



## SEWERAGE SCHEME WIPED LOCALS QUEUE UNDETERRED



**GARBAGE  
COLLECTIONS**  
OCTOBER  
1, 15, 29  
NOVEMBER  
12, 26

**We've waited now for 7 years.  
Can we hold on much longer?**

read more p5

### FOR THE DIARY:

- OCT 6: HIST SOC WORKING BEE (P6)
- OCT 6: RONNY'S RELICS
- OCT 10: PROGRESS AGM (P6)
- OCT 13: BUSHFIRE PLANNING (21)
- OCT 14: AUCTION / CLEARANCE (P3)
- NOV 4: HIST SOC OPEN DAY (P6)
- NOV 10: CFA FIRE READY MEET (P6)
- NOV 24: GREENDALE MARKET (P23)



### EDITOR'S THOUGHTS...

Hello again Blackwoodians,

After 7 years waiting we now have the final decision from the EPA about our sewerage! It's a no go! So where does this leave us? On p5 Heather explores the probability of gaining a planning permit to build on her small block. If you are one of the many who will be affected by EPA's decision Heather's article calls you to action with a number of options. You may also wish to email Blackwood News your letters so that we can get a general idea of community attitudes.

What a sad period it's been for Blackwood with the loss of a number of our long term Blackwoodians! On p15-16 you can read the first part of Nancy Walker's eulogy – the tale of strong & courageous woman who was an inspiration to her children. Peter de Groote's daughter has a beautiful, sad poem in memory of her dad & old timers in Blackwood will surely get a giggle remembering John Bridgeman's antics at the Blackwood Revue. Our thoughts are with John, Nancy & Peters families.

With better weather on its way, we have almost a full page of gigs & events on p9. Have you been to the Blackwood Revue since it moved to the church? This is such a special place to hear great music & catch up with friends who are coming out of their usual Blackwood hibernation - I hope to see you there.

As the weather improves, many people will be celebrating births, weddings & anniversaries - remember to send us your photos with details so we can put them in Blackwood News. Deadlines are below.

Have you seen a black cat? Real or not real? On p20, Jimmy Olsen challenges you to send us your experiences for a feature in the December '12/January '13 issue - can we prove the DSE wrong?

I love a good market, & Greendale Country Market is one of my favourites – so many bargains to find in-between catching up with locals. I'll be looking forward to going along on November 24. If you see me there, camera in hand, be sure to say hi & put your best smile on for a photo for the next out & about album.

Enjoy reading & have a great couple of months!

~til next issue **Jinny Coyle**,  
editor@blackwoodnews.com.au

### HOW'S THE WEATHER BEEN?

~ by Don Owen

Month & Year	Rainfall (mm)	Rainfall Average (mm) 1879-2007	Minimum Temperature deg C	Maximum Temperature deg C
July '12	107.6	102.8	-2.1	11.3
Aug '12	116.6	110.7	-1.3	15.4

**JULY & August** rainfalls are above the long-term averages & the average winter temperature was about half a degree less than 2011. August this year was quite cold, being about 1.6 degrees below that of 2011. The winter temperatures since 2009 have tended to see-saw a bit with a relatively warm winter followed by a colder one, 2010 was particularly cold.

### BLACKWOOD CRICKET CLUB 21ST ANNIVERSARY



Blackwood Cricket Club is happy to announce that we are about to begin our 21st year since our reformation in season 91/92, when a few locals decided to reform the club in the interest of community spirit & as focus for the junior players.

The Cricket Club has been a great opportunity for locals, past locals & outsiders to play sport & socialise locally. This year we are very excited that we are now in our 2nd year in the Gisborne league. We also have some great new facilities at the ground & a new pitch. Our new executive are focusing on getting more involved with the local community & working towards a successful year on & off the field.

We are holding our annual event "Ronnie's Relics" on Saturday October 6 at the Blackwood Recreation Reserve. This a practice match between the current players & a side of past players, put together by Ron Salmon. It's a great family day out & all are welcome to attend; we will put on a bbq & the bar & canteen will be open. Come down & enjoy the newly-dressed ground & check out the new facilities.

After a disrupted season last year due to renovations at the ground & a lack of home games, we are seeking your support this season, whether it be financial or voluntary, by the way of sponsorship, membership or helping out at home games. Also, after a couple of semi-retirements, we are desperate for players, so if you know of anyone who can put on the whites on a Saturday, send them our way.

If anyone has any ideas for the club, looking for a game or has any questions, please contact Rob Whan (president) 03 5368 6368, Steve O'Brian (secretary) 0488 978 684, Alan Salmon (Captain/ Vice President) 0421 318 857 or Dave Salmon (Treasurer) 03 5368 6539.

**EDITORS NOTE:** Keep up-to-date with the Cricket Club's games on Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/BlackwoodCricketClub>

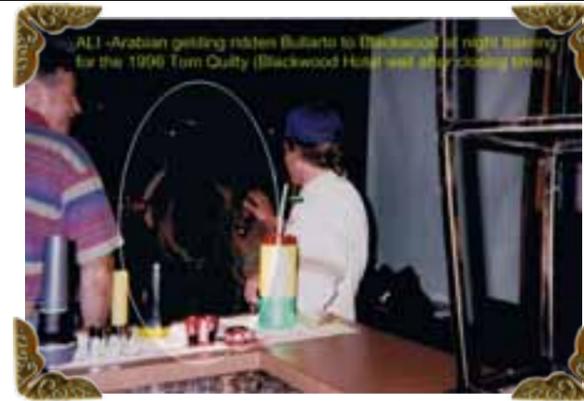
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### BLACKWOOD ALBUM: OCTOBER NOVEMBER 2012



Is Ray Meade to the left?



Shapenote singing at the August Blackwood Academy



The bridge boys are back ... this time at the Simmons Creek Road crossing of Whipstick creek

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#### 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.

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### BETTY LETICIA CANN

JULY 30, 1929 – JUNE 28, 2012 (CONTINUED)

In the early 60's, Mum & Dad accepted a temporary caretaker's position at Ormond East State School which included the adjacent house at number 2 Collins St. School was just through the gate, & we always came home for lunch. It would have been the cleanest school in Melbourne I'm sure as they both cleaned windows, mopped & polished floors, emptied galvanised bins, lit the boiler at the crack of dawn, & burnt rubbish in the incinerator. This 'temporary' position lasted 40 years. Mum's involvement in Mother's Club, school council, etc. continued long after we kids finished going there. The Cann's were icons at Ormond East.

Mum's biggest achievement was her generosity to everyone. She never put herself first. I'm sure all of you here today would have shared in a cuppa & a feed with Betty. She never went anywhere empty-handed & you never went home hungry! "Have another cuppa, are you sure, go on, it's a long time til tea. That's not enough", & so on. Her cooking was amazing & abundant. The fruit cakes were so heavy you could hardly lift them. Not a couple at Christmas, but 10 or more. Then again for birthdays, anniversaries or any occasion. Her great friend, Kit, used to ice them. The passionfruit sponges for the Church fetes. The supply of endless scones for the Devonshire teas at Ormond & also at Blackwood Easter Sports for many years. Friends at the Mercy Hospital & LaTrobe Uni also tasted Mum's cooking on numerous occasions.

The breakfasts in bed, at Ormond or Blackwood, the tray heavily laden would arrive, even if you were sleeping! Mum used to take her good friend, Merrilyn, breakfast in bed down Collins St. in her dressing gown. It was always a tray with the lot, even the teapot, cup & saucer. Her neighbours Pam, Henny, & Kit have all had trays of food when they have been ill. Morning & afternoon teas at Blackwood were also served – wherever you were – on a huge tin tray that is still in the Blackwood kitchen. Every Christmas holidays Mum would give that tray & random parts of the pantry a new cover of contact – usually right over the top of the previous year's layer. Homemade veggie soup & egg & bacon pie was on the bench the day mum left us, made for Kenny.

As most of you know, Mum & Dad made a big move when they retired, across the road, number 2 to 13 Collins St. A lot was moved across in the wheelbarrow. I fondly remember Mum's great friend, Kit, whose house backed onto 2 Collins St. They had a ladder on either side of the fence, never a gate or they would have had a fight. Both ladies would climb up & over to each other. Kit did wear trousers, but Mum never did. Up & over would go the Fletcher Jones skirt & twin set. Even on those bitter cold winters in Blackwood, Mum wouldn't wear trousers. She even mowed the lawns in a skirt or dress. She loved FJ's sale.

Her other great love was, of course, the garden. Always seasonal bulbs & annuals, roses, poppies, sweet peas, chysanths, camellias

& rhododendrons. If you were stuck for a gift, give Mum a plant or something for the garden. She was mowing the lawn right up to the last few weeks, yes we tried to do it, but she wouldn't let us. She had given in to having the edges done. Not only her garden, but she would also help the neighbours & Auntie Laurel when theirs was too much.

Blackwood was also a place of many gardening & maintenance activities as Mum & Dad worked & worked in any weather to keep the place spick & span. Mum would push the lawnmower in places they just were not designed to go & was very thrilled with the purchase of a self-propelled Honda mower which enable her to mow the hilly parts more easily. The front hedge was also kept perfect with hand clippers – to this day, I can still hear the 'clip, clip, clip' of Mum working away on the hedge. Most Christmas holidays parts of the house, inside & out, would also receive a lick of fresh paint by Mum. On winter's nights, by the open fire, Mum's lightning fingers would also 'click, click' with her knitting needles – endlessly creating jumpers & cardigans for all the family – her fingers knew the job so well she could keep knitting even while having a little snooze!

Mum's biggest regret was that she never got to England to visit the Queen. Who else had not 1, but 2 pictures of Queen Elizabeth II hanging in their hall. She loved the royal family & everything about them. How proud she was when Kate married William, & yes Kate had copied my wedding dress! I guess that's where our corgis fit in. Unlike Dad, though, she wasn't an animal person, but tolerated them.

Mum loved her china & crystal. The Royal Albert dinner set came out for afternoon teas, Christmas, birthdays or visitors. She would look at the crest on the bottom of a plate, oh yes that's an Ainsley or Doulton. We were going off to see Lord Wedgewood at DJs at the Glen in a few weeks. I love china too,

so I guess that's where it stemmed from. With the cup & saucer was the Lanchoo tea in the teapot. Mum would collect the labels off the top of the packet, then count them up & on the next town visit, go off to the Lanchoo shop in Flinders Lane & choose a gift. This was after Kenny & I were dragged up Collins St to the awful dentist first, then off to Coles Cafeteria, our highlight of a visit to town.

So many memories, but Mum's total devotion & care of Dad especially in the later years is a highlight. They were both so loyal to each other & now they are together. They were a team, & without the other the wheels fell off. I thank everyone for the love & support for both Mum & Dad over many years, & especially the last few months. Mum worked tirelessly for her church & community. Her family & friends always came before herself. She will be missed dearly, but she is now in God's garden with our Golden Dad. Ken, Cheryl & I were privileged to have such wonderful parents.

~ Sue Streader



### Blackwood building permits & sewerage

ALSO TITLED "PEE OR GET OFF THE POT" OR "UP SH\*T CREEK WITHOUT A SHOVEL"

If you have somehow missed the news, the sewerage project for Blackwood is on indefinite hold. The plan, which was designed by the successful tender company, did not get EPA approval.

Upon hearing of the failed sewerage project, I decided to make a small 'test case' to investigate getting a planning permit for our small block in Blackwood. Now that sewerage was on the drawing board for many more years to come, what was to become of the little 'investment block' we had bought adjacent to our home?

Our block is 1600 square meters, fairly clear of trees & on the main road. The experience was very convoluted. Despite a great willingness to help, no one person at council was able to tell me a clear process for obtaining a permit. I spoke to people in planning, environment & building who all gave me pieces of the puzzle, but not the whole picture. I then made an appointment with a private building surveyor who explained a lot more about the process. I needed to get plans to council including a BAL, & land capability assessment – then my plans would go to relevant authorities (CFA & water catchment – ours is Western Water, not Central Highlands) who would have right of veto.

I followed up with a call to a contractor who does the BAL (bushfire attack level) certificates & a call to Western Water. The fire bloke was professional & positive – we might get over the line. The development planner from Western Water was not positive but at least he was forthright: "There is no way you will get a permit for that block" was his response when I said that we would do anything – any system, at any cost.

"You wouldn't really get anything across the line on 4,000 squares or less in Blackwood" was the other refreshingly frank response. So that is that.

Blackwood sewerage was just one part of the Small Towns Sewerage Project (funded by DSE as Country Towns Water Supply & Sewerage Program). Central Highlands Water was granted \$1,735,000 by DSE to implement the project for Blackwood, Barry's Reef & Simmonds Reef.

It is a complicated business & I am aware that there are other locals who know more about the scheme than I. My interest on hearing about the failed sewerage scheme was primarily contained to three concerns:

1) Blackwood home-owners have delayed repairing or replacing existing septic systems, pending the promised sewerage connection. As a consequence, many Blackwood properties now have worn or damaged systems. The current state of septic systems in Blackwood poses a greater threat to health & environment now than it did when those risks were first identified & sewerage discussed as the solution.

2) Building permits for Blackwood have been notoriously elusive due to the bushfire overlays but also impacted significantly by the pending sewerage scheme. Any permit which is put to council must go to the relevant CFA & water catchment authorities to be veted. As noted from my recent conversation with Western Water, the catchment authority will be unlikely to approve a permit for a Blackwood application (with septic or other system) unless the land is at least an acre (and even then they indicated it would be unlikely).

3) Following from the above: the value of land in Blackwood has been negatively impacted by the failed sewerage project. Property owners have postponed building projects & land sales in anticipation of their property being connected to sewerage.

In other words – we are up the creek. It is down the gurgler, & what is going to be done about it?

Well, nothing much will get done in a hurry unless we take action.

Here are some ideas which may help:

Write to David Clements, who is heading up the Small Towns Sewerage Scheme. He is a very lovely man & really wants to help, but he needs the demand to come from the community.

David Clements  
Project Director, Country Towns Sewerage Project  
PO Box 152, Ballarat, Victoria 3353

Let him know that we want the key organisations involved in this to form a working party to resolve this in collaboration with one another. These would be: Moorabool Council, the EPA & Central Highlands Water (possibly including DSE & Western Water).

Ask Central Highlands Water to tell us how much of the \$1,735,000 is unexpended. As the most important stakeholders in this business & as a matter of transparency, this should be our right.

Perhaps the unexpended funds could be used to set up a grant trust for Blackwood, Barry's Reef & Simmonds Reef home-owners to repair or upgrade their current septic systems, given that they will be using them for many more years to come.

Write to the Planning Minister:  
The Hon. Matthew Guy, MLC  
Level 7, 1 Spring Street, Melbourne, VIC, 3000

Let him know you are really, really cranky & that you would like him to do something about it.

I don't believe fist –waving or petitions will make the difference in this matter. Individuals taking the time to state their case in writing may – lets hope so.

~ Heather Marsh

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## Update - Blackwood Sewerage Project

**Project overview**  
The preferred solution for the Blackwood Sewerage Project wastewater treatment plant and effluent disposal submitted by Central Highlands Water and its contractor Water Infrastructure Group to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has not been given approval.  
A letter was sent to all residents on 20 August 2012 and a public information session was held on 6 September 2012.  
The key difficulty is that the expected nutrient levels of the treated wastewater are too high for the receiving waters of the Long Gully Creek and the Lerderderg River.  
Initial investigations into other solutions, including disposal of treated effluent to agricultural land, would add substantial costs to the project and would not be practical. On this basis further investigation into an affordable and sustainable solution is needed.

**Where to from here?**  
Central Highlands Water is meeting with key regulatory stakeholders to identify a new and sustainable solution. Feedback on the progress of these discussions will be provided to the Blackwood community as the information becomes available.

**More information:**  
Further information is available from the Country Towns Sewerage Project team on 1800 888 663 or [ctssenquiries@chw.net.au](mailto:ctssenquiries@chw.net.au)



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**COMMUNITY GROUP UPDATES**  
**All Saints' Anglican Church, Blackwood**  
 On Sunday November 4 at 3pm, we are having Sung Evensong with Blackwoodians & visitors from Woodend, to celebrate the Feast of All Saints. Visitors welcome! Afternoon Tea to follow.  
 ~ Malcolm Thomas

**Blackwood/Barry's Reef Landcare Group**  
 Don't miss your opportunity to obtain a copy of Port Phillip & Western Port Catchment Management Authority's beautiful publication "Indigenous Plants of the Upper Werribee Catchment", which is now available (free of charge) in the Blackwood Post Office, Blackwood Hotel & the Blackwood Merchant.  
 In 2005, Vic Roads, John Davies & I inspected the main road from Greendale to its Hepburn boundary at Yankee Road. This September when Vic Roads' Frank Carland drove us along the same route, we said 'Congratulations Vic Roads!' Except for Barry's Reef, where the gorse needs attention, hawthorn bushes & other invasive weeds have been replaced by native trees & flowering wattles.  
 On Friday Sept 24, I was privileged to participate in a Port Phillip & Westernport CMA, Werribee Catchment Advisory Round Table conference at Bacchus Marsh.  
 Although human lust for money & power is stuffing up the world, the philosophy of doing one's best at a local level is an emerging panacea. Founding CEO, David Buntine & Doug Evans demonstrated their foresight by appointing intelligent people to their team which operates in tandem with Melbourne Water. They are saying, "Development is diminishing the environment. This CMA is devising plans to co-exist & ameliorate those conditions!"  
 Having successfully completed our second Weeds Forum, B/BR Landcare team must now fulfill its commitments. There is the costly onus of coping with our nine selected weeds. (Holly is especially expensive because its waxy surface disallows spraying). Should there be one or two very kind people who would like to assist with the process of compiling & distributing relevant information, please contact Pat Liffman, secretary at (03) 5368 6678. Thankyou.

**BLACKWOOD CERT**  
 The weekend Sept 15-16 saw the four graduates from the recent CERT course hit the road.  
 After 80 hours of training, the graduates are keen to use the knowledge gained, however they will be under supervision from existing members until the necessary on-the-job experience is obtained. Congratulations to Anne, Caroline, Kathie and Ivan on

attaining their Authority to Practice!  
 The CERT Committee and Team were saddened at the recent passing of John Bridgman. John was the inaugural Chairperson of the CERT Committee of Management and continued to support CERT till his final day. RIP John.  
 ~Trevor Hill

**Blackwood Historical Society**  
 As we enter Spring, the group look forward to our event calendar taking off.  
**Saturday October 6:** Meeting 10.30am followed with a working bee.  
**Sunday November 4:** Annual Meeting followed with an open day.  
 Thank you to Lou Henderson, Ian Stuart & Micheal Boyd for the help they have given the society. We expressed our concern to the Dept. of Sustainability re the opening of the "Able Mine" as across the road was the Historic Balt Camp for refugees from the Baltic Countries.  
 ~ Allan Hall, President

**Blackwood Crown Reserves Committee Of Management**  
 Over the winter period we have been busy getting our reserves ready for the holidays season.  
 The Sports Ground has had trees taken down & thanks to Peter & Glenda for cleaning up the wood.  
 The Mineral Springs & Caravan Park has had trees trimmed, the wall put up on the front of the residence & David & Matt doing work down on the riverbank. Thanks to Steve Hammond for organising the spraying in the park & thanks to Lou for his help around the area.  
 We are investigating the possibility of putting a walking track around the edge of the Sports Ground; this would enable disabled, children on bikes or someone with a walking stick to walk around the oval plus many other reasons we should have this track.  
 On a sad note, we were sorry to hear of the passing of past committee member, John Bridgeman, & extend to Wendy & family our condolences. We welcome back Tony & Barbara & look forward to some exciting months ahead.  
 Remember we have  
 Hall for hire phone E.Hall 53686537  
 Sports Ground for hire phone Sally or David 53686539  
 Or just use the mineral springs for you picnic or day out.  
 ~ Elizabeth Hall, Secretary

**Blackwood CFA**  
 Spring has sprung & as another fire season hurtles toward us Blackwood CFA is busy preparing to keep our community safe. A number of events are coming up at the station that we would love to see all residents attend, say hello & get information for the coming season.  
 There will be two Vic Fire Ready meetings in the local area:  
**Saturday November 10, 11am (BBQ will happen after the meeting)**  
 Vic Fire Ready meeting 1 @ Blackwood Fire Station  
**Thursday November 22 7.30pm:** Vic Fire Ready meeting 2 @ Barrys Reef Bus Stop  
 Prior to the season we are holding a Bushfire Planning Day & an Open Day. Bring the whole family along, as there will be a BBQ, giveaways & the chance for the kids to check out our fire trucks.  
**Sunday November 25, 11am-2pm:** CFA Open Day @ Blackwood Fire Station  
**Saturday December 8, 11am:** Bushfire Planning Day @ Blackwood Fire Station  
 Remember that being prepared is the best defense against bushfires. Evacuating before the threat appears can save both you & your family's lives. This spring we encourage you get your gardens in order, clear your gutters &, most importantly, have your Bushfire Survival Plan written down & rehearsed, so that it can be enacted at a moment's notice.  
 If you are planning on burning off excess garden rubbish, you need

to notify VIC Fire on 1800 668 511 to inform them of your intentions.  
 Stay safe, stay informed & as a community we can all survive another season.  
 ~ Leon Rolls, Communication Officer Blackwood CFA

**Blackwood Progress Association**  
 We are organising Easter, 2013. If you have ideas or suggestions please advice us. Our Annual General Meeting will be October 10 at 7.30pm in the Blackwood hall.  
 We have expressed our concern on the condition of our Blackwood /Trentham Road to the State Government & our concerns have been taken up by Don Nardella – thanks Don.  
 We are working towards getting a standard sign post each end of town for our "Events in town". Vic roads have given us the recommended signs available.  
 Progress has been approached by Bendigo Bank, Laverton (who have a member in Micheal Boyd) with the idea of putting a defibrillator in the town for town use. Thanks to Micheal for this & to Heinz & Angie for agreeing to have it in the hotel.  
 We extend our condolences to Judith de Groot on the loss of her husband.  
 ~ Lou Henderson: President

**BLACKWOOD COMMUNITY LINK PROGRAM**  
 Blackwood News wishes to apologise to any members of the community who were inconvenienced when our previous issue publicised Community Link Trips in error. We were not aware the program had ceased.

**Blackwood Senior Citizens' Centre Inc.**  
 Here we are once again with an update from the Blackwood Senior Citizens Club. Our club is going ahead in leaps & bounds with a great group of generous & helpful members.  
 We have also acquired quite a few new members so this is good news for the club.  
 It was nice to see Wendy Bridgeman with us once more, but tinged with sadness at the loss of her husband, John. Sadly the club has lost 5 of our members in the last month – namely, John Bridgeman, Peter de Groot, Rick Stewart, Joyce Blakemne, & Nancy Walker.  
 John & Nancy were both life members of our club, Nancy was in her 99th year - what an achievement!  
 May these people rest in peace & we extend our sympathy to their families.

Our AGM was held on August 22, with Robin Salt & Amanda McDermott from Moorabool Shire in attendance. Elected office bearers are as follows: Max Manning (President), Jim Usher (Vice President), Barbara Sweet (Secretary), Helga Weiss (Treasurer), Bev Herd (asst Secretary & Treasurer), Shiela Tori (Public Officer) & committee members Ilorna Usher, Barb Darwen, Cathy Lynch, Cobi Stroeller, Maria Stone, Phyl Manning, May Burling, Hank Kaindle. It is great to see new faces on the committee & I'm sure we will all work well together.  
 I would like to thank Bev Herd, who coped well with paper work, organising bus trips, etc. while I was recuperating from heart surgery. I also really appreciated get-well cards, phone calls & flowers that I received from all my friends at that very traumatic time in my life.  
 Our club had an enjoyable visit several weeks ago to Greendale Hotel where we all enjoyed their Seniors Meals. Another outing was to the Shell Club in Geelong – the entertainment & the meals were very good, we will be returning there in late November.  
 Bev & Greg (Littles Bus Lines) have planned a Mystery Tour in October. This will be interesting – goodness knows where we will end up!  
 We now have the services of a podiatrist at the club. Any member who would like to make an appointment, ring Ballan Medical Centre.  
 The Senior Citizens meet in Blackwood every Wednesday 10.30am – 3pm. Any new members would be made most welcome. Membership is

**ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
 8am on 1st Sunday monthly  
**BLACKWOOD UNITING CHURCH**  
 For worship times & events across the Cluster go to: www.highlandsclusteruca.org.au

\$8. All enquiries 5368 1561. Until next issue  
 ~ Barb Sweet (Hon Secretary)

**Blackwood Cricket Club:**  
 Hi All,  
 With the cricket season fast approaching, we have 2 events to kick off the year. Our practice game at the end of September was against Gisborne, followed by the annual Ronny's Relic game on the Saturday October 6.  
 Everyone is welcome to drop in for 5 minutes or spend the day. This year the Club is celebrating 21 years since the reforming of the club.  
 Hope to see you down there.  
 ~ Cheers Steve

**Blackwood Junior Cricket Club:**  
 Expressions of interest from 9-14 year old boys & girls to play in our successful u14 cricket team: phone Steve or Sam - 5368 6794  
 ~ Sam Whitehouse

**Blackwood Cemetery Trust**  
**Blackwood Association of Commerce**  
**Blackwood Caravan Park & Mineral Springs Kiosk**  
**Blackwood Special Schools Outdoor Education Centre Inc.**  
 ~ no reports submitted

**BLACKWOOD CRICKET CLUB**  
**Annual RONNY's RELICS Game**  
 11am  
**Saturday October 6**  
**a free BBQ lunch will be supplied**  
**Come & celebrate our clubs 21st Birthday**  
 All supporters, sponsors, ex-players & new players are invited to the Blackwood Cricket Ground to see if the current players can upset the 6 year winning streak of the old blokes.  
 Bar & canteen facilities will be available.  
 If you want to dust off the old whites, we would be honoured to have you join us.  
 For more info contact Steve (0488 978 684) or Alan (0421 318 857)

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### THE HISTORY OF BLACKWOOD: NEWSPAPER REPORTS – 1859

COMPILED BY MARGOT HITCHCOCK, HISTORIAN FOR THE BLACKWOOD & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY. 2012.

We are lucky in this day & age that, with the technology of computers, we can now view early newspapers on-line through the courtesy of the N.L.A. – National Library of Australia in Canberra,

who have hundreds of newspapers now on-line for researchers to view. Such newspapers as the 'Ballarat Star' & the 'Bacchus Marsh Express' who had regular articles from correspondents in Blackwood who conveyed news to these papers of the happenings in Blackwood. One such an interesting article was found by just typing in the name Blackwood, Barrys Reef, Simmons Reef etc.

If the reader can visualise the stamper erected in the main street of Blackwood working in Blackwood, crushing rock & quartz to find gold, then multiply that by the 100 such stampers as listed below, working in Blackwood amidst the noise, dust & workings of the gold mine at the time, it is a hard one for the imagination to see how different it was then compared to the quietness of Blackwood today.

The Ballarat Star newspaper: (1855 - 1864) - Saturday 25 June 1859

From the monthly report of Surveyor Longbottom, we glean the following items relative to mining operations in the Mount Blackwood division of the district.

The population is estimated at 1,000 & steadily increasing, the 1,000 being made up as follows : -180 quartz miners, 320 alluvial, 500 Chinese. Thus it would appear the celestial element is in the ascendant at Blackwood. The surveyor pronounces quartz mining to be successful at Blackwood, & gives the following statistics. - ON SIMMONS' REEF, where a yield of from 20 to 30 ounces per ton has been obtained, the following companies are located: M'Ivor Company, 8 stampers; Simmons' Reef Company, 8 stampers; Williams - Brothers, 8 stampers; Cornish Brothers, 8 stampers; Victoria Company, 4 stampers; Crown Company, 4 stampers; Imperial Company, 12 stampers.

On the YANKEE REEF - Phoenix Company, 8 stampers; Eldorado, 4 stampers (water power.) On TREWHELLA'S REEF - Reynolds & Co, 8 stampers; Candage & Co., 4 stampers (water power); Trehwella Brothers, 4 stampers (water power.) Sherwood's, 12 stampers (water power.) On BARRY'S REEF, Anderson's company, 4 stampers (water power.) On JOHNSTONE'S REEF, there are only the prospectors at present, & they expect to be at full work immediately. The Old Golden Point Company have 8 stampers.

In all cases where not otherwise, mentioned the reducing machinery is steam-driven. Mr Longbottom reports further, that the country from Ferguson's Creek to the Blue Mountains is 'highly auriferous.' If this be so, it would seem that there must be ample scope for prospecting operations in the Mount Blackwood part of the district.

Another report of an accident in a mine at Blackwood shows the hardships some miners had.

The Star (Ballarat, Vic. : 1855 - 1864) Saturday 29 January 1859

MOUNT BLACKWOOD - From our Correspondent.

FATAL MINING ACCIDENT - One of those catastrophes that too often arise from the careless or venturesome manner in which miners conduct their operations, occurred at Kangaroo Flat on Tuesday last, 18th instant, whereby James Brown (generally known as Kentucky) lost his life. Brown was endeavoring to remove a single pillar that supported a large mass of earth; this he was doing cautiously, but without propping or slabbing; when suddenly the superincumbent mass fell, crushing & burying him beneath. He was immediately dug out & conveyed to his tent, was perfectly sensible, & it was thought he would recover, but early the following morning he died.

An inquiry was held on Friday before Charles Shuter, Esq, J.P & an examination made by Dr Kieser of Ballan, from whose evidence it was ascertained that death was caused by rupture of the bladder, occasioned by the earth falling on him. Deceased hailed from Kentucky & it is believed he had no relatives or friends in this country. He was decently interred on Friday after the enquiry.

A search for the inquest report found a William Brown, miner, age 57 yrs, died of ruptured bladder in 1859 at Blackwood.

A very heavy thunderstorm passed over this place early on Sunday morning, accompanied by most powerful lightning, which set fire to the machine houses of Messrs. Heley & Hill, Simmons' Reef, destroying the buildings & injuring the machinery. I am happy to say that the damage done to the latter is not very extensive, the building (wood & canvas) being of too fragile a character to create intense heat.

Researched by Margot Hitchcock from her forthcoming book 'The History & Pioneers of Blackwood', hopefully to be published soon. For help with information on Blackwood ancestors contact Margot Hitchcock - email - margothitchcock@bigpond.com or P.O. Box 43, Blackwood Post Office, Blackwood, 3458.



Early photo of mining in Blackwood showing Battery shed where stampers were housed, Poppet head & mullock heaps. Courtesy of Margot Hitchcock & the Blackwood & District Historical Society.



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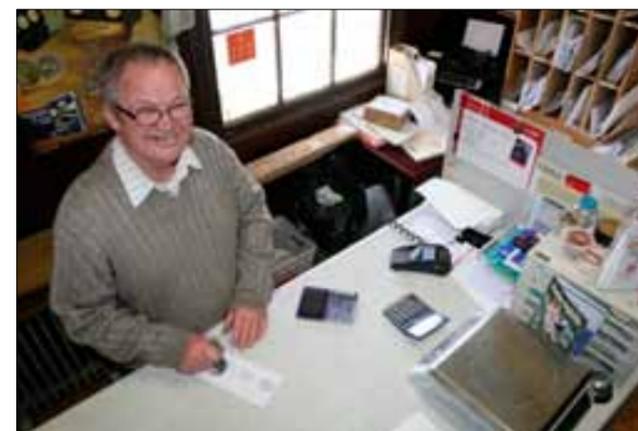
#### OCTOBER 2012

when	what	where
Thu 4, pm	Family Farm	Radio Springs
Fri 5, pm	Lily P	Radio Springs
Sat 6, noon	The Mae Trio	Radio Springs
Sat 6, pm	The Sitting Ducks	Radio Springs
Sun 7, 1pm	Blisstronic	Cosmo
Sun 7, noon	Mr Geoffrey Williams	Radio Springs
Sun 7, pm	Anam Cara	Radio Springs
Thu 11, pm	Family Farm	Radio Springs
Fri 12, pm	Lily P	Radio Springs
Fri 12, 7pm	Open Mic night	Cosmo
Sat 13, noon	Birdland	Radio Springs
Sat 13, pm	The Sitting Ducks	Radio Springs
Sun 14, noon	Gillian Eastoe & Terry Murray	Radio Springs
Sun 14, 1pm	Geoffrey Williams	Cosmo
Sun 21, 1pm	Shotgun Shack	Cosmo
Sun 14, pm	Sweet Nothings	Radio Springs
Thu 18, pm	Family Farm	Radio Springs
Fri 19, pm	Little Red Blues Bag	Radio Springs
Sat 20, noon	David & Martin	Radio Springs
Sat 20, pm	Mr Geoffrey Williams	Radio Springs
Sat 20, 1pm	* Blackwood Revue	Blackwood
Sun 21, noon	Grumpy Neighbour	Radio Springs
Sun 21, pm	The Ciderhouse String Band	Radio Springs
Wed 24, pm	Josh Pyke	The Palais
Thu 25, pm	* Cat & Clint+special guests	Radio Springs
Fri 26, pm	The Bambino Grande Piano	Radio Springs
Sat 27, noon	A Little Left of Centre	Radio Springs
Sat 27, pm	Louis & the Cocktail Shakers	Radio Springs
Sun 28, noon	Gillian Eastoe & Terry Murray	Radio Springs
Sun 28, 1pm	Grumpy Neighbour	Cosmo
Sun 28, pm	Lark	Radio Springs

#### NOVEMBER

when	what	where
Thu 1, pm	Travelling Concessions	Radio Springs
Fri 2, pm	Table Hill	Radio Springs
Sat 3, pm	Mr Geoffrey Williams	Radio Springs
Sun 4, noon	* The Dear Family All Stars	Radio Springs
Sun 4, 1pm	Cross Winds	Cosmo
Sun 4, pm	Zeptepi	Radio Springs
Thu 8, pm	Marty P & Associates	Radio Springs
Fri 9, 7pm	Open Mic	Cosmo
Fri 9, pm	Lily P	Radio Springs
Sat 10, noon	A Little Left of Centre	Radio Springs
Sat 10, pm	The Sitting Ducks	Radio Springs
Sun 11, noon	Gillian Eastoe & Terry Murray	Radio Springs
Sun 11, 1pm	Live Music	Cosmo
Sun 11, pm	Goyim	Radio Springs
Thu 15, pm	The Ciderhouse String Band	Radio Springs
Fri 16, pm	Anam Cara	Radio Springs
Sat 17, noon	Birdland	Radio Springs
Sat 17, pm	Louis & the Cocktail Shakers	Radio Springs
Sun 18, noon	Scott & his 88 keys	Radio Springs
Sun 18, pm	Family Farm	Radio Springs
Thu 22, pm	Adam, Beth & Stephanie (U.S.A.)	Radio Springs
Fri 23, pm	Nadine & Sammy (U.S.A.)	Radio Springs
Sat 24, noon	Sweet Nothings	Radio Springs
Sat 24, pm	Stephanie Colman + special guests (U.S.A.)	Radio Springs
Sun 25, noon	Zeptepi	Radio Springs
Sun 25, 1pm	Liz Frencham & Friends	Cosmo
Sun 25, 1pm	* Blackwood Revue	Blackwood
Sun 25, pm	Liz Frencham & people we know	Radio Springs
Thu 29, pm	* Cat & Clint	Radio Springs
Fri 30, pm	Grumpy Neighbour	Radio Springs

\* denotes Blackwoodian musos



#### WOMBAT POSTMARK RETURNS

The Wombat logo was born of a competition sponsored by Blackwood Progress in the 90's, the original Town Logo Post Office Stamp being introduced by Judith de Groot (Post Office Mistress of the time). The stamp was lost for a number of years until our current post master, Trevor Hill, decided to reinstate it with Australia Post's approval.

The new Blackwood postmark should be a popular on first-issue stamp envelopes.

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### ON YOUR MARK.... GET SET...SOW!

by Heather Marsh

There is a race announcer in my head. It goes something like this: " & the Broccoli is racing ahead, but round the corner comes Kale & Snow-Pea, gaining the advantage, but wait! coming up the inside is Flickweed followed closely

by Oxalis & Dandylium – its Flickweed, Oxalis & Dandylium on the home stretch- this is going to be a photo finish... "

If I want the race this Spring to be won by anything that I have actually planted, then my job for the next few weeks is to knobble the weeds. This perfect weather combination of soaking rain then warm sunshine that sends my cauliflowers bursting into shoot is exactly what all those tricky, flicksy weeds love too. The advantage that the weeds have is that they have much more ingenious methods of sowing their seed than poking them one-by-one into punnet pots. They explode, fly, send out networks of capillary-thin roots than cannot be exhumed. They are everywhere.

In previous years I have devised complex methods of ridding myself of these weeds "organically". I have poured boiling water, smothered with mulch – heck I've even cooked them with a flame-thrower. On the drive at least I have resorted to spray, but have never quite found the perfect guilt-free solution. Every year, I would look into my organic gardening books in the vain hope that some miracle "safe" spray has been invented. Nope. Every time the books say the same thing: the best way to get rid of weeds is to pull them out by hand.

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This year I resigned myself to doing just that. I devoted an entire day to the labour of pulling out the carpet of weeds populating my veggie garden paths. I supposed that I might last an hour, maybe two. Six hours later I had almost cleared every single weed from the paths – the result was stunning & I had discovered something. It is addictive. Hand-pulling weeds I found, can become as compulsive as picking pimples is to teens.

Now I can't walk past a weed. If I see one I have to pull it. I have no choice. Lord help me if I see one that is on the edge of a patch of them. Can I stop at just one? No! I must keep extracting 'just one more' like a dieter who has caved & bought a packet of crisps.

Thankfully the planting season is also upon me, so I busy myself potting up seed at a breakneck pace so that as soon as the last frost has passed I can plant out the entire season in a day.

Here's what I am putting in: snow peas, purple sprouting broccoli, kale (and then more kale – can't get enough of the stuff), lettuce, gai lan (Chinese broccoli), Brussels sprouts, carrots, beetroot, potatoes, tomatoes, zucchini, pumpkin, basil, rocket, chives... really the list goes on & on.

And a handy tip for those of us who can't be bothered with veggies but just like a bit of nice lawn to lie on: if pulling weeds isn't your style then at least behead them with the mower before they set seed & gallop over to my place.

Happy Spring Planting!

### More Tassie Tales

Well, we were expecting Spring by now, but what we got was a late burst of Winter. We got the lot rain, sleet, snow, an icy wind, & more coughing & sneezing & sniffing. A big surprise was that the daffodils survived 3 weeks, including a few mornings with little white hats of snow, & are still gaily waving in the breeze, & at last the trees are all budding. Soon the willow trees will be swaying along the creek in their new pale green leaves, looking like a group of ladies dancing in long floaty gowns. As soon as it warms up a bit more we will see the eagles. They nest on a high ridge nearby & we love to see them when they are teaching the young to fly, the parent birds fly one above, & one below, guiding the chick & protecting it. The crows are nasty. They will attack if given half a chance! We have been hearing a lot of devil noise in the bush down at the waterhole, I guess they are teaching the kids to find food, they make a huge screaming, growly noise; very scary if you don't know what it is ... the first time I heard a Screech Owl, I thought someone was being killed! I was only 4 or 5 & in the 'little house' way down the yard. Well that's just what the Devils sound like... All through this longish winter we have been feeding the birds. The wrens are always about, then the robins & finches, the silvereyes are next & just now the firetail finches are beginning to appear, we fill old opened pinecones with birdseed & hang them along the front verandah up away from the cats, we keep trying to get a good snap of the birds but they are too quick for us. The fish seem to have come through winter happily enough & have been madly reproducing down under the weeds & water lilies & today is a lovely warm sunny day so 'hello Spring' & hopefully 'goodbye Winter'... I hope so as you know, there are heaps of stuff to catch up on & clean up in the gardens.

~CHEERIO FOR NOW ... BEV COOPER

### HEY KIDS...



#### EASY TO MAKE PINECONE FEEDERS

1. Hang pinecone upside-down & smear some old fat or smooth peanut butter (cheap, plain brand) into grooves.
2. Dip into small-bird birdseed, add some chopped up bacon bits, & watch the birds, they seem to smell the food as sometimes I have been a bit slow & missed a day or two ... no birds! As soon as the food is there they are back in minutes.
3. Have fun.

Be careful if cutting bacon, don't think birds go for your fingers BUT, then over here (in Tassie), a Devil might think it a nice snack...

PS. the Tassie Devils in our patch of bush seem to have been, & still are, free from the terrible Facial Tumours that are killing so many.



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## BOUQUETS & BRICKBATS

**SMALL COMMUNITY BIG HEART** ... Many of you will know that Blackwood lost a kind & generous man in John Bridgman in late August. His wife Wendy especially was devastated by the loss.

**DURING THAT** time of sadness for John's friends & family, our small community showed its colours.

**WENDY WOULD** like to thank the many people who have sent cards & bouquets of flowers, shared caring thoughts, offered hugs & cups of tea, meals, lifts & even a dog taxi service to the vet. She would also love to acknowledge the large number of people who came to honour John & support the family at the service.

**IT IS** in times of sorrow & hardship that our true natures shine. Good on you Blackwood for being such a caring community.

~ on behalf of Wendy Bridgman

**THANKYOU TO** Scott & Stacey Unstead & Lou Henderson for helping me clean up at the hall on 6th Sept, after the funeral.

~ Elizabeth Hall

**I WOULD** like to say a big thank you to all the Blackwoodians that took the time to right me a short reference, regarding my character over the time many have known me. Some as long as 34 years have had to put up with me & my love of Blackwood's natural beauty & of course the cold & wet as well, which I love. But most of all I love my 3 children & your response to my request for assistance will not be forgotten.

~ Clint Stretton

**DEC 2, 1967-2012.** Thank you, to my husband Allan for 45 years of treasured years with laughs, highs & lows & great experiences. We have shared them all.

**THANK YOU** Elizabeth

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

**HELLO JINNY**

**I'VE BEEN** reading through a number of your excellent newsletters & am sure in one of these I read an article regarding a proposed Avenue of Honour & asking for the submission of names of local servicemen/women to be printed on plaques to be attached to these trees.

**THE PURPOSE** would be to honour Blackwood & surrounding district war servicemen with their name, rank & serial number. However, I have been unable to locate the appropriate article at this stage.

**IF I** am correct, could you please let me know where I can submit two names - my great uncle from Barry's Reef who was killed in France in WW1 & my dad John (Jack) Rayner who served in both the AIF in the middle east as well as the RAAF in the United Kingdom & France. Thank you

~ Tess Egan/Rayner

*Thank-you for your email. I don't remember off hand an article like this, can anyone help Tess with this? editor*

**GREAT ISSUE,** Jinny (AugSept12). Loved Margot's article about the 1861 flood & family tragedy, & was appalled to hear of proposed goldmine in the Lerderberg headwaters – hopefully the community will fight this one.

**MANY THANKS** for your terrific efforts.

~ Elaine Boucher

**ENJOYED THE** edition (AugSept 12).

**THE WAR** histories I have found interesting also the one on the pioneer North Blackwood family.

**I SYMPATHISE** with the rawness felt about the mine.

**A WELL** balanced edition.

~ Stephen C



## Blackwood Antique, Collectables fair and Sculpture Exhibition

**Date:** 4th November, 2012

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### HEALTH BASICS: IMMUNE STRENGTH ... STAND YOUR GROUND

by Kathie Strmota

Immune function responds strongly to mental/emotional cues – your attitudes & perceptions about life. When you're tired & rundown, immunity is sluggish. If you feel defeated & overwhelmed by life, your immune system is less able to tackle its own challenges effectively. When you're feeling energetic, optimistic, & empowered, your immunity responds more strongly.

Stress triggers the release of cortisol (the 'stress' hormone) & other neurotransmitter signals which suppress immunity. Find ways to relax & release accumulated tensions & toxins. Simply watching TV won't do it. Breathe deeply. Meditate. Be creative. Walk in nature. Avoid people who 'distress' you. Spend time with enjoyable friends. Make love. Wherever possible, do things you 'feel like doing' rather than just what you 'have to do'.

Unresolvable fears (fear of failure, of losing someone, of poverty, etc) also suppress immunity. Living at the mercy of your fears is like telling your immune system "we're not good enough (or smart enough, or strong enough) to face this challenge". Learn to accept whatever life brings. Trust that, no matter what, you'll be okay. When you take action, in spite of your fears, your immune system gets the message to try & deal with every threat, regardless of the odds of success. A healthy relationship with fear also reduces the likelihood of over-reactive fear-based immune responses, like allergies & auto-immune patterns.

If you feel a 'victim' to life (can't deal with it, depend on others, blame others for your problems, believe you don't have the resources to change things) your immune system functions less effectively, like it's also victim to the microbe or toxin 'invading' your body, & hasn't the power to overcome it.

If, instead, you take responsibility, stand on your own feet & take charge of life, you empower your immune system to 'take charge' & easily sort out internal issues. Taking responsibility isn't blaming yourself instead of others. It's simply acknowledging that you, & no-one else, are in charge of your life ... no matter how undesirable your situation, you did play a role in getting yourself there, & so you also have the power & choice to change it. This attitude reflects a will to fight for the life you desire & deserve, & your immune system responds to this as a command to 'stand & fight' rather than retreat. Research in malignant diseases shows it is often this 'fighting' attitude that makes the difference between remission & early death.

The expression (or suppression) of emotions & thoughts also impacts immunity. Have the courage to speak your truth ... say what you feel & get things off your chest. Research reveals that people who suppress

'difficult' emotions & avoid speaking up for themselves, have lower immune cell counts & effectiveness than those who regularly express their feelings.

By far, the best immune-booster is a healthy sense of humour ... being able to see the funny side in difficult situations, especially being able to laugh at yourself (as opposed to laughing at others). Laughter reduces 'stress hormones', oxygenates cells, & increases immune cell count & efficiency. Negative perceptions in general, like pessimism, worry & despair, suppress immunity, so try to see the silver lining in the darkest of clouds, adopt a more playful approach to life, & 'let yourself go, daaarrrring!'

Affirmations to support immunity: My deep inner resilience sees me through every challenge, & life is easy. I fearlessly dive into every experience knowing that every moment of my life is a blessing. Life is safe. I am safe.

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### ALAN WELLSLEY GRIFFIN 59697 LAC 30-7-42 TO 4-3-46 (CONTINUED)

#### EXTRA SHIFTS & EGGS

In order to make & save more money while in Broome, I cut fellow servicemen's hair, did washing & worked extra shifts – at a price I worked shifts for Jack Scrivener who ran a gambling school at night. When that clashed with his WT shift, I would do his shift for £1 a night & sometimes I would sub lease it out for ten shillings. That is how I ended up with a bank balance far in excess of the total of my earnings in the RAAF over the 3 yrs & 8 months of service. These additional savings enabled me to purchase a 1/3rd share in the family business – Norman Griffin & Sons Jewellers, Footscray Victoria.

Food wasn't that crash hot – our diet particularly lacked fresh food, & I can remember on one occasion fresh fried eggs were on the menu for breakfast – one only per person. Needless to say I filed through the breakfast queue twice! I can see it vividly in my mind now, toasting the bread at the wood fired coppers that stood in a row beside the mess.

The fires had burnt down to red hot coals with white powder ash on top - ideal for making toast. The resultant eggs on toast were simply fantastic.

When Darwin was getting pounded, planes were arriving to be refuelled at such a rate it was difficult to keep up the supplies. The petrol was stored in 44 gallon-drums in a dump about half-way along the strip & off to the north about 400 yards – it was all hands to the pump rolling the drums to the edge of the strip – loading them onto the truck, which then drove to each aircraft & carried out the refuelling. It was two or three men to each drum & the Salvation Army Captain was there handing out chewing gum as we worked on.

#### PROCRASTINATION

For quite a while in the early 1940's we lived in residential houses in the township of Broome, with operations set up in the deserted orphanage.

Later our sleeping quarters were shifted to tents at the town end of the air strip. These tents were furnished with the highest quality bare earth floor. Conversely, the houses in town were constructed with wooden floors & these floors were supported by concrete stumps in order to prevent termite infestation. Termites were a very big problem in Broome.

On this particular occasion, there was one spare stretcher in our tent & Max Meallin arrived back from leave to take up the spot. He walked in said "Hi" & after a short conversation dumped his canvas kit bag on the ground beside the stretcher.

I was lying on my bed relaxing & said to Max – "If I were you Max I would get an old crate from the mess & keep your gear off the ground." Max on this occasion was prepared to procrastinate & said, "I'll do something about it tomorrow". Tomorrow came & Max got out of bed & lifted his kit bag from the ground – all the contents fell everywhere; the bottom of his kit bag had been completely eaten away by termites overnight. Good one, Max, it does pay to take good advice.

Advice costs nothing & can save a lot of trouble. It has also been well noted as a fact of life that it pays to never do tomorrow what one can do today. How true it was in this situation.

#### THE OFFICIAL REPORT OR THE TRUTH

In Antonio Cafarella's book "My Broome" he mentions a Catalina Flying Boat from Coomalie Creek near Darwin which flew down to pick up beer supplies & in landing on the strip (because of the haze), ran off the end of the runway & into soft earth.

I have a different story & I feel the version Antonio tells was the official explanation with no blame attached to anyone.

My story is as follows; the "Cat" landed OK even if there was some difficulty with haze. The beer was loaded – or should I say "over loaded"

&, in trying to take off, the "Cat" ran out of runway & ploughed into the soft earth at the end. The beer was still in the "Cat" when I arrived at the accident scene. Not a bottle broken!

Therefore, I believe the incident occurred on take-off rather than landing. The fact that the cargo of beer was already on board is testimony to this fact.

... to be continued next issue

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"Max got out of bed & lifted his kit bag from the ground – all the contents fell everywhere; the bottom of his kit bag had been completely eaten away by termites"



### Annie (Nancy ) Walkernée Terrill

Mum was born on the December 13, 1912 to Agnes Louisa & Edward Terrill in Cheltenham, Victoria.

She had a brother, John, who died as a baby & a sister, Madeline, who was always very dear to her, our family knowing her affectionately as Auntie Ciss.

As a child, Mum lived at Port Melbourne & later moved to Pascoe Vale. Mum left school at the age of 14 & her first job was working in a newsagency. Later, Mum trained as a tailoress in the city at Snow's department store in Flinders Street. When she finished her training she had a job making soft toys in Racing Club Lane in the city. This was at the beginning of the Depression. At Christmas time mum was laid off. After the Christmas period mum was holidaying with her parents at their holiday home in Blackwood, when she received a telegram asking her to come back to work. Her employers had done this to avoid paying Mum holiday pay. Grandpa was furious & called them "LOUSY COWS" which was the worst of the worst in Grandpa's vocabulary. He said that she wasn't to go back to work, he & Grandma would buy the local guest house, "Blackwood House", & mum could work there for them & help run it.

Mum & Dad had met & were going out prior to this. They met at church when she lived in Pascoe Vale. Due to the depression their engagement was a relatively long one. We have the letter that Grandpa sent to Dad replying to the request to have permission, to marry Mum. Grandpa gave his permission adding that he hoped Dad's prospects would improve.

They did eventually.

Mum & Dad were married on January 18, 1936 & they had 56 extremely happy years together before Dad passed away in 1992.

They commenced their married life in a little soldiers' settlement hut in a place called "Hiawatha" in Gippsland, near Sale.

From the photos, it was indeed a hut, wallpapered with newspaper on the kitchen & living room walls. Mum said she found this quite useful as there were recipes printed there too. Dad had outdone himself in the bedroom where he had papered the walls with pink rosebuds for his bride. He always had a weakness for pink roses.

Life must have been hard on the land, no near neighbours, long hard working days & little money. Dad worked to try & clear land to establish a farm & earned money by cutting trees & ferns on a neighboring property. If Mum wasn't resourceful before this, she soon learnt to be. She made her own bread from potato yeast. She cooked meals from what was on hand, lots of mutton & potatoes, & of course sewed & made things for their home. Mum just got on with what needed to be done.

In November, 1937 Mum & Dad rethought their direction in life & they bought "Blackwood House" from Grandpa & started running the guest house. Dad also worked at a local sawmill.

Their first child, Edward (or Ted), was born in 1938, at the Trentham Bush Nursing Hospital. He was the first & only boy in that generation. Beverley was born in 1942, when Dad was away fighting during the Second World War as a member of the RAAF.

We talk about having stress in our lives & we look to heroes for their bravery, but our parents knew much more about these states of mind than we can comprehend.

Dad was brave to go to war. He didn't have to join up as he was in a protected occupation. He was in Darwin when bombs were being dropped. Mum heard about this through Dad's letters, the censor didn't work out that when Dad said "The noise was like when the chook shed fell down," that Mum would understand the true meaning.

We can't imagine the stress for Mum having a toddler, being pregnant &



having a husband away at the war. So many other people's stories from the war ended in tragedy. Our family was one of the lucky ones because Dad came home to his family & saw Bev for the first time when she was two years old.

When Teddy saw Dad after all that time he studied him & said, "The more I look at you the more you remind me of my Dad".

After the war Dad went to work at Trehwella's Foundry in Trentham where he worked as a welder, making the jacks & tree pullers that the foundry was famous for. Mum continued running the guest house for some years, developing many close friendships with return holiday makers. Eventually, because of many changes in regulations, they decided to close the guest house.

I was born in 1956 when Mum was 42. Dad enjoyed a good leg pull, & when a friend in Trentham heard that mum was in hospital, she asked Dad what the problem was, he told her (very seriously) that a brick had fallen down the chimney & had broken Mum's leg. Lorna was very concerned & took flowers to the hospital. When she asked Mum how her leg was there, was confusion from both women. When the truth was told & Lorna had recovered from her embarrassment, Dad was in a lot of hot water.

We wonder if having a baby later in life contributed to Mum being so young-at-heart. When she was in her late 80's, she started crocheting squares & told us she was making knee rugs for the old people.

Another time, when we were shopping for slippers, she rejected a pair, whispering "Oh I don't like those. They are old ladies' slippers". When she moved into the Nursing Home, she said "It is quite a nice place for old people, but I'm not old yet".

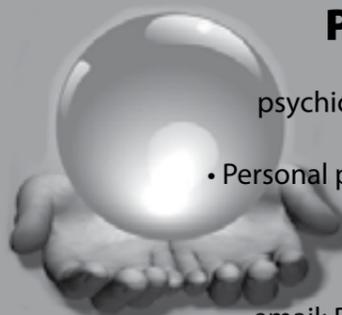
~ Robyn Zanon

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE

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### IN LOVING MEMORY:

A POEM BY TRISH – PEE WEE

As I sat on your bed,  
So very close to you.  
I knew the pain & suffering  
That you were going through.  
I thought about so many things,  
As I held tightly to your hand.  
Oh, how I wished that you were  
Strong & happy once again.  
But your eyes were looking homeward,  
To that place of the sea  
As I knew that's where you  
Wanted to be.  
I struggled with my selfish thoughts,  
For I wanted you to stay.  
So we could walk & talk again  
Like we did – just yesterday.  
I knew the answer,  
And I knew the time was so.  
So I gave to you life's greatest gift,  
The gift of letting go.  
Now it's time, time to do something for you.  
It's to keep a promise that I'll see through,  
To scatter your ashes out to sea.  
This is where all merchant sailors are truly  
Free.



### Adrianus "Peter" de Groot (the great)

21 APRIL 1931 – 2 SEPTEMBER 2012

The young Peter de Groot loved playing along the watery channels of the war time Netherlands, riding a bike with its garden-hose tyres, begging for potatoes & flour, dodging German soldiers & Allied bombs (one hits a bridge he had just crossed). Europe at the time must have seemed full of missing bridges & the young Peter duly dreamed of becoming a bridge engineer.

It was not to be, but still he made a career of water crossings. He joined the marine navy & later merchant navy as an engineer, bouncing around the world, learning a good handful of languages. Eventually, as if by gravity, Peter found himself at the bottom of the map in a place called Melbourne, where he came to a stop.

He worked for Commercial Waste Disposals, where he became the first person in Victoria to drive a Dumpmaster (bring that one up at your next trivial pursuit evening). It was there that he met a young office clerk who had a habit of blowing out Peter's match as he went to light a cigarette. She hadn't realised that Dutch girls do this to signal the want of a kiss. The young Peter duly married her. They had 2 children, Trish & Max, after their first, Ernest Jan, died at birth.

They moved to Blackwood in 1988, Judith to the general store & Peter to his live-in workshop which bore a sign above the door "Engineering & Design". In town he was admired as much for his practical skills as for his sailor's enthusiasm for beer. As befits an old mariner, Peter will have his ashes cast to the waters of the open ocean.

### RIP JOHN BRIDGMAN: BLACKWOOD'S OWN UGLY DAVE GRAY



### NARDELLA ATTACKS GOVT CUTS ON SOLAR SUPPORT

Don Nardella, MLA, has attacked the Government as it moved to cut the solar feed-in-tariff scheme. Mr Nardella said: "Victoria's new solar feed-in-tariff has been cut by over 60% back to just 8 cents per kw/hr down from the original 25 cents per kw/hr."

Before the last election, Mr Baillieu made a commitment to implement a gross tariff scheme to encourage Victorian households to invest in solar, wind & other lower-emission power sources. As cost of living pressures increase, thousands of Victorian families have installed solar panels as a way to reduce their power bills. This is a betrayal of the many thousands of Victorians who invested in solar energy.

Shadow Minister for Energy & Consumer Protection, Lily D'Ambrosio, said, "The Baillieu Government has again shown it just doesn't care about supporting families who want to lower their energy costs & do their bit for the environment."

The Victorian Clean Energy Council has outlined the decision by the Baillieu Government, to cut the feed-in-tariff scheme will see hundreds of jobs lost in the states renewable energy sector.

Under Labor, Victorian households were offered a premium feed-in-tariff scheme of 60 cents per kw/hr, making it more affordable for families to install solar panels & reduce electricity costs.

When in Opposition, Minister for Energy, Michael O'Brien stated, "We think there is a lot of interest in a gross feed-in tariff as a way of boosting investment in renewables" (November 24, 2010).

Ms D'Ambrosio said that it was becoming a regular trend of renewable energy industry jobs & investment departing the state under the Baillieu Government. "The Baillieu Government's move to cut the feed-in-tariff scheme is a spring offensive in its continued war against Victoria's renewable energy industry.

"Victorian households have once again lost out on an environmentally friendly way of reducing their electricity bills," Ms D'Ambrosio said.



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Dec10Jan11	247	
AprMay11	1,446	132
JunJul11	468	315
AugSept11		131
OctNov11	616	
DecJan11	839	431
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**FROM DON'S DESK:  
LOCAL HISTORY GRANTS AVAILABLE**

Local community groups are invited to apply for a share of \$350,000 in funding for projects that preserve and share stories from our past.

Member for Melton, Don Nardella MLA, said, "Grants of up to \$15,000 were available through Public Record Office's Local History Grants Program for projects that preserve and share stories of Victoria.

The Local History Grants Program helps us to maintain our links with the rich past that defines our region today.

There are many stories to share, & these grants allow our volunteer groups to collate and present these for us all to share".

Projects that have been supported through the program include the digitisation and preservation of newspapers from the 1850s, virtual exhibitions and websites, filmmaking and playwriting, the establishment of historical walking trails and a variety of publications.

The Local History Grants Program is open to not-for-profit community groups across the state and historical societies, schools, sporting clubs a & special-interest groups are encouraged to visit the Public Record Office website to find out more about the program and how it can support them.

Applications for the Local History Grants Program close on Monday 12 November, 2012.

For further information or to apply visit <http://prov.vic.gov.au/community-programs/grants-awards/local-history-grants>



Dukey in the High Country

**AFTER A** year of correspondence, a classic INTERNET ROMANCE came to fruition. The reserved whippet-girl "Xaveria" & the dashing stud "Dukey" from the Snowy High Country, were to meet.

**ROMPING 4** days together in the Cooma fields became conducive to courting, & on the final day of her cycle, mating ensued.

**IT WAS** then, BRAVO!, as the canopied utility traversed the Alpine Way, returning on its home journey to the hamlet of Blackwood.

**3 MONTHS** later, Aunty Ally, Xaveria & her 6 pups move along the roller coaster of life.

**NOW, THESE** young canines are ready to engage their new families, tackling an optimistic future ahead, bolstered by a secure & happy beginning.

~ Allyson Norton-Willson

**FROM DON'S DESK:  
HOME OWNERS TO FEEL THE PINCH ON  
NEW FIRE LEVY**

"The Baillieu Government has refused to guarantee that no insured Victorian property owners will be worse off as a consequence its new property-based Fire Services Levy", State Member for Melton, Don Nardella MLA said.

Mr Nardella said the announcement by the Baillieu Government of its new model to fund Victoria's fire services has left many questions unanswered.

"Mr Baillieu has refused to reveal what the variable component of the new property-based levy will be.

The Government has also failed to confirm that Health Care Card holders will be entitled to a concession under its new property-based fire services levy, as recommended by the Bushfire Royal Commission"

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) has claimed that it was not consulted over the Government's decision to charge property owners through their local council rates.

Local families are already struggling through cost of living pressures & deserve to know what the Government's levy will cost them.

"Local households need Mr Baillieu to answer one simple question, how much will they have to pay?"

*Dear Pet Guru,*

*I am very worried about me pet bunyip. He is terrified of my budgerigar for a start. And last week he ate three of my neighbour's sheep. And this morning he ate the postman. What can I do?*

*~ signed Bemused, Buninyong*



Dear Bemused,  
You must take a very firm line with him. Tell him that if he doesn't behave you'll set the budgie on him.

signed Pet Guru

*Love Pet Guru? The whole series (24 cards) is now available as individuals postcards look for them @ The Blackwood Merchant, Blackwood PO & Garden of St Erth cafe @ \$2.30 ea or \$13.80 for a set of 6. Series 1 were published in Blackwood News in 2008/09, series 2: 2009/2010, series 3: 2010-2011*

*Lavandula*

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**MOBILE LIBRARY IS BACK!**

The new Library service runs fortnightly on Wednesdays 1.30 - 2.30pm at the Blackwood Hall . There is a small high quality collection to browse & 2 Library Officers to help borrowers order any additional items required for loan. Any queries please ring 0419 519 650 Tuesdays to Thursdays, or other times ring Bacchus Marsh library on 5367 2533.

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### What's Happening at the Cosmo?

The historic Cosmopolitan Hotel dates back to 1866 & during its life has been used as a bar, restaurant, bed & breakfast, grainstore, butcher's shop & ballroom. The beloved "Cosmo" is an historically significant building for the township of Trentham & is reportedly the largest weatherboard hotel in Victoria. Sadly, fire devastated the building in June 2005, but reconstruction of the "Cosmo" has now commenced.

The new owners, who purchased the hotel in 2009, have worked closely with Hepburn Shire to ensure that the rebuild meets heritage requirements. Extensive effort is being made to ensure that, where possible, the existing fabric of the building is maintained & that any new construction replicates the building prior to fire damage. Many locals have generously provided photographs & other historical information, which is being used as reference material on the project. The new "Cosmo" will incorporate a bar, lounge & dining facilities, with a new deck connecting the expansive beer garden to the hotel. The historic stables bar & restaurant will convert to a function room which has been very popular for weddings & other events. The stables also date back to the 1800's & have been lovingly restored.

The stables & beer garden will remain open during the hotel rebuild. The owners expect that stage 1 of the project will be completed & open to the public in January, 2013.

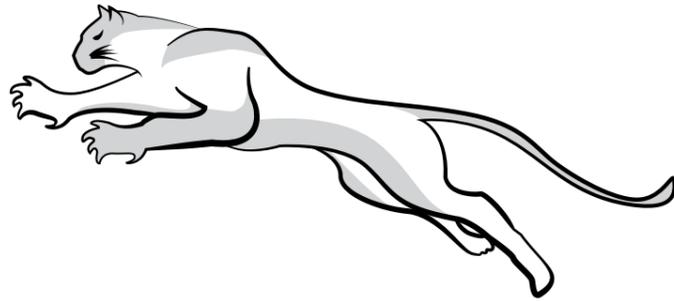
The owners are very appreciative of the local support behind the project, with 3 Blackwood locals, Steve Empey, Simon O'Loughlin & James Cann working on the project.

Feel free to drop into the stables for a chat about the work-in-progress.

  
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### Vic. Govt. Pussyfoots around Big Cats



In 2000, a cow was found at Yarram, Victoria with large circular claw-like scars on his hind flank from an unknown animal."

In Gippsland they blame the GI's, in the Goldfields it's the Yankee miners. It doesn't matter who brought them in, they're here!

The Baillieu Government got pencil pushers at the DSE to take a cursory glance at the "Big Cat Issue" – no need to leave the desk, guys. The report is in. Apparently the Victorian Public are seeing things. Too right, we are. Paw prints, livestock maulings, video evidence.

Contact us now by email: editor@blackwoodnews.com.au or facebook: https://www.facebook.com/blackwoodnews with your Big Cat experience. We'll convince them yet.

*(The editor of this paper told me she saw one. I believed her until she saw a UFO the following week!)*

~ Jimmy Olsen

"Reports of 'big cats' in Victoria number in the thousands and span over 100 years. Despite this, there has been no comprehensive and coordinated attempt by any Victorian Government agency to collate and curate this information so that a fully informed assessment can be made."

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# BEYOND BLACKWOOD...



## FROM TRENTHAM LIONS Farmers Market

September saw the first market of spring & the introduction of a couple of new stall holders. In all there were twenty vendors & the local Neighborhood Centre ran the monthly BBQ who had none other than the Lord Mayor on board, assisting with the cooking of sausages, etc.

Music was provided by local identity & long-time Lions Club member, Tim Walsh, & a very successful raffle was won by Henry Johnson. The raffle is made up of produce supplied by each stallholder at the market, for which the Lions Club are very grateful.

Contact for anything regarding the market is Shirley Corneille 5348 5690 or 0427 542 811

## Winter Wood Raffle

As mentioned in the last Trumpet, the wood raffle is in hibernation until next winter & we would like to congratulate the following people on being the successful winners:-

Raffle 1. Val Watson, Trentham. Raffle 2. Mandy McKenzie, Sunbury. Raffle 3. Vin Cowell, Trentham. Raffle 4. Lorna, Newbury. Raffle 5. Alan Young, East Trentham. Raffle 6. Madeline Sutton, Trentham.

## Old Time Dance

The monthly Old Time Dance continues to be a very popular event on the local calendar, with participants coming from as far afield as Melbourne. The dance is run alternately by the Lions Club & the Historical Society & is held once a month in the Mechanics Hall. This month's dance was attended by 93 people, who enjoyed both the dancing & the supper that is served during the evening.

The dance committee would like to see more Trentham people supporting it, at present there are only about half a dozen locals who are regular attendees.

For further information you can contact Dorothy Hancock on 5424 1813 or 0447 257 925.

## Meetings

Just a reminder that the club hold their business meetings every third Wednesday of the month at the Trentham Hotel, & their dinner meetings every first Wednesday of the month at various eating establishments around the district.

New members are always welcome & information can be obtained from any club member or they can contact our President, Chris Carr, on 5424 8210

## Last-minute dash can be a deadly option

One of the great tragedies of bush fires is the number of people who are killed in cars while trying to flee. Such a late decision can prove fatal. Every decision you make during a fire is critical. Leaving late, staying with an unprepared property or returning home at the wrong time can all have serious, life-threatening consequences. If your Fire Plan is to leave, do so before a fire threatens & road travel becomes dangerous.

### Make sure you have a Bushfire Plan

To get ready, people in areas of high fire risk such as Trentham & Blackwood, are advised to prepare a Bushfire Survival Plan. This is a well-thought out plan about how to prepare & respond to a fire. The

plan includes deciding if you are going to leave early on a high fire-risk day, before a fire threatens & road travel becomes hazardous, or stay & actively defend your property.

### Everybody needs good neighbours!

One of the lessons we learn from difficult times is the importance of being aware of those who live in our neighbourhood, so that we can all work together. Why not

- Get to know your own neighbours & share your Fire Plans
- See if there are elderly or people with a disability who may need assistance
- Start a Telephone Tree to know who is home & who has gone
- Start a Community Fireguard Group with the help of the CFA Good preparation is not a last minute thing

To find out how to prepare a Bushfire Plan, come along to one of the Bush Fire Plan Writing Workshop & Telephone Tree Information Sessions:

10am – 2.30pm Saturday October 13 & Sunday November 25, Bookings are essential: Trentham Neighbourhood Centre 5424 1354, lunch provided.

~ Mary Hogarth, *No One Left Behind-Community Safety Project*  
Phone 0437 707 835.

 **TRENTHAM BRIGADE**  
**MUSIC TRIVIA NIGHT**  
NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>  
FOOTBALL CLUBROOMS TRENTHAM  
7pm for 7.30pm start  
\$15 a head  
Bar service available - nibbles provided  
Bookings essential - Contact: Paul Healy 0439741732  
Or Kate Smith 5424 1360  
Maximum table size - 10  
A fundraiser for the extension to the station

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**The U3A Movement**

U3A stands for University of the Third Age. There are U3As all over the world. A U3A is a volunteer co-operative of older people who share many educational, creative & leisure activities.

**What is the Third Age?**

The Third Age refers to the time after the First Age of childhood & the Second Age of employment & parental responsibility – often called “the age of active retirement”.

**Why are we called U3A?**

A U3A is a university in the original sense of the word: a community of people devoted to learning & its members are in the Third Age.

**U3A Kyneton SENIORS WEEK LUNCHEON**

Tuesday October 9, 11.30am til 3.00 pm

Kyneton Bowling Club Tickets: \$20

Noeline Brown – Federal Ambassador for the Ageing

Mary Doumany – harpist & singer

Alan Stone – MC

Order forms available at [www.u3akyneton.org.au](http://www.u3akyneton.org.au). Limited tickets available so be quick! Please send order form with your payment (cheques payable to U3A Kyneton) to:

The Treasurer, U3A Kyneton P.O. Box 1321 Kyneton 3444

For further enquiries:

email: [u3akyneton@gmail.com](mailto:u3akyneton@gmail.com) or phone: 5423 5223

This U3A Kyneton event is supported by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council

a Community Service ad sponsored by FLUX Design Studio

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Dinner ~ Thur, Fri, Sat, Sun

Lunch ~ Fri, Sat, Sun

Lunch & Dinner ~ Public Holiday Mondays

**SHOWTIME FOR TEDDY BEARS**

The Woodend Teddy Bear Show is celebrating its 7th anniversary on October 28. Again, the 40 stalls that fill St. Ambrose Hall will feature the finest soft sculpture artists in Australia, while on stage, competition bears will jostle for supremacy in the eyes of expert judges as well as curious visitors of all ages.

Thousands of people have attended the Woodend Teddy Bear Show since it began in 2006. Organiser, Kerri Botwood, has been thrilled to realise her dream of providing an event for the teddy bear faithful to gather & showcase their talents, expand their teddy collections, enrich their craft knowledge & connect with like-minded others & industry representatives.

Many visitors use the event as an opportunity for a weekend away, booking up local accommodation & converging on restaurants, galleries & popular tourist attractions such as Hanging Rock. In 2010, the show was a finalist in the tourism category of the Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards.

Kerri has resisted calls to move the event to a larger venue because she is determined to keep it both relatively intimate & maintain the very high standard of participants. Subsequently, each year she is forced to add more prospective stallholders to a waiting list, & it has become typical to have the show fully booked a year in advance.

One of the aspects participants & visitors appreciate is the community atmosphere. The Woodend CFA plays a major role in catering for the masses, while local schools have also contributed artwork in the past.

Another on-going objective is to raise awareness of animal aid organisations, & proceeds from raffles & a People's Choice Award sponsor bears rescued by Free the Bears & Animals Asia.

The 2012 Woodend Teddy Bear Show is on at St Ambrose Hall, Templeton St, Woodend on Sunday, October 28 from 10am to 4pm. Entry is \$8 adults, \$5 children, & \$4 under 3yo. For more details contact Kerri on 54274944, check the website [www.woodendteddybearshow.com.au](http://www.woodendteddybearshow.com.au) or visit the Facebook page.

**Platinum & Palladium Camera Work**

Platinum palladium photographs from 8x10 inch camera negatives are not that common, but 16 x 20 inch photographs are rare. The hand-crafted nature of this process ensures that each photograph from the same negative is unique, exhibiting subtle differences in tonality from the variation in coating technique, paper surface & atmospheric humidity.



This 19th century platinum/palladium process of precious metals ensures the photograph may remain unaltered for hundreds of years. Created on French 100% cotton & Japanese papers, they offer a beautiful, timeless warmth.

You can see the wonderful photographic work of Gary Chapman at Gold Street Studios from October 3 to December 16 by appointment. Although they can be viewed as explorations in texture & tonality, there is a greater aesthetic. Gary's artistic vision allows you to share some quiet spiritual places, photographs that reveal the subtle difference of shadows & reflections bringing depth to his work.

Meet the artist on Nov 9, 4.30 to 7.30pm or Nov 11, 3.30 to 5.30 pm

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**GREENDALE COUNTRY MARKET**

This unique & popular Country Market nestled enroute to Daylesford & Ballarat, & less than an hour's drive from Melbourne is simply not to be missed.

With numerous professional & local stall holders offering local produce, gourmet food & bread, handmade craft, plants, new & used items, mini farm clearing sales & so much more. So start your weekend with some good old fashion country hospitality.

Come & try your hand at some Gum Boot Throwing & Hay Bale rolling, or just sit back & enjoy the country & western singers. The CFA Sausage Sizzle, jumping castle & raffles all adding to a terrific festival atmosphere.

The Market is held at the Reserve right across the road from the famous old Pub. This market provides a great opportunity for anyone to make some extra cash & have a good clean out. Only \$10 per stall.

Entry by Gold coin donation  
Loads of stalls offering local produce, gourmet food, plants, mini clearing sales, entertainment & good old fashioned hospitality.

Date: 24 November 2012

Time: 8:00am - 1:00pm

Location: Egan's Reserve, Greendale

Contact: 5366 7100

• MARKET CALENDAR • MARKET CALENDAR • MARKET CALENDAR •							
1st SATURDAY	1st SUNDAY	2nd SATURDAY	2nd SUNDAY	3rd SATURDAY	3rd SUNDAY	4th SATURDAY	4th SUNDAY
BALLAN MARKET 8am-1pm Inglis St	DAYLESFORD MARKET 8am-4pm Railway Station	KYNETON FARMERS 8am-1pm St Pauls Park	DAYLESFORD MARKET 8am-4pm Railway Station	CRESWICK COMMUNITY 9am-1pm Victoria St	DAYLESFORD MARKET 8am-4pm Railway Station	BREAKFAST BAZAAR from 9am Hepburn Springs	DAYLESFORD MARKET 8am-4pm Railway Station
DAYLESFORD FARMERS 9am-1pm D'ford PS	CASTLEMAINE ARTIST MARKET 10am-4pm (not Jan) Theater Royal	BALLAN FARMERS 9am-1pm Mill Cottage	MALMSBURY VILLAGE MARKET 9am-3pm (Sept-May) Gardens	RIDDELLS CREEK FARMERS 9am-3pm (not Dec) PS	TALBOT FARMERS 9am-2pm Scandinavian Cres	LANCEFIELD & DIST FARMERS MARKET 9am-1pm High St	LANCEFIELD/ROMSEY LIONS 8am-2.30pm (not Jan, Jun, Jul) Main St
DAYLESFORD MAKERS 10am-3pm Town Hall	CASTLEMAINE FARMERS 9am-1pm Mostlyn St			DARLEY MARKET 8am - 1pm Gisborne/Grey St Darley	WOODEND 9am-3pm High St		TRENTHAM SUNDAY MARKET 9am-2pm Main St
TRENTHAM INDOOR 9.30am-1.30 TNH Centre	GISBORNE OLDE TIME MARKET 9am-2pm Hamilton & Aitken			TRENTHAM FARMERS 9am-1pm Town Square			
DARLEY MARKET 8am - 1pm Gisborne/Grey St Darley	GISBORNE ALL SEASONS 9am-3pm Brantome St			TRENTHAM MAKERS 9am-1.30pm Cosmo			

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**INNER CHILD & observations of life**

At the August meeting of the of the Macedon Ranges Film Society, there were some tears & sniffles as the story of Peter Pan & his creator, J.M. Barrie, unfolded on the big screen. Set in London in 1903, Johnny Depp played a very convincing, naive & eccentric J.M. Barrie & no less charming was Kate Winslet in the role of Sylvia Llewelyn Davies, mother of the four rambunctious boys who were the inspiration for this much-loved children's story.

In September, members were charmed with one of Jacques Tati's marvellous observations of life in the film "Monsieur Hulot's Holiday". As with all of the Tati films, misunderstandings & strange situations abound & M Hulot's holiday at the seaside is no exception. His intentions are good but not everything goes according to his innocent plans. There is very little dialogue, but the character on the screen is bound to cause ripples of laughter all round.

The Macedon Ranges Film Society meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Woodend Community Centre. Film notes are supplied & for those who wish, there is discussion after the film with refreshment kindly supplied by the members.

Email mrfilmsociety@gmail.com or call Vicki on 5427 2323 or Christine on 5429 5452.

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**BLACKWOOD**  
**18 Old Golden Point Rd**

Blackwood gem. Three bedroom on 3000 square meters. Extensive landscaped gardens. Large garage/workshop

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**AUCTION**      **24 Martin St**  
**27 October**      **2:00PM**

Best of Blackwood. Classic old home full original features. On around 1,100 square meters. Three large bedrooms, separate lounge and small cottage at rear of house.

**BLACKWOOD**      **15 Clarendon St**

Three bedroom home on around 800 square meters. In garden setting with mature native trees. Excellent shed and workshop. Perfect for first home buyer.

**\$205,000**

**BLACKWOOD**  
**37 Golden Point Rd**

Beautifully renovated light filled home on 900 sm. Over two levels with two bedrooms open plan kitchen/dining separate living. Separate studio, lock up garage.

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**BLACKWOOD**      **33 View Crs**

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**BLACKWOOD**      **15 Clarendon St**

Three bedroom home on around 800 square metres. In garden setting with mature native trees. Excellent shed/workshop with power and concrete floor. Good first home.

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