



# The Croaker

Volume 8 No.4 April 2015..... editor Deb Campbell

*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, comment and queries to [kaosmgt@bigpond.com](mailto:kaosmgt@bigpond.com)

## Deans Marsh Festival Wrap Up: we wove a stronger community

Well what a day!!! The weather was perfect and everything came together amazingly – of course due to all the efforts of the great people who made the day the success it was. Our town should be so proud of the Festival and the opportunity we have to showcase our local produce, businesses and people. A huge thank you to Mark Fagan, Jill and Andrew Stewart, Andrew and Michelle Blankfield, Jac Zakhariah, Mark Drayton and Tom Reid for the awesome activities on the day....

AVAILABLE NOW



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

**Otway Greening**  
DEANS MARSH

ph: 5236 3314 e: [trees@otwaygreening.com.au](mailto:trees@otwaygreening.com.au)

website: [www.otwaygreening.com.au](http://www.otwaygreening.com.au)

The dog races were again a huge hit and the place getters included:

**Small dogs**

1st – Fui, Spoodle

2nd – Maggie, Jack R

3rd – Harvey, Jack R

Elvis and Ollie (2nd and 3rd, disqualified due to positive drug tests (yet again!).

**Big dogs**

1st – Dexter, Stag X

2nd – Roxy, Border Collie

3rd – Amigo, Husky

A huge thank you also to all the people behind the scenes who turned up during the set up and pack up of the festival – such good support! And who can forget Brett Smith's talents during the day – with megaphone in hand he certainly kept the day moving and ensured everyone could hear about the activities of the day.

The DMCC Committee of Management have been sensational – bringing the festival together – the music, the staging, the sound, the entire day! Thank you all.

The local community groups worked so hard during the day to keep up with the hungry hoards. Well done to the Hall Committee, Primary School and Red Cross – I know how hard you all worked.

I hope you all got to see the beautiful willow sculpture created by Veronica and Rob Phillips with help from the community. The weave theme was carried on with the DMPS grade 5/6's weaving the front fence of the reserve and the display of some fantastic weaves done by the community. It just shows how great this community is in coming together.

Renee Wigley - our local artist and photographer once again took some fantastic photos, which can be seen on the DMCC website. A special thank you to must be made to the Surf Coast Shire, not just for the grants that helped make the Festival and the Willow sculpture happen, but to the people who helped us with signs, clean up, set up, decorations and the behind the scenes work...Thank you all.

So here is to another highly successful day – where people showed their true colours and came together to celebrate our success as a community.

**Ruth Hamilton for the Cottage and Festival Crew**

**Renee's fantastic Festival photos: <https://www.facebook.com/thecroaker> coming soon**

**As everyone goes back to school for Term Two, here's Deans Marsh Primary School**

**Term One Snapshot**

The Grade 4/5/6 students kicked off the year with a 'Marsh Mudder' event which involved getting very muddy and completing a series of obstacles in groups. All the students thoroughly enjoyed this team building activity. During Science, we were very lucky to have a large inflatable planetarium visit us to teach the students about aerospace and astronomy. We learnt all about our Australian astronauts and the stars in our night sky. This year was the first time we elected school captains, and the successfully elected students to lead our school are Will Riordan and

Lochlan Hart. We trust these two students will do a wonderful job at representing our school in the wider community. During this term the students also participated in a two week swimming program at the Winchelsea pool. We finished the program off by holding our annual swimming carnival, this is always a highlight of Term one for the students and their families. All the school community have been working very hard to fundraise for the 'World's Greatest Shave' to support the Leukaemia Foundation. Eight of our senior students bravely decided to shave their hair and a very courageous teacher (Ms Steven) shaved her hair on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> when we raised \$1000! Photo to follow next edition!

### **Deans Marsh Arts Report: Artist Profile – Veronica Phillips**

Veronica was born in Carnarvon WA in 1970, and moved to Melbourne when she was two. In 1982 Veronica and her family relocated to Reedy Creek (North of Melbourne) where she attended High School until year 10, then she completed year 11 and 12 - TOP (Tertiary Orientated Program) in 1987, after moving back to Melbourne to live with her Dad.

Veronica went on to work in Visual Merchandising in Melbourne, during which time she met her husband Rob Phillips. Rob and Veronica spent a year travelling around Australia in their Holden HQ Panel Van. They then set off to explore Europe on motorbikes, before heading to Israel to work in Agriculture. Veronica comes from a long line of Artists. Her grandmother taught art at Toorak College for twenty years and her great-grandfather, Samuel John "Lamorna" Birch, started the Newlyn School of Artists in Cornwall, England.  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lamorna\\_Birch](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lamorna_Birch)  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newlyn\\_School](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newlyn_School)

Veronica is currently working in Community Arts, initially becoming involved when her youngest daughter Alice was a toddler. "I wanted to take on projects that my children could be directly involved in." Veronicas work in Community Arts involves running art projects in schools, especially in the lead up to festivals, and has funded her personal love for print making, which is a traditional form of illustrating using copper and zinc plates and wood engraving. Veronica has completed several courses in print making at Gordon Access Gallery and Melbourne Print Gallery. Most recently Veronica constructed the Willow Sculpture "Tree Play" art installation for the Deans Marsh Festival. Inspired by artist Patrick Dougherty. <http://www.stickwork.net/>

Plans are underway for Veronica to create further art installations around the Surf Coast Shire. Most of Veronica's artwork is created using materials and themes from nature. "We moved to Deans Marsh because we wanted to raise the kids in the country but near the coast. Nature is my inspiration..."

*Renee Wigley, Deans Marsh Art Studio*

### **Mel Dellow updates us on her work for the Tabaka Academy - the Deans Marsh op shop story concludes....**

As you might have heard through the Marsh grapevine, the community charity op shop has closed down. Which is ok: it was a garage sale that never ended! See what a community can do with big hearts and such a small space: things we don't use any more, don't need or want, are sick of carrying around in boxes all put to good use. **More than \$4278** was raised - a great effort.

A big thank you to all, especially thanks to **Chloe James** who helped sort, hang, wipe, check pockets, and gave me a break. Thumbs up girlfriend. There are so many more to thank - those who helped, donated and those who shopped, but I am just going to say: you know who you are.

I have moved to Winchelsea so I couldn't keep using the space in the Marsh - travelling backwards and forwards was taking its toll. I am sad to leave Deans Marsh but will be keeping up my work for the Tabaka Academy in new ways, including my plans to organise the **Deans Marsh Primary School 2016 Calendar**, which will have a safari theme, and raise money for the Tabaka kids. I've had the idea, and Primary school, local photographer, director and printer are on board but we still need help. So anyone who likes a challenge and wants to help organise a photo shoot full of primary school kids contact me on 0429 455 251. **MD**

### **Murmurings in the Marsh**

Let's hope the **road closure in the Marsh on April 18** does not affect the wedding of Lauren [daughter of Annette Tebbutt] and Matt at the Hall - the road should be open in time for the guests to arrive!!

A **new book club** is seeking interested members in the Marsh and surrounds: fiction and non-fiction to be consumed perhaps with a glass of wine? First meeting on Wednesday **May 20**, the book will be ***The Narrow Road to the Deep North*** by Richard Flanagan. Call Kerrie Harvey on 0427 021 614 if you'd like to come....

All those who know how much Michael Callanan has done for his local communities and how hard it has been at times for **Camel** and Christine and their boys since his heart transplant will want to go to the **fundraiser at the Cuda Bar** on April 19 see **What's on**

### ***The Croaker*: what do you want?**

As dedicated readers of *The Croaker* we need to ask for your opinions on our format. With likely big postal increases coming very soon and many but not all of us using email regularly, we feel it might be time to re-form ourselves into a different format or range of formats. Advertising funds us at the moment but also takes up space; production costs mean increasing our size to fit more in is also not really an option: so what to do? Some of you already get *The Croaker* as a pdf which means you can easily click on links and read more on stories; thanks to Rhea and Renee Wigley we now have a facebook page too and Donna puts us on to the Cottage website as well. It seems to me our options for the future are:

- an email version: this would cost nothing and therefore not require advertisers, but would require of course time spent by someone to prepare and send out. Such a format would allow very quick turn around times, and be very responsive to new events or information which needs to be got to community people speedily. It could include readily updated lists of goods people want to give away or sell, for example; or
- another approach would be an emailed version, together with a small print run to be left at The Store for collection. This would mean costs were significantly reduced - especially as postal costs are destined to increase sharply soon; or
- we could continue to seek advertising to defray costs of a more glamorous web-based magazine with many photos and graphics etc. This approach may mean the need to pay some skilled person to produce it; or
- we could perhaps merge *The Croaker* with the *Cottage Newsletter* in a new way?

**BEFORE ANY DECISIONS ARE MADE, WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT YOU WANT, HEAR YOUR IDEAS FOR HOW TO MAKE *THE CROAKER* HAPPEN IN THE MOST ACCESSIBLE AND COST EFFECTIVE WAY. Staying 'as we are' is not really an option, so please let us know your thoughts at [kaosmgt@bigpond.com](mailto:kaosmgt@bigpond.com) or call me on 5236 3298.**

**Deb Campbell**

### **What's on**

<b>ANZAC BEYOND &amp; BEFORE</b>	<a href="http://www.geelongmrg.com">detailshhttp://www.geelongmrg.com</a>	BarwonPark	2015 April 18 19	
<b>Camel's Fundraiser</b>	Cuda Bar	Lorne	from 2pm \$10	Sunday April 19
<b>ANZAC Centenary Commemoration Launch</b>	Lorne Senior Citizens		11am	Tuesday April 21
<b>Film Night <i>Search for the Sugarman</i></b>			7pm @ <i>Blakes</i>	Friday April 24
<b>Festival of Colours</b>				Sunday April 26