



The Croaker

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BAMBRA ADSL IS ON - or soon will be.....

After overcoming issues with power supply, Bill Mundy of Telstra Countrywide has confirmed that work on providing ADSL services to Bambra will begin soon and will be completed by March 31 at the latest.

Telstra will hold an Information session for Bambra residents in February so that you can view relevant maps to find out if you will be able to receive the service via your home phone - further details of this session will be provided in *The Croaker* in the new year.

That's nearly done sonow onto campaigning for Pennyroyal...

Deb C

OTWAY PRIME™
PREMIUM GRASS FED BEEF AND SEASONAL LAMB

Phone Udi on 0428 112 212

Email: udi@otwayprime.com.au

www.otwayprime.com.au

Early Start for Fire Season

Surf Coast Shire's fire restrictions are to come into force on
Monday 9th November

For more about how we in the Marsh, Bambra and Pennyroyal use the land, this month it is our faithful Croaker sponsors OTWAY PRIME:

Although *paddock to plate* is now a much-celebrated approach to agricultural food production, Lisa Baum and Udi Shabari were pioneers when they first set up Otway Prime in Pennyroyal in 2008. All the animals sold are free ranged and grass fed. There is no lot feeding, no grain or genetically modified stock feeds and no growth hormones. Lisa and Udi, and Geoff and Sam who work with them, always use humane livestock handling approaches to minimise stress on the animals.

Focusing first on British beef breeds but now including lamb sales, over the years Lisa and Udi have developed strong customer links and networks through their regular farmers market circuit. They cover eight regular markets each month between them, as well as supplying four shops in the region, and home delivery of boxed meat to customers. The *Weekly Times* did a great profile on Otway Prime recently in its *Farm* magazine <http://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/agribusiness/on-farm/boxed-produce-delivered-straight-to-customers-doors-is-back-in-fashion/story-fnkf1gpu-1227424873462>

In their spare time they also grow grapes and, with help of local wine maker Dinny Goonan, are producing a rose and a blended red – excellent drops both of them – which this year were all snapped up by their market customers - and me! .

Having met and indeed exceeded their own hopes and expectations for the business, Otway Prime now operates pretty much at capacity. Udi works closely with several local beef and lamb producers to source restocking weaners and spring lambs. Anyone interested in developing such a production relationship should contact Udi on 0428 112 212 or at otwayprime@gmail.com

For Lisa and Udi, the key to Otway Prime's success in the many stock, land management and sales aspects of the business, is the people – the relationships built with producers and customers that have developed over eight years and more. Great local people – and all that hard work of course – have built Otway Prime and will hopefully underwrite its ongoing success.

Deb Campbell

Community Carols in the Marsh Sunday 6 December at 7pm

Special guests and appearances from the OMM choristers and the Deans Marsh Primary School are singing the Carols at the Cottage. By the time you read this OMM will have had the first of their five week rehearsals for this night! We are in fine form after the COPACC and Birregurra Festival performances in October. The Cricket Club will open the bar and will organise the jumping castle. The BBQs are ready to be fired up. BYO picnic, blanket and chairs, and your friends too — the more the merrier but PLEASE remember **DOGS ON LEADS AT ALL TIMES**. It will be a fun way for us to get together and kick off our holiday and festive seasons.

Jane Gorman

Artist Profile - Nicole Williams:

Nikki Williams was born in Birregurra in 1970; she attended Birregurra Primary School and went on to Colac Technical School. "I elected art subjects in high school, I wanted nothing of maths and English, I only wanted to drown in art, any type of art!"

After completing her HSC in 1988, Nicole moved to the coast and worked in hospitality, while pursuing her ongoing passion for the creative arts. "From a very young age I found myself feeling a peacefulness in all forms of art. But it wasn't until later in my life I realised this. I was lucky to have inspirational teachers and friends who encouraged me to be creative."

Nicole's creative pursuits did not cease during motherhood; she was always creating projects for her kids and focusing on their up-bringing. Now that Nikki's kids are young adults, she has had more time to harness her creative energy. "As my kids have gotten older I've found I have more time to think creatively again - and to transfer my thoughts to reality. I've always painted, but never this much."

Nicole has had much success with her current style of painting using acrylics. Her large-scale canvases are filled with intricate details that draw the viewer into the artwork. Close inspection of Nikki's work is necessary to appreciate the detail. While working on her canvases, Nicole finds herself in a meditative and tranquil state: "Both the process itself and the end result are equally rewarding."

Nicole has sold her artworks in Geelong, Ballarat and in local galleries and art shows. She recently exhibited three works in Torquay, and four in the Birregurra Art Show. Nicole also exhibited in the Geelong College Art Show and the DAFT art exhibition during October. She has been invited to enter the prestigious Sorrento Rotary Art Show in January 2016, and was one vote off being voted most popular artist at the art Spot exhibition last weekend.

Nicole, while still painting and drawing prolifically, is currently researching her next project, which will involve sculpted pieces using only natural resources: "I find inspiration in the world I live in, on my daily commute to work I am blessed to see the countryside change through the seasons. I'm able to now harness that inspiration which in turn becomes motivation that then becomes a work of art."

Renee Wigley, Deans Marsh Arts Studio

**NOVEMBER 27th PEOPLES CLIMATE MARCH MELBOURNE
GAS FREE DEANS MARSH WILL BE THERE - YOU TOO?**

MURMURINGS IN THE MARSH

**Don't forget to vista the Arboretum Open Day on Sunday November 22
between 11am and 4pm: BYO picnic.**

**Julian Burnside Australia's indefatigable refugee advocate and a great
speaker will be at Winchelsea on Sunday Nov 8 at 2pm at the Hub.**

As part of **SCSC's** 'commitment to **plan for and recover** from disasters' they are offering 1.25 hour sessions with Dr Rob Gordon a leading trauma psychologist on two

days at multiple times in November and December. Contact Virginia Morris for details (03) 5261 0511 0437 931 017 vmorris@surfcoast.vic.gov.au

Dinny Goonan's **2013 Single Vineyard Shiraz** as been named as **one of Victoria's top 100 Wines** in the recent VIC100 Wine Awards - congratulations Dinny!

The Cottage is offering a **Help Desk at the ADSL HUB** - call Ruth for the next scheduled **Help Desk Day on 5236 3388**.

There is a fun trivia night at **Otway Estate: Prickly Moses and RockTriv have joined forces for a night dedicated to fun and Tiger Quolls**. Saturday 7th November, 8pm-late, 10 Hoveys Road, Barongarook. Book your tickets here: <http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=151923&embed=151923>

Deans Marsh Primary School's **Pet's Day on October 26** was a great success and **don't forget their end of year Concert will be held on December 15**.

Mulch - if you have garden waste that you can't burn off after November 9 try mulching: these two services will come to you: Jason Scholten on 0419 501 120 and Surfcoast Tree Services, 0488 018 444 - thanks to the **Winchelsea Star** for the info.

Landline on Sunday Oct 29 had a VERY interesting item about farmers and **coming changes to the pension assets test** - have a look: <http://www.abc.net.au/landline/content/2015/s4338354.htm>

Come on Deans Marsh – Game On for The Fire Game

Thursday 26 November *at the* Deans Marsh Hall will allow you to explore different scenarios, build your understanding and practice your bushfire planning and survival skills in a challenging and memorable way. **The game has been designed just for you, with Council, local emergency services and local students from Anglesea Primary School involved in its development.**

So come along, play *The Fire Game*, get ready for this summer and have some fun with your community. Roll the dice and play *The Fire Game* now so you get it right when you really need to. RSVP is essential. To book, please visit www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au click on the event link from the homepage and follow the prompts to register, or call Lauren Watt on 5261 0501.

WHAT'S ON

Kids Games and Sausage Sizzle	Deans Marsh Reserve	.3.15 - 5.00 pm	Thursday November 5
Julian Burnside @ WRSG		2pm Hub Eastern Res	Winchelsea Sunday November 8
CFA BRIGADE OPEN DAY			10-2pm Sunday November 15
DEANS MARSH COTTAGE AGM			5.30pm Monday November 16
Woolly Creatures Workshop	\$25 The Cottage	Veronica Phillips	10am-1pm November 21
Open Day Frogwood Arboretum			all day from 11am Sunday November 22
The Fire Game		..Deans Marsh Hall	6-8pm Thursday November 26
Willow Weave Sculpt Workshop	\$30 Cottage	Veronica Phillips	10-1pm Saturday November 28
People's Climate March Melbourne			November 27 to 29
DEANS MARSH MARKET			10 to 2pm Sunday November 29
OMM @ Christmas Carols	Deans Marsh Oval		7pm Sunday Dec 6