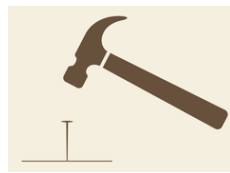




Great Ideas for Sustainability



Trentham District Story



Locals Nailing It



TSG Turns 15!



The Saints are Back

T H E T R E N T H A M
TRUMPET



Council news

PROJECT UPDATES

Trentham Sportsground Pavilion - the finishing touches are being applied to the building, with kitchen appliances installed, new and existing timber floors polished and main furniture items delivered. Landscaping is also underway. We are working closely with the Trentham Sportsground Committee of Management and Trentham and District Football Netball Club to coordinate the final handover of the building for the 2023 season.

Trentham Community Hub - Sub-surface works have commenced on the car park, with the area excavated to the future pavement level and stormwater drainage pipes and pits installed. Underground electrical infrastructure will be installed to allow for car park lighting and an electrical vehicle charging station. The car park works have been brought forward to make the most of the warmer weather. The hub will be completed early next year.

Bullarto Railway – the station building reconstruction is continuing, with chimneys now complete and roof trusses installed. The roof and wall cladding will be added next. The timber windows and doors are being manufactured with particular attention paid to achieving the same timber profile details as the original windows and doors.

PET REGISTRATIONS

Don't forget that pet registrations are due by Monday 10 April. If your pet is already registered you should have received a reminder notice in the post. By registering your pet you're doing all you can to be quickly reunited with your furry friend if they go missing.

Did you know there are discounts for registration of older pets and working animals? The first year of registration is free for desexed and microchipped dogs and cats. Find out more at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/pet-registrations.

COUNCIL PLAN FOCUS AREAS



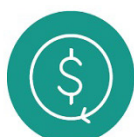
A resilient, sustainable & protected environment



A healthy, supported & empowered community



Embracing our past & planning for the future



Diverse economy & opportunities



A dynamic & responsive council

SERVICES OVER EASTER

Council hubs, libraries and offices are closed for Easter from Friday 7 April and will reopen on Tuesday 11 April, except Clunes, which will reopen on Wednesday 12 April.

If your kerbside collection is usually on a Friday, your bins won't be collected on Good Friday (7 April) due to the public holiday. They will instead be collected the following day. Transfer Stations are closed on Good Friday but will open as usual over the rest of the Easter long weekend.

Visitor Information Centres will open as usual at Creswick and Daylesford.

For Council-related animal emergencies (e.g. dog attacks and stock on Council roads) over Easter phone 0419 587 955. For all other Council-related emergencies phone 0419 583 573.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON OUTDOOR TRADING

We are reviewing our Outdoor Dining and Trading Policy and invite you to have a say. Outdoor dining and trading typically includes elements such as tables, chairs, barrier screens, umbrellas, A-frame signage, display stands and planter boxes. Find out more and complete a short survey at <https://participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/outdoor-trading> before Tuesday 11 April.

We're working on a broader project for dog parks around the Shire, and more information will be available later this year.

JOIN AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We are calling for new members of our Gender Equity Advisory Committee. Expressions of Interest close on 28 April 2023. Find out more at <https://participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au>.

COUNCIL MEETING

The next ordinary Council meeting will be held at 5.30 on Tuesday 18 April at the Daylesford Town Hall and will be livestreamed on our Facebook page.

CONTACT US

t 5348 2306
e shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au
w www.hepburn.vic.gov.au

facebook.com/hepburncouncil

Editorial

Hi Trentham!

What a Tren-tastic month March has been!

Opening with TNC's Whole Town Garage Sale where over 50 households (or, we should say; garages) participated, the town was abuzz!

Trentham Sustainability Group's 15th Birthday Celebration at the Cosmo left us feeling optimistic for the future. (see page 6)

Bookending the month, the unveiling of The Trentham Story was a heartfelt nod to our history (right down to the atmospheric but typical Trentham drizzle!) showcasing the fine work of the Historical Society with their information boards and landscaping at their Camp Street HQ. (see page 5)

Thank you to all of the volunteers who worked tirelessly on these projects and events, you make our town a better place.

Preparations for Spudfest on May 6 are well under way. We've even heard rumours Spudman has moved into a nearby spud hut...

In this month's edition we've the first instalment of our new series "Locals Nailing It" (page 9) where we champion some of the entrepreneurial ideas you clever folk have. Clever ideas can not only sustain small business but can benefit and enhance our diverse community.

Regards,
Chris & Penny

Stop Press:

VEC have released their preliminary structural review (see Cr Hood update page 7). To ensure Trentham has sufficient representation at Council (so our fabulous town can continue to flourish - exhibit A: everything we've just mentioned above!) we strongly encourage you to provide feedback to VEC by April 19.

Trumpet Photography Competition



Congratulations to our cover star Kara Rowe, the winner of this year's Trumpet Photography Competition with Autumn Sunset.

Your prize of \$100 is winging its way to you now.

Thank you to all of our entrants, we had more entries this year than ever before!

We had a difficult (but lovely!) time choosing the winner. We'll aim to share some of the entries on Instagram over the coming weeks. Jump on and follow us at thetrenthamtrumpet - we promise the pics will be worth it!



WOMBAT FOREST WINES

LOCAL'S DAY

SATURDAY 15TH APRIL 1-5PM



LIVE MUSIC
JARED BRETNALL
ACOUSTIC TUNES
1PM - 4PM

LOCAL WINE + BEER

BYO PICNIC
OR
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Celebrating Holy Week and Easter in Trentham - 2023

Trentham's churches mark Holy Week and Easter this year as follows:

Palm Sunday - 2 April

St Mary Magdalen's (Catholic)	8.30am
St George's (Anglican)	9.00am

Good Friday - 7 April

St George's (Anglican)	9.00am
St Mary Magdalen's (Catholic)	9.00am
<i>St George's will serve hot cross buns at Trentham Neighbourhood House 10-11am</i>	
All are welcome.	

Easter Day - 9 April

St Mary Magdalen's (Catholic)	8.30am
St George's (Anglican)	9.00am
St Malachy's Blackwood (Catholic)	4.00pm

About the Trumpet

Acknowledgement of Country

We are proud to acknowledge Dja Dja Wurrung as the Traditional Owners of this Country. We pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging



The Trentham Trumpet is published on the first of every month except January.

The Trumpet is the community's voice to: share local news and events; engage in topical discussion; provide a platform to express considered views and concerns; contribute to the historical record; and promote local trades and services.

All submissions need to embrace our pillars of inclusiveness, constructiveness and positivity. The editorial team reserves the right to refuse any article or advertising and to edit for length and clarity. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial team.

The deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month before. Please forward all items for publication to:

thetrenthamtrumpet@gmail.com

Electronic subscriptions (which we encourage) are available at: thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au
Printed versions can be found in many retail and community outlets in and around Trentham.

The Trentham Trumpet is gratefully auspiced by the TNC.

In this issue

HSC News	2
Editorial	3
The Trentham District Story	5
Happy Birthday TSG	6
Blackwood Easter Carnival	6
Councillor's Report	7
TSG	8
St George's	8
Locals Nailing It	9
Interior Design	10
Resilience	11
Gardens for Wildlife	12
Meditation	13
Open Gardens Trentham	13
CCCE	13
Trentham Tales	14
The Mount Players	14
Peace Meditation	14
Quarry Street Reserve	15
Sport	16
The Headless Monk	18
The Plonkers	18
Local Business Guide	19

Advertising Rates <i>(from Feb 2022)</i>	Black & White		Colour	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
Width & Height				
90mm x 55mm	\$40	\$400	\$55	\$550
90mm x 110mm (1/4 page)	\$75	\$750	\$95	\$950
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190mm x 130mm (1/2 page)	\$145	\$1,450	\$180	\$1,800
190mm x 265mm (A4)	\$275	\$2,750	\$350	\$3,500

What's on!

Community Groups Listing

thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au/our-community

CFA

Open Day every Sunday from 9:30am

Hepburn Shire Council Meeting

18 April

Lions Schedule

Business Meeting: 3rd Thurs / month
Dinner Meeting: 1st Thurs / month
Farmers' Market: 3rd Sat / month

Sunday Church Services

St George (Anglican) 9am
St Mary Magdalen (Catholic) 8.30am

Trentham Lions Club

Farmers' Market
15 April 9am-1pm
Trentham Town Square

Trentham Sustainability Group

Farmers' Market Food Swap
15 April 10-11.30am
Trentham Town Square

Life Activities Club

Ladies' Petanque
10am every Tuesday
Trentham Town Square, followed by coffee

Wednesday Walkers

9.30am every Wednesday
Easy town walk
Meet at old Trentham Post Office

Men's Petanque

10am every Thursday
Trentham Town Square, followed by coffee

Knitters, Stitches, Sewers Craft Group

10am every Friday
Trentham Bowling Club, Park Street,

Mahjong

1pm - 4pm every Friday
Trentham Bowling Club, Park Street

TNC

see trenthamnc.org.au

Trumpet Photography Competition



On Our Cover:

Autumn Sunset by **Kara Rowe**



The Trentham District Story

The Trentham District Story – a series of fourteen panels showcasing the history of Trentham and the surrounding districts from the First Nation's people through to the present day – was officially unveiled by Mayor Brian Hood on Friday 24th March.

Traditional owner, Jason Kerr, opened the proceedings with a stirring welcome to country, smoking ceremony and didgeridoo performance, with speeches from Kate-Ida Lee (media liaison officer for Mary-Anne Thomas MP), Hannah Webster (Dja Dja Wurrung Aboriginal Clans Corporation) and the President of the Trentham & District Historical Society, Michael Worthington. The unveiling of the panels was done by Year 6 students from the Trentham Primary School.



We are also extremely grateful for the funding we have received from the State Government, the Hepburn Shire Council, the Community Bank of Trentham, the Masonic Lodge of Trentham, the Cool Country Classic Car Club and other anonymous donors."

According to Michael Worthington, "this project has been a year in the making, with the involvement of many from the community. In addition to our dynamic TDHS committee, we have been extremely fortunate to have people like Dr. Peta Sherlock, Bill McKnight, Darrel Kilner, the team from the Men's Shed, Gardens for Wildlife volunteers, Sign Obsession from Kyneton and many others who have contributed their expertise and time.

The Society hopes that this installation – adjacent to the Old Police Station at 3-5 Camp Street - will be an added attraction for visitors to the region, as well as an important asset for the local community. Further information can also be found on trenthamhistoricalsociety.org.au/trentham-timeline.



Have you got the GIST?

See page 8 for more details

ADVERTISEMENT

Mary-Anne Thomas MP
LABOR MEMBER FOR MACEDON

DELIVERING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

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E: mary-anne.thomas@parliament.vic.gov.au

W: www.mary-annethomas.com.au

P: 5428 2138

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Happy Birthday TSG!

Combined with the launch of their GIST (Great Ideas for Sustainability in Trentham, see page 8 for more details) initiative, the Trentham Sustainability Group celebrated their 15th Anniversary this month with a cosy Sunday session where locals shared enthusiasm for all things sustainability at the beautiful Cosmo Wine Room.



In addition to being treated to a Black Forest Birthday cake, we heard about the progress the group has made towards their Energy Resilience Project from the ever-enthusiastic Seb (stay tuned for an upcoming update in the Trumpet, post the initial discovery, it's moving at pace!). We also had the opportunity to reflect on the incredible accomplishments of this small altruistic team over the last 15 years, from advocating to agitating to swap meets at the Trentham Farmers' market, they've done it all!

The highlight of the afternoon for us was the opportunity to celebrate the wonderful Glenda Holmes, who was awarded (the first) Life Member of TSG, in recognition of her service to the group (and to Trentham) since the group's formation in 2008. The citation read: *'As the only foundation member still a member of the core group Glen has served as Convenor, Secretary and Treasurer holding all or most of these positions, often concurrently, over many years. She also manages the membership, publicity and archivist roles for TSG and has*



coordinated the monthly Produce Exchange for more than nine years.' Awarded by her fellow core group members who added: *we value Glen's encouragement, enthusiasm and friendly leadership which has contributed so much to TSG's success.*

We at the Trumpet couldn't agree more. Thank you Glen, thank you TSG. Happy Birthday, we wish you many, many happy returns!

Chris & Penny

Blackwood Woodchop & Easter Carnival

Proud Winner of Moorabool Shire's Community Event of the Year 2023

Easter Saturday is a special day in Blackwood, each year the town hosts the famous Blackwood Woodchop & Easter Carnival. The event now in its 121st year is the second oldest festival in Australia. The Carnival was recently awarded the title of Moorabool Shire's Community Event of the Year 2023.

The much-loved Street Parade featuring striking costumes and floats is a highlight of the morning's events. Accompanied by a brass band, the parade makes its way from the town centre down to the Lerderderg River and the Recreation Reserve - rightfully known as 'the prettiest sportsground in Victoria' - where the Carnival and Woodchop take place.

The Blackwood Woodchop is one of the oldest woodchopping competitions in Victoria, with axemen and women travelling from across the state to compete for the coveted titles and prize money. The Carnival is action-packed, with tug-o-war, gumboot throwing, and a pet show amongst the many popular activities happening throughout the day. And of course, to honour Blackwood's gold-mining history, there is the chance to try your hand at gold-panning. A family-friendly event, there is loads of other fun stuff for kids too - the treasure hunt, novelty games and races, face-painting and more. With fabulous live music, market stalls, delicious eats and licenced bars, the Blackwood Woodchop & Easter Carnival truly offers something for everyone.



The event is organised by the Blackwood Progress Association with proceeds from ticket sales supporting numerous community groups. Discounted Earlybird tickets can be bought online or you can purchase tickets at the gate on the day. See you in Blackwood on Easter Saturday!

For more information visit:
theblackwoodtimes.com.au/2023-blackwood-woodchop-easter-carnival/

To book tickets:
trybooking.com/CFPDV



Councillor's Report

Council meeting - Council met on March 21. Councillors accepted and endorsed a range of improvements to Council's grants program – which are so essential to enabling community groups perform their function and hold important events. The revisions will ensure the already successful Council grants program is subject to good governance, is structured effectively, operates efficiently and equitably, and continues to meet the needs of the community and deliver strong outcomes. The changes reflect recommendations made by the Victorian Auditor General to all councils. Hepburn's grants programs extends to an investment of a quarter of a million dollars annually.

Council also unanimously resolved to provide \$2500 annual funding to each of the Trentham, Clunes, Creswick and Daylesford neighbourhood houses and \$1000 annual funding to each of the Creswick and Daylesford bands. The funding recognises the valuable contributions to the community provided by these organisations.

Councillors received and noted a report outlining positive progress on matters such as strengthening Council's financial sustainability; addressing high-risk compliance matters; responding to storm recovery works (especially on our road network); strengthening OHS practices and the IT environment; and advancing the much-neglected strategic planning framework. These aspects of the business, identified as strategic priorities, are fundamental to any organisation and need urgent attention if Hepburn Shire Council is to provide the services the community needs. The meeting also noted a report on spiralling costs being experienced in capital works projects and the constraints that environment will place on the 23/24 budget.

Electoral review – On the very important matter of representation at the grass roots level of democracy the VEC have released three options and they are available for review here [Hepburn Shire Council electoral structure review | Victorian Electoral Commission \(vec.vic.gov.au\)](#) One risk of an unsubdivided structure would be that some smaller, more remote areas of the Shire could be without local representation in Council – eg Coliban ward. The more highly populated areas (eg Daylesford/Hepburn) could generate the majority of councillors. Another risk is that party political organisations and single-interest groups might seek to influence preferences to gain control of the Council at the expense of independent candidates. The structure providing seven councillors from seven wards would at least ensure local representation on Council. I strongly encourage community members to have their say.

Recovery works – are well underway across the Shire to repair roads damaged in last year's storms and floods. Efforts to lobby the State Government for additional, much-needed funding are ongoing. The substantial, unbudgeted cost of these works is placing enormous strain on Council's budget. The severity of the impact of recent storms and floods is highlighted by the fact that 39 residents of 14 households in Creswick are yet to return to their homes since the January 2022 floods.

Sportsground – is now due to be completed early April. Unfortunately Coliban Water's works have taken a wee bit longer than anticipated.

Quarry St. Reserve Pavilion – is almost completed and is due to open before Easter. Next is the shade sail installation over the playground.

Community Centre – despite frustrating supply delays construction continues, with the focus on repairs to the old hall and construction of the carpark.

Off-leash dog park trial – new signage has been installed reminding users of the operating rules. For the safety of all park users and the success of the trial it is critically important that rules are complied with.

Congratulations to:

- Trentham Sustainability Group (TSG) on their 15th anniversary of wonderful leadership and service to our community.
- Trentham & Districts Historical Society for launching the fabulous signage display of Trentham's rich heritage at the old jail complex.
- Trentham Lions Club for taking the initiative to create a support network – Caring for Carers.

Save the date – Trentham's iconic Spudfest is on the 6 May, bigger and better than ever. Don't miss it!

Did you know? – Hepburn is working with other regional councils on a bid to have the Victorian Goldfields listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. Listing would enhance economic benefits, tourism and the preservation of important sites and buildings.

Reminder on Planning applications – for information on tracking an application, lodging an objection, viewing the planning register, etc visit Council's website here [Track an application, view planning register or lodge an objection Hepburn Shire Council](#)

Council meetings – The public may attend in person or view proceedings via the live broadcast on Council's Facebook page.

Upcoming Council meeting dates – 18 April, 16 May, 20 June.

Cr Brian Hood

bhood@hepburn.vic.gov.au

0427 797151

Facebook - Cr Brian Hood, Coliban ward, Mayor Hepburn Shire Council



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Trentham Sustainability Group

Sustainability Action is Climate Action

Future generations need good ancestors - how will our generation measure up?

Greta Thunberg's Skolstrejk för Klimatet campaign and young people marching for climate action in Australia and other places indicates the concern many have for their future.

At some future time how will you answer a young person who asks, "and what did you do in the climate crisis?"



TSG's new Great Ideas for Sustainability in Trentham (GIST) is inviting Trentham people young and old to share their great ideas and help make these happen.

We haven't got all the ideas so we're offering seed-funding to support selected GISTs and prizes for people under 20. We want to support as many GISTs as we can from individuals or small teams.

Some examples (for younger people) of what a GIST might look like include...

- organising a speaker or film showing on sustainability;
- make a video (or street theatre event) highlighting sustainability issues;
- waste – there's so much waste! What about 'green waste' in Trentham?
- survey part of town for solar panel & battery coverage;
- interview people about sustainability...

We've got some very simple Guidelines for the GIST project which you can find on the TSG website via the QR code... or contact us at trenthamsustainability@gmail.com or phone 0438529481

Note: TSG is not recommending young people organise 'school strikes' which might upset their parents but we

News and Reflections from St George's

Daylight Saving Ends! Sleep in an extra hour before church:

- Sunday 2 April, 9am Palm Sunday: bring a small branch
- Friday 7 April, 9am Good Friday Passion Reading

There is no Good Friday Town Walk this year, but:

- 10-11am St George's serves Hot Cross Buns at Neighbourhood Centre. All welcome!
- Sunday 9 April 9am Easter Day Holy Communion: Make a Splash! wear something colourful
- Sunday 16 April 4pm The Voice to Parliament: All welcome. Indigenous minister Rev Shannon Smith leads off our discussion
- Sunday 23 April 9am Celebrating St George's Day: BYO Dragon!

Every Wednesday at 9am we hold a short service of prayer for world and church.

Every Sunday 9am we offer Holy Communion.

Apologies to those who will miss the Good Friday Walk. Life has been tiring as Malcolm Thomas finishes as priest with us and we take up the reins ourselves. His gentle ways have restored our spirits during the past year. We are pleased to see new people coming to worship and finding

would support the formation of a local branch of Parents for Climate Action (which also welcomes grandparents) <https://www.ap4ca.org/>



It would be wonderful if there were lots of GISTs happening in Trentham and districts... we'd all feel more hopeful, our community will look forward to a better future and our planet might breathe a little easier.

As UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on the release of the latest IPCC report:

"our world needs climate action on all fronts – everything, everywhere, all at once."

GIST is a TSG project supported by the Coliban Water Community Rebate and The Trentham Trumpet.

Scan here for more info & submission details



us a comfortable and happy mob. Call Charles Sherlock for more information 0423 020 699.

Preparing for the Voice Referendum

St George's Anglican Church Trentham will be the venue for an event to hear from Wiradjuri woman and Anglican priest Rev Shannon Smith who is based in Bendigo. This will be on Sunday 16 April at 4pm.

Looking ahead, we Anglicans are curious to see what the Coronation of Charles III looks like on May 6 and whether the king can keep it shorter than his mother's coronation! Our prayerbook services generally take the form of 1. Welcome and gathering 2. Listening to what God has to say through Scripture 3. Praying for church, world and community, 4. Doing what you have come to do (e.g. Baptism, Holy Communion, Marriage, Funeral) and 5. Being sent out as God's people. My guess is that when you are not clear what you have come to do then worship takes longer and longer! Rest assured St George's worship comes in under the hour.

Happy Eastertide,
Peta Sherlock

Locals Nailing It

Here at the Trentham Trumpet, we want to celebrate and share as many of the constructive and positive ideas and projects our locals are doing. So, here is our first edition of "Locals Nailing It."



This month the Trumpet visited Brad of Little Farm on Cranneys Lane to check out his large crop of fully netted blueberries. On a little over 17 acres Brad has many plans for sustainable farming projects as well as a future windbreak for protection from our blasting southern wind.

Back in 2015, Brad chose three varieties of blueberries: Darrow, Bluejoy and O'Neil and set about planting. All three are U.S. hybrids and can grow in regions as diverse as Florida to Canada. The plants appreciate the free draining acidic soils in Trentham as well as being able to cope with our hot dry summers.

18 months ago, he took on the large project of fully netting all 280 plants. It was quite the task, but since then only one kangaroo has managed to get in - and that was due to a gate being left open! Irrigated and using only worm castings as fertiliser, TSG member Brad is now picking his fourth crop of delicious berries sold through various retailers.

High in antioxidants, potassium and other important nutrients, blueberries are a healthy snack choice. Brad has potentially many, many thousands of fresh locally grown, chemical free berries to share (for a fair price).

Standing beside his large handmade pond discussing future fishy friends Brad also mentioned plans of a drive-up farm shop. One day. Until then you might find some at Ruby Goose on High Street.

Do you know someone locally "Nailing It?" Perhaps you've got an exciting project you'd like to share with the community. If so then please contact us at thetrenthamtrumpet@gmail.com.

Chris Campbell



Magpie

a feature film

haunting at
Railway Farm...





online auction

March 25 - April 24







Interior Design

The Black Box in the Room

Recently I stayed in a country motel of the old fashioned type, where your room has a little door through which the motel operator passes your breakfast. One wall of the bedroom was dominated by a large TV, making me think about the changing ways that televisions have featured in interior design.

I remember as a child our wood veneered TV sat in the corner of our living room, the focal point of sofas and armchairs facing towards the screen. The aerial sat on the top of the TV, two wands joined at the base, affectionately known as rabbits' ears.

At some point in the 1970s, a colour television replaced the black and white set. The new TV was not as bulky, and sat on its own little trolley. The trolley had a lower shelf that later housed the new-fangled video player.

Now, our TVs are thinner, lending themselves to being enclosed in cabinetry, no longer the focus of the room. As technology advances, streaming services paired with smart televisions are doing away with the need for connecting a DVD player and a tangle of cables.

There's no need for the television to dominate the room. It's okay to disguise or make it less obvious. One approach is to surround the TV with an assortment of artwork on the wall, drawing the eye away from the TV.

If your TV sits on a console, another idea to distract the eye is to have a taller lamp or other object on one side, and

perhaps a grouping of books or decorative items on the other side. This will make the television appear more integrated in the design of your room.

Using silver or gold streamlined frames around the black screen can make your TV less obtrusive. Some televisions can be set to hold a screen saver image that gives the appearance of another artwork when not in use.

Occasionally a client proposes hanging a TV above a gas or open fireplace. To me, that is just a big "No!", quite apart from any safety or heat transfer issues.

Television has been a major medium for conveying our news, entertainment and sport for 70 years. Most of us watch television daily, meaning the TV commands a prime location in our home with good sight lines. There are many options to make your TV blend in to your home.



Robert Creedon
Interior Design Studio

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Web

robertcreedon.studio



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How Resilient Are We?

The Khmer Rouge marched into Phnom Penh on April 17th 1975. They proceeded to murder approximately 7 million of their fellow countrymen over a period of three years. This once thriving nation was bankrupted and ruined, its people brought to their knees and thrust deep into poverty. The fear of the Khmer Rouge sits squarely in the DNA of the people of Cambodia still to this day.

Mike and I have been volunteering in Cambodia since 2007, and in that time have seen many changes; some good, some not so good. We have just returned from a trip there, our first since Covid and were struck once again by the incredible resilience shown by people who have nothing. Eighty percent of the population have no sanitation, no clean drinking water, and no education. For most there is no real food security, no access to medical facilities, and no government assistance. During Covid the Cambodian government introduced the Poor Card. Not many people received the card, but those who did received \$US15 per month on which to survive.

On our trip we built a house for a young couple and their little boy. The family had not had any sort of income for over two years. They lived in a grass hut made from dead palm leaves. When it rained (which it does a lot up there) it leaked, their possessions sometimes got washed away and they were unable to sleep or stay dry. The mother constantly worried that her little boy would get sick and die. The under 5 year old mortality rate is high.

While we were working in the village I once again noticed how the people simply get on with life, despite their hardship. Those who have jobs often have to leave home for months at a time. Factory workers (who are mostly women) work 11 hour shifts, six days a week. They are able to laugh and find pleasure in small things. They have the same dreams we have; a good life for their children, a safe and secure home, love and friendship.



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The children are usually pretty shy when we first arrive. They don't see foreigners too often. The little boy whose parents were receiving the new house was standing, expressionless, watching. I would imagine he is about four, but looks only two. Nearby



there was a pile of builders sand waiting to be used for the concrete pillars that would hold their new home up out of flooding rains. I sat on the pile of sand and built a castle. He watched with interest. When it was finished, I made a big show of counting to three and smashing it down.

He squealed with laughter and quickly joined me for the game. I then picked up a leaf and filled it with sand and made truck noises climbing the leaf to the top of the sand pile. Suddenly he was up and off, and I thought that was the end of the game. He came back with his toy. A yellow cap from a bottle. He filled it with sand and joined in the new game. I spent about an hour with this dear little bloke, and all the time thought how such a lack of toys was no barrier to the fun he had. I know that not all of our own children own a lot of toys, but it struck me that this could be the norm for this boy; that is, not owning much, probably for most of his life.

When the house was built and handed over to the family there were many tears shed, not only from the family but also our volunteers. The monks from the local pagoda arrived to bless the house and all of us, and we said our goodbyes. Two days later there was an enormous rainstorm. We could imagine this young family huddled in their new house, safe from the rain for the first time in their married life. The rain that had caused so much anxiety in the past.

Over the years we have learned many life lessons, one of which is the value of being resilient. It enables you to put circumstances into perspective and to bounce back. Look at the people of Lismore for example. Look at our own community during the storms of 2021. We might reflect on how tough life is, then realise that others have it tougher. That's true, but life can be challenging in the Western world too. When things get tough, maybe we should focus on the here and now – try to be resilient – and get joy out of the little things, just like a four year old Cambodian boy.

Corinne Gurry

Corinne Gurry has a degree in International Health. She is a past Director of the Tabitha Foundation Australia and currently a Director of The Helping Foundation (both Not For Profit organisations). She was the first female appointed to the Board of the YMCA in Western Australia. She has volunteered in Cambodia for 16 years.

Hepburn Gardens for Wildlife

Grow Wild

Grow Wild – Gardening to sustain wildlife in the Hepburn Shire by Jill Teschendorff, is the inspirational go-to book for increasing numbers of local gardeners. In the three years since publication its comprehensive yet easy-to-read style has become core to a range of resources for locals who have become aware of the need to support the flora and fauna of our district. This is a great opportunity to showcase the natural and beautiful features of indigenous plants and the creatures who need them.

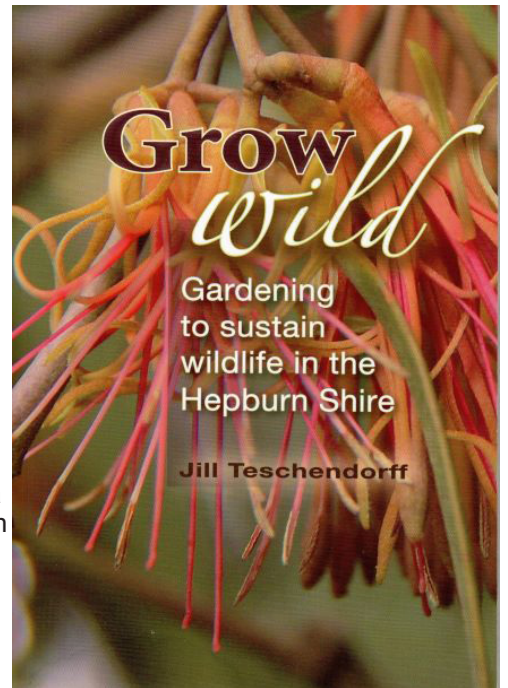


Details for approximately 170 plants for a variety of settings are included along with descriptions of how each layer of the habitat garden will work, some basic design principles and how to incorporate exotics. There are straightforward guidelines for preparing the area, best planting procedures, mulching and maintenance.

Two copies of this book are available from the Trentham Library as well as obtainable from Post Office for \$15.

Creating useful habitat is possible on any scale, from large bush belts to town nature strip pollinator corridors as we increase our knowledge to counter increasing threats to the environment and realise this can enrich all our lives. As more newcomers move into our small towns, such a guide as this provides all the necessary know-how to get started on perhaps a new appreciation of the delights of biodiverse gardens.

Hepburn Shire Council has now produced a quick guide, "Indigenous Plants for Landscaping", and "Planting on Nature Strip Guidelines". Since the publication of this book, two local nurseries have opened, at Bullarto and Woodend, with a specific focus on providing local plants grown from local seed, thus making them more suitable to our conditions.



Our Hepburn Gardens for Wildlife groups provide a free consultation to walk you through the steps involved in creating a garden to welcome the birds, bees, butterflies and other small critters. Contact Trentham Neighbourhood Centre to register. Also keep a look out for some useful workshops being planned.

The Great Trentham
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— 6 May 2023 —

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Photo: Zoe Phillips

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Meditation

Meditation from the Perspective of a Beginner's Mindset

"In the beginner's mind there are many possibilities, but in the expert's mind there are few." Shunryu Suzuki, Japanese Zen Priest.

Meditation has been practised for thousands of years, and the benefits to the mind and body are well documented. Despite this, many people never try it, believing they will not be good at it, even after acknowledging its value. Many think they should be able to master meditation on the first attempt. Meditation, however, is not to be mastered; it's to be experienced.

If you think meditation is something you would like to do, approaching it with a beginner's mindset is what I recommend. That is, with curiosity, openness, and letting go of preconceived ideas and judgement.

Learning anything new can be challenging. We don't expect to be excellent drivers the first time we get behind

the steering wheel of a car. We accept that we need the guidance and instruction of a qualified instructor and regular practice to build skills and confidence. Meditation is the same.

There are many different forms of meditation, so finding one that suits you is essential to growing confidence and ensuring you stay motivated; you can then progress to other types if you wish. Perfection is not the goal. Some days will feel great, and you may have difficulty managing intrusive thoughts on others. The most important thing is commitment, starting with as little as five minutes daily.

I encourage you to embrace a beginner's mindset, make meditation a part of your life and experience the positive change to your emotional and physical well-being.

Donna Jansz

Meditation and Yin Yoga Teacher (private & small classes)
donna@curiousheart.com.au
0409 511 247

Open Gardens Victoria in Trentham

On the weekend of 15 and 16 April 2023, Open Gardens Victoria will be opening two gardens in Trentham. Rhonda's Garden in Park St is a suburban garden designed by Tim Pilgrim, a local garden designer. The garden is packed with lush plantings of exotic and native plants. There is a mix of perennials, small bushes, grasses and trees. The colourful perennials contrast with the green and grey clipped foliage. The garden is packed with plants which are exceptionally well combined providing areas of interest where ever you look.

The second garden, 'Tranquillity' is a larger country garden in Gunyah Bend. The front is planted with indigenous and South African plants which attract honey eaters. A grassed sitting area to the side and the back of the house has beds of perennials, hedges and a fountain. A viewing area overlooks the remainder of the garden which is still being developed. A grass path has been carefully

designed to take advantage of the view of the lower garden. Perennials and grasses provide borders on either side of the path. A grove of Holm Oaks which have been inoculated with truffles is planted on the slope.

There will be a plant stall at Rhonda's Garden and Trentham Gardens for Wildlife will provide information and discussion at 'Tranquillity'. Further information and photos of the gardens can be found on the OGV website <https://www.opengardensvictoria.org.au>.

Entry to each garden is adults \$10.00, students \$6.00 and under 18 free. OGV is a not for profit organisation run by volunteers. Surplus funds are distributed through OGV's 'Giving Program' which benefits charities and organisations that have a connection with horticultural activities.

CCCE

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The purpose of our Community Investment Programs is to establish long-term mutually beneficial partnerships with the clubs, organisations, and community as a whole. The local community shares in the income generated by your banking and the profits go back into supporting projects in our local communities.

It is great when we can share a tangible example of the good that banking locally can offer and last month our local sporting clubs; Trentham & Woodend Football and Netball teams came together for the SALT (Sport and Life Training) Mental Health Session held at the Pig & Whistle (Big

shoutout on the Parmas – Delicious). Scott Angove from SALT spoke about the importance of breaking down the stigma around mental health and providing valued support networks within our clubs. It was an insightful session, with a lot of positive interaction and sharing that only adds value to the culture of our clubs.

Community Bank Trentham & Districts is pleased to get behind and support the First Aid at this year's Tylden Fair; the major sponsor of two Woodchop Events at the Blackwood Easter Carnival and after last year's success we are proud supportive sponsors of the Bullarto Vintage Tractor Pull 2023 to be held in our local backyard at the Trentham Railway Station.

It's great to be part of a bigger picture and create an impact that benefits the wider community. Whatever your banking needs, Community Bank Trentham & Districts are here for you. For a better banking experience call us on 5424 1608.

Trentham Tales

Snapshots of our District, from its Children

From the late 1890s, *The Leader*, a "town and country newspaper" published weekly by *The Age*, ran, for at least 20 years, a children's column called "Dear Cinderella", encouraging school children to write letters for publication. Two or three were chosen monthly, each winning a monetary prize.



For example, in March 1902 Samuel Brown, a 12-year-old from East Trentham, wrote: "...as my mate at school told me he had written for this month's prize, I have made my mind up to write too."

The competitive Master Brown was by no means the only child of our district lured into writing. A year earlier, North Blackwood school students William Sandford Dunn, 14, and Hannah Hollis, also 14, had letters published.

William wrote of North Blackwood, "winter is cold and summer mild. The chief occupations are farming and fruit growing. Potatoes grow well, although the frosts are severe on the early potatoes; wheat and oats also do well. In this district there are some fine orchards and flower gardens."

"On the outskirts of North Blackwood, a Village settlement has been established with about twenty settlers, each having a block of fifteen acres of land on which they grow fruit and vegetables. A hall has been erected where occasionally a concert or a ball is held."

The Mount Players

The Mount Players strive to support local charities and Gisborne Foodbank was their choice during *The 39 Steps*. Thanks to the generosity of our patrons and 50% of ticket sales from our Thursday performance we were ecstatic to raise \$1,665! A huge amount of food and toiletry donations were also collected and presented to Foodbank who will provide assistance to people who really need it in our current economic climate. Thanks to all of our patrons who made this fund raiser such a success.

For many years The Players have also supported the Macedon CFA by collecting donations for programs at every show. At the recent CFA family day in Macedon we presented a cheque for \$1,181.40! Another thank you to the generosity of our patrons, it's fantastic to know we are all part of a community that supports one another in this way.

Now in full rehearsal, *Buried Child* is an intense drama by Sam Shepard. It takes a macabre look at an American Midwestern family with a terrible secret. This play won its author the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Although dark in many respects, it's delivered with humour and pathos. Atmospheric and challenging, the play will entrance with questions of morality, its take on the disintegration of the American dream and hope (as the final moments of the play suggest salvation with a surprise ending). The season runs from 12 May – 28 May.

Tickets are online themountplayers.com or 5426 1892

Karen Hunt

"The State School is prettily situated on a hill surrounded by a beautiful flower garden. Near the school is the Wesleyan Church".

"The roads here in winter are very bad. They are very much cut up with the teams that cart the timber from the sawmills in the forest to the station."

Hannah's letter described early Autumn activity in the area, when "the threshing machine may be seen at work. This is the busiest time of the year, as we have to cook for about twenty men, but their stay is short as the threshing only lasts a few days."

The drabness of the fields of stubble contrasted the orchards. "The leaves of the different fruit trees are now turning and we see them in beautiful tints, the green gradually turning to yellow or to a reddish yellow. The orchardists gather their apples, pears, quinces, and melons. Some are sold, and the remainder packed carefully away, for sale in the winter."

Dear Cinderella was still running as late as 1918, when Enid Wall of Trentham wrote her rather less poetic winning letter: "Tuesday we went to Trentham Falls for a birthday. All of us had a good time. We got stung with stinging nettles."

Sue Worthington
Trentham and District Historical Society

Peace Meditation

Correction

Writing for the Trumpet feels like speaking through a megaphone, loud - and embarrassing when you discover that you were wrong. In last month's essay I tried to make light of a collective confession of sins, that sounds not true for myself, and I thought even less so for children in the congregation. As far as I know nowhere in the Gospels does Jesus treat people as 'sinners'. The pharisees do...

The only truth I could find, is I find myself caught in a society that makes me increasingly part of a system that does the misdeeds for me: from underpaying the farmer to destroying habitat. Becoming an ever smaller part of a larger system should make me feel less guilty. So I thought when I wrote my essay for the March issue.

But when I read its printed version, I experienced the opposite: feeling something 'systemic' that does my 'sins' for me. This means being confronted with something undefinably heavier than sin. It's called evil. A shift from feeling individual guilt to systemic, impersonal guilt made heavier, not lighter. Hence this correction.

Henk Bak

Monday Peace Meditation with a focus on imagination. TNC (enter the door to the left of the main entrance), 8.30 -9.30am
Gold coin donation for the Centre, newcomers welcome.
Henk Bak 54241702 – hbak@westnet.com.au

Quarry Street Reserve

Letting the grass grow – but not under your feet!

I love grasses – swaying in the breeze, growing tall and wide, colours shifting with the weather. The Lelant and Victoria Street corner has *Poa labillardierei* currently gleaming golden, a delightful outcome of the Biodiversity Project funding in that area of the Reserve. These grasses attract parrots, butterflies, and small birds, and provide shelter for small lizards. Enjoy!

At the High Street end, a dangerous tree has been taken out, and other branch removals requested. A small section of this ‘passive recreation’ area is being mulched for understory planting, with shrubs and small trees supporting the skyscraper Brookers’ gums.

The pavilion upgrade is nearly there: rails need to be fitted to the sloping walkway near the toilet block. NB: admire the builder’s use of matching bricks to extend the block – it looks like it was always that way! The grassed area in front is slowly coming back to life.

The pavilion’s west side still slopes down to the path and lake. Plans were made to improve this, but the budget did not stretch that far. The Committee is looking at possibilities: e.g., a fenced deck that looks over the lake?

Trees that shaded the playground were lost in the Big Storm. Hepburn Shire Council included funds for shade sails in the 2023-24 budget, and a contract was let in October 2022. With the relevant permits now in place, work will begin soon. Meanwhile the five maples have doubled in height, and the two Blackwoods near the red bridge, have grown significantly in the past twelve months.

PS: a graffiti ‘artist’ has paid a visit: affected seats are being painted over.



Charles Sherlock



Poa along Victoria Street (Fay Magee)

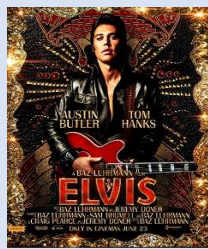
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TRENTHAM FILM SOCIETY

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ELVIS



(Australia, 2022, 159 mins., biographical musical drama)
Dir: Baz Luhrmann Lang: English
Elvis follows the story of infamous rock’ n’ roll star Elvis Presley seen through the eyes of his controversial manager Colonel Tom Parker. The film explores Elvis’s highs and lows and the many challenges and controversies he encountered throughout his career.

Features: Austin Butler, Tom Hanks, Richard Roxburgh, Olivia DeJonge.



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Sport



The club president Tim White would like to express his gratitude to the entire Saints family for their support. The 2022 season was a great success, our mighty reserves bringing home the cup was no small victory. There has been a lot of work happening around the club during the break. It is anticipated that the new facilities build will be completed very soon, we are so keen to move into our new home before season 2023 kicks off in April. The new gatehouse will be a valuable addition for the gate attendees welcoming everyone on game day.

Watch our socials for regular updates and details on registering for the 2023 season. All our info and contacts are on our website www.trenthamsaintsfnc.com, Registrations for all divisions are now open. As always watch out on our social media platforms for upcoming events. Share our posts and tag the club #TrenthamSaints

All players have been working hard in the preseason with good numbers and a zest for the upcoming season. Round One of the home and away season kicks off at home on April 15 against Navarre.

New coach Clive Raak is taking the helm as senior football coach, with Dolf Reid ready to back up the reserves and U11.5s again, while Jason Shaw & Jay Hamilton will take charge of the U14.5s team. We will not be able to field an U17.5 this season however we are optimistic for next season and beyond.

Sharna Ford returns as A & B Grade netball coach with long time local Holly Wheeldon leading the C Grade. Junior levels U17s, U15, U13 & U11 are being coached by Emma Whelan & Daniel Thek. The juniors will be assisted through the junior coaching program with Georgia Harvey-Courts & Kendra Crocker.



Clive has a unique approach, determined to bring the Saints to a new level of competitiveness. He says: 'The 2023 playing group is excited about the modern style of football and the new training methods, they have embraced the change to guarantee our success. Preseason attendance has been great, I have enjoyed meeting all the players and appreciate the support of fellow coaches, the committee and valuable volunteers that show up every week to ensure we have what we need. No ifs or buts: we will be victorious, and we will succeed.'

Above: Clive Raak & Sharna Ford. Photo Credit: Trent Sainter

Trentham Golf Club

A terrific field of 124 players in 31 teams played in the Charity Day on Saturday March 11, raising \$5000 for the Very Special Kids Woodend Retreat.



Very Special Kids provides holistic palliative care for children and young people with life-limiting conditions and tailored support for their families.

The event sold out weeks in advance, so a big thank you to all those who competed to make the day so successful.



Catherine KING MP

Federal Member for Ballarat

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The Headless Monk at Trentham Golf Course

Nobody knows how the Headless Monk became headless or where it came from.

Years ago things started to happen around the Golf Course that couldn't be explained. Flags were left out of holes lying on the greens, (it was thought to be kids mucking around); sandbox lids were left open; tee markers were swapped, not lining up and some just missing. The diligent green keepers would correct the mishaps not paying too much attention to them.

Then the most unusual thing started to happen, balls appeared from nowhere on the 12th fairway. Each morning the first group of players would find them along the edge of the fairway. New balls, old balls, some with marks on them but all appearing to have been washed. The number of balls would increase and decrease as the seasons passed throughout the year.

The 12th fairway runs alongside the small lake which is part of Stony Creek. It became apparent that balls which had been hit into the lake were reappearing days, weeks or even months later. When members started to collect the balls, placing them in the club house for others to reuse, players would recognise the balls as ones they'd hit into the lake on previous occasions. This was only one of the mysterious things that were happening around the course.

Holes started to appear in bunkers, and once again children or animals were blamed and the green keepers just kept filling them in, annoyed that this was happening. Strangely, there were no foot prints or animal tracks leading in or out of the bunkers. It was as if the sand had been sucked down from underneath like mini sink holes.

A strategy was devised to determine what was happening at the course. The plan was to stake-out some holes for a few hours overnight. Hiding themselves around several holes, they waited, and waited but of course: nothing. The flags, tee markers, and bunker holes appeared on



holes that weren't being watched. However, some of the watchful team noticed unusual movements around trees along the fairways. Thinking it was children they shone their torches to no avail - they only saw a blurry, dark image that seemed to duck out of sight.

This went on for years until that big storm, then suddenly on the far side of the lake along the 12th fairway an apparition appeared. Clothed in dark robes and standing like an observer in the distance watching the players perform, stood The Headless Monk. The green keepers and members recognised the apparition as the one ducking behind trees while they were on their stake-outs. Moving around the course at night, getting up to mischief but coming to rest on the lake's edge during the day.

The Headless Monk watches over us, returning balls from the depth of the 12th hole lake, washed and clean, but still annoys the green keepers with its antics.

The Plonkers

The start of footy season saw the Plonkers' regular shopping routine severely disrupted. Come Monday evening their fridges were empty and not an open pub or restaurant to be found. Never ones to give way to mediocrity, it was off to the Trentham Food and Wine Company on the High Street for a feast of ready-made meals and a selection of delicious beverages.

This night the Plonkers chose a cosmopolitan selection ranging from African, Indian and French inspired options with the odd vegetarian delight thrown in.

A North African chicken curry (not overly spicy) from Melbourne suppliers Foxes Den was delicious. Knowing it was free-range FREPA (Free Range Egg and Poultry Association) approved, chemical free and grown in Victoria left Digby thinking he could help himself to seconds.

A Thai inspired chicken with cashew nuts was also scrumptious as was an Indian Massaman beef curry. But it was the French Coq au Vin that proved to be the crowd favourite.

Back at Duke's house whilst the rice was boiling and the meals reheated, we began with a Shedshakers Knucklehead

rye IPA from Castlemaine. Not for the faint hearted, the Shedshaker was a malty, full flavoured beer with a strong lingering aftertaste, Digby was particularly delighted.

A bottle of Musk Lane '20 Fiano was a perfect companion to their globetrotting culinary journey. Well familiar with Brendan's lowfi wine, these grapes were sourced from Colbinabin, Heathcote. Nutty and floral with a hint of tropical fruit flavours combined well with earthy chicken and mildly spiced beef.

But a bottle doesn't go far between six Plonkers. "Let's try that cleanskin Shiraz we picked up" suggested Digby. "Yes, let's" said Niles, rolling his eyes, as barely had Digby asked the question the bottle was open, and his glass full.

"A very nice quaffer, elegant and fruity, obviously sourced from our local cool climate" explained Niles. "Yeah, and a bargain at just \$16 a bottle" added Duke.

There was also a scrumptious array of pastries also picked up at Todd's store and, well, maybe a bottle or two from Duke's cellar...



Local Business Guide

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Spudman's Signoff

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A horse drawn cart, a sip of tattie gin,
It'll be hard to know where to finish or begin.

Spudman can report the crew has been busy.
A new precinct and ideas to keep you dizzy.
Saturday May 6 come get your fix,
Of all things spudly, don't miss these tricks.



Spudman by Peter Young
Oil on Canvas

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