



THE CROAKER

The Croaker is a not for profit, monthly, voluntary publication and is for general information purposes only. Alternative points of view to those expressed in opinion articles are encouraged and welcomed. Please send news, comments and queries to Renee - email: deansmarshartstudio@bigpond.com or on-line <https://www.facebook.com/thecroaker/>

JMBush CONSTRUCTION

Jason Bush was born and bred in Pennyroyal on a family farm. He went to the local primary school in Deans Marsh then went on to Colac Technical School. From there he left to take on a carpentry apprenticeship, which was always his intention. After he finished his apprenticeship, Jason joined another Colac builder, managing large architectural homes along the coast for many years, before leaving Victoria with his wife Jenny to reside in Darwin, where they started their family. Jason commenced work as a construction manager for a commercial building company, running various commercial projects.



After deciding to return home to Pennyroyal and build their family home, Jason decided to build his own small bespoke building business, JMBush Construction, focussed largely on architectural homes, as architectural design is his passion. This passion has built strong relationships with clients from Lorne, Wensleydale, Torquay, Barwon Downs, Forrest and Pennyroyal, who were after the company's key attributes, being quality and customer satisfaction.



Although architectural design is the businesses core focus, he also recognises the need to provide other building services required in a rural area. The business can provide equipment for most small earth works projects, inclusive of trenching, hole boring, driveways and landscaping with an owned and operated skid steer loader. Jason has also recently researched the need for a quality kit constructed shed manufacturer, given that most rural clients require shedding on their property. Subsequently, he has recently been awarded as a distributor of A-Line Building Systems, which he believes are the best quality sheds on the market.



Jason is currently working on an architecturally designed residence in Birregurra. Another architectural coastal designed home in Fairhaven and a bespoke studio in Parkers Road will follow this.

As an active and enthusiastic community member, Jason has been involved in organising Matt Whitehead's Gala Comedy Night, volunteering with the CFA, Deans Marsh Cricket Club and Deans Marsh Primary School. Jason is currently helping out with the design and construction of the new Deans Marsh Pavilion/Stage.

JMBush Construction
Phone: 0488 045 201

WHEELS ON FIRE!

At last, Spring is in the air, jonquils everywhere, glorious bird song, busy buzzing bees - and once again in quiet little Deans Marsh town, it's Lycra-time!

We're up for two major bicycle bonanzas this Spring: The 5,000 plus riders in *Wiggle Amy's Gran Fondo* on **Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th September**, and *The Great Vic Bike Ride* brings us another 5,000 leg-weary Lycrans at the end of November.

Both Events will mean some road closures for us and our accommodation guests and our everyday run of tourists. Be sure to check the relevant publicity to minimise the disturbance to your plans on those weekends. The *Wiggle Fondo wheelathon* will be whipping through Deans Marsh as in the past, but this year *The Great Vic Bike Ride* is coming into Deans Marsh on **Saturday 30th November**, staying overnight, and heading off to Lorne on **Sunday morning 1st December**.

So how will all that work? The *Great Vic* management have negotiated with the DM Hall Committee and with the Marotta Farm to park themselves overnight on the Reserve and the adjacent farmland. The *Great Vic* operation is much like an army on the move, travelling with their own toilets, kitchens, showers, catering, bar, entertainment stage, and tents (for 5,000), among them around 1,000 young folk from early to later teens. So, we're in for a bit of excitement on these weekends.

But with the *Great Vic* there are opportunities, too. For one, the Hall Committee and the Marotta's have negotiated with *Great Vic* for a very reasonable contribution to our community; a large donation to our CFA and a large donation to the Hall Committee, which it will use for long-over due improvements to the Hall acoustics and interior. And there's more!



Having 5,000 riders here with not much to do from midday Saturday to breakfast Sunday creates many opportunities for our community to organise fund-raising or promotional activities. The Saturday night *Great Vic* is here is the final night of their nine-day journey, which means nine days of fairly ordinary catering. So pizzas and BBQ offerings could be very popular, along with cakes and liquid refreshments. As well as opportunities to promote our local wines and produce, to spruik our local accommodation offerings for later return visits, and so on.

The Hall Committee is not equipped to manage all these fund-raising and promotional possibilities. It's up to individuals and community groups to *seize the day!* Riders in past *Great Vics* have told us that **food** is the greatest opportunity, largely because the long queues lining up for food nine days in a row becomes a little tedious. So, there are many opportunities there for locals to earn some money, not by trying to feed 5,000, more by offering alternatives to maybe 100 or 3 or 500 tired souls on the final night of their long journey, or a tasty early breakfast on the Sunday morning.

So, *Wiggle Amy* is just around the corner but locals still have three months to gear up for the fund-raising opportunities provided by 10,000 *Great Vic* pushbike *wheels* rolling into town at the end of November. *Wheels on fire, comin' down the road...*

CD

A MESSAGE FROM JOHANNA

Dear Marshans, I have returned from my trip up north with the kids, and after much thought have decided to move my practice from Birregurra, to the more centrally-located Winchelsea. I will be practising at the holistic medicine clinic, Moksha, located at 23 Hesse Street, opposite the tearooms.

I have enjoyed providing low-cost acupuncture and Chinese medicine to the local community over the last three years, I have especially enjoyed getting to know many of you and want to thank you all for your support. I am looking forward to getting back amongst a team of integrative health practitioners, and being more accessible to my old and new patients, who come from all over.

Appointments can be made by phoning 52 67 2948.

Many thanks and much appreciation, Johanna Edwards

WRAP-UP RUN THE MARSH 2019

Well what a great morning we had on Sunday 25th August. The rain stopped and the sun shone on us briefly.

Thank you so much to everyone who came along. I know you'll all be dying to see the photos; they are now available for your viewing pleasure at www.deansmarsh.org.au

While you are on our website, have a look at some of the other wonderful events and courses that are coming up in Deans Marsh. Our Community Cottage is always busy making sure there is a lot to keep this wonderful community occupied! You can register to receive fortnightly updates so you need never miss out on the action.

So, I thought you might like a few stats: We ended up with 122 participants | It was pretty much a 50/50 split male & female | Our youngest attendees were around 2 and our oldest was 74 | We had 36 walkers | 52 of you ran 2km | 34 of you ran 5km

Thanks, Lucy

Results: 5KM OVERALL WINNER - Michael Mackenzie
| 2KM OVERALL WINNER - Luca Di Natale

5KM Male: 1st Place - Michael Mackenzie | 2nd place - Carl Angus | 3rd Place - Rory Boyd

5KM Female: 1st Place - Emily Morden | 2nd Place - Kylie Edwards | 3rd Place - Kylie Nuske

Special mention to the other 5KM place getters in the Juniors: Male - Bailey Driscoll and Jack McKerron | Female - Rachel Morden and Mae Harper

2KM Male: 1st Place - Luca Di Natale | 2nd Place - Patrick Gray | 3rd Place - Harry Cook

2KM FEMALE: 1st Place - Camryn Smith | 2nd Place - Jemma McCann | 3rd Place - Zara Cook

Prize Draw winner: Tara Simes



Otways Threatened Species Forum

From whales to potoroos, how are the Otways threatened species faring?

Over the past three years, things have been changing in the Great Otway National Park. You might not notice it as you drive along the Great Ocean Road, but a landscape-scale small mammal recovery project known as the 'Otway Ark' is underway. Fox control is being undertaken and there's a small army of researchers scouring the bush looking for signs of change or recovery.

Earlier this month, over 100 researchers and land managers came together at the fourth annual Otways Threatened Species Forum to share data and insights from their work on the 'Otway Ark' and a range of other projects across the Otways. To read full article please visit: <https://www.conservationecologycentre.org/2019/08/26/threatened-species-forum/>

The Forum provides a platform for researchers and land managers to present findings on a range of other projects in the Otways, you can read about more of them on the Conservation Ecology Centre's website: <https://www.conservationecologycentre.org/>

If you'd like to know more, or attend future events, please email Jack Pascoe, Conservation & Research Manager at the Conservation Ecology Centre at jack@conservationecologycentre.org.



Photo: Phil Hines

DEANS MARSH PRIMARY SCHOOL - RESPECT, RESILIENCE & RESPONSIBILITY

Once again, our students have made us proud with their efforts at the **Geelong Music & Movement Festival** on Tuesday 13th August. It was great to join many of our school families in celebrating the musical skills of our students. A huge thank you to Louise Brown for all her work in preparing our students. Louise is truly a blessing to our school community. For any community members who were unable to attend, I can tell you that our students were colourful and energized on stage, and their performances were very well received by the audience. Afterwards, we all walked around the bay in beautiful sunshine to Ripple Side Park, where we ate our lunches and played in the playground until it was time to head home. It was a marvellous day.

Public Speaking Festival - Thursday 12th Sept

All Year 3-6 students have begun preparing for the annual public speaking festival run in partnership with the Lions Club. All students in Year 3-6 are preparing a speech that will be delivered to their peers on the 6th September. School-based judges will then select a DMPS public speaking team (4 students in total) who will represent us at an event at the **Deans Marsh Hall on Thursday 12th September at 7pm**, against Birregurra and Forrest schools. Last year our students did a wonderful job, including winning the overall schools shield. However, once again the focus will be on having fun and having a go.

Junior School Council Talent Show - Tuesday 17th September, 4pm

Students have begun rehearsing for the first ever DMPS Talent Show. This is an event planned and run by our wonderful Junior School Council. The Talent Show will kick off at 4.00pm and will include performances and prizes. This event is in place of the school disco this year, as both these events will alternate each year.

Wind Farm Excursion - Wednesday 18th Sept

To end our term's amazing STEM work where students have been learning all about energy, all students will be travelling by bus to the Mt Gellibrand Wind Farm for a half-day excursion, leaving school at 10.15am. Once there, we will be learning all about how the wind farm operates, with plenty of opportunities to ask questions. With the wind farm supporting our school through a generous \$1,500 grant for our nature trail project, it will be great to learn more about them and how they provide energy and support our community.

Sports Colours Day Gold Coin Donations - Friday 20th September

To conclude our term 3, we will again celebrate with a sports colours day where students can proudly show their team colours by parading their favourite footy or other sporting team. This year we will ask families for a gold coin donation which will be used to support the Great Otway Trail Ride, which is raising money for the Dolly's Dream Foundation.

Russell Taylor-Shaw
Principal



Deans Marsh is a wonderful place with unique nature and wild life. Our school wishes to acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Gadubanud people. We pay our respects to their elders, past, present and future.



WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER 2019

Deans Marsh Hall - Pop-up Cafe
Deans Marsh Hall - Table Tennis 'The Ping Pong Club'
Deans Marsh Hall - DMPS/Lions Club Junior Public Speaking Night
DM Cottage - Vic Market Shopping Trip with Otway Winery Tours

Amy's Gran Fondo Bike Ride - Road Closures
Deans Marsh Primary School - Junior School Council Talent Show

Every Friday night, from 6pm
Tuesday nights, from 7.30pm
Thursday 12th September, 7pm
Saturday 14th September
Bus departs Cottage 9am, returns 4pm
Sunday 15th Sept. 7am - 11am
Tuesday 17th September, 4pm