



THE

croaker

Deans Marsh Community Newsletter

Volume 4, Number 6

March 2013

The Croaker is a voluntary publication and is not for profit. Printing and distribution costs are covered by the support of our generous sponsors. Thank you to anyone who submitted an article, if you have anything you wish to contribute or any feedback please email matt_janewhitehead@live.com. For those of you that enjoy reading the Croaker and don't receive it via the post, we would be more than happy to send it to you via email. If you wish to receive the Croaker via email please send your email address to matt_janewhitehead@live.com.

It's Festival time again – Sunday the 24th of March.

The Festival Committee has implemented several significant changes over the last couple of years which, not surprisingly, have met with a mixed response within the community. However, the changes were seen, at a desperate time, as essential to make the running of the Festival less onerous and time consuming for the people who make it happen each year. Frankly, the well of volunteers, who have given so generously of their time, energy and creativity over the years, had dried up!

At the first meeting of a small and quickly cobbled together committee in 2011, barely six weeks out from the proposed event, the question was asked “should we bother?” The answer was yes, but that we would have to make changes in the future so that the running of the Festival became easier and that volunteers would come back and again contribute their creativity and ideas and energy.

In a key initiative the Cottage committee elected to allocate paid time for the energetic Cottage Coordinator, Bec Raynor, to carry out the bulk of the administrative tasks associated with organising the Festival. The ‘Gate Fee’ was removed but at the same time local talent, young and old, was encouraged to perform for free. This eliminated the fees charged by out-side performers. Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Marsh is a jaw-dropping example of what our talented community is capable of. We have also gained the services of IT wiz Donna Nolan who has propelled us into the 21st century – follow us on Twitter or Facebook! Definitely take a look at www.deansmarshfestival.com.au

This year the four traditional recipients of funds raised on the day, the CFA, the DM Primary School, the Hall and Recreation Reserve Committee and the Community Cottage, will each stand alone as individual fund-raisers. The day will also be opened up to other sporting and community groups to raise funds in any way they see fit.

The Cricket Club, for instance, will run the sports events, including the running of the DM Gift, the Sheath Toss, gum-boot toss, hand-ball, and this year, featuring their new ‘catching machine’. Playgroup will organise the “Kidzone” with bouncing castle, eco-activities and face painting. The Sustainable Gardeners, who did such a cracking job last year, will organise the Sustainability Precinct with alternative power demos and electric cars.

The CFA will be running the ‘Watering-hole’ and collecting gold coin donations at the entry points. The Hall committee will continue with their BBQ but with an added Brekkie Roll with bacon and egg, served early for Stallies and organisers. The School will do Pizza as usual and espresso coffee and cake in the cricket pavilion and run the kids produce stall. The Cottage will be the recipient of the proceeds from The Raffle, so energetically organised by Judy Cameron.

The changes have really been about out-sourcing. The organising committee should be about ideas and being creative in ways that will take the Festival forward for a hundred years. The day should be about Community, Art, Performance, Food, Fun, History, Animals, Kids, Music, and Laughter, in other words – it should be about US!

All the quirky favourites of the Festival will be on again – the dog jump, return of the Jack Russell Race, Tug of War, the Gift, and featuring again the slowly becoming famous “OMM”. There are now activities on Saturday – Winery Tours, Sustainability Tours and a Grand Otway Poets Dinner at Old Lorne Road Olives. See the web site for details.

The Deans Marsh Festival – a celebration of the Community, by the Community, for the Community. See you there. Bring your friends. Support the area's essential social, service and sporting groups. And remember, being on the Festival committee has never been easier. Join up at the Cottage for 2014!

Andrew Permezel Phone: 0427 887339 (BH)
1185 Lorne Road 03 52887339 (AH)
BAMBRA 3241 Fax: 03 52887334

PermaWeld

A.B.N. 23 693 533 134

For all your stainless steel, aluminium and mild steel welding needs, let PermaWeld come to you

OTWAY PRIME™
PREMIUM GRASS FED BEEF AND SEASONAL LAMB

Phone Udi on 0428 112 212

Email: udi@otwayprime.com.au

www.otwayprime.com.au



6 Star Energy Ratings and BAL Assessments
New homes, relocations & extensions
contact Bruce St Clair

Effective Thermal Solutions

0435 892 799 or 52363231

www.effectivethermalsolutions.com.au

Woodleigh Boarding Kennels

85 Old Lorne Road
Deans Marsh 3235

For bookings phone Sandra & Peter Dempsey

Phone: (03) 5236 3341

Mobile: 0488 578 712

We offer our dogs leisure exercise in great harmony

Paul Smith Dip.Hort. Garden Design & Maintenance Fruit Tree Pruning

Consultant in Organic Horticulture,
Arboriculture & Sustainable Gardening.
Courses on site in Organic Gardening

255 Parkers Road
Deans Marsh 3236

Ph: 0409 809 045

East Otway Landcare Vege Garden Tour

The East Otway Landcare group held a very successful vege garden tour on Sunday 3rd of March, 20 people enjoyed a leisurely roam around Shona and Paul Smiths organic vege and fruit garden. Paul treated us to many gardening tips as well and a few ideas about what a sustainable garden is, followed by a gorgeous platter of fruit and goats cheese.

Just down the road we then had a tour of Tracey and Annies garden, with raised beds for their vege garden, some great ideas for keeping the chooks off the beds especially if you like them to free range, a park garden for contemplation and a fantastic looking chook house. We then had a lovely shared lunch on their verandah looking out over a fabulous view.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their morning and went home with plenty of tips for their own gardens. This was such a popular event we will hold another one later in the year at different community members gardens around the district.

Look out for our next event on **Sun April the 13th**, where we have a **Birds workshop with Ellinor Campbell** 4pm at the Bambra wetlands, species identification, scoping, byo dinner to share at the Bambra Hall at 6.30pm, followed by a talk on the wetland birds of Bambra and Deans Marsh area.

Any Enquiries – Jennifer Morrow 52887144 Jill Stewart 52363206

Hi Everyone

It's been a reasonably quite fire season with only 8 turnouts to date. The brigade and district has been lucky so far with the extreme dry weather conditions, not to have had any major incidents.

Please note that fire restrictions are still in force. Also coming into the cooler months remember to make sure your smoke detectors are in good working order, a great way to remember is to change your batteries when you change your clocks for daylight savings.

The Deans Marsh CFA always needs new volunteers. If you would like to become part of your local CFA to keep it going strong for years to come, please contact me on 0427 363 331 for more information.

Regards

1st Lieutenant Heath Smith

Deans Marsh Cricket Club News Tom Reid

What gastronomic delights were served to the members and families of the Deans Marsh Cricket Club after an entertaining seniors v juniors cricket match to celebrate the end of the 2012/13 cricket season.

Thanks to all those that provided the luncheon, a spread of fresh fish, local meats, vibrant salads and scrumptious deserts.

The annual presentations followed with the president Danny Zdybel overseeing the awards. Many were thanked for their off field support and contributions throughout the year, individual performances were rewarded and appreciated with everyone looking positively to next season.

Congratulations to the Under 16's lead marvelously this season by Luka Brown. Runners up in the Grand Final at the Lake Oval to a well drilled outfit from City United. Stewart McCann won the association batting averages and George Vincent the association bowling averages to top off a great season.

The Second eleven started the second half of the season optimistically with a win, dreams of premierships and winning theme songs were rehearsed, it was to be just that, a fantasy, a hallucination. Fine individual performances peppered the season, Tommy Ryan with the ball, Indy Paddick in the field and Lachie Rowan with the gloves.

The First Eleven lead by Marshall Goddard remained competitive after the hiatus and finished two wins outside the finals. Russell Millard remained consistent with the bat scoring over 500 runs and the juniors Roy Armistead, Luka Brown and Zac Zdybel all performing well in the higher grade.

The Swamp Rats retained the Blackwood Cup after narrowly defeating the Wye River Sharks in the early February friendly, many new players introduced themselves to cricket and the Club with memorable performances. Thanks to the Wye River Sports Club for the jumping castle and the Hall committee for supplying lunch from the BBQ. All and sundry are looking forward to the 10th anniversary next year

Follow the club on Facebook for all the latest news.

St Paul's Anglican Church Deans Marsh

Sunday March 24th at 8.30am

East Sunday - no service at St Pauls, Deans Marsh BUT

a combined **East Sunday** parish service will be held at **St Thomas Anglican Church, Winchelsea at 11am, with Bishop Phillip Huggins.**

Sunday April 7th at 8.30am **Sunday May** 5th at 8.30am

14th at 8.30am 12th at 8.30am

21st at 11am 19th at 11am

28th at 8.30am 26th at 8.30am



AVAILABLE NOW

- Locally Collected Seed -
**Native Trees
and Shrubs**

Otway Greening
DEANS MARSH

ph: 5236 3314 e: trees@otwaygreening.com.au

website: www.otwaygreening.com.au

Blakes Estate Winery and Vineyard



BLAKE

20 Parkers Road, Deans Marsh. Telephone: 52363462

MARTIANS CAFE

BAR & BOTTLESHOP

(03) 52 363 350

www.martianscafe.com.au

CURRY NIGHT THURSDAYS FROM 6PM \$20 FOR
A SELECTION OF CURRIES & A STANDARD DRINK

REGULAR LIVE MUSIC

OPEN FOR BREAKFAST & LUNCH FROM 8AM DAILY
(EXCEPT CLOSED ON TUESDAY)

DEANS MARSH TIMBER & CORK

Sand and polish timber and cork flooring
All flooring installations

Matt Whitehead 0423 247 677

Specialising in waterbased coatings

Bona[®]
Passion for wood floors

Liz Balderas

0413 570 003



HERBALIFE

Daily Nutrition
Weight Loss/Gain
Energy
Sport & Fitness
Kid's Health
Skin & Hair Care

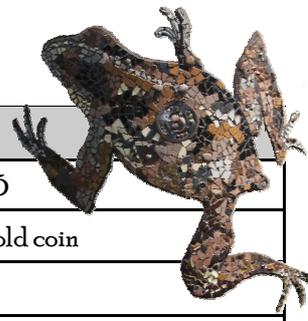
lizbalderas@bigpond.com

www.PeakHealthWealth.com

Call Liz for your free Wellness Evaluation!

Independent Herbalife Distributor

Coming up in Deans Marsh



| When | What | Where |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Every Monday 6.30—8pm | Yoga with Brian Bongetti | Deans Marsh Hall \$5 |
| Every Tuesday 7.30pm | Table Tennis | Deans Marsh Hall gold coin |
| Every 1st Wednesday 1.45pm | Red Cross— New members welcome | Deans Marsh Hall |
| Every 4th Friday 7pm | Film Night | Deans Marsh Cottage |
| Every Friday 10.30—12 | Mobile Library Van | Opposite Deans Marsh Hall |
| Every Saturday 9—10.30am | Tai Chi with Seona Gunn | Deans Marsh Cottage \$10/\$5 |
| Every Thursday | Ballet, Jazz & Contemporary Dance Classes | Surfcoast Movement Dynamics 0432 829 452 |
| Saturday 23rd March 7:30-10:30pm | Salty Dog | Martians Cafe |
| Saturday 30th March 7:30-10:30pm | Dog Gone South | Martians Cafe |
| Sat 30th—Sun 31st March | Birregurra & Warncoort Open Studios Weekend | More info call 0419 367 994 |
| Saturday 6th April 7:30-10:30pm | Lionel Lee's Curse | Martians Cafe |
| Saturday 13th April 7:30-10:30pm | Gallie | Martians Cafe |
| Saturday 20th April 7:30-10:30pm | Alex Legg | Martians Cafe |
| Saturday 27th April 7:30-10:30pm | Joe Forrester & Kylie Taylor | Martians Cafe |

Stone Wall Class

Date: 20 & 21st April Time: 10-2pm Location: 435 Brickmakers Rd, Bambra Cost: \$30 per person

Tutor Chris Harris will provide an interesting two day workshop teaching you the art of stone wall construction.

BYO Lunch and Gloves

Tools if you have them: Mash hammer, facing chisel and trowel

Bookings essential call the DM Cottage on 52363388

Community Profile

Belinda McKenzie

Wool classer, roustabout, mother, *maitre d'extraordinaire*, partner of Richard, award-winning photographer.

Truly a local girl, Belinda was born in Winchelsea hospital, and spent her childhood living in Bambra and Deans Marsh, where her family have farmed since the early twentieth century.

Traveller: At 16 Belinda became a wool classer and went travelling with her skills throughout Victoria, NSW and into southern Queensland; she especially loved the areas around Hay and Bourke on the Darling.

After two years in Europe and South America – she worked in London restaurants to finance the South American trip – Belinda came home and took up the remaining 50 acres of her grandmother's property **Retreat**.

Farmer: Many great parties were and still are held there – indeed, she met Richard – a Geelong boy – at one of them. As well as partying, Belinda breeds and raises prime lambs, currently marketed through **Otway Prime** – another thriving Deans Marsh enterprise.

Maitre D': With daughter Ruby now at uni in Melbourne studying international development, and son Josh apprenticed to carpenter Richard, Belinda is reliving her London triumphs wrangling up customers at Andrew and Judy Goddard's superb **Old Lorne Road Olives** restaurant.

Photographer: Belinda continues to travel widely across Australia pursuing her current passion: photography. She says her own 50th birthday inspired her recent exhibition at **OLRO**, which featured shots of local women focusing on unusual and discrete angles and plains of their bodies. Beautiful.

Tip for a good life:

'I would say: travel around and see the world so you can come back to the best place.'

by Deb Campbell