

Creswick District News

Still Priceless

Issue 316 April 2026



Photos
Adam Purcell



Creswick District News

The CDN is a community newsletter imparting local information. Copy is invited from individuals and community groups reporting or advising on local events. All contributions are accepted in good faith with no intention or desire to misinform or offend. Articles must carry the name, phone number and/or email address of the sender. The Editor reserves the right to edit or not publish any article. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the CDN Team.

The next issues of CDN

19 May 2026

23 June 2026

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The CDN is also available online at www.creswickconnect.au/for-locals/creswick-district-news



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Creswick Cemeteries News

Many thanks to the 'Pixie' who has been trimming the roses. It is much appreciated.

A big thank you to Rita and the Victoria Street Craft Group who have donated money to the Cemetery to help beautify the Children's Area. There is now a mushroom table and three stools. The letter box will be removed and repainted in a bright colour. Thank you to Peter for installing the mushrooms and for brightening up the letter box.

Remember, with the coming wetter weather, the ground gets quite soft so please stay on the roadways with vehicles.

Wendy Ohlsen, Secretary 0435 762 600



Creswick Garden Club

We're Talking Orchids

Creswick Garden Club members have been busy with a hands on workshop conducted by staff from Bunnings and an expedition to the Ferny Creek Horticultural Society Plant Collector's Expo.

In May, the Club will feature a presentation from guest speaker, Marianna Hawkins, from White Hills Orchid Nursery in Dromana. This is a family owned and run nursery specialising in the cultivation of numerous kinds of orchids. They use their own homemade potting mixes and fertilisers. Many people have heard of Cymbidium orchids but have you heard of *Bletillia*, *Cattleya*, *Stanhopea* or *Odontoglossum* orchids? Want to know more? Come along on Tuesday, 5 May at the Creswick Senior Citizens Centre and hear about these beautiful and exotic plants. Members: \$2.00 Non-members \$5.00.

Sue Parker

Creswick Rainfall

Provided by
Creswick North Primary School

	2024	2025	2026
	mm	mm	mm
January	97.0	30.5	2.6
February	4.0	46.0	56.8
March	0.0	31.5	38.5
April	66.4	19.4	
May	34.5	13.8	
June	28.5	74.4	
July	97.5	102.4	
August	41.5	82.5	
September	52.5	38.0	
October	58.5	83.8	
November	35.0	127.8	
December	18.5	38.7	
TOTAL	533.9	688.8	97.9

Creswick & District Historical Society Civic Honour Roll Dinner

Creswick & District Historical Society Inc is once again having a dinner for the Civic Honour Roll on Friday, 29 May, 2026 at 6.00pm at the Doug Lindsay Football/ Netball Club rooms. The event will honour people who have contributed to the district in an outstanding way.

If you wish to book a table (for eight people) or just tickets, please contact Marj Poole on 5345 2065 or Phyllis Wright on 5345 2514. A great chance to catch up with locals over a three course meal, \$45 per person. Drinks at bar prices.

Celebrating Long Term Volunteer Val Yates



The Creswick community is celebrating the outstanding contribution of long-term volunteer **Val Yates**, who has dedicated many years to the Creswick Visitor Information Centre. Val can't quite recall when she first began volunteering — only that it was well before the current centre was built — a testament to just how long she has been part of its story.

Over the years, Val has become a familiar and welcoming presence to countless visitors. Her generous spirit, deep knowledge of the region, and genuine enthusiasm for Creswick have helped showcase the very best of our town.

To celebrate Val's contribution, many of the Centre's volunteers gathered at The American last month to say thank you and farewell. Sadly, Val was unable to join on the day due to ill health, but her husband Barry attended on her behalf and accepted a heartfelt token of appreciation presented by the Shire.

Val's long service is a powerful reminder of the importance of volunteering in small communities. Volunteers strengthen local organisations, enrich the visitor experience, and help create the welcoming atmosphere Creswick is known for. The Creswick community extends its sincere thanks to Val for her many years of dedication.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Creswick Visitor Information Centre, we'd love to meet you — please call in and check us out.

Vale

Annie Gardiner

3/9/1945 - 18/3/2026

Letter to the editor

Gratitude

Late yesterday I was fortunate to receive an act of extraordinary kindness from a person I'd met only three hours before as we walked into the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre. I recognised immediately the thoughtfulness of this man, who could've been a son to me in age, as he stood aside for me to negotiate a difficult path outside the centre. My instinct was to be proven right not long afterwards, helped by Holly's kindness also.

On departing the Centre, having had the usual nice time in my interest group there, I discovered that my car would not start. No-one's fault but my own for squeezing the last bit of juice out of a 12-year-old battery.

I rang the RACV who said they would send a service guy, but there was I thinking the Centre will close soon, and what if I need to use the toilet! So I called Holly who said she'd help by keeping an eye out for RACV (I was parked very near) while I used the facilities.

On my return to the car, I was thrilled to see Holly was by then accompanied by the very man I'd walked into the Centre with earlier. Between them they'd worked out they could possibly rescue me (in 35 degree heat) with their own personal leads to jumpstart my car.

Not only did they do that, but they demonstrated real concern about an 81 year old waiting in the heat until RACV could arrive and check why some possibly dangerous warning lights might still be a worry.

I cannot thank you both enough. It's been a standout event in my life. And another Kreswick (my spelling) Kindness, particularly on the part of the CNC and the lovely people it attracts to its heart, such as the kind man with the leads who drove his car near mine, to breathe life into an elderly car driven by an elderly lady stuck in the open in exceptional heat.

Jan

Creswick Branch Red Cross

Thank you to all those who generously donated to Red Cross Calling when we collected outside the IGA Supermarket in March. Thanks also to the Victoria Street Ladies Craft Group for a very generous donation - meaning the branch has been able to send \$2,600 to Red Cross headquarters in Melbourne.

Marj Poole



Creswick Bowling Club

That's Just the Way Bowls Rolls!

The club's 150th Celebration Tournament, proudly sponsored by The Community Bank Creswick & District Branch was held in March. Travis Hedger, the club's Bowls Director, organised 16 teams from all over Victoria to be a part of the celebrations. After the last ends were played, there were two teams with four wins each, and the result was to be a playoff between them. Owing to the inclement weather at the end of the day, the two teams agreed to share first prize.

Congratulations to Yuvraj Miterani, Mark Fothergill, Brad Fothergill and Nat Campbell along with Cheryl Flapper, Gerry Flapper, Anthony Flapper and Alana Flapper. Jeff Unmack representing The Community Bank presented the winning prizes. The day was a great success. The volunteers made sure everyone was well fed and the club received some very positive comments on how the day was organised and how well the green performed. Many thanks to the two umpires on call, Phill Zelle and Dean Cooper.

The next major event was the Grand Final of Division 2 Weekend Division. Creswick played Buninyong at Central Wendouree on 15 March. Both teams were fired up for a win but neither team could gain an advantage. It came down to the last end on two rinks to decide the winner. Alas, it was not Creswick's moment, and the victory went to Buninyong by three shots overall. Still, an exciting game to watch with some very good displays of bowling by both teams. That's just the way Bowls Rolls!

Indoor Bowls commences next month and both ladies and men are preparing practice sessions for the upcoming season. It is hoped to field two sides in the Men's competition and there will be some rule changes to the Women's competition. As always, the club welcomes new bowlers to come along to the practice sessions and try out Indoor Bowls. Feel free to contact Bernie on 0437 102 059 and he will direct you to the relevant person in charge.

Barry Yates is to be congratulated again for conducting his annual Farmers Day Tournament, proudly sponsored and supported by Davies & Rose Creswick along with the generous donation of vouchers from Krackerjacks of Creswick. The group was treated to a lunch and afternoon tea, thanks to the wonderful group of volunteers both at the BBQ and in the kitchen. The winning team was from Daylesford and a mixed team from Webbconna were the runners-up.

Friday, 27 March was the last of the Friday Night Dinners for the summer. There will be a break during April and monthly dinners will resume from Friday, 1 May.

The club is available for private functions for up to 110 people. Details can be obtained from Bernie on 0437 102 059.

Bernie O'Malley



Smeaton Bowling Club News

Congratulations to the Saturday Division 5 and Division 6 teams for winning their Grand Finals! What a fantastic result for Smeaton Bowling Club.

March has been a very busy month for the members with successful Steak and Kidney and Ladies Tournaments, the Essantis Corporate Cup and the Tommy Tucker CFA Day (in conjunction with Smeaton RFB). All these events welcomed both new and experienced bowlers to the club and showcased its facilities.

Congratulations also to the 2025-2026 Pennant Best and Fairest Winners.

Midweek: Winston Pickering

Saturday: Denis Sanford

If anyone is interested in learning how to play bowls or joining a Pennant Team on Tuesday or Saturday, please make contact and consider joining this friendly, country club. The club's coach and many members are willing to help you participate in the

game of bowls.

Best wishes to any of the members who are heading north over the winter. We wish them safe travels and lower petrol prices. The club's synthetic green will be available for those wintering at home so none of us can be excused from a practice session now and then. Or maybe it's time to try out a new set of bowls? Thank you to all members, volunteers, supporters and sponsors who contribute in many different ways to the club. The AGM will be held at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 13 May, at the club, so get those nominations in if you wish to take on a role.

Keep an eye on the Facebook or Web page for upcoming activities too.

Contact Secretary, Russell on 0417 535 297 or smeatonbowling@gmail.com

Laraine Toose

Creswick Bowling Club



150th Celebration Tournament Joint winners.
Supplied Bernie O'Malley

Smeaton Bowling Club



Division 5 winners



Division 6 winners

Creswick Neighbourhood Centre



Things are humming along nicely at the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre thanks to the volunteers. The garden is looking beautiful and all the rooms inside buzzing with programs and groups.

After a little break over the Easter school holidays the *Food is Free* program will be back to normal from Tuesday, 21 April. For those in need of support, on Tuesdays from 10.30am, there is fresh fruit and veggies and refrigerated items at no cost thanks to Food Bank. Food is distributed out the back of the Neighbourhood Centre from 10.30 - 11.30am and anything leftover is available from the fridge and shelving out the back until it runs out. It is an honesty system so please take what you need and leave some for others. There is a lot of day-old bread from Creswick Bakery and Charlie from Café Bibo in Ballarat.

If you are in need of additional support, please make a time to see us in the office by phoning 5345 2356.

Chrissy Austin

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Margaret Fullwood – A Tribute

Margaret made her entrance into Creswick when she attended a public meeting to gauge interest in forming a Garden Club. We didn't know the impact this little lady was going to have on the community. A month later, the club was officially launched, with Margaret a member of the first committee.

Margaret had a deep love of flowers. As a young woman in the UK, she showed a talent for Floral Art and received training from the Women's Institute. She worked with them at the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show, next to the stall of the prodigious



Constance Spry, whose team was decked out in matching uniforms, in sharp contrast to the humble, down-to-earth ladies of the Women's Institute. In Creswick, she shared her knowledge of Floral Art with the Garden Club. Together, she and Anne Van Beveren travelled all over Victoria, giving demonstrations and teaching. It was a shared passion and they were highly respected for their skill.

Margaret's father, Joseph, was a professional soldier, a member of the Kings' Own Kenya African Rifles. He was stationed at Malta in 1939 and as the Second World War was accelerating, wives were evacuated back to England. And so pregnant Elizabeth Tilly Louise Fullwood returned to the mother country, settling back with her Cheal family members at Tonbridge Wells. On 26 July 1940, a daughter was born and baptised with only one given name – Margaret. Growing up in the UK during the war years was difficult but Grandpa and Grandma Cheal and other members of her mother's family were on hand. Margaret and cousins, Janice and Suzanne, were playmates and much in demand as flower girls at family weddings. Her father was posted to Kenya in 1948. In Nairobi, Margaret was enrolled at St. Mary's Convent. It must have been an anxious time for her mother, with the Mau Mau flexing their muscles and native African animals roaming round the property. The days of Kenya came to an end and it was back to England for the family.

Margaret started her working life as a librarian in London. Several jobs later, she made the decision to

come to Australia under the £10 Pom Scheme, landing in Melbourne in 1963. She was soon independent and self-reliant.

Margaret was an only child so her parents decided to follow her here. The family settled at Tecoma in the Dandenongs. Her Dad taught his daughter to drive and the trio enjoyed travelling together. Margaret also travelled widely around Australia while working for Shell Company as a librarian-archivist. Tragedy struck when her Dad dropped dead on Tecoma Station on his way to work in 1967. He was only 55 years old. Mother and daughter continued on

together, travelling often, including trips back to the UK to see family and sometimes even taking their much-loved Corgi dogs for the ride.

Margaret built a house at Balnarring on the Mornington Peninsula, which she shared with her mother, commuting daily to Melbourne. When retirement loomed for Margaret, mother and daughter bought a house in Bendigo, but somehow the Central Highlands called and in 1996 they built a pretty little cottage in Creswick.

Margaret talked of how much she loved going on archaeological digs in the UK, looking for Roman ruins. When invited to be on the Committee of Management of Creswick Museum, she jumped at the chance. So began twenty years of total dedication to the museum. Margaret was highly respected for the energy and hours of work she put into her role as secretary. Exhibitions on various themes were launched. Books detailing exhibition research were printed. People loaned family treasures, shared memories and renewed their historic connection with the town.

Post COVID, Margaret required heart surgery and returned home from Melbourne to very poor home-help support for someone alone. Her mother had passed away in 2002. Friends kept an eye on her, cousins in the UK kept in touch and a weekly afternoon spent with friends often only highlighted her absence of family.

Continued on next page

Margaret Fullwood

Continued from previous page

Margaret's health began to decline and after a fall in November 2025 and another in March, she passed away very quietly and peacefully in Ballarat Base Hospital on Sunday, 29 March 2026.

Her one dying wish was to donate a painting to the museum by her favourite artist, Percy Lindsay, in memory of the great time she had in the office there. We think that will be made possible due to the skills of museum volunteer, Geoffrey Newmarch. Margaret was nominated for the Citizen of the Year award and her UK family has agreed that, if successful, this should go on permanent display in the museum.

Sleep peacefully Margaret amid your flowers and archeological digs. Your race is well and truly run and won. Respectfully remembered by all who have worked with her in various organisations in this community.

Especially remembered by Ailsa, Anne and Val and her museum volunteer colleagues.

Margaret's UK cousins sent this tribute:

'Margaret was like an older sister and aunt to our children. When she visited the UK, we spent many happy hours visiting Tonbridge, Colchester and other places she was familiar with. One of her last visits was to attend our son's wedding where she worked tirelessly to make it a beautiful occasion and arranged the most beautiful flowers. The wedding cake was lamingtons as the bride was an Aussie and we made the lamingtons with Margaret wielding a mean ruler to make sure they were all the same size. My parents adopted Margaret's corgis when she emigrated to Australia where she continued with her love of the breed.'

Lyster Opera Reaches New Heights

As the audience left the Town Hall following a magnificent performance of *Orpheus and Eurydice*, the chatter said it all: '*magnificent*', '*a live orchestra!*', '*Lyster Opera gets better and better*', '*aren't we lucky to see first-class opera right here in Creswick*'. Yes, indeed we are.

Under the direction of Jamie Moffat (founder of Lyster Opera) the singers were outstanding – from the Furies, in all their wicked makeup, to the Mourners and Spirits – to Helen Koehne as Amour, Sarah Jane Pattichis as Eurydice and Hew Wagner as Orpheus. Hew's interpretation of *Che farò senza Euridice (I have lost my Eurydice)*, the most famous vocal aria in the opera, was deeply moving and with the addition of a full eight-piece concert orchestra the lament was profound.

The orchestra, under the musical director Pamela Christie, and Concertmaster Olga Vakoussevitch, brought another dimension to the opera and was greatly appreciated by the audience.

Director Jamie Moffat said that he sincerely hoped that all future productions would include the orchestra. '*The musicians added another dimension and I think the audience were delighted to feel the notes vibrating throughout the Town Hall. The rousing applause at the end certainly indicated that they thoroughly enjoyed the performance.*'

Lyster Opera certainly loves coming to Creswick, where the company feels welcomed by the enthusiastic audience.

The next production will be Mozart's *Don Giovanni* on **Saturday, 24 October**. Make a note in your diary – tickets sell out so quickly.

Fiona Watson



Kingston Friends of The Avenue

The guest speaker for Anzac Day this year is Ruth Ord Evans. Ruth is the great-grand niece of Sister Margaret Anderson, Royal Red Cross (RRC) (1871 - 1967) who is represented in the beautiful Avenue of Honour with Tree East 141. Our Anzac Day Service begins at 9.00am on Saturday, 25 April. Please assemble at the Cenotaph at the corner of Victoria and Kingston Roads at 8.45am. The Service concludes at 9.30am. This allows time for people to attend the Creswick Service, which assembles at 10.30am. After the Kingston Service, you are invited to the Commercial at Kingston to share a cuppa and to view the Kingston Remembers Resource Centre.

Many thanks to all those who came along to help with

the working bee – the Avenue is looking wonderful thanks to everyone's hard work. On Sunday, 8 March Julie Baulch and Wendy Dunton had the privilege of meeting Scott Whiffin and his sister Lee, visiting from Northcote. They are relatives of E. W. Whiffin, Tree East 119.

SAVE THE DATE

- 25 April 2026 – Anzac Day Service
- 9 - 10 May 2026 – Anderson's Mill Heritage Weekend
- 16 May 2026 – Creswick Market Plant Stall

Leah Armstrong

Community grants open

Do you have a project idea that you would like to bring to life?

Community Grants Program

The Community Grants Program offers up to \$5,000 to not-for-profit community groups and supports projects that improve wellbeing, social connection, and long-term sustainability. Closes **15 May 2026**.

Environmental Group Grants

For groups focused on environmental protection and awareness in the Shire. These grants support hands-on work and advocacy for ecological health. Closes **4 May 2026**.

For more information visit www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/grants



Integrated Transport Strategy adopted

Council is setting a clear path toward a safer, more connected, and sustainable transport future with the adoption of an Integrated Transport Strategy.

The strategy is a long-term strategy (looks ahead to 2050) and will guide Council decision making on local transport priorities while complementing day-to-day asset management planning.

The strategy positions Hepburn Shire to meet evolving transport needs while supporting safer travel, stronger communities, and a more sustainable future.



Tree removal

Unfortunately, the Blue Atlas Cedar (*Cedrus atlantica* 'Glauca') at the entrance to the Creswick VIC must be removed due to its deteriorating condition.

Recent storm damage has significantly compromised the tree's structure and shortened its expected lifespan. Further assessment has revealed internal decay and weakened canopy branches, reducing overall stability.

The tree will be removed in mid-April, and a suitable replacement planted as part of Council's annual Tree Planting Program in July. Notice of the removal was provided to the community via Council's online media and a notice at the site.



Want to save on fuel?

Compare prices with Servo Saver before you fill up at www.servo.vic.gov.au/app

Servo Saver is the only fuel price tool that servos must update by law.

We know people are concerned, but the advice is that Australia's fuel is secure and continues to arrive as expected. To keep up to date with the latest on fuel supply, visit www.vic.gov.au/fuel-supply

Emergency and resilience events

From how to use the VicEmergency app to getting coffee with a cop, this year's emergency and resilience events calendar is full of workshops, talks and networking opportunities to help you prepare for emergencies. Visit www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/em-events

Polystyrene recycling

Residents can recycle up to half a cubic metre (or two 240 L bins) of polystyrene per visit for free at each of our transfer stations as part of a trial running until June 2026.

Please ensure polystyrene is clean, free from tape and white.

Collected material is recycled into things such as mouldings, frames, decking and outdoor furniture.

Council Plan 2025–2029



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A leading light of CDN retires

Creswick District News volunteers, past and present, recently gathered to express their gratitude to Jo van Oostveen as she retires from the production team.

Jo was present at the public meeting in August, 1999 and the first meeting of volunteers. At the first Annual General Meeting in February, 2002, she took up the role of Assistant Secretary. Since that time, Jo has contributed in many roles - as typist in the early years, then as Advertising Manager, Secretary and Treasurer. Many times, she has filled several of these roles concurrently - from 2008 to 2013 she was Secretary and Treasurer and Public Officer!

Jo's brother, Theo, was also there at the beginning. Her daughter, Joanne, joined later and took on the task of compiling each edition to help her mum. More recently, Jo looked after annual subscriptions and became an eagle-eyed proofreader. Joanne volunteered a story, recalling her mother proofreading an article in which she herself was named. Jo missed

just one error - her own name misspelled. Other long-serving volunteers, Aileen Preston and Anne Brennan spoke warmly of their friend and shared some memories. Anne remembered Jo on her delivery rounds, '*...like a breath of fresh air, a big smile on her face and a cheery hello.*'

Some things don't change.

Thank you Jo, for your extraordinary care and commitment to *Creswick District News* and our very best wishes for the future.

From your friends and colleagues at CDN.



National Volunteer Week (18-24 May) will soon be upon us. As a community JCAC values the service provided by volunteers, enriching the lives of residents and also of staff who work alongside them. The very nature of volunteering is also changing; traditional groups in the community are always on the lookout for new recruits and volunteering has been a pathway to employment for many.

With many residents now coming in with skills and experience of their own, we also look for volunteers with specific skills. A new volunteer has brought special hospitality skills and working with a small group of residents, made sugar biscuits decorated as Easter Bunnies for all the residents to enjoy. The volunteer has been in the hospitality business for many years and we are delighted that she has come on board at JCAC. She will come in half a dozen times a year to

do special food-related activities, with the next being our *Biggest Morning Tea* in late May!

JCAC is now on the search for a volunteer librarian, essentially to look after the Large Print collection of around 600 books. The hours are very flexible and a position description is available on request. Another benefit of volunteering at JCAC is that it can dispel the fears some have for nursing homes; it is a warm and loving environment where our focus is on enriching the lives of our residents.

JCAC is registered to meet 'mutual obligation' requirements where needed.

We extend our thanks and gratitude to all volunteers across our communities. They enrich our lives.

Susan Craven

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Creswick Seniors Centre

The AGM was held in February with a strong Committee elected. Thanks to those new Committee members for coming on board. Membership remains at \$5.00 per financial year. Information is posted on the Centre Noticeboard.

Upon request, Bingo has returned to Fridays from 1.30pm - 2.30pm. Kate's Card Group meets Thursday from 2.00pm. Yoga & Sound Meditation is held every Saturday at 9.30am. Goldfields Recreation & Dance holds dancing tuition on Mondays.

The Open House Activity Day continues on the first Wednesday of each month 10.00am – 2.00pm. Feel free to call in for a chat and a cuppa. The next Social Gathering and the Luncheon will be on Friday, 24 April at midday: don't miss it! The cost of luncheon will range from \$5.00 - \$10.00 dependent upon the menu.

To find out more, contact the Centre on 03 5345 2108 and leave your details for a call back.

Judy Henderson
Secretary

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100 Years Ago

Compiled by Creswick Museum

April 2 1926

It is hardly necessary to refer again to the great influx of visitors Creswick will have tomorrow (Saturday), when the two special trains will convey a large number of picnickers from Maryborough on the occasion of the Railway Employees' picnic from that town.

April 9 1926

The Kooroocheang Methodist Church held the annual harvest festival on Sunday last. The Church was beautifully decorated with fruit, vegetables, corn in the sheaf and flowers, all gifts of the adherents and friends.

April 13 1926

A match between a team from the Rose Club from Coghill's Creek and the Creswick Church of England Club was played on the court of the latter last Saturday. An enjoyable and exciting game was won by the Rose by three games. The scores were : - The Rose, 4 sets, 38 games; C of E 4 sets, 35 games.

April 16 1926

A preliminary announcement appears in our advertising columns, relative to the commemoration of Anzac Day on Sunday 25th April. On that day the honor board in the town hall is to be unveiled. A meeting of the Fallen Soldiers' Memorial Committee will be held in the bank chambers tomorrow (Saturday) evening, at 8 o'clock.

April 20 1926

All present and intending members of the Mount Prospect branch of the National Federation are

requested to attend a meeting, to be held in the A.N.A. hall this (Tuesday) evening, at 8 o'clock. A large attendance is desired.

April 23 1926

All present and intending members of the Creswick Turf Club are requested to attend a meeting at the American hotel, next Monday evening, at 7.30 o'clock. Arrangements are to be made for the races to be held next month.

165 years ago

April 5 1861

Opening of the Creswick Flour Mill – We are happy to inform our readers that since our last Tuesday's issue the Creswick Flour Mill has been in operation. The machinery appears to answer very well.

150 years ago

April 3 1876

We regret to hear that Mrs. Fitzpatrick and family of Smeaton, are all laid up with scarlet fever. One of the children died yesterday morning after a very short illness, and another was expected to follow within a few hours.

75 years ago

April 13 1951

For the first time, Creswick golf club will have a full 18 hole golf course this year and it will be officially opened for the season on April 28. This is the culmination of a dream that has inspired the club's leaders for more than 17 years.

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0404 357 561

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Creswick Readiness Group

Building Connectivity and Digital Literacy in Our Community

Creswick Readiness Group (CRG) met with Telstra to discuss the outage experienced earlier this year. A key outcome was for Council to further investigate the development of a local Connectivity Plan, in collaboration with key partners including Telstra and Hepburn Shire. While we cannot always prevent outages, we can strengthen our ability to respond and adapt when they occur. There is currently an opportunity to build this knowledge through existing community programs. The *Tech Talk and Tea* sessions, run on Tuesdays at 2.00pm-4.00pm and facilitated through the Creswick library, provide an ideal platform to incorporate information about connectivity resilience.

Here are some simple strategies that can make a significant difference during an outage:

Use your mobile as a hotspot.

Consider a Blue Tick phone, which performs more reliably in low-signal areas.

Install a UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) to keep essential devices running for a short time during power interruptions.

Explore satellite options such as *Starlink*.

Importantly, knowing when and how to use these options is just as valuable as having them.

CRG is encouraging residents to get involved in a series of free or heavily subsidised community events. Delivered in partnership with emergency services, community organisations and local experts, the upcoming program offers something for everyone.

April kicks off with a focus on safety and awareness. On Thursday, 30 April, Crime Stoppers Victoria will deliver a *Staying Safe Online* session and free morning tea (10.00am to 12.00pm), providing practical tips to help residents protect themselves in an increasingly digital world. No minimum technical level is required and all ages are welcome.

In May, the focus shifts to community support, with the Victorian Council of Churches Emergency Ministry hosting an *Introduction to Personal Support* session from 11.00am to 2.00pm on Thursday, 7 May. Come along for a free lunch and learn how to support others during times of need. On Wednesday, 20 May, CFA Vegetation Management team members and Hepburn Shire's Biodiversity team will share CFA's landscaping and wildlife gardening guidelines, providing practical concepts that can be implemented on your own property to reduce risk before next summer's high-risk months.

A standout event in the program will take place during

National Reconciliation Week. On Thursday, 28 May, Dja Dja Wurrung people will lead a guided cultural walking tour through Argyle Springs in Hepburn Springs. This 2.8km experience offers a rare opportunity to connect with Country, hear cultural stories, and deepen your understanding of the region's rich Aboriginal history. Delivered by Djaara, the tour showcases newly upgraded facilities, cultural artefacts, artwork, and walking paths. Usually priced at \$150 per person, Hepburn Shire residents can attend for a heavily subsidised \$50. Places are limited, and bookings are essential.

Residents are invited to attend an Emergency Services Panel on Thursday, 11 June at Doug Lindsay Reserve in Creswick. The session includes a high-level overview of Victoria's emergency management arrangements, followed by agencies outlining their roles and responsibilities and what the community can expect from them during an emergency. With organisations such as CFA, Victoria Police, SES, Ambulance Victoria, DEECA, VicRoads, the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing, Emergency Management Victoria, Red Cross, Powercor, Telstra and NBN present, the Q&A provides a rare opportunity to ask questions directly.

On Thursday, 18 June, hear from international speaker, arboriculturist, and soil health advocate Matthew Daniel. Matthew is leading a world-class applied science initiative in Creswick, exploring soil health and its connection to broader environmental systems. Supported by Sustainability Victoria, the work goes well beyond what many might know as the *Creswick Compost* project. Ongoing soil studies and data collection are contributing valuable insights to government, peak bodies and advocacy groups. You'll walk away with practical knowledge you can apply at home, and a real appreciation for the scale and impact of the work happening locally.

Full event details and registrations are available at hepburn.eventbrite.com.au. If you need help registering, drop into the Creswick Hub and bring this article along for reference.

Finally, as part of broader community wellbeing initiatives, we are also compiling a list of interested participants for an upcoming two-day Mental Health First Aid course. If you would like to be involved, please reach out to Leigh Bell at leighbell1234@gmail.com to be included.

Isaac McCann



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Saint Augustine's News A Term 1 Reflection

St Augustine's Primary School has enjoyed a vibrant and highly successful conclusion to the term, with students, staff and families coming together to celebrate a period of growth, achievement and strong community connection.

A major highlight has been the completion and use of the outstanding new school buildings. These contemporary, purpose-built learning spaces have already had a significant impact on teaching and learning across the school. Designed to support collaboration, creativity and engagement, the new facilities are providing students with an environment that truly reflects the future of education. The school extends its sincere gratitude to Hon. Catherine King (MP) and the Albanese Government for their generous support and investment in the school. This commitment to education is making a lasting difference for the young people of Creswick and will continue to benefit the community for many years to come.

Throughout the term, students have demonstrated the values that sit at the heart of St Augustine's - compassion, curiosity and optimism. It has been wonderful to see students embracing their learning, supporting one another and making the most of every opportunity presented to them. Staff have also worked tirelessly to create engaging and supportive learning environments, ensuring each child feels known, valued and capable of success.

The school is also very pleased to share that the Prep intake for 2027 is now full. This is a strong endorsement of the confidence families have in St Augustine's and the education it provides. Due to continued interest, school tours are being offered to families considering enrolment in other year levels, subject to availability. Prospective families are warmly encouraged to connect with us and experience firsthand what makes St Augustine's such a special place to learn and grow.

Looking ahead to the next term, the school remains committed to fostering a positive, inclusive and high-quality learning environment for every student. At St Augustine's, we continue to live out our vision of 'every person, every opportunity', ensuring each child is supported to thrive.

*Michael Heenan
Principal*

CRESWICK AND DISTRICT REGULAR AND ONGOING EVENTS

**FORTHCOMING
EVENTS**

SEE PAGE 2

(NIL THIS MONTH)

Anglicare Emergency Food Relief –

2nd Tuesday of the month
1.00pm – 2.00pm.
All Concession cards
welcome, ring ahead on
5333 0600 to receive your
pre-packed Food Hamper.
Collection is from Creswick
Neighbourhood Centre,
Victoria St.

Anglican Parish of Springmount

St John's Church, 103 Napier
Street, Creswick
Holy Eucharist: 10.00 am 2nd
Sundays
Service of the Word: 10.00
am 4th Sundays
Contact: 0413 689 003

Ballroom Dancing Classes

Goldfields Recreation and
Dance Inc.
All levels - Mondays
\$20 per annum
Contacts: 0402 777 852 or
0427 246 278
email:
[info@goldfieldsrecreation
anddance.org](mailto:info@goldfieldsrecreationanddance.org)
web:
[Goldfieldsrecreationand
dance.org](http://Goldfieldsrecreationand
dance.org)

Catholic Parish Creswick

St Augustine's Church
Mass Sunday 9.00am
**except 1st Sunday of the
month**, Assembly of the
Word and Communion.
Contact 0488 220 685.

Clunes Hit and Giggle Pickleball

Wednesdays 1.00 pm at the
Clunes Sports Stadium. \$10
covers court hire and all
equipment.

Creswick Cloggers (tap dance)

Tuesdays 6.30pm - 8.30pm
Creswick Scout Hall, North
Parade, Creswick
Contact 0418 306 321

Creswick-Clunes Uniting Church Parish

Every Sunday -
9.30am All Welcome. 130
Albert Street Creswick (The
pretty pink church on the hill)
Supply Minister: Rev Kate
Tierney 0404 853 505 or
email
tierneycatherine53@gmail.com

Creswick Cemetery -
Gates Open 9.00am to
5.00pm. Daily

Creswick Connect Committee (previously Business & Tourism Creswick Inc)

Meet 5.30pm second
Tuesday of the month at
Leavers Hotel. Contact Tim
0490 436 264.

Creswick & District Aquatic Centre Inc. - first Wednesday

Feb. Apr. Aug. Nov 7.00pm
Phone 0434 071 185

Creswick & District Historical Society

Fourth Thursday of the
month. 2pm at the CFA in
Albert St.

Creswick & District Hospital Auxiliary

Meets at hospital last
Monday monthly 7.30pm.
No meeting in June.
New members welcome.

Creswick & District U3A -

0490 444 519 email
info@creswicku3a.com
website
www.creswicku3a.com

Creswick Folk Club

Second and fourth Friday
7.30pm, Creswick Railway
Station, Contact John Harris
0428 842 234

Creswick Garden Club -

First Tuesday every month
(except January) Seniors'
Club Rooms 1.15pm.

Creswick Havilah Lodge -

Meeting fourth Thursday
every month 7.30pm.
Bob Orr 5345 2165

Creswick Lions Club

Second Wednesday every
month. 7.00pm R.S.L. Hall
Membership Chairperson
Leigh Bell 0438 558 450
leighbell1234@gmail.com

Creswick Museum

Open Saturday between
11.00am to 3.30pm.

Calemben Parkrun

Every Saturday at 8am a 5km
run, walk or come to
volunteer! All welcome to
join this fun, free weekly
activity.
For more information email
calemben@parkrun.com.au
or find us on Facebook

Creswick Repair & Share Cafe

9.00am to 12.00pm at
Creswick Market
Third Saturday of the month.
Bring your broken things to
repair. Contact
Sam on 0490 719 296.

Creswick Market

Third Saturday every month
9.00am-1.00pm. Creswick
Neighbourhood Centre, A
happy small town market,
bookings 5345 2356
[creswicknc.org/creswick-
market](http://creswicknc.org/creswick-
market)
Email market@cnc.org.au

Creswick Probus Club

First Tuesday every month
(except January) meetings St
Andrew's Hall, 10.00am.
Inquiries email
creswickprobus@gmail.com

Creswick Seniors Centre

Social Day and Lunch is the
last Friday of the month at
noon. Lunch prices \$5 - \$10.

Welcome Wednesday Chat,
Craft & Games the first
Wednesday of the month
from 10 am - 2 pm.
Updated information on
Facebook. Contact Secretary
Judy Henderson
[creswickseniorcitizenscentre
@gmail.com](mailto:creswickseniorcitizenscentre
@gmail.com)
or via 0407 622 463

Senior Cyclists

Meets Sundays, 10:00am
Creswick Band Rotunda. All
casual cyclists welcome.

Creswick Walking Group

Tuesdays and Thursdays
8.30am. Meet Albert Studio,
cnr Ballarat Rd and South St.
All Welcome, Rain, Hail or
Shine.

Cr Tim Drylie

by appointment
Creswick Community Hub
Ph. 0427 503 258 Email:
tdrylie@hepburn.vic.gov.au

CRWA

Members Meeting - First
Sunday every month 1.00pm
after Working Bee. Railway
Workshops Precinct
Judy 5345 1374

Friends of Park Lake

Park Lake working bees
10am-noon every
Wednesday,
weather permitting.
Meet at the jetty.

Joey's, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers

Every Thursday
during school term. Enquiries
via Scouts Victoria website
scoutsvictoria.com.au

Museum Research Centre -

Open Saturdays, 11am to
3pm. Email requests to
info@creswickmuseum.org.au

Music Jam

For music lovers every Friday
7.00pm-9.00pm
Neighbourhood Centre.
Audience welcome

Parents Without Partners Weekly Dance

3rd Sunday of each month
with live band.
Invermay Hall, Muscatel
Street, Invermay.
\$12 & \$10 members. Supper
to Share please.

Social Dance.

Thursday nights at VRI Hall
Ballarat. 7.30pm – 10.00pm.
Phone 0487 222 924.

Pavilion Arts & Sustainability Inc

Enquiries:
[secretary@creswickartspavilion
.org.au](mailto:secretary@creswickartspavilion
.org.au)

RSL meeting

Last Wednesday each month
1.00pm. RSL Hall
Phil Greenbank 0490 374 006

Tiplers

Third Wednesday every
month. Monthly social
gathering of local folk at local
homes. Email:
tonycartwright@gltau.com
to join our mailing list.

Victoria Street Craft Group,

every Monday 9.30am –
12.00pm/12.30 pm at the
Creswick Bowling Club. BYO
lunch.
Contact Rita on 5345 2239 or
0407 452 232

VOGA Cycle Club Regular

group rides that may be road,
CX or MTB. Details on VOGA
Facebook page. Free club
membership via
www.vogacycleclub.com.au



It has been a wonderful Term 1 at Creswick North PS. The whole-school House Sports were held recently. Students competed in long jump, high jump, discus, shot put, sprints, relays and more, on the school oval under sunny blue skies. It was great to see so many parents there supporting, and students showing great determination and teamwork. Well done to Blue House for winning the day!

You may have noticed lots of bunting hanging up in front of the shops in the main street of Creswick, ready for *CresFest*. Creswick North students have been very busy working on them in art classes all term. The bunting is double-sided, the theme is nature and the results look great! The students have done some wonderful artwork, so make sure you get along to check it out.

The rainfall gauge for Creswick town has recently been relocated to Creswick North Primary School. The students check the daily rainfall total each morning and work out the total for the month. This data will then be sent off to the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM). It will be sent through to *Creswick District News* as well. The rainfall figures are normally situated on page two of this publication.

The school is currently open for 2026 enrolments so if anyone would like a school tour to experience this fantastic school, please call on 5345 2012.



School captains Liv and Will next to the Creswick Rainfall gauge, now located at Creswick North PS

The school also offers wonderful before and after school care, as well as Vacation Care.

Matthew Reyntjes
Principal



Creswick Capers

Some comings and goings
and a lot to look forward to

Creswick Primary School recently bid farewell to Principal Mrs Helen Romeril, who has moved to Dana St School for the year. Filling her shoes is Ms Tegan Aquilina, who brings positive energy and a love for community involvement. Students and staff alike are excited to have her on board.

All students took part in the Annual Athletics Day at Llanberris, competing with enthusiasm and team spirit. With the high jump yet to be completed, everyone is eager to see which house will claim the championship this year. Meanwhile, Years 3 and 5 students tackled NAPLAN assessments with focus and determination. Staff commend all students for their effort, resilience, and perseverance throughout the tests.

Next term promises even more excitement with the launch of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program, starting with Year 5/6 students. Pupils will grow, tend and harvest fresh produce, which will then be used in the kitchen to prepare meals or ingredients such as pesto and jams. This initiative is bound to be a



fantastic addition to the school's curriculum.

Creswick Primary School continues to thrive, fostering a strong sense of community, hands-on learning, and engaging experiences for all students. If you would like a personal tour of the school to see the wonderful things happening first hand, please contact the school on 5345 2044.

Katelyn Sutton
Classroom Teacher