



STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY NOTES - NO 112 (December 2014-January 2015) 'FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VALLEY'

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

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STEELS CREEK

COMMUNITY WEBSITE

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Have You Checked Out Our Website?

It's now just on one year since the launch of Steel Creek's new website, www.steelscreek.vic.au, so we thought it fitting to acknowledge the milestone with a reminder about this great community resource. The site was developed with money received from the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund, to help to enhance communications and support in our community.

To this end, it provides:

- access to current and archived copies of *The Jolly Thing* newsletter
- opportunities to electronically submit articles and ideas for *TJT* and the *SC Grapevine*
- opportunities to promote local businesses via the *Businesses directory*
- promotion/details of local and other events via the *What's On* page and *Calendar*
- information about the various local special-interest clubs
- a dedicated *Community Centre* page, listing contacts, resources and regular activities
- information and contacts for bushfire and other support services
- a *Pinboard* to share news/ask questions
- a *Trading Post* to help you buy/sell goods, at no cost
- a *communication portal* for our community – polls, feedback, links to people and agencies that can support or affect us.

So, if you're new to the area and don't know about it, or just haven't checked it out yet, come and visit www.steelscreek.vic.au – it's for us! If you'd like to talk about how using the web-site can help you or your interest group, why not contact the web-site manager, Eva Matthews at web.sc3775@gmail.com.

Declared Fire Danger Period in Yarra Ranges about to start

We have been advised that this summer's **Declared Fire Danger Period** for Yarra Ranges (including Steels Creek) will commence on **Monday 8th December 2014**.

For full details, visit <http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/restrictions-during-the-fire-danger-period/>

Steels Creek Tennis and Social Club Happenings

SCTC Annual General Meeting: The Steels Creek Tennis & Social Club, Inc. had its AGM on 5 October 2014. There are still two vacancies on the committee; **NEW FACES WOULD BE MOST WELCOME!** Contact Alby or Ed if you are interested in helping to steer the club.

Tennis Open Day: Come join us on **Sunday, 25 January** for an Open Day at the Tennis Club. ALL interested in tennis are invited to come by - members AND visitors. We'll have a free sausage sizzle starting at 12 noon, with kids nets, racquets and squishy balls for the little ones and other play for the older set. Try your hand at beating the radar gun or hitting the target. Give-aways for kids and adults. Join the fun and get a little exercise as well.

Social Tennis: Thursday social tennis is held from 7:30pm. Come enjoy the warm weather and get some good exercise. Level of play is -Social!. Stay afterwards for a chat and drink (BYO please). Very enjoyable and low key. Monday evening tennis will be deferred until sufficient interest is passed on to Alby.

Competition Tennis: Saturday afternoon tennis competition has started again for the summer. We have two teams covering a wide standard of play (sections 8 and 12). New players are very welcome. Contact Alby or Ed if interested.

Web site: steelscreek.vic.au/community-groups/tennis-club/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SteelsCreekTennisClub

Ed Bartosh, Secretary (ed@yarraglen.com)

Stitchers

Recently we had the pleasure of combining an 80th birthday lunch for Pat Ritchie, one of our loyal members, with presentation of our recently completed Quilt of Valour to Helen Comport, the Victorian co-ordinator of the now worldwide Quilts for Valour program.

Helen spoke very movingly of her son's injuries while he was serving in Afghanistan, and how he had been given an American-made quilt while recovering in a German hospital. She told us how this had in turn led to her becoming very much involved in the Quilts for Valour programme. I'm sure I speak for all the Stitchers when I say we feel both proud and humbled to be playing even a very small part in such a worthwhile programme.

Meanwhile we continue to knit soft cotton knockers for mastectomy patients and to run up hospital toiletry bags, We also continue to exchange all sorts of useful tips and local knowledge - who knows a good window cleaner, how do you get blood spots from a pricked finger out of a piece of sewing etc. etc.!

Jane Calder

Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly....

This year's **Christmas Carol** song-fest will be held on next **Friday, 5th December**, at SCCC.

The **BBQ** will be on **from 6.00 PM**, so bring a picnic dinner and enjoy the Community Centre surrounds. **SOME** free sausages will be available (first in, best dressed – so might be wise to BYO..) BYO drinks too.

At around **7.30 PM**, **Graham Lloyd and Tully Henchel** will lead us in a selection of **Christmas Carols – song sheets provided**. This will be followed by fruit-cake and shortbread, and maybe even a drop of something to keep us warm on a cold 'winter's' night!

The more the merrier to help raise the roof in this traditional lead-in to the Christmas Season.
More information? Contact Mike Watkins, 9730 2685.

Steels Creek Garden Club

Once again, on the 8th November we had a successful Flower Show at the Community Centre, in spite of shocking hot and windy weather and the Healesville Festival happening to be on the same date. Thank you to all members of the

Growing Group who have toiled throughout the year preparing plants for sale. They proved very popular with visitors at the Show.

We have also had three most interesting garden visits: to Annette Conrad in Long Gully, Ruth and Alan Davidson in Armstrong Grove and Loretta Child on Skyline Road.

The Garden Club and Stitchers combined for a lunch in mid-November to celebrate Pat Ritchie's 80th Birthday.

A reminder that the Garden Club Christmas lunch will be held on Tuesday 9th December at Oscar's on the Yarra. The cost is \$30 per head and Maggie is taking bookings. Kris Kringle valued between \$5 and \$10.

Next year's start of Season BBQ will be at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 10th February, at Jenny Tetlow's, 29 Henderson Road, Yarra Glen, and telephone 9730 1445.

Jenny Tetlow

Brush-Strokes at the Community Centre

Art Group 2014 Report.

This year, in addition to the usual Thursday art group, we started a Monday afternoon art class that has been really enjoyable and a challenge to participants. Each term there have been between eight and ten people interested in starting, many for the first time since primary school, but the average attendance over the year is around 5 each session and once as few as one! We have found that different people have different interests and objectives so, while botanical painting with watercolour has been the main theme running through the year, we have had a range of different ways of creating beautiful art works.



Here are some examples of the work produced by participants who said at the start of their course, "I can't draw!"



In the first term, Ivan Filsell ran a couple of sessions on linocut printing and everyone who took part was delighted with their achievements. We were all impressed.

We hope to continue these classes next year, provided there are enough starters. Details of the class will be in the next *Jolly Thing* in early February, 2015.

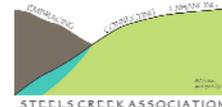
The Thursday art workshop is now well established and there are some eight regulars who work in watercolour, pastel, linocut printing and pencil/graphite. We are all artists having a bit of fun and anyone is welcome to come along.

We were very sad to lose Andrew Chapman who created such wonderful ink and wash drawings for his story of Captain JT Wilberforce. Andrew was not only a creative artist and writer, he was a strong and positive supporter of the Steels Creek Community and the Community Centre. He was an inspiration and we miss him greatly.

Sometimes, amateur artists achieve recognition for their work in art shows. This year Jenny Tetlow was awarded for her painting of the Tree Dahlia at the Mont DeLancy Art Show, and Malcolm Calder's Victoria Bluegum won best botanical painting at the "Wild Australia" exhibition in Sherbrooke.

If you are interested in coming along to either of these groups please contact Malcolm Calder at acacias@bigpond.net.au or on 5965 2372.

Malcolm Calder.



Forthcoming Wellbeing Events for Steels Creek Community

Steels Creek Association Inc. would like to thank practitioners and the community for presenting and attending classes and events organised by the Association in 2014 with funding from both VBAF and FRRR. These classes have been so successful that they will again be offered in 2015, commencing in the first week of February. More details of classes and event will be made available early in the New Year.

In the meantime, enjoy the festive season with family and friends.

Stephanie Giffard
President - Steels Creek Association Inc

Yarra Glen Art Show, 2015

2015 is the year for the next Yarra Glen Art Show, to be held in the Yarra Glen Memorial Hall over the Labour Day weekend, 6th – 9th March. There will be prizes for the works most representative of the Yarra Valley and entry donations will go to local CFA Stations.

The people and artists of Steels Creek have always been great supporters and deeply involved in this regional art show, so please keep Labour Day weekend and make the Art Show a priority on next year's calendar. And artists - get your creative juices flowing to produce great works for display and sale!

For more information contact Malcolm Calder on 5965 2372, or write to P.O. Box 396 Yarra Glen 3775, or email info@yarraglenartshow.com.au, or visit www.yarraglenartshow.com.au.

Malcolm Calder

S4Reel Film Club

We claim to provide guaranteed laughs; suspense; and drama together with fine food and good company in our Gold Class venue.

I consider, during the nine screenings over the year, that we lived up to that claim. We ended our screenings for this year on a high note in November when 30 of us enjoyed a free BBQ night made possible by the small surplus generated during the season.

More of the same next year, commencing in March. Now it is time to replenish the carbide in the lamp; polish the reels; and oil the sprockets on the projector.

Keith Montell

Community Pudding Making Fun and Games

The 22nd November once again saw the SCCC being used as a wonderful venue for the Steels Creek Community Christmas Pudding Day.

A dozen dedicated women chopped, stirred, grated and mixed the best of local ingredients to fill the Centre with the smells of cinnamon, peel, nutmeg, and sherry. They then carefully wrapped each portion into calico before submerging it into boiling water to cook for three hours. Not wanting to waste that time, we then baked a batch of fruit mince tarts and some gingerbread, then sat down with cups of tea and proceeded to solve all the world's problems. As the afternoon wore on the smells intensified, until the anticipation of Christmas day became a delight.

All up there were 25 large puddings made which are enough to give joy (and very full tummies) to up to 400 people – not a bad effort, ladies.

Angie Lloyd

JTWCCA Comes to Steels Creek!!

The *JT Wilberforce Creative Communication Award* (JTWCCA) makes its debut at the Steels Creek Carols songfest this coming Friday (5th December).

Formerly known as the *Chris Mullen Award for Literary Excellence* (CMALE), new trustees are taking the bold step of including new contribution categories, only dependant on *The Jolly Thing* being able to publish them. The joint trustees for the JTWCCA will be Judith and Alexandra Augustine, in consultation with the editor of *The Jolly Thing*. "This new approach should encourage more photos and graphic arts" says Chris Mullen, a former editor of *The Jolly Thing*, as he prepares to hand over the daunting CMALE responsibility of recognizing the creative talents of our little valley.

So be alert and (hopefully not too) alarmed as this year's final CMALE award recipient is named at the Christmas Carols, when the JTWCCA takes over! Then start planning YOUR piece of Creative Communication to submit for publication in next year's editions of *The Jolly Thing*!

The JTWCCA name recognises the significant contribution of Andrew Chapman to the Steels Creek community. Amongst other things, Andrew was a former editor of *The Jolly Thing*, and also author and illustrator of the delightful *Captain JT Wilberforce* children's books – a collection of whimsical stories he first told to his daughter, Alexandra.

We look forward to intense competition for the honour of being named a winner of the inaugural JTWCCA next year (remember, now there could be more than one!).

Volunteer Student Helpers through Landcare

The Volunteer Student Helpers Program has been operating in our area for a few years now. It involves students and teachers from local Secondary Colleges coming out to properties in the area and helping with "environmental type" activities. There are usually 10 to 12 students and two teacher supervisors.

Activities, which might be described as 'high volume low complexity', have previously included tree planting, firewood stacking, fence removal, property tidy up, weed control, mulch spreading and a whole lot more.

Basic tools, gloves and high visibility vests are supplied. Depending on the task being undertaken, property owners may need to organise appropriate tools themselves, e.g. wheelbarrows, shovels etc.

Our next groups of students will be coming in April 2015.

Recently a group of students worked on the property of Jane and Malcolm Calder and this is what Jane had to say:

"For Malcolm and I, having a group of about 10 school kids plus 2 accompanying adults working here on our property was a classical win/win situation. They were delightful, friendly and easy to get on with, and above all strong! They willingly loaded bricks and logs into the trailer, bagged mulch, moved earth, cut back blackberries and generally made themselves thoroughly useful. And even better, they obviously thoroughly enjoyed themselves."

Another group also assisted at David and Robyn Allan's property. David said:

"The work carried out by [the] volunteers included the moving of burnt timber for firewood, stacking burn-off material, preparing a base for a pathway near our house and clearing loose rocks from areas that require line-trimming. This work was carried out quickly and with a great spirit and has saved us literally months of increasingly difficult effort!"

We understand that the schools actually **need additional properties to visit**, to ensure that their programs can be run effectively. So if you could use some help in some way, please don't hesitate to let us know.

Jennifer Duncan, S.C.L.G. Volunteer Co-ordinator

Phone: 9730 1313

duncans@e-vision.com.au

Yarra Glen & District Living & Learning Centre to Celebrate

30th Birthday Celebrations

The Yarra Glen & District Living & Learning Centre has been a community provider since 1984. It was incorporated on 14 February 1985 and is a non-profit organisation run by a volunteer Committee of Management and a paid Office and Program Coordinator.

Our 30th Birthday event theme will be a 'Taster' based around activities that the Centre offers. So come along and join in the fun with various Centre taster activities such as; cooking demonstrations and tastings, NIA classes, instrumental string demonstration, along with gardening activities, artist at work and our singing group singing along with the band.

BBQ and kid's activities will be available and partners of the Centre will also be there: Yarra Glen Tennis Club, Men's Shed, CFA and Leading Senior Constable Linda Hancock (Community Crime Prevention Officer).

Date: 14 February 2015

Time: 10.00am – 2.00pm

Venue: Yarra Glen & District Living & Learning Centre
12-14 Anzac Avenue, Yarra Glen

Look forward to seeing you there!

Debra Traill – Office Co-Ordinator, Yarra Glen & District Living & Learning Centre

Phone: 9730 2887, Email: ygdllc@bigpond.com

Steels Creek Landcare Group

Any of us who live "on the land" know that there is never a quiet time, but spring is Oh - so busy! That said, we took the time out on Sunday 30th November to have an afternoon tea to celebrate and to thank Rob Fallon for the work he has done as the Northern Yarra Landcare Network facilitator over the last four years. Sadly, the position is finishing and we wish him well for his next adventure.



He leaves behind a rejuvenated Steels Creek Landcare Group and new Dixons and Chum Creek Landcare Groups. For those that haven't read the history of SCLG, Rob was one of the original group, who got together and started the local Landcare. Now living in Castella, he keeps a close connection with Steels Creek and is named on many of the pennants at the tennis club.

Other Landcare news - after a few delays we should finally have the trailer for the wood splitter by Xmas. Looking to clear up timber around your property? It would be a great time to minimize the harbour for the rabbits and get ready for a late summer pindone-baiting program. Information is available at www.steelscreeklandcare.org. While you are there, check out the other equipment available to members (fencing, spraying etc.).

A fundraiser sausage sizzle at Bunnings is booked for the 12th December and help is needed. If you can give an hour or two, please contact **Angie Lloyd 0412 343 242**.

Thank You from the Editor!

As we approach the end of 2014, it is timely to reflect on all the efforts that have made the events reported on the pages of *The Jolly Thing* possible. There are very many people who do so many special things, in the many clubs, groups and associations (see the listings on the Calendar pages), and as individuals. ALL are contributing to what makes Steels Creek a very special Place to Be. It would take a very full edition of *The Jolly Thing* to name everyone, so may I as your '*Editor who sees all!*', simply thank EVERYONE who has contributed to these pages, and to the life of our Steels Creek valley.

With best wishes for the Festive Season and the coming New Year.

David Allan - Editor

Articles Submitted by Community Members –

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 annual JTWCC Award.*

Steels Creek Writers Group

Steels Creek Community Centre now hosts a writer's group! Judy Anderson and her small writer's group meet there on Wednesday afternoons at 2.00 PM for about an hour. There are currently four members. They'd love anyone to join them - Contact Judy on 0448 037 690 [It's great to have yet another community group on board! – Ed.] Theresa wrote the following piece. Great, heh? .

Fish and Chips

Well you know Friday nights are like a big Australian tradition to have fish and chips for tea. We call dinner 'tea' here in the bush. Yeah. Let me set the scene here for you. We live in the bush 45 minutes' drive from the fish and chips shop, 45 minutes' drive home. The road is a dusty bumpy track. For most of the way you play dodge with the kangaroos. After dark and during the day they are just as bad. Can be joined by the silly emus.

Anyway, on a Friday night the hubby usually says, "How about I go get the fish and chips?"

I say, "Sure, OK "

Yep - I'd like a nice quiet night.

So off he goes.

Straight away, I start making the kids cheese on toast because I know for sure he's not going to be back for at least 24 hours. You go to town Friday night and forget the fish and chips. So anyway we have cheese on toast. And maybe next morning or afternoon he might be home. Could be even longer. That's OK. That's Friday night in the bush.

Sometimes I get a bit Jack of it and I'll say: "Oh no - wait on, I'll go. Here's a beer. You stop home with the kids and I'll go get the fish and chips." Well that means, yeah I'm going to get the fish and chips and I'll be back. It's going to take me one and a half or two hours but yeah, I will be back. I got to do it because I know he's not going to be making cheese on toast and the kids are going to be angry and hungry.

So off I go into the dark, dodging the crazy kangaroos. On the way in I hear this ad for roast chicken. I think it's KFC. Now if I wanted KFC, I got to drive for 3 hours and 3 hours back. So I think: "Oh no I can't have chicken." So I pull up at the fish and chips shop and I'm still thinking about that chicken. Anyway if I drive another 30 minutes I'm at the big supermarket and they've got the roast chicken in that thing going round and round, yet I want one of those chickens. So anyway I just get \$5 worth of chips at the fish and chip shop and I drive the extra 30 minutes and I get to the next town with the big supermarket. I get the chicken. Lash out and buy 2 chickens. Might as well have one cold the next day.

Anyway I better get going. I got an extra journey here so I get in the car and I'm driving along and oh the smell of those chickens is driving me mad. I look over at the passenger seat and there it is in that foily bag and I just think I'll get a bit of that skin off.

I'm right in the bush now on the bumpy road, lights on highest beam possible. I get the chicken and I drag it over to my lap. Rip open that tin foil bag. Oh, it's beautiful. I just rip off all the skin with my hands. I was like a mad dog just tearing away at it. I go for the leg and then next thing I've got my whole face in it, oil and grease dripping everywhere. It's just the best thing ever.

And anyway, bang. A big bang.

What have I hit? What have I hit? Bloody kangaroo?

No o o o - it's a tree. A tree! Here I am, stuck on a tree. Almost off into the river. Lucky that the tree got me or I would have been in the river you know, not watching where I'm going. I've got greasy oil all over the steering wheel from this great chicken. Anyway I reverse off. I'm in luck - the radiator's not stuffed. It's good. I can get out of here O.K.

Anyway, I start my drive home. I'm a bit frazzled. Oh, I forgot to tell you about the airbag. Yeah, I bang into this tree. Think; "What the hell?" Then 5 seconds later, 1 2 3 4 5 phssss. Big airbag comes out. Mine, the passenger's, side curtains, the works. This is going to cost a fortune just to poke those all back in those little holes.

I pull up at home. Kids must be starving by now. I call out, "I'm home", and the kids all race to the table. I open the paper around the chips and they all dig in. I plonk the chickens (or what's left of them) on a plate on the table. I say, "Here's your dinner. Don't say a word." But they are smart kids. They know not to. Who cares? I open a beer and start

to feel relaxed. So we all feed our hungry faces and don't save any for hubby who has had more than a few beers and is flaked out on the couch. Fair enough. Even the dog has a blissful look on his face after he polishes off the bones.

Next morning, I walk outside to find hubby standing by the car scratching his head. "Sorry, love," he says. "I hit a bloody big roo last night when I went to town for the fish and chips."

Going Green – Episode Six

Most people given the opportunity, travel to see the world. For Josie the world travelled to her. She would watch Eagles moving gracefully on the wind currents, talk to the Parrots who begged for food and be entertained by the antics of a mob of Kangaroos that had lived in the adjoining property forever. Josie would delight in seasonal arrivals such as the Swallows that nested outside her bedroom window and were better than any alarm clock, the Black Cockatoos breaking open Banksia cones and the Ducks that waddled with their young between dams in the Spring. The Grey Heron returned every year and stood like a sentry on a tree branch or on the edge of the dam patiently waiting. The same dams echoed with Pobble-Bonk Frogs amongst many that formed a constant background chorus.

Josie could lose time watching an Echidna waddle around the house and was amused when one scorching summer's day it raced down the rock garden and plonked itself in a shallow bowl of water, where it stayed for a good ten minutes cooling down. That same bowl becomes the local swimming pool for a myriad of birds in summer where they gather and politely take turns dipping in and out of the water. She remembers watching a Kookaburra repeatedly dive bomb a Goanna that was scaling a giant eucalyptus intent on raiding the Kookaburra's nest and once found a Feather Tailed Glider asleep on her kitchen bench, curled up in the shell of a squeezed orange. Of course there have been many uninvited guests from micro- bats occasionally setting up home in the eaves, mice who always seem to appear around Easter and find the chocolate stash, a kitten that was left in a gully that fortunately found a great home elsewhere and the pesky birds that repeatedly tap on the windows afraid that they have a rival that must be defeated. But the most memorable bird was a Lyrebird that found its reflection irresistible and spent a month parading in front of the windows where he entertained everyone with his repertoire of bird songs.

Although some may see Josie's world as very narrow, she felt as one with her surroundings and had grown to understand the bush, seasons, plants and animals. She had witnessed devastation through drought, flood and fire and seen nature return better than ever. It was a life Josie loved and was fortunate to have found. In the oft quoted film, 'The Castle', they had 'serenity'. Priceless!

Author's Note.

If you have been following Going Green throughout the year, I hope you enjoyed the ongoing story and glimpse into Josie's world. Thank you for reading.

My New Adventures_– by Mitchell (Woof!)

"Hi there" - to all of my friends in the Yarra Valley. I thought that it was time to let you all know that much to my foster mum, Keryn and dad, Neil's delight,

" I PASSED! "

Yes, on 26th August this year I graduated as a fully trained 'Seeing Eye Dog' of Vision Australia. I now live with a gentleman in Shepparton. So a rural dog went to a country town, just how I like it.

I remember well my year spent living in Yarra Glen. I remember all of the lovely people who would talk to me and help me when I was being just a little bit naughty. Sometimes, people even gave me a few treats under the table at movie night at the Steels Creek Community Centre (I never let Mum know though!).

I most fondly remember my IGA days. I loved my daily trip into town and wandering the aisles of the IGA. Oh, I can still smell that meat department, my favourite!!!

Thanks to all of you who have asked my foster mum, Keryn, how I am.
I am very happy and living the life!

Love from Mitchell

Weather Report

The dry year has continued with October rainfall 25 mm below average and November just 7 mm below. The yearly total is now 115 mm below average to the end of November.

Mean maximum temperatures for October for the Melbourne region were at least 1.6 degrees above the long-term average with Coldstream being 2.2 degrees above average.

Barry Sheffield

Rainfall – to end of November 2014

Station	October 2014 (mm)	November 2014 (mm)	Total to end of Nov 2014 (mm)	Total to end of Nov 2013 (mm)
'Blackwood Hill' Pinnacle Lane Steels Creek	54.7	56.7	605.8	764.1
'Highlea' Dixons Creek	55.8	67.8	683.6	761.8
'Wandearah' Japonica Drive Yarra Glen	52.1	61.0	590.3	608.0
'Newera' Brennan Avenue Steels Creek	62.1	58.9	583.5	623.6

Let it Rain, Let it Pour...(Meteorological Job Opportunity!!)

With the weather experts predicting a warmer and drier summer ahead, well may we wish otherwise!

But just in case it does rain (and it will – sometime!), many people find it interesting to know just how much rain we get. We currently have a small network of rain-gauge operators around the Steels Creek area and nearby, who every two months faithfully report on rainfall received at their locations for each edition of *The Jolly Thing* (see the Rainfall Table elsewhere in this edition).

However, following the sad passing of Andrew Chapman, we are currently missing a rain-gauge operator in the upper parts of the Steels Creek valley. Can we find another? *How about YOU?*

If you live somewhere around the Greenwood Lane / Harvey Road / Adams Lane / Hargreaves Road / Sewell Road area and already keep rainfall records, and would like to contribute your data to *The Jolly Thing* every two months, please contact David Allan (5965 2556, 0413 396 296, eda@wideband.net.au). David will be happy to fill you in on what is needed (it isn't very difficult!).

The Jolly Thing Delivery

1. **By free e-mail subscription.** If you do not already subscribe, please visit steelscreek.vic.au to register your details, or forward your e-mail address to eda@wideband.net.au and it will be included on the e-mail distribution list.
2. **Pick up a free copy** in the first week of the month of publication - (February; April; June; August; October; December). Available in Yarra Glen - Post Office, IGA, News Agent, selected cafes and elsewhere - also at Steels Creek Community Centre.
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 72, 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 from August 2003 are available.

The Steels Creek Grapevine

Want to be kept up to date on Local Steels Creek events and offerings? Let me know and I will put you on '[The Steels Creek Grape Vine](#)' so you don't miss out. Kathryn Carroll – Editor, E: roseklen2009@hotmail.com, M: 0411 425 425.

Go to <http://steelscreek.vic.au/publications/local-publications/>.

Steels Creek Calendar

DECEMBER 2014						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 R Pilates Group Fitness Women's Group	2 Stitchers Yoga	3 Group Personal Training	4 Tai Chi Art Social Tennis	5 Pilates SCCC Carols	6 Tennis Comp
7	8 Pilates Group Fitness	9 Stitchers Yoga Garden Club Lunch	10 Group Personal Training	11 Tai Chi Art Social Tennis	12 Pilates	13 Market Tennis Comp
14 YG&DHS (Yarra Glen)	15 R Pilates Group Fitness	16 Stitchers Yoga	17 Group Personal Training	18 Art Social Tennis SMB	19 Pilates	20 FYFB Working. Bee
21	22	23	24	25 <i>Christmas</i>	26 <i>Boxing Day</i>	27
28	29 R	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>			

'R' = *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

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

Ivan Filsell 5965 2248

CLAMBERERS

Last Sunday (March to November). Since 1993, the walking group has walked over local tracks and explored the flora and fauna of the Valley and surrounding areas. Details of walks emailed to registered recipients. *Currently in abeyance (but see SCA Walking Group)....*

David Allan 0413 396 296 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.friends.melbournewater.com.au/>

GARDEN CLUB at SCCC

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

Jill Hess 9730 1960

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 Yarra Glen & District Historical Society meets 2nd Sundays at 1:30 pm Yarra Glen Memorial Hall:

Helen Mann 9730 1875 <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!'

Angie Lloyd 0412 343 242, steelscreeklandcare@gmail.com

HALL & EQUIPMENT HIRE *(Please note changed contact person)*

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

Christine Tomlins 5965 2080

JANUARY 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3
4	5	6 Stitchers	7	8 Art Social Tennis.	9	10 Market
11 YG&DHS - (Yarra Glen).	12 R	13 Stitchers	14	15 Art Social Tennis.	16	17 FYFB Working Bee
18	19 Growing Group	20 Stitchers	21	22 Art Social Tennis	23	24 Market
25 <i>SCTC Open Day</i>	26 R <i>Australia Day</i>	27 Stitchers Book Group	28	29 SMB Art Social Tennis.	30	31 Tennis Comp

'R' = Recycle = reminder to put out your recycling bin!

MARKET

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

Malcolm Calder 5965 2372

MOVIES

2nd or 3rd Friday - March to November – 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 anything in between!)

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

Gordon Brown 9730 1937

STEELS CREEK ASSOCIATION

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

Stephanie Giffard 0419 362 283

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 199 129

TAI CHI

Every Thursday in School Term time at SCCC.

Hannah Sky 5965 2211

TENNIS

Since 1911. Newsletter, competitions, 60 active and social members. Thursdays 7.30 PM* - Social tennis; Saturdays 1 to 5 PM regular competitions. *Night tennis under the lights. Website: steelscreek.vic.au/community-groups/tennis-club.

Alby Leckie 5965 2354, Ed Bartosh 9739 1879

SCA WALKING GROUP

SCA is now running walks.

WOMEN'S GROUP - Evening Friendship Group

1st Monday, 7.00 PM. Come for company, conversation, food and coffee. You'll be made most welcome for a pleasant evening of food and chat. Note: For current venue location, contact Lindy (5965 2202), or Christine (5965 2080).

Lindy Montell 5965 2202

Cross Creek 65

Across

1. Popular TV guy, McManus (4)
3. Science of animals (7)
8. Showy flower/show-off person (8)
9. Flower part that matures to the fruit (5)
10. We redheads may get called this (5)
11. "Anto Remember" (6)
13. Way beyond the usual (13)
16. "In Flanders the poppies grow" (6)
18. Make up on the spot (2, 3)
21. Grand Mogul governor (5)
22. Copy (7)
23. Science of religion (8) \
24. Keeps a collar on on a breeding farm? (4)

Down

1. Your telephone may give such a message (8)
2. A dark brown fox is usually this (5)
3. Safe passage for a stripy animal? (13)
4. Down, up switch positions (2, 3)
5. Small, oval musical wind instrument (7)
6. This up & down toy is not currently 'in' (4)
7. Very popular model of Holden (6)
12. Pumpernickel (8)
14. Finger protection when sewing (7)
15. Sloping font from Italy? (6)
17. These laws may be a constraint (5)
19. When is it leaned and when is it? (5)
20. Buzzy little bloodsucker (4)

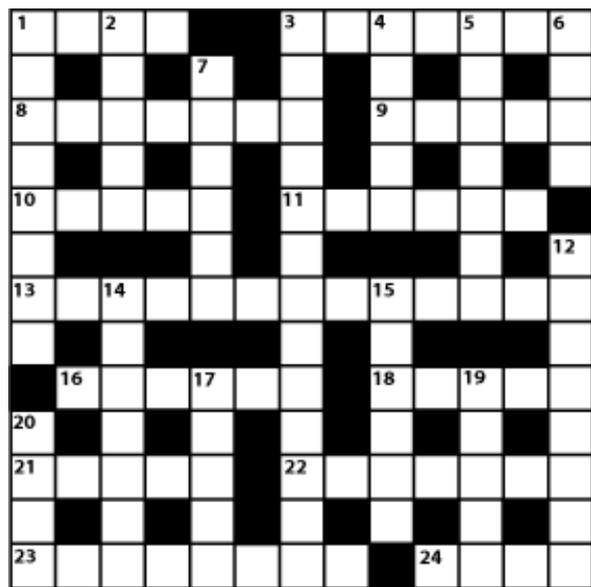
Cross Creek 64 Answers

Across

1. Fathom 5. Cape 7. Elegy 8. Room 9. Corm
10. Offal 11. Holden 13. Isis 14. Record
18. Engine 21. Grit 22. Staple 24. Organ
25. Loop 26. Iota 27. Upend 28. Hens
29. Eaglet

Down

1. Further 2. Humid 3. Melons 4. Perfume
5. Cycling 6. Portion 12. Ear 15. Earlobe
19. Nut 20. Elegant 22. Snide 23. Aging



200 Print / 270 Email / 13 Nations

"The Jolly Thing" is published by and for the Steels Creek Community Centre Inc. (SCCC), 699 Steels Creek Road, Steels Creek. Postal address: PO Box 291, Yarra Glen, Victoria 3775.

Management Committee: **David Allan** - President; **Mike Watkins** - Vice-president, **Keith Montell** - Treasurer; **Christine Tomlins** - Secretary, **Geoff Townsend**, **John Brand** and **Henry Verhoeven** - elected as members; with **Jenny Tetlow** - Garden Club and **Anthea Forbes** - Art Group representative.

The Jolly Thing is distributed free at the Yarra Glen Post Office, SCCC and else-where; postal subscription is available for \$6, or free via email and the Internet. Register your details at steelscreek.vic.au or send to:

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eda@wideband.net.au

Circulation: **Malcolm Calder** 5965 2372.

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

HOOGIES

O F Y A R R A G L E N



No worries!

9730-1611

DEADLINE for the next *Jolly Thing* is
28th January 2015