

STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY NOTES - NO 85 (June-July 2010) FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VALLEY

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

Fur, Feathers And Fungi Report *Page 2*

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President's Prattle

Winter cometh! It's good weather for bonfires but pretty cold for fencing; pruning etc.

We had a really good number of Screekians at our working bee and have really cleaned up the Centre grounds. All the bushfire damage and debris has finally been removed and burnt trees removed or pruned. Well done to all those who helped on the day.

We have received a very generous donation (saving us several thousand dollars) of 34 comfortable and stackable chairs so that hopefully "numb bum" will now be a thing of the past when enjoying activities at the Centre. Thanks to those members who had suggested various avenues of sourcing chairs.

During the week we were fortunate to receive three hardwood timber picnic tables- combined benches. They will be a terrific asset for Family Days etc and make a good start to our redevelopment. Our grateful thanks go to The Rotary Club of Healesville and the Rotary Club of Bentleigh Moorabbin Central for providing these. The benches will need a coat of protective stain so volunteers who can give an hour or so to help with this would be appreciated. Building plans are progressing. Preliminary plans have been lodged with building surveyors; design consultants; and structural engineers and a Building Permit has been applied for. **Lyn Matthews**, our Architect has worked hard on these plans and many thanks go to him.

Thanks go also to **Brian Spears**, another local architect, who has drawn up concept plans for the future grounds/landscaping redevelopment. These are on display in the Centre building for interest and comment.

Committee elections are in August and this is your chance to get involved in the future of the Centre. It is not a lot of work, or too time consuming, so please consider putting your hand up to help.

In response to **Christine Mullin's** letter and photos Stephanie Alexander has written:

"After all they have been through; their smiles are a shining example of Great Spirit. What an honour for Maggie and I to have our books selected to replace 'precious recipes'".

Keith Montell

Easter Art Show.

The ninth Yarra Glen Easter Art Show this year was held in the grounds of the wonderful Alowyn Gardens, on the Melba Highway just north of Yarra Glen, and we are hoping that this will be our home for a few years to come. In one respect we revisited the past in that the show was held in a large marquee with the advantage of perfect lighting during the day, but the disadvantage of concern over interior condensation over night. We were blessed with the most perfect weather with a week of gentle sunshine and light winds. It couldn't have been better and we take it to be a good sign for the future of the show as an important part of the Yarra Valley calendar.

This year there was a new show committee lead by **Morgan Calder** and all concerned were delighted with the smooth running of the event and the quality of the exhibits. Clearly Morgan did an inspirational job and we all congratulate her on the quality and style of the event. There were over 50 volunteers and these were coordinated by **Heather Smith** who did a fantastic job in keeping everyone on the go. **Robyn Henschel** did a great job with publicity and her son **Tully** provided music for the opening. Records and finances were managed without a hitch by **Lindy and Keith Montell**. The committee worked as a coordinated group, a truly wonderful example of a community coordinated event. Jane Scott of the Tarrawarra Museum of Art and Janet Hayes were the judges this year and each commented on the high quality of the works on display.

Around 28% of the items on display were sold, with a gross income of over \$28,000, comparable with recent years. We thank the Shire and the Victorian Bushfire Recovery and Reconstruction Authority for covering the cost of the hire of the marquee.

Malcolm Calder

Food Writers Report

Salutations from the somewhat stationary food writer, now up and about after 14 long weeks.

Mothers Day saw my family group off to Sweetwater Café at Yering Station; a venue I had not visited in many years. Early arrivals were shown into the sitting room by the fireplace and offered a drink while they waited, very civilized.

We were a group of 10 ranging in age from 15 to 80 and guess what the only complaint was? The entrees were too large!

My entrée consisted of perfectly seared scallops on a lovely leek tart. I then followed up with thrice cooked pork entrée. Others chose Gruyere tart on a rocket salad, pumpkin risotto and followed with beautifully cooked halibut as a main course. The huge slices of eye fillet stopped even the really big eaters, sides of pommes frites and seasonal vegetables were delicious and well priced.

I couldn't face desert but several did, chocolate torte, lemon curd tart, hazel nut coffee cake were among the luscious fare on offer. All were consumed with much gusto. The prices ranged from \$12 for an entrée to \$36 for a prime eye fillet. The wine list started at \$32 a bottle to anywhere you like to go, but in the medium price range there was an excellent selection of local wines. Staff, were mediocre on service but the general light and airy ambiance of the establishment is delightful and a post prandial wander through the gardens is a must.

Judith Augustine

Steels Creek Garden Club

Our next outing will be to Warran Glen Nursery in Warrandyte where we will be taken on a tour of the newly refurbished nursery, have lunch and hear a talk by one of the staff on 'Soil'. This should be a most enjoyable and informative day out. Thanks, Muriel, for organising this for us. Meet 9.30am at McKenzie Reserve.

Feathers, Fur and Fungi Report.

There's so much going on in the natural world around us that we thought it would be interesting to share some of what's happening, at least at our place.

The Scarlet Robins are back for the winter, the males with their neat little white caps and vivid scarlet breasts, the female is only just coloured and often harder to see, but both sing the same delicate little silvery trill, often the first sign that they are around. So far we've not seen Flame Robins, but they will be down from the mountains soon, no doubt. Their white caps are smaller and the flame flares right up the full length of the throat.

The introduced Collared Doves seem to be becoming steadily more common, though our resident pair of Brown Falcons are doing their bit there.

Rabbits are mercifully fewer at the moment, why we have no idea, other than a ferreter friend taking out a few. They came back in huge numbers a few months after the fire, so we were quite concerned and signed up for the Shire's fumigation and warren ripping programme which is due to happen soon, as is our first planting under the Shire's Ribbons of Green programme.

Now for the fungi. Another unexplained thing is the mass of Yellow Stainer Mushrooms that have popped up all over the place, especially the roadsides around Yarra Glen. They look very similar to proper mushrooms except the young caps have straight sides instead of curved, and when you bruise or scrape them the cap goes a bright yellow. There's some debate as to their edibility, but it's generally agreed that 50% of people can eat them with no ill effects; in the others, Yellow Stainers cause violent vomiting. I'm not game to find out in which 50% I fall!! Now we have so many fewer pine trees around the district we are correspondingly seeing fewer Fly Agaric toadstools, those pretty bright red, flecked with white, highly poisonous fungi that you half expect to see an elf hiding under.

We have a colony of these spectacular but poisonous fungi growing around some Oak trees, so they are not restricted to pines. No pine trees also means no Slippery Jacks, the soft orange, dipped down in the centre, highly edible toadstools whose botanical name says it all — *Lactarius* (the sap is milky) *deliciosus*.

Do please send any thoughts you'd like include in what is currently the 3F Report, (4 will no doubt follow later with the 'flowers') either to Andrew at TJT or to us, Jane and Malcolm acacias@bigpond.net.au.

Black Saturday At Steels Creek Project

Peter Stanley of the national museum reports that his book 'Black Saturday at Steels Creek' is rolling along nicely. Though preoccupied by other Museum work lately, he has continued to collect people's stories and in February spent several days in Melbourne interviewing Steels Creek folk who live in the city. He has started writing the book and has the first 7,500 words of the first rough draft down - representing about 10% of the final book. Peter has also contributed another set of images of Steels Creek to the national Museum's 'flickr' website. 'Flickr' is a web-based way of sharing images and captions, and these images document the way the project is unfolding.

You can view the images at

http://www.flickr.com/photos/national_museum_of_australia/sets/72157623497854477/show/with/4433636385/

Peter will return to Steels Creek to record further interviews in June.

Yarra Valley Smaller Wineries Shortest Lunch

Its on again Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 June, why not rustle up a group of friends to brighten up the Shortest Day and support our local wineries, Steel Creek Estate, Yileena Park, Allinda Winery and Millers. Who knows they may even give you a locals' discount. More details www.shortestlunch.com.au

Inside – Outside Pumpkins, Pears, People & Places

A Quartet of Local Artists On Show In Collingwood

Invite you to the an exhibition of paintings by

Margaret Houston, Margaret Mcloughlin, Noel Nicolson & Sharon Rodwell

Exhibition Dates May 26 to June 12 Wednesday to Saturday 11am to 5pm.

CAMBRIDGE STUDIO GALLERY 52 Cambridge Street, Collingwood, 3066

03 9486 0169 www.cambridgestudiogallery.com.au

SC3 Film Club

Super Meal and jolly good company at 6pm. Films starts 7.30pm.

More fun; suspense and drama together with fine hot food and wine (yours).

Another couple of older classics to take us through winter. Only one screening each month so there are a couple of spaces if someone would like to run a traveller's tales or similar night.

Screening on Friday 18 June:

Guess Who's Coming To Dinner (1967)

Considered to be a masterpiece in its time, it was a huge box office success, and tells a heart-warming tale of love in the face of adversity. Sidney Poitier in one of his finest performances together with Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn. (Details from IMDB)

Screening on Friday 16 July:

Blood On The Sun (1945)

Starring James Cagney as a newspaper reporter in Tokyo before Japan entered the Second World War. The Japanese government believe he has valuable information on their plans and try to stop him sending these to the world press.

Sylvia Sidney plays the part of a beautiful secret agent sent to entrap Cagney. An excellent supporting cast and a powerful performance from Cagney. (Details from IMDB)

Steels Creek Tennis & Social Club Happenings

"Christmas in July" dinner: Contact Alby or Jean early for your place at the table. We'll have it again at Cutagee Estate at 56 Willow Bend Drive on Saturday evening, July 10. Space is limited to 50 – it was a great, cosy dinner last year there. Cost is \$25 per person for the 3-course feast.

Saturday Tennis: Saturday competitions have started up again – both teams are doing well. They are on at the courts on each Saturday afternoon at 1:30.

Thursday Morning Mum's Tennis: This new program is going really well. 9:30 am Thursdays. All welcome.

Social Tennis: Warm or cool, the tennis is always just right on Monday and Thursday night social tennis. We will be continuing our no-fee policy through to the end of the membership year, thanks to those who slaved under the marquee at Bunnings on Boxing Day. Come and enjoy the tennis and friendship. **Ed Bartosh, Secretary**

Rainfall Report - to 28 May 2010

Station	April (mm)	May (mm (to 30))	Year to Date (mm to 30 May)	Year to date in 2009 (mm)
'Blackwood Hill' Pinnacle Lane	64.3	41.9	347.3	110.3
'Kilvarock' Adams Lane	48	41	309	100.5
'Highlea' Dixons Creek	73.0	45.6	384.8	152.8
'Pencloe' Steels Creek Road	80.2	44.2	364.2	120.1

Rainfall from the Mt St Leonard Station for the month was 71.5 mm, year to date 515.2 mm, last year to date 212.6 mm.

More Arrivals

A Baby

Monday 3 May saw our newest Screekan welcomed into the world. **Kiki Eloise**, first baby for **Eva and Craig Matthews** of Harvey Rd, a very healthy 9lb girl, took a while to get here (10 days overdue and 42 hour labour), but her proud parents agree she was definitely worth waiting for.

(At this rate we may have to convert the Community Centre back into a School – Editor)

New Neighbours

A welcome to **Andrew Moate** and **Jemma Merrit** who have bought on Steels Creek Rd adjacent to John & Erin O'Neil. Also, **Tony & Dale Inverno** and their children Raine and Kai Who have moved in next to Norm and Vicki Stewart on Hunts Lane.

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 next walk had been planned for the St Andrews area on **27 June**. However, due to other engagements it will be necessary to **either swap this walk for another one, or change the date**. Further information will be forwarded to all registered Clamberers when arrangements have been finalised.

Our **July** walk is proposed to be in the **Murrindindi Falls** area on **25 July**.

Full details of the walks will be emailed to registered Clamberers beforehand. If you are not on the email list but would like to receive details of walks, please send your email contact details to Robyn Allan at rka@wideband.net.au.

Advance Notice: In August we are planning a **weekend** away to try some walks on **Phillip Island**, over the weekend of **27, 28 and 29 of August**. If you haven't done so already, don't forget to pencil this weekend in your diaries! Further details will become available later.

Robyn Allan 5988 7073 (H), 0409 139 371 (M).

From HEWI

Yarra Ranges Plantings In June

Volunteers are needed to help plant 25,000 plants on bushfire-affected properties in the Steels Creek, Dixons Creek and Chum Creek areas.

There are three areas in which you may wish to be involved:

1. Setup Assistance

We hope to have each site setup first thing in the morning so that all the volunteers (which will include individuals, corporate groups, schools etc) just have to put the plants in the ground. We will just need help with laying out the plants, stakes, guards and mats.

2. General Volunteer

Just want to plant plants? Then this option is for you.

3. Driver

Some properties may not be able to accommodate cars or buses so we may have to do a bit of people moving, picking up, catering etc in Council vehicles Perhaps you could be a driver?

Everyone will be fully catered for and any help is valuable even if it's just for a few hours. If you are interested, please contact Kelly Castelletti on k.castelletti@yarraranges.vic.gov.au or 0417 040 485.

14 - 25 June and 2 - 13 August (not including weekends)

Relocation Notice

Whilst the renovations to the Community Centre are in Progress a number of the Groups that usually meet there are now meeting elsewhere.

Stitcher s: Yarra glen Living & Learning Centre Anzac Av Yarra Glen,

Art Group: At Margaret Brewsters 11 Armstrong Gr Yarra Glen

Book Group: Meeting in Members Homes.

The Growing Group: At the Calder's

If in doubt check with the convenor

But Please Note that the Market Day and the Film Club are still being held at the Community Centre.

The Jolly Thing Delivery

1. By e-mail. If you do not already subscribe to this service, please forward your e-mail address to achapman@woodards.com.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 213 Yarra Glen, 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.virtual.net.au/~thejollything/JT/

The Grape Vine

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 email list for the *Grape Vine* so you don't miss out.
Andrew Chapman achapman@woodards.com.au

JUNE 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 Social Tennis Stitchers	2	3 Mums' Tennis Art Social Tennis	4	5 Tennis Comp
6	7 Recycle Women's Group Social Tennis	8 Social Tennis Garden Outing Stitchers	9	10 Mums' Tennis Art Social Tennis Singing	11	12 Market
13 YG&DHS	14 Social Tennis Queen's Birthday	15 Social Tennis Stitchers	16 YG Township Group	17 Mums' Tennis Art Social Tennis	18 Movie	19 FYFB Working Bee Tennis Comp
20	21 Recycle Social Tennis	22 Social Tennis Stitchers Book Group	23	24 Mums' Tennis SMB Art Social Tennis Singing	25	26 Market
27 Clamberers	28 Social Tennis Growing Group	29 Social Tennis Stitchers	30			

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

4thTuesday - 8.00 PM; 10 members – limited by library book resources. Lively discussions at SCCC. New Members welcome

Robyn Allan 0409 139 371

CLAMBERERS

Last Sunday (April 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.or see item on page 4

Robyn Allan 0409 139371 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
<http://yarraflatsbillabongs.melbournewater.com.au>

GARDEN

Newsletter, outings 2nd Tuesdays, 60 members. Fourth Monday Growing Group, 9.30 am at SC3 – all welcome.

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 hewisec@bigpond.com.

HISTORY

The Y.G. & D.H.S. meets 2nd Sundays at 1:30 pm Memorial Hall:

Mrs. Brenda Cawte 9730 1801

<http://www.yarraqlenhistorical.websyte.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!

Malcolm Calder 5965 2372

LANDCARE GROUP

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

Ivan Filsell Ph 5965 2248 or David Allan 0413 396 296

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

JULY 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 Mums' Tennis Art Social Tennis	2	3
4	5 Recycle Social Tennis Women's Group	6 Social Tennis Stitchers	7	8 Mums' Tennis Art Social Tennis Singing	9	10 Market <i>SCTC Christmas in July dinner</i>
11 YG&DHS	12 Social Tennis	13 Garden Outing Social Tennis Stitchers	14	15 Mums' Tennis Art Social Tennis	16 Movie	17 Tennis Comp FYFB Working Bee
18	19 Recycle Social Tennis	20 Social Tennis Stitchers	21 YG Township Group	22 Mums' Tennis Art Social Tennis Singing	23	24 Market Tennis Comp
25 Clamberers	26 Social Tennis Growing Group	27 Social Tennis Stitchers Book Group	28	29 Mums' Tennis SMB Art Social Tennis	30	31 Tennis Comp

HALL & EQUIPMENT HIRE

To arrange hire of the revamped Hall and/or any equipment please contact Christine Tomlin 5965 2080

MOVIES

3rd Friday – 6.00 PM classy food followed by classic movies at SCCC. March through November.

Keith Montell 5965 2202

SINGING

Is now a Ukulele group meeting at Hargreaves Hill in Bell St Yarra Glen on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month.

Angie Macmillan 97301998

SMB

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. Work shops plus, bring own work – knit, patch, embroider.

Jane Calder 5965 2372, Annette Conrad 5962 5995

TENNIS

Since 1911. Newsletter, competitions, 70 active and social members. Mondays, 7.30 PM*, (Social tennis). Tuesdays 9.00 AM - Social Tennis (contact 5965 2202). Thursdays 9.30 AM*, Mums' tennis. Thursdays 7.30 PM*, Social tennis. Saturdays 1 PM to 5 PM regular competitions. *Night tennis running strong under the new lights.

Alby Leckie 5965 2354, Ed Bartosh 9739 1879

<http://www.yarraglen.com/SCTC/>

WOMEN'S GROUP Evening Friendship Group

1st 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

YARRA GLEN TOWNSHIP GROUP

Meets the third Wednesday of the Month 6 to 8pm. All welcome

Melinda Koth 9730 2600

SCTC Christmas in July dinner – Saturday evening, 10 July – Cutagee Estate, Willow Bend Drive

Cross Creek 39

Across

5. Of learning (11)
7. Despatched from heaven? (4)
8. Chosen subject (8)
9. Musical U.S. city? (7)
11. Downright silly (5)
13. YG avenue of child & adult learning (5)
14. Actress sister of Lynne & Corinne (7)
16. A skill we all should have (8)
17. "Gunpowder, treason and ----" (4)
18. Preparation for peeling off skin (11)

Down

1. Eject (4)
2. He made jewelled Easter eggs (7)
3. One who is mean with money (5)
4. Particular case e.g. in this -----(9)
5. As in wrinkly, grey & never forgets (11)
6. Stanley's presumed doctor (11)
10. Sort & order logically (8)
12. E(a)rnest Worthing was found in one (7)
15. Popular winter Creek (5)
17. Pigeons are said to hatch as this (4)

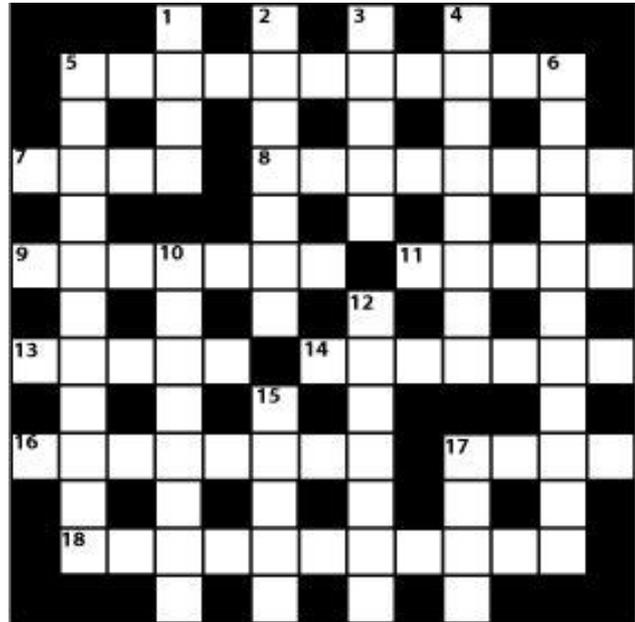
Cross Creek 38 Answers

Across

1. Helping 4. Races 7. Kissing 8. Extol
9. Stroll 12. Overcome 15. Navigate
17. Themes 18. Barge 21. Manners 22. Sheer 23 Overall .

Down

1. Huntsman 2. Strong 3. Grid 4. Anger
5. Caption 6. Soil 10. Local 11. Beret
13. Eggshell 14. Avarice 16. Dearer
18. Boss 19. Emir 20. Undo 23. Overall



200 Print / 270 Email / 13 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. Management Committee: **Keith Montell**, President; **Mike Watkins**, Vice-president; **Richard McLouglin** Treasurer; **Sandra Turnley**, Secretary, **David Allan**, **Andrew Chapman**, **John Houston**, elected as members **Jane Calder**, Garden Club and **Heather Smith**, Tennis Club

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

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We gratefully acknowledge **Frank Hoogenraad**, for the support of the Steels Creek Community and *The Jolly Thing*.

HOOGIES

O F Y A R R A G L E N



No worries!

DEADLINE 27 July 2010 for the next
Jolly Thing