



STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY NOTES - NO 103 (June-July 2013) 'FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VALLEY'

<http://www.steelscreek.org.au/> for current activity photos and more commentary

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## Read All About It...

As many readers will be aware, **Andrew Chapman** is now recovering from surgery, and hopes to be back at Steels Creek in the not too distant future. Andrew, we look forward to your return too!

Andrew has for some years now been a SCCC Committee member, including Vice-President and acting President. He has also been Editor of *The Jolly Thing*, and initiated and operated *The Grapevine*. He has recently passed on his editorial roles to David Allan, so *it is timely to record our appreciation and thanks to Andrew for his dedicated work in keeping the information flowing. Well done, and best wishes, Andrew.*

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## Steels Creek Community Centre Inc. – Membership Matters

An important aspect of SCCC's Committee's responsibilities is to ensure compliance with legislation that applies to our Association. The legislation requires that we keep a record of our membership. Until now SCCC has not asked people to fill out a membership application, however this means that we are not compliant with the legislation. To fulfill our obligation, we are inviting everyone eligible (*and who wish to do so*) to formally become SCCC members. To do this, people will need to complete a simple Application Form (no cost involved in doing this!). Members may vote at the AGM, nominate for the Management Committee and will be notified of any changes to the running of the SCCC.

If you do not wish to become a member, you will still be able to use the Centre, you just won't be able to vote at the AGM and the Committee won't be obliged to notify you about changes to the running of the SCCC. But you will still be able to read about such changes will be in *The Jolly Thing* or the *Grapevine*! Further details are set out on page six of this edition of *The Jolly Thing*, and have recently been circulated (including the Application Form) through *The Grapevine*.

Perhaps you might also think about nominating to join the Management Committee, to help manage the Centre for the benefit of our community. New faces are most welcome, and indeed necessary! The Annual General Meeting will be held in a few weeks, and your nomination could help bring fresh ideas to enhance the running of the Centre (*but you do need to be a Member!*). Please consider!

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## Steels Creek Community Centre – Booking the Hall and Grounds

There has been a recent change in the contact person for booking the Steels Creek Community Centre hall or grounds. Contact should now be made with Vicki Stewart, telephone 5965 2552, email [norm-and-vicki@bigpond.com](mailto:norm-and-vicki@bigpond.com). Hire fees can also be discussed with Vicki. Existing bookings may now be viewed (only) on the Steels Creek Community Centre web-site, [www.steelscreek.org.au](http://www.steelscreek.org.au), under the 'Events' tab in the top right-hand corner of the screen.

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## Our Stories Told – 'Black Saturday at Steels Creek'

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May was another great community occasion of warmth and friendship in Steels Creek. Around 100 people (including our Shire Councillor and local Members of Parliament) gathered at the Community Centre to celebrate the launch of Peter Stanley's book, 'Black Saturday at Steels Creek'. Peter's book was launched by our good friend Kath Gannaway, of the *Mountain Views Mail*.

As Peter has said so many times, it is his book but they are our stories. After having talked with around 50 residents of Steels Creek, as well as officers from the Council and the different fire management authorities, Peter has produced a very sensitive, authoritative and well written story. It is the story of how we as individuals, friends, neighbours and a community coped with those awful hours of Black Saturday, and its aftermath. It is a book providing wonderful insights into exactly what happens to a community during a bush fire. It is a book that has much wider implications for all rural communities in Victoria. It helps us understand the personal reality of the bush fire experience. It is available at book shops at the RRP of \$27.95.

This book is the second to come out of our *Steels Creek Stories Project*, funded in part by the Victorian Bushfire Authority's, Community Recovery Grants. The first was 'Living with Fire: People, Nature and History in Steels Creek', by Christine Hansen and Tom Griffiths, launched last November. Still to come is Moira Fahey's DVD of the recovery stories of three Steels Creek families.

In a future edition of *The Jolly Thing*, I will look at the whole *Steels Creek Stories Project*, but I'd like here to congratulate our community for working so creatively with the research team brought together by Tom Griffiths. I believe we have made a real contribution to an understanding of the nature of bushfires and their impact on people.

Malcolm Calder.

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## Tabling a Fine Labour of Love

Remember the big old pine tree that spread its limbs next to the driveway, going up towards the Community Centre? Many of us were saddened to see its demise following the fires. It was thought to have been *Pinus halapensis* – an Aleppo Pine, a symbol of times past, older than all of us. Some even thought it may have perhaps been a 'Gallipoli' tree. Perhaps it had even been planted by a soldier returning home to Steels Creek from Gallipoli bearing seeds from Lone Pine. Its removal was yet another loss amongst the many other losses suffered at that time.

But out of loss can come creativity. When it was realised that the remains of the tree stump would have to be cut right back, Lyn Matthews saw an opportunity to keep alive the memories of times that the tree had witnessed. Helped by his son Craig, they carefully cut a cross-sectional slab from the lowest part of the tree stump and took it back to their shed. For the next couple of years, the slab was carefully allowed to slowly season. Drying too rapidly would have seen the wood split radially, but their care and skill minimised this, along with some skilfully and discreetly inserted steel ties. With the rings of the tree visible, it was possible to establish that the tree had been a sapling at around the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> Centuries. So it was not a 'Gallipoli' tree, but could it perhaps have been a 'Federation' tree? Maybe it had been planted by the children of the day in the little Steels Creek schoolyard, to mark the birth of our Nation.

After the lengthy seasoning, Lyn was ready to start crafting the slab into the beautiful table that now graces a corner of the Community Centre, almost within sight of the place where it had grown for so many decades. This is no ordinary table. The rings visible on the slab have been numbered, so that one can relate how big the tree had been when other significant events took place over the past century and more. The legs are not just something to support the top, but are themselves a work of art and craftsmanship of a high order, befitting the skill with which the slab has been transformed into the table top. A real work of art, skill and love. Thankyou Lyn.



So out of initial loss, our community has been presented with a fine memorial to the tree that grew for so long amongst us, and to the times it witnessed. May it continue to enrich the lives of those who take the time to ponder its story.

David Allan

## Steels Creek Tennis & Social Club Happenings

**Mid-Winter Dinner** (aka Christmas in July): It's happening at the tennis club on Saturday evening, 13 July. We are having a spit-roast dinner at \$25 per person (less for children under 10). We'll start at 6pm for a 7pm dinner. Limited to 60 people, so book early with Alby.

**Saturday Tennis:** At the moment, both teams are in the top 4 of their ladders. One team plays at home each Saturday, except school holidays. Come and show your support from 1pm on Saturdays.

**Social Tennis:** Whether a hot or cool evening, come and enjoy the friendly tennis on Thursday nights. Mondays off for the cold weather

Web site: [www.yarraglen.com/SCTC/](http://www.yarraglen.com/SCTC/)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SteelsCreekTennisClub](http://www.facebook.com/SteelsCreekTennisClub)



(Kids lessons on Friday morning)

Ed Bartosh, Secretary

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## SC4 Film Club

Super Meal and Jolly Good Company from 6pm on. Films starts 7.30pm.

**Here's an Idea.** If you just wish to have a delicious 3 course meal with good company and don't want to stay for the film, no problem, at \$7 a head - you canna get better value than that!

Guaranteed laughs; suspense; and drama together with fine food and good company presented in our Gold Class venue!

- Screening On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June: *Brief Encounter* (1945)

Noel Coward's poignant love story stars Trevor Howard and Celia Johnson as a couple who start with a casual acquaintance that ripens into deep affection. Nominated for two Academy Awards, few films have equalled the compassion of this story.

Note - May be screened with a short comedy if time permits.

- Screening On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July: *The Painted Veil*

Based on a novel by Somerset Maugham this love story, set in the 1920's in China, is about a young English couple, a middle class Doctor (Edward Norton) and an upper class wife (Naomi Watts), with a shaky marriage. Eventually they move to a remote village to help the locals, ravaged by an epidemic, where they find purpose and a new life together. A wonderful story and given 4-stars by all the critics.

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## Crystal Clear about Cleaning Up?

A reminder that even though the Community Centre is now quite modern, it's not so modern that it is self-cleaning....!

Users and groups are reminded that whilst basic day-to-day cleaning is carried out under contract, **users and groups must leave the Centre clean and tidy when they leave.** Please ensure that your group leaves the Centre in as good *or better* condition than you find it in.

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## Steels Creek Clamberers

Clamberers undertake **monthly walks** in and around the Steels Creek area and elsewhere, from April to November each year. Walks are usually held on the **last Sunday of each month** during that time. Our walks **program for the rest of 2013** is set out below. Walks are generally of a moderate level of physical challenge, and there is usually ample opportunity to pause awhile along the way.

We have tried a couple of new walks this year, and in so doing have discovered some lovely new areas to visit. **We are also seeking new members to join us**, either on a regular or occasional basis (see below).



## Steels Creek Clamberers Walks Program - 2013

Date of Walk	General Location	Walk Leader (subject to possible amendment!)
<b>24th March</b> (Note: <u>second</u> last Sunday due to last Sunday being in Easter)	Hecker's Hill, Kangaroo Ground area	Kaye
<b>28th April</b>	O'Shannassy Aqueduct Walk - Warburton area	David and Robyn
<b>26th May</b>	North-South Pipeline and Glenwood Drive, Castella	Barry Sheffield
<b>23rd June</b> (Note: <u>second</u> last Sunday this month)	Mt Tanglefoot / Wirrawilla area	Peta Whitford
<b>28th July</b>	Steels Creek Road Walking Track, Steels Creek Community Centre - Steels Creek	David and Robyn
<b>23rd to 25th August</b>	Weekend of Walks - Mornington Peninsula	David and Robyn
<b>29th September</b>	Osborne Road area - Christmas Hills	To be confirmed
<b>27th October</b>	Shelley Harris Track - Mt Jerusalem Track, Kinglake NP	David and Robyn
<b>24th November</b>	Mt Monda / Mt St. Leonard area	David and Robyn

Please Note: While walks are not intended to be particularly difficult, walking by its very nature may present some everyday hazards. Steels Creek Clamberers walks are organized as social activities and participation is voluntary and entirely at participants own risk.

If you would like to receive **monthly information** about these walks but have not been doing so, please **register your details** by contacting **David or Robyn Allan** at [drallan@wideband.net.au](mailto:drallan@wideband.net.au), or telephones 5965 2556 or 0413 396 296.

## Steels Creek Stitchers

Stitchers would like to thank each and every one who contributed to our recent **Biggest Afternoon Tea**. You contributed food, flowers, money and lots of smiles (every one of them genuine) and general good cheer. You bought raffle tickets, plants, even left-over food etc. until **by the end of the afternoon we were able to send off a cheque for \$1050 to the Cancer Council of Victoria**. This was a **truly magnificent effort**, as well as a thoroughly enjoyable occasion. Thank you Steels Creek and beyond, you did yourselves proud!

Jane Calder

## Weather Report

The dry spell is continuing with April almost 50 mm below average and May just 16 mm below. For the year so far it is 85 mm below the average. Let's hope that it improves in June!

Barry Sheffield

## Rainfall Report to 30 May 2013

Station	April 2013 (mm)	May 2013 (mm)	2013 Year to Date (mm)	Total to corresponding date in 2012 (mm)
'Blackwood Hill' Pinnacle Lane	18.1	53.9	222.1	304.1
'Kilvarock' Adams Lane	n/a	n/a	n/a	n.a
'Highlea' Dixons Creek	22.6	58.2	237.8	340.4
'Newera' Brennan Avenue	19.0	53.3	207.8	282.1
'Wandearah' Japonica Drive, Yarra Glen	19.2	54.7	203.9	318.0

Rainfall data from Melbourne Water's Dixons Creek station (at Melba Highway near Yarrowood) for May was 57.2 mm, year to date 231.0 mm, this time last year 300.4 mm.

## ***Save the Date!* - Advance Notice of Three Coming Events**

Please note the following dates in your diary!

- **Shortest Lunch**

The Yarra Valley Smaller Wineries will be presenting the **Shortest Lunch** again on **Saturday 22 June and Sunday 23 June 2013 from 10:00am – 5:00pm** each day. The Shortest Lunch is our way of celebrating the shortest weekend of the year – the Winter Solstice – in a relaxed family oriented weekend of progressive all-day dining to ward off the winter chills.

Join our local wineries – Dixons Creek Estate, Steels Creek Estate and Yileena Park for expertly matched cuisine, great wines and even music. Lookout for local "Screecian", Dave Gormley, on his acoustic guitar at Steels Creek Estate.

Full details including menus are available at [www.shortestlunch.com.au](http://www.shortestlunch.com.au)

Simon Pierce

- **Movie and Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser.**

FAMILY MOVIE & SAUSAGE SIZZLE EVENING.  
(Fund Raiser for Steels Creek Community Centre)  
**SATURDAY 3rd AUGUST, 2013 - starts @ 5.30pm**

@ STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY CENTRE.

\$10 per FAMILY - *what a cheap night out!*

MOVIE TO BE ADVISED.....Watch for it in THE GRAPEVINE!

C O M E O N E, C O M E A L L.....don't miss out!!

- **First Steels Creek Annual Fete**

Dear Fellow Community Members, many of us may not be aware that our Community Centre is only able to operate through the \$2 per person, paid when the Centre is used. We do not receive any external funding. Unfortunately, with rising costs for power, insurance, and other expenses, money raised from this meagre amount is not sufficient to make ends meet. So...

*We have great pleasure in announcing the first:*

ANNUAL STEELS CREEK FETE  
**SATURDAY 12th. OCTOBER, 2013, 10am to 4pm.**

SECOND HAND STALLS, LOCAL PRODUCE/PRODUCTS FOR SALE,  
PONY RIDES, FACE PAINTING, LUCKY DIPS, SAUSAGE SIZZLE,  
TEA/COFFEE, DEVONSHIRE TEAS, HELIUM BALLOON, RAFFLES.

Interested Stall Holders please contact  
Vicki Stewart, phone 5965 2552. (Places are limited)

*We do need help leading up to the Fete, and on the day, so **please call Vicki** to enlist!*

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## Garden Club

The Garden Club has visited two lovely Gardens for their April and May outings – everyone thoroughly enjoyed the days and the beautiful gardens. They were at Mt Evelyn and Wandin so there wasn't a lot of travelling involved.

Also, a **reminder** about our bus trip to "*Sunnymeade Garden and Nursery*" in Strathbogie on **Tuesday 8th October**. The cost of \$25.00 includes admission and a lovely Devonshire morning tea on arrival. The Garden Club will subsidise the difference in costs. As we need to fill a bus to make this trip economical it is open to anyone who wishes to have a lovely day out to a beautiful garden. **Inquires – Deb Edwards 9730 1479.**

Our Calendar for the next three months:

- Tuesday 11th June - Hands on card making with Diane Dunk, all materials supplied. Please bring a small plate to share. 9.30am at the Community Centre.
- Tuesday 9th July - Visit to '*Gentiana Nursery*' and talk by Craig Wilson. BYO morning tea. 9.30am McKenzie's Reserve.
- Tuesday 13th August – A visit to Shirley Carr's lovely native garden. BYO morning tea. 9.30am McKenzie's Reserve.

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## Steels Creek Community Centre Inc. (SCCC) Membership – More Details...

As noted on page one, to fully comply with current legislation, all "*Not for Profit*" groups (including SCCC) must keep membership records. SCCC has not previously kept a formal record, and this means we are not compliant with the legislation. To remedy this, we are asking everyone who is eligible (*and who wishes*) to formally become a Member by filling out an Application Form\* and posting it to the address shown on the form. This will enable the formal membership record to be established. Eligibility criteria are listed on the form, and there will not be any cost involved in making the application.

If there is more than one person in your household who would like to become a Member you may put more than one name on the Form but each person needs to sign it at the bottom. Members need to be 18 years old or more.

The information on the Application Forms is only for SCCC use and any personal details will not be shared with anyone else or used for any other purpose. A Member may ask to see the list of Members, however your personal contact details will not be shared. You may, if you wish, ask for all your details including your name to be kept privately.

**To be eligible to be notified of the AGM and to nominate or vote you will need to return the completed Application Form by June 30<sup>th</sup> 2013.** If you do not wish to become a member, you will still be able to use the Centre, but you just won't be able to vote at the AGM and the Committee won't be obliged to notify you about changes to the running of SCCC. This information was recently circulated (with the Application Form) in 'The Grapevine'.

Angie Lloyd, Secretary SCCC. Telephone 9730 2023.

*\*The Application Form was recently circulated in 'The Grapevine'. Copies also available from Angie Lloyd.*

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## Rural Road Property Numbering (*Does it add up for you?*)

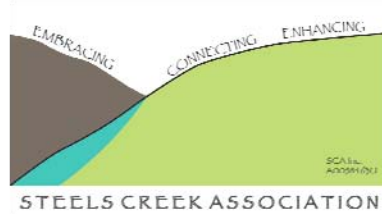
Reading the article in the last *Jolly Thing* about property names made me realise that there are probably Steels Creek residents who are not aware of the significance of the street number allotted to their property. In the early '90's the (then) Shire of Healesville introduced a Rural Road Numbering system that allocated a property's street number based on the distance that the driveway into the property was from the start of the road. As well as being handy for advising visitors how to find your gateway, it provides critical information to emergency services needing to locate your property.

My address is 33 Japonica Drive, because my driveway is 330 metres from Gibbs Rd. So the number for your property is the distance along the road divided by 10. If your number is 210 then the gateway to your property is 2100 metres (2.1 kilometres) from the start of the road. In the case of Gulf Rd, Pinnacle Lane and Hunts Lane, the numbers start at the Melba Highway end, as numbering should start at the more major intersecting road. This system applies to all properties in Steels Creek, Dixons Creek, Tarrawarra, Christmas Hills and Yarra Glen, with the exception of Yarra Glen Township which uses the standard urban area numbering system.

Barry Sheffield



## SCA Update



**Family Fun Day.** On 27 April we were blessed with lovely weather for our **Family Fun Day** at the Steels Creek Community Centre, sponsored by Coates Hire Lilydale and with assistance from VBAF and the Salvation Army. It was lovely to see a cross-section of our community checking out the Coates equipment and talking to the boys who so generously gave their time, and enjoying the entertainment activities. It was particularly heartening to see the kids (and a couple of mums!) having fun with Ron the Clown, learning juggling and Diablo and plate spinning. The reptile/wildlife display was also a big hit with young and old.



**PTSD Seminars:** We have just run the third in a series of five seminars on **post-traumatic stress**, presented by psychologist and trauma expert Michael Burge. Session Two looked at various treatment options, and was thoroughly engaging and informative. Session Three focussed on the impact of post-traumatic stress on the family. The **final two sessions – 26 June and 31 July** – are still open to everyone, and, respectively, will be looking at factors that facilitate or inhibit recovery, and the way forward for individuals, family and community. Sessions start at 7pm at the Yarra Glen Memorial Hall, and are free.

**First Aid Training:** We are in the final stages of organising **First Aid training**, to be delivered both as evening sessions that cover the basics, and also a more comprehensive full-day Level 2/Apply First Aid accredited course. Dates and details are still to be finalised, but we're aiming to run a few sessions between July and September. More information will be made available via a bulk letterbox drop in coming weeks.

We are also sourcing the purchase of a **Defibrillator** as a strategic community resource for use in cardiac emergencies. Training is provided as part of the purchase and, to this end, we will be inviting a representative from each of the groups that regularly uses the Community Centre, where the defibrillator will be housed, to participate. *If you are part of such a group, please start talking about nominating someone to attend the training.*

**Well-being Classes:** We are pleased to announce that **well-being classes** will be offered at the Community Centre from the beginning of school term three – 15 July. They will include at least yoga, Pilates and personal training. Classes will be free and bookings required. Details will be made available via the next letterbox drop.

**Apologies:** We have been delayed in distributing the **Coates Hire Lilydale discount cards** as promised. This should be remedied in the next few weeks. In the meantime, however, rest assured that presentation of a driver's licence or rates notice with a 3775 or 3777 postcode on it will suffice, so you can get on and enjoy 20% off your next hire.

**SCA Inc. AGM – Monday 5 August:** Formal notice of our first annual general meeting will be provided to SCA members in due course. Committee positions will be available so if you'd like to be more active in helping shape our community for the future, please consider nomination. We have funding for **governance training** that we hope to run in the second half of this year, to support existing and potential community leaders in their involvement with their special interest or incorporated group, so if you haven't had any or much experience of being on committees, don't fear – guidance will be on the way! If you're not yet an SCA member and would like to nominate for a position or vote in the election, we would need to receive an application for membership between now and 1 July (contact me or Secretary Joanne Spears).

**Mobile Telecommunications:** Our campaign for **improved mobile telecommunications** advanced another small step when Shadow Minister for Regional Communications, Luke Hartsuyker, and our Federal Member for Casey, Tony Smith, met with Heather and Athel Smith and myself on 12 April. This was another opportunity to have our concerns heard firsthand and to keep working on a plan to get a commitment from Telstra and the Shire about what is required to get infrastructure in place to improve reception throughout the Steels Creek valley. Also, the 'loan phone' (collecting data on mobile coverage) has now made the rounds of four of our Fireguard groups, representing close to 50 households – a big thank you to everyone who has so willingly participated. If you are not part of a Fireguard group and would like to participate in this survey, please let me know and I'll get the phone and folder to you.

**SCA Project Manager**, Eva Matthews, can be contacted via email at: [projectmanager.sca3775@gmail.com](mailto:projectmanager.sca3775@gmail.com), by phone on 0419 116 438 or by post at PO Box 298, Yarra Glen 3775.

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## New Shire of Yarra Ranges Community Development Officer

Hello Steels Creek Community! My name is **Jessica Adams**, and I have recently joined Yarra Ranges Council as **Community Development Officer for the Yarra Valley**. My role is to work with organisations, groups and individuals to understand the needs and aspirations of Yarra Valley communities and to support communities to achieve their goals.

I am taking this opportunity to introduce myself by way of *'The Jolly Thing'*. I will be working Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays with **Thursdays spent in Yarra Glen at Memo Hall**. I am **looking forward to getting to know Steels Creek** and surrounding communities, and **I welcome community groups and members making contact** with me on 9294 6866 or via email [J.Adams@yarraranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:J.Adams@yarraranges.vic.gov.au).

I look forward to meeting you.



**Jessica Adams**

**P:** (03) 9294 6866

**M:** 0419 569 490

**F:** (03) 9294 6851

**E:** [J.Adams@yarraranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:J.Adams@yarraranges.vic.gov.au)

**W:** [www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au](http://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au)

*please consider the environment before printing this email*

**Community Development Officer -  
Yarra Valley**



## New Railway Bridge

You may have noticed a lot of activity recently on the railway bridge opposite Armstrong Grove. As much of the railway traverses the Yarra flood plain, it has many timber trestle bridges. Like many other heritage groups, Yarra Valley Railway (YVR) had the problem of how to economically replace these bridges and then maintain them, bearing in mind that timber piles are difficult to obtain, have long drawn out lead times and are very expensive. The Board of YVR made the decision to replace the bridges in concrete and steel. But not the standard Victorian Railways concrete and steel bridges with a couple of concrete piers and steel beams, but as a concrete and steel trestle bridge. So a one-off design has been produced that will be used for all of the timber bridges between Yarra Glen and Tarrawarra, and eventually beyond Tarrawarra as well. The positives of the decision are that the design maintains the character of the bridges on the Healesville line, they will be easy to maintain, they will be cheaper to replace than using timber, they will not be eaten by termites and they cannot be burnt by fire.

The design involves cutting off each existing timber pile just above or below ground level, where it is sound and free of termite damage. Each below ground pile is then capped with concrete to bring it above ground level. Each pair of piles is then embedded in a concrete footing. The steel piles are bolted to the concrete footings and the crossheads bolted to the top of the piles. The two abutments have a second concrete pour after the cross-head is attached to the footing, which forms a wall around the crosshead. The decking is used V/Line rail that is bolted to the crossheads and this is currently being installed. Timber kerbing will also be bolted to the crossheads to hold the ballast in place.

As someone who has a passion for trestle bridges, I am pretty impressed with this bridge – it was amazing to see it transform from a line of concrete blocks, to a trestle bridge, as the steel piles were erected. And also amazing that it happened in about an hour and a half. The remnants of the old bridge were removed in December and work on the rebuild started in January, with the work being carried out entirely by volunteers. To have this completed in such a short time is an amazing effort.

To view photos of the progress of the construction work, copy the attached link into your browser.

[http://s1184.photobucket.com/user/trestle\\_nutter/library/Yarra%20Valley%20Railway%20-%20Bridge%2012?sort=9&page=1](http://s1184.photobucket.com/user/trestle_nutter/library/Yarra%20Valley%20Railway%20-%20Bridge%2012?sort=9&page=1)

Barry Sheffield

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## Mining Exploration Licence Application - Steels Creek Area ('Drill, baby; Drill!')

Many Steels Creek residents were interested in recent Public Notices and a report in the *'Mountain Views Mail'* concerning an **application for a mining exploration licence for gold and antimony, covering 16 km<sup>2</sup> of private land in the Steels Creek area (exploration reference no. EL5465)**. This was certainly not the first application for a licence in this area. It may well not be the last. Although an antimony mine has operated in this area in years gone by, it is difficult to guess whether this application, if granted, will result in any actual action. Gordon Brown wrote an interesting piece on this topic in *'The Jolly Thing'* - April 2008 edition, (see <http://www.steelscreek.org.au/JT/JT72i.pdf>). It is reprinted here as a matter of general local interest.

*"Last November as part of a study for Christine and Chris Mullen, I reviewed the available information about the exploration lease which has been granted over part of the Steels Creek area. We thought that the information I uncovered might be of more general interest within the community. Please note however that the following information is provided for information in good faith but I am not a geologist, mining engineer or stock analyst so readers must not rely on what follows for any important decisions or actions – in that case you must do the research yourselves or hire someone properly qualified to carry it out.*

*There was widespread mining for alluvial gold in the Steels Creek area in the mid to late 1800s. Much of this was carried out by lone prospectors or small groups who left little in the way of official records. Residents can locate old shafts whose existence is unknown to the relevant State Government Departments. In more recent times from roughly 1972 to 1999 a number of exploration licences were issued in the area. The areas covered varied greatly and moreover changed with time as parts were relinquished.*

*The rocks of the area are marine sediments of very great age (in excess of 400 million years) though along the valley floor there are much younger river sediments (10,000 years). In a few areas around Yarra Glen and extending north past Kinglake there are a number of igneous intrusions and most exploration interest has centred on these. Of particular interest to the Steels Creek area is the one which forms the hill on the eastern side of Steels Creek Road, a little to the north of Valley Road. An antimony mine operated here for many years.*

*Exploration licences which include the Steels Creek area were held consecutively by Bulleen Investments (who did nothing), BHP, Ausminde Pty Ltd and Ausminde Holdings Pty Ltd. Quite voluminous reports from the last four are available from the Victorian Department of Primary Industry. Both BHP and Ausminde had a great deal of difficulty in obtaining access to the land for exploration work and, as far as I could tell, had given up trying. However a company called Alpha Minerals NL, which purchased the old antimony mine in about late 1960s - early '70s, carried out some diamond drilling. Ausminde Holdings Pty Ltd located the cores from*

this drilling and analysed them. Together with access to work by Alpha Minerals, they concluded that Alpha Minerals had located a small deposit of 7,000 tonnes of 4% antimony. A general comment by BHP in their exploration reports stated that, "altogether the area was considered prospective for a large disseminated gold deposit to be associated with one of these plugs." They were not referring specifically to the Steels Creek intrusion (plug) but to a much wider area and a number of intrusions.

On 26 October 2007 an Exploration Licence (EL5072) was issued in Victoria to Beadell Resources Ltd, Level 2, 16 Ord Street, West Perth, WA 6005. The exploration licence is due to expire on 25/10/2010 unless extended or surrendered earlier. Beadell Resources is a new public company which commenced trading on the Australian Stock Exchange on 26 September 2007 when it raised \$15 million to use on exploration. It describes itself as a "gold focussed exploration company with a portfolio of advanced and greenfield assets in Australia and Brazil." The well-known mining company Oxiana is a major shareholder. An article in the Australian Financial Review on 8 August 2007 stated that Oxiana formed Beadell Resources based on the assets and management team of Agincourt Resources which it bought in 2007. Oxiana "agreed to vend a host of domestic gold and uranium assets" to Beadell Resources in return for \$3.2 million scrip. Beadell Resources have referred in their publications to previous exploration work by Ausminde Pty Ltd and Ausminde Holdings Pty Ltd. Exploration licence EL3129 owned by Ausminde Holdings Pty Ltd (but surrendered on 4/8/99) covered several large areas from Reedy Creek in the north through Clonbinane, Mt Robertson, Captains Creek, Kinglake and as far south as Steels Creek. As Beadell Resources seem to be building on prior exploration by Ausminde Holdings Pty Ltd it is perhaps natural that they would wish to secure an exploration licence over the Steels Creek intrusion area in addition to separate licences over the Reedy Creek – Clonbinane areas.. The extent of the current, relevant exploration tenement (EL5072) .... is located around the Steels Creek Intrusion.

Beadell Resources' public notices tend to imply that Steels Creek is a relatively longer term priority as it has other prospects (including Reedy Creek in Victoria) which are much more "drill ready ." Other properties in Australia include Lake Torrens, Lake Mackay, West Musgrave and Tropicana East. Its Brazilian property is at Tartaruga.

On the subject of Steels Creek Beadell Resources says, <sup>1</sup> "The Steele's Creek area hosts gold and antimony mineralisation associated with a felsic intrusive stock of Siluro-Devonian age. Three diamond holes were drilled by Alpha Minerals NL in the late 1960's recording broad zones of gold and antimony mineralisation within a quartz porphyry intrusive interpreted to be 1,000m long by 700m wide".

Note the reliance on those three diamond drill holes put down by Alpha Minerals so long ago. I guess we'll have to watch Beadell's public announcements to see what their intentions are with respect to Steels Creek.

Gordon Brown [April 2008]

<sup>1</sup>Extract from Beadell Resources IPO Presentation, September 2007, accessed from their website [www.beadellresources.com.au](http://www.beadellresources.com.au) "

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## Steels Creek Landcare Group



### Need Help on your Property?

Volunteers are again available to assist landowners with a range of tasks. Assistance activities have previously included tree planting, firewood stacking, fence removal and garden tidy up, plus a whole lot more. The current groups of volunteers are made up from twenty Year 9 students and 2-3 supervising adults. The work is done in a single session of approximately three hours, starting at 11am. We can divide the group so that two properties can be reached at the same time.

**Availability:** We currently have spots available on the following days: -

- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June (1 group of 20 or 2 groups of 10),
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June (1 group of 20 or 2 groups of 10).

**If we can't assist you this time around-**there will be other opportunities later in the year. Requests to place volunteers come in from different organisations periodically. It would be useful if landowners registered their interest in the program so that we might get in touch with them next time. To register, please contact us at [steelscreeklandcare@yahoo.com.au](mailto:steelscreeklandcare@yahoo.com.au).

**Blackberry Removal:** Congratulations to all those members who have been working on removing blackberry on their properties. As you look around Steels Creek valley, blackberry infestations have diminished or are gone.

**Rabbits:** Our Pindone subsidy program has been deferred until Spring. We are looking at ways to help neighbours coordinate their efforts to improve results. Northern Yarra Landcare Network will provide the subsidy for our members.

**Indian Mynas:** We recently had a busy workshop making traps. Has anyone caught any?

**Upcoming Events:**

- **Rabbit workshop** - A joint event between the Valley's Landcare Groups is planned with a focus on approaches to remove rabbits from your and your neighbours properties. It will be held in Spring - date to be advised
- **Agricultural Chemical Users Training:** Winter - date to be advised

**Interesting Links:**

- 'Platypus Spot' – visit <http://platypusspot.org/>.
- Help Wanted – Mange Management in Wombats – visit <http://www.mangemanagement.org.au/>.

Sandra Turnley

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### *The Jolly Thing Delivery*

1. **By e-mail.** If you do not already subscribe to this service, please forward your e-mail address to [thejollything@steelscreek.org.au](mailto:thejollything@steelscreek.org.au) and it will be included in the e-mail distribution list.
2. **Pick up a free copy** at the Yarra Glen Post Office, the Yarra Glen IGA or the Yarra Glen News agent in the first week in the month of publication. (February; April; June; August; October; December.)
3. **By Post.** For an annual subscription of \$6 we will post to you a copy in the week of publication. For this option please forward a \$6 cheque and your full postal address to the following address:-  
Malcolm Calder, c/o the Steels Creek Community Centre, P.O. Box 291, Yarra Glen, VIC 3775
4. **By the World Wide Web.** You can download T.J.T. from the web soon after the start of the month of publication. All editions are available from August 2003. The address is [www.steelscreek.org.au](http://www.steelscreek.org.au)

Thank you for your support of "*The Jolly Thing*" and the Steels Creek Community. We look forward to your continuing involvement.  
Malcolm Calder

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### *Everyone has a Story*

Why not share it with the Jolly Thing readers, be it sad, serious or humorous: local or not. Jot it down and send it to the editor. *You could be the winner of the sixth Chris Mullen award for literary excellence.*

### *Email Addresses - New and Updated*

Want receive the Jolly Thing by email? Let me know your email address and it will arrive as if by magic.  
Changed your email? Send me your new one!

Do you want to be kept up on Local Steels Creek happenings, events and offerings? Let me know and I will put you on the *Grape Vine* so you don't miss out. David Allan, Editor, E: [eda@wideband.net.au](mailto:eda@wideband.net.au), M: 0413 396 296.

JUNE 2013						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1 Tennis Comp
2	3 <b>Recycle</b> SCA C'tee Meeting. Women's Group	4 Stitchers	5	6 Tai Chi Art Social Tennis	7	8 <b>Market</b> Tennis Comp
9 YG&DHS	10 <i>Queen's Birthday</i>	11 Stitchers Garden Club @ SCCC	12	13 Tai Chi Art Social Tennis	14 <i>Movie</i> <i>(Brief Encounter)</i>	15 FYFB Working Bee
16	17 <b>Recycle</b>	18 Stitchers	19	20 Tai Chi Art Social Tennis	21	22 <b>Market</b> Shortest Lunch
23 Clamberers  Shortest Lunch	24 Growing Group	25 Book Group Stitchers	26	27 Tai Chi Art Social Tennis SMB	28	29
30						1

*Recycle* = reminder to put out your recycling bin

#### ART

Thursdays 1:30 PM – 4.30 PM SCCC - Bring your paints; discuss your art and share skills.

Malcolm Calder 5965 2372

#### BOOK GROUP

4<sup>th</sup>Tuesday – 7.30 PM; 10 members – limited by library book resources. Lively discussions at SCCC. New Members welcome.

Keryn Comport 0411 265161

#### CLAMBERERS

Last Sunday (March to November). Since 1993, the walking group has walked over local tracks & explored the flora and fauna of the Valley and surrounding areas. Walks are announced at the SCCC Market before hand.

David Allan 0413 396 296 [eda@wideband.net.au](mailto:eda@wideband.net.au)

#### FRIENDS OF YARRA FLATS BILLABONGS

Development of wetlands adjacent to Yarra Glen.

Working Bees third Saturday of every second month starting at 12 noon.

Kevin Heeley 9730 1704 [kevinheeley@bigpond.com](mailto:kevinheeley@bigpond.com)  
<http://yarraflatsbillabongs.friends.melbournewater.com.au/>

#### GARDEN

Newsletter, outings 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays, 60 members. Fourth Monday Growing Group, 9.30 am at SCCC– all welcome.

Deb Edwards 9730 1479

#### HEWI ( Healesville Environment Watch Inc)

Environmental issues at Healesville Living and Learning Centre, 1 Badger Creek Road.

Maureen Bond 5962 1224 [hewisec@bigpond.com](mailto:hewisec@bigpond.com).

#### HISTORY

The Y.G & D.Hist.Soc. meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays at 1:30 pm Y G Memorial Hall:

Mrs. Brenda Cawte 9730 1801  
<http://www.yarraglenhistorical.websyte.com.au> .

#### LANDCARE GROUP

Ongoing projects and a great opportunity to obtain information, advice and possibly funding about tackling Landcare issues of significance to YOU! ' Sandra Turnley 9730 1550

SCCC = Steels Creek Community Centre,  
699 Steels Creek Road Steels Creek.  
SCA = Steels Creek Association.

JULY 2013						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> <b>Recycle</b> SCA C'tee Meeting, Women's Group	<b>2</b> Stitchers	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Art Social Tennis	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Stitchers Garden Outing	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Art Social Tennis	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Market <i>SCTC Mid-winter dinner</i>
<b>14</b> YG&DHS	<b>15</b> <b>Recycle</b>	<b>16</b> Stitchers	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Art Tai Chi Social Tennis	<b>19</b> Movie <i>(The Painted Veil)</i>	<b>20</b> FYFB Working Bee Tennis Comp
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Growing Group	<b>23</b> Stitchers Book Group	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> SMB Art Tai Chi Social Tennis	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Market Tennis Comp
<b>28</b> Clamberers	<b>29</b> <b>Recycle</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			

#### STEELS CREEK ASSOCIATION

Facilitating the safety, wellbeing, sense of connectedness, healing and enhancement of the Steels Creek Community.

Eva Matthews, Project Manager 0419 116 438

#### HALL & EQUIPMENT HIRE

To arrange hire of the revamped Hall and/or any equipment please contact.

Vicki Stewart 5965 2552

#### MARKET

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays at SCCC, 10.00 AM Sharp! Community announcements, local fresh produce, preserves, baked goods.

Malcolm Calder 5965 2372

#### MOVIES

2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday each month – 6.00 PM classy food followed by classic movies at SCCC. March through November.

Keith Montell 5965 2202

#### SMB (really just a coffee and a chat, football and opera and all in between)

Last Thursday 10.30 AM – 11.30 AM. Men's morning tea at Anita's Yarra Glen.

Gordon Brown 9730 1937

#### STITCHERS

Every Tuesday, 1.30 PM - 4.00 PM at SCCC, since 1993. 24 members, 12 regulars. Workshops plus, bring own work – knit, patch, embroider.

Jane Calder 5965 2372 Nola Matthews 0412 199129

#### TAI CHI

Every Thursday in School Term time at SCCC.

Hannah Sky 5965 2211

#### TENNIS

Since 1911. Newsletter, competitions, 90 active and social members. Tuesdays 3:45PM - kids lessons; Thursdays 9.30 AM, Mums' tennis; Friday 10am - Ladies Coaching, Thursdays 7.30 PM\*, Social tennis. Saturdays 1 PM to 5 PM regular competitions. \*Night tennis under the lights.  
<http://www.yarraglen.com/SCTC/>.

Alby Leckie 5965 2354, Ed Bartosh 9739 1879

#### WOMEN'S GROUP Evening Friendship Group

1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 7.00 at JJ's in Yarra Glen. Come for company, conversation, food and coffee. You'll be made most welcome for a pleasant evening of food and chat.

Lindy Montell 5965 2202

SCCC = Steels Creek Community Centre,  
699 Steels Creek Road Steels Creek.  
SCA = Steels Creek Association.



## Cross Creek 56

Across -

1. Popular circus artist (7)
4. Was the dough this for the occasion? (5)
7. A very sore lower back (7)
8. The school year now has four (5)
9. More than one can be hard to stop (6)
12. Travelling VIP's often need large ones (8)
15. Grisly (8)
17. Very correct (6)
18. A light to be ready (5)
21. A notable speech (7)
22. With gin, it was a popular card game (5)
23. Going off at one may lose your thought (7)

Down -

1. Well done, it's a joy to both doer and done to (8)
2. Kittens love to do this (6)
3. That zippedee doodah feeling (4)
4. Major public unrest (4)
5. Fierce-sounding breastbone (7)
6. Savvyness — *and yes, I know that's not a word!* (4)
10. Great film about a blind photographer (5)
11. Nasty sore throat (5)
13. Winter solstice gives us this day (8)
14. Most kitchens had at least one such appliance (7)
16. Elevated moth site (6)
18. Not spades, but a maple (4)
19. Cheeks, sunsets and Pink Lady apples (4)
20. You'll need some of this when you go fishing (4)

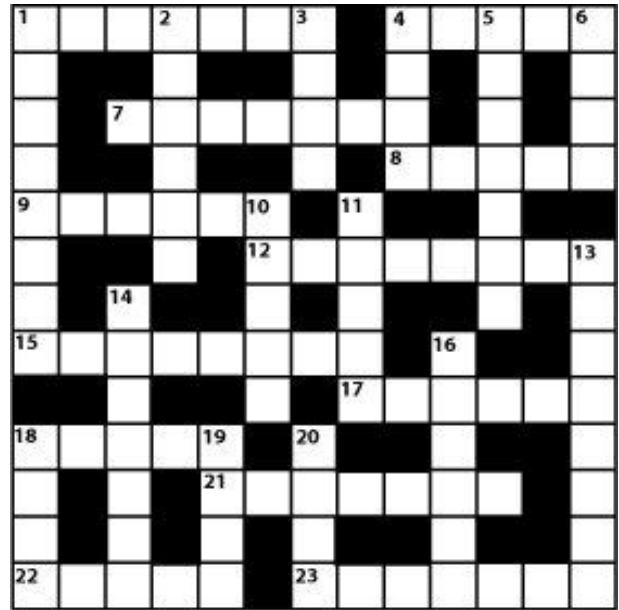
## Cross Creek 55 Answers

Across -

1. Eggshell 5. Puma 7. Sari 8. Inkstand 9. Enigma
12. Pyramid 15. Bandage 19. Borsch 21. Nephrite
22. Teal 23. Yale 24. Ice-cream

Down -

1. Easter 2. Sling 3. Erica 4. Likely 5. Patina
6. Addled 10. Icon 11. Mica 12. Pie 13. Reno
14. Mass 15. Blinky 16. Daphne 17. Gemini
18. Shalom 19. Breve 20. Rotor



180 Print / 270 Email / 13 Nations

The "Jolly Thing" is published by and for the greater Steels Creek Community Centre Inc. (SCCC), 699 Steels Creek Road, Steels Creek. Postal address: PO Box 291, Yarra Glen, Victoria 3775. Management Committee: **Andrew Chapman**, A/President; **Keith Montell**, Treasurer; **Angie Lloyd** Secretary, **David Allan**, **Malcolm Calder**, **Vicki Stewart**, **Craig Matthews** and **John Houston**, elected as members; with **Jane Calder**, Garden Club and **Vicki Stewart**, Tennis Club.

<http://www.steelscreek.org.au/>

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Editor: David Allan, 0413 396 296;

Circulation: Malcolm Calder 5965 2372.

[thejollything@steelscreek.org.au](mailto:thejollything@steelscreek.org.au)

We gratefully acknowledge **Peter England**, for support to the Steels Creek Community and *The Jolly Thing*.

# HOOGIES

OF YARRA GLEN



*No worries!*

**9730-1611**

**DEADLINE** for the next Jolly Thing is  
28 July 2013.