



Another cold & wet winter is drawing to a close &, here in the office of Blackwood News, we're looking forward to Spring (as are new Blackwoodians Kristopher & Jonathan on p11). On p19 Margaret Chandra from Studio 400 in Kyneton calls for entries into the 2011 'Spirit of Kyneton & District' photographic exhibition. The image above, titled "Miss Willmott's Ghost", was taken by your editor, Jinny Coyle, at Garden of St Erth. It was one of 3 winning entries in the 2010 competition judged by Alex Syndikis, Program Leader in the Photography Dept at RMIT & Ellie Young, from Gold Street Studios in East Trentham.

an incredible 12,111 copies of Blackwood News have been downloaded since last issue!

WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE? SERIOUSLY, PLEASE LET US KNOW... SEND AN EMAIL TO EDITOR@BLACKWOODNEWS.COM.AU & TELL US WHY YOU LOVE BLACKWOOD NEWS!

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EDITOR’S THOUGHTS ...

This is the 2nd issue this year issue where we have hit a whopping 28 pages! I thank all our new & continuing advertisers for supporting Blackwood News & all those who generously donate to enable the paper to grow.

It would be remiss of me not to give a heartfelt thanks to all our regular contributors who, issue after issue, spend precious time writing articles our readers information & enjoyment. Thankyou (you know who you are!).

As the editor of Blackwood News, I don’t see myself as creating content , rather I collate what you, the readers, give me. After all,Blackwood News is our community paper! To that end I encourage everyone to submit stories, articles, thoughts, photos, letters & comments. Content we are always looking for are for ‘Blackwoods’, ‘Where are they now?’, “Newbies in Town” – & birthdays! There are so many people I don’t have in the birthday calendar, please let me know who you are.

If you have a special or milestone occasion coming up, please send us a photo & a few paragraphs about the event.

Remember also that we do accept classifieds - just \$5 per cm. Births, deaths & marriages are FOC, as are lost & found.

More & more readers from outside of Blackwood are following us now via our downloadable issue (latest stats) & great information about what is happening not only in Blackwood, but out & about as well. It is just incredible what a vibrant & creative area we live in!

Time ot get this off to the printer... til next issue, have a good one!

~ Jinny Coyle, editor@blackwoodnews.com.au

Blackwood News info

Blackwood News invites submissions from the community. If you are at a local event please take a photo or two & write a few lines to share in our community news.

October November 2011 DEADLINES

Sept 15

Sept 20

Advertisers book space, Regular Contributions, Features & Items of Interest, Community Groups & Clubs

Display Ad Artwork/Content, News, Classifieds, Gig Guide

NO late submissions will be accepted. Submissions, display ads (high res .tif or .pdf) & articles can be emailed to editor@blackwoodnews.com.au, put in the ‘drop box’ outside the Blackwood General Store or posted c/o Blackwood PO, 3458

Download our Advertising Rate Card & back issues (in colour) from www.blackwoodnews.com.au & while you’re there sign-up to our eList (directly under the navigation bar).

Blackwood News reserves the right to edit or refuse any article or advertising. The opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the editor.

Blackwood News is produced as a community service by Jinny Coyle 9687 3744 / 5368 6444 & sponsored by FluxDesignStudio.com.au

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HOW’S THE WEATHER BEEN?

WE ARE below the average rainfall for May and June as we also were for March and April. However, due to the very wet January and February, we are still above the average so far this year with a total of 568.4mm compared to the long-term average of 431.2mm.

Month & Year	Rainfall (mm)	Rainfall Average (mm) 1879-2007	Minimum Temperature deg C	Maximum Temperature deg C
May'11	69.8	92.5	-1.2	16
Jun'11	76.0	104.8	-1.2	14.1

~ Don Owen

Blackwood News Celebrates a great Blackwood Dad for Father’s Day...

David Piercy has lived in Blackwood for many years with his wife and very best friend, Glen and his faithful companion and blue heeler, Captain. The Blackwood property has been in the family since the late 1800’s and was extensively renovated by David about seven years ago.

Blackwood is David’s ‘paradise’; a place he is always eager to return to and just simply loves to call his home. His love of Blackwood and the surrounding forest has been passed on to both his children and grandchildren. Blackwood has been the home to many family get-togethers and we hold dear to our hearts years of fond memories of much laughter and good times.

Anyone who has ever met David will know of his many skills ranging from builder and architect to being able to fix just about anything, but his greatest talents are in his personal qualities he willingly shares with others- his generosity, kindness, sense of humour and easy going nature all combine in making him one absolutely brilliant husband, Dad, Grandpa and friend.

David is a wonderful man who is loved so very deeply and unconditionally by his family. At the time of writing this piece David is unfortunately experiencing great difficulty with his health and is being cared for with amazing strength and determination by Glen. Both David and Glen would like to thank all their friends in Blackwood for their support and good wishes and look forward to returning to Blackwood soon.

~ Merran Widiana (David’s eldest daughter) 24th July 2011

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BLACKWOOD ACOUSTIC MUSIC REVUE

SUNDAY AUGUST 28

1pm Blackwood Academy

4pm Ken Maher

6pm Ciderhouse String Band

LERDIES ON MARTIN

44 MARTIN ST BLACKWOOD

Witness from Melbourne. Take the Western Hwy to Blackwood exit and follow the signs through Greenedale to Blackwood.

ENTRY \$10, CONC \$7, UNDER 18 free

drinks at reasonable bar prices

more info phos 5368 6690 email:blackwoodrevue@gmail.com

web: www.blackwoodrevue.com

a blackwood news sponsored notice

Open Mic @ the Pub

I had a bit of music gear gathering dust so I brought it to the Blackwood pub one evening in March & had an mini performance with an audience of 4.

Things progressed pretty quickly & I spent a few weeks playing some tunes with Andy who, considering I was terrified, was a great support! Somewhere along the line this has turned into a pretty successful Open-Mic session with regulars coming from Trentham, Yarraville, Diggers Rest, Bacchus Marsh & Ballarat. It’s been great to have couples & families playing together. & strangers prepared to get up & help each other out. Loud & rockin’ three piece bands, duos, acoustic, blues, country, rockabilly, pop, rock n roll & lots of dancing.

It would be great to see some more musically minded people come & join us. The Open-Mic runs from 3pm to 6pm the first Sunday of the month (except September we will run on the second Sunday & skip Fathers day).

Thanks for your support, everyone & thanks Ange & Heinz for indulging & encouraging me.

~ Lisa Morrissey

Andy & Aaron (Blackwood), Simon (Trentham)

Blackwood Acoustic Music Revue & Blackwood Academy of Bluegrass & Old Time Music

Easter Sunday this year saw the launch of the Blackwood Acoustic Music Revue, a monthly afternoon of acoustic music at Lerdie’s featuring local & abroad artists. The focus of The Revue is to bring a regular live music event to the town where everyone of all ages is welcome.

The past few months have been a great success, which could not have been so without the support of the locals. In particular, The Blackwood Revue would like to thank Brad, Sylvia & Tyler Cassidy, Mike Allen, & all the staff at Lerdies, Blackwood News, Nick & Janet Dear for the PA!, Sharon, Simon & Debbie for help behind the Bar & all the locals who have come in & shown their support –without those mentioned we simply couldn’t have achieved this great local event.

Heartfelt thanks also go to all the fantastic musicians we have featured so far & those who will play in the future, with a special acknowledgement to the Blackwoodians Shaun Brown, The Dear Family (including Nicola), Lauren Lee Williams, Blackwood Slim & Cat & Clint!

We look forward to growing success in the future &, with the inception of the newly-formed Blackwood Academy, feel that this is inevitable!

After over 25 years of ‘Pickin’at the Piggery’ held at the Footscray Community Art Centre the Victorian branch of The Bluegrass & Traditional Country Music

Society of Australia has moved the monthly meeting to Blackwood. The Blackwood Academy of Bluegrass & Old-Time Music will include workshops, sessions & a concert preceeding the Blackwood Revue each month.

The Sunday Academy commences with a Shape Note Singing Workshop held by The Melbourne Sacred Harp Singers. Shape Note is a traditional form of congregational singing & we hope to get many involved, even if you have never sung before, come along & join in.

Following the singing workshop, Bluegrass instrument workshops will be held by special guests each month, while an Old Time session plays in the backroom. A ‘Strength in Numbers’ concert of tunes learnt in workshops will end the Academy & roll into the Revue. All the while the Bar will be open & the Pizza oven on!

So, for all those interested or curious about traditional acoustic music & singing, please come along to this exciting community event! For more details & updates on the monthly program visit our websites www.blackwoodrevue.com, www.blackwoodacademy.org & to join our mailing list or contact please email blackwoodrevue@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing you there this year on Aug 28, Sept 25, Oct 23 & Nov 27!

BLACKWOOD’S COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) NEEDS YOU... (YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE WILL NEED THEM)

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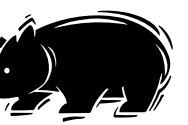
BLACKWOOD SONGWRITER flies again! Lauren Lee Williams’

application for a Skills & Arts Development grant from the Music Board of the Australia Council was approved in June. The grant covered her return airfare to the United States, there to be mentored by two favourite musos, and perform at a few events including, for the second time, the Old Fiddlers’ Convention in Galax, Virginia. She attended that festival for the first time last year. After 3 weeks of dream-come-true adventure, Lauren will be home again in August.

CALLING ALL TRIVIA MASTERS?

Got lots of interesting facts in your head ?
The next Trivia nights will be on:
Thursday August 25th
Thursday September 29th
The nights start at 6.30pm and bookings are essential.
Cost is \$20 including a meal.
Bookings essential! Don’t miss out phone now...

Cobb & Co. Tea Rooms 5368 6608



BLACKWOOD SOCIAL ALBUM: JUNE JULY '11 BLACKWOOD SOCIAL ALBUM: JUNE JULY '11 BLACKWOOD SOCIAL ALBUM: JUNE JULY '11



On June 21 (see story on p11) when the phones were down, Janet discovered that if she rested her phone on the bench outside the CFA, she could make a voice call – as long as she didn't touch the phone!

BLACKWOOD NEWS LOVES GETTING YOU PHOTOS FOR THE ALBUM, PLEASE EMAIL THEM TO EDITOR@BLACKWOOD NEWS WITH A SMALL CAPTION & THE PHOTOGRAPHER NAME OR POST HIGH QUALITY PHOTOS C/O BLACKWOOD PO, 3458



Founders of Blackwood Revue, Jonno & Carina enjoy the fruits of their labour at the July Revue featuring Slim Dime Duo & Bill Jackson & the Acoustic Orchestra.



Bev Cooper has sent in "Tassie Roo" in response to a call in the JunJul issue for 'rooing' photos.



Nick Dear just loves to fiddle! If he's not playing the fiddle with Hardrive or fiddling with his Yank Tanks, he's fiddling the sound knobs for Blackwood Revue players.



New World band, who may or may not be based in Nashville, launched the Blackwood Academy in July. L-R Ryan Drikey, Josh Philpott, Dave Goldenberg, Adam Chaffins. ~ photo courtesy Geoff LeBlanc



Nick & Janet Dear celebrated joint 50th birthdays & their 25th wedding anniversary with a Hogmanny with all their friends, organised by Lachlan & Nicola. ~ photo courtesy Geoff LeBlanc



Page 5 from the WEEKLY TIMES, May 5, 1954 submitted by Nell Opie, granddaughter of Gabriel Rae.



caption reads 'Mr Henry Matheson played the role of Ned Kelly in the procession.

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GRAVES IN THE BLACKWOOD CEMETERY – THE GRIBBLE FAMILY



HENRY GRIBBLE

Henry Gribble was born in Cornwall in 1831 to William & Elizabeth Dunn. Henry married Julia Cundy in 1851. Henry & Julia migrated to the Burra copper mines in South Australia in 1855. But after the death of a son they travelled to Blackwood to join his brother Charles Gribble.

The 1856/57 Electoral Roll for Victoria records Henry Gribble at Frenchman's Point with a Miners

Right in the Mt Blackwood Division, with his brother, Charles who had moved to Blackwood from Ballarat in 1855.

Charles & Henry Gribble worked at alluvial mining at Frenchman's Point for some 24 months after the rush began in the area. The Gribble brothers were most likely involved in the construction of The Tunnel which was driven between the river banks at Frenchman's Point near Gribble's Track, possibly around 1856. (Info courtesy Ian Gribble).

Before 1860 the family moved to Simmons Reef with 5 of their children. Their first investment was as owners of the unprofitable Lerderderg Mine & later shareholders in the more successful Crown Mine. Their last daughter was born in Simmons Reef in 1865.

But tragedy struck the family, when Henry Gribble was accidentally killed whilst mining at the Crown Quartz Company mine at Simmons Reef, Blackwood on Nov 2, 1866 aged 35 yrs, leaving a wife & 6 children living to mourn his loss.

On Sat Nov 10, 1866 the 'Bacchus Marsh Express' carried a sad announcement. It read: *"Death: On the 2nd inst. At Simmonds reef Blackwood Mr. Henry Gribble, aged 35 years, from the result of an accident which happened whilst working in a quartz claim leaving a widow & six children to mourn his loss"* Sadly, Henry had died in an accident in his own mine whilst working with his older brother Charles & other men when he slid down a 45 degree slope of stones into a 20 ft. deep shaft. He lay head down covered by quartz. After his prompt removal from the shaft by Charles & Thomas McGuire he showed only feeble signs of life. Dr Plews attended two hours later & Henry died in his presence. A post mortem showed a broken neck [1st & 2nd vertebrae]"

The BME newspaper reported the inquest into his death as follows:

"Another inquiry [inquest] of a similar nature was held by Mr. Lawrence on the following day [Sunday] at Simmons Reef, relative to the death of Henry Gribble, a miner & share holder in the Crown Quartz Company.

From the evidence adduced, it appeared that the deceased was working at that company's claim on Friday last. He was in the act of drilling a hole with the view to detaching a superincumbent of auriferous quartz & earth. He was working on a steep incline, & it is supposed that he must have either dislodged the ground upon which he was standing or, in trying to get out of the way of some stuff which he had loosened, he must have stumbled in the act, & fallen.

His brother, Charles Gribble, who was working in another portion of the claim, was the first to witness the catastrophe. His attention was arrested by hearing the deceased call out in a loud tone & looking up he saw his brother in the act of slipping down the declivity on his back, feet foremost & arms extended. Deceased descended about twenty feet in this way, to a point, where the incline became next thing to perpendicular.

On reaching this portion of the gradient, he shot from it with accelerated force, to the opposite side of the mouth of a shoot which receives the wash dirt, immediately under the hanging wall, striking the opposite side of the surface aperture with terrible force, his body reversing its position & he was propelled with increasing momentum head first down the shaft a further distance of thirty feet.

Detached pieces of quartz which broke into fragments as they bounded & rebounded down the incline mixed with debris of loose dirt & stone fell in company with the poor fellow & all that debarred the hope of extricating him alive.

Thomas McGuire, with prompt & laudable courage, allowed himself to be lowered with a rope, when he discovered the unfortunate man with his feet upper most, & the rest of his body nearly immured in the mass of stuff that had closed in upon him. On freeing him from the pressure of rubbish [a matter of no little difficulty, under the circumstances] McGuire was unable to discern any symptoms of life, but on his being hoisted to the surface he

COMPILED BY MARGOT HITCHCOCK,
HISTORIAN FOR THE BLACKWOOD &
DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY. 2011

partially rallied under the stimulants applied to restore animation, but not to the extent of consciousness. Medical aid was not long in being at hand, but to no avail; the poor fellow remained in a comatose state & finally sank in a few hours."

Dr. Plews called upon as witness, as to the cause of death & the Magistrate recorded the following opinion, *"I find the deceased Henry Gribble aged thirty five years, died at Simmons Reef, on Friday, the 2nd day of November, 1866, from dislocation & compound fracture of the neck, the result of an accident which happened to him whilst working in a quartz claim.*

Poor Gribble was a native of Camborne, Cornwall, England, & was a very respectable man in his sphere of life. He has left a widow & six children to deplore his loss. His remains were deposited in the cemetery here on Sunday, & were followed by one of the largest attendances which ever paid respect to the obsequies of the departed in this locality, the number being estimated at three hundred or more."

This unfortunate accident happened just at the time when the Crown mine was proving very efficient & productive.

According to Magnus, during the fourth quarter of 1866 at the time when Henry was killed, the Crown Quartz Co. [Simmons Reef] crushed 2900 tons of quartz for a yield per ton of 0 oz. 1 dwt 14.89 gr. for a total yield of gold of 235 oz. The quartz was obtained between 50 to 110 feet.

Magnus commented that: *"The Crown Company's claim is yielding a very low average per ton, but owing to their systematic mode of working, & the thickness of the reef, they are earning very good wages."*

Earlier in his 1864 report Magnus reported that the Crown Company's Claim was paying particularly well.

Henry died intestate & left property worth some £250 which was claimed by his wife Julia with Matthew Rogers, merchant, & brother Charles providing surety.

Henry's death in 1866 was a great blow to the family. Julia now faced the raising of her 6 children by herself. William the eldest was now 14, Susanna 12, John 8, Edward 6, Iveria Julia 4, & baby Ellen was only one year old.

Inscribed on **Henry Gribble's tombstone in the Blackwood cemetery** is:



"To the memory of Henry Gribble who was killed at claim of the Crown Quartz Company on November 2nd 1866, Aged 35 years. Watch therefore for we know neither the day nor the hour when the Son of Man cometh. God the Redeemer lives, & ever from the skies, looks down & watches all my dust til he shall see it rise."

photo: Tombstone and grave in the Blackwood cemetery of

Henry Gribble died 1866. Courtesy Margot Hitchcock

The Ballan Shire rate Book reveals that Julia continued to pay the rates on their dwelling for the two years after Henry's death. We can only guess that she retained her shareholding in the Crown Mine.

Two years passed before Julia remarried Samuel Rogers who was also a miner according to the above rate books. This union produced four more children: Samuel Charles, Harriet, Sarah Ann & one un named male who died one day old. (Some information acknowledged to Ian Gribble.)

Researched by Margot Hitchcock from her forthcoming book 'The History & Pioneers of Blackwood', hopefully to be published soon.

~ Researched & courtesy of Margot Hitchcock, Historian, Blackwood & District Historical Society. 2010. ©

For help with information on Blackwood ancestors contact Margot Hitchcock: margothitchcock@bigpond.com or P.O. Box 43, Blackwood Post Office, Blackwood, 3458.

THE RECYCLED GARDEN

Pecks, Perks & Pips – The Pleasures & Pitfalls of Winter Gardening



by Heather Marsh

Last summer & the summer before that I vowed that when the temperature dropped into single digits & winter skies threatened rain, hail or snow I would hold strong.

I had a mental picture of myself smiling, rosy cheeked as I huffed on my gloved hands, crunching around on the frosty earth, spade in hand.

The reality of what feels like weeks of grey drizzle that creeps in under even the best gators, sodden gloves & mud-smeared jeans has been a lot less bracing than those summer visions. Yet, this year I have finally fulfilled that goal – of being a winter gardener. No, it's not glamorous – no crunchy frost, just lots of slimy green algae that seems to turn my paths into ski tracks for unexpected slides whilst cursing under the breath. BUT – this is the year that I have gotten out there & it all started with a late olive harvest.

I many be the luckiest daughter-in-law on earth to have married into a family I adore. My husband's parents as well as being warm, good humored & lively also happen to be olive farmers. So not only have I married into their life of cooking, wine & banter but into the yearly harvest obligations. It is usually a delightful obligation- we gather friends & pick in the autumn sunshine until our arms ache & the baskets full of fruit dot the hillside.

This year, though, late fruit & other interventions pushed the harvest into winter. What a difference a month makes. We picked, that is raked the branches with our claw-ended grabbers in a fine misty rain. Each branch we raked catapulted hard, wet olives & a small rain-storm into our faces. The water ran down our arms as we reached up & dribbled toward our arm-pits.

Still, there is something that happens when one is forced into a situation like this & that is to make the best of it or suffer. I noticed that our three year old, Rufus seemed to have no problem whatsoever with damp legs & cold fingers. He ran about the grove puddling in this & that, delightedly shaking water from the trees & scooping his hands through the baskets of wet olives.

My second lesson in winter gardening came when I realized that if I wanted our six chickens to continue laying through winter (as they had done in previous years) I would need to keep them warm & happy – that meant mucking out the run. For a few weeks now the chicken run had been becoming increasingly hostile. The summer's straw had turned to mud-caked muck that squelched unpleasantly underfoot & was dangerously slippery. A trip to collect eggs during which I almost ended up on my derriere in stinking mud forced me to the local farm supplier to get a bale of oaten straw.

I have to say that is the best \$10 I may have ever spent. After an hour or so of hard labour raking & shoveling the muck into compost bays, scattering the old straw from the deep litter barn & refreshing with new, the chook yard looked like a poultry palace.

My last Herculean winter task has been to get shrubs & fruit trees in before the growth season in spring. I had ordered forty tube-stock dwarf pomegranate plants to complete the wood-shed walk (described in my fantasy garden of the previous article). Finally they arrived! I was a little bemused to see a flat box arrive rather than the tall plant crate I was used to with posted plants. To my horror on opening the box, the tubes had all been packed on their sides in layers separated only by some flimsy newspaper.

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Of course most of the seed-raising mix had fallen out of the pots, the newspaper sodden & mangled. I spent the next hour trying to separate out bedraggled soil covered plants from one another with freezing fingers & trying to re-pot them in the salvaged mix. In my fury I took photos (to sent indignantly to the tube-stock company). You can see the mess it was!

In the end I realized it wasn't worth the bother of complaining – I just wont use that company again.

I also ordered (from a different company) & was very pleased to pick up a self pollinating cheery (Stella) & a nectarine (Goldmine) both of which I am told will fruit well in our climate.

They have new homes in the bottom bed of my pottager, which will become next year's muck-free winter run for the chooks.

The last task of winter? Plant the three olive trees I've had in pots ever since we moved here. Then my winter gardening will have come full circle.



Rufus hangs out in the chooks' playpen

PARTY TIME?

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Blackwood Progress Association
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5368 6537

a blackwood news community service notice



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Sept 4 – Basketweaving workshop
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SHIRE NEWS

The Moorabool Volunteer Network is a new initiative being developed in partnership between Moorabool Shire Council and Volunteering Ballarat. The Network aims to strengthen volunteering in Moorabool by providing support, training and networking opportunities to local non-for profit volunteer groups and organisations across the shire. Membership is free and monthly meetings will be held with the purpose of allowing volunteer groups, organisations and individuals, the opportunity to collaborate, share resources and exchange ideas. If you are interested in becoming involved as a member of the Moorabool Volunteer Network, please contact Helen Irving at helen.irving@unitedwayballarat.com.au. For more information please contact Rikki-Lee Farrer on 5366 7100 or rfarrer@moorabool.vic.gov.au.

Moorabool Shire Council Community Grants Program: The Winter 2011 Community Grants Program will open on 1 August 2011 and close on 31 August 2011. Moorabool Shire Council proudly supports the wonderful contribution that our not-for-profit community groups provide to their local and wider communities. Community groups are encouraged to read the Community Grants Program Guidelines carefully before making a submission. Community Grants: Grants are available for projects under the following categories:

- Community Strengthening Grants:**
- Community Programs, Activities or Initiatives (grants of up to \$5000)
- Capital Improvements (grants of up to \$5000)
- Small Projects (grants of up to \$1,500)

Community Arts Grants: Community arts projects, activities or initiatives that link artists, creators or practitioners with local communities through small projects, publications, exhibitions, performances or similar activities (grants of up to \$3,000)

Community Events Grants: Community Events that showcase local talent, provide public entertainment, foster community participation, connectedness and diversity (grants of up to \$3,000)

Community Transport Grants: Community Transport Initiatives that encourage transport connections and transport sustainability. Up to \$500 for one off transport related initiatives, or up to \$2000 for projects with a long-term sustainability focus. Program Guidelines, Application Form and further information are available on Council's website www.moorabool.vic.gov.au, or by contacting Customer Service on 5366 7100. Please note, prior to lodging an application, all applicant groups must contact Council and speak to a Community Development Officer to discuss their application. Applications close at 5pm on Wednesday 31 August 2011

Strengthening Volunteering in Moorabool: "Strengthening communities, by promoting and building the capacity of volunteer groups and organisations across Moorabool"

Moorabool Shire Council recognises and supports the important role that volunteers and volunteer organisations play in delivering services and building stronger, more resilient communities. The Strengthening Volunteering in Moorabool Program aims to build the capacity of volunteers and volunteer organisations in Moorabool. It will provide essential training and skills development to enable healthy, more vibrant volunteer groups and organisations into the future. Workshops will be held in both Bacchus Marsh and Ballan and will be open to individuals, groups and organisations interested or involved in volunteering. Volunteer Training & Skills Development Workshop Timetable – all sessions will run 7 – 9pm.

Grant writing skills
Aug 2: Bacchus Marsh Supper Room Aug 4: Ballan Council Chambers

Committees, governance and leadership
Sept 6: Bacchus Marsh Learning Centre Sept 8: Ballan Council Chambers

Strategic and business planning.
Oct 4: Bacchus Marsh Learning Centre Oct 6: Ballan Council Chambers

Registrations are now open for the 'Grant Writing' workshop. Interested individuals and organisations should contact Customer Service on 5366 7100 to secure a place.

GREENDALE 1/2 CHURCH

A BIG THANK YOU! To Mike & Margaret Allen for the use of their stall in the shed at the Easter Carnival 2011 & the Crown Reserve Committee for their support. It was a really great day & we raised \$325.50 from our stall sales & \$145.85 from donations for the Half-Church, Greendale restorations. Thank you to all of you that contributed through your purchases donations & goodwill. The total for the day was therefore \$471.35.

IN ADDITION we would like to thank the locals of Greendale & visitors for their support at our snap Garage Sale on Easter Tuesday. There we raised approx. \$146 from sales & donations & even a basket of scones & jam for morning tea!!

THE PROCEEDS significantly contributed to the cost of ready-mix concrete needed for the church.

AT THE moment the winter months have slowed down progress on the Church but we are looking forward to more fundraising events at the Church in the warmer months ahead.

WE WILL keep you posted.....
~ Marlene & Kathie

FRED RETIRES

I have decided to stand down from the Ball Committee. With the new people coming aboard, this gives me the opportunity to pursue other projects, 5 years Social Club raffles, 4 years Ball Raffles, I feel I need a break. Thankyou all so very much for buying tickets every week. The ball will be back next year so let's all support a great night in Blackwood.
~ regards Fred Moore

Learn First Aid in Blackwood
Perform CPR \$65
Provide basic life support \$90
Applied first aid \$125
Other first aid courses available.

Sessions are being run on Wed 14 & 21 Aug in the evening at the Cobb & Co Cafe. Participants can do any level they like & get a nationally recognised certificate. They complete a workbook at home & attend the session(s) for practical learning. All CPR training is done on the first night (14/8) & participants can choose which certificate level they would like to go to. Maximum of 12 people in a group & bookings are required. Enq can be made to Amanda 0408445711 or Margaret 0417362169 or courses@in2skills.com

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SEWERAGE IN BLACKWOOD



Local resident Brenda Hunter seeks answers at the afternoon Sewerage information session.
Central Highlands Water (CHW) & Water Infrastructure Group would like to thank local residents & property owners who attended the Blackwood Community Information Sessions on Monday 25 July 2011. These Information Sessions gave residents & property owners an opportunity to meet the project teams, to view the preliminary sewerage main design & to ask individual property queries. Over the next few weeks, a letter will be sent to Blackwood property owners, including an Information Session update, frequently asked questions, the preliminary sewerage main design & further information about upcoming activities. We will continue to provide regular updates as the project progresses, however you can contact us at anytime. Please contact Water Infrastructure Group regarding project timeframes, design & construction on 1800 724 925. For financial & other enquiries please contact CHW on 1800 888 663.

A Winter Morning in Blackwood 1945-46

It was one winter when it snowed heavily. I was very young, maybe 4 or 5, one morning very early, my Dad came & got me up out of bed, he snuggled me into my warm red dressing gown & put on my socks & hat. He said to me "Sh shhh, be very quiet we are going outside to see something." It was warm & cosy in my Nana's little house & it looked very cold & shivery outside – this was very strange & what could it be? So out we went, everything was white! Silvery, shimmery white, all over the trees & ground & on the roof of Nana's little house As Dad carried me outside, he pointed to some tracks in the snow "Do you know what made those tracks?" he said. Well I thought... "maybe a dog? Or a cat or maybe a sheep or, my goodness, could it be a bear?" My Dad laughed & said we don't have those kind of bears here, it was a FOX! He showed me where he came out of the pine forest behind Rosie's house, where he walked up to our door & where he ran away. Then quick as a wink we were back inside, to the fire & big thick slices of toast, with the clock ticking & the fire sparking, the only sounds on that cold snowy morning in Blackwood.

~ Bev Cooper, Tasmania



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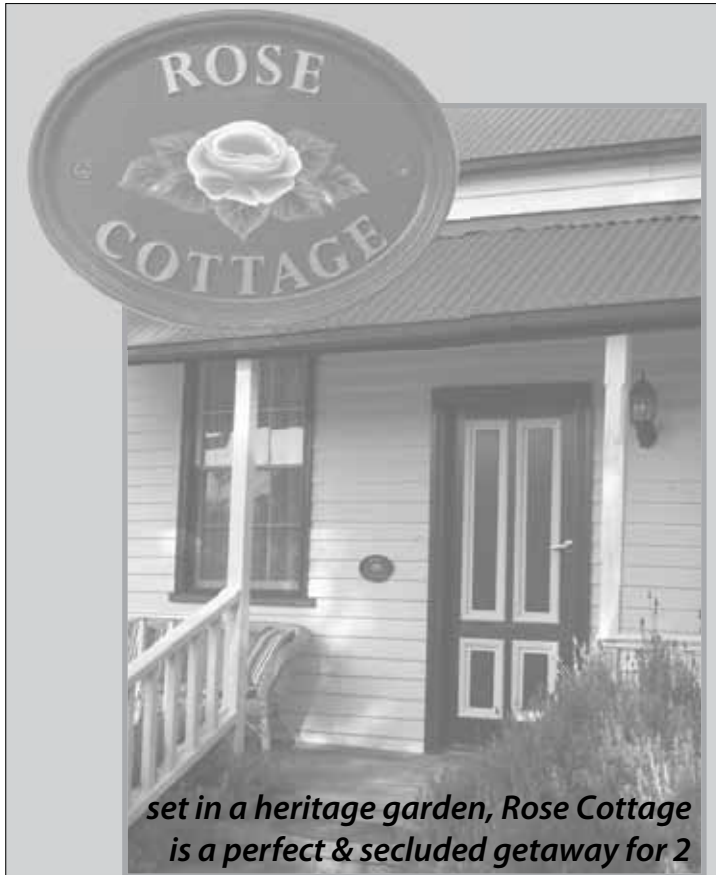
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THE BLACKWOOD GENTLEMEN'S ADVENTURERS SOCIETY

BY RODNEY LUNSCHALOT BGB VD & SCAR



Well, gentle readers, for those of you who were left with furrowed brow & beating heart after not finding your regular column; stress less. It was an unfortunate combination of sad circumstances that cannot be described without

resorting to some really lewd & disgusting language that is hardly the parvenue of such a fine community newspaper.

I am pleased to report that, due to a sudden windfall from a bit of late mail from a dubious source, we have been able to purchase another less aged Landrover, which means that, at any time, we can now have two expeditions underway. I won't begin to tell you about the first as this is too refined a publication, but I can report on the second one.

A small group of our members (the new Landrover is a short wheel base) have just returned from the annual fly-tying festival in Hobart, where our team was placed 12th overall in a field of 12. Whilst in Hobart, our intrepid team leader was rewarded with the heartfelt thanks of the population of the Apple Isle for reminding them all about the benefits of positive ageing by being detained by local gendarmes for driving the now not-so-new Landrover into the pool at Government House. The headline in the Hobart Astonisher said it all "Aged Adventurer Makes a Splash"

Any hoo, in the next edition of this fine chronicle I will regale you with the earthy exploits of our members trip, in convoy, to the fleshpots of St Kilda. The unexpurgated version will be available on the society's invitation -only newsletter, mailed out in a plain brown wrapper.

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WHAT IS A WILL & WHY DO I NEED ONE?

A will is a written record of a person's wishes to be enacted after they have died. Some technicalities surround the making & witnessing of the document which in turn make it a valid Will that can be approved by the Supreme Court of Victoria in its Probate jurisdiction, therefore allowing the distribution of assets according to the deceased's wishes (and incidentally the payment of any liabilities).

In today's world of multiple marriages & often multiple "living together arrangements", many complex legal issues can arise. Someone who was dependent on the deceased at the time of their death may be entitled to claim part, or even all of the estate depending on the assets, the length of the relationship, the financial circumstances of the dependent, etc.

Care must therefore be taken when drawing up your Will. Have you thought about the following?

1. Who do I appoint to carry out my wishes-(the "Executor")? Do I appoint my wife/husband/partner? Or one or all of my children, maybe step children? A friend? My solicitor or accountant?

2. Do I provide for my children specifically? My widow may remarry, or if I am on my second marriage do I want my children of both marriages/relationships to share equally? Would my second partner be "fair" to my first children if he/she was the Executor?

3. Who will pay for my young children's education expenses?

4. What about my Superannuation? Do I want it dealt with differently to my Estate? Remember Super funds are always controlled by the funds' Trustee.

5. Do I want my Grandfather's Watch to go to my eldest son? What about the possible combinations of my children wanting to divide up my paintings or collection of valuable coins?

6. Do I want to donate some money to my favourite charity?

7. What does the government get from my Estate? Well the good news is there is no Probate Duty/Inheritance Tax. However there may be Capital Gains Tax (CGT) implications, particularly on investment properties...

8. How do I try & stop the child who has already had the farm from seeking more or the son who was given money to start his own business from double dipping?

9. What happens to my parents who live at the other house on my property if I die tomorrow?

10. How can I make sure my organs are donated for research?

11. How do I express my wishes in regard to the disposal of my body?

12. Who will look after my animals when I die?

These & many more questions/issues must be considered when drawing up a Will. Sure, you can buy a Will Kit & make your own guess as to what is best. However, for your own peace of mind, & for those you care for it would be best to see a Solicitor. Your Solicitor can discuss these & the many other questions that have hopefully been provoked in your mind today. For further info contact the approachable team at HEP Steel.

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CALL IT IF YOU CAN...



Around midday on Saturday, June 21st, all the phone lines went down in Blackwood.

Last time the lines went down (see Oct/Nov '09 issue) we still had a ring tone, but got the engaged signal when we tried to ring out.

This time was different because we could ring local (Blackwood) numbers but not out-of-town.

Of course we don't have mobile coverage in Blackwood, so a number of residents drove out of town, into mobile range, to ring their phone company, to be told the lines would be fixed by end of business Tuesday! – 3 days away! It was suggested that if more people

rang to complain the service may be fixed earlier.

This was simply not satisfactory! Apart from the general inconvenience of being out of communication, businesses had no eftpos, the internet was down & worst of all we couldn't ring 000 in an emergency.

That night was wet & dreary in Blackwood & in total frustration I rang the emergency radio station, 774. I was put through to a guy who actually lived in the Kyneton area, so understood country dependence on communication.

He contacted the phone company & was told the resident who had rung was incorrect - there was already someone out at the exchange! My 774 news man texted this info to me (given I couldn't get calls). The lines were fixed at around 8am on Sunday morning.

This whole saga highlights the need for reliable communication in Blackwood. I believe that, until we have mobile coverage, if the phone lines go down, their repair should be prioritised over & above any other repair job.

We were so lucky we had no emergencies in town on June 21/22, it doesn't bear thinking about what would have happened if we did!

~ Lois Lane

EARLY SPRING. YAY!



Kristopher & Jonathan Celebrate.

The Wurundjeri regard the wattle bloom as the harbinger of "Early Spring" (one of the 7 indigenous seasons). The next sign is nesting birds. The boys & their parents, Mark & Sandra, moved into their own Blackwood nest back in April, along with their chocolate brown dog, Lindt. They were here just one week when Jonathan contracted the rare &, in his case, life-threatening disease, mastoiditis – an infection & inflammation of that bone just behind your ear. Have a feel. Jonathan's case was severe & he had his mastoid removed.

Laurie & Linda next door helped out (as ever) by looking after Lindt for the many weeks the family were down in Melbourne.

Welcome to Blackwood, guys, & welcome to "Early Spring".

~ Jimmy Olsen



COMMUNITY GROUP UPDATES

Blackwood Crown Reserves Committee Of Management

Even though it is winter, I am pleased to report we have had many bookings for the hall with parties, karate, club meetings, sewerage meetings, pre-school, CERT & Senior Citizens. Thankyou, this is a great help toward paying for the up-keep, like electricity, water & maintenance.

The Ball Committee approached the Crown Reserves, telling us they would like to put curtains on the stage & that Blackwood Progress would help them with the costs. Crown Reserves voted to have this done.

The sports ground, thanks to Moorabool Shire, has been top dressed & has a new cricket pitch.

The caravan park has been busy with cleaning up trees that have blown down. Thankyou to Lachlan, Nicola & families who helped improve the ranger's house with coats of paint & new decor.

A special thankyou to treasurer. David Arnold. who has been working very hard for Crwon Reserves as well as seeing to his weekly job. The member do appreciate this very much.

~ Elizabeth Hall, secretary

Blackwood CERT

We are still being kept busy of a weekend. Thankyou to the members for their efforts in keeping us running. I have had a good response from locals wanting more information about joining, which I have forwarded to Ambulance Victoria. Let's hope training will start in the near future.

I know Blackwood News has a lot of readers in Trentham, which is the greater part of the area which we service. Is there anybody from Trentham who would like to join our service? If so please ring me on 5368 6628

~ Bruce Henry, Team Leader

Those who have registration packs, please get them back to Bruce ASAP so he can book the 1st training session.

Blackwood Cemetery Trust

no report this issue

Blackwood CFA

CFA

Another few hints to prevent the possibility of house fires.

1. Wear tight fitting sleeves when cooking.
2. Ensure the exhaust fan or range hood above the stove is clean & free of grease & fat.
3. Have a fire blanket & extinguisher in the kitchen.
4. Ensure your smoke alarm or alarms are working.

In case of fire, ring 000 with your name & address & nearest crossroad. It is recommended that the above details are clearly visible adjacent to your phone.

Fire Brigade training is held on the 1st Sunday monthly – new members welcome.

~ George Stockdale

Blackwood/Barry's Reef LANDCARE

Rainfall: June 1 – July 20, '1 –153 mms. Re Weeds Forum (*see report by Shane Scanlon*) Environmental scientist, John Davies has been photographing significant weeds which are a threat to the Wombat State Forest's 72.000 ha. 30.000 ha. of the Wombat are in Moorabool Shire, 36.000 ha. are in Hepburn Shire & approximately 6 ha. are in Macedon Ranges Shire. The Lerderderg State Park (20.180 ha) which adjoins the Wombat State Forest around the edge of Blackwood Mineral Springs Reserve, includes Shaw's Lake & the northern side of the Lerderderg River.

The first edition of "The Lerderderg Then & Now" which was launched at Blackwood Hotel by FOLDERG (Friends of the Lerderderg) on May 20 has been completely sold out. It is expected that reprints of this extremely popular publication will be available by October 2011.

~ Pat Liffman, secretary.

Weeds Forum: Blackwood & Barry's Reef Landcare is preparing to host a weeds forum to help clarify roles & responsibilities when it comes to keeping our town & forest free of weeds.

Landcare President Shane Scanlan told Blackwood News that is was difficult to know which agency was actually responsible for specific weed

control because of the plethora of jurisdictions & legislative controls.

"A certain type of weeds can be the responsibility of a certain agency, while the same species growing a few metres away may be under the care of another agency – or no one at all," Mr Scanlan said.

"As newcomers to Landcare, we'd like to learn as much as we can about the 'ins & outs' of weed control, so we are organising a forum."

Mr Scanlan said an invitation list had been prepared & Landcare was currently preparing the agenda for the day.

"Our local member, Don Nardella, has agreed to chair the forum & it's great that Don is supporting us in this venture," Mr Scanlan said.

Landcare member, John Davies, is currently mapping & preparing a matrix of certain weeds in various situations, which will be used as case studies during the forum, which is expected to be held later this year.

Blackwoodians will be welcome to attend & more information will be provided in the next edition of Blackwood News.

~ Shane Scanlan

Blackwood Historical Society

Discover Our Heritage. Community Open Day Oct 8th 9am-3.30pm

To be held at the Police Stables, the home of our Historical Society. The aim of the day is to give everyone an opportunity to see the breadth of historical artefacts & photographs, machinery & costumes now prepared for display. This will be a chance for visitors to go back in time, explore & appreciate the lifestyles of our past, particularly the conditions during the mining era.

Invitations will be sent in August to members of the community, local council & community leaders.

We encourage you all to attend – 'Blackwood, Where Time Stood Still'.

Thank you to all of our volunteers on Easter Saturday at the Woodchop Festival. Especially 10 year old Laura Thompson, who helped to make our soft drink stall such a great success.

Easter Sunday we opened the Blackwood Police Stables to present our 'BACK TO SCHOOL' – theme of the early 20th Century. Many people attended & approval was voiced by visitors who had already seen the Sovereign Hill equivalent.

Special thanks to Aline & Cathy Thompson for setting up the display.

~ Michael Boyd (Secretary)

Blackwood Playgroup

no report this issue

Blackwood Progress Association

no report this issue – see advert p11 for AGM

~ Elizabeth Hall, Secretary

Blackwood Senior Citizen's Centre Inc.

Here we are again with a report from the Blackwood Senior Citizens Club. We are middle way through the winter- with very cold weather & plenty of rain – but it is great to see rivers, wells & reservoirs filling up rapidly – so we shouldn't complain, anyway Spring is just around the corner, so that is something to look forward to.

Our club has had a busy couple of months with guest speakers & outings.

Robin Salt & Amanda McDermott paid us a visit, had lunch, then Robin filled us in with council updates & information. A representative from Direct Care has attended & gave us a lot of valuable data about assistance available to the elderly in our shire.

It is nice to see Bill Wilson back with us again every Wednesday. He is now a permanent resident of the Trentham Hostel & is very contented there, so he tells us.

Cobi Shoeler has recently had an operation on her shoulder, we are pleased to see she is recuperating quite well.

The club enjoyed a days outing over to Castlemaine & district, had morning tea at Vaughan Springs, supplied by our bus driver Greg & his nice wife Marie, then on to the Commercial Hotel for lunch, then to Mt. Tarengower, where some of the fit men climbed the fire tower. After that we visited Maldon, where we had time to browse, shop & have coffee. We were very fortunate the weather was perfect.

Our AGM will be held on August 17 in the Seniors' Club Room at the Blackwood Hall, commencing at 10:30am. All members or would-be members are invited to attend.

A bus trip has been organized to attend the Victoria Market on August

18, \$15.00ph, BYO lunch. All enquiries Bev Herd 5368 2526.

Any new members would be made to feel most welcome at our Wednesday get-togethers. Membership fee \$6.00 – Enquiries 53681 561

See you next issue

Kindest Regards Barb Sweet (Hon Secretary)

Blackwood Winter Ball

As you are aware, the Ball this year was cancelled. However, the committee is determined to have the event next year.

The committee welcomes Ziggy Jablonski & Janette Darwen, both of whom will bring considerable experience & some new ideas, which will hopefully, make the Ball bigger & better than ever.

We have had an informal type meeting & also thought it may be a good idea to ask you, the people who have attended the Ball in the past, for any suggestions you may have to improve the night. Accordingly, we intend to place "Suggestion Boxes" in the Blackwood Hotel, Cobb & Co.Tea Rooms, Blackwood Merchant & Lerdies. We look forward to your input.

The Committee is also pleased to be part of the Hall restoration & painting, in that we have donated \$900-00 along with others, to replace the stage curtains. We are also working with the Crown Reserves committee & the Historical Society on another project associated with the Hall, which we hope to announce soon.

~ Darrell Carr

Tourism Moorabool Report

At the June meeting of Tourism Moorabool the Village, brochures were presented for final sign-off, each village in the Shire will have a brochure available for visitors & tourists, which will provide an easy touring map at no charge. The brochures will be available at various locations in each village & at the Visitors information Centre in Bacchus Marsh.

The Visitor information Centre is relocating to the new Lerderderg Library which is being officially on 20th August, & the village of Blackwood has been invited & will be represented with a booth which will be in place for the 5 hours covering 10am till 3pm, which would also cover the period for official proceedings at 2pm. I am hoping that Crown Reserve, Progress, The Historical Society, CFA & anyone else who is proud of our village will be part of the day's display (this includes the businesses).

Please contact me about taking part, so we can make a really positive contribution to Blackwood

~ Mike Allen, Moorabool Tourism Committee Member

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BLACKWOOD PROGRESS

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EASTER CARNIVAL:

Thankyou to all those who sponsored & helped out during the Blackwood Easter Carnival.

Money raised will be contributed to:

- stage curtains for the hall
- chairs for the hall
- CFA donation
- Blackwood News donation

ANNUAL MEETING:

Wednesday August 10, 2011

7.30pm

Blackwood Hall ~ all welcome



Over 80 people turned up to the afternoon meeting
Sewerage Meeting on July 25th.

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

8am ~1st & 3rd Sunday

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BLACKWOOFs



YOU MAY have noticed that Blackwoofs often hang out in pairs. That's the way Bella & Gizmo like it. They are the best of mates, despite being very different dogs.

GIZMO WAS a dreadlocked street urchin when he was found. Until they cleaned him up, it was very difficult to tell one end of Gizmo from the

other. His wandering ways continued in Blackwood despite being skinned like a rabbit in a scrape with another Blackwoof. After being sewn back up he returned for more & was duly skinned a second time. Unbelievable! The boy was either "crazy brave" or, as we suspect, suffering from the foul memory that was a legacy of his mis-spent youth.

BELLA, ON the other hand, came with a pedigree. Jeremy bought her in Daylesford & took her home on the school bus. By the time they had reached Blackwood, she already had a name thanks to the (Italian, we think) bus driver. So, it was official. Bella was to replace the family's much-loved Cherry, the famous Blackwood wanderer, a dog dedicated to visiting just about everyone in town on a daily basis. Now, to break the news to Mum...

LUISE, STILL grieving for Cherry, refused to fall in love with Bella. The pup had to live outside, keep her distance. Luise swears that Bella would raise one paw & politely wave whenever the two spied each other across the yard. Of course Luise's determination was eventually crushed & now Bella holds her rightful place in the family. She is the Animal Aunty, protecting the chooks & rabbits & regularly updating Gizmo on things to remember.

BELLA ALSO bounced obsessively on the trampoline (every girl needs a hobby). Unfortunately, she kept popping her shoulder out & the tramp has since been removed. Gizmo continues to indulge in risky behavior, playing chicken with car wheels.

~ Jimmy Olsen strikes again

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Dear Pet Guru,

I am concerned about my pet earthworm Eric, who seems to have lost his "get up & go" & just flops around showing no interest in television or anything. What can I do?

~ Signed Nonplussed,
Newbury



Dear Nonplussed,

I am not surprised that Eric shows no interest in television, as he is both blind & deaf. But if you feel that he has lost his zip, perhaps he needs a hobby. I suggest that you take him fishing.

Pet Guru

Love Pet Guru? The whole series is now available as individual postcards look for them @ The Blackwood Merchant, Blackwood Post Office & Blackwood Cobb & Co Tearooms

The plough

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Dear Jinny,

My cousin Phil (Skinner) often sends me a Blackwood News, it's a little bit of home for me every so often. Home is not where you hang your hat, or where you may be living, home for some of us is a place deep in the heart... it's where we were loved and where our roots are, it's where we belong. Life takes us down many roads but if we are lucky we can, sometimes, take a quick trip home.

I cherish the times I can get home, even though very short.

~ Bev Cooper, Tasmania

Thanks for all your effort that goes into the newsletter, it is much appreciated.

~ Katrina and Tony Ryan

Jinny,

Thank you for including the article on Dad, the link to the Blackwood News, and for a very impressive newsletter! I hope you retain me on the notification list.

Regards,

Kevin Healey, Ballan

Hello Jinny,

We picked up a copy of your News on a recent trip to Daylesford. I was interested as I edit a similar publication at Eugowra in NSW. I thought your Newsletter was great. I noticed that you also publish it online and was wondering how you went about doing that.

Many thanks, Anne Heath
Editor, Eugowra News

While Lou is still kindly thought of and in our memory, we were introduced to the new ranger, Lachlan and his fiancé, Nicola.

Nicola served me with smile last time I was there. I have not seen Lachlan yet, but my son-in-law, Cam, spoke to him & thinks he is great, little overwhelmed by all the work he has to do. Still feeling the ground and learning the ropes, I

presume. With a little persistence, he will be an old pro by Christmas when it will be at the busiest. Keep up the good work Lachlan and Nicola!

~ Emie Truden

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Please do not hesitate to contact me on **9743 9825** or by email don.nardella@parliament.vic.gov.au should you have any matters you wish to discuss.

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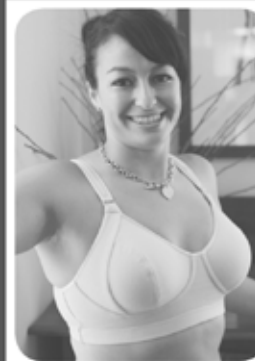
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SPIRIT OF KYNETON

There's less than a month now for you to decide which of your photographs to enter into the annual "Spirit of Kyneton & District" Prize & Exhibition of Photographs at GALLERY 40 in Kyneton. Entry into this Photography Prize is free & the exhibition of local photographs is a very popular part of the festival.

This year at least one of the prizes will be awarded to an entry which reflects the Heritage festival theme in the Spirit of Kyneton & district. The other prize or prizes may be awarded to a more general portrayal of "Spirit of Kyneton & District" involving people or landscapes or other relevant themes - at the discretion of the judges.

The 3 winning entries will each receive a prize of \$200 with a \$100 prize for the most popular work by public votes.

Entry forms are due by Friday, 19 August & your photographs should arrive at GALLERY 40 on Fri 26 or Sat 27 August. The Exhibition will officially open & the winners announced on Sat, Sep 3, the first Saturday of the Kyneton Daffodil & Arts Festival.

Visit the festival website at <http://www.kynetondaffodilarts.org.au/> for an online entry form and more info. Entry forms are also available at the Visitors' Centre. Entry forms must be submitted to Kyneton Daffodil & Arts Festival, P.O Box 59, Kyneton 3444 by Fri Aug 19. or online at daffodil@netcon.net.au

The most popular work will be announced at the conclusion of the exhibition.

Phone Margaret Chandra on 0438356025 for more info.

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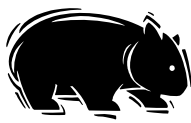
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A WORD FROM OUR NEW RANGERS

We have been in the role of Crown Reserves rangers for a little over 2 months now & we're still loving it! There has been a lot to learn – huge congrats to Lou for the fantastic job he has done juggling everything on his own for so many years, they certainly are large boots to fill!

We feel like we've got a handle on the day to day tasks & that we're getting a good feel for the position & the character of the park & how we are going to fit into it all. We'd like to say a big, big thank you to Lou, Col, the Crown Reserves Committee & everyone who has been so helpful, supportive & encouraging, enabling us to settle in & feel comfortable in our new role.

In these cold, wet months when it has been a little quieter at the Mineral Springs & Caravan Park, we have had time to reflect on this wonderful community resource & the huge potential & possibilities that it has. We are enthusiastic about realising & maintaining that potential & look forward to the weather improving & discovering new tasks & ideas that will open up with the coming sunshine and warmth!

~ *Lachlan Dear and Nicola Strating, The Rangers
Blackwood Mineral Springs Caravan Park*

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Since it started in 2003, the Lancefield-Macedon Ranges 'Relay For Life' has raised almost \$870,000 for the Cancer Council Victoria.

The organising committee is stepping up efforts in a bid to see next year's 10th anniversary event take the fundraising tally to \$1 million.

All teams, prospective participants and supporters are invited to the 2012 Relay Launch on Tuesday, September 6 at the Woodend Tennis Club from 7.30pm.

This will be an opportunity to celebrate involvement and discuss how to make the Relay more enjoyable and inclusive, and to strengthen fundraising efforts.

Relay For Life is a team event which challenges participants to keep their team batons going for 19 hours. It attracts families, friends, youth groups, schools, community organisations and workplace teams who spend up to a year fundraising in various ways, including dances, fun runs and car rallies.

A highlight of the Relay is the ceremonies to celebrate cancer survivors, remember lives lost and fight back to find a cure. Many teams camp overnight and the live entertainment is a major attraction.

The 2012 Lancefield-Macedon Ranges Relay For Life will be held on March 3 & 4 at Lancefield Park. For details about registering or getting involved ring Melissa McCarthy on 0438 831 427 or email tmac31@bigpond.net.au

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June 5th saw Lyonville Hall decked in bright pinks & pastels at the inaugural annual Lyonville Bake-off & Cake Stall.

Local women (& kids) baked up a storm to enter their best into a number of categories including scones, big cakes, small cakes, slices, savoury pastries & a kid's section.

The over-all winner was judged to be Robyn Carrey's Coconut Cake. Funds raised will be put towards renovations at the hall.



Locals & visitors to Blackwood sang up a storm at the first Shape Note Singing Workshop held by the Melbourne Sacred Harp Singers. Workshops are held monthly at Lerdies. See blackwoodacademy.org for further info



BEYOND BLACKWOOD...



from Trentham Lions Club

Old Time Dancing: is held on 2nd Fri monthly in the Trentham Mechanics Hall. Dances start at 8pm. Admission is \$8 pp, including supper & a door prize draw. Alternate dances are held in aid of the Trentham Historical Society & Trentham Lions Club. Music by Family Rhythm. The next dances are Aug 12 & Sept 9. Enquiries: Elizabeth 5424 1254

Wood Raffles: The first 3 wood raffles have now been drawn & the winners are: Raffle No 1 – Mark Mulkearns of Jacksons Lane, Trentham, raffle No2 – Jenny Gamble of Trentham-Springhill Rd. Trentham, & raffle No3 – Anita Hickey of East Trentham. All have won approx. 1 cubic metre of red gum firewood. There are 3 more raffles for this season so look for the ticket sellers each Sat am in the main street.

Flood Relief Money: The \$2590 collected from Lions, Trentham Bowling Club, & Trentham CWA, has been donated to the Charlton Lions Club in Victoria, to assist those in desperate need in the Charlton area. Charlton Lions Club are providing food vouchers, replacement books, etc. for local schools & kinder, & other assistance where required, for those people devastated by the recent floods. You can be assured that every cent of this money will go to where it is needed. Thank you to Trentham CWA & Bowling Club.

Lions Community Grants: Once again this year, Trentham Lions Club will be accepting applications from community groups who have a special project, & require cash grants to help complete it. Any community group who has a special project & requires assistance with funding, may submit a written application to Trentham Lions Club Inc. stating the nature of the project, & the costing details. Applications must be received by the Secretary, P.O. Box 36 Trentham, no later than Aug 12th 2011. All applications will be considered at the Lions business meeting on Aug 17th.

Farmer's Market – 2nd Birthday Celebration: Every third Sat of each month @ Trentham Town Square. 9am – 1pm. STUFF YOUR PANTRY with fresh eggs, cheese, fruit & vegetables, dips, preserves, wine, sourdough & yummy sweet treats along with raffles, & local entertainment. Family fun for children & friends. Enquiries: Tracey 5424 1185 / 0447 836 171

Report on Farmers Market BBQ: We are pleased to advise that since its inception, the Farmers Market has now passed on just under \$19000 to the various groups who participate in the market BBQ. This ongoing source of funds is going straight back into the community.

Birthday Cakes: Trentham Lions will deliver birthday cakes to persons in our district who are 80 yrs & over. If you are aware of anyone in the area who does not receive a cake, please advise Shirley 5438 5690 of their details - (name, address, phone number & date of birth), & we will endeavour to deliver them a delicious birthday cake on their birthday.



Incoming Lions committee L-R: Chris Carr, Shirley Corneille, Tim Walsh, Elizabeth McInerney, Paddy McMenemin, Adrian Kasbergen & John Marion.

Lions Changeover: The Trentham Lions changeover dinner was held at the Pig & Whistle hotel on Wed. July 6th. The main officers for 2011-2012 remain unchanged; president John Marion, secretary Elizabeth McInerney, treasurer Tim Walsh.

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ELLEN KEMP – PHARMACIST AT TRENTHAM.

Ellen Kemp died on the 23rd of June after a two-year illness with cancer. Ellen determinedly fought the cancer in the same way she had tackled her life.

She grew up in Swan Hill & spent her youth playing sports of all sorts, but mostly high diving. She obtained a place in the national team & it reflected her enjoyment of risk taking. This was evident later in her skiing, which she loved.

Ellen finished her education at MLC in Melbourne and then attended pharmacy college.

She married Rob Kemp & owned a pharmacy in Swan Hill before returning to Melbourne, where they had two daughters. Ellen worked part time, mostly in Coburg.

Mussel farming was a part time business for several years before they bought property at Trentham. There they had sheep for some years and grew advanced trees. After her husband died, Ellen was spending more time at Trentham, & decided that it would help Trentham if there was a pharmacy. She built the shop in the main street, and no doubt has been a contributing factor to the recent growth of the town.

When the Newsagency became available, Ellen decided that she would buy it, mainly to make sure that the business did not close. The Newsagency business was unfamiliar to Ellen but she tackled it enthusiastically, helped enormously by her competent staff.

The Newsagency has now changed hands, but she was responsible for saving the business. When there was first talk of the Community Bank Ellen put her full support behind that also. As she was feeling satisfaction at the development of Trentham, there came the news of her illness.

Ellen leaves behind a great contribution to the people of Trentham and surrounding area. She will be remembered for her ease of manner and abundance of one liners.

In the last two years she had the pleasure of seeing two of her three grand children born.

~ Susie Spence

Ballan Providore Rocks On!

Those who attended will agree the sold out "Chris Wilson, Shane O'mara" gig was a fine night of entertainment indeed.

Our next gig will be the beautiful soothing sounds of "Rebecca Barnard" on Sat Aug 6. If you haven't heard any of her music, you may have heard Rebecca on talkback radio or have seen her on "Rockwiz" or "Spicks & Specks".



Rebecca Barnard

The night will kick off with Dinner at 6.30pm then Rebecca Barnard & guest will start playing at 7.30-7.45pm. Bookings are essential as we are limiting the numbers to 60, so get in early & book if you can.

We also have "Lisa Miller & Band" September 10 & will have "Chris Wilson, Shane O'mara" back in October.

Words in Winter, Trentham – Writers Wanted

Are you a budding writer, do you have a secret drawer full of your musings, do you put pen to paper on occasion & come up with prose or poetry, or perhaps you have developed a play that needs airing? Whatever your muse or musings, we would love to hear from you &, more importantly, we would love to read your words.

The Hepburn Shire 'Words in Winter' festival provides a wonderful opportunity to share your writing, in whatever form it comes. "Telling Tales", an afternoon of rehearsed readings at the Cosmopolitan Stables, is looking for written works of any kind; short stories, prose, poetry or plays. The iconic "Bush Poetry" event is open to those who have a passion for a yarn or a poem or two, contributors are welcome.

'Words in Winter' Trentham is an event for our communities to share the love of words, made possible because of community participation & we would love to have you involved. This year's program will be held over the weekend of August 19th, 20th & 21st. Please contact Saskia on 0418 257 156 or at saskiapost@iinet.net.au, we would love to hear from you & answer any questions you may have. Submissions accepted until the end of July.

Happy writing!

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NORMIE ROWE & MARCIE JONES REUNITE

They are no longer teenagers in love but life-long friends, Marcie Jones & Normie Rowe are now joint Patrons of Kyneton based Artists for Orphans. Last week Normie Rowe blew into town, raised over \$3000 for Artists for Orphans, became Patron & blew out again.

The fundraiser was a recipe for success from the get-go. A small intimate venue, a group of fun-loving people & one of the country's top performers, Normie Rowe, up close & personal.

The venue was the cosy Albion Hotel in Kyneton, the superb food was contributed by proprietors Marisa & Tony &, if you were lucky enough to get a ticket, the mood in the room was one of excited anticipation.

Normie had the crowd on their feet & singing during 'Que Sera Sera', crying through 'What Have you Done for Australia' & gyrating to 'Shakin' All Over'.

Normie had driven from Melbourne especially for this performance, proceeds of which went to Kyneton's Roni Wildeboer's fund 'Artists for Orphans'.

Roni Wildeboer asked Normie Rowe & Marcie Jones if they would be Patrons for 'Artists for Orphans' & to her absolute delight they have both accepted.

Proceeds from these fundraisers go to orphans in Vietnam badly affected by Agent Orange & to the Vietnam Volunteer Network, which was founded by a former orphan of Go Vap Orphanage in Ho Chi Min City, Kim Nyugen-Browne now based in London.

Roni explained on the night that what these forgotten children need most is human touch & love & Kim recruits volunteers to travel to Vietnam to help out at these orphanages. We can help, explained Roni, by raising funds for physiotherapy equipment, medical treatment, air-conditioning etc.

The next fundraiser for 'Artists for Orphans' will be a fantastic night of music & art at Stockroom Kyneton, on October 8. Artists such as Reg Mombassa & Peter O'Doherty have donated art for this auction.

Marcie Jones & composer/harpist Mary Doumany will give special performances and there will always be a few surprises.

Late breaking news ... since Blackwood News received this press release the wonderful Denise Drysdale has become 'Artists for Orphans' third Patron!

VIC CHARITY SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

A small charity based in the Latrobe Valley is seeking volunteers to help raise funds for humanitarian projects in developing nations.

Over the last few years, Glory to the King Ministries International Inc.'s Overseas Aid Fund has raised money for a number of projects, including orphanages in Kenya, Uganda, Nepal & Myanmar, a program for lepers in India & a school in Uganda. All funds collected go 100% to projects in third-world countries.

GTKMI are now seeking to expand their efforts so that they can help even more needy people, & are looking for volunteer fundraisers to help achieve this.

Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age, must be willing to commit at least one day per month to fundraising activities, & must be willing to undergo a police check. GTKMI will provide promotional materials & support, and volunteers will have the reward of knowing that they are truly making a difference to people who face daily struggles that are unimaginable in our western society. Volunteers will not be expected to travel, but will work in their own area.

Anyone interested should contact Rev. Lynn Fowler, Glory to the King Ministries International, PO Box 432 Churchill Vic 3842, or email gtk@glorytotheking.net, with "volunteer" in the subject line.

HEALTH BASICS

by Kathie Strmota

This is the first in a series on practical self-care, discussing a range of common health issues which can be supported through simple nutrition & other 'natural' methods. Take charge of your health by going 'back to basics'.

Good Digestion Gives You More From Life

All the wonderful fuel your body needs to heal, & stay healthy, comes in via the digestive system. Poor digestion means you won't absorb all the nutrients you need, even if you eat the healthiest foods. Any physical, mental or emotional imbalance can be improved by proper nourishment, so why not stimulate digestive processes & absorb more goodness from every mouthful?

Physical digestion also reflects your ability to take in, process & learn from life experiences. Poor eating habits & digestive problems reflect an imbalance in the way you 'digest' life. There may be difficulty absorbing new ideas or fully processing feelings. You may swallow things & let them eat away at you, rather than working through & resolving them. You may race from one life experience to the next without really engaging & receiving the blessings it has to offer.

When you improve your relationship with food, those changes will indirectly improve your experience of life in general. Start by simply being more conscious about eating. Don't just think of food as the quickest way to remove those pesky hunger signals. Think of what it truly is. You eat to nourish the body. While you prepare & eat your meal, remember this, & consider what will best serve your body. The more you do this, you'll also begin to see other aspects of your life differently, & become more discerning about what experiences you choose to 'take in'. Let your attention be on the process of eating, & fully digesting. Appreciate the delicious flavours & textures, focus on the nutritional 'gifts' you're receiving, & intend to absorb the absolute best. This will enhance digestive processes, both physically & energetically. Digestion works much better when you're calm & 'adrenalin-free'. Rather than 'eating on the run', slow down & find a quiet space to stop & 'be with' your food. A cup of chamomile tea, half an hour before eating, can help settle down the nerves which supply digestive organs.

The first phase of digestion occurs in the mouth. Chew your food really well, into tiny pieces. This increases surface area & allows saliva (full of enzymes) to begin the chemical breakdown process. Stimulate 'lazy' digestive juices with a pre-meal nibble of bitter foods, such as olives, pickled veg, celery, or a side-salad of bitter greens (eg. dark lettuce, rocket, dandelion leaves). A spoon of apple cider vinegar, before a meal, will also stimulate digestive processes & greatly improve nutrient absorption. & parsley is a wonderful addition to any meal or salad, so always eat the garnish! Protein is hard work & needs a good supply of stomach acid, so have a cup of ginger tea, before or after a meal, or include fresh ginger in meat recipes. Horseradish root is hot & stimulating, & a great condiment with heavy meats. Paw paw supplies extra protein enzymes & can be included in a salad, esp. lovely for a sunny BBQ.

Support the overall health of digestive organs, as well, by regularly including fennel tea for the pancreas, dandelion (root 'coffee', leaf tea, or salad greens) for the liver, & olives for the gall bladder.

Affirmations to support digestion: I allow my inner fire to burn brightly. I experience my life consciously & absorb the best from every experience. I take in only that which I can make best use of. I taste & experience life for myself, & always find it delicious.



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For the Kids ...



Colour in our fox picture... then answer these questions...

1. What colour is a fox here in Australia?
2. Are there many different foxes?
3. Can you draw a fox track?
4. What can you find out about foxes?
5. Do we have foxes in Blackwood?

~ Bev Cooper

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• EVENTS & GIG GUIDE •

AUGUST 2011

when	what	where
Fri 5	Louis and the Jump Jivers	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Sat 6	Rebecca Barnard & Guest	Ballan Providore bookings 0425 742 344
Sun 7	Truly Madly Deeply	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Sun 7	Musical Experiment: Going Great Guns	Blackwood Hotel
Fri 12	Tony English and Doc Henry	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Sun 14	Liz Frencham and Myles White	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Fri 19	Open Mic Night	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Sun 21	Shaun Brown solo (from Dirty York)	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Thur 25	Trivia Night	Blackwood Cobb & Co
Fri 26	Demi Louise	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Sun 28	Reservoir Frogs	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Sun 28	1pm Blackwood Academy *	Lerdies in Blackwood
Sun 28	4pm Blackwood Revue: Ken Maher & Ciderhouse String Band	Lerdies in Blackwood

SEPTEMBER 2011

when	what	where
Fri 2	Come Alive With Jive: Dinner Show with Louis & the Jump Jivers	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Sun 4	Truly Madly Deeply	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Fri 9	Brother Johnston	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Sat 10	Lisa Miller & Band	Ballan Providore
Sun 11	Liz Frencham and Myles White	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Sun 11	Musical Experiment: Going Great Guns	Blackwood Hotel
Fri 16	Open Mic Night	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Sun 25	Reservoir Frogs	Cosmopolitan Trentham
Sun 25	1pm Blackwood Academy *	Lerdies in Blackwood
SUn 25	4pm Blackwood Revue	Lerdies in Blackwood
Thur 29	Trivia Night	Blackwood Cobb & Co

* denotes Blackwoodians
Listings in the gigs & events guide are published free of charge but must be submitted no later than Sept 20 for the Oct/Nov issue.

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TRENTHAM 3 Mulcahys Rd

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BLACKWOOD 16A Wall St

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TRENTHAM Daylesford Rd

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BLACKWOOD 11 Victoria St

Spacious three bedroom home on around quarter acre. North facing living and dining. Verandahs on two sides. Large garage/workshop with concrete floor and power.

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BLACKWOOD 25 Bates Rd

Large 1940's style dwelling in great elevated position on just under half an acre. Two large bedrooms. Separate dining, separate living area and sun room. Large garage/workshop and mature garden setting.

\$310,000



BLACKWOOD 13 Golden Point Rd

Quaint 3 bedroom miners cottage and one bedroom house. Both let on Monthly tenancies. Opportunity to further develop STCA.

\$285,000

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