

STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY NOTES - NO 47 (February - March, 2004)
FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VALLEY.

YOU'LL READ IT IN "THE JOLLY THING"

Peta Pedals For Six Days Page 3

5C, 4C, W4C, SC2, C3 Pages 4,6,7

Clean Up for a FREE LUNCH Page 7

“ Community group of the year ”

Shire of Yarra Ranges Australia Day Awards

By **Malcolm Calder**, Member, Steels Creek Community Centre Inc. 26/01/04

On behalf of the Steels Creek Community I thank the Shire of Yarra Ranges for presenting to Steels Creek this Australia Day award.

In preparing a response I have had the opportunity to reflect on the **significance of Australia Day**, and on the **nature of Community**.

Australia Day commemorates the foundation of the nation state – Australia - a large community, united by shared values and shared aspirations.

When I think of the Steels Creek Community I can say that we also have the same shared values and aspirations, which at the simplest level come down to FRIENDSHIP (MATESHIP), MUTUAL TRUST, RESPECT, and SUPPORT; TOLERANCE, COOPERATION, COMMUNICATION, and PARTICIPATION.

All these elements are found in our community in Steels Creek, as I'm sure they are in many others. In particular, there are two components of our community that have contributed more to our coherence than we could ever have predicted.

Cont. p. 2

“ Community group of the year ” cont.

First, we have a “home” where many of our activities take place. We negotiated through the Shire for the conversion of the former Steels Creek Primary School to the Steels Creek Community Centre which we manage and maintain. We thank the Shire and our local representatives for responding to our persistent requests to retain this property in the early 90’s.

Secondly, we have published every second month, a community newsletter, which keeps everyone informed on activities and developments in the community. People know what is going on.

Governments at all levels are now promoting communities. We strongly support policies and programmes of the Shire of Yarra Ranges which encourage the support and development of communities. If we have been successful in Steels Creek it’s because we simply went ahead and did it.

NB: Front Page colour photos in the *Mountain Views Mail* 27 January 2004

WWW > eddW

At the end of last year we had major problems with internet access speed, (2000 bits if lucky). This happened suddenly and whilst investigating our server and Telstra’s lines we were continually being fobbed off by Telstra but courted by competitors. As Telstra operate the lines we thought it was up to them to assist. Following calls to the telephone ombudsman, and local federal member it was Fran Bailey’s office which put us in contact with Telstra’s local co-ordinator, she followed up the issue and the faults on our line were detected and fixed. Now we are back to 31000 bits as good as we have ever had.

So if you have problems and you are on split lines, as we were, and you have lost internet line speed making your system inoperable try

Mandy.small@team.telstra.com and see how you go. Federal Gov will still want to sell Telstra so they are keen to placate bushies.

By **edd williams**

<http://www.yarraranges.communityguide.com.au/>

Just type in or click on Steels Creek from this page – AMAZING

JeT (Jolly electronic Thing) goes out to six international countries **and** Texas

thejollything@fullandplenty.com

PETA PEDALS Tallangatta to Corryong in six days !

The legs keep turning, the wheels purr along the road: I am enjoying that wonderful freedom of self sufficiency – riding a 6 day bike ride with a friend. We started at Tallangatta (south side of Lake Hume) headed south to Mitta Mitta over Mt Wills to Anglers Rest. Omeo and then north to Corryong. This was the area severely burnt in the bushfires in January 2003. Both of us had been riding at that time in the area between Mt Hotham, Benambra, Gelantipy and Bruthen – so a return visit was a must.

Dinner at Mitta Mitta Pub was full of stories and photos of how close the fires had come. Day 2 saw us head along the Omeo Hwy to see for ourselves. Generally, cycling through the Australian Bush means thick vegetation, blackberries lining the roadsides and cherished views every now and again. What a change this ride was! The bush had been burnt badly; in places there was not a blade of grass or budding tree to break the stark landscape. What was beautiful were the extended views, thru the trees down to the Mitta Mitta River, we could see it throughout its journey to Omeo! There were magnificent rocky outcrops sited on exposed spurs of land above the winding river with its many rapids, Looking into the distance was the Kosciusko N.P. in NSW. To our right (west) the High Plains with glimpses of Bogong.

W13a

FEBRUARY 2004						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	7 Tennis Womens	10 Tennis Stitchers Garden BBQ		ART 7 Tennis		Tennis
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Recycle L.lunch Tennis	10 Tennis		Art. 7 Tennis		10 Market Tennis
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	7 Tennis	10 Tennis. Stitchers. Book Club		ART 7 Tennis		Tennis
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Recycle L.lunch 7 Tennis	10 Tennis		1030 S.M.B. 7 Tennis	MOVIE	10 Market. Tennis

29th Leap Year

SMB Men's Morning Tea Gordon Brown 9730 1937
Last Thursday 10:30 at Cheese Freaks Café and Store Yarra Glen

STITCHERS Jane Calder 5965 2372 Christine Tomlins 5965 2080

1st 3rd Tuesday 1:30 – 4 at SC4

24 members, 10 regulars; work on community effort for afternoon tea raffle in May (anti cancer tea + raffle = \$ 1700) plus own work: crochet, knit, patch, embroidery, since 1993. **March 2nd Joy Webb quilter from Lilydale.**

TALKS SC4 Committee

Anyone with ideas and suggestions regarding topics and presenters please bring forward suggestions. Travel, flora, fauna, health, all of interest !

TENNIS Albie Leckie 5965 2354 Lindy Montell 5965 2202

Since 1911 Newsletter, Competitions, 80 active and social members

2nd 4th Monday 11am Ladies Social Lunch, Monday 7pm Social Tennis, Tuesday 10am Mid Week Ladies Competition, Thursday 7pm Hard Hitting Men, Saturday 1-6 Regular Competitions.

CLAMBERERS Margaret Houston 9730 1957

1st Sunday April – October

Since 1993; the walking group hikes over local tracks to explore the flora and fauna of the valley and surrounding areas. Walks announced at SC4 Market beforehand or ring Margaret.

WOMEN'S Evening Activities and Friendship Group Pam Verhoven 5965 2274

1st Monday 7:30 SC4— Bring good ideas, time to start on Christmas Heirloom projects for next year ... **only 332 days until Christmas !!** Come for Company, Crafts, and Coffee ... **W4C.**

THANKS TO **ERIC TETLOW** FOR IMPROVING THE CALENDAR LAYOUT

SC4 = Steels Creek Community and Cultural Centre

MARCH 2004						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Tennis Womens	Stitchers Tennis		Art Tennis		Market Tennis
7 10 CLEAN UP Australia Day BBQ	8 Recycle L.Lunch Tennis	9 Garden outing. Tennis	10	11 Art. Tennis	12 MOVIE	13 Tennis
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Tennis	Stitchers. Tennis Book Club		Tennis		Market. Tennis.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Recycle LLunch Tennis	Tennis		1030 SMB Tennis	MOVIE	
28	29	30	31			
		Tennis				

ART Malcolm Calder 5965 2372
Thursday 1:30 – 4:30 SC4 Bring your paints, discuss your art and share skills. Last month's watercolour workshop by Louise Foletta + 10 regulars and international artists a great success.

BOOK GROUP Les Tomlins 5965 2080
3rd Tuesday 15 Members Limited by CAE resources and lively discussions in member's homes. Luncheon meetings June, July August **One space remaining February 2004.**

GARDEN Christine Tomlins 5965 2080 Gillian Poulton 5797 8266
Newsletter, Outings, November Flower Show Since 1992, 63 members
Fourth Monday Growing Group 9am SC4 all welcome.
2nd Tuesday Outings and talks resume in March
3 Feb 6PM Launch & Farewell 169 Hunts Lane BYO everything; salad to share; BBQ available

MARKET Jean Lowe 5965 2294
2nd 4th Saturday SC4 10 am sharp; community announcements, local fresh produce, preserves, baked goods, home made scones, coffee and tea. **Bring used jam jars to trade with the makers ...**'tis the fruiting season.

MOVIE Jean Lowe 5965 2294 Chris Mullen 5965 2094
2nd & 4th Friday 6:00 Supper followed by screenings 2nd 4th Friday SC4 Classic Films with classy food from 6pm.
Contribution \$5 for food and donation for film. Email reminder available via chris@fullandplenty.com

Peta Pedals

Cont. from P. 3

Days 4 and 5 had us heading north to Corryong. This road is all gravel and with 27 km of uphill to Mt Sassafras it was a huge challenge. Timber jinkers passed on cue every twenty minutes, meaning we had to move over to let them pass. The weather deteriorated with constant rain and sleet. My gear cable became clogged with muck and I couldn't engage the bottom gear so my legs had to work extra hard to get me to the top! The fires had obviously gone thru this area along fingers of bush. Some was burnt clear other areas not touched. One farmer, out fencing, had a beautiful hand built log cabin. His house and land untouchedBut ...three weeks ago a mini tornado hit his river paddock tearing down his 5 prized shade gum trees and damaging his fences (and there was no insurance for this!).

After a cold camp out at Skenes Bridge we treated ourselves to a cabin in Corryong. The final day dawned - Corryong to Tallangatta- only 80 km today. Well, from the first pedal we knew this was going to be a tough day! A headwind blew hard. Our anticipated average rate of 20 km/hr would not be achieved. In fact the first 3 hours we averaged 9km/hr! From Corryong the other fire areas around Mt Mitta matite could be seen. From a distance there looked to be no fire damage. However, when you get the chance to get up close you get the full picture. This is just what we had achieved over the past 6 days, riding, breathing and seeing for ourselves some of Victoria's marvellous country.

Submitted by **Peta Whitford**

In issue, # 45, of "THE JOLLY THING", the question was asked "***How did Brocks Spur get its name ?***"

The answer may be in the Yarra Glen Cemetery : 1899. John Brock, buried, aged 53. The 1903 Electoral Roll lists John & Johanna Brock as residents of Steels Creek. John & James Brock are listed as miners at St.Andrews/Queenstown, 1873 - 79. So it would seem that the Brock family had a long association with this district and it is highly probable that Brocks Spur is named after a member of the clan. By **Eric Tetlow**

Brock Spur is a popular walking destination for the **Clamberers**.

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS CAROLS CHRISTEN CHAIRS 5C

Several banks of fold down theatre style seats appeared at SC4 in time for more than 50 carollers. Special thanks to **Pam Verhoven**

Would a games club be a go? Board Games, Card Games, Charades???

Beat the Weeds and the Rain – Go Native

I would like to invite people to put in their orders for native plants with Chris and Steve Fletcher, purveyors of fine indigenous species, including trees, shrubs and grasses. Large orders attract good discounts, as low as \$1.00 per plant. Perhaps some people might like to be part of a "bulk order" that I am putting together with other residents. If so, they are welcome to contact me on 5965 2535. I hope to put the order in by mid-Feb so that we can be ready for the autumn rain. Thanks **Rob Fallon**

CLEAN UP OUR DRIVEWAY and FREE LUNCH 7 March

Many travellers through Steels Creek comment on the beauty and lovely surroundings; some never finding the correct address as they are so distracted by the scenery. Lurking beneath the shrubbery are countless discards and rubbish – enough to fill a tip last year. Join the crew again this season for a rousing romp through the verge followed by a sausage at SC4 ... Meet at 916 Steels Creek Road or at the cemetery at 10 AM with gloves; bags provided, trailers helpful, walk toward SC4 and a sausage sizzle provided by the Tennis Club. Clean Up Australia Day – the celebration continues!

Contacts: Yarra Valley Tree Group **Jackie Hamlet** 9730 1268; Steels Creek Community **Chris Mullen** 5965 2094
www.cleanup.com.au

MOVIE CLUB – FLASH GORDON RETURNS TO EARTH ... finally !

Light supper at 6PM for \$ 5 followed by the show. SC4

27-February

Flash Gordon Ch.12 **Trapped in the Turret**

The Third Man **** (1949) 104m, story Graham Greene; with: Joseph Cotton Orson Welles, Trevor Howard; British *noir* set in post-war Vienna. Harry Lime's memorable comments on the Swiss make for a classic thriller.

12-March

Flash Gordon Ch.13 **Rocketing to Earth** at last! The end of the series ...

Top Hat **** (1935) 101m, songs by Irving Berlin; with: Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers, Edward Everett Horton, Eric Blore; "Isn't This a Lovely Day?, Cheek to Cheek" song and dance the way through mistaken identity comedy amid stunning *Art Deco* set designs.

26-March

Buster Keaton (1920) **The Blacksmith** by request ... early silent comedy.

The Scarlet Pimpernel *** (1934) 98m, prod Alexander Korda; with Leslie Howard, Merle Oberon, Raymond Massey, Joan Gardner; a good humoured adventure set during the French revolution.

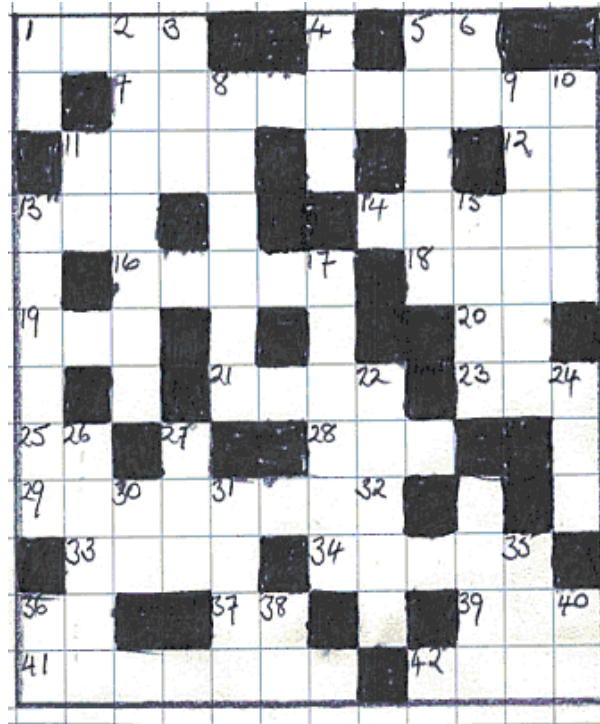
ACROSS

1. Flinders' mate (4)
5. High --- Silver (2)
7. Large black birds (10)
11. Acres or Hectares? (4)
12. Thor Heyerdahl's 2nd raft (2)
13. Past of eat (3)
14. Biblical "born to" (5)
16. The scourge of every gardener (5)
18.because nothing will ---the Governor-General (4)
19. Herb of Grace (3)
20. Abbreviated American eastern seaboard State (2)
21. Narrow headland (4)
23. Arafat's mob (3)
25. ---pipes (2)
28. who will ---me of this turbulent priest? (3)
29. important source of recycled aluminium (5,3)
33. Not for (4)
34. No such crossings in Steels Creek (5)
36. ---Shop (2)
37. ---Tree Oil (2)
39. Mohammedan chief (3)
41. Heavy (7)
42. ---All Hours (4)

DOWN

1. University degree (2)
2. Stronger than nailed (7)
3. Prosecute (3)
4. Steve Waugh's good with this (3)
5. Limited use during water restrictions (5)
6. ---Golden Pond (2)
8. The Tower of London's birds (6)
9. Windscreen breaker (6)
10. Satisfy (4)
11. Breakfast --- Tiffany's (2)
13. Overseas (6)
15. Old umbrella (4)
16. Married (3)
17. Late grape (6)
22. Prongs (5)
24. Mineral aggregate
26. 17 down (5)
27. Bull --- (3)
30. --- God We Trust (3)
31. --- and kin (4)
32. Two wheeled horse drawn vehicle (4)
35. Melbourne's broadsheet newspaper (3)
36. Ouch (2)
38. Computer science (2)
40. Definite article (2)

CROSS CREEK © J&J wordsmiths



OWNERSHIP / CIRCULATION

The "Jolly Thing" is published by and for the greater Steels Creek Community Centre Inc 699 Steels Creek Road. PO Box 213 Yarra Glen, Victoria 3775 President: Geoff Keets 9730 1698, Vice President: John Lowe 5965 2294. Treasurer: Eric Tetlow 9730 1445, Secretary: Margaret Houston 9730 1957.

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We gratefully acknowledge **Frank Hoogenraad** (Hoogies of Yarra Glen), for his support for the Steels Creek Community and ***The Jolly Thing***.

DEADLINE for the next "***Jolly Thing***" is **Wednesday March 31, 2004.**