

THE BLACKWOOD TIMES

October – November, 2018 vol 10 ~ issue 11:3



ABOVE, BELOW & FAR LEFT: havin' a hoot at the 2018 Blackwood Bushdance

Almost 6 pages of photos see p4-9



Valerie Judith Suters

22/08/1939 – 13/09/2018

Watch for her story in our next issue





EDITOR'S THOUGHTS...

HELLO Blackwood,
Welcome to spring! There have been loads of AGM's over the past month or so & a few more are in October, including your CERT team. Yep, here it comes, I know, you saw it coming I'm about to do a great big, enormous, plug to call out for anyone who would like to contribute to our local CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) by taking a seat on the committee. I know, as editor, I'm meant to be objective but this is a service that is very close to my heart, so close that I've been president for the past 2 years! I'm thinking the next year is going to be incredibly exciting for us & we're going to need a strong, committed committee to pull it off. Call me, drop in, shoot me an email if you think you'd like to be a part of this incredible community service. My details are at the bottom of this page.

On page 12 we have a brief article introducing the Moorabool Business Operators Networking Forum facilitated by our shire's Economic Development department. With all the renovation work going on in Blackwood, forcing closures of businesses over the past month or so, it is a real worry to watch the number of visitors who come into town & leave immediately having not seen anything to do. In the 80's we were heavily involved in tourism. Many of you will remember our shop "Strike Me Lucky Gifts" & accommodation agency "Blackwood Retreats". I understand that once you lose visitors it is extremely expensive to get them back &, like it or not, our town's survival feeds on our visitors.

Over many years BAG fought for our building future so now, we as a community, must fight for our economic future. Let's call the council & ask them what they are doing to help Blackwood survive through this difficult period. (see p17)



MEMBER 2018 ~ *Jinny Coyle (editor)*

Thank you our **HANDS-UP** helpers – you are the reason we're able to keep publishing... (along with our regular contributors of course!)

Jimmy Olsen played by...	Brendan Hehir
Calendar of Events co-ordinator	Rachel Palmer
Regular Photographers	Peter Donnelly, Jimmy Olsen
Event columnists	Do you love to write?
Community Co-ordinator	Sandy Schmidt
Distribution Co-ordinator	We'd love a helper

the BLACKWOOD TIMES info

The BLACKWOODTIMES invites submissions from the community. If you're at a local event please take a photo or two & write a few lines to share in our community news. Deadlines are as follows

Advertisers book space	Nov 15
Regular Contributors, Features & Items of Interest, Community Groups & Clubs	Nov 15
Display Ad Artwork	Nov 20
Late breaking News	Nov 20

NO late submissions will be accepted. Please email submissions, display ads & articles to editor@theBLACKWOODTIMES.com.au or post to The Blackwood Times, PO Box 39 Blackwood, 3458.

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Hi, My name is Rhys & I am 6 years old.

I started playing chess this year with my family & I love it! I wanted to start a chess club for Blackwood to play with other people & give the town something to be excited about. I thought a tournament would be a nice way to introduce my idea. I had lots of people around the town be excited about the idea with me when I asked them if they would like to play, & they have very nice attitudes.

My mum suggested the Blackwood Town Hall for a location because it is big enough to fit lots of people. I then had people come up to me asking if I need any help in organising anything, that's so cool!

I want to give prizes to the winners & so I need to have money for that. 6yo children don't have jobs so I needed to ask for it. The Blackwood Progress Society invited me to speak to them about my idea. I wrote a letter to them & attended a meeting at the Blackwood Hall. I was nervous to do this but I really wanted to organise the chess day so then I just stood up at the meeting & spoke because I had my mum's support & the people of Progress were really nice. My mum has set up an event on Facebook under the page "Blackwood Community Events".

I am now organising trophies & other prizes for the day. I think snacks & drinks will be needed on the day because people get hungry & thirsty. I love chess so much. Anyone who wants to join is allowed to. You can contact my Mum or me if you want to come & play chess.

~ *Rhys Vella*

My son Rhys would like to host the 1st Community Chess Tournament. Please come for some fun. Games will be divided into age & ability levels. There are prizes to be won & afternoon tea will be provided. Please contact me for participation enquiries. We would appreciate the loan of some chess boards for the afternoon please.

Kirsty: 0413131920
Date of tournament: Sunday Oct 14, 2018
Start time: 1pm
Place: Blackwood Town Hall, Byres Rd, Blackwood



L & R: Noelle Shader's story was originally featured in the Apr/May '13 issue of the Blackwood News.

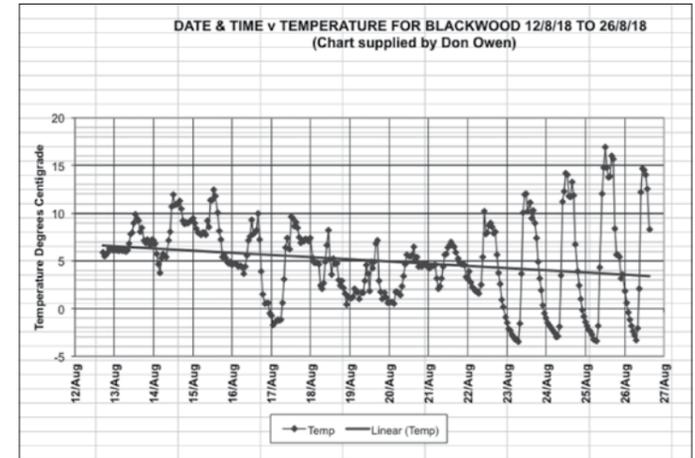
Download from <https://theblackwoodtimes.com.au/april-may-2013/>
Her story spearheaded the public meeting which resulted in the formation of the Blackwood Action Group (BAG).

Noelle was part of the BAG team which agitated for revised building regulations & brought about the Blackwood Localised Septic Program (BLSP)

HOW'S THE WEATHER BEEN?

MONTH & YEAR	Rainfall (mm)	Rainfall historical average (mm)	Temp monthly min (deg C)	Temp monthly max (deg C)	Temp average daily max (deg C)	Temp average daily min (deg C)	Temp average for month (deg C)
July '18	112	102.6	-4.4	15.1	9.3	1.6	5.1
Aug '18	98.4	110.5	-6.4	16.9	10.4	0.3	5.1

We have had some cold nights during August, resulting in a very low average minimum temperature for the month. Also, one night we had -6.4° which is one of the lowest overnight temperatures for years. I suppose looking on the bright side, most very cold nights are usually followed by a sunny day. Roll on Spring & some warmer weather.



ARE WE BUILDING YET?

Despite the valuable planning assistance made available to landowners under the Blackwood Localised Septic Program over the last 18 months, we are yet to see any new homes (last year's build at Barrys Reef falling outside the remit of BLSP).

Many landowners have discovered that the Blackwood area remains highly constrained when it comes to building. With bushfire, wastewater and native vegetation overlays to consider, the approval process is invariably long, torturous and expensive.

In our Apr/May edition (p8) Travis Trewin and Melissa Morrow documented their building approval journey. In an update, Travis says that negotiations on the Native Vegetation Offset have been successful after a 3 month slog and the dreaded Section 173 (a legally-binding agreement on building conditions or restrictions , usually between council and landowner but in this case including Western Water, regarding maintenance of wastewater treatment systems) has taken a full 6 months!

Full marks for perseverance, Melissa and Travis. They expect to receive their building permit shortly. Another owner who has persevered (for 10 years!) is Noelle Shader. Below is a potted history of the decade since fire destroyed her home.

October 2008 - House fire with loss of 99% of all possessions. House razed to ground, & insurance coverage insufficient to cover loss of contents & rebuilding. My Blackwood neighbours, Linda & Laurie Byers, take me & my dog into their home. The Blackwood community organizes a fundraiser with donations from businesses, committees & groups that contribute either cash or goods. Over \$2,000 was raised between the donation tin & the fete.

February 2009 - Black Saturday. Attempting to rebuild & navigate through new building restrictions & requirements brought forward from the Black Saturday Royal Commission. Briefly, my property was labelled as FZ [Flame Zone] or BAL 40. [Bushfire Attack Level] Goalposts continuously changing, as are the specified requirements. Continue to live with neighbours for 2 years, while battling necessary agencies.

January 2011 - Buy another house in Blackwood, as "unable " to rebuild on the property I previously lived on for 12 years. Now paying rates on 2 properties.

May 2013 - Public Town Meeting organized & Blackwood Action Group, [BAG] formed on behalf of the Blackwood Community, in response to fighting for the town's survival, which was threatened by building codes, lack of proper sewerage & the vegetation layout surrounding town.

I have also included a further chart for your interest showing the pattern in late August of 4 consecutive days with overnight temperatures below zero. Notice the progressive increasing temperatures.

~ *Don Owen*

GOODBYE BLACKWOOD MERCHANT

As you're aware, we've spent the best part of the past year experimenting with Blackwood Merchant's offering & hours. We've been striving to find that sweet spot. A balance between health (mental & physical) & running a good cafe, that delivers consistently high quality food & service. We've found that sweet spot & it means opening the cafe space Friday - Sunday & public holiday Mondays.

We've made a significant investment in the community & we are here for the long haul, ending regular changes to ownership. However, Blackwood Merchant has now closed down.

We're currently redeveloping the space to house Martin Street Coffee. Building works include major plumbing upgrades, flooring & kitchen works.

Martin Street Coffee operates daily, looking after a growing customer base across Australia, New Zealand & South East Asia. We roast & supply beans, build machines & operate a cafe & roastery.

The Simons will run a public coffee & food space here in Blackwood. Expect a new level of service, better value, a super tasty menu (including all day breakfast options) & some really interesting, alternative ways to drink coffee.

We will be open to the public again ASAP.

There will always be tasty food, lovely coffee & a genuine welcome for all locals, at your leisure. We're planning additions to the menu & are developing innovative ways to bring you better value.

We've very much enjoyed our time here to date, working tirelessly to save, build & be part of history's next chapter. This year has been a challenge for our health after working constantly for almost 4 years, so we simply had to stop, close & finish all the renovating & business development. That way we open fresh, & can focus on you.

We trust you will continue to enjoy what we offer this delightful community.

~ *Simon Gracie (via Blackwood Community Events facebook group)*

November 2015 - As the result of proactive & continuous dialogue with relevant agencies, The Blackwood Localised Septic Program is established in 2 parts. Firstly, to renew or upgrade existing tank systems, & a Planning Assistance Program. This offered Planning Consultation to assist landholders in conducting an initial planning feasibility investigation into rebuilding on vacant land.

February 2017 - Recipient of new septic system on new property.

September 2017 - Land Capability Assessment completed & returned, with quote for Planning Permit on my vacant land. The outcome - I had a reasonable chance for achieving a planning permit for a proposed development, but with no guarantee by the firm or the local Council.

October 2018 - 10 Year Anniversary of House Fire. Feeling more positive about rebuilding process, but still in "holding pattern" making decision to rebuild on my block.

What have I learnt?

That Blackwood is worth preserving, & I continue to live here because of the spirit of the people & the land. Even though it feels like one step forward - one step back, Blackwood has been here for over 150 years - & this resilience speaks for itself. Equally, never take anything for granted, & continue to believe that we live in a place worth fighting for."

~ *Noelle Shader*

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BLACKWOOD WOMBATS

Every Tuesday 9.30 am – 11.30am the tiny tots of Blackwood & surrounding areas, such as Dales Creek & Barry's Reef, join together for fun & adventure.

The children plant in our new raised garden bed, swinging on our awesome outdoor play set & play ball outside.

There is something for an everyone with an expansive choice of indoor activities too.

Families must have a Playgroup Victoria insurance membership. We are supported by the Blackwood Progress Association & some activities are planned with CERT & the CFA & other land-loving groups within the community.

Free entry each week. Call Kirsty 0413131920 for interest, or just pop to the Blackwood Town Hall (89 Byres Rd. Blackwood) on a Tuesday morning.



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**GEORGE STOCKDALE
DEC 27, 1927 – AUG 11, 2018**

On August 11, 2018 the Blackwood community lost a treasured soul. George Joseph Stockdale.

George was born on December 27, 1927 to Florence & William of Malvern. He was one of 4 sons (Ernest, Hugh & William (all deceased)), a devoted husband to Margaret (deceased), loving father to Sandra & Ron, grandfather to Rachel & Renee & a Great Grandfather to Lachlan, Joshua, Emily, Chloe & Harrison

George dedicated his life to this community. He was a CFA volunteer for over 60 years & was awarded a National Medal of Service. From 1977 to 1995 he & Margaret ran & owned the Blackwood Hotel. He was also Shire President of the Ballan Council. What George accomplished in his life, was simply amazing.

He was a traditional man with traditional values. He loved Fords, dancing, the CFA, his beloved dogs, the mighty Hawks & especially the Blackwood community. There would be many stories of George that we will all fondly remember & cherish & many of them would be unfit for publishing!

A thank you from the Stockdale Family

Ron & Sandra would like to thank all that attended George's funeral on August 20, 2018. It was certainly a fitting send off for a great man.

To the members of the community who spent time with George & helped him with medical appointments, taking him out of the house & keeping him company, your love & support for George was greatly appreciated & the family cannot thank you enough for all that you did for him in his final years, especially after Margaret's passing.



George and Margaret at their granddaughter's wedding in 2012



Top Left leaving the CFA for the last time
Above: Proud moment being recognised by the CFA for his services



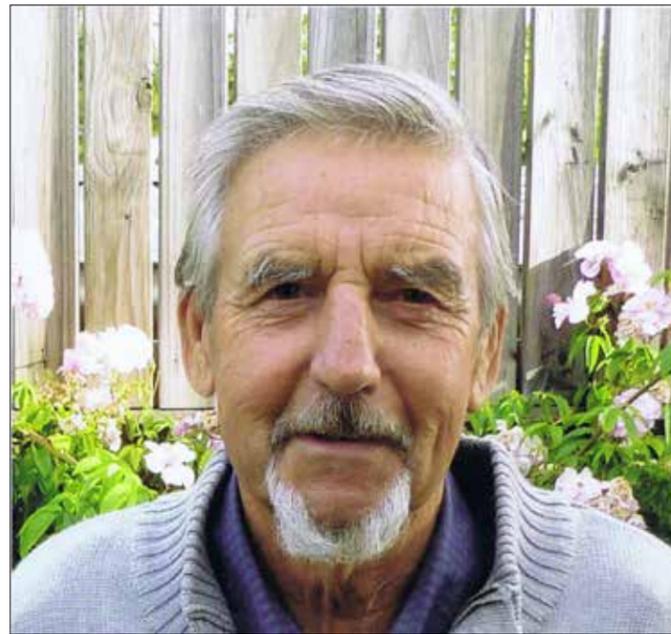
George loved the T Model Fords



George's favorite spot always with a doggie on his knees.



With his great grandchildren Lachlan and Joshua



KARL ANDERSON

September 10, 1943 - September 10, 2018

Karl's dad, a merchant seaman, jumped ship at Williamstown. The first world war was raging through Europe at the time & he didn't fancy returning to his native Finland. He met & married a Williamstown girl pretty quickly (most of the eligible Williamstown boys being over in Europe).

Karl came along in 1943 & grew up in the western suburbs. He was a pretty decent footballer, playing for South Melbourne Reserves. Bob Skilton once told him to prepare for his first Seniors' game, just before his opportunity was cruelled by injury. Karl later played VFA for Werribee at centre half-back for a number of years & then for Newport, where he suffered a career-ending injury. He lost a kneecap & was never able to walk backwards again.

In his youth, Karl was apprenticed to celebrity gardener, Kevin Heinze, at the Fitzroy Gardens. However, in 1965 he traded garden hose for fire hose, joining the Metropolitan Fire Brigade & serving for 28 years. It was there he met fellow-recruit, Noel Ewer, & formed a life-long friendship.

Noel & Karl befriended a couple of older firemen, Dick Chugg & Alfie Powell. Both had served in New Guinea during WW2, Dick in the clandestine "Z Force" & 23 stone Alfie as a cook. They had a bolt-hole in the bush where they'd escape for a spot of hunting & fishing. Only the dunny remains today, down by the river at the end of Whalebone Road, bearing witness to the 2 old soldiers' barracks, once kitted out, recalls Noel, with bunks made of woven canvas fire hoses.

Noel & Karl became enthusiastic regulars at Blackwood & the camp and, in 1984, bought themselves adjacent blocks at Golden Point & set about constructing 2 mud brick homes. It took them about 10 years. These days the elegant muddies are set in the beautiful, mature "Karl's Garden", his Kevin Heinze days finally paying off. Karl planted Tulip Tree, Ginko Biloba, Spruce, Magnolia & Japanese Maple.

Rabbit was regularly on the menu while the 2 built their homes; Karl having a handy platoon of ferrets. One evening, Karl returns with 5 bunnies & Noel suggests throwing one on the fire to cook, rather than bothering with preparation & pots & the like. Karl, a little peeved, selects the old buck, chucking it into the flames. Noel remembers it as the most unsatisfying meal of his life, like eating old boots. On the other hand, Jack Borg from next door prepared a rabbit so tasty that it had Karl begging for the recipe, a recipe Jack, a 'freestyle' cook, just couldn't, for the life of him, recall. Karl was shattered.

10 years ago, Karl visited the land of his father, the ship-jumping Finn. Then 3 years ago, Karl developed dementia. Noel visited him, early, for his birthday. 2 days later, on his 75th birthday, Karl passed away.



Karl working in his garden

Karl working in his garden</



SOME HISTORY OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH, BLACKWOOD.



Compiled by Margot Hitchcock, Historian for the Blackwood & District Historical Society. September 2018

It is with some sadness I read in The Blackwood Times Facebook site of the sale & now the Deconsecration on Tuesday, September 18 of All Saints Anglican Church in Blackwood. Part of our valuable history in now lost in time, with the sale of this historical church.

In a previous article I wrote some history of the church, & here is some further history.

This historic Church, dedicated on October 29, 1865, is one of the few remaining Churches dedicated by Bishop Charles Perry, the first Bishop of Melbourne. The 'Church Gazette', the Church of England Newspaper of the time spoke of an "exceedingly neat, well-constructed building" which "stands on a hill commanding an extensive prospect. The scattered character of the population & its isolated position render it very difficult to maintain there the ministry of the Church & due pastoral visitation of its people."

The Revd. Matthew Henry Ashe became the first Rector of Blackwood in 1866 & remained there until 1873. Sometimes services at Blackwood were taken by the priest & lay-reader at Bacchus Marsh, which was the neighbouring parish. In the 1860's there was a lay-reader in Bacchus Marsh, George Andrew Scott, the son of an Anglican priest, who was later jailed for holding up the Bank at Egerton. He became known as "Captain Moonlight" & on his release from jail in 1879 was involved in a siege in NSW in which he shot & killed a policeman. He was hanged in 1880. It has been suggested that he may have taken a service at All Saints. The third Rector, Archibald Turnbull, appointed in 1877 was kept busy with three Churches (Blackwood, Simmons Reef, & Barry's Reef), four Sunday Schools, baptisms, marriage services, burials, confirmation classes & the Chinese mission.

The Church gained further notoriety when a lay reader, Harold Robinson, was shot & killed in 1908 while walking on the verandah of the vicarage next door, reading a theological book, by a mentally disturbed man, Billy Pincombe who lived opposite. The bullet passed through the book. Many years later this book "On Faith & the Creed" by C.A. Heurtley complete with bullet hole, was found at a Church fete, & presented to All Saints Blackwood where it was on display, but has since been removed to the Anglican Archives Museum in North Fitzroy.

Although Blackwood is within the boundaries of the Diocese of Melbourne, when the Diocese of Bendigo was formed in 1902, Trentham became part of that Diocese, so Blackwood has been looked after by clergy from the Diocese of Bendigo since that time. In 1942 Trentham, & with it Blackwood, became part of the Parish of Woodend. Over the years there has always been at least 2 services a month at All Saints, which was the current pattern. In 2013 All Saints Blackwood joined the Parish of Bacchus Marsh in the Diocese of Melbourne. It was one of the oldest remaining buildings in Blackwood, & the only Church in the town to have remained in continuous use, with the help of the late Lindy Cann. But gradually regular services were stopped until there was no call for them with the decline of regular church-goers. The church has been most useful for celebrated Baptisms, Weddings & commemorated funerals for services for departed pioneers & valued citizens of Blackwood. This service will be sadly missed by the families who relied on it for the family celebrations.

The blue of the windows & the cross pattern on the frosted glass, were added in 1993 when the Church was used for both a wedding & a funeral in the TV series, "The Man from Snowy River." During the film the Church was "burnt down".

All Saints Church was first recorded in the Register of the National Trust on 9 July 1959. In 1997 the Trust reviewed its status & upgraded it to

Classified. A further review by the Trust in 1977 resulted in the following citation: "A charming naïve timber Church in primitive Gothic style with classicising details, dated from 1865. The windows have Gothic glazing bars & the roof is capped by a square bell cote. In 1990 the Church was included in the National Trust's Register."

Many records & notes show notable & local people have been married or had a funeral service celebrated & commemorated at All Saints Church. Robert Carruthers & Catherine Sweet were No. 1 in the register names when they got married at All Saints Church of England in Blackwood, on October 11, 1877. The church was consecrated in 1865, but there were most probably earlier marriages & before theirs in 1877. A birth certificate shows Catherine Sweet, born 1850, was the daughter of Matthew Sweet & Mary Kelly, early pioneers of Blackwood. Catherine Sweet was related to the Sweet family of Wally & Barbara Sweet of Blackwood & their daughter Jenny Sweet, who married Tony Darwen, at All Saints Blackwood. (see photo below).

With grateful acknowledgement to the notes of Penny Garnett, May 1978, & A History of the Diocese of Bendigo, 1902 - 1976 by Dr Keith Cole, "Aspects of early Blackwood" by Alan Buckingham & Margot Hitchcock, & Archdeacon N.D.Herring's Manuscript History, the major sources for this brief history.

Researched by Margot Hitchcock from her forthcoming book 'The History & Pioneers of Blackwood', hopefully to be published soon. Other books published by Margot Hitchcock - "Aspects of Early Blackwood", "Some History of Simmons Reef, Blackwood" & "The Billy Pincombe Tragedy". See - www.blackwoodpublishing.com For help with information on Blackwood ancestors contact Margot Hitchcock - email - margo@hitchcock@bigpond.com

R: Lindy Cann & ministers at wedding at All Saints



2nd left - Barbara and Wally Sweet, at wedding of their daughter Jenny Sweet to Tony Darwen. Photos courtesy of Margot Hitchcock.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE UNITING CHURCH?

Something is certainly happening & it is great news for our church & great news for our township as well.

Over the last few years, the Highlands Cluster, comprising the congregations of Daylesford, Ballan, Trentham & Blackwood had been working on discerning the future for our congregations & our churches. A steering committee was formed to dream & vision & plan for what could happen.

Our vision for the Blackwood Uniting Church was to establish a space for meditation, retreat & contemplation. It could be a place for meetings, conferences, education & culture. It would be open to all.

At a local level Bible Study will be offered to encourage people to explore their faith. It will be used as a place for worship, meditation & a space for spiritual music & art.

Looking further afield we will be hosting guest speakers who could explore & discuss contemporary issues. It could be a space for biblical & theological studies & discussions. The space could be used by choirs, local musicians & as an exhibition space. The setting of the church in natural bush land also lends itself to exploring ecotheology. Exciting & endless possibilities that would attract a wide audience.

Presbytery has been extremely supportive of this & can see that it would be of benefit to them as well to have a facility so close to Melbourne for their use as well.

Why will it be great for the town?

As well as everyone being invited to the public calendar of events, this facility which will have hydronic heating, inside toilets, a kitchenette, a meeting space with ergonomic seating which can be reconfigured for different sized groups will be available to the town. Charges for community groups will be to cover the cost of power & water etc. We want you to use it.

By having people from outside the town use the facilities it will benefit our traders & because we envisage retreats & residential as part of our calendar of events places to stay will also be needed.

Other ideas that have recently been brought forward from locals are a book swap, a place for yoga, well-being retreats, classes teaching knitting & different sewing crafts, a book club

There will be a Grand Opening when the renovations are completed. We hope you will come along & celebrate with us in this beautiful 120yo building that remains as a symbol of faith in our town & honours local participation in faith education in faith education from the 19th century until the present day.

We hope too that you may have some ideas to use this intimate space to benefit our community, we would welcome any ideas.

~ Robyn Zanon

MOORABOOL CRIES FOUL OVER GRANTS FUNDING

Significantly lower levels of state & federal government grants funding compared with comparable municipalities has Moorabool Shire Council seething.

Figures from the Know Your Council* website show a disproportionality low level of recurrent grants cost Moorabool Shire between \$2.7 million & \$4.1 million a year.

These inadequate grants coupled with a comparatively low revenue base from rates & other municipal charges is putting enormous financial pressure on the Council as it strives to provide the necessary infrastructure to service one of the fastest growing populations in the state.

In demanding that both Federal & State Governments meet their responsibilities to Moorabool, Mayor Paul Tatchell said it was frustrating & disheartening to see other municipalities receive a far greater proportion of government revenue simply because they fell within marginal electorates.

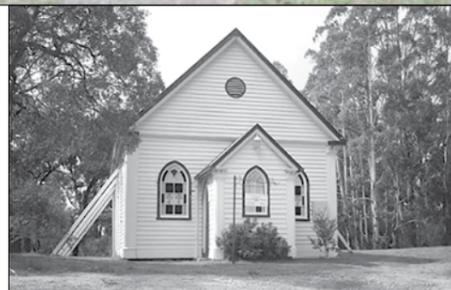
"Here we are with a population growth of three per cent, the second highest of any shire in regional Victoria, yet we are receiving millions of dollars less in government grants than slower growing centres which often have the ability to generate much greater income due to a bigger & more densely settled population."



GOODBYE ALL SAINTS

After 153 years service, on Sept 19, the Anglican Church was deconsecrated, Bishop Philip Huggins officiating. A sad day for all attending.

see p12



Cr Tatchell said Moorabool had undertaken in-depth community consultation to determine priority projects as part of infrastructure planning but it needed State & Federal Governments to support these projects financially.

"We have two levels of Government that preach decentralization but are not prepared to invest in peri-urban areas – delivering these vital projects give them the opportunity to do so," he said.

The Council has identified an urgent need to rectify the existing funding gap & for increased funding to provide infrastructure to meet the needs & expectations of the growing population. These needs range from the provision of gas & sewerage to sporting & health care facilities.

"The figures on the Know Your Council website do not lie," Cr Tatchell said. "Moorabool matters & we want & deserve our share of the State & Federal Government revenue. Just because we are not in a marginal seat does not mean we should miss out.

"If we do not receive our fair share of government grants, the shire will either fall further into debt or will simply not be able to provide the infrastructure required by our residents today & into the future."

Cr Tatchell said Council was simply not prepared to sit back & be overlooked.

"We are advocating hard for these projects in the lead up to both elections, first the State & then the Federal. Experience has shown that politicians rarely come to us so we are going to them & have initiated meetings with relevant MPs & candidates in a bid to have these projects delivered."



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Blackwood Crown Reserves Committee of Management

no report this issue

~ Dave White, President

Blackwood CERT

CERT Team Leader's Report

New Kids on the Block - You'll see Zach Harper out on the road with us – please come & say hi. And by the end of the year you will see Doreen Dalrymple, Dianne Volpe, Kirsty Vella, Sarah Crowhurst, & Jaikie Ludewig. These fantastic new volunteers join our current team of Kathie Strmota, Kathy Berrill, Deirdre Cronin, Leonie Brasier, Marie-Claire Blin, Ivan Johnston (on leave) & myself.

Help, I need somebody - The Blackwood CERT is a volunteer first response team, trained & supported by Ambulance Victoria. We can only respond to 000 calls, so if you think you need an ambulance please call 000. As well as lifesaving skills, medication & equipment, Blackwood CERT have good local knowledge to assist our paramedic backup. We advise if a backtrack is impassible because of a tree & a different route is needed, or if there is actually a house out in some backblock in the middle of the night, & even guide a helicopter to the best landing spot. This speeds up arrival & care for a patient, & in our area where it can be foggy, icy or disorientating, that's very important.

Total Eclipse of the Heart - thanks to Marie-Claire, Jan & Kathie Berrill for driving the AED project. We've been mapping defibs around our district & checking if they're in ready to use order, & helping these to be located in publicly-accessible locations such as outside of buildings. It's no use to anyone if the defib is locked away, & publicly available defibs are safe – only 2 cases of damaged ones across Victoria in many years. The GoodSam app means that registered first aiders can locate the AED & take it to someone in cardiac arrest. The more defibs around, the more people with CRP & on GoodSam, the more likely a life will be saved – it could be your own.

Under Pressure - We all hear about someone dropping from a heart attack. It can happen at any age. & anyone at any age can help. A toddler can alert an adult, a small child can call 000, an older child can perform CPR. Last week I heard of a 15yo son being driven to school by his dad. The father went into cardiac arrest. The brave boy managed to stop the car, drag his father out & perform CPR. The father lived. So very lucky that this boy had learned CPR at school.

Stayin' Alive - Have you seen the Facebook post proclaiming the virtue of coughing to save yourself in cardiac arrest? Blackwood CERT has myth-busted this. Ambulance Victoria MICA Paramedics, & we can confirm that if you are driving on your own, & have chest pain, pull over & call 000. There's no evidence to suggest that coughing will help, but there's lots to say not driving & calling 000 will.

How to save a life - Do you know how to do CPR? It's much simpler than the old days. We're planning a community Restart a heart day. Please join us! Watch out on social media for more info.

AGM - You will have seen the posters for the CERT AGM. CERT is much more than volunteer 1st responders. We are an active community of committee members, & friends of CERT as well. Please come along to the AGM to find out more about what we do, our achievements over the year, & our hopes for the year ahead. If you've encountered CERT by accident (or illness) you're part of CERT in your own special way (as our President Jinny Coyle will attest).

Nothing Compares to you - If you've been a patient or have met us on the road, we'd love to hear what your experience had been like. Good or not so good, we're super confidential, let us know – we're continually improving & your feedback is invaluable.

~ Margaret McCarthy, Team Leader, 0427 344 055.

Blackwood/Barrys Reef Landcare

We had a great turn out for our AGM! Threatened Species Officer Brad Blake gave a great talk about threatened species in our neck of the woods including The Powerful Owl, Greater Glider & Phascogale. He also talked about spotlighting programs, inviting the community to get involved. There are various dates & locations that you can get more information on through the Upper Campaspe Landcare Network or visit the Blackwood Barrys Reef Landcare Facebook page for the direct link to the event registration. Cat Moser & Shane Scanlan are continuing in their roles as president & treasurer & new resident, Alexander Duncan, has taken on the role of secretary. We have a few events in the pipeline, including a guided walk with native plant expert, Murray Ralph. The walk will be held on Sunday November 25 which is a great time for native flowers. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about our local flora & fauna. More information including location & how to register for this event will be available through our facebook page & website. To keep in the loop about upcoming events & Landcare news, you can join our mailing list or check our website <http://blackwoodlandcare.org.au>

~ Cat Moser (President)

Blackwood CFA

no report this issue

Blackwood Historical Society

Great to see spring arriving at last. The good weather brings the opening of the stables each Saturday morning from 10:30am. Our meetings are on the 1st Saturday of each month at 10:30am, all welcome.

Our members took a table at the bushdance. We all enjoyed it & congratulations to Deidre & helpers for putting on a great night.

We have new opening banners for the front of the building, to help it stand out, watch out for these.

Our visitors have been a lot of old families retracing their heritage which has been great for the town.

~ Elizabeth Hall

Blackwood Progress Association

The AGM was held last month & outgoing president, David White, handed over the role to Brett Bond. David will remain on as vice-president & continue to offer his advice & support to the Progress Association & the Blackwood community. We thank him for the strong leadership role he has taken & have valued the wealth of experience he brought to the committee. Thankyou David.

The rest of the committee remains unchanged - Bev Butler will continue as secretary, Karen Bruno as assistant, Jeremy Pearce as Treasurer & Deidre Cronin & Carole Guthrie form the executive. We are very excited about the coming year & the plans that are underway & being developed.

Due to a successful Easter Carnival last year, we have decided to write to all Blackwood community groups & offer some financial assistance towards any projects or items they wish to purchase. We aim to distribute the money during October this year. We have 12 groups identified & if yours hasn't been contacted yet, please let a committee member know.

At our last meeting, a young Blackwoodian, Rhys Vella, approached the committee & read from his handwritten letter explaining details of his upcoming chess tournament & asking for money to buy trophy prizes for the winners. We were delighted to help this young man & look forward to the big day on October 14.

Due to the wonderful support the Bendigo Bank has provided Blackwood, especially for the Easter Carnival, we have decided to transfer our funds into their bank.

The Progress Association has 7 aims & objectives & I have paraphrased them as: to act as a forum to discuss issues of concern, to care for the natural environment, to provide economic development, to improve & develop our community's assets, to support & co-operate with community organisations, to develop & maintain a cooperative relationship with Moorabool council & to co-ordinate/organise working bees.

In order to do these things we have decided to undergo a membership drive & are thrilled to welcome 10 new members already. We are holding a social dinner on Saturday October 6 at 7pm & welcome anyone interested in finding out more about the association to come along. The evening is free of charge & will be a social night so everyone can meet & get to know each other. Please let Carole Guthrie at Jindarup or Karen Bruno know if you would like to attend.

~ Karen Bruno

Blackwood Seniors

We hope everyone is well & happy. We have had our AGM & the positions for the year 2018-2019 are. President-Barb Sweet, Vice President-May Burling, Secretary-Dianne Volpe, Assistant Secretary-Bev Herd, Treasurer- Helga Weiss, Assistant Treasurer- Jackie Wetzler. Committee Members- Jim Usher, Jim Stone, Maria Stone, Max Manning, Phyl Manning, Ilona Usher, Cobi Strolla, Bev Bennett, Margaret Lichfield & Hank Kaindl. We are so fortunate to have such a great club with so many putting up their hands for positions. Our next trip is a mystery trip, \$55.00 pp, will be a lot of fun.

Until next time stay safe & well.

~ Dianne Volpe, Secretary

Blackwood Uniting Church

The Uniting Church Meditation Group at Blackwood House is now meeting fortnightly (no longer the 1st & 3rd Monday of the month) . Please contact Robyn on 5368-6792 if interested.

~ Robyn Zanon

If you would like to let your community know about your organisation, what your focus in the community is & how you would like support, please email Sandy at – galaxyss@hotmail.com. We'd love to hear from you.

COMMUNITY FUND-RAISING NOTICES & RELEASES as well as local gigs & events ARE PUBLISHED IN THE BLACKWOOD TIMES FREE OF CHARGE.

To be included in our next publication please email us information, posters & articles by the nominated deadlines on page 2.

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Blackwood Wed 1:30pm – 2:00pm
in front of the Memorial Hall

Blackwood Wed 2:00pm – 2:30pm
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• MEETINGS ETC •

DAY	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
1st Sat	10:30-12:30	Blackwood Historical Society Meeting	Stables, Martin St
Tuesdays	All Day	Yoga, Meditation etc (Pay As You Feel Classes)	Meditare Blackwood
Tuesdays	10-12	Blackwood Wombats Playgroup	Hall
2nd Sat	10am	Blackwood Gardening Club	Merchant
3rd Sun	3pm	Wombies Book Club	Pub
4th Sun	PM	Landcare (bi-monthly)	Pub

BLACKWOOD CERT COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

Did you know that behind our CERT team is a committee which manages the administrative side of the CERT team of responders?

Looking to 2019 we will continue to work toward securing land for our station & then building it.

We are seeking committee members with skills we envisage needing as we move forward (there may be others we haven't thought of too):

- a project manager
- someone used to working with councils
- a grant writer
- a social media manager
- land/building negotiations

Email your questions to the committee blackwoodcertstation@gmail.com



Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Committee of Management ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held on the 10th October 2018
At 7.30pm in the CFA Building Blackwood

All welcome

BLACKWOOD COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT INC

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SPACE ENERGY A Nourishing Home

by Kathie Strmota



All things have a life experience which shapes them, including people, animals, plants, objects, buildings & environments, & this 'shaping' defines how they impact the world around them. A house is a space with its own history of experience & changing personality, & it influences the lives & health of occupants by its physical structure, contents & decor, & the energetic (vibrational) dynamics of its current 'personality-shape'.

There are obvious physical factors which determine the nature of your experience in the home, such as the amount of daylight in a room with a wall of windows versus a single small window, or the response generated by a wall poster for a horror-movie versus a romantic chick-flick. There are also less obvious 'metaphysical' factors which have their own unique influence, such as whether vital energy has a balanced flow through the house, or what kind of 'story' is being generated by the objects & mementos you keep. There is also the lingering influence of thoughts & emotions that you (or past occupants) have expressed into the space. These energy patterns will be held for a time, depending on their intensity & repetition, & can then be re-experienced by you, or others, & influence mood, thoughts & choices.

Your current home-personality can also help or hinder you in making life changes & manifesting desired outcomes. Our homes often hold the story of who we have been, & it can be difficult to change the shape of your life when your environment continually draws you back into old patterns & habits. You can enhance your new becoming by reorganising your home

so it carries both practical & energetic elements of the new life you wish to create.

There are many practical & metaphysical methods for improving the health of your home & creating an environment which supports your growth. In future issues, I'll look at some of these factors in more detail, but a great way to start is by simply giving it a good spring-cleaning, & now is the perfect time!

General clutter, built-up dust, poor ventilation & low natural light can cause the energy of your home to lose flow & vibrancy, & become stagnant. These factors not only have a direct impact on physical health, but also create an energetically-draining environment. So, give the house a thorough scrub-down, clean under & behind furniture, wash curtains, air-out your mattress, beat the rugs (lovingly), & so on ...

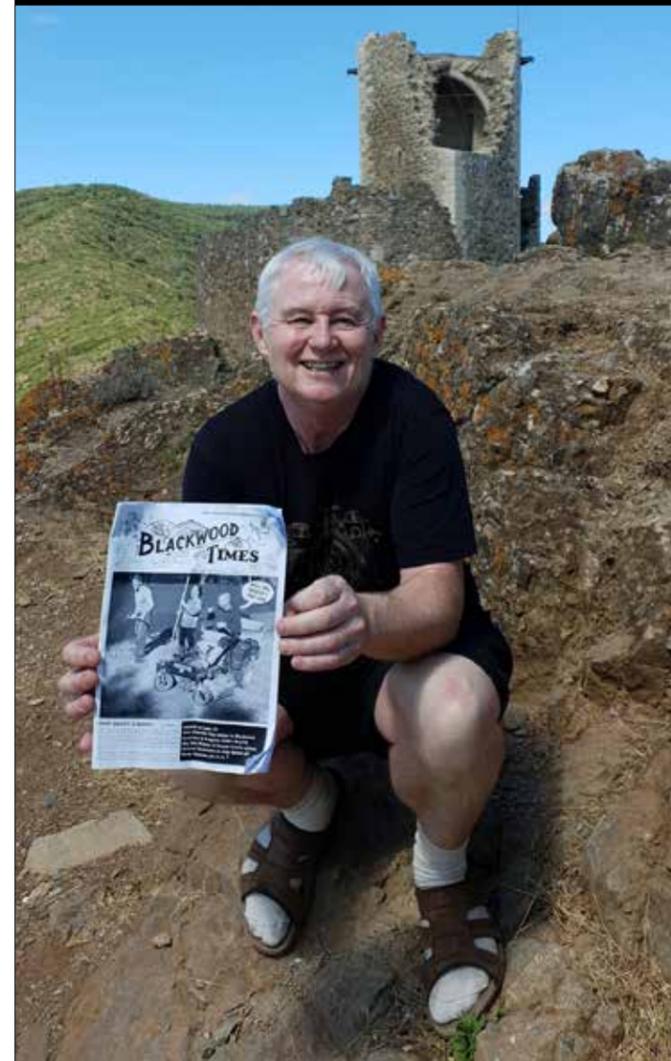
Regularly open doors & windows (even on stormy days) to let the breezes blow through & 'charge up the atoms', & let the sun shine in wherever you can. Sunlight has a clearing effect on stagnant energy, & quickly lifts the vibrancy & vitality of a house. You can also take advantage of mirrors positioned to reflect daylight into darker areas.

Bring in some large-leaved plants, which are the perfect companions for human bodies. They use up the CO2 wastes we breathe out & generate oxygen to nourish us; & the lush green of natural foliage speaks to our 'old brain' & gives a general sense of wellbeing. Plants also help transmute unbalanced energies in an environment and, being generators of negative-ions, they help neutralise the detrimental effect of positive-ions emitted by electrical equipment in the home.

Fresh flowers & greenery are another lovely option. Aside from the uplifting effect of colours & scents, flower-energy is full of gentle vitality, & supports creation, growth & achievement. So, make the most of the season by nourishing your home with a continuous display of lush leafy branches & beautiful blooms!



• BLACKWOOD TIMES GOES TO •



Our volunteer photographer, Peter Donnelly recently took the Times to the French commune of Lastours where there are 4 (reputedly) Cathar castles dating from the 11th century.

Community encouraged to have its say on VEAC Central West investigation

Following the release of the draft VEAC Central West Investigation into public land at the end of August, there's been a fair bit of media coverage & lots of discussion in the community – this is great, & exactly what should be happening at this draft recommendation stage of the VEAC process.

It shows just how passionate Victorians are about their natural environment & the value & enjoyment local communities receive from getting out into the great outdoors.

The investigation is about making sure we have the most appropriate management arrangements in place to conserve, protect & enhance the natural & cultural values of the iconic Wombat, Wellsford, Mount Cole & Pyrenees Range forests.

Let me be clear though, the Andrews Labor Government understands that these forests & reserves are important to locals for domestic firewood collection & have been loved over many years for walking, camping, prospecting & other recreational pursuits, which is why under a Labor Government they'll continue to remain open for future generations to enjoy.

VEAC themselves recommend that four-wheel driving, trail bike & horse riding, mountain biking, bushwalking & camping should continue.

The final report will be delivered in March next year, but before then I really encourage the community to get involved & have their say by October 31, 2018.

VEAC are required to take this feedback on-board before finalising their investigation.

Feedback can be provided online & in the post.

~ Lily D'Ambrosio

Minister for Energy, Environment & Climate Change

PUBLIC MEETING

With a lot of confusion surrounding this report & its potential impact on our community, a public meeting will be held at the Trentham Neighbourhood Centre on October 17 at 7pm.

This will be facilitated by representatives of VEAC.

If you have any questions have a chat with local, Brian Suters.



1ST MOORABOOL BUSINESS OPERATORS NETWORKING FORUM

The first Moorabool Business Network forum saw 25 attendees representing 18 businesses come together to network, share information & learn. They included participants from Gordon, Ballan, Myrning, Bacchus Marsh, Blackwood & some friends from Trentham.

We heard about & discussed Good Access is Good Business - you might be missing potential customers if your premises are not accessible for all. Stuart Toplis from the Tourism Events & Visitor Economy branch was our guest speaker & helped us all understand what to do When Things Go Pear Shaped & provided some business crisis survival tips

The group raised a desire to know more about how Council supports local business & what is on offer. They wanted to tap into indigenous history & heritage, self-guided walks, more networking opportunities, touring routes, what it means to tread lightly on the planet & how we can do that, collaboration & partnering, signage, grants & funding.

There was big shout out to come together in a facilitated group & discuss how we can best promote our businesses & the local offering.

Good discussion took place with participants meeting other business owners & connecting in a very positive way.

LITTER IS A BURNING ISSUE

With warm weather just around the corner the Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) has a serious message. In 2017-18 the EPA issued 12,000 litter fines & the litter that annoyed Victorians most was the lit cigarette.

Cigarettes are the most common litter & the type most commonly reported by the public.

More than ¾ of litter reports to EPA involve cigarette butts tossed from vehicles, & more than half involved a cigarette that was still burning.

Other litter fines were for food packaging, drink containers & other small items. Litter contaminates the soil, chokes waterways & endangers wildlife, & a lit cigarette is a serious fire hazard.

EPA's litter reporting service gives the public a clear mechanism for reporting people who throw litter from a vehicle, by using the car's registration number to track down the alleged offender.

You can report littering at www.epa.vic.gov.au or by calling 1300 EPA VIC (1300 372 842). It's important to be willing to give evidence in court if the alleged offender challenges the fine, but if you get the details right, most of them just pay the fine.

Your report should identify the car, describe the person, describe the litter & how it was disposed of, & the time & place where it happened.

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Written & Authored by Catherine King MP, 5 Lydiard St North, Ballarat 2018.

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MOORABOOL MOBILE LIBRARY VAN READY FOR VISITORS

The Victorian Government has provided \$35,399 to fund an upgrade to Moorabool's Mobile Library van.

Member for Buninyong, Geoff Howard, visited the new mobile library van on behalf of Minister for Local Government, Marlene Kairouz.

The Moorabool Mobile Library is now more than just a delivery van, enabling remote & rural members of the community to have improved access to both library & council resources.

This funding has converted the existing outreach van into a walk-on library, which means the van can now make visits to aged care facilities, train stations, council festivals & rural schools.

The Victorian Government partnered with the Moorabool Shire Council to fund the \$47,199 fit-out.

The Victorian Government continues to invest record funding into Victoria's libraries & support learning centres under the Living Libraries Infrastructure Program.

The Victorian Government has invested more than \$18M dollars into 59 infrastructure projects through the Living Libraries Infrastructure Program, worth a collective \$154 million.

The program helps Victorian councils & regional library corporations provide high quality infrastructure to meet their community's changing needs.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Local Government Marlene Kairouz

"These days, there's much more to libraries than simply books. They give Victorians access to information & technology, promote learning & literacy, & offer a welcoming place where community members can connect with one another."

"The Victorian Government's Living Libraries Infrastructure Program recognises the importance of local libraries & helps them meet the changing needs of the growing communities they serve."

The Member for Buninyong, Geoff Howard, said "The Victorian Government's \$35,399 contribution to the Moorabool mobile library upgrade means the library can continue to provide vital learning & creativity outlets for our region."

"The redevelopment of the mobile van library has revitalised the internal floor plan providing a vibrant, multi-functional & welcoming space."

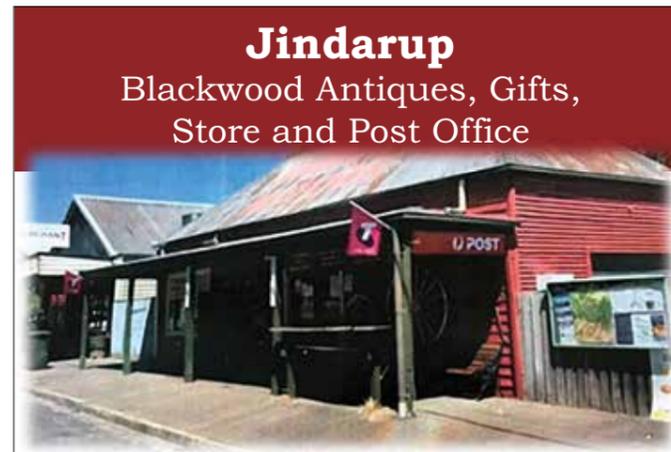


Blackwoodian & guest Times writer Ewan Cameron, says hello to the poli's

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Jindarup is a place where old meets new.

You will also find an eclectic array of vintage treasures and new gifts. Our range includes;

vintage and new jewellery, beautiful lead light lamps, soap, hand creams, crockery, scarves, garden art, Heidi's hand knits, souvenirs, tee-shirts vintage records and much more.

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WOMBAT BOOK CLUB

The Good People by Hannah Kent

"Some folk are born different, Nance. They are born on the outside of things, with a skin a little thinner, eyes a little keener to what goes unnoticed by most. Their hearts swallow more blood than ordinary hearts; the river runs differently for them."

Terri: The Good People. By Hannah Kent, Read by Caroline Lennon kept me company for a week of commuting. It was fascinating to listen to a tale about a small Irish town in 1825 & their beliefs around "the good people" & their superstitions in general. I did find it a tragic tale & at some times uncomfortable to listen to. I learnt a lot about how much we now know of the world & what we take for granted. It was a compelling story on an era I knew little about.

3 wombats

Dee: This book was very close to my heart as it was written about the south west of Ireland which is where I originate from. I felt taken back in time to a land where phooka's (fairies) & superstitious beliefs were part of every day life. In this engrossing tale we are lead to believe that a changeling has brought bad luck & misfortune to the village people. They are divided on their beliefs, but 3 women decide to correct the misfortune by taking drastic action with disastrous results. A compelling read & thoroughly enjoyed the captivating story.

5 wombats

Jinny: I was looking forward to reading this one because I loved the author's other book "Burial Rites", which we read last year. I was a bit disappointed, although I did find the unpleasant characters curious. I did love the unexpected twist toward the end but the last page could have wrapped up the story better.

3 wombats

Searching for the Secret River by Kate Grenville

The extraordinary story of how Kate Grenville came to write her award-winning novel 'The Secret River'.

It all begins with her ancestor, Solomon Wiseman, transported to New South Wales for the term of his natural life, who later became a wealthy man and built his colonial mansion on the Hawkesbury. Increasingly obsessed with his story, Grenville pursues him from Sydney to London and back, and then up the Hawkesbury itself. Slowly she begins to realise she must write about him, and begins to discover what kind of book she will write.

Jane H: I loved this book as it gives the reader such an insight into process of writing a book. Having read & enjoyed the Secret River, it was incredible to learn of the research which went into it; the choice of why material was in the book, why other things were left out. Having been a constant sounding-board for an author friend, it was good to have an understanding of the journey of another writer & what a difficult task it is. This book prompted lively discussion among our book group.

Brenda: After enjoying The Secret River, it was fascinating to follow the research process, ploughing through libraries in Australia and London, standing on ancient steps next to the Thames and unearthing the truth about early settlement on the Hawksbury. Atmospheric and descriptive, a very good read.

4 wombats

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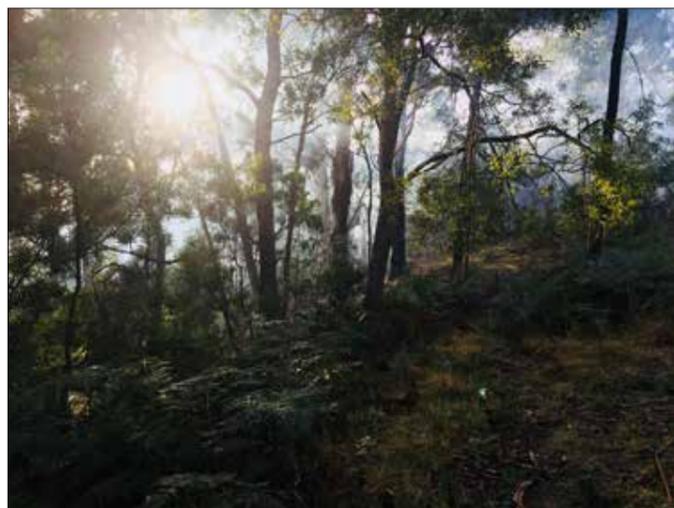


THIS IS THE WAY I SEE IT ...

How do you see Blackwood? EMail your photos with a couple of lines about what you see for this new section of the paper. editor@theblackwoodtimes.com.au



Peter Donnelly - Blackwood from an unusual angle.



Peter Tragardh-Daly: Been finding these occasional sunny mornings are amazing on our little block in Blackwood. Thought you might like this image for the Blackwood Times

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• CALENDAR OF EVENTS •

OCTOBER:

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
Sat 6		Cricket season starts	
Sat 6	8am	Badger Shopping Fundraiser (see FB for details)	Melton Civic Centre
Sun 14	1pm	Community Classic Chess	Bwd Hall
Mon 15	7pm	VEAC Central West investigation community consultation	Trentham Nhood House



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PET SHENANIGANS WITH SEAMUS



WOOF: In this month's edition I would like to discuss patella luxation surgery & how it affects a variety of different animals.

What is patella luxation?

Patella luxation is like the dislocation of the patella bone. The normal patella runs in an up & down direction within a groove on the thigh bone. A luxating patella can slip in & out of its normal position in the patella groove. Patella luxation is an extremely

common condition in young small breed dogs such as Poodles, Pomeranians, & Shih Tzus, & occurs occasionally in large breed dogs.

What causes patella luxation? It is a congenital problem that is caused by the abnormal alignment of the patella tendon, usually towards the inside of the leg. The problem can get worse as the dog grows.

What are the signs & symptoms? You will typically notice an occasional skipping step in your dog's stride, or you will notice that your pet may be favouring a leg. Often the patella will spontaneously slip back into place & the dog will then walk normally as if nothing has happened.

As the dog grows, the condition may get worse & they will limp or skip more often.

When the patella slips in & out of its normal position, the joint capsule becomes stretched & damaged. This causes pain & inflammation & can lead to early arthritis.

How do we treat patella luxation? Treatment of a pet with a luxating patella is dependent upon the severity of the condition. There are 4 grades of patella luxation:

Grade 1: Luxation with manual pressure – usually not painful. Grade 1 luxations usually do not require any specific treatment but do need to be monitored for worsening. Sometimes pain medication is required.

Grade 2: Patella luxation with flexion & extension of the knee but returns to the groove on its own – occasional pain is present.

Grade 3: Luxation with flexion & extension & returns to the groove with manual reduction – considerable pain & lameness (limping). Grade 2 & 3 luxations usually benefit from surgical correction – this involves realignment of the patella tendon & deepening of the groove the patella sits in.

Grade 4: The patellas are permanently luxated – severe condition. Grade 4 luxations usually require reconstructive surgery by a surgical specialist.

What happens if my pet is ineligible for surgery? Dogs with grade 2 to 4 luxations will experience pain occasionally to persistently depending upon the severity. Dogs with patella luxation are more prone to injuring their ligaments as they get older. Having a patella that slips in & out will cause arthritis – a painful & progressive problem. Contact your local vet for a treatment or pain management plan.

Woof for now ... Seamus

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Dear Pet Guru,

My pet currawong has started eating my dog's dried food. Should I be worried? Concerned of Castlemaine



Dear Concerned, Certainly not. Currawongs are carnivorous animals

and it is better for them to eat your dog's dried food than the nestlings of other birds which is one of their more distressing customs. However, if your feathered Fido starts to bark it is time for you to cut back on the dog food.

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WEEK NIGHT STUFF TO DO

DAY	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
Mon	5pm	Old Fart's Night	Blackwood Pub
Tues	5pm	Tuesday Date Night	Radio Springs
Wed	5pm	Locals Night	Cosmo
Wed	5pm	Judder Bar Eats food truck	Lyonville Hall
Thur	6pm	Thai Night	Radio Springs
Fri	5pm	Judder Bar Eats food truck	T/tham Railway Station

WHOSE TATTS THAT?



This tattoo wraps around the forearm, with the back image revealing a night-time scene of glowing fires, silhouettes, internally-lit teepees, and Native American figures, brightly and dimly illuminated. A complex and difficult image to render convincingly. But as you can tell from this front image, the artist was easily up to the task.

The wearer had spent some time travelling the western states of America and was inspired by the Native American culture that he came across. He approached Gary Oats, of Royal Ink in Melton, to help him piece together a design. It took a few months of talk to settle on a design, followed by 5 hours of sitting.

Gary has been inking for about 20 years, working occasionally in Vietnam and Japan, indulging his love of Japanese design. And, yes, this wearer's next tattoo will be the other arm— Japanese style.

A: Cameron Walker

BLACKWOOD CRICKET CLUB

Welcome to a new cricket season, spring is a beautiful time of year & what better way to spend it than an afternoon down at the local recreation reserve watching some cricket whilst enjoying some refreshments & food from our canteen & bar. Our season starts on Saturday October 6 & we remain in the GDCA in 'C' grade. The fixture for the upcoming 2018/2019 season is below. We will also advertise the dates on our facebook page as well as in the local hotel & general store.

We are seeking any new players, or old players, wishing to return for the season. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact one of the following; Steve O'Brien 0488 978 684, Marty deJong 0423 087 558, or Josh Murphy 0429 886 261.

Games are usually played on Saturday afternoon from 12:30pm, & training is on Thursday's at 6pm.

We held our AGM at the Blackwood Hotel on the August 5 & the newly elected Committee & Leadership Team is as follows

- Marty deJong - President
- Jodie Bantz - Vice President
- Steve O'Brien - Secretary
- Keith Osborne - Treasurer
- Keith & Karyn Osborne - Bar & Canteen Manager
- Kate Barnes - Committee Member
- Alan Salmon - Committee Member
- Josh Murphy - Captain
- Benny Whitehouse - Vice Captain

The Blackwood Cricket Club would like to pass on its heartfelt condolences to Keith & Karyn Osborne on the passing of their son Mathew, to Michelle on the loss of her brother & of course Sarah & Molly for their loss, Mathew was a loving fiance & devoted father.

Blackwood Cricket Club SEASON 2018/19

I	6th Oct	Blackwood vs Kyneton	Home
2	13th Oct	Malmsbury vs Blackwood	Kyneton Show Grounds
3	20th Oct	Blackwood vs Lancefield	Home
4	27th Oct	Macedon vs Blackwood	Tony Clarke Rec Reserve
*5	10th Nov	Rupertswood	Salesian College
	17th Nov	vs Blackwood	
*6	24th Nov	Trentham	Trentham Rec Reserve
	1st Dec	vs Blackwood	
*7	8th Dec	Blackwood	Home
	15th Dec	vs Sunbury United	
8	12th Jan	Blackwood vs Trentham	Home
9	19th Jan	Kyneton vs Blackwood	Kyneton Show Grounds
*10	2nd Feb	Blackwood	Home
	9th Feb	vs Malmsbury	
*11	16th Feb	Lancefield	Lancefield Rec Reserve
	23rd Feb	vs Blackwood	
*12	2nd Mar	Blackwood	Home
	9th Mar	vs Macedon	

I dayers start @ 1.00pm
*2 dayers start @ 1.30pm

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BLACKWOOLS



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In 2018, they happened upon a building in Bacchus Marsh &, in front of their eyes, was the opportunity to build a space that could both house their business & be used by other professionals within the community wanting to start a business, grow a business or simply find a working place of solace away from the distractions of home.

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Are you looking to start a small business but not sure how? Do you own a business and need expert advice on how to grow and thrive?

The Victorian Government's Small Business Bus is coming to Bacchus Marsh on October 22, 2018 and Ballan on November 13, 2018.

The Small Business Bus offers:

- FREE confidential mentoring provided by a small business specialist
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- Friendly ASSISTANCE from a Small Business Victoria information officer
- INFORMATION about Small Business Victoria's programs and services

Book a session and discover how the Small Business Bus can help you plan, start or grow your business. Visit business.vic.gov.au/sbb or call the Business Victoria Contact Centre on 13 22 15

ALL INTERESTED ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the
Trentham Neighbourhood Centre Inc.

October 22, 2018 | 7PM
Cnr High & Market streets, TRENTHAM

Light Refreshments provided
Please RSVP by Thursday the 11th Oct 2018
03 5424 1354 or admin@trenthamnc.org.au

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Photo: Addison at the front nursery counter pictured with Cameron (article right)

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KEEP AN EYE ON THIS LAD

The scouting organisation is designed to promote the youth of Australia & prepare them for the future. That's exactly what is happening for 1 member of the 1st Ballan Scouts. His name is Addison Crane & his entrepreneurial skills have come to light recently when he had to raise \$1600 to attend the 2019 Australian Jamboree.

Addison & the other scouts began fundraising & asking the local businesses to donate to their cause. This was quite successful & a fantastic family fun night was held which raised over \$600 per scout.

Addison then set about raising the remaining money by selling handmade items at local markets. He also started baking & sold the goodies to friends at school & other community groups. But his most successful fundraising effort came when he attended the Blackwood Ridge Nursery.

The owners, James & Dan, offered to teach Addison some gardening skills in his spare time &, in return, they would make a donation to him. Addison now attends whenever he can to help with planting, pruning, weeding, customer service & any other skill he can learn.

Addison said "I have been lucky enough to work in the Blackwood Ridge Nursery to help me make money so that I can go on camp. I have been doing lots of gardening & I am very grateful of all the great skills I have been learning & using during this experience. I have been inspired by Dan & James & have decided to make a garden bed at home.

Ed note: Addison held a market stall at the Blackwood Pubs 150th street party. I was mighty impressed with his manner & initiative. I reckon he's got a great future, watch out Richard Branson!

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Wed – Sun: Full Menu Dinner
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HOLY DATE CHANGE BATMAN!!!!

from Trentham Neighbourhood House
We have discovered that October is THE month for AGMs! Our meeting was originally scheduled for Monday, October 15 but, in an effort not to clash with anyone else, TNC have decided to push it out a week. The new date for the TNC AGM is Monday, October 22. We hope that this does not cause too much inconvenience - we would really love to see lots of you there! If you are a member, invitations will go out next week.

In other news on Wednesday October 3 our Film Discussion Group will be hosting a very special guest speaker. Mr Ken Mogg is an expert on the films of Alfred Hitchcock. He will be presenting an illustrated talk on Hitchcock which will be open to all. Come along for this very interesting delve into what made Hitchcock such a compelling director.



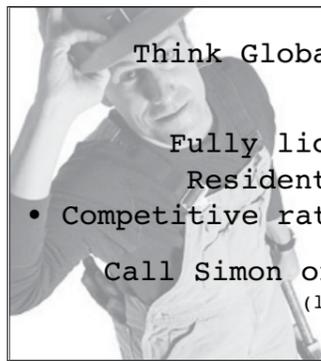
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HARKIN PROPERTY



(L-R) Artist Al Dickerson and Harkin Property Director Frances Harkin.

Thank You!

In September Harkin Property celebrated a thank you event for staff, valued clients, friends, family, the community and surrounding towns.

Frances Harkin, Director of Harkin Property was emotional as she thanked all her supporters since the opening nearly three years ago.

Previous agent John Fitzgerald praised the work that Frances has accomplished and wished her well for the future and said there were 'great things to come'.

There was a grand turn out to the event which filled the Harkin Property office. It's great to see so many new residents moving to the area mingling with the locals.



Director Frances Harkin and staff member Lisa Mamur.



Guests arriving to the Harkin Property event.



Harkin Property staff members (L-R) Julie Harkin and Nicoletta Astuto.



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