



STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY NOTES - NO 63 (October-November 2006) FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VALLEY

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

The Great Pumpkin Comes But Once a Year! – Page 3

THINGS TO COME ! "The Next 15 Years"– Page 6

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For a Whacking Good Time Call Rob – Page 2

Steels Creek Community Centre Annual General Meeting Report



The Annual General Meeting of the SC Community Centre was held at 7:30PM on 23 August. The Treasurer's report was presented and accepted. It is available on the web site noted above. Geoff Keets reported on the state of the Centre and its sponsored groups. He thanked the Lowes for their support of the market, Chris for the *Jolly Thing*, Greg Leonard and others for maintaining the Centre and grounds, David Allan for coordinating the Clean Up Australia Day, the Stitches for their Biggest Afternoon Tea, the Art Show Coordinators for the fine event, and the other groups for their contributions to the local community.

The Community Centre Management Committee election results were: **Malcolm Calder**, President; **Alby Leckie**, Vice-president; **Keith Montell**, Treasurer; **Ed Bartosh**, Secretary, with **Geoff Keets**, **Greg Leonard**, **Vicky Stewart**, and **David Allan** elected as committee members.

There was a long discussion about the reported move to a new Community Centre building. This project was not being pursued by the Council, but was only a discussion point during the Tennis Club's request for a safe, off-street parking area. There was considerable consternation about a perceived lack of communication and faulty communication on the issue. Malcolm Calder noted that he would establish a working group to meet with the Shire staff and review alternatives, such as upgrading the current facilities to other possibilities, which would be followed by a Community Special General Meeting for open review, discussion, and possible action. (See the follow-on article, "*The next 15 Years*", page 6 in this issue.) The clubs then reported on their yearly activities.

Open Garden at the Calder's

Yarra Glen Red Cross are having an Open Garden at Jane & Malcolm Calder's place on Saturday 28th October from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Admission is \$5.00, which includes a Devonshire Tea. There will be plants for sale as well as an exhibition and sale of Botanical Art. Please come along and support this worthy cause.

More information - Chris Grey 9730 1673

Croquet Returns Early



Back by popular demand; Croquet at Kilravock is now a twice yearly event!

Sunday 12th November for an 11am start

BYO picnic & Grog, afternoon tea provided.

\$6 donation per person to go to the Community Centre.

Salubrious trophy awarded to the winners.

Three lawns in action, Round Robin competition, plenty of games for all.

Andrew Chapman 0412 280 773

Arm Chair Travellers

During September we followed in our Community Centre arm-chairs as several recent travellers showed us the photographic records of their travels and shared some of their stories. We visited Russia, China, Alaska and Canada, with brief stopovers elsewhere as well!

In response to favourable comments from our arm-chair travellers, further arm-chair visits are being planned. Destinations are likely to include Mongolia and a visit to famous steam trains in several parts of the world. Other destinations are being sought too.

If you would like to consider making a brief presentation of your own travels, contact **David Allan 5965 2556.**

Landcare

The recent Landcare Annual General Meeting emphasised that the group can provide **advice and links to possible resources and funding opportunities** for suitable projects. If you have a land degradation issue you would like to do something about, but feel it's too big for you alone, why not get in touch to discuss it further?

Contact David Allan, on 5965 2556.

Got some Weeds that need Whacking? We are planning some weed slashing / pulling activities around parts of Steels Creek Road, Old Kinglake Road and Brennan Avenue areas. We will **meet at the Steels Creek Community Centre on Sunday mornings starting on Sunday 8th October at 10.00 AM.** Bring brush cutters, gloves, and suitable hand tools. There are numerous target areas, but if you would like to add your favourite one, contact

Rob Fallon on 5965 2535.

(Related Story Page 7)



NB: Clocks move forward 1 hour 29th October

Clamberers

Our September walk to One Tree Hill was postponed due to a forecast of rain, gales, hail, lightning and freezing temperatures. However a small but intrepid group did walk part of the track before retiring in the face of the approaching elements and agreed that we should try this walk again in November.

For **October**, we will visit the **BURGAN TRACK BUSHFIRE AREA – REVISITED.** The walk date is **Sunday 29th October**, starting at **11.00 AM.** This is a different loop to the one we walked in June, with a small overlap & starting from the same point. **Meet at** the National Park gate across Burgan Track. To get there turn left off Melba Hwy into West Bridge Rd then left into Eucalyptus Rd, right into Captains Creek Rd & Burgan Track is the first on the right (but is not sign posted). For more information, please contact **Barry on 9730 1587.**

For **November**, as noted above we will again visit **One Tree Hill Reserve Bird Walk 26 November.** Meet at **10.30 AM for 11.00 AM** start, at the car park on the north side of the Eltham - Yarra Glen Road eight kilometres west of the Steels Creek Road intersection leaving Yarra Glen and approximately one kilometre west of Christmas Hill Primary School (**Melways Reference 265 B/C12**). The turn in to the car park from the Eltham - Yarra Glen Road not well signposted until you have turned in! Bring all food and drinks and clothing appropriate for anticipated weather conditions. A pair of binoculars will hopefully be worthwhile too!

Enquiries to David or Robyn – 5965 2556.

HEWI SPRING PLANT SURVEY for the rare *Pomaderris vacciniifolia*, Round-leaf *Pomaderris*

David Cameron, Senior Botanist at the Arthur Rylah Institute, will lead this local walk. David is widely acclaimed for his long-term research interests in the ecology, conservation assessment, management and monitoring of Australian rainforests.

Saturday October 14 10.00am – 3pm Meet in Coronation Park, River Street Healesville MEL REF: 270 B12

Car pooling will be encouraged as we will travel through Chum Creek to Pauls Range and Castella. Bring lunch, water, hat and walking shoes for a stroll on bushland tracks to discover our local wildflowers. HEWI: \$3.00 Visitors: \$5.00
Bookings essential: Call Maureen 5962 1224

Yarra Glen RSL to Hold Remembrance Day Service

On Saturday, 11 November 2006, we will again pause to remember those citizen soldiers who gave their lives to maintain our freedom. The Yarra Glen RSL will hold a Service starting at 10:30 AM at the Yarra Glen Cenotaph, located at the Memorial Hall on the corner of Bell and ANZAC Streets. Following the short service, individuals may place their remembrance poppies at the base of the monument. A reception will follow in the Hall.

Also, the Yarra Glen Sub-Branch will be selling remembrance poppies at the Yarra Glen IGA on Thursday mornings starting 26 October until Remembrance Day to raise funds for its activities. Every cent collected for the tokens goes directly into our Welfare Fund. If you wish more information on the events or membership in the RSL, please contact Ted Bowling or visit <http://www.yarraglen.com/RSL/>.



Contact Ted Bowling 9730 1913

Konichwa to All: It's Official! Yvette and the herd are now in Japan ...

***My Reminiscences of Yarra Glen since 1915* by Fred Sadler**

In the 21st century, Yarra Glen has a population of more than 1300, with the constant hum of motor vehicles and the frequent growl of aircraft overhead. Fred's memories take us back almost 90 years to the early 20th century when the population was less than 400, and horses were the main form of transport. He experienced our biggest flood on record, the depression years and the Second World War. This book is a valuable record of a wide range of people, places and activities that form the history of Yarra Glen.

This new publication of the YG&D Historical Society is available for \$8

contact: Helen Walker Mann 9730 1283 Email: hma60229@bigpond.net.au

Rainfall Report – Rainfall in the Steels Creek area up to 30 September 2006.

Gauge Location	August 2006 (mm)	September 2006 (mm)	YTD (mm) 2006	YTD (mm) 2005
'Newera', Brennan Avenue	47.9	54.9	Not currently available	547.5
'Blackwood Hill', Pinnacle Lane	43.4	59.0	476.8	543.4
'Yarradene Farm', Yarra Ridge	41.0	55.0	468.5	566.0

The Great Pumpkin competition comes to Steels Creek !

Open to all readers of the Jolly Thing ... sponsored by Australian Native Landscapes, prizes of \$150, \$100, \$ 50 plus your name on a perpetual trophy.

Entry fee \$ 10 which includes 3 seeds; Get in early as seed supply is limited.

Heirloom Seeds "Dill's Atlantic Giant' *Cucurbita maxima* supplied by Diggers Club will yield up to 227 kilos; sow > 18°C, harvest in approximately 120 days.

No concrete pumpkins allowed, sabotage across property lines will be investigated and is discouraged.

First and second prizes awarded for the heaviest pumpkin.

An honourable mention will also be awarded for the tastiest pumpkin (supply your own seed as Dill's Atlantic Giant is not big on flavour).

John O'Neill 5965 2224 Christine Mullen 5965 2094

October 2006						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2 Recycle Women's Group	3 Stitchers	4	5 Art Social Tennis.	6	7 Tennis Comp
8 WEED WHACKERS	9 Ladies Lunch	10 Ladies Tennis Garden Outing SSS** SINGING	11	12 Art Social Tennis.	13 Movie Bride of Frankenstein	14 Market Tennis Comp HEWI WALK
15 WEED WHACKERS History	16 Recycle	17 Ladies Tennis Book Group Stitchers SINGING	18	19 Art Social Tennis	20	21 Tennis Comp
22 WEED WHACKERS	23 Garden Club Growing Group	24 Ladies Tennis SSS** SINGING	25 Special SCCC Meeting on future plans.	26 SMB Art Social Tennis	27 Movie Merry Widow	28 Market Tennis Comp Open Garden At Calders
29 Clamberers Daylight Savings Time Starts	30 Recycle	31 Ladies Tennis SSS** SINGING				

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

3rd Tuesday - 8.00 PM 10 members – limited by library book resources. Lively discussions at SCCC.

Les Tomlins 5965 2080

CLAMBERERS

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 SCCC Market beforehand.

David and Robyn Allan 5965 2556 drallan@gotalk.net.au

FRIENDS OF YARRA FLATS BILLABONGS

Development of wetlands adjacent to Yarra Glen.

Kevin Heeley 9730 1704 kevinheeley@bigpond.com
<http://yarraflatsbillabongs.melbournewater.com.au>

GARDEN

Newsletter, Outings 2nd Tuesdays, 63 members. Fourth Monday Growing Group, 930 am at SC4 – all welcome.
10 October: Edible Garden meet 9:30 at McKenzie Reserve.

Chris Lumsden 9730 1136, Gillian Poulton 5797 8266

HEWI (Healesville Environment Watch Inc)

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

Maureen Bond 5962 1224 maub@virtual.net.au

HISTORY

The Y.G. & D.H.S. meets 2nd Sundays at 1:30 pm YG Living & Learning Centre: www.yarraglenhistorical.websyte.com.au

Mrs. Brenda Cawte 9730 1891 Eric Tetlow 9730 1445 etetlow@aplhalink.com.au

MARKET

2nd and 4th Saturdays at SCCC, 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!

Jean Lowe 5965 2294

SC3 = SC4 =SCCCC = Steels Creek Community (and Cultural) Centre, 699 Steels Creek Road

November 2006						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Women's Group	7 Ladies Tennis Stitchers Melbourne Cup SINGING	8	9 Art Social Tennis	10 Movie <i>Strangers on a Train</i>	11 Flower Show Remembrance Day
12 History Croquet	13 Recycle Ladies Lunch	14 Garden Outing Ladies Tennis SSS** SINGING	15	16 Art Social Tennis	17	18
19	20	21 Ladies Tennis Stitchers Book Group SINGING	22	23 Art Social Tennis	24 Movie <i>And Then There Were None</i>	25 Market
26 Clamberers	27 Recycle Garden Club Growing Group Social Tennis	28 Ladies Tennis SSS** SINGING	29	30 SMB Art Social Tennis		

LAND CARE GROUP

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

Jean Lowe 5965 2294, Chris Mullen 5965 2094, chris@fullandplenty.com

2nd and 4th Fridays – 6.00 PM classy food followed by classic 16mm films at SC4.

SINGING

Angie Macmillan 97301998

TUESDAY EVENINGS 7.30PM 25 WALLACE ROAD, CHRISTMAS HILLS

SMB

Gordon Brown 9730 1937

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

STITCHERS

Jane Calder 5965 2372, Christine Tomlins 5965 2080

Every Tuesday, 1.30 PM - 4.00 PM at SC4. Since 1993. 24 members, 12 regulars. Bring own work – knit, patch, embroider;**SSS – Informal "Stitchers Sit & Sew" alternate Tuesdays.

TENNIS

Albie Leckie 5965 2354, Lindy Montell 5965 2202

Since 1911. Newsletter, competitions, 100 active and social members. Mondays, 7.00 PM, Social tennis (starting in warmer weather). Tuesdays 10.00 AM, Mid-week ladies competition. Thursdays 7.00 PM, Social tennis. Saturdays 1 PM to 6 PM, Regular competitions. Ladies Lunch 2nd Monday; bring a plate to share; just a chat and a feed at the tennis club 11:00 am – 1:30 all welcome!

WOMEN'S GROUP Evening Activities and Friendship Group

Pam Verhoven 5965 2274

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

Special Thanks to the Working Bee Crew who have recently improved the SC4

THE NEXT 15 YEARS

Special Community Meeting about the future of the Steels Creek Community Centre WEDNESDAY, 25 OCTOBER, 7.30 PM.

Recently the Shire has suggested that our Community Committee work with them to develop a cooperative management agreement, clearly setting out the management responsibilities of the Shire as property owner and the Community Committee as Committee of Management.

To help our Committee with this we really need to have clear ideas as a community about the current uses of the Centre and the likely future needs.

At the recent Annual General Meeting, I suggested that we should meet at one or more special community meetings to have wide ranging discussions as to the future of the Community Centre. These discussions will be an urgent priority over the next two months.

Our Community Centre Committee will prepare some ideas and options to help focus the discussion and these will be available at the meeting. At this meeting we will ask those interested to join a Working Group with the task of working with the Shire staff to develop a future plan to be put to the community for adoption. (We already have a number of people who, at the A.G.M. expressed interest in joining this Working Group).

The previous Steels Creek Community Committee had some exploratory discussions with the Shire regarding the possibility of consolidating the two major community properties (the Community Centre and the Tennis Club) by the purchase of land adjacent to the Tennis Club. These discussions included Cr Jeanette McRae, but there were no specific proposals developed for consideration by the community or the Shire

At this first Community Meeting on October 25 we want to hear all ideas as to the type of Centre we want to have going into the future. All suggestions, comments and ideas will be welcome,

If you are unable to attend this meeting but want your ideas considered, please contact me by letter 375 Pinnacle Lane or phone 5965 2372 or e-mail acacias@bigpond.net.au

Malcolm Calder

Tennis News

Steels Creek Teams Won Three Flags last month – One Premier and Two Runners-Up

The new season starts Saturday, 7 October. We have three teams in open sections; new players are always welcome.

Social Tennis Thursday nights is a big hit... 7:15PM (\$5 charge for lights) - everyone welcome.

Monday Social Tennis anyone? If interested, see Alby or Ed. A good time for beginners and new hitters...

The annual fund raising raffle coming soon: Tickets on sale in November for the December Draw.

Steels Creek Garden Club are holding their Annual Flower Show

Saturday 11th November at the Community Centre from 9.30am to approx 3.00pm.

As well as the usual display of flowers and plants for sale we are having an exhibit of member's photos of gardens we have visited, flowers and shrubs that we admire and our own gardens.

The Tennis Club will be having a sausage sizzle and selling Devonshire Teas; the Cow Shed Pottery will be selling their wares; and the Stitches Group will show off some of their beautiful quilts.

And there is a raffle as well.

Come along and join in the fun, meet your neighbours, have a coffee and relax in the sun.

More information ring Gillian on 5797 8266

New Invasive Weed Alert!

Wild tobacco is the latest newcomer to worry Melbourne Water, the Shire and residents in the district. It's a weed that has hit all creeks and rivers around Healesville, seen easily where Chum Creek Road crosses the Watts River. If you do see it here, please contact the Steels Creek Landcare Group or the Shire. If removing it, be careful as this one is a toxic member of the nightshade family. A strong smell of diesel gives it away. Wear gloves and a dust mask. Detailed advice on identifying and removing Wild Tobacco is available on the Steels Creek Landcare website at <http://steelscreek.landcare.melbournewater.com.au>

Do you love the smell of garlic in the morning?

It's that time of year again when our roadsides are all hushed and white with...onion weed from the Mediterranean? Each year, the dreaded stuff is appearing in more and more places, but there is a way to hold it back. For small patches, removal of bulbs by hand or with a garden fork is easy in wet soil.

For larger patches, one simple approach is to mow or slash the flowers before the plant seeds. Over a few years this method is very effective. In impossible situations, spraying with glyphosate will do the job but using it near drainage lines or near native vegetation can cause problems elsewhere, so spraying on a dry windless day is important. Timing is everything. Unfortunately the schedule for Shire slashing of our roadsides tends to favour angled onion after it has seeded, so getting it while still in flower is vital.

(Reprinted with permission from *The Jolly Thing* No. 57)

MOVIES

6 PM at SC4 for classy food followed by films; with Zorro serials before the feature.

13 October **Bride of Frankenstein** ****

1935, 90m; Boris Karloff, Colin Clive, Ernest Thesiger, Elsa Lanchester

"Every scene has its own delights and they are woven together into a superb narrative which has never been surpassed." ([web link](#) for more info)

27 October **The Merry Widow****

1934, 99m; d Ernst Lubitch, m Franz Lehár; Maurice Chevalier, Jeanette MacDonald,

Edward Everett Horton, Una Merkel; A bankrupt king orders a nobleman to woo a wealthy

American widow. "Fine all around job; an entertainment natural." ([web link](#) for more info)

10 November **Strangers on a Train*****

1951, 101m; w Raymond Chandler, d Alfred Hitchcock; Farley Granger, Robert Walker, Leo G. Carroll, Marion Lorne.

A tennis star is pestered on a train by a psychotic who wants to swap murders.

"Some people are better off dead – like your wife and my father, for instance."

([web link](#) for more info)

24 November **And Then There Were None******

1945, 97m; novel Agatha Christie; Walter Huston, Barry Fitzgerald, June Duprez, Roland Young, Mischa Auer.

A classic mystery novel is here adapted and directed with the utmost care to provide playful black comedy. "Very stupid to kill the only servant in the house. Now we don't even know where to find the marmalade" ([web link](#) for more info)

Steels Creek: *a state of mind* !

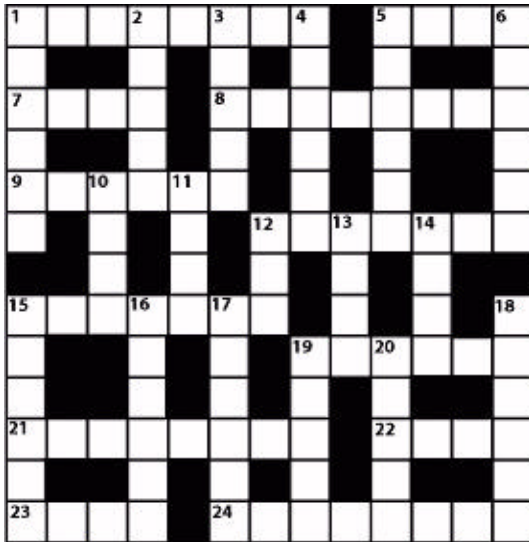
CROSS CREEK 17 © J&J Wordsmiths

Across

1. They plant & weed in Steels Creek (8)
5. Every man should have one (4)
7. A scone maker for the market (4)
8. Donna Buang's 1041m "neighbour" (3,5)
9. Hold in high regard (6)
12. Stores away, especially fabric (7)
15. Yarra Glen Easter highlight (3,4)
19. Duck shooting hide (3,3)
21. WA's trains (8)
22. All (prefix) (4)
23. Liping agreement! (4)
24. One who checks performance etc (8)

Down

1. Cubs of a lion/tiger cross (6)
2. Spaghetti should be served al(5)
3. Serves 7 across's scones (5)
4. Is this man zealous? (6)
5. May be hard to remove (6)
6. Were held in local 5 acrosses (6)
10. To express spleen (4)
11. Steels Creek had a gold one (4)
12. Chain, see, crosscut (3)
13. Against (prefix) (4)
14. Globin's bloody other half (4)
15. The A of 1st Aid's DRABC (6)
16. Tuesday meeters do this (6)
17. From doh to doh (6)
18. NZ city razed by '31 earthquake (6)
19. Local celebrity's highway (5)
20. Garlic mayonnaise (5)



CROSS CREEK 16 Answers

Across

1. Eight 7. Strawhat 8. Blame 10. Psychology
12. Saucepan 14. Sand 16. Gilt 17. Impetigo
20. Adventurer 23. Noise 24. Gardener 25. Stand

Down

1. Embers 2. Hump 3. Otic 4. Baron 5. Chromatic
6. Stayed 9. Essen 11. Sunlovers 13. AGM 15. Seven
16. Grange 18. Ostend 19. Knees 21. Used
22. Root

Sudoku (another easy one)

3				4			
	7		9	2	5	6	3
	5		7	6		4	8
2		9		4	7		
			1		8		
			2	3		9	7
6		2		5	1		7
1		4	6	7	9		3
			4				9

<http://www.websudoku.com/>

220 Print / 125 Email / 13 Nations (now in Japan and China!)

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

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

HOOGIES
OF YARRA GLEN



No worries!

DEADLINE 30th November 2006
for the next *Jolly Thing*

For photos and club archives
<http://www.virtual.net.au/~thejollything/>