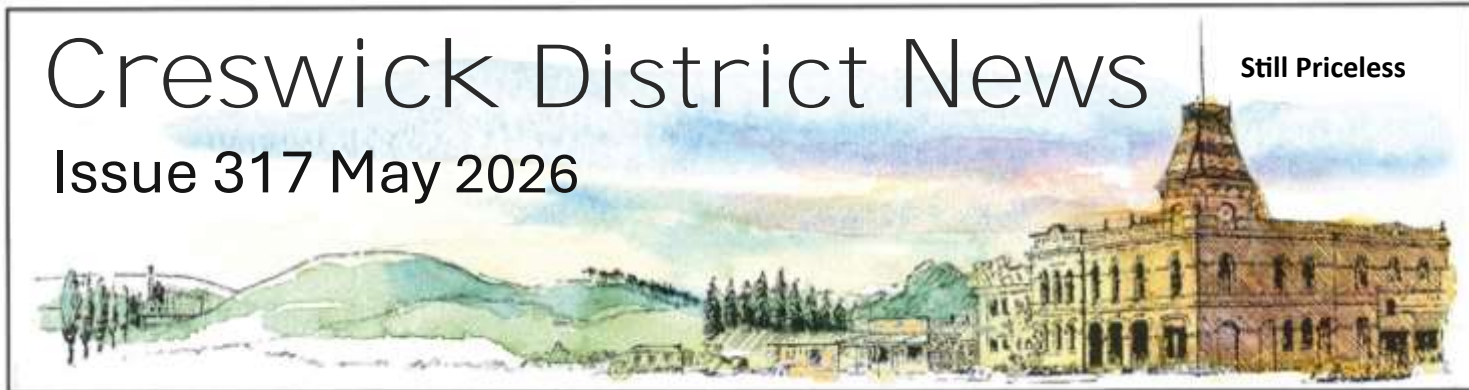


Creswick District News

Still Priceless

Issue 317 May 2026



Creswick ANZAC Day 2026



Creswick-Smeaton RSL started the day with the Dawn Service with a good attendance by the community. It was pleasing to have RSL Bugler Suzi Koene back after a three year absence, and the surprise of a lone piper who played a lament during the wreath laying with Catherine King MP and Martha Haylett MP.

Following the service, the community was invited to the Gunfire Breakfast at the Seniors Centre, served up by Ed Koene and his team. New President Blue McGuinness made a special presentation of the RSL Appreciation Shield to Alan Morris, who stepped down this year as President after six years.

During the morning, the RSL conducted two other services at the Soldiers Graves at the Cemetery and at the Memorial Stones in front of the RSL Hall for WW2, Korea and Vietnam.



Continued on page 3

What Henry Did Next...



Creswick District News published an article about Henry Brennan a year or so ago. Readers may remember the account of Henry's enthusiastic participation in a week-long drama course for selected secondary students run by Melbourne Theatre Company.

Now there is another story to tell.

Top Class Theatre Studies 2026 is presented by The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) as part of the *VCE Season of Excellence 2026*. Henry, who attended Mount Rowan Secondary College, is one of the high-scoring 2025 VCE Theatre Studies students selected to participate. This group all produced exceptional examination solos.

Performances have been held at the Melbourne Recital Centre and in a number of regional centres. The Chief Assessor acted as compere and Q and A sessions provided helpful advice to current VCE students and teachers.

Continued on page 7

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

23 June 2026

21 July 2026

Deadline for copy and advertisements
1st day of the month

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Mail: PO Box 384

Creswick 3363

The *Creswick District News* is available beyond this district at \$20 for 12 issues mailed to a destination within Australia only. Contact the CDN with recipient's details at cdn@cbl.com.au

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



CDN ADVERTISEMENTS

Black and White

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\$100 12 x 8 cm

\$125 14 x 10 cm (portrait only)

\$200 14 x 20 cm (landscape only)

\$375 20 x 28 cm (full page)

Coloured advertisements

Additional 50%



As many in the community know, John Curtin Aged Care Inc. has 19 Independent Living Units within its grounds. The management of these units is governed by the Retirement Villages Act (1986) and auspiced by Consumer Affairs Victoria.

Changes to the Act will be implemented on 1 May this year. At the time of writing, the Board has not resolved how it will affect the current residents, only that it will and that our legal team is working through this and it will be a priority for us. The detail of the changes is already accessible on the Consumer Affairs website at: www.consumer.vic.gov.au and we would encourage all members of the community considering entering into a retirement village anywhere in Victoria to read these changes.

Susan Craven

Creswick Seniors Centre

Craft Group: everyone welcome - Wed 3 June and 1 July at 10.00am.
Social Gathering and midday luncheon: Fridays 29 May, 26 June and 30 July.

Goldfields Recreation and Dance every Monday 11.00am

Yoga and Sound Bathing every Saturday 9.30am

Sue's Specialty Plants every Saturday 9.00am – 2.00pm

Bigger Hearts Dementia Alliance every Thursday at 10.30am

Check out the Creswick Seniors Centre Facebook page for more details or call Secretary Judy on 0407 622 463.

Judy Henderson

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	28.5
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	126.4

Creswick Cemeteries News

A big thank you again to the pixie for finishing pruning the roses. It is much appreciated.

A few gardens have been established in the cemetery, mainly with trees and shrubs. These gardens will give families other options for the placement of loved ones' ashes. Every tree in the cemetery is now available for ashes interments, along with the wall in the rotunda, the rose garden and in gravesites.

Wendy Ohlsen, Secretary

0435 762 600

Creswick ANZAC Day 2026

Continued from page 1

A large crowd watched the march, supporting the RSL and its members, the scouts as flag bearers, Creswick Brass Band, school groups and other organisations taking part. This year members of the German Shepherd Dog Club of Victoria – Ballarat Branch, representing the Animals of War, were special guests.

At the ANZAC Service, as is our tradition, we remembered a name from the WW1 Crosses with Roger Stanton - a Military Medal recipient.

By 12:30pm, everyone was waiting on the first coin toss for 2Up. Fine weather for the day saw the event held outdoors. With sandbags and ammunition boxes laying around, the scene was set for a good afternoon with the cries of 'Come in Spinner'.

At the conclusion of 2Up, a special RSL Appreciation Shield was presented to Michael Clark for his service to Creswick-Smeaton RSL, having held the role of President, Secretary and other positions at the same time, keeping the Sub-Branch going.

The RSL would like to thank the community for its generous support to the ANZAC Appeal raising just over \$10,500 for the Veterans Welfare Fund.

A special thank-you to the regular ladies who make the wreaths and this year they brought along some friends. They all worked around the meeting tables with a record 18 seats being occupied. A two-day job completed in one. Well done. Overall, community groups purchased and laid 41 wreaths.

Creswick-Smeaton RSL would like to thank the Creswick Brass Band and our RSL Bugler Suzi Koene, Ed Koene and team for the Gunfire Breakfast, German Shepherd Dog Club of Victoria - Ballarat Branch, Creswick Scouts as flag bearers, and for assisting the clean up after the Gunfire Breakfast, Creswick Seniors for their hall, Creswick Red Cross for serving the afternoon refreshments, Creswick Police, Hepburn Shire and gardeners, RACV Goldfields Resort for the golf cart, Creswick, Creswick North, St. Augustine's, Newlyn and Mt Blowhard Primary Schools for the poetry readings, and finally to Creswick and district community for its ongoing support for ANZAC Day and the RSL.

Phil Greenbank, Secretary
Creswick-Smeaton RSL



Creswick Brass Band

The Creswick Brass Band (CBB) has continued its busy start to the year. March saw the CBB marching in the parade for the *Ballan Autumn Festival*, closely followed by playing at *Clunes Booktown* whilst readers browsed the offerings of stallholders. In April, CBB had several performances across Cresfest music festival. The band was fortunate to play with Archer for Cresfest at the Creswick Town Hall, which demonstrated the versatility of brass band music and its ability to work with different genres. CBB was asked to participate in Creswick's ANZAC parade and service, which is always a privilege for the band. Following ANZAC Day, CBB played at the Ballarat Marathon, starting the 10km run to help motivate runners and entertain the watching crowd.

CBB will also be playing at the *Heritage Festival* in Ballarat in May. Currently, the band is working hard on pieces for the Bendigo Eisteddfod on 31 May, when they will compete in the C Grade brass band section. The band was fortunate to have Ken McDonald, a renowned musical director and adjudicator, take a rehearsal to help prepare for the upcoming competition. His knowledge and expertise were on show as he fine-tuned the band and provided constructive feedback.

In April, the band welcomed new players to the learners group and senior band. If you have been considering joining, then please get in contact. Learners group runs every Thursday from 6.00pm during the school term for new players or those seeking to return to playing. The senior band rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7.00pm. Rehearsals are held at the Creswick Senior Citizens Centre (at the rear of the Town Hall) and the band invites those interested to drop by. If you're seeking to support the band in other ways, consider making a tax deductible donation which can help the band purchase items such as instruments or music. CBB values support from the community, which helps us continue to promote live music in our region. You can donate easily using the QR code, or email us at creswickbrassband@hotmail.com for other options.

To stay up to date with all our performances and events, follow us on Facebook or Instagram.

The Creswick Brass Band

See photo on back page



From Smeaton to the Somme Honouring Nurse Margaret Anderson

At this year's ANZAC Day service at the Kingston Avenue of Honour, a powerful local story was brought back to life. Ruth Ord Evans spoke of her great-aunt, Nursing Sister Margaret Anderson—remembered not just as a decorated World War I nurse, but as a woman deeply connected to this district.

'It is 155 years since Margaret Anderson was born,' Ruth began, recalling childhood visits to her great-aunt's home. She painted a vivid picture: a dignified woman with grey eyes and neatly pinned hair, seated in her drawing room in a round-backed chair, quietly commanding the room as family and friends gathered each Sunday afternoon.

Margaret Anderson was born in 1871 at Andersons Mill, Smeaton, into a prominent local family. She was educated in Smeaton and Ballarat before completing her nursing training at Ballarat District Hospital in 1900. After rising to senior roles, she moved to Perth and established *The Mount*, a private hospital she owned and ran for nearly 20 years—an uncommon achievement for a woman of her time.

When World War I broke out, Sister Anderson volunteered for overseas service with the Australian Army Nursing Service. In December 1914, she sailed for Egypt with the 1st Australian General Hospital. There, grand buildings like the Heliopolis Palace Hotel were transformed into military hospitals, quickly filling with soldiers from the desert camps—and soon, the wounded from Gallipoli.

During the Gallipoli campaign, Sister Anderson served aboard hospital ships just offshore, including long stretches at sea with barely a break. From the earliest

days of the landings, she and her fellow nurses received hundreds of casualties brought directly from the beaches. Conditions were harsh and confronting: medical supplies were limited, fresh water scarce, and the injuries severe. Working in cramped wards that pitched with the movement of the sea, nurses cleaned and dressed wounds, fought infection, and comforted men in shock—many of them gravely wounded and far from home. For months, this was relentless, exhausting work, carried out with skill and quiet resolve.

In France, Sister Anderson served even closer to the front. Through the mud, cold and chaos of battles like the Somme and Passchendaele, she led teams of nurses in casualty clearing stations within earshot of artillery fire. They worked through air raids and bitter winters, often in tents or makeshift wards, relying on skill, judgement and resilience.

In late 1917, her leadership and dedication were recognised when she was awarded the Royal Red Cross, First Class - one of the highest honours for military nurses. After the war, she returned to Australia and eventually back to Victoria, where she remained a respected figure in family and community life.

She died in 1967, aged 96. Today, her name lives on locally—most visibly at Tree E141 in the Kingston Avenue of Honour. Her story adds depth to the ANZAC tradition, reminding us that service took many forms, and that courage was just as present in the hands of those who healed as in those who fought.

Louise McCosker



Creswick Garden Lovers Weekend

Get ready to celebrate the *Creswick Garden Lovers Weekend* again! It is happening on 7 and 8 November 2026.

The Creswick Garden Club is putting on this wonderful event, featuring open gardens in Creswick and the surrounding area, along with a Flower Show and a massive plant sale. This year, the club is excited to welcome even more gardens that are new to the event and encourage everyone who loves their gardens to join in the fun of the Garden Lovers Weekend. It is a common misconception that gardens have to be perfect to be open to the public, but that is just not the case! Every garden has its own unique charm. Often, gardeners don't realise how interesting and special their gardens are.

The club has a team ready to visit your garden and explore its potential for the event, offering heaps of support along the way. The garden doesn't need to be spotless; a tidy garden is often more appealing. Think about the features that might catch the eye of a home gardener, like a vegetable patch, chooks, a native garden or water features. Perhaps your garden shows off how to garden on a small or large plot, or maybe you have a specific theme. Whatever makes your garden a happy place, Creswick Garden Club would love to hear all about it.

For more details, please reach out to the event coordinator: phone Margaret Giles at 0419 326 453 or email margaret_giles@bigpond.com

Creswick Golf Club

Celebrates 110 Years of Golfing

The gods were smiling down on Creswick Golf Club's 110-year celebrations on Saturday, 2 May. Rain stayed away and over 60 golfers enjoyed a wonderful day of camaraderie, great golfing, visitors from other clubs and quite a few golfers sporting the look of yesteryear.

Captain Tim Kelly said that it was a great way to acknowledge the past and the challenges of the future.

'The Creswick Golf Club is very grateful for the support it receives from RACV, the current owners of the course, and its commitment to ensure the ongoing viability of our club. Over the past few years we have had to experience a number of significant changes but our loyal members turn up week after week because we know Creswick Golf Club is one of the most picturesque and interesting courses in the district. That is why we all play golf – to enjoy the company of others and the surroundings.'

Results from the day's play – which was an Ambrose:

In the Men's section, Adam Gibson and Michael Lang won the day with an impressive 7 under, nett 61.75

2nd - S Armstrong / G Raworth, 62

3rd - R Schwarz / D Grambau, 63

4th - M Scarlett / J Green, 63.75

5th - R Neville / B Lamb, 64.5

In the Mixed / Ladies section, Chris and Renee Van Der Horst from Ballarat Golf Club had a great even par round, nett 64.5

2nd - Steve and Rose Rajki, 66.75

3rd - Brian Anstey / Fiona Watson, 71

NTPs - 3rd S Macauley, 8th B Lamb, 13th G Raworth, 17th W Townsing

Best 2nd shot - 7th Lise Bales

Long Drive Women - Rose Rajki

Long Drive Men - Steve Butler (290m)

Lucky draw winners - N Keen, S Macaulay, A Dart

Tim Kelly also acknowledged the sponsors, without whom prizes could not be awarded: *RACV Goldfields*, Steve Sellars *IGA Creswick*, Tash Martin *PRD Nationwide Creswick*, and Erin Richardson *MYOSTUDIO*.

Fiona Watson

See photo on back page

CRWA Inc

Recycle Central Op Shop

The Recycle Central Opportunity Shop was opened in May 2011 in the Caretakers Cottage adjacent to the Town Hall. The cottage once housed an Anglican op shop. The proposal was formally submitted by the CRWA Inc (Creswick Railway Workshops Association) and accepted by the Hepburn Shire Council, as the Business Plan for the sustainability of the railway restoration project. The Shire was clear: it would support the VicTrack lease only if it was at NO COST to Council. This has been, and continues to be, the case.

The support of the community in this venture has been overwhelming, together with the many volunteers over the past 15 years, helping to make it a success. The dedicated efforts of these volunteers has meant that the CRWA has been able to support the local community, such as Pavilion Arts, RSL, John Curtin Aged Care, Creswick Hospital, local primary schools, CFA, SES and many others. It has ensured that the CRWA is a resilient association, one that is able to provide for community aspirations into the future. Managing the Railway Precinct comes at a cost and it is because of the contributions of community that the future continuance of the heritage precinct is assured.

Some people return every winter to purchase a hand-crafted tea cosy, some place orders, many send them overseas to friends and relatives. The football beanies are also a big hit.

A huge thank you to Margie and Sandy who work very hard to provide a fabulous vehicle for recycling and offer very inexpensive items to the community. It is known far and wide as one of the best op shops around. Find us on Facebook: Creswick Railway Workshops or email: railwayworkshops@gmail.com
Open every Saturday 9.00am – 3.30pm,
Water Street, Creswick.

Judy Henderson

Victoria Street Craft

The Victoria Street Craft Group would like to thank everybody who supported them with the Raffle.

It was drawn at Smokeytown Café.

The winners were:

- . Gerry Flapper
- . Robyn Tomkins
- . Noni Leulf



Smeaton Bowling Club

The AGM was held on Wednesday 13 May and thank you to members who have volunteered their time by taking on extra responsibilities to continue to help make our Club function as well as it does.

If you are interested in learning how to play bowls or joining our pennant teams on Tuesdays or Saturdays, consider joining this friendly country club. There is a Club Coach and many members who are willing to help you participate in a game of bowls. During the winter break from pennant play, the synthetic green is still available for practice and everyone is welcome to come along and have a roll. The Club facilities are also available to the broader community to hire for functions. There is a smaller

clubroom, a large hall and a kitchen to cater for your needs.

Best wishes to members who travel away for the winter. Many of them play bowls on a regular basis, practising their skills and spreading the word about Smeaton Bowling Club. Recently some members also travelled to Barham and experienced success in the tournament. Well done to them!

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

Contacts - Secretary Russell, 0417 535 297 smeatonbowling@gmail.com

Laraine Toose

Biggest Morning Tea - Plaistow Homestead

On 23 May, the Skilbeck family will again be hosting a morning tea in the garden at Plaistow Homestead, Joyces Creek, to raise funds for Cancer Council. Plaistow is a heritage listed property dating from the 1840s. We think this is the 29th year of the BMT at Plaistow, originally a small almost intimate event in the lounge room but now a much larger community celebration.

Every family can talk about the members or relations who have experienced cancer. We can all relate to people who have died from cancer but as time goes on there are more stories of those who have recovered. The newsletters from Cancer Council regularly report positive stories detailing the results of research and new treatments funded by the generous donations of gatherings like this. The only funding Cancer Council receive is from donations and events. Donated funds support research, nurse-on-call, financial supplements, wig bank and respite holidays. Every cent raised at Plaistow is given to Cancer Council.

This year will be a little special as the large Andrews double oven stove will be used again following her (yes it is a female) total restoration by 1910 Ironworks of Wildes Meadow, NSW. Look up their Facebook page and you may see it. The stove was made in Geelong, probably in the mid-1880s and originally used in a hotel kitchen in Beaufort. The stove has been in use at Plaistow since 1984. This year will also see four generations of the Skilbeck family working over the morning, with support from friends and relatives, pouring fresh brewed tea and coffee, and delivering scones, both jam-and-creamed and savoury, to the guests.

There will be some plant stalls from the lovely Beth Higgins, Sue Oldfield's natural fibre knitting creations

and entertainment provided by *Platform Souls*, a six-piece band from Maldon. As usual, there will be a multi-draw raffle and another for a trailer of dry Strathlea firewood.

Offers of help in manning the gate, pouring tea or coffee, washing dishes, serving food, selling raffle tickets or looking after parking are always gratefully received.

When: Saturday, 23 May 10.00am to 12.30pm.

Where: The gardens of Plaistow Homestead, 324 Rodborough Rd Joyces Creek. Follow the flags from the Pyrenees Highway Rodborough Road corner.

Entry: By donation at the garden gate.

Parking: On the drive or in the front paddock. If you are not able to walk about 100 metres, ask the person supervising parking to allow you to drive and park closer to the garden.

Finally, all are welcome, come with neighbours, friends or family for a relaxed morning in pleasant surrounds on the grass or close to a fire pit.

Contacts. Lil or Peter Skilbeck 0419 884 710 or plaistow@bigpond.com





Creswick Bowling Club

This month's news begins with the celebrations of awards at the Annual Ballarat Highlands Bowls Region lunch, held at the Ballarat North Sports Club on Sunday, 12 April. Attended by Board members and volunteers, guests enjoyed lunch and a motivational talk from Brett Mahoney, a member of the Victorian State Side, on growing up in the district and his connection to Ballarat Bowls, his love of pigeons and his achievements over the past 12 months. Creswick



Bernie O'Malley

picked up several awards, most notably, Club Administrator of the Year to Bernie O'Malley, recognising his dedication and the tremendous work he does for the club and its members. Other awards went to Geoff Antonio (best 3rd player in Division 2), Dale Chalmers (best 2nd player in Division 2) and Michael Booth (best Skipper in Division 2). A wonderful representation

from the Club. Congratulations to all.

The 2026 indoor bowls pennant season got underway in late April, with two divisions each in the Ladies and Mens competitions. A good win by both the Ladies teams and Division 2 in the Mens over Midlands and a promising start to the season. Division 2 in the Mens draw had a Bye.

Barry Yates conducted his last Fortnightly Triples on Tuesday, 14 April with 10 teams playing in perfect conditions – clear blue skies, no wind and warm sunshine. Winners for the day were the team from

Daylesford – Margaret and Gerald Coffey and Ron Barron, while the runners-up were Wendy Phillips, Rob Edwards and Ian Robinson from City Oval. The Fortnightly Triples will continue. We thank Barry for his tireless work over the many years and we wish him some well-earned free time to pursue other personal interests. (He has no intention of giving up bowls yet and will be available to hand over the operations of the Triples). Thanks go to Beth Huntley for providing delicious homemade soup for the bowlers. Much appreciated.

The AGM was held on Sunday, 3 May with some new faces elected to the Board. Many thanks go to members who have served their tenure and will still be involved in the Club. A full breakdown of the Board will appear in the June edition of the CDN.

Friday Night Dinners are back on at the Club on the first Friday of each month. Everybody is most welcome to attend for a 2-course meal (\$12 non-members). Come along, enjoy a drink and socialise with the members.

The club hosted the McGrath Clan to their annual *Good Friday Family Bowls*, again in perfect weather and about 30 people made the day another memorable outing. The 'family' come from all over Victoria and South Australia to be a part of the day, staying at the Caravan Park.

While the club may not be playing outdoor pennant, now is the time for those who may wish to learn how to play bowls to get in touch and have some one-on-one tuition. The clubhouse is also available for functions.

Contact Bernie on 0437 102 059 for details.

What Henry Did Next...

Continued from page 1

Participants each worked on a monologue, choosing one of nine options, and developed an Interpretation Statement. Their focus could be acting/directing or aspects of design such as lighting, sound, music.

Henry chose a monologue spoken by Arlecchino from *The Venetian Twins*, adapted by Nick Enright from a play by 18th century playwright Carlo Goldoni. Those who have seen Henry in action on stage will not be surprised that he chose a comedic role. He opted for no sets and minimal props which could 'travel' through the monologue - just one small suitcase, containing a few essentials.

Performing in the Melbourne Recital Centre meant a large empty stage and a large, full auditorium - a big

space to fill. Henry admitted to feeling a bit nervous at first, but he thought that as he got 'louder' he felt more confident and that the audience did too and the laughter grew. He was happy to do it all again at a second performance in Bendigo.

So what's next for Henry? He is now studying Teaching at the Australian Catholic University, Ballarat. He thinks history will be his major study, though he is keen to continue with theatre studies too, of course, and he quite likes the idea of maths/science...

And he thinks there will be time to continue his involvement in local productions - good news indeed.

Miriam Tonkin

Pet registrations

Unfortunately, we have experienced some technical issues with getting pet renewal notices sent out in time and have since discovered multiple errors on the notices themselves.

The payment amount and due date (Monday 1 June) displayed on the front page of your notice are correct.

We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience and confusion.

Updates will be provided at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/pet-regos

St Georges Lake Road, Creswick - tender

Council is progressing with improvements to residential areas surrounding Djuwang Baring and advertised a tender for the upgrade of St Georges Lake Road, Creswick. Works will include sealing, intersection improvements, the implementation of traffic calming devices, lighting and other works.

Since opening the trails, a few concerns have been raised by the community, including amenity issues and rider and pedestrian safety.

Following engagement with local residents, Council prepared a Traffic Management Plan for the area which was approved by Councillors in September 2025, along with funding for St Georges Lake Road and other outcomes such as formalising the pick-up area at Hammon Park and improving signage in the area.

Further updates will be shared as the project proceeds and plans for construction are confirmed.

We're looking forward to seeing a safer road for every user.



Rates and charges

The fourth instalment of rates and charges is due by Sunday 31 May 2026.

Several payment options are available, please refer to your most recent notice for payment instructions.

If you are experiencing financial hardship, need to set up a payment plan or have any questions, please visit our website at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/rates or contact us on (03) 5348 2306.

Safe Local Roads and Streets Program

Six important projects under the Safe Local Roads and Streets Program have been released. The program provides funding to support infrastructure upgrades that reduce road trauma and improve safety outcomes for all road users.

1. Victoria and Cambridge streets, Creswick

Scope: Construction of pedestrian crossings (including street lighting, drainage and other works) as well as the implementation of a speed limit reduction. Works anticipated to commence later this year.

2. Pearsons Road and James Lane intersection, Fern Hill

3. Ligar Street, Clunes

4. Stanbridge Street, Daylesford (Stage 1)

5. Bath Street, Trentham

6. Central Springs Road, Daylesford

The projects are being delivered by Council in partnership with the Department of Transport and Planning and the Transport Accident Commission and are expected to commence later this year subject to tender outcomes.

Blue Atlas Cedar in Creswick

In response to significant community interest, Council has published the arborist reports for the Blue Atlas Cedar in Creswick. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts to explore alternate options, we believe the tree needs to be removed and we are seeking the necessary approvals.

We're not making this decision lightly, and we're basing it on internal specialist advice as well as an independent external report.

After all approvals are confirmed, we'll seek community feedback on the preferred species for the replacement tree. Visit www.participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/blue-atlas-cedar

Creswick soccer scores funding

Last week, Martha Haylett MP announced that we received a \$38,900 grant from Sport and Recreation Victoria to fund the next phase of design work at Doug Lindsay Recreation Reserve, progressing the project towards a construction-ready stage.

This project will play an important role in supporting participation and inclusion in local sport and is a strong investment in the future of local soccer.

Well done to the Creswick Cougars Soccer Club who are a strong and growing club.

Council Plan 2025–2029



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Creswick Readiness Group

The Creswick Readiness Group (CRG) continues to deliver accessible, community-led opportunities in partnership with local agencies, helping residents feel more confident and prepared for a range of challenges.

Creswick IGA installed a Blue Tree, an exciting initiative for the community. This grassroots initiative aims to reduce mental health stigma and encourage people to check in on their mates. Please check it out when you're next in town, out the front of the IGA.

As part of their fundraising efforts, CRG is keen to support community members to access Mental Health First Aid training. Jacqui White (a local Psychologist) is running the next free course on 1-2 June at the Doug Lindsay Recreation Reserve. Please keep an eye out for registration at the Creswick Community Centre or email jqwhite21@gmail.com.

Residents of Creswick and surrounding areas are invited to take part in a program of free and low-cost community events designed to build practical skills, strengthen connections, and support everyday preparedness.

On Wednesday, 20 May, a joint CFA and Hepburn Shire session will explore practical property preparation, combining bushfire landscaping and biodiversity principles. During National Reconciliation Week, a guided cultural walk at Argyle Springs on Thursday, 28 May offers a chance to connect with Country and local Aboriginal history.

On the 22nd of June, soil health expert Matthew Daniel will present on local environmental work, followed by a Working Dog Training workshop.

July includes a *Coffee with a Cop* session on Friday, 3 July and a winter wellness session with Ambulance Victoria on Monday, 6 July.

All sessions are welcoming, with refreshments provided and no experience required. Details and bookings: hepburn.eventbrite.com.au.

Isaac McCann



Creswick Capers

What Makes Creswick Primary Special

By Lucy and Amelia (Year 5/6)

We love many things about our awesome school. Creswick Primary School is a place where students feel safe, supported, and ready to learn. Our school motto '*being in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing*' is something we try to follow every day, along with demonstrating our four school values: Personal Best, Respect, Resilience and Safety.

One of the things we appreciate most about our school is the variety in our learning. Our days aren't just spent in the classroom. We also take part in specialist subjects and hands-on programs. This term, for example, the Year 5/6 students have been involved in gardening and cooking, giving us the opportunity to grow produce and use it to prepare meals together.

At Creswick Primary, we also have a range of camps across different year levels. In Grade 3/4, we attend Log Cabin Camp in Creswick and Cottage by the Sea in Queenscliff. In Grade 5/6, we go to Sovereign Hill Camp and Melbourne Camp. We can also participate in different clubs, which are a fun way to try something new, such as ukulele, and spend time with students from other year levels.

As we move into the senior years (Grade 5/6), we have opportunities to take on leadership roles. These include School Captain, House Captain, and Playground Mentor. These roles help us build confidence and contribute to our school community in different ways.

Our teachers play a big role in making school a positive environment for us. We appreciate how they support us not only with our learning, but also with their kindness and encouragement. They help us grow into good people and always encourage us to try our best and look after one another.

Another special part of Creswick Primary is the buddy program. In Year 3, students write letters to their future Prep buddies, who they meet the following year.

We love Creswick Primary School. If you ever have the chance, we would definitely recommend coming for a visit and seeing what it's like for yourself.

Thank you,

Lucy and Amelia

Katelyn Sutton, Classroom Teacher

See photo on back page

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Kingston Friends of the Avenue

Kingston Friends of the Avenue were honoured to have around 100 people attend the ANZAC Day Service. The weather was perfect.

Many thanks to John Laursen who travelled from Queenscliff to officiate, Professor Barry Golding for providing the Acknowledgement of Country, Craig Latrobe from Creswick Brass Band, and Councillor Tim Drylie for leading the national anthem in full voice.

The guest speaker, Ruth Ord Evans, had the audience captivated as she spoke of the service of her great-grand aunt Sister Margaret Anderson RRC. Many thanks to the *Creswick District News* for choosing Ruth and Sister Margaret as the feature article of this edition. Thank you to the Commercial at Kingston, the Kingston Agricultural Society and the Kingston Fire Brigade, whose community support make such events possible.

Grant Success - *Restoring Community War Memorials and Avenues of Honour*

Friends of the Avenue are thrilled to announce that they have received another \$30,000 grant to continue restorative works in the Avenue of Honour at Kingston. This grant was awarded by the Victorian State Government's Department of Families, Fairness and Housing - Office for Veterans. Hepburn Shire Council will undertake the work in consultation with Friends of the Avenue.

Hepburn Shire Council was also successful in acquiring funds to work on the Ullina Avenue of Honour.

Save the date: 16 May 2026 – Creswick Market Plant Stall

Leah Armstrong

See photo on back page

Letter to our readers

Contributions

The CDN community newsletter has been in circulation for over twenty five years. Volunteers proudly joined together to create our much loved publication. We're looking for new contributions in addition to our regular features. Do you have a story, a poem or a fantastic photograph you'd like to share? What would you like to see in the next edition? Would you like to help us and join the team? All responses are welcome. Please contact us at cdn@cbl.com.au

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100 Years Ago

Compiled by Creswick Museum

May 4, 1926

Springmount State School Jubilee Celebrations. It was a happy thought of Mr. Jas. Taylor, head teacher, when he suggested that the jubilee of the Springmount State School should be fittingly celebrated, the school having been first opened on 1st May, 1876. A meeting was called, and the residents took up the proposal warmly.

May 7, 1926

Golf - The season in connection with the Creswick Club will be officially opened on Saturday, 15th May. It is expected the links will by then be in first class order. A bus will leave P.O. at 1.30 p.m. on Saturday, and will return in time to allow members to witness the football.

May 11, 1926

The Mount Prospect Tennis Club will hold a grand premier ball in the Newlyn hall tomorrow (Wednesday) night, when the presentation of the pennant won during the last season will take place. There will be good music and supper. Double tickets are 5/, and 1/ for extra lady.

May 14, 1926

The block of land on Sutton Park Soldier Settlement, vacated by J. C. Smith, has been surveyed into three blocks of nearly 30 acres each. These blocks are to be allotted to returned soldiers – F. Crisp, J. Goad and J. B. Munson. This addition to the land already held by them will enable them to go in for a rotation of crops, and improve their chances of success.

May 18, 1926

Creswick Progress Association – The monthly meeting of the above will be held in the Bank Chambers tomorrow (Wednesday) evening at 8 o'clock. The attendance of ladies is specially requested. W. S. Northcott, Hon. Sec.

May 21, 1926

Mr. F. Walpole, an old and highly respected resident of the district (Dean), left his week to retire in Creswick. Mr. Walpole, who had a genial personality, will be greatly missed by a wide circle of friends, who wish him lifelong health and happiness in his new sphere.

May 25 1926

The Newlyn reservoir is at the lowest level since the 1915 drought, when it was almost dry and a good deal of silt was removed from the outlet. The rains which have fallen this year have been absorbed by the soil and have not added to the storage.

165 years ago

May 3 1861

Novel Tournament – we hear that a novel contest took place on Wednesday afternoon about a mile beyond the Creswick Cemetery, between two residents of Ascot or its neighborhood. Both combatants were on horseback and armed with stock whips; one party used his weapon with great dexterity each stroke producing fearful yells from his antagonist, who ultimately resorted to stones when then effected a precipitate retreat. We believe the fracas arose out of a private quarrel.

150 years ago

May 1 1876

Creswick Grammar School. Conducted by S. Fiddian, M.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge. The new quarter commenced on Monday, April 10th.

75 years ago

May 1 1951

Jubilee Holiday – Next Wednesday will be a general public holiday throughout Australia for Commonwealth Jubilee Day, when the nation celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of the inauguration of the Commonwealth of Australia.



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Northerly News

Term 2 has started nicely at Creswick North PS. Students and families participated in the ANZAC Day ceremony at the Creswick Cenotaph. Starting with a march up the main street, School Captains Will and Liv read a lovely poem and then laid a wreath on behalf of the school. It is a great experience for all of the students to be involved in.

Mrs Mac has been at Creswick North PS for 28 years, teaching in the classroom and the Art room. She has recently retired and everyone will miss her greatly - she has done so much for our school for so long.

Students have many sporting events coming up soon with athletics days, Cluster representative sports teams and more. The school is part of the Wathaurung Sports Cluster, which provides lots of opportunities for students in a wide variety of sports.

Creswick North PS is currently open for 2027 enrolments. If anyone would like a tour to experience this fantastic school, please call the school on 5345 2012. Creswick North PS offers wonderful before/after school care, as well as Vacation Care.

Matthew Reyntjes
Principal



Creswick Garden Club

Autumn is a wonderful time of the year for gardeners. Club members have been busy, not just in their own gardens, but getting out and about visiting other gardens and flower shows. Two busloads of members and friends from the Creswick Garden Club recently visited the *Ferny Creek Plant Collectors Fair*.

Thanks to the perfect weather, members were able to take a guided tour of the gardens, view the extensive flower show, talk to growers and purchase plants from speciality nurseries. The buses were quite a bit heavier on the return trip thanks to the passionate collectors onboard.

The Creswick Garden Club's AGM will be held on Tuesday 2 June, at 1.00 pm at the Creswick Senior Citizens' Club Rooms. Fees are due on this date if you wish to remain a financial member of the club.

The show bench will be operating and the winner of the Alison Sari Trophy for 2025 - 6 will be announced.

The guest speakers for this meeting are, Angel and Em from Potted and Co. They will be speaking about indoor plants and supplies.

Sue Parker

If you need the services of a
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in the Creswick district
Ring 5345 7414,
0408 317 872 or 5345 7522
or visit rvahj.org.au for more information.

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Authorised by Catherine King MP, Australian Labor Party, 11 Colston Street, Ballarat, VIC, 3200



St Augustine's News

The official opening of the new school building was a moment of great pride for St Augustine's and the wider Creswick community. The school welcomed Hon Catherine King MP, whose support has been instrumental in bringing this significant project to life. This occasion represents not just a new facility, but a powerful investment in the future of students and the community.

St Augustine's was equally privileged to have the new buildings blessed by Fr Marcello, whose presence and prayer reminded us of the deep connection between our faith and our daily work in education. The blessing was a meaningful moment, grounding the new spaces in our Catholic identity and mission.

This special occasion would not have been possible without the extraordinary efforts of many within the school community. I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to Ms. Maree Smith and Mrs. Nicolle Miller, whose dedication, organisation and attention to detail ensured that the day was such a success. Their contribution was exceptional and deeply appreciated. The school also acknowledges and thanks staff for their support and flexibility throughout this event, as well as parents and parishioners who joined in celebrating this important day. Your presence reflected the strength and unity of our community, and the shared pride we all feel in what has been achieved.

Finally, I would like to again commend the Year 6 Term 2 Leadership Team, who represented the school with such confidence and maturity on the day. They were outstanding ambassadors for St Augustine's, and the school is incredibly proud of the way they contributed to such a significant event in its history.

Michael Heenan

See photo on back page

JAY'S COUNTRY GARDENS



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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
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All levels - Mondays
\$20 per annum
Contacts: 0402 777 852 of
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: Pastor
Andrew Shearer-Cox
0429 261 954 or email
ucpastorandrew@outlook.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



ANZAC Day 2026 - Kingston



Creswick Golf Club

Brian Anstey and Fiona Watson from Creswick Golf Club with Charlton Golf Club's Rhonda and Graeme Porter



St Augustine's School

Official opening of the new school building



Creswick Brass Band playing with Archer at *Cresfest*



Creswick Primary School Lucy and Amelia

