

BLACKWOOD WINS BIG AT FISKVILLE CUP

above: Claire Purchase holds aloft her trophy for Best Crew Leader as her team (L-R) Karl, Steve, (proud Dad) Mark & Peter win the Best-On-Ground award, the Fiskville Cup.

see pages 4, 5 & 8

Left: The kids head off for another Blackwood Special School Super Ride.

INSIDE:
 p4-5 Fiskville Cup
 & photos galore
 throughout



• 2018 FISKVILLE CUP • 2018 FISKVILLE CUP • 2018 FISKVILLE CUP • 2018 FISKVILLE CUP • 2018 FISKVILLE CUP •



Snags, exhausted contestants, winners & even a virtual incident room as Blackwood hosts the 2018 Fiskville Cup.



• BLACKWOOD TIMES GOES TO •

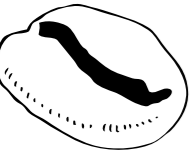


Inge was in the Netherlands to visit her family. Whilst there she found out that she is going to be an Aunt for the second time. Lierop is her home town, about an hour outside of Amsterdam.

Coffee roasted in Blackwood Forest views All day menu Full bar Friday night pizza



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PROGRESSIVE BLACKWOOD



Progress Association recruitment dinner. Venue & entertainment courtesy of Martin & Carol at Jindarup.



Progress shares the fundraised dollars with the Cricket Club, CERT, Historical Society, Uniting Church & the Nighthawks Netball Team. (see p9)

ANCIENT KINGDOM

Cherry-blossom time, Petal-strewn, lace-like, veiled walkway Leading to a life enshrined, Lost in time, no time. A state of being...a life enshrined. He walks the veiled walkway daily - a life enshrined. He whispers his prayers to glory - a life unlike mine. He chants his words, they become eternal air Vibrating, muted air releasing his soul - a restful prayer. This monks life, repetitious, lost in time His life a past life – then – now – future ...enshrined, No time, Not like mine. An ancient kingdom revisited each life time, Always new, forever old A life repeated a thousand fold throughout time. No time. No time. A state of being. A life enshrined. So unlike mine.



~ By Marilyn Hutchinson ©2005

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Jindarup Blackwood Antiques, Gifts, Store and Post Office



From the 1850s this store has provided supplies to gold fossickers, locals and travellers alike.

It continues to do so.

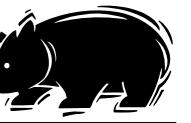
This little store has so much to offer. On the menu, famous Grist Pies, Karon Farm coffee, Devonshire Tea, delicious cakes and biscuits, ice-cream, lollies and other snacks. All this can be enjoyed in Jindarup's beautiful garden while enjoying the views of the Wombat State Forest.

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.

Also on offer is a well-stocked mini supermarket that sells local free range eggs, honey and jams.

All the essentials are available.

23 Martin Street Blackwood. 5368-6542. Open 7 days a week. 9am – 6pm.



WOMBAT BOOK CLUB

Hello from Wombat Book Club. How quickly this year has flown, we have had some great meetings at Bookclub & interesting discussions on what we have read. We meet at the Blackwood Pub the 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm. For more information if you would like to join us, please contact Jinny - editor@theblackwoodtimes.com.au. From the Bookworms at Wombat, we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas, and a safe, relaxing, & reading New Year!

The first book up for review is - 'Between a Wolf & a Dog' by Georgia Blain. Set in Sydney, the protagonist, Ester, is a family Therapist, who deals everyday with her client's emotional & convoluted situations, whilst struggling with her own dilemmas. A story of daily life struggles & problem solving makes this a read of conflict, one we can all identify with. This novel was listed for the Stella Prize Award.

Sandy: It took me a while to get into the characters of this book, but highlighted the fact, even therapists have their own life struggles to deal with.

3 wombies

Terri: Recommend by the librarian, winner of 2 literary awards and short-listed for another, Between a Wolf & a Dog was an emotional read. How much can you cover in a day? The story touches on the lives of different family members on a rainy day in Sydney. It took me on a journey, exploring love, loss, the past & future possibilities. I will be thinking of this book in the upcoming days...

4 1/2 wombats.

The second book for reading & reviewing was the very popular 'The Handmaid's Tale', by Margaret Atwood. An award-winning television series has made this book a curiosity to read about what happened to USA, renamed Gilead. The story of the character 'Offred' her handmaid name given to each who 'belonged' to a Commander to conceive offspring for his 'infertile' wife. This read is dark, as is the TV series on which it is based on. One could question, 'Could this really happen?' Reminds of a quote from The Telegraph, 'Democracy consists of choosing your dictators, after they've told you what you think it is you want to hear.' Alan Coren

Sandy: This is a dark read, & on occasions the writer repeats herself, possibly for impact. For me, because I viewed the series, I was curious to know more detail how the situation transpired. I was a little disappointed. But a compelling, interesting read.

3 Wombies



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Campfire safe during school holidays

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) is urging campers to be vigilant & follow the campfire safety rules during the school holidays.

FFMVic Acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Grant Allan said campfire negligence was a concern in the region & officers would be patrolling to make sure people are doing the right thing.

"School holidays are always a busy time as we see an increase in visitors to the region, we want people to get out there & enjoy our parks & State forests but make campfire safety a priority for their trip by knowing what they can & can't do," Mr Allan said. "Unattended campfires can lead to bushfires, placing the community & firefighters at risk, as well as potentially damaging the environment & affecting industry & recreational users of our public land. It takes a lot of time, effort & personnel to respond to a fire, so when campfires escape & could have been prevented by following the rules, it's very frustrating.

"Authorised officers will be patrolling our parks & forests over the holiday period to ensure campers are doing the right thing & to educate visitors on campfire safety. We're asking people to be vigilant & if they see a campfire that doesn't look right or is unattended, then to call 000. It's everyone's responsibility to ensure they follow the campfire safety rules."

Campers are urged to obey the following campfire regulations, if it's not a Total Fire Ban day:

- Use a purpose-built fireplace where provided, otherwise light your campfire in a trench at least 30cm deep. Ensure the trench is no larger than one square metre in size & the area around the trench is cleared of flammable material up to three metres in all directions, including above the campfire.
- Branches & logs on your campfire must be less than one metre long – keep your fire just big enough for warmth & cooking. Never leave a campfire alight or unattended. You must maintain a 50m line of sight of the campfire at all times.
- An adult must be present at all times when the campfire is alight. Ensure your campfire is completely extinguished using water not soil.

Under the Forest Act 1958, on the spot fines of up to \$484 can be issued for people breaching campfire safety rules & a person can face a maximum penalty of up to \$16,119 if the matter is prosecuted in Court. For more information go to <https://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/permits-andregulations/fire-restrictions-andregulations> or contact 136 186.

Small Cells & WiFi



G'day my name is Marc Cottrell. I offer communication advice in areas of low reception & black zones. I've recently moved to Blackwood & I am against relying on the deployment of small cells in residential zones to fix coverage issues. I am here to tell you that Blackwood is on the cusp of losing a unique & priceless feature of remaining microwave radiation free. One mobile tower in Blackwood is enough for the town & I do not want another mobile tower or small cell to be built or placed near my new home. You may not know that a new mobile tower has been invented called a 'small cell'. Communication companies are placing them in neighbourhoods like ours to account for something called 5G. What this means is that you may have a mobile tower placed on your light pole only a few meters from where you or your children sleep.

It's my understanding that some residents are still living in a black zone in Blackwood. Unfortunately, I've seen in other towns some families receive an unmarked unsealed envelope from Telstra stating a new mobile tower called a small cell is to arrive in a very short period, 5 meters from their homes. Only with you & community support will these future towers & cells be rejected.

I'm here to ask you to please join our cause as this tower could be arriving to your closest light pole in the future.

Please email cotties33@gmail.com or call 0403881664. If a new small cell or mobile tower proposition is notified to you or your neighbours, we can unite together to protect your home from this deployment with a full petition.

I know of a very good alternative to a small cell or mobile tower that will fix your connection issue immediately if you live in a black zone. It's called 'Wifi calling' Wi-Fi calling is better than any VoIP service. I understand if your confused because there are so many Wi-Fi or VoIP services called WhatsApp, Skype, Hangouts etc. etc. But Wi-Fi calling is not like this... it's better because it allows you to make & receive calls to & from your phone number rather than through an application. This feature is new & is far superior than any other VoIP service you are used to. It is very simple to access it. Usually all you need to do is go to settings & find your mobile data section. If you have the selected phones below all you need to do is switch it on. It's that simple. 'WIFI calling' is now AVAILABLE only on Telstra/Optus/Vodaphone.

Mobile compatibility – • Apple iPhone 6 onwards • Apple Watch 3 onwards • Samsung Galaxy devices • S7 onwards, Note 5 onwards • Google Pixel 2 devices onwards • LG devices G6 onwards

Also note – you must update your phone. Only the latest system update will allow 'wifi calling'. If you need to upgrade, your reception issues when you have Wi-Fi will be fixed immediately.

Thank you for your time & please contact me if you need some free advice regarding this issue.

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FROM DELWP'S DESK

Aircraft & crews ready to take to the air

Victoria's firefighting aircraft for the 2018/19 bushfire season are being rolled out & Forest Fire Management Victoria's (FFMVic) specialist aircraft management staff are skilled-up & ready to support this critical part of our firefighting capability.

There are 49 aircraft in the state's base fleet, consisting of fixed wing planes, helicopters, air tankers & large air cranes that will be available at various times & locations throughout the season. There are also over 100 aircraft available on a call-when-needed basis.

Grampians Regional Manager Forest & Fire Operations, Peter Kambouris said: "Our Grampians Region extends from the South Australian border west of Edenhope to Bacchus Marsh, takes in the Wimmera & Midlands Fire Districts, & includes the townships of Kaniva, Dimboola, Horsham, Halls Gap, Ararat, Daylesford, & Ballarat.

"We're getting ready for another busy bushfire season across the region & aircraft are an essential tool in supporting ground crews to put fires out or doing reconnaissance work to find out where fires are, their size & their spread," said Mr Kambouris. "Our aircraft are a mix of firebombers & others that provide air supervision & intelligence-gathering roles.

"We will have 12 aircraft in place across the region ahead of the coming fire season. At Ballarat air base we have two heavy helicopters – one with waterbombing capabilities & one air observer platform, supported by a lighter helicopter operating as air observer. An additional medium-sized waterbombing helicopter is based between Birchip & Donald, & another at Bacchus Marsh. "We have two fixed-wing firebombers based between Nhill & Casterton, four at Stawell, & a fixed wing air observer aircraft, also at Stawell.

"This fleet can be increased if needed, depending on the requirements, conditions & incidents.

"We operate firefighting aircraft as immediate response or pre-determined dispatch in locations across the state.

"Immediate response using aircraft in early stages of a fire is one of the most effective ways to help stop the spread of fire & help to keep communities safe."

PUT UP A DRONE, PUT DOWN A FIREFIGHTING AIRCRAFT

As the spring weather encourages more of us to venture outside & into our parks & forests, increased drone use over public lands has prompted a reminder from land & emergency management agencies for people to find out more about the rules governing their use.

Forest Fire Management Victoria's Grampians Region Acting Chief Fire Officer, Tony English said: "Australia's recreational drone safety rules have been around since 2002 & are designed to protect other people in the air & on the ground.

"In the lead up to what is expected to be an early & active fire season, we are reminding remotely-piloted-aircraft users that you must not fly your drone over or near an area affecting public safety or where emergency operations are underway," said Mr. English.

"Amongst other emergency activities, this includes fires & associated fire-fighting efforts.

"Flying a drone near bushfires will force the grounding of firefighting aircraft, threatening both firefighter safety & that of impacted communities.

"In National Parks & reserves managed by Parks Victoria, the launching & landing of a recreational drone is prohibited.

"In State forests (managed by the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP)), you can use recreational drones in accordance with Civil Aviation Safety Authority guidelines."

For more information, ring DELWP's Customer Contact Centre on 136 186. Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) rules on flying drones link to <https://www.casa.gov.au/aircraft/landing-page/flying-drones-australia>

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SUMMER READING FOR FUN



The Moorabool Library is holding a Summer Reading Program during the Christmas holidays. & children aged 4 – 17 years are invited to join.

Summer reading is critical for children to retain knowledge & skills learned in the previous school year. The summer reading club will help to make it fun!

Come to our launch parties or register in person from December 3, record your reading & enter the draw to win amazing prizes. Visit www.moorabool.vic.gov.au/libraries for more information.

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Tues: Locals Slab Draw in Bar & Parma and Pasta \$14

Friday: Happy Hour 5-7, \$3 POTS, Bar Nibbles & Meat Raffle

Wed – Sun: Full Menu Dinner

Daily: Lunch @ noon-2pm **Mon-Fri:** \$12 lunches

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AN ENGAGED COMMUNITY

On Sunday November 18, Trentham Youth Group invited the community to come down to the Trentham Neighbourhood Centre (TNC) & paint a mural for our pool with renowned artist Kaff-eine. Community engagement for this project was essential & local residents did not disappoint! Nor did the weather, with the sun shining brightly, encouraging many people to come & have a look or join in with the painting of this vibrant & engaging artwork. We are thrilled that so many people added their mark & contributed to this project. The mural will be permanently installed at the Trentham pool at the beginning of the 2018 season for anyone keen to see it.

TNC would like to thank all who came on the day & got involved. A special thanks to the artist, Kaff-eine, who designed the image, guided everyone involved, enthusiastically supporting everyone's creative suggestions. Thanks also go Hepburn Shire Council who funded this collaborative public art & to Lana De Kort, Manager of the Clunes Neighbourhood House, who oversaw both arms of this joint project – a mural was also created in Clunes for their pool.

TNC is proud of the Trentham Youth Group, which has many participants from Blackwood, for not only assisting with this art project but also for their assistance throughout the year with the TNC art project Voices: Trentham Stories - the Voices launch is on Sat December 8 & everyone is welcome to attend.



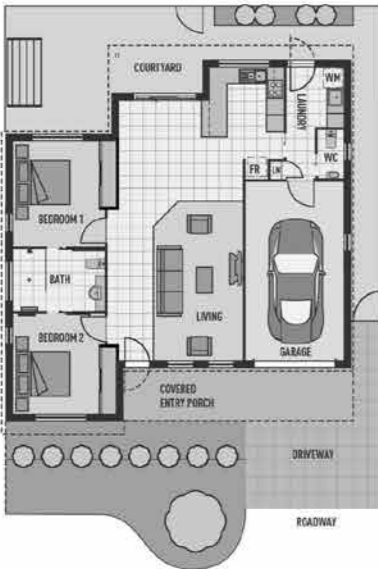
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A WILLING CROWD AT VEAC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF OUR FORESTS



"Submit, Submit, Submit" urge the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council.

Make your thoughts known now as submissions close December 10.

• 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

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For Sale 39 Park Street TRENTHAM



\$625,000

WEATHERBOARD COTTAGE ON GENEROUS BLOCK

Delightful 3 bedroom plus study, 1 bathroom cottage on an enormous township block. Possibility for further development (STCA). There is plenty of room for a second dwelling behind the existing cottage. The location is unbeatable. Within walking distance to shops, cafes, leisure activities and nature trails.

For Sale 29 Victoria Street TRENTHAM



\$750,000 - \$795,000

HAPPY DAYS

Generous and spacious, renovated c.1950s weatherboard, north-facing home on approx. 1,284 m². 4 bedrooms, master with ensuite, WIR, 2 entrance halls. Open plan kitchen/living to outside deck. Solid timber kitchen with electric cooking, dishwasher and walk in pantry. Inspection of this special property is a must.

For Sale 19 Byres Road BLACKWOOD



\$495,000 - \$540,000

BRIGHT, BEAUTIFUL BLACKWOOD HOME

3BR brick home with four car carport on approx. 965 m². Large double-glazed windows provide ample natural light and access to a timber deck that runs the length of the front of the house with a view to the gorgeous surrounds. Two wood fired heaters and two split system cool. Take in the magnificent views of the forest.

For Sale 3 Walters Street TRENTHAM



\$795,000

CHARMING, RENOVATED PERIOD HOME

Renovated 1920s California Bungalow located in the heart of Trentham township. The home has 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, open plan kitchen/dining, living area and separate, formal dining room. The home has ceiling and under floor insulation, a split system and slow combustion heater. Enjoy breakfast on the north-facing decking, potter around the peaceful garden with its established fruit trees, vegetable gardens, chicken coop, and 9,000 litre water tank.

For Sale 961 Daylesford-Trentham Rd BULLARTO

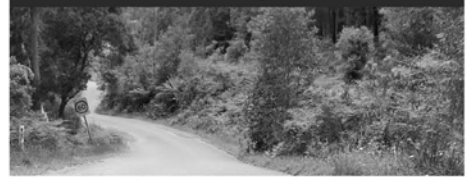


\$670,000-\$730,000

BULLARTO BEAUTY WITH ENORMOUS POTENTIAL

Two attached homes on approximately 2 acres, scattered with Bull Chestnut trees. The first home is a renovated kit home with 3 bedrooms all with new carpet and BIRs, large, main bathroom. Modern kitchen open to dining room featuring hand made stone tiles. The second home has 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, separate toilet, gas bottle cooking, wood heater, slow combustion fire, separate laundry, and is on concrete stumps. The homes have a shared wall, which could be removed to join the two. As is, they are separately metered for electricity.

Land For Sale CA 9-13 Section J Lerderberg Road BLACKWOOD



\$195,000 - \$215,000

BUSH BLOCK IN BLACKWOOD ON 5 TITLES

Build your weekender or dream home (STCA) on this approximate 3,106 sqm bush block with Township Zoning on 5 titles. Located near the Lerderberg Heritage River Walk, and a stone's throw from Garden of St Earth and in close proximity to the townships of Trentham and Daylesford and just over an hour to Melbourne CBD, enjoy the serenity of nature, fauna and flora.

For Sale 18 Cann Street BLACKWOOD



\$780,000

LIMESTONE BEAUTY IN BLACKWOOD

This gorgeous, 3 bedroom plus study, 2 bathroom sandstone home sits proudly upon 3,845m², an easy stroll from Blackwood's historic centre. Inside and out, the home offers comfort, tranquility, space, and beauty. Roomy home comprising three bedrooms with BIRs (master with ensuite), a bright, open-plan kitchen, two living areas, and a central bathroom with a corner spa bath. Heated slab, gas log fire, split system. built-in bar and a barbecue area. 3-phase powered shed, two-car garage with access to the house.

For Sale 17 Shaw Street BLACKWOOD



\$295,000-\$320,000

COTTAGE WITH A VIEW

This ca. 1960s elevated, 2 bedroom fibro cottage is awaiting your special touch to bring it to life. The cottage is set on approximately 822 sqm with views to the lovely Blackwood hills, and is a short stroll to the historic Blackwood town centre and steps from the Lerderberg River and gorgeous walking trails. With an open plan kitchen/ouinge with exposed beams, separate laundry, front veranda, north facing windows, and a shed with concrete floor and power, this property is brimming with opportunity. Town water and electricity connected.

Land For Sale 4 Bates Road BLACKWOOD



\$440,000 - \$465,000

BEAUTIFUL BLACKWOOD BUNGALOW ON TWO TITLES

Here it is...a 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom elevated bungalow beauty in Blackwood. Lovely home with a corrugated roof to hear the pitter patter on a rainy day... hardwood floors, ceilings with decorative roses. Warm country kitchen with electric cooking, pot belly stove and cedar shelving. Central bathroom with bath, vanity and toilet. Separate laundry and wet room. 2 working chimneys. Infrastructure for a potential separate 2-room flat. Set on a corner block approximately 2,400 sqm on 2 titles with Township Zoning.



From the team at Harkin Property, we wish you and your family a wonderful Festive Season and a Happy and Safe New Year.



Frances Harkin & the team



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