Martians Cafe:

We are heading into our 6th summer and there have been many changes of late and more to come.

But firstly, we would like to recognise two special fundraising efforts. In March, Chris Scanlon organised several bands to play at the Cafe to raise funds for those affected by the bush fires over Christmas 2015. It was a super gig, a credit to Chris and his friends in the music industry.

Then we had “One for The Otway's” on Melbourne Cup Weekend. The brainchild of Dean Krueger, this fundraiser started from humble beginnings. Our very own Croaker editor Renee sent Dean a request to reunite Salmon Guts. With this gentle nudge, Dean started the ball rolling on a fundraising gig at Martians, unfortunately our lovely council decided that Martians was not appropriate for the gig. Although a setback for us, it was the instigator for Dean to turn it into a massive tour that incorporated 3 gigs (Aireys, Lorne and Deans Marsh). The day at Martians was an absolute corker, thanks to all the musicians, support staff, our staff and of course the punters for making it a magical day.

In September, we said good-bye to Rob and The Shed, thanks Rob, your insight into everything Collingwood will be sorely missed during footy season.

Now for some exciting news Shane and Emma Clarke are about to take over the shed space. Shane has been toiling away on handcrafted furniture and is looking to add many more elements to his version of The Shed. Shane will be open in the coming weeks.

Even bigger news is the announcement that we have been working with Otway Estate to have tap beer installed in the Cafe! We hope to have this installed before Christmas. Although not finalised we plan to have 4 to 6 taps available, mostly consisting of Otway’s beautiful range of craft beer. Keep an eye out for the launching party date!!!

We have some amazing acts lined up for the next couple of months, and whispers are about for a local band to play at the Cafe on New Year’s Eve. Nothing is certain now so keep your ears to the ground.

If anybody is interested in some casual work over the summer months, please put your name and details down at the Cafe.

Michael, Janet and the Martians Team

COMMUNITY SMS MASTER LIST:

PLEASE FORWARD THE FORMS TO
The Store or to Deb Campbell
at kaosngt@bigpond.com
or PO BOX 169 LORNE 3232
By: Sunday 11th December 2016.

Thanks, Deb C
On a personal note...

We would like to thank everyone for all the wonderful messages, gifts and congratulations following our recent wedding. Especially lovely was The Store window graffiti and the hugely artistic banner made by Andrea and Dennis. Special mention in dispatches to Belinda McKenzie for the wedding dress in the window (NOT worn by me at the event) and her role as official Town Crier!

Mr. and Mrs. Allender (Dale and Jude)

DEANS MARSH SHEEP DOG TRIALS 2017:

The Deans Marsh Dog Trials will be held at the Deans Marsh Reserve from Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd January 2017. The 2017 trial ties in with four other trials in the area; Port Fairy (early Jan.), Deans Marsh, Cressy, Koroit, and Port Fairy (mid Feb.) all in a four week period. Therefore we are expecting a larger number of competitors than in past years.

On Saturday 21st January, Geelong Folk Music Club will be performing at the Deans Marsh Hall in the evening.

Major sponsors this year are: Otway Greening, Birregurra Outback Trading, Birregurra Lions Club, King Parrot Cottages and Deans Marsh Cricket Club.

We are looking for more sponsors to help keep this event going each year. If you can help in any way please contact Jill Stewart 52 363 206 or Mark Fagan 0400 666 079.

Thanks to all who attended or helped in the past. We need to keep this event going for the benefit of our great little rural community.

Mark Fagan

DEANS MARSH FESTIVAL 2017 – CALL OUT FOR HELPERS:

The 2017 Festival is fast approaching, Sunday 26th March.

The Festival team is calling out for any helpers. We need support in areas such as setting up and organising the Hall curtain display, contacting musicians and stage management, putting up posters and banners, helping contact and organise the market village, sourcing hay bales and contacting and organising exhibitors.

The planning team would also like to meet with all the community groups as soon as possible. Please make contact with Rebecca or Jane at the Cottage to set up a meeting time.

We are looking forward to another Festival showcasing our wonderful community.

Mark Fagan

Tel: 5236 3388
Email: cottage@deansmarsh.org.au
Keep up with the news: deansmarsh.org.au

DEANS MARSH COMMUNITY COTTAGE

Vol. 9 No. 9
DEANS MARSH PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORT:

FIRE DRILL AND DEANS MARSH CFA VISIT: Recently we held a ‘surprise’ but pre-arranged fire drill and evacuation of the school with the Deans Marsh CFA visiting. We tried to make this exercise as real-life as possible for the aim was to test our Emergency Management Plan processes to see if they would stand up in a real-life fire situation. This was also a good opportunity for the Deans Marsh CFA to test their processes. After we all safely evacuated to the Hall, the entire school walked to the Deans Marsh CFA to conduct a tour of the facility and participate in some activities with all students receiving a show-bag. Thanks to the Deans Marsh CFA for coordinating this exercise with us. With the fire season approaching we thought this was a great opportunity to give the children and staff a better understanding of what will happen if a real fire situation was to occur.

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS TRIATHLON: On Friday 18th November Grade 3 - 6 students had the opportunity to participate in this event at Warrnambool. Our students competed in the individual events, which involved a swim followed by a bike ride and finally a run. After this, our students competed in the team events. Many thanks to our wonderful band of parents who transported the students to and from Warrnambool, and supported them during the day.

TEDDY BEARS PICNIC: Grade Prep-2 students recently held a Teddy Bears Picnic at Frogwood Arboretum and also the school. At Frogwood the students played games including Sack races, Bocce, Egg and spoon races, Pin the tail on the teddy, Relay races and Musical teddies. Lots of fun was had by everyone!

EXCURSION TO THE BAMBRA WETLANDS: We had such a lovely sunny day for our excursion to the Bambra Wetlands recently. The students enjoyed participating in the activities, which included damper making, tree planting, bush walking, bush discovery and sensory activities. Thanks to our local Landcare group for giving their time to conduct the sessions with our students. Once again our students’ behaviour was fantastic for they all showed wonderful manners, listened well to instructions and participated in the activities very well.

STUDENTS PERFORM AT THE RED CROSS LUNCHEON: On Wednesday 7th December Christmas Carols will be sung with joy when our students perform at the Red Cross Luncheon. Our students particularly enjoy performing for the locals, especially when singing our school song!

POSITION VACANT – SCHOOL CLEANER: This involves cleaning of our school each day, including classrooms and amenities. Hours of work are 1.5 hours per day, Monday to Friday. Start date is beginning of 2017. For further information please contact Murray Surkitt (School Principal) on 52 36 3264.

May everybody have a safe and happy Christmas. Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution to your school throughout 2016.
Deans Marsh PS: great students, great staff, great community = great school!

Murray Surkitt.

Carols in the Marsh

Sunday 18th December
from 6pm
at the Deans Marsh Cricket Oval

OMM Choir and Performers
Jumping Castle
BBQ and Bar OPEN
BYO Picnic rug and chairs

Proudly Sponsored by the
Deans Marsh Community Cottage

Dogs on leads please
DEANS MARSH COTTAGE REPORT:

As the year draws to a close we reflect on what has been a busy time at cottage and a time of change as well. Thank you to all of those volunteers throughout 2016 that have worked tirelessly across the community. Special mention to Jane Whitehead, Ruth Hamilton and Rebecca Callahan for keeping the cottage moving along, as well to our Committee volunteers; Lucy Quarterman, Jane Gorman, Victor Goldsztein and James Morton. Following our AGM last week, we have a change to the committee with James stepping down and Jo Zdybel joining us. We have space for more helpers, so if anyone would like to get on board we would love to chat.

Thank you to Lucy for organising a very successful inaugural Deans Marsh Fun Run, it is sure to be a popular regular event in the calendar in the years to come. Coming up in the new year we have the 2017 Dog trials and the 2017 DM Festival. You will also see a couple of cosmetic changes in the months ahead with a rebranded logo and improved website layout for the cottage to help navigate community members and visitors around the site, and learn about the cottage and the community. The cottage will also present and publish its Strategic Plan, which will be available on the website.

Lachie Stevens, Chairperson
Deans Marsh Community Cottage

RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR DEANS MARSH:

Are you confused about the options for solar power, batteries, feed-in-tariffs and different energy providers? A Deans Marsh “renewables” interest group could provide a forum to share and source information about the renewable energy options appropriate to our area. Some in our community are already off grid, some have recently upgraded systems, and some have taken the plunge and invested in new systems. We would love to hear from you to learn what works and what doesn’t.

The aim is to set up a FB site or website, so if anyone has stories about their current “state of the art” photovoltaic (PV) panels, battery storage, solar hot water systems or heat exchangers, it would be great to hear from you. Of special interest is ways of setting them up with lowest cost and most efficiency, and information that could be shared within our community.

The Internet is a great resource for information on sustainability and renewable energy, and we are fortunate that many other communities in Victoria have already making the transition, so we can learn from them. Here are just a couple of websites.

http://www.see-change.org.au
http://sceg.org.au

And some Australian towns are even going “off-grid” - could we do it in Deans Marsh? The possibilities of community solar or wind projects have been proven in other towns.

If you would like to share your knowledge about renewable energy at your house, or if you’d like to be on the mailing list, please e-mail lizbashford@mac.com. It would be great to hear from you.

Liz Bashford and Judy Cameron

WHAT’S ON: DECEMBER 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bambra Christmas Party - Bambra Community Hall</td>
<td>Saturday 10th December, 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martians Cafe - Live Music ‘Dreamtree’</td>
<td>Saturday 10th December, day gig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martians Cafe - Live Music ‘Daniel Reeves’</td>
<td>Friday 16th December, 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Carols in the Marsh - DM Cricket Oval</td>
<td>Sunday 18th December, 6pm</td>
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<td>Gosling Creek Winery - Kara Backhous Vocalist</td>
<td>Sunday 18th December</td>
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<td>Film Night Blakes Estate Winery - TBC</td>
<td>Friday 30th December, 7pm</td>
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<td>Martians Cafe - Special Gig</td>
<td>New Years Eve</td>
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<td>Martians Cafe - Live Music ‘Amadeus Wolf’</td>
<td>Saturday 7th January, 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Martians Cafe - Live Music ‘The Cutting’</td>
<td>Sunday 22nd January, 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martians Cafe - Live Music ‘Gypsy Smash &amp; Jill Meehan’</td>
<td>Sunday 29th January, 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deans Marsh Dog Trials - DM Reserve</td>
<td>Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd January</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martians Cafe - Live Music ‘Tim Hulsman’</td>
<td>Saturday 11th February, 7.30pm</td>
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