



STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY NOTES - NO 60 (April-May 2006) FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VALLEY

<http://www.virtual.net.au/~thejollything/> for current activity photos and more commentary

**Zorro** moves to Steels Creek – At the Movies – Page 9

**From the President:** Discussion Paper on the Community Centre - Page 10

**Holey Smokes ! Kinglake Fire is Still Burning !** – Page 6

**Bee Club to Swarm?** – Page 11

## **Go Big or Get out of Town! MELBA FESTIVAL 27 Venues / Events +++**

The inaugural Melba Festival has organized the Easter Weekend for anyone living in or visiting the Yarra Valley. From the Art Show to Gulf Station's 'Scottish Descendants Day' and from Gilbert and Sullivan lunch to Opera Dinner. The inaugural Dixons Creek & Steels Creek Wine Show at the Berry Café has attracted 49 wines from 18 contestant wineries.

Consult the Festival Programme or Phone: 5965 2331

## **Dixons Creek/Steels Creek Inaugural Wine Show - April 15 -17**

The Inaugural 2006 Dixons Creek/Steels Creek Wine Show will be held over Easter weekend (15-17 April 2006) at the Berry Café. This Inaugural Wine Show will offer a judging of 5 classes of wine (2 white wine classes plus Pinot, Cab and, of course, Shiraz). We have 18 wineries with 49 wines entered for judging and tasting. All wines are locally produced within the Dixons Creek/Steels Creek area. In addition, there will be a chance for visitors to taste and vote for THEIR favourite wine, culminating in a People's Choice award for the wine in each class voted most popular by the public tasters. Tasters will have the opportunity to go on the mailing list of wines they like. There will be a fee to enter the people's choice award with any proceeds from the show being donated to the Dixons Creek CFA. Presentation of awards will take place at 3pm Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> April 2006.

Visit <http://www.YarraGlen.com/DCSC-wineshow/>  
Bookings Athol or Heather 5965 2205

## **Fifth Grand Easter Exhibition of Art Showcasing the Yarra Valley**

The Yarra Glen Art Show has moved to Balgownie Estate this year. Counsellor Jeanette McRae will open the show and judges are Margaret McLoughlin and Bruce Grahame. The motive is to establish a permanent home for the arts in Yarra Glen while charitable proceeds this year go to the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal. Volunteers please contact **Jean Lowe: 5965 2294**

Queries: Christine Mullen 5965 2094

<http://www.virtual.net.au/~yarraglenartshow/>

## **Tennis Anyone?**

Congratulations are in order as Club teams recorded two successes during the summer season. Players in Section 6 won their flag and players in Section 10 were runners up.

Three teams have been entered for the winter season which commences on Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> April. If you would like to consider a regular Saturday tennis commitment additional players are needed.

Contact Alby 5965 2354

## More Tennis ...

Thursday evening social tennis for the harder-hitters continues while new players of all standards are required for Monday evening social play. Tennis under the lights is great fun and **no experience required!** Let Alby know if you would like to join this friendly group.

An end of season bar-b-que is to be held at the Tennis Club on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2006. BYO meat and a salad or dessert to share. ALL WELCOME for the bar-b-que and/or a social hit – especially new players.

**John and Jean Lowe will this year host our mid-winter Christmas celebration on Saturday, 1st July 2006. Make a note in your diary as this annual get-together is always well attended. If you are able to sponsor the raffle in some way we'd appreciate hearing from you.**

Tuesday morning - 8.30-10am casual social play - any standard - all welcome.

Jean Lowe 5965 2294

## Clamberers

The April walk has been brought forward by one week to 23<sup>rd</sup> April. **Jane and Malcolm** will lead us on a leisurely walk around Lilydale Lake, with an emphasis on bird observing. An easy walk in a pleasant environment. Meet at the 1<sup>st</sup> car park on the left after entering Lilydale Lake reserve from Swansea Road, to start walking at 10.00AM. Bring food, drink and binoculars.

Enquiries to Jane and Malcolm on 5965 2372.

The next walk will be on 28<sup>th</sup> May a little further a field at historic Kurth Kiln near Hoddles Creek, leader **Kay McCrae**, and we will meet at 10.30 AM at the Kirth Kiln Picnic/Camping Ground – ESMAP 712 D11. We will be walking the Tomahawk Creek walk, including Ship Rock Falls.

Quires: Kay 9730 2229

## Steels Creek Landcare

The next meeting of Steels Creek Landcare Group is at the Community Centre on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 8.00 PM. We will be discussing progress towards making an application for funding in relation to a vegetation protection and enhancement project along Steels Creek Road. **Simon Denby** – Biodiversity Coordinator for the Shire of Yarra Ranges will also be there. This would be a good opportunity to find out more about how the Council might be able to join with us to support local projects. All welcome. Enquiries to David Allan 5965 2556, or John O'Neill 0418 260 277.

*PS: Membership renewals are now due – please return payment slips as soon as possible.*

## VERA ADAMS CELEBRATION

On Sunday 7 May at 2pm there will be a gathering at the Steels Creek Community Centre, 699 Steels Creek Rd, to celebrate the life and times of a much loved and respected member of our community, the late Vera Adams. Please come along and bring your reminiscences and memories of a very special friend and teacher. At this occasion there will be some mementoes of Vera's life available for purchase, the money raised will go to perhaps a plaque in her memory. Tea and coffee will be available, please bring a small plate of food to share.

Contact Jane 5965 2372 or Eric 9730 1445

## Stitchers Threads

Over this last month there has been an evocative photographic and fabric works exhibition at Warburton entitled "Connect to the Yarra". Among the three fabric panels was our Stitchers one using images drawn by children from our local schools. We hope to have the panel on display in Steels Creek and at the schools sometime soon.

Stitchers have given practical help to the Women's Fellowship in Nepal, so ably supported by Ruth Davison from Yarra Glen, both by a financial donation and by making needle cases for the sewing group there.

As an acknowledgment of the great support that Di Moore, our recently retired councillor, gave to both our own Stitchers Group and to the larger community, we held an afternoon tea at which we presented Di with a quilt and cushion.

### Yarra Glen RSL Sponsors ANZAC Day Remembrance Activities

Tuesday April 25, 2006 commemorates the anniversary of ANZAC Day. The [Yarra Glen RSL](#) is planning for local events, beginning with a parade from the Yarra Glen Police Station and continuing to the Memorial at the corner of ANZAC Avenue and Bell Street. This year, those who wish to join the parade at the top of the hill may do so at the alley beside Rosier Realty. There will be a remembrance ceremony at the Memorial, to be followed by a reception in the Memorial Hall. Members of the public who wish to place a wreath to commemorate the sacrifices of deceased veterans are welcome to participate, and they should contact the Secretary, Ted Bowling, in advance of the day to make arrangements. The parade will start at 10:15 a.m., and the service will commence at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Contact Ted Bowling 9730 1913

**Rainfall Report** – Rainfall in the Steels Creek area up to 31 March 2006. (From "Dripper" Allan)

Gauge Location	February 2006 (mm)	March 2006 (mm)	YTD (mm) 2006	YTD(mm) 2005
'Newera', Brennan Avenue	40.7	17.7	123.8	175.2
'Blackwood Hill', Pinnacle Lane	42.7	16.3	132.3	176.6
'Yarradene Farm', Yarra Ridge	56	17	140	198

**"That is against the rules" said Alice**

**"Rules! Against the rules! I am the Rules!" said the Queen "Off with Her Head"**

Despite a wet opening to the day and after a delayed start time, the tournament commenced with some 26 players vying for the cup (silver stubby holder). This year the competition took the form of a round robin, cut a bit short by the late start and contestants were paired by partners drawn from a hat. This resulted in every one having at least 3 games and some four. The games were shortened to once around the court.

Bill, never happy at his precious lawn being trampled on was all for cancelling the event but when told no he headed off to the biggest blackberry patch with a machete in hand to vent his frustration. The rain had meant that the final mowing could not be done and some of the courts were quite hairy, not to mention the wombat scrapings and rabbit diggings.

As the games progressed the intensity of discussions increased over the rules; becoming quite heated in some quarters. The organizers were happy that they had had the prescience of mind to invite the police, in the form of **John Wood**, to attend; his august presence was enough to quell any threat of violence.

The event continued in a lively manner and a number of teams had won 3 games but the only team to win all 4 games was that of **Grace Houghton** (one half of last years winning team) and **Colin Brown** (beauty and the beast one might say) though the writer who teamed with **Jean Lowe** took them to the peg but due to the extreme tension missed the vital shot. As neither of the winners are Steels Creekians, once again the trophy goes away.

**Cont'd Page 6**

April 2006						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1 Tennis Comp April Fools Day
2 HARD RUBBISH COLLECTION BEGINS >	3 <b>Recycle</b> Social Tennis Women's Group	4 Ladies Tennis Stitchers	5	6 Art Social Tennis.	7	8 Market
9 History	10 Ladies Lunch Social Tennis	11 Ladies Tennis Garden Outing	12	13 Art Social Tennis  YG Art Show	14 NO FILM  YG Art Show	15  YG Art Show DC/SC Wine Show
16 <b>EASTER</b>  YG Art Show DC/SC Wine Show	17 <b>Recycle</b> Social Tennis YG Art Show DC/SC Wine Show	18 Ladies Tennis Stitchers Book Group	19	20 Art Social Tennis	21	22 Market
23 Clamberers	24 Garden Club Growing Group	25 Ladies Tennis  <b>ANZAC Day</b> (Parade in YG)	26	27 <b>SMB</b> Art Social Tennis	28 Movie <b>UNION PACIFIC Zorro !</b>	29 Tennis Comp
30 Values & Visions Community Day						

**Recycle = reminder to put out your recycling bin**

#### ART

Malcolm Calder 5965 2372

Thursdays - 1:30 PM – 4.30 PM SC4 Bring your paints, discuss your art and share skills.

#### BOOK GROUP Christine Tomlins 5965 2080

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday - 8.00 PM 10 members – limited by Lilydale Library resources. Lively discussions at SC4.

#### CLAMBERERS - Page 2

David and Robyn Allan 5965 2556 [drallan@gotalk.net.au](mailto:drallan@gotalk.net.au)

Last Sunday (March to October). Since 1993, the walking group has hiked over local tracks to explore the flora and fauna of the Valley and surrounding areas. Walks are announced at the SC4 Market beforehand.

#### FRIENDS OF YARRA FLATS BILLABONGS

Development of wetlands adjacent to Yarra Glen.

Kevin Heeley 9730 1704 [kevinheeley@bigpond.com](mailto:kevinheeley@bigpond.com)

<http://yarraflatsbillabongs.melbournewater.com.au>

#### GARDEN

Jill Hess 9730 1960, Gillian Poulton 5797 8266

Newsletter, Outings 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays, 63 members. Fourth Monday Growing Group, 930 am at SC4 – all welcome.

Garden Outings: April 14<sup>th</sup> Beechmont Gardens Olinda 9:30 at McKenzie Reserve

May 9<sup>th</sup> Anastasia Scott Marysville 9:30 at McKenzie Reserve

#### HISTORY - Page 9

Mrs. Brenda Cawte 9730 1891 Eric Tetlow 9730 1445 [etetlow@aplhalink.com.au](mailto:etetlow@aplhalink.com.au)

The Y.G. & D.H.S. meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays at 130 pm YG Living & Learning Centre: [www.yarraglenhistorical.websyte.com.au](http://www.yarraglenhistorical.websyte.com.au)

#### MARKET

Jean Lowe 5965 2294

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays at SC4, 10.00 AM Sharp! Community Announcements, local fresh produce, preserves, baked goods. The Creek's best home made scones, coffee and tea at every market!

May 2006						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Recycle Social Tennis Women's Group	<b>2</b> Ladies Tennis  Stitchers	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Art Social Tennis	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  Tennis Comp
<b>7</b> Vera Adams Celebration	<b>8</b> Ladies Lunch Social Tennis	<b>9</b> Ladies Tennis Garden Outing	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Art  Social Tennis	<b>12</b> Movie <b>Funny Face</b>	<b>13</b> Market  Tennis Comp.
<b>14</b> History	<b>15</b> Recycle Social Tennis	<b>16</b> Ladies Tennis Stitchers Book Group	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Art Social Tennis	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  Tennis Comp
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Social Tennis Garden Club Growing Group	<b>23</b> Ladies Tennis	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Art Social Tennis SMB	<b>26</b> Movie <b>Murder at the Gallop</b>	<b>27</b> Market  Tennis Comp
<b>28</b> Clamberers	<b>29</b> Recycle	<b>30</b> Ladies Tennis	<b>31</b>			

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

#### LAND CARE GROUP – Page 2

John O'Neill 6965 2224 or David Allan 5965 2556

Bi-Monthly meetings and on going projects. This is a start up group; a great chance to influence the outcomes and direction of land care issues for years to come.

#### MOVIES - Page 9

Jean Lowe 5965 2294, Chris Mullen 5965 2094, [chris@fullandplenty.com](mailto:chris@fullandplenty.com)

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays – 6.00 PM classy food followed by classic 16mm films at SC4. \$5 food plus a \$4 donation for film.

#### SMB

Gordon Brown 9730 1937

Last Thursday 10.30 AM – 11.30 AM. Men's morning tea at Anita's Fudge Shop ( aka YG Food Store).

#### STITCHERS – Page 3

Jane Calder 5965 2372, Christine Tomlins 5965 2080

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 1.30 PM - 4.00 PM at SC4. Since 1993. 24 members, 12 regulars. Bring own work – knit, patch, embroider; currently working on a panel to commemorate the 2002 Long Yarra Walk.

#### TENNIS – Page 1,2

Albie Leckie 5965 2354, Lindy Montell 5965 2202

Since 1911. Newsletter, Competitions, 80 active and social members. Mondays, 7.00 PM, Social tennis Tuesdays 10.00 AM, Mid-week ladies competition. Thursdays 7.00 PM, Social tennis. Saturdays 1 PM to 6 PM, Regular competitions. Ladies Lunch 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday; bring a plate to share.

**SCTC "Christmas in June" is 1 July**

#### TITTY CLUB

Morgan Calder 5965 2481 [m-calder@bigpond.net.au](mailto:m-calder@bigpond.net.au)

Mothers group reorganizing with the growth of kids and new year obligations.

#### WOMEN'S GROUP Evening Pizza and Friendship Group

Pam Verhoven 5965 2274

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

269 Days to Christmas

From Page 3

Leader in the sartorial stakes, in complete contrast to last year, was **Albie Leckie**. Gone were the shorts and tee shirt and out came the coat and long pants; a sight for sore eyes. **Ed Bartosh** and **Betty Taylor** were also elegantly dressed, though Ed's behaviour on the courts was some what less elegant.

**Margaret Dimsey**, a past Steels Creek, resident came from Millgrove and did enjoy catching up with old friends, but to quote her " I now realise it is not the genteel game I had expected". She was paired with Albie. The modest amount raised was duly passed over to the community centre.

To those that stayed in bed because of the inclement weather I can only pass on a part of Henry V's speech before the battle of Agincourt:

And gentlemen in England now a-bed  
Shall think themselves accursed they were not here,  
And hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks  
That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day.

**Andrew Chapman** (with apologies to Lewis Carrol and Will Shakespeare)

## **April 2006 Kinglake National Park News**

At the time of writing, it is mid March; the national park has been focussed on two major issues; Recovering from the January wildfire and preparing for the upcoming autumn prescribed burning.

Even now, two months after the initial fire outbreak we are up to our fourth major "flare up", where hot spots deep in the ground have re-ignited the carpet of dry eucalypt leaves scorched off by the original fire, and started a new fire. This is not unusual, nor unexpected, which is why even now constant patrols are maintained and fire towers are keeping a vigilant eye on the area. (In 1982, the year of the Ash Wednesday bushfires, the Wallaby Creek catchment had thirty five re-lights after their original outbreak.)

Rehabilitation is well under way; we are hoping to be completed by the end of April. Captains Creek road is now open; Boggy Creek road should be open by the time this article goes to print. Now is a great time to take a drive along these tracks (dry weather only) and witness first hand the startling regeneration that is taking place. Regeneration from a major fire is an event not often seen, so take the opportunity. Many people find it quite an inspiring time, witnessing the unfurling of fronds and the bursting out of new growth.

Road reopening is a process where dangerous fire damaged trees are identified and removed if needed, and the road re-formed or graded if required, and pipes and bridges assessed.

A team of three excavators are working their way across the 80km of bulldozed fire tracks and recovering the side cut and topsoil so the track has the best chance at growing back to its pre fire state. If we left all the tracks UN-touched, it would be a "free for all" for every feral cat, dog and fox in the area to move easily into new territory with big impacts on the native animals. Recreational vehicles could also cause problems if they were allowed unmanaged onto open dozer lines. As well, the soil erosion of the bare tracks would significantly contribute to a loss of water quality in the streams.

The Gums camping area is still closed due to its close proximity to the fire. At this stage we are still unsure about re-opening the Gums camping area for the Easter period, it will depend largely on the weather, and the rate of fire rehabilitation. No Easter holiday program will be offered this year.

Due to the Kinglake bushfire, three prescribed Fuel Reduction Burns (FRBs) will not be conducted this autumn. One FRB, because the fire has already burnt it, the other two because we have

committed resources to the fire rehabilitation program. The two FRBs removed from this years' program are the area south of Gordons Bridge road, and, the 10 chain reserve below Hawkes road and past MMM centre to Browns corner.

Planned FRBs will be:

- 1/ Mt Beggary / Mt Everard
- 2/ North of Toorourrong Reservoir /No 1 road
- 3/ Nth Silver Creek

There will also be forestry regeneration slash burns in Mt. Robertson State Forest and Toolangi State Forest that will be visible from the Kinglake area.

Weed spraying contractors are due to start work treating Tutsan at Hirts Creek in an area under the powerlines. The burn has created a unique opportunity to get into many hard-to-get-to infestations. Other target weeds will include Blackberry at the park boundary and around the burn perimeter. Once again we are concerned that seed could be carried by birds and foxes into the burn from other areas.

We will also be starting a predator control program during May in the fire ravaged Wombelano Block and this will run for a month. Soft-jawed trapping will be used by a certified Pest Animal Contractor to lesson the Red fox populations and this will interrupt winter pairing and breeding. Feral cats will also be targeted at the same time. Roaming dogs can be trapped at times and if this happens, the pet dogs or pet cats will be delivered to the closest pound. If you do own pet dogs or pet cats please see that they are in at night and not roaming outside your property during the day.

Recent spotlighting surveys have revealed that the bush is particularly quiet following the fire. No doubt that many animals died. However already there are signs that animals did survive. Black Wallabies and Lyrebirds have moved up from the damp gullies. Common Wombats have awoken from a long sleep deep within their burrows. Greater Gliders, Ring-tailed Possum and Brush-tailed Possums were observed feeding high in the canopies of unburnt trees. And Wedge-tailed eagles circle looking for a prey item.

If you have any questions or queries please give us a call at the Parks Office at Masons Falls on (03) 5786 5351.

Until next time; that's all from me **David Farrar** - Ranger at Kinglake National Park.

**The Fireguardian Newsletter** reports NASA satellites picked up the recent bushfires!

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/naturalhazards>

## **NEW Fireguard Groups – the trees that grow on telephones !**

Brennan Avenue / Old Kinglake Road

Residents in Old Kinglake Road and Brennan Avenue have commenced establishing a Fireguard Group. This is a communications plan that is activated in the event of elevated bushfire risk, which enables residents to know where neighbours are if fire is threatening the area, and to communicate accurate information. It is being put together with assistance from the CFA.

Although the process has been somewhat slow-moving, it is expected that, in addition to providing a communications plan, it will be a means of raising awareness about what to expect and how to minimise fire-related risk in the local area .

**Enquiries to James Scott – 5965 2575**

Upper Steels Creek (North of Old Kinglake Road)

Upper Steels Creek is also establishing telephone tree communications links. Two distinct branches have been identified covering 16 and 12 households 'up the creek.'

**Enquiries to Georgina 5965 2040**

## **Only 107 Pages and Only Yarra River to Hunts Lane ...**

Melbourne Water's Fluvial Geomorphology of Steels Creek is a must read if you are interested in 'how the creek works', there is a lot of interesting material in this one. Bedtime reading for all geomorphologists, geologists, hydrologists and others interested in whether the creek is good bad or indifferent.

Quiries: Dave Allan 5965 2556

[www.abc.net.au/science/scribblygum](http://www.abc.net.au/science/scribblygum)

A very cool website for looking at things natural; I was looking at the article on mistletoe - there being so much of it in the eucalypts along Steels Creek Road these days. Finding answers to things you always wondered about is really easy, and there are links to more detailed information as well. Thought it might be nice to let people know about it.

Thanks Rob

## **Steels Creek Stitches / Cancer Biggest Afternoon Tea**

PLEASE NOTE: Change of date...no longer a Tuesday, but now Thursday 15th June  
Change of venue...Uniting Church Hall, Yarra Glen.

Pam Verhoeven 5965 2274

## **Clean Up Australia Day – 5 March 2006 - Steels Creek Road Gets the Treatment**

About twenty-five willing pairs of hands from Steels Creek Community and Yarra Glen Tree Group started work as the early cloud cover started to lift along Steels Creek Road.

Small groups spread out along the road, generally working south from Mt Slide Road, eventually meeting up with Yarra Glen Tree Group who had worked northward from the southern end. Items collected along the road tended to be more 'rural' at the northern end (bits of fencing wire, old timbers, parts of old farm machinery) and more 'urban' at the southern end (packaging, drink containers and plastic bags). The most unusual find for the day was the head of a snake (not quite sure if the body is still out there looking for it...!)



There was the usual good representation of longer-term residents helping out, along with some very new ones as well. The youngest helper on the day was just three and a half years old, while the oldest was – well, quite a bit older than that!

Overall, there was not as much rubbish to pick up as was the case last year. We were then able to finish with a relaxed sausage-sizzle afterwards at SC4, thanks to the Tennis Club.

Thank you to all who helped out on the day!

Contact David Allan 5965 2556

## **YG & District Living & Learning Centre – Places going FAST – Sign up NOW**

Belly Dance, Walking & Talking, Meditation, Stretch & Strength, Tai Chi, Yoga, Ukulele, Winter Warmers, DIY Travel, Jewellery Making, Bonsai, Fibre Crafts, Patchwork and Quilting; just to name a few ..... <http://www.yarraglen.com/livingandlearning/> Contact: Helen Mann 9730 2887 9730 1283

## **Values and Visions Celebration Day 30<sup>th</sup> April**

This community project is now nearly finished. A final report is being written and will be launched by Councillor Jeanette McRae on Sunday April 30 at the Memorial Hall in Yarra Glen. This will be a Community Celebration Day (11.30 am and 2.30 pm) and will include the election of a representative Township Group. Lunch and entertainment will be provided. All residents from the 3775 postal district are invited to be there. Newsletter No 3 will be circulated during the first week of April and it will include details of the Community Day and a nomination form for the Township Group. This project is breaking new ground in community participation and we all should consider nominating for the new Township Group.

[www.yarraglen.com/future/](http://www.yarraglen.com/future/)

## The Handshake of History – Reach out and be Touched ....

60 !

*The Jolly Thing* is five years old ... at least we have had sixty issues packed with issues, stories, news and views. Thank you to all supporters, contributors and readers. The amazing growth in participation means the paper 'writes itself' with little significant work from the scribe. AND, people do actually read the rag; amazing what comments one hears from some quarters about obscure and pertinent issues aired here. Keep it coming !!!

Chris Mullen, editor

December 7, 1992

**Bronwyn Dahlstrom** speaks out about the closure of the school in Steels Creek From "The Express,"

YG&DHS Newsletter # 19

Is packed with action from fox hunting to **Hargreaves** family history – all very compelling stuff of interest to equestrians and those curious about street names.

Contact Eric Tetlow 9730 1445

### CRIME WAVE AT STEELS CREEK

Spencer Burgess was charged with stealing from the dwelling of Chas. Edwards, a labourer, residing at Steels Creek. It appears that the prosecutor and his wife left their residence on the 21<sup>st</sup> March for a visit to Coranderrk, where the former had been working. They returned home on the 26<sup>th</sup> March, where they found that the house had been entered, and two boxes of wearing apparel, valued at 9 pounds, had been abstracted.

The missing boxes were found empty on the same day among some ferns near the house.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> April the prisoner was met by a constable wearing some of Mr. Edward's underclothing, and a quantity of the stolen property was found in his hut about a mile distant from Edwards's house. Prisoner on being arrested admitted having taken the property, and said a man named Robert Sutton was with him at the time and took a portion of the proceeds of the robbery. Sutton's place was searched, but none of the stolen property was found in it. The prisoner was found guilty, and sentenced to 18 months imprisonment with hard labour.

ARGUS" 3<sup>RD</sup> May 1876

### MOVIES

14 April

**NO FILM** – See you at the **Grand Easter Exhibition** !

28 April

Good news for serial lovers: 12 Episodes of **Zorro's Fighting Legion** (1939) begin. ([web link](#) for info)

**UNION PACIFIC**\*\* 1939, 133m, d C.B. deMille, Barbara Stanwyck, Joel McCrea, Robert Preston, Anthony Quinn; Indians and others cause problems for the railroad builders. " A socko spectacular, excitement is the dominant emotion ... altogether wonderful." ([web link](#) for more info)

12 May

**FUNNY FACE**\*\* 1956, 103m, George and Ira Gershwin; Fred Astaire and Audrey Hepburn; a fashion editor and photographer choose a shy bookstore attendant as their 'quality woman.' ([web link](#) for more info)

26 May

**MURDER AT THE GALLOP**\* 1963, 81m, w Agatha Christie; Margaret Rutherford, Robert Morley; Miss Marple investigates when an old man is apparently frightened to death by a cat. ([web link](#) for more info)

## **STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY CENTRE INC. DISCUSSION PAPER**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Steels Creek Community Centre has been utilized by the local community in its present form since 1992. The premises were secured at that time by the then SSCC secretary Rex Bean, together with other community members, when the shire purchased the property from the state government. The centre was made available to the community at no cost other than normal ongoing maintenance.

The property is controlled by an elected committee of local community members.

### **HISTORY**

The current building is the third to be constructed on the present site. The building was utilized as the Steels Creek primary school from 1870 until 1992.

The building remains the lone historical link with the Steels Creek past. The principle building, in addition to related sheds and trees, received a shire heritage overlay with state government approval in 2004.

### **CURRENT CONDITION**

Current condition of principle building, related outbuildings, water tanks, toilets, drains etc. are serviceable, but several matters will require attention in times to come. The building is lined with asbestos. Due to this fact together with general age and condition, shire has indicated no expenditure will be utilized on the property at any time in the future.

### **STEELS CREEK TENNIS CLUB**

The Steels Creek Tennis Club, for many years has had concerns regarding safety and inadequacy of suitable parking at their courts.

With this in mind, during the latter half of 2005, the shire was contacted and a meeting of relevant personnel was conducted at the courts. During this meeting, Ron Pierce, Shire Contracts Officer, Recreational Services suggested an option may be to construct a new community centre with adequate parking adjacent to tennis courts, if relevant land could be purchased.

With new aspects now introduced to discussions, a report was made to the subsequent SSCC committee meeting and a sub-committee of Albert Leckie, Malcolm Calder and John Lowe was founded.

This sub-committee has had a further follow-up meeting in recent months with Ron Pierce. Also present at that meeting was Councillor Jeanette McRae.

Cont'd. P. 11

## PROPOSED NEW FACILITY

Mr Pierce advised sub-committee members the shire only becomes involved in properties which have a multi use, *i.e.* utilized by several clubs and groups. He also advised any facility would have seating for 120, facilities for the disabled, a modern kitchen and off-street parking.

Any new facility would also be suitable for special needs such as a rest area for fire crews during an emergency situation.

## WHERE ARE WE NOW?

The shire is currently conducting a feasibility study which will include a strategic meeting relating to planning permits and the green wedge situation.

The committee will be provided with more information in due course.

**GEOFF KEETS  
PRESIDENT  
STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY CENTRE INC  
FEBRUARY 2006**

## BOOK EXCHANGE NEEDS YOUR HELP

SC4 Now has nearly 300 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

The BookeX has a wide range of materials from classics (Cervantes & Balzac), to diverse magazines (New Yorker, National Geographic) and specialty items of the usual esoteric interests of readers around Steels Creek.

Please come to the Community Centre and sift through these treasures and take them home to make room for more!

Contact: Pam Verhoven 5965 2274

## ***No Smoking In Bus Shelters ...***

The sign went up on our 'local' at the end of Steels Creek Road ... perhaps this will result in fewer bush fires? At least the air will be fresher in 'Upper' ....

## **Honey of an Idea?**

Waxing apiarily does anyone have a super hive of knowledge or curiosity about bees and beekeeping?

Contact: Christine Mullen 5965 2094

## CROSS CREEK 14

### Across

1. Dam Builder (6)
5. Electric pop group (2,2)
7. This circle's the elite (5)
8. Bells not oranges (4)
9. We like to have one overhead (4)
10. I'll, isle or ..... (5)
11. Direct family line (6)
13. A triangle has one (4)
14. He believed it or not (6)
18. Heeled over (6)
21. Palindromic time of day (4)
22. Nuts to a pie (6)
24. Taking these can be tricky (5)
25. Mathematical sign (4)
26. Dem dry bone wrist to elbow (4)
27. Art support (5)
28. Best not go round this (4)
29. ".....as lovely as you" (6)

### Down

1. Depressed about north and south? (7)
2. A safety one may be needed (5)
3. One of three in the "Green Rushes" (5)
4. Tom Jones sings of such love (7)
5. Outstanding debts (7)
6. Bishop's realm (7)
12. ....., ..... Cap'n (3)
15. "I you're the one I ....." (7)
16. Healthy seed (7)
17. Jewish Old German (7)
19. Floats, but only just (3)
20. No hope in sight (7)
22. Best known is the 23rd (5)
23. Hard over soft (5)

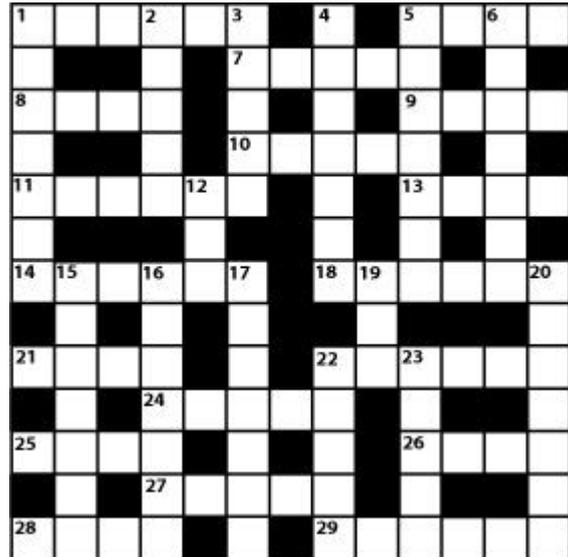
## CROSS CREEK 13 Answers

### Across

1. Verbose 2. Leech 7. Lectern 8. Three 9. Monkey 12. Overtake 15. Thematic 17. Halter 18. Carol 21. Uncanny 22. Total 23. Majesty

### Down

1. Vehement 2. Breaks 3. Even 4. Lent 5. Eternal 6. Hope 10. Youth 11. Bench 13. Eternity 14. Meerkat 16. Glance 18. Coat 19. Lull 20. Scam



## 220 Print / 125 Email / 11 Nations

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 The Community Centre Management Committee: **Geoff Keets**, President; **Alby Leckie**, Vice-president; **Keith Montell**, Treasurer; **Ed Bartosh**, Secretary, with **Greg Leonard**, **Vicky Stewart**, and **David Allan** elected as committee members. <http://www.virtual.net.au/~thejollything/>

Circulated free to letter boxes, front gate poly pipes, the post office and SC4; postal subscription is available for \$5 send or free via the internet send your details please. Editor Chris Mullen 5965 2094; Circulation: Malcolm Calder 5965 2372. [thejollything@fullandplenty.com](mailto:thejollything@fullandplenty.com)

We gratefully acknowledge **Frank Hoogenraad** (Hoogies of Yarra Glen 9730 1611) for their support of the Steels Creek Community and *The Jolly Thing*.



DEADLINE 29<sup>th</sup> May 2006 for  
the next *Jolly Thing*

For photos and club archives

<http://www.virtual.net.au/~thejollything/>