STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY NOTES - NO 118 (December 2015-Janiary 2016) ***'FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VALLEY'***

http://steelscreek.vic.au/ *'TJT Extra' for current activity photos and more*

IN THIS EDITION:

Garden club round up
Carols and all things Christmas at SCCC

The Christmas season is well and truly upon us and we're all obviously extremely busy in the lead up to end-of-year festivities. Before the year does end though, I'd like to sincerely thank those who have contributed to the maintenance, upkeep and improvements on the community centre over the past year. Also to those who have enjoyed the facilities and the experiences they've shared with both old friends and new at the centre.
Finding the required time in the lives of busy volunteers is getting harder. We've had only a small group of faithfuls for the recent working bee in preparation for the flower show. A very big thank you to those people - a dedicated few who put in such considerable physical effort and a significant investment in their time!

While the centre is still in great condition, it continues to require ongoing maintenance and care. It costs around $10,000 a year for the centre just to operate as it is. With fewer people able to provide either the time or energy required for maintenance, we need to look at our options for the coming years.
The committee will be working hard next year to ensure all will be well served by a valuable and cherished resource for all the community, hopefully for all time! If you have ideas or would like to be involved, we will very much welcome your contribution. And a reminder, if you have a need for a local facility for a function or gathering for any type of event, do consider the community centre.

Enjoy every minute of either the craziness or peace of the Christmas and New Year period. Best wishes to all for 2016!

P.S. A very big thank you to Angie and Graham Lloyd along with "Tully" for organizing and running the Christmas Carol event. Angie and Graham continue to be fantastic supporters of the community, getting involved in many community events throughout the year. They're also talented individuals with broad interests and considerable expertise. We're very lucky to have their involvement!

JB

Christmas Carols at Steels creek community centre

On Friday evening 4th December at 6pm voices will be raised at the SCCC. Not in anger but to joyfully (if not always tunefully) to carol away to start our Christmas celebrations.

Bring a picnic style tea and a drink of your choice and so together (with some very fine local voices) celebrate community, Christmas and all things Steels creek.

Professionally led by Graham Lloyd and magnificently accompanied by Tully we challenge you to find a better carols

Community Christmas pudding

On a Saturday morning in November a dozen local Screekians banded together mixing fruit and adding sherry, slicing prunes and zesting lemons all in the name of the best Xmas pudding EVER!

Delicious smells of cinnamon, ginger, all spice, nutmeg and cloves overlayed the centre and in the end 18 large cloth covered puddings went home ready for unveiling on Christmas morning. This annual event is one not to be missed.

A large pudding will be shared at the SCCC carols if you would like to see what all the fuss is about

Landcare

On Sunday 29th November 21 Landcare members joined together to celebrate all things social and Landcare, a BBq lunch followed by a tour of aquaponics systems, wicking garden beds, tools and equipment for loan and natural bee hives formed part of a lovely social afternoon. The weather was lovely and the company even better and the desserts that had been brought to share were delicious.

Time to spray your blackberries NOW!

The Blackberry group (NYBAG) has started again for the 15-16 season, if you need to borrow spray equipment or just want some advice on how to eradicate your problem please contact Rob Fallon on 0417 471 009

Our next committee meeting is on Sunday 31st January at 5pm. It usually only lasts for an hour, is light hearted and social and we would love to see any members who would like to come along to give advice or just tell us what you would like us to do over the next year. Email steelscreeklandcare@gmail.com for details

Steels Creek Tennis and Social Club Happenings

SCTC Annual General Meeting: The Steels Creek Tennis & Social Club, Inc. had its AGM on Sunday, 4 October 2015. The club elected officers and added Kylie Schabel as the new Secretary - congratulations Kylie. The treasurer noted that the club is in excellent fiscal health. We are looking forward to a good 2016 with new members adding to the tennis experience.

Competition Tennis: Saturday afternoon tennis competition going well, with both teams in the top half of their sections. All games start by 1:15pm, but we will have a summer break during school holidays. If you are interested in playing, contact Rob Fallon (0417 471 009) for the higher ability and Alby (5965 2354) for a medium standard.

***Friday Locals Tennis*:** All sessions have been a great success. There will not be a December session, but plan on joining us at the January session right after the school term starts. Please contact Mark at 0411 111 839 or mark@independentplumbinginspections.com.au if you may be interested (for food planning purposes).

Social Tennis: Thursday social tennis is going well as the warmer weather sets in. Come, join in and get some good exercise. Level of play is – social! Stay afterwards for a chat and drink (BYO please). Very enjoyable and low key.

Ladies Social Tennis: Lindy and Joanne have been playing on Monday mornings at 9am. Contact Lindy if you'd like to join in for a bit of light fun (5965 2202).

New membership year: Just a reminder that the membership year runs July 1st though June 30th each year. Dues are payable from July 1st. Send your payments to Graham or Alby or direct deposit to the account on the membership form (available from the web site or Facebook page). If you have a court key and wish to remain an active member, no added fee is required.
Web site: steelscreek.vic.au/community-groups/tennis-club/
Facebook: www.facebook.com/SteelsCreekTennisClub

Ed Bartosh

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

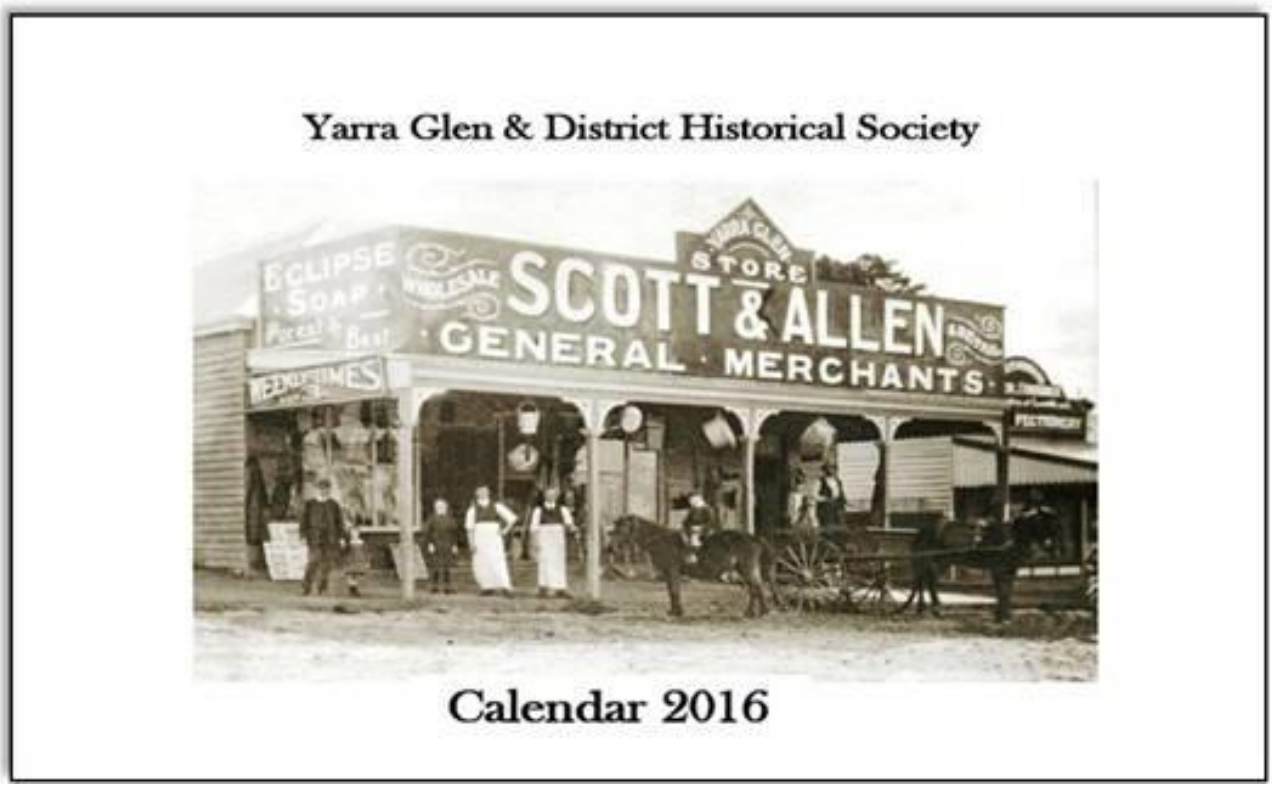
Over the past few years we, as a community, have received many unheralded acts of kindness and support. The support has often been financial; sometimes physical; and always gratefully received. Often the donors wish to remain anonymous and do not seek recognition or formal thanks.
In the past year several school groups, coordinated by Jennifer Duncan from SC Landcare group, have visited the Valley to help individual property owners with such tasks as carting and stacking firewood, weed clearance, debris removal, and landscaping work.
At the Community Centre we have been helped by students from Fairhills Secondary College to complete some landscaping and most recently students from Billanook College spent several hot hours moving soil and river rock. Their efforts are much appreciated by our old backs! The students have been willing; cheerful; fun to work with; and a credit to their schools. Teachers and themselves.

HOOGIES HELPS AGAIN

If you are reading this newsletter give a mental thank you to Peter England of Hoogies of Yarra Glen.
Peter has maintained the long standing sponsorship of our newsletter and by doing so makes it possible to produce a much valued information resource for our local community. So when you need timber or hardware; gardening tools and supplies; or rural/vineyard equipment please visit Hoogies first. The range of products may surprise you and the ever helpful staff will be happy to assist.

Yarra Glen & District Historical Society 2016 Calendar is now available

Featuring 12 stunning historic photographs of various occupations in the Yarra Glen district, including several of Steels Creek
$12.50 + postage $3.60
Contact Jill Sheffield 9730 1587
email: yarraglenhistorical@live.com.au
or come to the History Room at the Memorial Hall on Wednesdays 1.30 - 4.00pm
Great Christmas present!
Also available at the Yarra Glen Post Office, the Yarra Glen Newsagent & Yarra Valley Gifts



Yarra Glen CFA & Dixons Creek CFA

Invite you along to a Bushfire Information Session.

Where: Yarra Glen Living and Learning Centre
12 –14 Anzac Avenue, Yarra Glen
When: Saturday 12th December 2015
10.00am –1.00pm
RSVP: By Friday 4th December 2015
Yarra Glen Living & Learning Centre 9730 2887
ygdllc@bigpond.com
What: Bushfire Planning and Information Session
Talk about information that is useful in the planning for summer and bushfires.
Plan for bushfire step-by-step in a small group setting.
Tea and coffee provided.
Supported by the Yarra Glen Living and Learning Centre

Art Group

Just a reminder, the Thursday Art Group will continue to meet over the holiday period except for 24 and 31 December, Christmas and New Year's Eve. The group generally does not meet on days of Total Fire ban.

Monday Art Classes.

Monday art classes will resume on Monday 8 February; 1.30 - 4.30 pm. The aims of this group are to improve the skills of drawing and painting with watercolour. However, we do explore other aspects of art, and a primary aim is to get people started to finding their own special talent in producing beautiful art. There is an artist in every one of us.

The fee is $10 per session, plus a charge of $2 to the Steels Creek Community Centre. Tea/Coffee is included. Classes are not held on days of total fire ban. Several members of this class are continuing, and I have been contacted from others who would like to come along. We have a class limit of 10 people, so if you would like to join the class, please get in touch with me on phone 5965 2372 later in January to reserve a place. Looking forward to seeing you then.

Garden Club

The Steels Creek Flower Show held on the 7th of November was once again a great success. Perfect weather, lots of plants, produce and flower displays to look at and a steady stream of customers made the day very worthwhile. Many commented that there was a distinctly good feel to the show perhaps made more so by the wonderful variety of cakes and scones that enticed people to stay for morning or afternoon tea and catch up with friends they had not seen for a while.

The show made around $1,500 dollars, but when expenses and donations to local schools are taken out there is not a lot remaining. However, considering we are all volunteers I think we provide for a need in the community and put on a terrific show.

There are so many people should be thanked and do an incredible amount of work behind the scenes. However, two people must be acknowledged for their enormous contribution throughout the year. Jill Hess, President of the Gardening Club is a force to be reckoned with and Jane Calder is the plant guru who can make anything grow and keeps us all in awe of her amazing knowledge of plants. Thank you both for everything you do.

The Gardening Club welcomes new members, whether you want to learn about plant propagation, go on the monthly outings to visit gardens, or get involved in craft activities there is something for everyone.

Words of Wisdom
'Those who love a garden have a very special treasure for they have found their private paradise.'

Anyone who would like to visit Iris Caddy in her new home please contact Jane Calder for details, she would love to hear from anyone from this community that she loved so much.

Stitchers:

Stitchers are hoping to visit the display of Australian Quilts in Public Places currently on at Box hill Town Hall. On Wednesday 9th December we will be meeting at the exhibition at 11am. Anyone would be most welcome to join us, ring Jane 5965 2372.
Our final meeting for 2015 will be Tuesday December 15, we plan to start again on Tuesday 12 January, unless it is a total fire ban.
A safe and happy Festive Season to all. Each Tuesday 1.30 pm – 4.00 pm at SCCC

Steels Creek Association

Would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas.
Well being classes will finish on 18th December to be continued into the New Year. Details of sessions and Times will be advertised or contact the SCA for details

HOW HE WOULD COMMUNICATE IN 2015 ! ! ! Clancy@theoverflow-with apologies to A.B. ("Banjo") Paterson

I had written him a text
Which I'd sent, hoping the next
Time he came in mobile coverage
He'd have time to say hello.
But I'd heard he'd lost his iPhone,
So I emailed him from my smart phone,
Just addressed, on spec, as follows:
clancy@theoverflow
And the answer redirected
Wasn't quite what I'd expected
And it wasn't from the shearing mate
Who'd answered once before.
His ISP provider wrote it
And verbatim I will quote it:
'This account has been suspended:
You won't hear from him any more.'
In my wild erratic fancy
Visions come to me of Clancy:
Out of reach of mobile coverage
Where the Western rivers flow.
Instead of tapping on the small screen,
He'd be camping by the tall green
River gums, a pleasure
That the town folk never know.
Well, the bush has friends to meet him
But the rest of us can't greet him:
Out there, even Telstra's network
Doesn't give you any bars.
He can't blog the vision splendid
Of the sunlit plains extended
Or tweet the wondrous glory
Of the everlasting stars.
I am sitting at the keyboard,
I'm too stressed out to be bored
As I answer all the emails
By the deadlines they contain.
While my screen fills with promotions
For 'Viagra' and strange potions
And announcements of the million-dollar
Prizes I can claim.
But the looming deadlines haunt me
And their harassing senders taunt me
That they need response this evening
For tomorrow is too late!
But their texts, too quickly ended,
Often can't be comprehended
For their writers have no time to think
They have no time to wait.
And I sometimes rather fancy
That I'd like to trade with Clancy:
Just set up an email bouncer
Saying 'Sorry, had to go.'
While he faced an inbox jamming
Up with deadlines and with spamming
As he signed off every message:
clancy@theoverflow.

Steels Creek Community Centre Bookings now On-line

Ever thought about using our Community Centre for a function or event, but were not sure about checking availability, fees, booking process. It is now easy as the Steels Creek Community web-site now has an automated on-line process for that purpose.

- Open the Steels Creek Community web-site (go to www.steelscreek.vic.au).
- Select the SCCC tab.
- Scroll down the page to find, 'Do you want to book the Centre for a function/event?'
- Click on, 'Check availability and make an on-line booking enquiry here.'
- Follow prompts for information, charges and to make a booking request.

You will receive an acknowledgement of your request and further confirmation when the booking is confirmed. If you have queries, the contact person for bookings is Christine Tomlins, telephone 5965 2080

WEATHER REPORT

The dry period has continued with October being 26 mm below average & November 36 mm below. We are now 177 mm below average for the year. Of interest was a thunderstorm on the 10th October, which highlighted the variation in rainfall that can occur with these systems, where there was 20.8 mm south of Gulf Rd but only 8.2 mm at Pinnacle Lane. Temperature wise October was a remarkable month with Melbourne recording the earliest day for a temperature of 35° - that occurred on the 6th. Coldstream had the highest temperature recorded in October, 34° on the 6th & had a mean daily maximum temperature of 24.6° (3° above average). A number of stations around Melbourne had a record number of days of 30° or above.

Barry Sheffield

RAINFALL - to the end of November 2015

Station	October 2015 (mm)	November 2015 (mm)	Total to end of Nov. 2015 (mm)	Total to end of Nov. 2014 (mm)
'Blackwood Hill' Pinnacle Lane Steels Creek	51.2	46.3	558.9	605.8
Highlea' Dixons Creek	28.8	59.8	648.4	683.6
Melbourne Water Melba Hwy, Dixons Creek	44.4	36.2	508.4	574
'Wandearah' Japonica Drive Yarra Glen	50.1	33.3	528.1	590.3

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 scjollything@gmail.com** 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, roseglen2009@hotmail.com, M: 0411 425 425.

Go to http://steelscreek.vic.au/publications/the-steels-creek-grapevine/ .

Steels Creek Calendar

DECEMBER 2015						
Sun	**Mon**	**Tues**	**Wed**	**Thurs**	**Fri**	**Sat**
		1 .Stitchers. Yoga.	**2** Group Personal Training.	**310** Tai Chi. Art. Mindfulness Meditation Social Tennis	**4** Carols at the SCCC 6pm	**5** Tennis Comp.
6	**7** Women's Group	**8** Stitchers. Garden Club. Yoga.	**9** Group Personal Training.	**10** Tai Chi. Art. Mindfulness Meditation Social Tennis.	**11** Pilates.	**12** Market Tennis Comp.
13 YG&DHS (Yarra Glen).	**14 R** Mobility & Stretching. Group Fitness.	**15** Stitchers. Yoga.	**16** Group Personal Training.	**17** Tai Chi. Art. Mindfulness Meditation. Social Tennis.	**18** Pilates. School Term 4 Ends	**19** .
20	**21**	**22** . Book Group	**23**	**24**	**25** **Christmas**	**26** **Boxing Day**
27	**28 R** Boxing Day Holiday	**29** .	**30**	**31** SMB.		

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

ART Malcolm Calder 5965 2372
Thursdays 1:30 PM – 4.30 PM SCCC - Bring your paints; discuss your art and share skills.

BOOK GROUP Ivan Filsell 5965 2248
4thTuesday – 7.30 PM; 10 members – limited by library book resources. Lively discussions at SCCC. New Members welcome.

FRIENDS OF YARRA FLATS BILLABONGS Kevin Heeley 9730 1704 kevinheeley@bigpond.com
Development of wetlands adjacent to Yarra Glen.

GARDEN CLUB at SCCC Jill Hess 9730 1960
Newsletter, outings 2nd Tuesdays, 60 members. Fourth Monday Growing Group, 9.30 am at SCCC– all welcome.

HEWI (Healesville Environment Watch Inc) Maureen Bond 5962 1224 hewisec@bigpond.com.
Environmental issues at Healesville Living and Learning Centre, 1 Badger Creek Road.

HISTORY Helen Mann 9730 1875 http://www.yarraglenhistorical.websyte.com.au
The Yarra Glen & District Historical Society meets 2nd Sundays at 1:30 pm Yarra Glen Memorial Hall:

LANDCARE GROUP Angie Lloyd 0412 343 242, steelscreeklandcare@gmail.com
Ongoing projects and a great opportunity to obtain information, advice and possibly funding about tackling Landcare issues of significance to YOU! '

HALL & EQUIPMENT HIRE Christine Tomlins 5965 2080
To arrange hire of the SCCC and/or any equipment please contact.

JANUARY 2016						
Sun	**Mon**	**Tues**	**Wed**	**Thurs**	**Fri**	**Sat**
					1 **New Years Day**	**2**
3	**4** Women's Group	**5**	**6**	**7** Art Social Tennis	**8**	**9** Market
10 YG&DHS (Yarra Glen)	**11 R**	**12** Stitchers Garden Club	**13**	**14** Art Social Tennis	**15**	**16**
17	**18**	**19** Stitchers	**20**	**21** Art Social Tennis	**22**	**23** Market
24 ***SCTC Open Day***	**25 R** ***Australia Day***	**26** Stitchers Book Group	**27** School Term 1 Starts	**28** Tai Chi. Art Social Tennis SMB	**29** SCTC Locals Friday Tennis	**30**
31 **SCLG committee meeting**						

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

MARKET Malcolm Calder 5965 2372
2nd and 4th Saturdays at SCCC, 10.00 AM Sharp! Community announcements, local fresh produce, preserves, baked goods.

MOVIES Keith Montell 5965 2202
2nd or 3rd Friday - March to November – 6.00 PM classy food followed by classic movies at SCCC. March through November.

SMB (really just a coffee and a chat, football and opera and anything in between!) Gordon Brown 9730 1937
Last Thursday 10.30 AM – 11.30 AM. Men's morning tea at Anita's Yarra Glen.

STEELS CREEK ASSOCIATION Stephanie Giffard 0418 364 318
Facilitating the safety, wellbeing, sense of connectedness, healing and enhancement of the Steels Creek Community.

STITCHERS Jane Calder 5965 2372, Nola Matthews 0412 199 129
Every Tuesday, 1.30 PM - 4.00 PM at SCCC, since 1993. 24 members, 12 regulars. Workshops plus, bring own work – knit, patch, embroider.

TAI CHI
Every Thursday in School Term time at SCCC. Hannah Sky 5965 2211

TENNIS Alby Leckie 5965 2354, Ed Bartosh 9739 1879
Since 1911. Newsletter, competitions, 60 active and social members. Mondays 9am, ladies social tennis; Thursdays 7.30 PM* - Social tennis; Friday Locals Tennis - for adults and kids - 5pm last Friday of the month (Unless noted in calendar); Saturdays 1 to 5 PM regular competitions.
***Night tennis under the lights. Website:** steelscreek.vic.au/community-groups/tennis-club

WOMEN'S GROUP - Evening Friendship Group Lindy Montell 5965 2202
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).

Cross Creek 71

Across

1. Seen in the East (4)
2. Could be wax or Roman (7)
3. ..... as clockwork (7)
9. and 4 Down. The old and new of stockings (5 and 5)
10. Do these frighten the bats? (5)
11. Bass or tenor (6)
13. You can have this and eat it too (9,4)
16. Used in the acid test (6)
18. Either, I leave. (5)
21. This star has a belt (5)
22. A red-nosed ballet dancer? (7)
23. One who appreciates the radio (8)
24. A tiny island (4)

Down

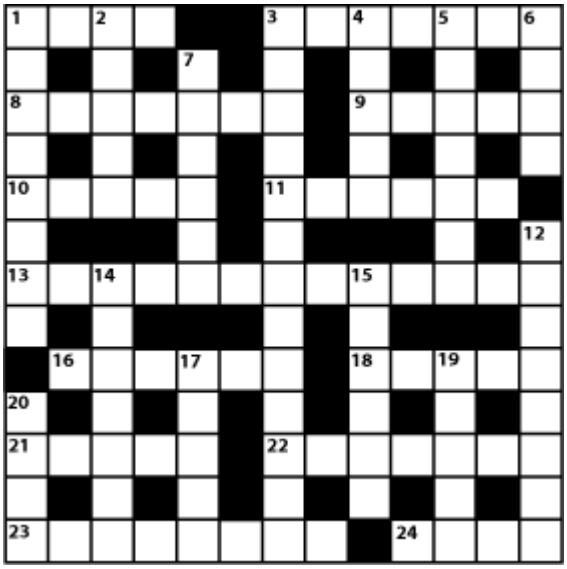
1. Hauling the Yule log could cause this (4,4)
2. Winged spirit (5)
3. Tannenbaum (9,4)
4. See 9 across (5)
5. Misplaced time (4,3)
6. Appear (4)
7. Dynamites (6)
12. Santa Claus wears one (5,3)
14. Dried grapes (7)
15. Swim wear (6)
17. Iconic seasonal pie (5)
19. This tree bears the carol's crown (5)
20. Merry Christmas (4)

Cross Creek 70
Answers

1. Yarra Glen. 8. Amass. 9. Lorne. 10. Needle. 11. Brim. 13. Food. 15. Garden. 18. Ended. 19. Ambon. 20. Promotion

Down

2. Agate. 3. Rustle. 4. Gold. 5. Error. 6. Magnified. 7. Permanent. 12. Savant. 14. Older. 16. Dubbo 17. Edam



200 Print / 270 Email / 13 Nations

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Management Committee: President – John Brand
Treasurer – Keith Montell
Secretary – Christine Tomlins
Ordinary committee members – Geoff Townsend, Mike Hardy-Downey
Art Group representative – Anthea Forbes

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Editor: **Angie Lloyd scjollything@gmail.com**
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DEADLINE for the next *Jolly Thing* is 27th January 2016