



Art on Albert



Art on Albert - Glynis Edwards, Heather Ingram, Julie Reed, Chris Dobson

A group of creative, focussed and determined Creswick women have, in a short time, achieved what others have only spoken about for years - Art on Albert, at 86 Albert Street Creswick. It will operate as a not-for-profit art gallery for local and regional artisans, including painters, woodworkers, ceramicists, potters, textile artists, sculptors and photographers.

Creswickians have long talked about what a bonus an Art Gallery would be to the town and the region. Fortunately, a group of likeminded people have formed a committee and made this a reality. By good fortune, the perfect space recently became available at 86 Albert Street. Negotiations were finalised with work commencing in record time to fit out the space.

Julie Reed has been appointed President, with Heather Ingram Treasurer and Traycie Walker

Secretary. Interest in the gallery has been fantastic and with members of the committee - Glynis Edwards, Christine Dobson, Jo Flood, Jennifer Powell and Christine Reed, working together to have the gallery ready in time for *CresFest*, visitors will be able to purchase quality art work at Art on Albert.

As a not-for-profit gallery its aim is to return a surplus from sales back to the community, to organisations like Shannon's Bridge or the Men's Shed. Exhibitors will pay for a space and will be able to leave their work for up to three months. Committee member and artist, Chris Dobson, said that they were keen to encourage young and emerging artists by providing a space where young people can proudly display their art.

Art on Albert, which will be staffed by volunteers, opened on Sunday, 30 March and will open from Thursday to Monday, 10.00am - 4.00pm.

Artist enquiries should be directed to: artonalbert86@gmail.com

Fiona Watson

CDN ONLINE

Regular readers of *Creswick District News*, will have already noticed that digital copies are now available on the new ***Creswick Connect*** website which has replaced the old Business and Tourism website.

To access the CDN page, please go to:

www.creswickconnect.au/for-locals/creswick-district-news

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

20 May 2025

17 June 2025

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



CDN ADVERTISEMENTS

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Creswick-Smeaton RSL Sub-Branch Timetable for 2025 ANZAC Day Commemorations

Creswick

5.40am - Dawn Service - assemble at the Cenotaph, corner Albert and Raglan Streets, for a 5.50am start.

Gunfire Breakfast will follow in the Senior Citizens Centre, Water Street.

9.30am - Service at the Soldiers Graves at the Creswick Cemetery, 141 Clunes Road.

10.00am - Service at the Memorial Stones, RSL Hall, 60 Albert Street.

10.15am - Anyone wishing to take part in the March, assemble at the Splash Park, near IGA Albert Street.

10.30am - March commences.

Following the March, ANZAC Day Service will be at the Creswick Cenotaph, incorporating 60th Anniversary of the Creswick-Smeaton RSL Field of Crosses.

12.30pm – 2UP at the front of the RSL Hall.

Kingston

Kingston Friends of the Avenue ANZAC Day service and wreath laying at Cenotaph, 9.00am corner Victoria Road and Kingston Road, Kingston.

Phil Greenbank
Secretary

creswick Rainfall

Monthly totals as sent to the Bureau of Meteorology by Frank Slade.

	2023	2024	2025
	mm	mm	
January	9.5	97.0	30.5
February	28.8	4.0	46.0
March	45.0	0.0	31.5
April	116.0	66.4	
May	70.0	34.5	
June	125.0	28.5	
July	45.0	97.5	
August	46.0	41.5	
September	25.5	52.5	
October	67.5	58.5	
November	29.0	35.0	
December	23.0	18.5	
TOTAL	630.3	533.9	107..0



Creswick Cemeteries News

Colleen and Wendy attended the three day CCAV Country Conference in Shepparton, held in March. New products and interesting guest speakers made for a good couple of days.

If anyone wishes to pre-purchase a place at the cemetery, please call the Secretary, Wendy, on 0435 762 600 to organise an appointment.

Wendy Ohlsen
Secretary

Don Huntley Memorial Piano Recital



*Pianist Jerry Wong, who will present the
2025 Don Huntley Memorial Piano Recital*

Internationally renowned pianist, Jerry Wong, will present the *2025 Don Huntley Memorial Piano Recital* on Sunday, 4 May at 3.00pm, in the Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts.

Associate Professor and Head of Keyboard at the Melbourne Conservatorium, Jerry Wong will perform an exciting program which includes Liszt, Debussy and Gershwin as well as lesser known but colourful works from last century. This annual piano recital is a jewel in Ballarat's crown, with a tradition of Australia's finest pianists performing great programs. Afternoon tea tickets available. Bookings can be made via www.wcpa.com.au.

Bron Sozanski

Goldfields Recreation and Dance

The Creswick Senior Citizens Centre Inc, (CSCC) is pleased to welcome Goldfields Recreation and Dance to the Creswick Seniors Centre. The main room has a most glorious timber floor and is spacious enough for all styles of dancing.

Apart from tuition every Monday, there will be Social Dancing Days for CSCC members and others. These dates will be posted on the CSCC Facebook page.

For more Information contact Elizabeth Howard, Secretary, GRAD Inc. on 0402 777 852 or email goldfieldsrecreationanddance@gmail.com.

Judy Henderson



Probud Bus Tour - Wild Time!

Creswick Probud Club was joined by a few U3A members when they travelled to Werribee to visit the Victoria State Rose Garden which is managed by Parks Victoria. This garden has over 5,000 spectacular roses and in 2003 was awarded the *International Garden of Excellence* by the World Federation of Rose Societies. Morning tea was enjoyed prior to arrival at the gardens.

From there the bus took the group to the Werribee Open Range Zoo where lunch was enjoyed and exhibits viewed before boarding the Safari Tour which involved an open train. Commentary was given while watching rhinos, giraffes, zebras, ostriches, bison, camels and antelopes.

Trace was a great coach driver, full of information during the day which provided perfect weather.

R & G - U3A Members

Creswick Senior Citizens

At the first meeting after the AGM, the newly elected Committee agreed to appoint members to the listed positions in order to advance greater community and member engagement.

The following Groups were established:

- Activity Co-ordination
- Craft Co-ordination
- Welfare Officer.

Thanks to Betty, Elly, Gladys, Annette, Vivienne, Jenny and Wendy for their readiness to act in these new roles. I know that they all have super ideas for the Centre, so look out in the next edition of the *CDN* to find out more news!

Catch up on Facebook: Creswick Senior's Centre

Judy Henderson, Secretary CSCC Inc.



Creswick Red Cross Fund Raising

At the beginning of March, the group collected for **Red Cross Calling** outside the IGA Supermarket. The total amount raised was \$1,960.40.

Thank you to all those who generously donated.

Marj Poole

Dr Kevin Gerard Tolhurst AM

11 December 1955 – 5 October 2023

Dedicated forester and fire behaviour scientist

In October 2023, Creswick's Kevin Tolhurst, Australia's top bushfire scientist, passed away suddenly, of a heart attack.

Kevin, born in 1955, was the youngest of the four children of Harold and Etta Tolhurst and grew up in suburban Melbourne. During his adolescence, Kevin worked on the farms of relatives and family friends and gained rural experience and a connection to the land which, along with his education at St John's College in Braybrook, were key formative years in guiding his future.

After gaining a Diploma of Forestry at the Victorian School of Forestry, Creswick

in 1976, Kevin's early employment was with the Forests Commission, conducting timber and vegetation assessments in the forests to the northeast of Melbourne. It was in the Forests Commission's Assessment Branch, where he met his future wife, Rosemary. Kevin and Rosemary both graduated with a degree of Bachelor of Forest Science (Hons) from the University of Melbourne in 1980.

Kevin and Rosemary bought their current house in Creswick and married in St Augustine's Church in 1981.

Education, training and experience

In 1980, when the Forestry School amalgamated with the University of Melbourne, Kevin returned to Creswick, initially as a tutor and demonstrator then as a lecturer to the Melbourne Uni Forest Science students. In 1982, keen to gain more practical experience, Kevin was posted to Alexandra with responsibility for timber harvesting, recreation management and the pine plantations.

In 1984, Kevin returned to Creswick as a Fire Research scientist and established and managed the long-term, multi-disciplinary fire ecology research program, the Fire Effects Research Program based in the foothill forests of central Victoria. As a result of



Photo courtesy of The University of Melbourne

his studies, a method for determining ecologically-sound fire regimes was developed and used in Victoria and interstate, significantly changing the way fires are managed.

Kevin's experience and interest in fire spanned decades of his career, starting as a forest fire-fighter, followed by crew leader, sector commander, incident controller, duty officer and communications officer. During this time, Kevin successfully completed a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) awarded by the University of Melbourne in 1996, and in 1997 became a lecturer and Research Officer with the University of Melbourne, Creswick campus.

Kevin's research into the effects of fire on the environment developed into his extensive knowledge of the complexities of fire behaviour. Since 1988, this led to a role with the then Department of Sustainability and Environment, now Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), in predicting fire behaviour and developing fire suppression strategies during major fire events. The importance of this work came to the fore in evidence Kevin gave at Bushfires Royal Commissions.

With his colleague, Mr Derek Chong, Kevin developed a bushfire risk and fire spread simulator, PHOENIX RapidFire, which has been adopted in Queensland, NSW, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. Kevin was passionate about educating the public and was regularly called upon to give presentations to community groups particularly since the Black Saturday fires, which he hoped would lead to better understanding and management of fires for those living in a fire-prone environment.

Since 1985, Kevin attended major fires in the role of a fire behaviour and fire weather technical specialist. These included the Sydney bushfires in 1994 and 2001, the Creswick fire in 1997, and the Black Saturday fires of 2009.

continued on next page

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During his career Kevin had written or co-authored over 200 scientific papers and reports related to fire management. These ranged from information leaflets and articles for the public to national and international conference papers and scientific papers in international journals.

In 2015 Kevin was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his contributions to science and the community, in the area of bushfires. In 2016 he received the International Association of Wildland Fire's *Ember Award*, for excellence in wildland fire science, an award which has been given to only a handful of recipients. The week of Kevin's funeral he was due to be in Queensland attending a Conference regarding forests and fires. Here he was to receive the NW Jolly Medal – the highest honour in Australia for outstanding service to the forest science profession. Instead, he was honoured posthumously by nearly 500 of his peers. The Medal was received on behalf of the family by colleague and friend Gary Morgan, former Chief Fire Officer of Victoria.

International Involvement

Through Kevin's employment, he was able to share knowledge within Australia and overseas, including South Africa, Canada, Malaysia, USA and most recently Portugal in 2022, advising governments and fire management authorities.

At the time of his sudden death, Kevin was an honorary Principal Fellow (Associate Professor) of the University of Melbourne at the School of Agriculture, Food and Ecosystem Sciences, Creswick Campus.

Global and local acknowledgements and tributes

Tributes were received from Portugal, USA, Canada, Italy, Spain and South Africa. All commented on the positive impact Kevin had on the international community of fire managers and researchers. The Portuguese noted how fortunate they were to have captured some of Kevin's fire insights on video when he was on the Rotary Vocational Training Team visit in November, 2022.

A tribute from the Creswick's Friends of Park Lake said, *'Kevin's skill and knowledge was given unstintingly to the recording of the history of Park Lake, ably assisted by his wife Rosemary, and to the planning and development of the eastern end of the Park'*.

Kevin was a committed and vital member of the St Augustine's Parish. His intelligence and wisdom

contributed to the church community in many ways including his loved botanical guided walks at Parish events. His skill with computers and technology was also valued.

On 23 November 2023, a huge crowd (both in person and on line) attended a celebration of Kevin's professional achievements held by the University and DEECA at the RACV Resort Creswick. Kevin's wife Rosemary provided an insight into the personal side of Kevin's life, how they met, and raised their family. As a tribute from the State's firefighters, both Forest Fire Management and Country Fire Authority vehicles lined the path for people to walk between on their way inside for the service.

Gary Morgan reflected on the contributions of an extraordinary individual of the highest calibre. *'What set Kevin apart from other researchers was that he placed his research knowledge to the practical test when lives and property were at risk.'*

At the Ministerial Advisory Panel for the Office of Bushfire Risk Management, the Secretary of DEECA, John Bradley, paid a huge tribute to the impact that Kevin had made in his department.

In the Victorian State Parliament, Bev McArthur, Member for Western Victoria, paid tribute to Kevin saying, *'He is one of a small group who used the powerful tools of science to achieve a healthy and safe forest environment. His loyalty to the processes of government and his natural, sincere, respectful and courteous manner were universally appreciated.'*

Conclusion

At Kevin's funeral at St Augustine's, the large congregation heard his son Michael speak of the many roles in Kevin's life: *'... our dad and grandad. He always tried to support us kids and give us opportunities to grow. Whether it be rigging up an archery target for Chris in the backyard, taking Gen to flying lessons, or weekends spent sanding, fibreglassing and painting boats for me'*.

'He taught us how to fix our bikes, repair our clothes and do work around the house ourselves. He inspired us to be curious about the world, pointing things out to us on bushwalks. He explained to us how things work. He taught us to be considerate to other people and to look after what we have.'

Kevin loved being a grandad, and was a playful one to granddaughters Ruby, Amber, Tilly and Heidi.

Vale Kevin: *'a truly dedicated and irreplaceable forester, his contribution beyond measure'*.

Catherine KING MP
 Federal Member for Ballarat

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Companion and Farm Animals

The school Leaders have been very busy this past month. The Captains and Vice Captains have been out in the community helping at the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre lunch, running the fortnightly assemblies and showing prospective families around the school with personalised tours. It has been wonderful to see them leading in many different ways.

The Junior School Council comprises representatives from across the school. This term, they surveyed the students about the type of sports equipment and courtyard games they would like to see, then organised this equipment for students to use. Their big project this term was to arrange a whole school *Clean Up Australia Day* activity where the students went out into their surrounding community and cleaned up for 30 minutes. They were amazed at the amount of rubbish collected.

There is another group of student leaders who act as Playground Mentors. These Mentors wear bright vests so the other students can pick them out. They also help others in the yard, give out Values raffle tickets and organise the courtyard play equipment.

It is wonderful to see student leaders in action in so many different ways.

Helen Romeril,
Principal



Students helping at the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre

Term 1 is always a busy term, especially with lots of new Foundation students and an extra classroom in the school.

Years 4 - 6 students went fishing at Lake Dewar near Myrniong with the *Fishcare* team and had a wonderful day. The fish were relatively quiet but they did catch a few of a good size. After fishing some snags on the BBQ were enjoyed, finishing a great day out.



Students attending Fishcare at Lake Dewar

Students once again did very well at the Wathaurung Cross Country event at Russell Square in Brown Hill. Most of Creswick North's participating students got places for their 1, 2 or 3km runs and many will advance to the next level.

A new Before-school and After-school Program called *Club2041* has begun. Good numbers are attending and it provides a valuable service for school families. A *Vacation Care Program* was trialled these holidays and was well-booked.

If anyone would like a tour to experience this fantastic school, please call the school on 5345 2012.

Matthew Reyntjes,
Principal

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The Art of Living

By Craig Barrett

After writing just over forty articles for the Creswick District News, (2017 – 2023), I thought that I might just have said enough on my personal life observations as an artist. Just maybe, I still have one or two more things to say. I promise to keep to just the occasional article this time, not every month as I used to. For those of you who did read my articles, (you both know who you are), you may remember that I am a very solitary person. I seem to have become even more of a recluse.

Whilst I have not been writing and scarcely working in my studio, (that's another story), I have been reading a huge amount. My preference being non-fiction and poetry. As a result, I have gained a greater respect for the power of words. I used to let my art do the speaking for me. That doesn't always work – art is not everyone's language. Then again, the wrong word at the wrong time also gets me into trouble. Every word is important. They can hurt or heal. Some words have multiple meanings, depending on their context. As an example, when I worked with the Mutitjulu Community at Uluru many years ago, the Pitjantjara word 'Waru' could mean fire, hot, or lightning.

So many of our own words have multiple meanings. Lead, for example. Is that to lead the way or is that lead in the saddle? In the 1990s I was a volunteer tutor for English as a Second Language. I had a Polish student. How could I possibly explain things like pronunciation? Why is the flower an orchid, but the fruit tree grows in an orchard? Why is the plural of house, houses, when the plural of mouse is mice? I am pretty sure when you put your own mind to it, you will find a hundred such inconsistencies in no time at all.

Sorry is a very big word with only five letters. Once again, multiple meanings. It may be an apology, it may be empathy, it may be that I didn't hear you properly or understand. I have been on Boards and Committees and if someone around the table says something that we are not sure of, we ask for clarification. That usually does not happen in our day-to-day lives. We tend to stay silent, without question.

Sadly, a few months ago, I accidentally blew up a friendship through the honesty of my words. For that I will be eternally sorry. I had no intention of making my friend feel uncomfortable, actually, the opposite. Maybe, some things are better left unsaid ...

I am reminded of that old saying, *time heals all wounds*, (actually it doesn't) or is *it time wounds all heels*, I can never remember.

C'est la vie.

www.craigbarrett.com.au



Smeaton Bowling Club News

SBC has completed another busy and successful year. Highlights for the year have been the re-opening of the newly re-surfaced synthetic green and the upgrade to lights on the synthetic green. The grass green has also received many compliments and the club was fortunate to host two rounds of finals due to the high quality of the green. The hard work of the club has been rewarded with quality surfaces enabling play all year round.

Congratulations to the Midweek Division 4 team which played in the Grand Final, just beaten by Bungaree on the day. Congratulations to Bungaree on their win.

Some of the club's bowlers will be heading north over the winter so we wish them safe travels and hope they still find time to practise their bowling skills wherever they are. The synthetic green will be available for those not lucky enough to get away, so none of us can be excused from a practice session every now and then.

Thank you to all members, volunteers, supporters and sponsors who contribute in many different ways to the club. The AGM will be held at 8.00pm on Wednesday, 14 May at the club, so get those nominations in if you wish to take on a role.

If anyone is interested in learning how to play bowls or participating in the 25/26 pennant season, please make contact and consider joining this friendly, country club.

Contacts - Secretary Russell 0417 535 297, President David 0418 584 942 or via email smeatonbowling@gmail.com

Laraine Toose

Senior Cits News

A busy time was held at the Seniors club rooms to finish off March 2025. The usual gathering for Social Day was followed on the Saturday with the Welcome to New Residents event.

Unfortunately, April's Social Day has to be cancelled as it clashes with ANZAC Day. May 30 will be the next Social Day.

Get well wishes to anyone on the sick list.

June Gray

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CRESFEST A HUGE SUCCESS

The annual Creswick Festival CresFest was once again an enormous success and great display of the town in all its glory. From Friday 4 April to Sunday 6 April the town lit up with live music and dance from local artists and major stars. There was no shortage of events and activities for locals and visitors of all ages.

Congratulations to the CresFest Committee and all the volunteers who made this year one to remember.

CresFest is proudly supported by Council.

APRIL PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Easter public holidays

Council hubs, libraries and offices will close from Friday 18 April to Monday 21 April.

Bins will not be collected on Friday 18 April, they will be collected the following day. Bins will be collected as usual on Monday 21 April.

Transfer stations are closed on Friday 18 April, but will open as usual over the Easter weekend.

Visitor Information Centres will open as usual over the Easter weekend.

Anzac Day, Friday 25 April

Council hubs, libraries and offices will close on Friday 25 April.

There are no changes to kerbside collections or transfer station opening hours.

Visitor Information Centres will open as usual.

Duke Street Office, Daylesford

Please note that our Duke Street Office in Daylesford will close on Friday 18 April and reopen on Monday 28 April.

Staff and services will be consolidated into other buildings given the two public holidays that week. Other hubs will be open and you can raise requests online, www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/contact-us

For Council-related emergencies, phone 0419 583 573.

For animal emergencies, phone 0419 587 955.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

The Community Grants Program supports community-based projects and initiatives that enhance the social, environmental and economic life of the Shire. Round 2 of the Community Grants Program closes on Tuesday 29 April.

The Environment Group Grants Program supports community groups whose primary function is to enhance and protect the environment of the Shire. Applications open Tuesday 1 April and close Tuesday 29 April.

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

To discuss a project idea contact grants@hepburn.vic.gov.au

PLANNING TEAM CHANGES

To better serve the community and streamline our processes, our Planning team will be dedicating Mondays to processing applications. This means they will not be available on Mondays. However, Tuesday to Friday they will be available on the phone from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm and we recommend you phone ahead if you would like to discuss your matter in person.

Visit our Planning page, www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/planning and to book a consult, phone 5348 2306 (option 1).

SHARED BUILDING SERVICES

Council's Building Services team have partnered with Mount Alexander Shire Council to deliver more streamlined and efficient building services across the two shires. There is no change in the way residents and businesses access services. The team continues to operate locally, ensuring the community receives reliable and responsive support. Visit,

www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/building-permits

COUNCIL ADVOCACY

On Friday 28 March the Greater Ballarat Alliance of Councils (GBAC) quarterly meeting took place in Daylesford. Mayors and CEOs agreed on regional priorities that will require federal support and action.

On the same day, the Mayor, a number of Councillors and Council's CEO met with the newly appointed State Minister for Local Government and local MP Mary-Anne Thomas to discuss the opportunities and challenges facing the Shire. Read more on our website, www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/latest-news

LISTENING POSTS

Listening Posts provide an opportunity for residents to share their ideas, provide feedback on services, and discuss matters that are important to them with senior Council Officers and Councillors.

Listening Posts scheduled are:

- Saturday 17 May - Trentham Market, 10 am - 12 pm
- Saturday 21 June - Glenlyon Town Hall, 10 am - 12 pm

Details of other Listening Post events, including dates and locations, will be made available on our website,

www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/listening-posts

HEPBURN TOGETHER



Hepburn Together 2025-2029 is a community engagement initiative aimed at shaping the future of Hepburn Shire as we create our new Council Plan for 2025-2029.

Thank you to those of you who applied to be part of the Deliberative Engagement Panel. There will be more opportunities

to get involved over the coming months. Stay up to date on the Participate Hepburn website www.participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au

YOUR COUNCILLORS



Cr Don Henderson



Cr Lesley Hewitt



Cr Brian Hood



Cr Tony Clark



Cr Tim Drylie



Cr Pat Hockey



Cr Shirley Cornish

Learn more at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/Councillors ☎ 5348 2306 ✉ shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au 🌐 www.facebook.com/hepburncouncil



Creswick Bowling Club Awards and Presentation Night

Last month the club held its Awards and Presentation night on Friday, 14 March. It was a fairly informal night with awards presented by Beth Huntley and Travis Hedger to the following people:

Open Pairs Champions, Sigrid Glasspool and Trevor Booth, Runners-up Open Pairs, Greg Peel and Richard Greg.

Open Minor Champion, Greg Peel, Open Minor Champion Runner-up, Dale Chalmers.

Ladies Pairs Champions, Judy Rieniets and Beth Huntley.

Ladies Club Champion, Rebecca Booth.

Runner-up Ladies Club Champion, Beth Huntley.

Men's Club Champion, Stephen Hepworth and Men's Runner-up Club Champion, Robert Ohlsen.

Outdoor bowls has finished for this season and preparations are underway organising teams and Divisions for both Ladies and Men for Indoor Bowls, which commence on Monday, 28 April and Tuesday, 29 April respectively. Practise will start shortly. If you are interested in playing Indoor Bowls come along to the club and make yourself known. The club is always looking for new members.

Easter holidays are from Good Friday, 18 April to Easter Monday, 21 April. Friday, 25 April is ANZAC Day and dinner will not be provided on that day. A decision will be made at the next Board Meeting whether to offer dinners on the first Friday of each month after ANZAC Day.

Do you have a small function coming up and looking for a suitable venue? The bowls club can accommodate up to 120 people and can arrange some catering or provide provisions for you to self-cater. The club also has a bar available. Contact Bernie on 0437 102 059 to discuss options.

Bernie O'Malley



Beth Huntley, Rebecca Booth



Stephen Hepworth, Robert Ohlsen

Meet the team



Tina

(03) 5345 2326

Adam

0439 306 833

Tash

0400 936 420

Sandy

(03) 5345 2326

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Creswick's Best Selling Team



114 Cemetery Road, Smeaton

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3 2 10

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Creswick's Best Selling Team



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3 2 4

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Creswick's Best Selling Team



St Augustine's News

Dear Creswick and Surrounding Communities,

I am thrilled to share with you the exciting start to the school year at St Augustine's Creswick! The Prep class has settled in beautifully and it's wonderful to see our youngest students already making new friends and exploring their learning environment.

From the youngest member of our school to the eldest members of our school, the Year 6 class has also begun the year with enthusiasm and a sense of responsibility, ready to take on new challenges and leadership roles. They are demonstrating excellence in application to their studies, while also modelling a truly reflective Social and Emotional approach. They are terrific role models for the rest of the school. We are so lucky to have them lead our school.

This year marks an exciting milestone for our school, as we commence the use of our brand-new buildings and enjoy the benefits of our complete school refurbishment. These state-of-the-art facilities will provide our students with the best possible learning environment, and we can't wait to see the positive impact it will have on their educational journey. They are due to be completed sometime in Term 3.

If you have a child due to start Prep in 2026, we invite you to be part of our St Augustine's community! Our enrolment process has begun and we are currently conducting individual school tours. This is a great opportunity to see our school in action, meet our dedicated staff, and get a feel for our welcoming community. Please contact the school to book a tour and learn more about our enrolment process, phone 5345 2106 or email

admin@sacreswick.catholic.edu.au.

Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to sharing our school's journey with you throughout the year.

Kind regards,

*Michael Heenan,
Principal*

Before and After



Demolition prior to re-building



Architect's visualisation of new building

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Creswick Brass Band Busy Times



The Creswick Brass Band had a wonderful time performing at the Clunes Booktown event in March and *CresFest* in April. As the band prepares for the National Band Championships, players have been working hard and it's all coming together. Recently, the band held a pre-National Band Championship concert, offering a sneak peek of what has been practised. The concert was well-received and we were fortunate to have Ken MacDonald, a renowned figure in the brass band community who has experience playing with Grimethorpe Colliery Band and Black Dyke, lead a workshop helping to refine the competition pieces.

The National Band Championships will be held over the Easter weekend, with the Creswick Brass Band performing on Friday, 18 April - Hymn and test piece; Saturday, 19 April - Parade of Bands and Sunday, 20 April - march and a piece of the band's choosing.

All the action can be live streamed on *Brassbanned*, with links available on the Facebook page.

On Thursday, 8 May at 6.00pm at the Senior Citizens Centre, there will be a free **Come and Try** evening. This event is open to everyone of any age, beginners or those who have some musical experience. If you've ever wondered what it's like to play a brass instrument, come along and give it a try! Band members will be happy to answer any questions, no instrument is needed - just bring your curiosity! To register, go online via TryBooking or the QR code which can be found on the band's flyer and social media.

The Creswick Brass Band is incredibly grateful for the ongoing support from the local community and organizations which helps them thrive. We also welcome donations, which are now tax-deductible. Feel free to join us for a rehearsal on Thursday evenings, 7.00pm at the Creswick Senior Citizens Centre.

Creswick Brass Band



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0417 584 452.

Upcoming Community Forum



Our second Community Forum will be held on Wednesday, 7 May at 2.30pm in the Bill Huntley Function Room at John Curtin Aged Care. This Forum will deal with the issue of *Grief and Trauma*.

Trauma and grief can affect us individually or collectively. Creswick is no stranger to either. The three floods of 2010 to 2011 and the more recent cell storm of January 2022, were traumatic events for many in our community. The Forum brings together a number of experts in the community who deal with grief and trauma on a regular basis. Those who attended a session sponsored by Hepburn Shire Council at the Doug Lindsay Reserve in 2022 following the Cell Storm, may have heard a trauma expert talking about the advantages of dealing with collective trauma together as a community.

This Forum will also talk about grief on a personal level, the loss of a loved one, a friend, a pet, identity, a job or a home. Grief is the pain of loss. We seldom talk about it and when confronted by it in others, we can say the wrong thing without knowing it. We can do better, when we know what to say. We all experience grief at some stage. There is no standard time frame and no formula for dealing with grief. Grief can stay with us for a long time. To book in for the session call 5345 9999 or go to jcac@jcac.org.au

For those who attended the earlier forum on *How to get into Aged Care*, we remind you that you can still contact Steve Bruechert if you have further questions. For those who missed out, this Forum will run again next year.

Susan Craven, President

		
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email: creswickpharmacy@nUNET.com.au		
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<p>Creswick: 5345 1237 Clunes: 5345 3355</p>		

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information.

Creswick Neighbourhood Centre Food Assistance Program

On Thursday, 6 March a group of local residents boarded the seniors minibus and headed into Foodbank's Ballarat Food Hub. Funding for this initiative is thanks to the Victorian Government's *Department of Families Fairness and Housing* which saw the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre, along with 111 other services across Victoria, obtain funding to enhance their food assistance programs.

Did you know the CNC would see over 100 people access food assistance each week? CNC volunteers collect over 350kgs of food which includes fresh fruit

and veg, frozen meals and refrigerated items such as milk, yogurt and margarine from the Ballarat Food Hub. Tuesday mornings are a hive of activity on the CNC back porch where people gather under the tree where the food is distributed to those in need.

If you, or someone you know, requires food assistance, call the CNC Monday to Thursday, 9.00am – 5.00pm on 5345 2356 or come along on Tuesdays 10.00am - 11.30am to find out more.

Chrissy Austin, Manager

April 3, 1925 The Mayor is convening a public meeting for next Wednesday evening, in the bank chambers, for the purpose of making arrangements for Empire Day celebrations in the Borough.

April 7, 1925 A scotch fair will be held in the Mechanics' Hall, Smeaton, on the 7th of May, in connection with the Presbyterian Church.

Plenty of interesting goods will be for sale. Good Music and Competitions. Admission Free. Full particulars later. A. Redman, President; E. Toose, Secretary.

April 10, 1925 A Farewell social and presentation will be tendered to Mr and Mrs. F. Pickering and family in the Smeaton Mechanics' Hall on Friday, 17th April, at 8 o'clock. Ladies provide. Dance. F. C. Redman, President;

F. W. Redman, Junr. Secty.

April 17, 1925 Returned Soldiers or dependents of fallen soldiers are notified that the position of postmaster or postmistress at Newlyn is about to be filled. The position at present carries an allowance of

£109/5/, including £19/10/ for accommodation and lighting. Those who desire to apply for the position should at once notify Mr. D. J. Duggan, secretary of the Local Repatriation Committee, Creswick, from whom particulars can be obtained.

April 21, 1925 A memorial window in St. John's Church of England, Creswick, to those who fell in the Great War, will be dedicated and unveiled next Saturday afternoon, at 3 pm, that being Anzac Day. The Vicar-General of the Diocese, Dean Tucker, will dedicate the window.

April 24, 1925 The latest report from the New Ristori Mine at Allendale is to the effect that payable wash has been touched in the north-west corner of No. 1 rise. A good sample of gold was obtained.

April 28, 1925 meeting of the members of the Creswick Turf Club will be held on Wednesday (Tomorrow) evening, at 8 o'clock, at the American Hotel.

Business – to elect officers and appoint officials for race meeting on May 30th. H. McGoldrick, Secretary.



Welcome to New Residents Event

It was a full house in the Seniors Centre, with 25 locals welcoming new residents together with representatives from Victoria Police, Parks Victoria, SES and CFA. Hepburn Shire Council funded the event via a community grant and three Councillors attended. Gifts from local real estate agents and IGA generously supported the event. Everyone appreciated afternoon tea.

Some feedback comments included '*Thank you for the information and the welcome*'; '*The gifts were lovely as were the plants from Gardens for Wildlife*' and '*I was really impressed. This is a great local event. Thank you*'.

The next welcome event will be held on 29 June, 3.00pm at the Seniors Centre. The CRWA wish to thank all those who make it a special Creswick initiated and supported event.

Judy Henderson, Secretary, Creswick Railway Workshops Association Inc

Raising Kids in a Digital World—a Free Seminar

Keeping kids safe online can be a minefield for parents and carers. From cyberbullying to online predators, there is so much for parents to be aware of. The upcoming *Raising Kids in a Digital World* seminar aims to equip parents and carers with the knowledge they need to help navigate the online world. Topics covered include social media, impacts of screen time, online gaming, cyberbullying, child/tween online trends, explicit/adult content, mentor parenting, family communication, and parental controls.

This important seminar, hosted by the Community Bank Creswick & District, is free to attend. It will be presented by expert educator Marty McGauran, and experienced psychologist Carley McGauran, from *Inform and Empower*, a Melbourne-based organisation working with over 70,000 primary school students nationally. Marty and Carly will share evidence-based strategies, practical tips, and up-to-date insights.

Also attending the seminar will be Leading Senior Constable Jim Ross from the Victoria Police Western

Region. Jim has seen firsthand the impact that cyberbullying can have on the youngest members of our community. Jim is a strong advocate for targeted education and training that keeps kids safe online. It was Jim who recommended that a great way for our Community Bank to support the community would be to enable our local primary schools to provide cyber safety sessions as part of the curriculum.

The Community Bank Creswick & District has acted on Jim's advice and is now financially supporting a number of our local primary schools to provide cyber safety incursions to students from Foundation to Grade 6.


This 90-minute *Raising Kids in a Digital World* presentation will assist attendees in growing their understanding and confidence to support their children as they navigate the online world.

Seminar details are: **Wednesday, 23 April 2025, 7.00pm – 8.30pm at Doug Lindsay Recreation Reserve.**

For more information email admin@cdfs.com.au

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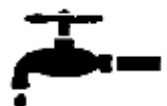
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Supporting Creswick's Mental Health and Wellbeing After the Bushfire Threat

After weeks of summer bushfire threats and evacuations, the Creswick community is now in recovery. Many may need practical support and opportunities to reconnect. If you're feeling the impact and need to talk, there are several options available.

Where to Get Help:

- Online Resources: *Head to Health* offers a variety of mental health information.
- GP and Mental Health Care Plans: if you need more than online support, your GP can help. A Mental Health Care Plan provides access to subsidised sessions with a psychologist or counsellor.

Support Services:

- *Lifeline*, for crisis support, contact 13 11 14 or lifeline.org.au.
- *Beyond Blue*, for anxiety and depression, contact 1300 224 636 or beyondblue.org.au.
- *Suicide Call Back Service*, for counselling for those affected by suicide, contact 1300 659 467 or suicidecallbackservice.org.au.
- *Kids Helpline*, free support for young people, contact 1800 551 800 or kidshelpline.com.au.
- *MensLine Australia*, for men's mental health, contact 1300 789 978 or mensline.org.au.
- *Crisis support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People*, contact 13 92 76 or 13yarn.org.au
- *Support for LGBTIQ+ communities*, contact 1800 184 527 or qlife.org.au.

**If you or someone else
is in immediate danger,
call 000.**

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) in Creswick

The Creswick Readiness Group is committed to strengthening community resilience. A key part of this effort was the recent Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training, where 11 locals became certified to support others experiencing mental health challenges. Congratulations to Juliet Viney, Michael Parker, Kathy Burgum, Bernadette Jordan, Don Oswin, Mark Shalless, Andrew Young, Steve Hemphill, Kathryn Shalless, Roy Hardman and Isaac McCann for stepping up.

MHFA is a nationally accredited program that teaches people how to recognize signs of mental health concerns, provide initial support and guide individuals toward professional help. This training is especially valuable in Creswick, where natural disasters and ongoing stress impact community wellbeing. Their skills complement emergency responders, reducing stigma and fostering emotional recovery.

The Creswick Readiness Group will run two more MHFA courses in 2025. If you are interested, please contact Jacqui at jqwhite21@gmail.com. The next course will take place on 24 and 31 May. Together, we are building a more connected and supportive community one better prepared for future challenges.

Jacqui White

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CRESWICK AND DISTRICT REGULAR AND ONGOING EVENTS

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: 10.00am 2nd and 4th Sundays
Service of the Word: 10.00 am 4th Sundays
Contact: 0413 689 003

Business & Tourism Creswick Inc.
Meet every second Tuesday of the month at 7pm and open to anyone who is interested.
Creswick Neighbourhood Centre. Contact the secretary on info@creswick.net

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.

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 & District Aquatic Centre Inc. - first Wednesday Feb. Apr. Aug. Nov 7.00pm
Phone 0434 071 185

Creswick & District Historical Society
fourth Thursday every month (except December and January) Seniors' Club rooms 2.00pm. Phone 5345 2065

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.

Calembeen 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 calembeen@parkrun.com.au or find us on Facebook

Community Repair & Share Event
3rd Sunday, 1.00pm to 4.00pm
Creswick Neighbourhood Centre transitioncreswick@gmail.com or 5345 2356

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
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 Senior Citizens - last Friday each month members enjoy social day and \$5 Lunch at Seniors' Clubrooms 12 noon

Creswick Senior Cyclists - meet Sundays and Wednesdays, 10.15am 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.

Creswick Ward meeting - second Monday every month.

Cr Don Henderson 7.00pm
Creswick Railway Station

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

Freedom In Christ-Church
RSL Hall Albert St Creswick
Jesus heals and sets free.
Sundays 10:15am - 1:00pm
Pastor Margaret Tamkin
Contact Mob. 0449 917 503

Friends of Park Lake
Park Lake working bees
10am-noon every Wednesday, weather permitting.
Meet at the jetty.
Goldfields Recreation and Dance Inc.
Ballroom Dancing Classes
All levels - Mondays
\$10 per annum
Call 0402 777 852 or 0427 246 278

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
7 April 2025 - Monday 6.00 pm
AGM 27 April 2025 - Sunday 2.00 pm
Creswick Neighbourhood House
Enquiries: secretary@creswickartspavilion.org.au

RSL meeting - last Wednesday each month 1.00pm. RSL Hall Phil Greenbank 0490 374 006

Tipplers - third Wednesday every month. email: tonycartwright@gltau.com

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



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