

STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY NOTES - NO 49 (June - July 2004)

FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VALLEY.

YOU'LL READ IT IN "THE JOLLY THING".

188 Days to Christmas In June Page 6

Stage Fright with Henry Page 3

BookEX Opens at SC4 Page 2

The Friends of Birds and Animals in Steels Creek

Sixty five kilos of seed per week is a lot of bird food ! That is only part of what is required to sustain the 120 creatures great and small in the care of **Tony Wooley** and **Georgina Rowley** at Babbajin Park, 1 Greenwood Lane: Steels Creek's only animal refuge.

Tony acquired his interest from his British father; growing up in Boronia he lived with exotic birds, finches and other animals sheltered in the back garden. Georgina, Tony and his son Jessie care for about 80 exotic birds and poultry, 20 reptiles, tortoises, ponies, cattle, and one baby wombat named Dozer. While Jessie attends school Dozer sleeps the day away.

The Kangkoa Wildlife Shelter is operated by **Fran Henderson** and **Steve Hunt** around the corner on Hargreaves Road. Both groups focus on refuge, rescue and rehabilitation. Fran is a registered veterinarian nurse at the Healesville Sanctuary. A major objective is to return the native animals to their habitat after recovery from injuries or abandonment. Kangkoa offers a home for more than 30 native animals often orphaned through accident or malicious intent.

A few weeks ago, a white station wagon collided with two kangaroos and a wombat. A 'pinkie' or pouch survivor was found and is now in Gee long at a specialist who cares for these demanding orphans. The car will be restored but sadly, the animals are gone forever.

Guns, automobiles, feral dogs, cats and foxes (the four legged terrorists of the bush) are the biggest offenders here. Just last week the toll from guns included a goshawk, kookaburra and some ducks. Tony and the team perform more than a dozen rescues and markings per month. Marking is an inspection of a corpse or injured animal to look for a pinkie and evaluate the possibilities. Tony has even used fibre glass to repair cracked tortoise shells.

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“Friends of Animals and Birds” cont.

Flashing his characteristic quick grin, Tony is delighted to report that Steels Creek has 72 species of native birds resident including some local wedge tail eagles with a fledgling, a peregrine falcon and at least one powerful owl.

Tony and Georgina 5965 2040 **Fran and Steve** 5965 2051 (0417 017 087)

BOOK EXCHANGE OPENS

SC4 Now has nearly 120 books donated to the BookEX by residents. The idea is to share resources and place books, magazines, and other materials normally headed for the Op Shop or pulping machine into the hands of neighbours. They in turn return turned in items to keep the system going.

The BookEX has a wide range of materials from classic novels (including Balzac), to various magazines (New Yorker, National Geographic, Gardens Illustrated) and items of diverse interest as you would expect to be found in and around Steels Creek. Clean out your selves and CONTRIBUTE !

Any questions or issues should be addressed to **Pam Verhoven** 5965 2274.

Slow Down and Smell the Flowers ...

Speeding through the fog of an early morning I miss the 'roo, the balloon soaring just overhead; blasting by all the silent sentinels to the headlong rush of cityside boom cha uff dah belting out of the dashboard speakers. Rocketing home after dark my wheels leave the bitumen and with a roar I punch the pedal to the floor sending stones and dust up in a trail of glory that will never be seen.

The quarter ton of hot steel between my legs compensates for heaps, mate; I hit a wheelie on the stones and send the birds flying away.

My machine is my master; the love of petrol my mistress; the blazing bleat of the burning back fire my muse ...

Would I rather live on the M-1 with all the other mechanical beasts? Hell no, no one would take notice.

Thanks to **M.A.Chine** our infernal combustion consultant

Gunned down and crudely butchered kangaroo found on Hunts Lane in May

“Living with our Bushland” an Illustrated Presentation

“Living with our Bushland” is the theme chosen by Sophie Akers, Environment Resource Officer with the Shire of Yarra Ranges, for the next community meeting of Healesville Environment Watch Inc. The venue will be the Steels Creek Community Centre, 699 Steels Creek Road on Thursday June 24, from 7.30pm. Everyone welcome. Contact: Maureen Bond, 5962 1224.

MOVIES

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

11 June

On the Waterfront **** (1954) 108m, d Elia Kazan, m Leonard Bernstein; Marlon Brando, Eva Marie Saint, Lee J. Cobb, Rod Steiger, Karl Malden.

A young stevedore breaks the hold of a waterfront gang boss.

25 June

Great Expectations **** (1946) 118m, d David Lean; John Mills, Jean Simmons, Alec Guinness, Francis L. Sullivan and many more stars.

A superbly pictorial rendering of a much loved novel with all the famous characters well depicted ...

9 July

In Which We Serve **** (1942) 114m, d Noel Coward, David Lean; Noel Coward, John Mills, Richard Attenborough. Survivors from a torpedoed destroyer recall their life at sea and on leave. Based on the experience of Louis Mountbatten whose ship HMS Kelly was sunk under him.

23 July

The Three Musketeers *** (1948) Gene Kelly, Lana Turner, June Allyson, Frank Morgan, Van Heflin, Angela Lansbury, Vincent Price, Keenan Wynn. High spirited version of the famous story with duels and fights presented like musical numbers. Its vigour and inventiveness is a pleasure to behold.

Red Cross Open Garden Results

Malcolm & Jane Calder would like to thank all those wonderful people who turned up to their Red Cross Open Garden on a day of pretty miserable weather, thanks to such support the Red Cross raised over \$900 to continue their important work in the community. Thanks everyone.

“Come on fellas... On stage in ten minutes... PLEASE !”

That is the plaintive cry of the “Sergeant at Arms” of the *Melbourne Welsh Male Choir* before every performance, be it at the local Mechanics Hall, the Melbourne Concert Hall or an international venue. Someone once asked me what it felt like to perform on stage, be it in front of an audience of 200 or 5,000 people. I had to think long and hard about that, but came to the following conclusions.

Firstly, stage nerves never come into it, probably because I sang with a low profile local choir (*Yarra Valley Singers*) for 7 years before auditioning for the *big time* in mid 2000. By that time I had the self-confidence not to be nervous on stage. Secondly, the normal 2 hour performance may include 25 to 28 songs in several languages, all sung from memory and without music (including the pianist). The thought of forgetting a word here or there *doesn't freak me out* as there are another 60+ guys on stage who are unlikely to forget that same word at the same time. However, DON'T ask me to do a solo item, just in case.

Cont. p.6

JUNE 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	May 31	1	2	3	4	5
	Recycle LLunch Tennis	Stitchers Tennis		Art Tennis		Tennis
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Clamberers	Tennis Womens	Garden outing. Tennis		Art. Tennis	MOVIE	Market Tennis
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Recycle LLunch Tennis	Stitchers Tennis Book Club		ART Tennis		Tennis
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Tennis Solstice	Tennis		ART SMB Tennis TALK	MOVIE	Market Tennis Christmas Party
27	28	29	30			
	Recycle LLunch Tennis Growing	Tennis				

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 proceeds to Cancer Council; plus own work; crochet, knit, patch, embroidery, since 1993.

TALKS Geoff Keets 9730 1698

Anyone with ideas and suggestions regarding topics and presenters please bring forward suggestions. Travel, flora, fauna, health, all of interest. HEWI 24th June "Living With Our Bushland" **Sophie Akers** 7:30PM SC4 .

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 Hitters, Saturday 1-6 Regular Competitions. **Christmas in June 26th. Book NOW \$ 15**

CLAMBERERS Margaret Houston 9730 1957

1st Sunday April – October **NEXT OUTING 6 June**

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 UFOs ... **only 213 days until Christmas !!** Come for Company, Crafts, and Coffee .

JULY 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1 Art Tennis	2	3 Tennis
4 Clamberers	5 Tennis Womens	6 Stitchers. Tennis	7	8 Art. Tennis	9 MOVIE	10 Market Tennis
11	12 Recycle L.lunch Tennis	13 Tennis Garden Outing	14	15 S.M.B. ART Tennis	16	17 Tennis
18	19 Tennis	20 Stitchers Tennis Book Club	21	22 ART Tennis	23 MOVIE	24 Market Tennis
25	26 Recycle LLunch Tennis Growing	27 Tennis	28	29 ART Tennis	30	31 Tennis

ART Malcolm Calder 5965 2372
Thursday 1:30 – 4:30 SC4 Bring your paints, discuss your art and share skills

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

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

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

SC4 = Steels Creek Community and Cultural Centre 699 Steels Creek Road

Come on fellas...” Cont.

Thirdly, once on stage in a blackened hall, you can rarely see past the first 4 or 5 rows of the audience. Let me just add that that limited sight-line is *really soothing*, especially when you know that there are 2,451 patrons sitting out there in front of you at the Melbourne Concert Hall. When the Choir opened the 13th Commonwealth Law Conference in February this year, the thought of singing to hundreds of dignitaries, including Australia’s and New Zealand’s Prime Ministers and Cherie Blair (Tony was busy with a little overseas conflict !) was a little daunting. That brings me to the fourth point ...

When on stage, one only has eyes for the Musical Director as he flays his arms furiously about. *I think it is called conducting !* Surprisingly, one has such total focus on that person that whatever goes on out there in the hall usually doesn’t register with the performers on stage. At one of our recent Geelong concerts, a choir member who had returned to the stage too soon after an operation, collapsed. The choir doctor, who is a chorister, nonchalantly moved from his Baritone section to the Tenor section and attended to the unfortunate person. During all this, not one note was missed by any of us!!!! I think it is called dedication above and beyond.....

Generally, the Choir has a full repertoire of over 100 songs, and would learn another 10 new pieces in a year. At any one time, we are *up to speed* on about 40 items. That allows for a variety of music at concerts performed within close proximity or within a short time frame. As a new chum, I received about 80 pieces of music, and learnt most of them in the first year. However, I was thrown on stage at the Robert Blackwood Hall after only 7 weeks. I was too busy concentrating on the words to be scared! After that, it became quite easy. When potential choristers look aghast at the volume of music given to them, I make it a point to emphasize to them that we all went through the same learning curve. It also assists greatly that they can listen to the numerous CD’s that the choir has recorded.

Henry Verhoeven... 1st Tenor with *Melbourne Welsh Male Choir*.

Mothers Apply to Committee

The new mothers group headed by **Sonja Fischer 5965 2575** is approaching the Central Committee about using SC4 with tykes. Watch this space.

Steels Creek Tennis Club - Christmas in June, the 26th 1830

Once again **Heather and Athel Smith** have generously offered their home as the venue for our annual mid-year Christmas celebration. This year Christmas in June will be held on Saturday, 26th June at 300 Hunts Lane, Steels Creek. Revellers will gather at 6.30 p.m. for a 7.00 p.m. start.

Unfortunately space restricts numbers to a maximum of sixty so to ensure a place at this great fund-raising event please book early.

Cost: \$15 per person. To book or to offer assistance please contact Jean Lowe on 5965 2294 or Lindy Montell on 5965 2202.

The Melbourne Welsh Male Choir will perform 2 choral concerts in The Yarra Valley in June and July, 2004.

Come and enjoy the fine musical entertainment presented by Australia's most acclaimed choir singing a new and exciting repertoire, including music from Wales, Africa, Musicals and much more.....

Healesville Memorial Hall. Sunday 13th June. 2.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Warburton. Upper Yarra Arts Centre. Sunday 18th July. 2.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

The 60+ member choir has performed both nationally and internationally (Wales, USA, South Africa, Canada), under the musical direction of Douglas Heywood.OAM.

***Refreshments are a fundraising effort by local Community Groups.**

Concert tickets at \$12.00 each are limited, so hurry!!

Ticket sales & enquiries: - Contact Henry Verhoeven on 5965 2274 or 0409 040 775 E-mail: henryv@camsoft.com.au

From the Taswegian Office

Have tried to make it to the movies but Qantas is not the most reliable down here and 717s not the most comfortable aircraft to ride in so regrettable have had to take a drought check. We are like you; we don't have rain down here, well not yet anyway. Though you might like something to put in the news letter since I know many of you will be extremely jealous after I tell it how it really is here.

Almost unpacked, but can't find any thing. Moral - Don't even consider moving at this age of life.

Lots of sun, lots of wind, no rain, but plenty of water in the river. Moral - Only buy if you have water rights.

That's the end of the moralistic bit.

We have settled in fairly well. The neighbours are friendly and we meet more every week, courtesy of a wandering dog. He is not a bad sheep dog at times but has a mind of his own re where the sheep should go. The garden is being attacked with vigour by Jane, plants going every which way while my priorities are more sensibly arranged. Have located and tasted a number of very fine Pinot's, and other vines (this ones not bad either). Hang on I'll shake myself. Some very fine eateries at the wineries and all this is just the tip of the iceberg. The farm can wait I say!!!!

I dug a fence post hole three feet deep the other week, just for fun to check out the soil, and the soil was still a nice loamy porous brown colour at that depth. Seems to be the same all over the farm. FOR SALE: One crow bar and post hole digger for anyone interested. Free - as is, where is.

Rex Bean

St John's Ambulance Knitting Projects 6,8,0,12 ply wool required to knit knee rugs, leg warmers and useful winter items.

Please drop into SC4 Labelled St. Johns.

Pam Verhoven 5965 2274

Rex's Biscuit Slice (It was Jane's until I stole it)

Ingredients

- 90 gms butter
- 8 Marie biscuits, crushed to a coarse mixture
- 1 ½ cups sultanas
- 1 cup shredded coconut
- ½ cup almonds or hazelnuts
- ½ cup peanuts unsalted
- 1 tin condensed milk

Method

Melt butter in biscuit tin, spread crushed biscuits evenly over base. Spread sultanas evenly over base and then cover with shredded coconut. Distribute nuts evenly over base. Drizzle condensed milk over top.

Cook in preheated oven at 170 C for thirty minutes. Cool, cut, and serve.

CROSS CREEK 3 © J&J wordsmiths

ACROSS

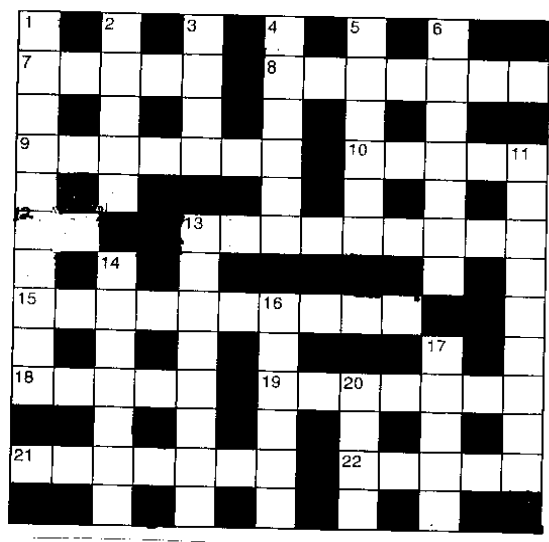
- 7. Fruit (5)
- 8. -----day, -----dollar (7)
- 9. Washhouse (7)
- 10. Blowy (5)
- 12. Non-alcoholic person (2)
- 13. Lateral somersault (9)
- 15. Country neighbourliness (5,5)
- 18. Gleam (5)
- 19. Moth pest of apples (7)
- 21. Team leader (7)
- 22. Historic dry lake NE of Mildura (5)

DOWN

- 1. Solid rain showers (10)
- 2. "Here is my handle, here is my -----(5)
- 3. Take note of (4)
- 4. Mark Twain's Tom (6)
- 5. Indian discussion (6)
- 6. Atmospheric audio discharge (7)
- 11. Helmeted Honeyeaters sanctuary (9)
- 13. Gregorian or Julian (8)
- 14. Get in first (7)
- 16. Short - circuiting (6)
- 17. Steak -----(5)
- 20. They hold back water (4)

CROSS CREEK 2 © Answers

- ACROSS 1. Lusciously 7. Nadir 8. Unburst 10. Inexpert 11. AC
 13. Esteem 15. Phillip 17. Oink 18. Scorpio 21. San Remo 22. Dance
 23. Barometric
- DOWN 1. Ladle 2. Strapper 3. IOU 4. Umbo 5. Lyrical 6. Indigenous
 9. Telephones 12. Disorder 14. Tin 16. Ashore 19. Panic 20. Zero



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
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Special thanks to the editor emeritus Malcom Calder for putting this edition together.

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 Saturday July 31, 2004.