487 013 533** or Helen **0413 029 485**

1st WHITTLESEA SCOUT & GUIDE HALL – Fir St,
Whittlesea. Large main hall with great facilities including
full kitchen, toilets, chairs and a few trestle tables.
Available for any type of function. Bond required and
inspections welcome. All enquiries contact Ian Goding
0408 066 412 or Lorraine Gregory **9716 2684**

WOLLERT COMMUNITY CENTRE,
Epping Rd., Wollert. ENQ. **9217 2368**

WOODSTOCK HALL, Donnybrook Rd., Woodstock.
Ph. Len & Pauline Lord **0423 044 931**

YARRAMBAT WAR MEMORIAL HALL
450 Ironbark Rd., Yarrambat. Heating, cooling,
80-100 people. NO 18ths. Enq. **0421 288 498**

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

FIRE METRO AREA.....000

FIRE BRIGADES (fire only).....000

Arthurs Creek, Doreen, Epping,
Kalkallo, Kinglake West, Mernda, South
Morang, Whittlesea, Wollert.....000

POLICE.....000

Epping9409 8100

Mernda9216 1200

Mill Park9407 3333

Wallan5783 0400

Whittlesea9716 2102

AMBULANCE.....000

HOSPITALS

Austin & Repatriation..... 9496 5000

Mercy for Women8458 4444

Northern8405 8000

Royal Childrens9345 5522

Beyond Blue1300 224 636

Bully zero Aust. Found.... 1800 028 559

Chinese Medicine5786 1889

Child Protection Society13 12 78

City of Whittlesea A.H..... 9217 2170

Electrical emergency13 17 99

Eastern Energy 13 34 66

Emergency info. in Vic. ... 1800 226 226

Floods & Storms 13 25 00

Gamblers Helpline1800 156 789

Gas emergency13 27 71

Gas, SP Ausnet 13 67 07

Hall's Funerals9438 5416

Kids Helpline1800 551 800

Lifeline13 11 14

Medical Imaging9716 0278

Mobile Phone Emergency112

Nurse on call (24hr)1300 606 024

Parentline Vic13 22 89

Poisons Info..24Hrs.....13 11 26

Plenty Valley FM: provide local
emergency information 9404 2111

Physiotherapy9716 2250

Power outages, downed lines .13 17 99

RACV 13 11 11

S.E.S...... 13 25 00

Yarra Valley Water13 27 62

Crown Cabs..... 9310 5422

Lifeline 13 11 14

Caring Crisis Line 13 61 69

Nursing Mothers helpline....9885 0653

Help for wildlife0417 380 687

Wildlife Victoria - 24hr Pager service
..... 0500 54 0000

RSPCA9224 2222

Bee swarm collection.....0400 337 556



If you have something you would like to
contribute to 'ROSES' or 'PRICKLES' column,
email it to:
towncrier2019@gmail.com
All submissions must include name and contact
details, including phone number
(Not necessarily for publication)



Ken Walsh

Over **40 years** experience in
**MASSAGE AND MUSCLE TENDON
MANIPULATION**

Sports injury therapist



Neck & Shoulders
Frozen Shoulder



Sinus, Headache, Migraine
(Carpal Tunnel Syndrome)



Hamstring, Achilles
Osteitis pubis



Back Problems
Sciatica

\$75
for
45 minutes
treatment



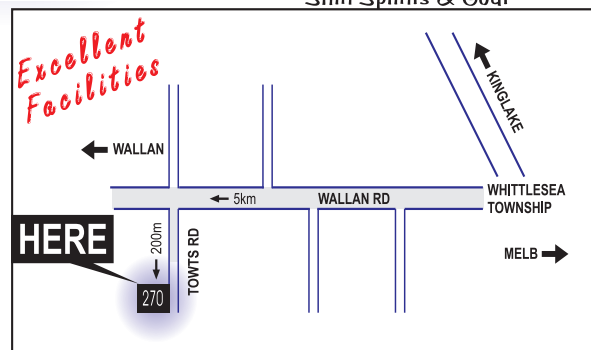
Legs, Knees, Feet,
Shin Splints & Gout

I fix problems (muscular & tendon) from top to toe

**"If you're having no success with
your problem then call me on"**

9716 2641
0409 971 626

270 TOWTS ROAD WHITTLESEA





WHITTLESEA

Right in town - Stunning

Absolute township location easy walk to everything.

2 bedrooms, open plan living adjoining kitchen with stone bench tops, dual access bathroom.

Single garage with remote control.

Extras include: High ceilings, remote shutters, split system heating & cooling, dishwasher, covered decked alfresco with auto blinds. Fabulous investment, great start to terrific downsizer!

Price: \$480,000 - \$520,000

Contact: Susan Sinclair 0417 599 555



YAN YEAN

Magic country living, conveniently located, 11 acres (4.65ha) approx.

* Stunning large ranch style home

* 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 5 living areas

* Refrigerated heating and cooling

* Indoor inground heated pool

* Huge shed, 300m² (10m x 30m), auto roller door, high clearance

* Hay/Machinery store (300m²) plus cattle yards

* Town water

Price: \$2,200,000 - \$2,400,000

Contact: Lynn White 0419 434 111

LAND FOR SALE

WHITTLESEA

8 Quinn Close. Stunning vacant allotment **6733m² (1.65 acres)** approx. Titled all services available. **\$880,000 - \$930,000**

120 Oakbank Boulevard. **374m² approx.** allotment. Level and fenced, nice wide frontage. **\$365,000 - \$400,000**

WALLAN

37 Darraweit Road. Magnificent **1003m² (1/4 acre)** allotment. Build or develop (STCA). Wide 21.2m frontage. Many extras include:- fabulous sparkling inground pool, power connected to shed plus water tanks. **\$540,000 - \$560,000**

KINGLAKE WEST

1350 Whittlesea-Yea Road. **5.3 Acres (2.15ha) approx.** 2 road frontages. **Plans & Permits for garden centre/nursery & teahouse/cafe.** (plans allow for business at front with home and hobby farm at rear, best of both worlds). **\$1,000,000**

FLOWERDALE

24 Broome Road. **6126m² (over 1 1/2 acres)**, elevated vacant allotment with hill views & above creek. Extra wide frontage 61m. Part cleared, bush at rear. **\$195,000**

18 Riverside Crescent. This absolutely fabulous allotment of **1360m²** has huge appeal. Wide frontage, power run on site, 3 room site office & large store/shed already in place with water tanks. Approved plans available. **\$335,000**

3 Kookaburra Court. Lovely level vacant allotment in quiet location. **662m² approx.** Colourbond fencing along 3 boundaries. 5 mins walk to King Parrot creek. **\$175,000 - \$190,000**

2 Long Gully Road. Terrific affordable allotment. **982m² (1/4 acre approx.)** Wide 20.9m (approx) frontage. 3mx3m shed plus new front fence & crossover. **\$195,000 - \$210,000**

35 Forest Road. Fabulous allotment **1187m² approx.** Direct access to creek at rear. Near level, fenced to sides. Great wide open block. **Price: \$325,000**

71 Silver Parrot Road. **2711m² (3/4 acre) approx.** Lightly treed very pretty allotment with extra wide frontage. **\$320,000**

58 Silver Parrot Road. **1253m² (1/4 acre plus)**, near level cleared allotment with sought after 2 meg pumping rights. **\$280,000 - \$300,000**

3423 Whittlesea - Yea Road - Very rare find of over **1 acre (4351m²)** approx, vacant allotment. Seasonal creek along rear boundary. Cleared usable land. **\$290,000 - \$310,000**

KINGLAKE CENTRAL

47 Bald Spur Road. **4270m² (just over 1 acre) approx.** Good cleared area at top sloping down to bush outlook. As new Ring Lock style fencing & double gates along front boundary. **2x as new shipping containers on site.** Ideal weekend getaway, picnics, family BBQ's and growing vegetables. **\$270,000 - \$290,000**

RECENTLY SOLD



FLOWERDALE Farm house on 3.5 acres



HUMEVILLE 4 bed brick veneer on 20 acres



WHITTLESEA 3 bed, 2 bath, single garage



WHITTLESEA 4 bed, 2 bath, 3 living areas



WHITTLESEA 3 bed, 2 Bath, Double garage, Townhouse