



Happy 15th!



Good Friday Appeal



Photography Comp



Battery Brilliance



Open Day

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



Council news

APRIL PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Easter public holidays

Council hubs, libraries and offices will close from Friday 18 April to Monday 21 April.

Bins will not be collected on Friday 18 April, they will be collected the following day. Bins will be collected as usual on Monday 21 April.

Transfer stations are closed on Friday 18 April but will open as usual over the Easter weekend.

Visitor Information Centres will open as usual over the Easter weekend.

Anzac Day, Friday 25 April

Council hubs, libraries and offices will close on Friday 25 April.

There are no changes to kerbside collections or transfer station opening hours.

Visitor Information Centres will open as usual.

For Council-related emergencies phone 0419 583 573.

For animal emergencies phone 0419 587 955.

PLANNING TEAM CHANGES

To better serve the community and streamline our processes, our Planning team will be dedicating Mondays to processing applications. This means they will not be available on Mondays. However, Tuesday to Friday they will be available on the phone from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm and we recommend you phone ahead if you would like to discuss your matter in person. On Friday 4 April a Planning Officer will be available at The Mechanics Trentham from 10 am to 1 pm, to book a consult, phone 5348 2306 (option 1).

SHARED BUILDING SERVICES

From Tuesday 1 April, Council's Building Services team will partner with Mount Alexander Shire Council to deliver more streamlined and efficient building services across the two shires. There is no change in the way residents and businesses access services. The team will continue to operate locally, ensuring the community receives reliable and responsive support. Visit, www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/building-permits

LISTENING POST EVENTS

We will be hosting a series of Listening Post events throughout 2025, aimed at strengthening communication and engagement with the community. The events will be held in major townships as well as smaller communities, with the opportunity for residents to share their ideas, provide feedback on services, and discuss matters that are important to them with senior Council Officers and Councillors.

Next Listening Post:

- Saturday 3 May - Trentham Spudfest, 10 am – 12 pm

More information on our website,

www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/listening-posts

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

The Community Grants Program supports community-based projects and initiatives that enhance the social, environmental and economic life of the Shire. Round 2 of the Community Grants Program closes on 29 April.

The Environment Group Grants Program supports community groups whose primary function is to enhance and protect the environment of the Shire. Applications open Tuesday 1 April and close Tuesday 29 April.

For more information regarding Council's grants program visit, www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/grants

To discuss a project idea contact grants@hepburn.vic.gov.au

REUSABLE PRODUCTS VOUCHERS

Council is offering households a \$50 voucher code to use on the purchase of eligible reusable products from local business [Darlings Downunder](http://DarlingsDownunder.com.au).

Vouchers can be used for:

- cloth nappies
- swim nappies
- training pants
- wet bags
- period products
- nursing pads
- incontinence underwear
- and more.

The discount voucher code is valid until 31 May 2025, unless allocated funds are exhausted prior. Find details about the program at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/reusables

HEPBURN TOGETHER



Hepburn Together is a community engagement initiative aimed at shaping the future of the Shire as we create our new Council Plan for 2025-2029.

By working in partnership, we can ensure our future direction reflects the needs, aspirations, and priorities of our community.

Find out more about this project and how you can get involved at

www.participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au

RATE CAP VARIATION APPLICATION

Council is seeking approval for an increased rate cap for the 2025/26 financial year to secure our long-term financial sustainability. The proposal has been submitted to the Essential Services Commission and aligns with the Financial Vision 2024-2027 endorsed at the Special Council Meeting on 10 September 2024. Read the full media release on our website,

www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/rate-cap-variation

YOUR COUNCILLORS



Cr Don Henderson



Cr Lesley Hewitt



Cr Brian Hood



Cr Tony Clark



Cr Tim Drylie



Cr Pat Hockey



Cr Shirley Cornish

Learn more at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/Councillors ☎ 5348 2306 ✉ shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au 🌐 www.facebook.com/hepburncouncil

Editorial

Hi Trentham!

Well, we've got this extended edition this month, cause there is so much happening!

But first, thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Trumpet Photography Competition.



Congratulations to Lindy Bracey, this year's winner. Her serene pic of Quarry Street Reserve titled 'Prelude to a spectacular day' took us right back to summer. Well done Lindy, your \$100 prize is winging its way to you. Thank you to all entrants for participating.

And thank you to the team of volunteers who tirelessly maintain and improve QSR, we appreciate you! (We also appreciate the team who look after the fabulous Old Trentham Racetrack swooping in to improve access when a fallen branch blocked the track last month – and the joker who left the hobby horse tied to the sign - well played!)

Back to April!

Happy Birthday to The Green Store! 10 years is huge effort in a little country town, well done team! (And we think it's belated happy 10th birthday to Dallas also?)

Happy Anniversary to Rod – it's 15 years since he bought the burnt out shell of The Cosmopolitan Hotel, and The Cosmo is celebrating all Easter with a festival of amazing music. Free! The Cosmo's gift to Trentham!

Take a break from the music and pop down to The Mechanics at Easter as the Trentham Easter Art and Craft show is back after it's covid and there's-no-venue-big-enough hiatus!

Films – yep! Rachel Ward's insightful Rachel's Farm is playing on Wednesday 2 April at The Mechanics, a free screening thanks to the TSG. (And thank you and well done to the TSG on the community battery – wow, what an accomplishment!) Trentham Film Society is showing the mystery-comedy Wicked Little Letters on Easter Saturday (I know, there's so much on we're going to need to choose!)

Our Markets continue with the last Seasonal Market for the year at the Station (which is looking fantastic, as it always does for Spudfest) on 27 April and the Lions Market in the Town Square on Easter Saturday.

The Historical Society is having an open day and sausage sizzle on Saturday 5 April at the Old Police Station, and the Life Activities Club extends an open invitation to come along to one of their many activities and 'try before you buy'.

Lastly, we commend the ANZAC Day and Easter notices below to you. Don't forget the ANZAC day dawn service at 6am at the cenotaph, it's always a moving experience.

Read all about it inside this issue!

**Regards,
Chris & Penny**



TRENTHAM ANZAC DAY

Commemoration Service 11.30am Friday, 25th April 2025

Ex-Servicemen and Women entitled to march, and others who wish to march, are asked to assemble in High Street in front of the Town Square Rotunda at **11.30am**

At approximately **11.35am** the Parade will proceed to the Cenotaph for the traditional ANZAC Day service

Refreshments will be available in the

Trentham Neighbourhood Centre

at the conclusion of the service

**Proudly co-ordinated by the Trentham Lions Club
and Kyneton RSL Sub-Branch**

Celebrating Holy Week and Easter in Trentham - 2025

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

Palm Sunday (April 13):	St Mary Magdalen's (Catholic) 8.30am
	St George's (Anglican) 9.00am
Good Friday (April 18):	St George's: Good Friday liturgy 9.00am St Mary Magdalen's: Stations of the Cross 10.00am
Easter Day (April 20):	St Mary Magdalen's 8.30am St George's 9.00am

Join us to enter into the passion of Christ, and celebrate God's raising him from the dead

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 Green Store	5
The Cosmo	6-7
Trentham Community Bank	8
Councillor's Report	9-10
TSG	10
Spudfest	11
TRATA	12
TEACS	12
The Trentham Garden	13
Vocal Nosh	13
Trentham Film Society	13
Trentham Lions	14
Gardens for Wildlife	15
Barry Elliott	16
TSG Film Night	17
The Holly Project	17
Quarry Street Reserve	18
Little Gallery	18
Trentham Tales	19
St George's	19
Letter to the Editor	20
St Mary Magdalene's	20
Women's Health	20
Interior Design	21
Barfly Bob	22
Life Activities Club	22
Tree Planting in Trentham	23
The Mount Players	23
Meditation for Peace	24
Sport	25
Food for Thought	26
The Plonkers	26
Local Business Guide	27
Spudman's Signoff	27

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
190mm x 55mm (1/4 page banner)	\$75	\$750	\$95	\$950
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!

CWA - Trentham Night Owls

4th Thurs / month
TNC 7pm
cwatrenthamnigtowls@gmail.com

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
19 April 9am-1pm
Trentham Town Square

Trentham Sustainability Group

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

Trentham Cool Country Men's Shed

Open Wednesday & Saturday mornings
9.30am - 12.30pm
55 Mulchay's Road Trentham
info@coolcountrymensshed.org.au

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

TNC

see trenthamnc.org.au

Community Groups Listing

thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au/our-community

On Our Cover



Prelude to a spectacular day

Lindy Bracey

The Green Store

Happy Birthday to The Green Store

The Green Store continues to be an authentic, sustainability driven little shop, in one of the prettiest buildings in town. The team are passionate about championing ethical traders, small makers and curating a diverse range of functional and beautiful products that don't cost the earth. And this month they celebrate 10 years in Trentham!



The Green Store began trading environmentally friendly and sustainable wares in Brunswick Street Fitzroy way back in 1995 founded by Ann Eckersley. After 15 years in Fitzroy, The Green Store moved to Station Street in Fairfield for five years and this is where the Watson family became acquainted with Ann and a wonderful little shop brimming with great gear. Rhonda worked in the Fairfield store part time, as did Kasie as she began studying myotherapy.

Sadly Ann passed away in late 2014 after a long journey with breast cancer and the future of The Green Store became uncertain. Rhonda wasn't ready to let this ethical treasure go, so she purchased the business name and The Green Store found it's new home in Trentham.

It's been a big 10 years. The Green Store is open everyday, and in addition to staying true to their green credentials, they are big community players. The Green Store family initiated Twilight night, and more recently Winterfest - both fabulous community events, supporting our local traders, but even more so community connectivity. The A-frame board on Market Street hosts 'Chalk Talk' is topical, funny or poignant (often all at once!) and always brings a smile.

If you haven't been to The Green Store yet, go tomorrow. The gentle aromohtopy of the store is like a welcoming hug, and it's where you want to go to get all your cleaning supplies refilled (less plastic!) with earth friendly products (no nasties!). Their range of Skin Juice skin care is the absolute best, and the made in Australia Wildfolk soy candles never dissappoint.

Happy Trentham Birthday to The Green Store family, wishing you many more laps around the sun!



Celebrating 10 years in Trentham & 30 years of sustainable goodness from The Green Store

The Green Store

12 Market St Trentham

thegreenstore.com.au

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 visit trentham.miclub.com.au



Happy 15th Anniversary Rod!

The countdown is on for The Cosmo's 15th Birthday Bash.

Four days of live music, free gigs across the Easter weekend (18-21 April), and a special ticketed show from Australian music legend Steve Kilbey (The Church) on Sunday night.

2009 marked a new beginning for The Cosmo with Rod Hughes and Peter Griffin purchasing the burnt out shell. Driven by a vision of the pub's glory days – of exceptional food, wine and the company of great friends – their plans to rebuild and restore The Cosmo became the talk of the town.

The project was to be one of a labour of love and patience given the enormity of damage to the building. In June 2005 the 1866 building succumbed to fire – fire crews were called at about 1.30am after a hotel guest alerted the owners that the building was ablaze. Guests had only minutes to evacuate before flames took the entire building, spreading from the laundry to the roof void, then the pub's original roof shingles. In 2007 a proposed subdivision of the hotel site was opposed by some Trentham residents, following which the Hotel was put on the market. Enter Rod, taking on the renovation of his life!

The Cosmopolitan Gardens were opened in 2009, and the following year the old Stables were transformed into a bar and restaurant, while the painstaking work began on the damaged Hotel itself. Efforts were made to retain and use original materials wherever possible, not easy for a fire-damaged timber hotel constructed in the late nineteenth century to typical pioneering settlement standards (built in stages). The bar was opened up to suit twenty-first century usability, but the original charm remains with the original windows providing a thoughtful nod to yesteryear. To the delight of the town, December 2012 marked the grand opening of the newly rebuilt Cosmopolitan hotel – back to it's former glory!

The Cosmo has continued to evolve since it reopened. It's also a bespoke wedding venue (I can confirm, Fi is the most fabulous event manager / wedding co-ordinator!) A woodfire pizza oven has been installed (the perfect accompaniment to the region's best beer garden), the Cellar and Store which grew into the cosy Cosmo wine room, and most recently the Cosmopolitan Cottage has opened, offering luxury accommodation next door to the hotel.

But accompanying this change are the constants. The picture-perfect elms of the beer garden. Wednesday night

Curry Night. Numerous cosy fires warming our 7 month Trentham Winter. Walls displaying art by local Artists. Walking into the bar and Brendan knowing what you want before you even ask. The Friday night meat tray raffle, supporting our many community groups (I suspect the bragging rights of the winners are more highly sought after than the prizes). An unwavering dedication to and celebration of our region's best food and wine. And original live music in fabulously atmospheric and acoustic corners of this magnificent hotel.



Thanks Rod for taking a chance on The Cosmo: we salute you. Happy Anniversary!

The Cosmopolitan Hotel 15th Birthday Bash is supported by the Victorian Government through the Community Support Fund and Creative Victoria delivered by Music Victoria. Tickets & bookings via their website: thecosmopolitanhotel.com.au

Penny James

APRIL
THE COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL
AT THE COSMO

SAT 05 **ANDREA ROBERTSON** *FREE event!*
Live Acoustic Tunes From 3 - 5pm

BRETT FRANKE + KEVIN STARLING **SAT 12**
FREE EVENT | TUNES FROM 3PM - 5PM

15TH BIRTHDAY BASH
EASTER WEEKEND **18TH-21ST** 6 ACTS OVER 4 DAYS

SAT 26 **NICK ELLERBY** *FREE event!*
LIVE ACOUSTIC TUNES FROM 3PM - 5PM

FRIDAY NIGHT MEAT RAFFLE
ALL APRIL PROCEEDS GO TO THE TRENTHAM COMMUNITY GROUP

THECOSMOPOLITANHOTEL.COM.AU/WHATS-ON

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THE COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL 15TH BIRTHDAY BASH

FRIDAY 18TH

**HIGH ACE (Alison Ferrier & Jeff Lang)
7:30-9:30pm**



SATURDAY 19TH

**KARL S WILLIAMS
& SALLY WIGGINS (QLD) 3-5PM**

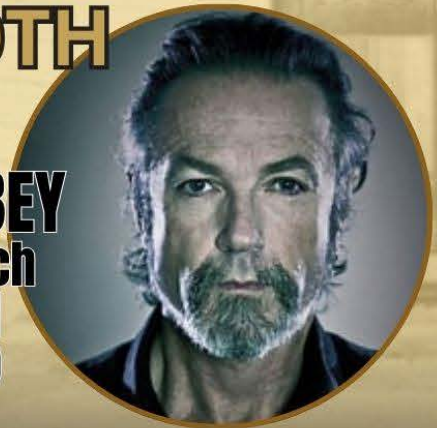
**THE DESERTERS 7:30-9:30PM
(Brooke Taylor & Delsinki)**



SUNDAY 20TH

JESS PARKER 3-5PM

**STEVE KILBEY
of The Church
7:30-10PM
(TICKETED)**



MONDAY 21ST Bad Debts 1-3pm

APR 18-21 EASTER W/E

**THE COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL
CNR HIGH STREET & COSMO ROAD, TRENTHAM**

visit www.thecosmopolitanhotel.com.au



This project is supported by the Victorian Government through the Community Support Fund and Creative Victoria delivered by Music Victoria.



COMMUNITY FEELS with Community Bank Trentham & Districts

These are our busy event months in Trentham and surrounds.

The unusually long summer has finally handed over to beautiful crisp autumn nights and mornings. No doubt everyone has firewood cutting and stacking well underway.

2025 has already witnessed:

- Lyonville Woodchop, where Wendy White our Treasurer, long term Director and Community Bank founder progressed to the 2nd round of the annual Ladies Nail Drive competition but sadly succumbed to the Defending Champ,
- Trentham Adult Riding Club's Dressage Series where Community Bank Trentham Executive Office Anjee Anderson stocked horse and rider treats care of our branch and dreamed of the day she will prance her own horse onto the arena whilst Melissa Ryan Customer Service Officer actually did prance her horse into the arena.
- Trentham Barefoot Bowls where Customer Relationship Officer Cathy Main stylishly showed us how it's done,
- Trentham Golf Club/Community Bank Trentham Autumn Tournament where our new Director Cate Martin was shown the ropes of true community partnership thanks to much loved club ambassadors Jan Stephenson & Rhonda Holcombe,

- Tylden Primary School Fair where our branch manager Edyta Wyatt wowed the audience with the best colouring competition announcements of 2025.

Let's not forget our preparations for upcoming Blackwood Easter Carnival where we'll all strain to outdo our prior year gumboot throwing PB's and win that coveted but illusive title.

And Spudfest - well we all know about Spudfest!!

It's thanks to our customers that we can contribute to these community events through grants, sponsorships and donations from banking revenue. Our founding objectives are to uplift the community and local economy through financial contributions and community partnerships.

Our Trentham branch staff are efficient, friendly and experienced. Come into the branch and introduce yourself to Edyta, Cathy, Karen, Melissa and Brigid.

Feel good about who you bank with!

Community Bank Trentham & Districts (Bendigo Bank)
 37b High Street, Trentham
 5424 1608
Trenthammailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au

Councillor's Report

On Wednesday 19 March I was invited by Trentham Community Action Inc. (TCA) to address the community on a range of Council matters.

In presenting, my objectives were to provide the community with up-to-date information, respond to questions and concerns and generally raise awareness that several significant opportunities will arise in the coming months for input from the community into strategically important plans.

Pleasingly there were 90 community members present.

In the lead up to 30 June Council will develop its next 4-year Council Plan, set a budget for 2025/26, update its financial projections for the next 10 years and advance the town structure plans and rural strategy. Each of those pieces of work are critically important for Council's direction and present as key opportunities for community engagement and input.

The **Trentham town structure plan**, conditionally adopted in September 2024, requires more technical work in some areas and there will be opportunity for further community consultation. The process undertaken through 2024 saw strong input from the community and we need that involvement to continue. By May 2025 the arrangements for implementation of the plan will be clearer. Timing of implementation is important – any undue delays will leave our town subject to the ongoing risk of inappropriate development occurring.

The **4-year Council Plan** sets the strategic direction and priorities for this new term. By its very nature it strongly influences the budget. The previous Plan covered 5 focus areas, 23 priority statements and 116 strategies. While there were many successes and achievements through that term there is a growing consensus that financial pressures demand that this next Plan concentrates more on basic services and core business. In the absence of any legislated guidelines reaching consensus on what constitutes core business for Council remains the topic of much debate within the councillor group. I encourage community members to closely review the draft Plan when it is released and provide input.

In 2024 Council consulted widely on its **financial outlook**. The projected \$4m pa cash shortfall was transparently disclosed and, faced with needing to cut costs and therefore services, community input was sought on which services should be subject to change. The challenging outlook is caused by sharply escalating costs and the cumulative effect of below-CPI rate capping adjustments applied over many years. Hepburn Shire's relatively small size – only 8000 residential ratepayers – and its multiple service centres – Clunes, Creswick, Daylesford, Hepburn Springs, Trentham, Glenlyon – hamper efficiency and duplicate costs.

To address the projected cash shortfall Council has considered selling surplus assets however there are very few, if any, land and buildings that can be sold. Similarly, Council is constrained in taking out further borrowings for capital projects as there is no surplus cash to service that increased debt. Regional councils also have very few, if any, opportunities to secure new income streams, unlike our

counterparts in metropolitan areas.

The immediate approach is therefore to identify cost savings of \$2.64m pa, across all areas of Council's operations, and seek a 10% increase to rates which would raise an additional \$1.36m pa. It is expected the ESC will make a decision on rates by late April.

The combined effect of cost savings and rate increase is necessary to address the cash shortfall and take steps towards ensuring Council's ongoing viability.

The future. The meeting considered what Council would look like should the 10% rate increase be granted and cost savings of \$2.64m be applied, through reduced services. Having already cut costs by \$1.5m in 2024/25 the total impact on services would be a 12.5% reduction.

But ratepayers would be paying 10% more for 12.5% less services.

Not a palatable or satisfactory outcome from a ratepayer perspective.

Even in that scenario Council as an organisation would not have surplus cash to buffer against unforeseen emergencies (such as storms, floods, fire); would not have surplus cash to make co-contributions should grants be secured from other tiers of government; and would have no cash to fund the construction of new assets. The capital works program has already been limited to the renewal of existing assets only.

The meeting called for Council to continue its advocacy with the State government for the consideration of other changes – such as boundary changes - that would lead to ensuring vital services are maintained in a sustainable manner and at a reasonable cost to the ratepayer. TCA has subsequently conveyed that message to the councillor group and CEO.

I encourage you to watch out for the draft budget when it is released, provide input, and be aware of further updates on these matters.

How rates work

I provided the following data to the community meeting.

As part of the budgeting process Council determines the rate payable. For 2024/25 the rate payable for all residential properties across the Shire is 0.002217. An independent valuer determines each property value every January. The property value used for rating purposes is the capital improved value (CIV) of land and buildings. The amount we pay as rates is the CIV multiplied by 0.002217.

The table on the following page shows the number of residential properties by location (major towns only), their assessed value, the average CIV and rates payable. The table includes only rates and does not include other items such as waste charges.

Councillor's Report

Rates by Towns

LOCALITY	NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES	VALUATION OF PROPERTIES CIV \$	AVERAGE CIV \$	RATE	RATES PAYABLE \$
CLUNES	931	488,160,000	524,339	0.002217	1,162
CRESWICK	1485	816,630,000	549,919	0.002217	1,219
HEPBURN/HEPBURN SPRINGS	694	548,665,000	790,584	0.002217	1,753
DAYLESFORD	1898	1,708,995,000	900,419	0.002217	1,996
GLENLYON	248	228,855,000	922,802	0.002217	2,046
TRENTHAM	761	812,430,000	1,067,582	0.002217	2,367

Above: this table shows the number of residential properties in the major towns of Hepburn Shire Council, their assessed value, the average CIV and rates payable (only rates, excludes other charges).

The Mechanics Trentham - Bookings can be made here [The Mechanics Trentham Hepburn Shire Council](#). Community groups can and should apply for a fee waiver.

Contacting Council – to report an issue or request work please use the following link on Council’s website - [Report an issue Hepburn Shire Council](#). Your request will be directed to the relevant department, you will receive a job number and an update.

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](#)

Trentham Sustainability Group

Energy Resilience Project

Battery

Great news for Trentham with the Victorian Government recently announcing a \$400,000 grant to install a Neighbourhood Battery and more solar panels at the Mechanics Trentham. As the designated community emergency relief centre for Trentham and district, this upgrade will provide power during bushfires and storm events whenever the grid fails; potentially for 200 people up-to 7 days. A joint application with the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance and Hepburn Shire Council, based on TSG’s previous work, achieved this result. The battery will be operational by October 2026.



Our consultants will be reporting to the community on all aspects of their proposal such as; preferred locations for equipment, operational models, environmental issues and how residents can be involved.

The first of a series of Community Engagement Forums will be held: 7.00 pm, Tuesday 29 April at the Mechanics.

So, come along, ask questions, have your say and help us keep the lights on!

Matthew Nickson

TSG

trenthamsustainability@gmail.com

Microgrid

The battery at the Mechanics is just the first step in making an Energy Resilient Trentham. TSG has now engaged consultants to deliver a Technical Analysis for an “islandable microgrid” for the centre of Trentham based on the Market Street transformer, which currently services 33 commercial properties and 102 residential properties. What does this actually mean? Like the system to be installed at the Mechanics it will include a battery, increased solar, a generator and will provide power to those properties when the grid fails. By keeping the centre of Trentham operating in such events it will enable all residents of Trentham, and the surrounding districts, to access the existing services in Trentham.



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0410 714 567
 39 High Street, Trentham
laurenthairtrentham.com.au

Spudfest!

The Great Trentham Spudfest

Trentham’s beloved annual festival is back on May 3 - 4, serving up a weekend packed with spud-filled fun!

The Great Trentham Spudfest isn’t just about potatoes (okay, maybe it mostly is)—it’s also a celebration of our vibrant community spirit and proud potato-growing heritage. Once a shy, humble tuber hiding underground, the potato finally gets its moment in the sun, basking in the spotlight with festivities dedicated to its starchy greatness and showcasing what our spudtacular region has to offer.

This year, there are two days of fun-filled events, with activities for all ages, held against the backdrop of spectacular autumn colour.

STREET FAIR | Saturday, May 3 | 10am - 4pm

Trentham comes alive with the legendary Street Fair held in the heart of town. Explore four main precincts, packed full of spud food, fresh regional produce, a local makers market, live music, and the Spud Olympics. Grab a bag of famous Trentham potatoes, direct from local growers. Bus tours of the district’s heritage-protected Spud Huts run throughout the day.

Saturday evening brings the Spudfest Cèilidh, a family-friendly celebration of Celtic music, food, and dancing. Or join local chef Annie Smithers for an exclusive four-course potato feast at her famous Trentham restaurant Du Fermier.



DISCOVERY DAY | Sunday, May 4 | 10am - 4pm

Slow things down and explore all that Trentham and the surrounding regions have to offer. Join the ‘Cooks in Conversation’ event with Alice Zaslavsky, drop past the Spud Hub in Trentham Town Square to discover fresh spuds, delicious farm gate foodie trails, or join a local farm tour. Sign up for The Great Spud Scavenger Hunt, take a gnocchi-making class, enjoy the Red Beard Bakery Scotch Oven tour, or spend the day eating spudtastic dishes at venues across the region.

Event website and ticket details: trenthamspudfest.org.au/

Photo Credit: Brian Young

The Great Trentham
SPUDFEST
Celebrating our People, Produce & Region
3 & 4 MAY 2025

SATURDAY
Street
Fair

SUNDAY
Discovery
Day

Two days of different ways to
celebrate the humble Spud!
FOR FULL PROGRAM VISIT TRENTHAMSPUDFEST.ORG.AU

- MAJOR SPONSORS -

At the Station

Seasonal Market

We had a big turn out for the March seasonal market. Our raffle prizes were all won by locals, Pat, Deb, George and Irene. Thank you to everyone who supported us on the day.

Next month's market 27 April will be our last market for the year. It's only \$10 for a site, and free for not for profits!!

The Goods Shed

Restoration work has recommenced, (see photo attached) and all the rotten bearers and beams will be replaced over the coming week. It is getting closer for TRATA and the community to be able to utilize this grand old shed.

Equipment Upgrade

Our grant application to Hepburn Shire was successful for the replacement of our 20+ year old brush cutter. Volunteers have been using their own equipment and the new one will greatly assist in reducing the time taken to keep the precinct in good shape.

Gardens

Our volunteers have continued with some lovely planting over the last month. The path leading to the rail line is now full of different species, and 2 silver birches have been planted for future shading. Some of the old cypress trees along the boundary of The Trentham Self Storage facility have been pruned back, and the mulch will be spread along the bank towards Station Street.

At our March market, we sold over 24 native species that will be planted along the boundary of the goods shed platform and the industrial buildings. Each person who purchased a plant will have their name placed on a board that will be attached to the fenceline. We will be selling more of these at our April market.

Trentham Easter Art and Craft Show

The much loved Trentham Easter Art and Craft Show is (finally!) back in 2025, at the newly renovated The Mechanics Trentham.

Entries

Artists, please note: Entries close Saturday 5 April.

Works to be delivered to The Mechanics Trentham (High Street Trentham) on Monday 14 April, between 10am-12pm or 2pm-4pm.

Jump online teacs.org.au for more information.

Opening Night and Awards Presentation

Tickets are available online (and selling fast!) for the Opening Night and Awards Presentation on Thursday 17 April at 7pm. Tickets \$10 individual / \$20 family. Meet some of the artisans and celebrate the winners of the 17 prize categories. Be amongst the first to have the opportunity to buy the amazing art and craft!

During the evening light refreshments will be available and your ticket includes your first drink for the evening.



Station Works

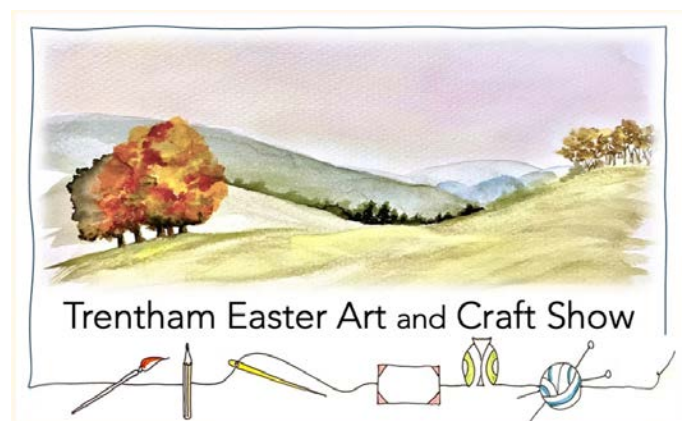
There will be quite a lot of activity happening during April along the platform. Fencing will be replaced and repaired, painting and a new pathway will be created.

Membership

New members are always welcome, annual fee is \$10. The railway precinct is entirely operated and managed by volunteers.

Phil Davis
Secretary
TRATA

trataattrentham@gmail.com
trenthamrailwayprecinct
trataattrentham



Exhibition

From Friday 18 April to Monday 21 April the show will be open 10am to 4pm every day (closing at 1pm on Monday) Tickets are \$5 individual / \$10 family.

Contact info@teacs.org.au with any questions.

The Trentham Garden

The Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show

Within the industry, garden shows can be a bit 'love 'em or hate 'em'. On the positive side, there is so much creativity in these shows and so many opportunities to connect with people in the industry. On the downside, there's certainly a lot of 'smoke and mirrors' to the displays, and there's definitely A LOT of opinions flying around!

It's a big step to enter yourself into a garden show like the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show (MIFGS) and I was excited when my application for a 'Boutique Garden' (5m x 5m) for MIFGS 2025 was accepted in October last year.

Finalists are provided with a grant to cover some of the construction costs, but usually designers will fork out extra cash themselves to showcase their absolute best work. Some companies are known as great sponsors of the gardens, and this is part of the reason you will often see certain plants and materials repeating through in different gardens.

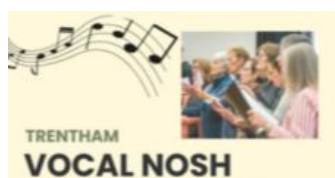
The gardens are constructed to last for exactly 5 days before they are pulled apart; plants are still in their plastic pots artfully disguised with mulch, and there's a lot of particleboard holding everything together that would normally require more substantial engineering.

My theme was 'The Breakup Garden' and I wanted in to showcase the beauty of imbalance, change and unexpected transformation. I used materials in unexpected, seemingly 'unfinished' ways to create this feeling, as well as a free flowing planting scheme mixing many plants originating in both Asia and Australia.

Vocal Nosh

This is an opportunity to just sing because you can!

Trentham Neighbourhood Centre
 Saturday 12 April,
 4pm – 5.30pm



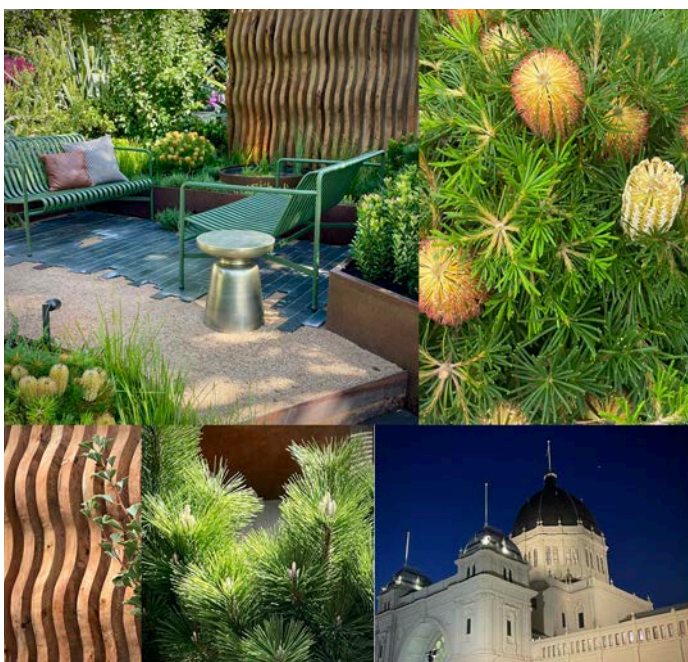
Come along to enjoy singing with others, learn some new songs and share old favourites. No experience necessary. Book on the TNC website.

Catherine KING MP
 Federal Member for Ballarat

03 5338 8123
 Catherine.King.MP@aph.gov.au
 CatherineKingMP
 Catherine_KingMP

Standing up for our Community!
www.catherineking.com.au

Authorised by Catherine King MP, Australian Labor Party, 5 Lyford St North, Ballarat VIC 3350

Unfortunately, prizes were not forthcoming but I was super happy with my display. Thank you to all my Trentham clients for supporting me through the years!

Kaz Krasovskis
 Landscape Designer
 Insta: Kaz Krasovskis
www.kazkrasovskis.com.au

Images from the Garden Show including my display, Banksia 'Birthday Candles', Pinus thunbergii 'Yatsubusa', and the beautiful exhibition building lit up at night

Trentham Film Society presents

WICKED LITTLE LETTERS



Saturday, April 19
 Trentham Neighbourhood Centre – 7pm
\$20 for 3 consecutive months society membership.
 New members welcome.
 Pre-show drinks and nibbles available from 6.30pm.

The Essence of Kindness and Generosity



Serendipity

"Lions needs a freezer (preferably upright one) to freeze sausages, bacon and other food for our Saturday market day BBQs. So if you have a freezer that is surplus to needs please contact me to discuss".

This was part of a notice Lions placed around Trentham recently. A few days later I received a call from an anonymous caller to confirm whether we still needed a freezer.

I assumed they had a used one that was no longer required.

The caller then said:

"I am new to Trentham and very impressed with what Lions does for the community so I wish to purchase and donate a freezer. When and where can I arrange for it to be delivered?"
I was flabbergasted.
"Who am I talking to?" I asked.
"That doesn't matter" was the response!



Thank you for your kindness - it is very much appreciated.

Payback

The Lions and CFA Good Friday Appeal - Can you Help???

Trentham Lions and CFA are again managing our local collection for the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal on Friday 18 April.

Last year the collection effort amounted to approximately \$10,000! Can we beat that?

So far we have allocated funds raised from the March Farmers Market to the Appeal, and we have an Easter Raffle underway, which will be drawn at the Market on Easter Saturday.

A major part of the Trentham effort is the Annual Door-Knock on Good Friday.

We are always looking for Volunteers. It takes about two hours of your time on Good Friday morning. Please consider forming a team of 2-3 people and coming to help.

Just come to the Fire Station at 9am on Good Friday, and we will have everything you need.

For more details call Tim on 0417 006 146



Above: Lions Tim Walsh and John Maclaren collecting for the Good Friday Appeal

Finally, it is easy to donate online, using the link below.
fundraise.goodfridayappeal.com.au/fundraisers/Trentham

Tony van Rensburg
Trentham Lions

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Kyneton
Shoes

Monday - Friday 9am-5pm
Saturday 9am-2pm



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03 5422 2090

Hepburn Gardens for Wildlife

This is prime planting time, particularly for our local native species. So this makes it a good time to organise a free consultation from our HG4W Mentors – book at the local Neighbourhood Centre. Most local species are frost hardy, particularly if propagated locally, though some will be glad of protection during the winter, such as the usual plant guards.



HG4W is happy to say the small booklet (right) launched last November is proving very popular. There are copies available at the Council hub while we wait for it to be available online. This print resource helps draw attention to the imported shrubs and trees which can be avoided as they are invading the nearby forest, smothering the understory and disrupting the habitat for so many critters. The range of plants listed provides a lot of options for creating habitat-healthy native screens on our properties.

A workshop is scheduled for Saturday 10 May at the Daylesford Neighbourhood Centre, 2pm – 3.30pm, led by Tully Sumner from Grow Locals. You are invited to bring along your plans and hopes for your own patch to contribute to the discussion and find suggestions to take away. You can register on trybooking via this QR code from Monday 7 April.



Plants for habitat

Native Screening shrubs & trees

in the Hepburn Shire



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Conveniently located at Kyneton Health.

No referral needed. Simply get in touch to make an appointment.

Email: whc@chrh.org.au

Phone: (03) 5422 9946

Please scan the QR code for more information.



Vale Barry Elliott

Barry Herbert Elliott 1940-2025

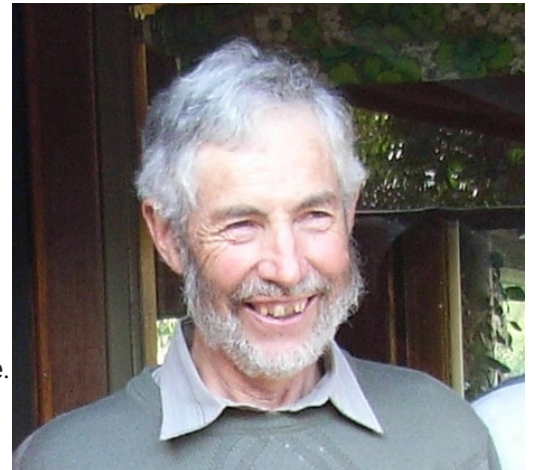
Barry was always a fit, lean athletic person who was not daunted by a challenge. The challenge to be a principal to encourage staff and students to be their best or the challenge of getting a wild bull to market when the yards were paddocks away. The main strands of his interests were farming, teaching, family and community.

Over time he taught at six country High schools was general manager of the North-Eastern Region for Education and then became CEO of the Central Health Interpreters Service in Melbourne. He then retired to farming in the Trentham District.

At Spring Hill in 1968 he cleared paddocks, took the timber to be preserved for fence posts, erected fences and dug all the postholes himself. He built sheds and several stock yards, electric fences and delivered water in troughs to every paddock, fenced off the waterways and planted environmental corridors. He farmed at Spring Hill, Nutfield, Trentham North and East Trentham. Sometimes all those places at once. Barry enjoyed cattle sales, auctions and collecting old machinery. The rich volcanic soil with abundant moisture in Trentham grew grass, vegetables and fruit very well. Some will remember those bunches of rhubarb and carrots for the sustainability stall in Trentham.

Barry was keen to involve farmers in Landcare. Speakers showed them all how to improving pastures and soil, create new products for markets, identify weeds in the district. Along with all the other Landcare members, he spent many hours spraying gorse and planting trees grown from local seed. Many merry landcare nights were held at the Pig and Whistle Hotel. He was president of the local landcare committee for 15 years.

Barry enjoyed meetings and enjoyed contributing to community in its many facets. He represented our region at state level as a Landcare representative. Other organizations benefited from his



skill in grant applications and leadership. His evenings were spent writing grant letters, letters to the council, papers and lists of jobs for the next weeks and months or going to meetings. He drove groups for outings in the community bus and mowed and sprayed local reserves and the station precinct over several years.

Such an enthusiastic hard working community minded person would be hard to find except in Trentham where many folk would equally fit the bill.

Thank you to all the carers and staff from Central Highlands Health, Bupa Kyneton and Trentham Health and Springs Medical for all your assistance in Barry's care after his diagnosis of illness in 2017. Many thanks for those community members who were part of a roster of support for Barry.

Gael Elliott

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TSG Film Night

Rachel's Farm - A Free Movie Screening in Trentham

Wednesday 2 April, 7.30pm
The Mechanics Trentham

Acclaimed actor and director Rachel Ward is an unlikely figure on the frontline of a farming revolution. But that is what she has become.

After she and her husband, fellow actor Bryan Brown, settled on a farm in NSW to raise cattle and their children, they grew accustomed to the odd flood and drought. Finally, though, they were threatened by something worse: the catastrophic bushfires of 2019-2020.

This forced Ward to confront her role, however small, in the precariousness of our environment. What impacts were her farming techniques having? How was her ecological ignorance adding to the toll of rising temperatures, topsoil loss and declining biodiversity? One result was a complete change in the way she farmed, a switch to regenerative farming; another was to turn her creative skills to producing a film outlining her embrace of this fresh approach to agriculture.

The result is "Rachel's Farm", an insightful, moving and entertaining feature that is about to have a special screening in Trentham.



Sponsored by the Trentham Sustainability Group, "Rachel's Farm" will be shown at The Mechanics Trentham, Wednesday, 2 April, at 7.30pm.

Entry is free and light refreshments will be available. The film is highly recommended for farmers, gardeners and anyone interested in restoring the health of Australia's farmland, food and climate.

The Holly Project

The Holly Project is a broad and inclusive group of volunteers looking to focus on The Wombat Forest.



Several field days have been held in the district and three are planned for April. Activities include holly mapping, working bees, community engagement and technical advice about holly control options.

To find out more details about each field day and to register your interest email: weedcontrol200@gmail.com

Blackwood and Barry's Reef Landcare is holding a working bee targeting holly, 5 April at St Martins Community Chapel. There will also be a demonstration on how to map holly using iNaturalist.

Another target area will be in the forest along Lynches Track, south of Bullarto. These trees will be tackled by cutting and painting. Proposed date Sat 12 April 10 AM.

The third one will be close to Trentham – later in April

Holly is particularly invasive because of the conditions in this part of the district, cool and (usually) good rainfall. Gardens of the towns in and adjacent to the forest are weed sources with some farmlands bordering the forest also of concern. The roads, tracks, electricity lines and even the old railways provide corridors for weed movement into the forest.

In your home garden, keep a look out to remove emerging holly plants and if you have large shrubs, please consider removing them as they also form a significant fire risk. Read more about weeds in the forest in the December edition of Wombat Forestcare Newsletter (online).

Quarry Street Reserve

Work will soon commence on the QSR part of the A Healthy Coliban Catchment Bright-eyed Brown Butterfly Restoration Project. The aerial photo shows the first stage where weed removal will occur on 25 metres of Stony Creek, both sides. This will be an ongoing process, monitoring the effectiveness of the treatment. Jute matting will then be laid prior to revegetation in October this year.

By focusing on the Butterfly habitat, the creek environment has a greater chance of returning to be a healthy part of the Coliban catchment.

Treatment will focus on a serious emerging weed, Sharp-flowered Rush, which currently dominates the creek line. We'll be interested to see how this is tackled.

The Healthy Coliban Catchment Project has funded the Hepburn Shire Council to conduct on-ground habitat works in partnership with three community groups in Trentham. If you are interested in being involved, contact Quarry Street Reserve via our Facebook page or email: quarrystreetreservetrentham@gmail.com



Little Gallery

No Strangers Here

Little Gallery in Trentham is no stranger to high profile artists. Over the past 14 years the gallery has showcased many Central Victorian artists who excel in their field. One of the founding members, Rose Wilson, states 'we are truly blessed to be able to represent some of the finest artists that this region has to offer. Not only are these artists known within Australia but are internationally acclaimed'.

The newest members of the gallery's dynamic team are sculptors Maria Coyle and Jimmy Rix.

Woodend based, award winning ceramicist Maria Coyle has been working as a professional sculptor for 30 years. Her works are held in private and corporate collections, and have been acquired nationally, and internationally in New Zealand, Asia, UK, Italy and the Netherlands.



Acclaimed Malmsbury sculptor Jimmy Rix, is an award-winning artist, who has been commissioned to make large scale public art in Australia and China and is a regular exhibitor in many outdoor exhibitions such as Sculpture by the Sea. Jimmy's work includes acquired and held by Parliament House. He is represented in Sydney and Melbourne by Australian Galleries.

Jimmy and Maria, along with painters Rose Wilson and Helen Cottle and ceramicist Kim Haughie make up the Little Gallery in-house team of resident artists. Also on display at the Little Gallery are short term featured artists Jennifer Barnett and Kyneton based wood artist Brian Falkenburg along with the gallery's stable of local commission artists.

The much anticipated Winter Show fundraising exhibition will open on 11 July - stay tuned for the announcement of 16 local artists who will be invited to partake and celebrate regional identity through art. The Winter Show is a standout calendar event hosted by the Little Gallery.

The Little Gallery is open 10-4 Thursday to Monday and most public holidays to visit, meet the artists and chat about their work.

THE POLICE ARE COMING!



Open Day

at

Trentham Old Police Station,

3-5 Camp Street

Saturday 5th April, 10.30-2.00pm

Vintage Police Car Mounted Police Uniforms Displays

Free Sausage Sizzle and Refreshments



in association with



Trentham Tales

THE STORY OF TED SHELDEN: 1,962 days of military service



As we approach the 110th Anniversary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli we remember those who served and who died not only in World War I but all wars and Peacekeeping missions. In particular, we remember those who enlisted from Trentham and the surrounding districts.

For the people of Trentham, their earliest involvement in war was with the enlistment of some eight men in the Boer War, when Rupert (Rube) Thornton became Trentham's earliest death in war. Today Australian military personnel continue to serve on Peacekeeping operations in the Middle East.

In contemporary times we have recognised Sandy Matheson for his bravery during WWII in PNG where he was awarded the Military Medal. The Kyneton RSL continues to recognise Sandy with an annual award for leadership to a student at Trentham Primary School.

Less recognized perhaps was Edward Francis Shelden. Ted, as he was known, was born in 1916 and enlisted in the 2nd AIF on 23 May 1940. He lived in Lyonville where he worked as a farm labourer for his father Edward Hansford Shelden, who was listed as his next of kin. Within a month Ted was to suffer the first of several bouts of serious illness when he was hospitalized at Puckapunyal with Rubella (German Measles). But no malingering: on 19 October 1940 Ted was aboard the HMT Aquitania en route to the Middle East where he served until 29 March 1942.

In August of that year Ted embarked from Townsville on the MV Gorgon to the conflict north of Australia where he spent the next five months. On 16 December Ted, now an A/SGT platoon commander, was located near Gona on the PNG east coast when his platoon came under sustained enemy fire. He crawled across a creek to position himself just metres from an enemy post, killing two occupants with a grenade. He then went onto another two pits killing another four enemy soldiers. Later that night he led his men forward occupying the enemy pits, thus obtaining excellent observation over the remaining enemy positions. For his courageous actions he was awarded the Military Medal.

St George's

News and Reflections

Easter in the Northern Hemisphere is too entwined with the season of Spring. There it is impossible to untangle the exuberance of daffodils from whatever is meant by Jesus Christ rising from the dead. Here in Trentham the autumn rains have come at last, the worst of bushfire season is over, and, like the spinebills in my fuchsia, we prepare for the long winter of Cool Country.

Perhaps it is better to read the Gospel stories of Resurrection as a quiet mystery unfolding. A loaf of bread. A good glass of red. The gift of hospitality offered all along High Street. Who is this person I meet on the road or in the coffee shops of Trentham? How fortunate we are to live where we can see we are surrounded by "the wondrous glory of the everlasting stars." It oddly grounds us while it sets our spirits soaring.

On his return to Australia in January 1943 Ted had good and bad news. In March he was granted 12 days leave but later in the month was severely reprimanded, and forfeited 13 days pay, presumably for overstaying his leave by about three weeks! It seems the reason was that he had married Daisy Irene Shelden from Little Hampton. Ted then served at a training unit in South Australia and was commissioned as a Lieutenant in July 1943. In July 1944 he returned to the jungles for 16 arduous months in and around Green Island, Lae, Bougainville and New Britain. In 1946 Ted was Mentioned in Despatches for distinguished service in the South West Pacific, between 1 October 1944 and 31 March 1945.

Ted was discharged on 9 October 1945 when he returned to Lyonville. His family moved to a property in Camp Street in 1947, and at some later date Ted and Daisy settled in Nambour Queensland where he died on 31 August 2000.

In the excellent publication 'Trentham at War' compiled by Ina Bertrand and Jan Robertson on behalf of the Trentham & District Historical Society, Edward Francis Shelden is acknowledged, and his name appears on the Enlistment Board in the new Trentham Library. Unfortunately his family name is misspelt as Sheldon, as often occurred on his printed military documents. But we know who he was, what he did and salute him for his many acts of bravery.

*Edward Francis Shelden –
Period of Service 1,962 days, Overseas service 1,203 days
Military Medal, Defence Medal 1939-1945, African Star,
Pacific Star*

LEST WE FORGET

John Riches AM Trentham & Districts Historical Society

*Open Day
On 5 April, we're celebrating 160 years of policing in
Trentham. 10.30 - 2 pm, displays and free sausages and
scones. See opposite page for more details*

There will be a little bit of bustling around the churches. We will probably make our "palm" crosses out of native Lomandra grasses again to hand out on Palm Sunday. We will quieten down on Good Friday to concentrate on "the old old story of Jesus and his love" and then eat too many hot cross buns. We will bustle to find enough flowers to celebrate the white and gold of Easter and sing our "hallelujahs". But we will merely dream of slaying dragons on St George's Day (23 April).

Then we will settle into a quiet season of faith and hope and love, which is not and has never been certainty, full assurance and lusty emotions. It is mystery.

Join us for a gentle Easter at St George's.
Palm Sunday 9am 13 April
Good Friday 9am 18 April
Easter Day 9am 20 April

Letter to the Editor

Happy Anniversary??

We all missed it!

Hepburn Shire was established 19 January 1995.

So, after 30 years – and five local Councillors – how has Trentham fared in the amalgamated Hepburn Council? First, an historical note: up until a week or so before the announcement of the new Shire, Trentham was still to be part of Macedon Ranges Shire. Someone took a final look at Hepburn and decided it wasn't financially viable and Trentham was tipped into Hepburn. (It must be fun sitting in a Melbourne office drawing lines on a map without a care for community of interest, water supply, natural, road and historical links!)

Highlights of the last 30 years:

- the new Mechanics;
- sportsground pavilion;
- Quarry St pavilion;
- some road sealing (Mulcahys) and new footpaths;
- rubbish and recycling collection – and now a green bin;
- maintenance of the swimming pool and public toilets;

and that's about all.

Saint Mary Magdalene's

Musings from Saint Mary Magdalen's

This pilgrim year we are in lent all through March and well into April and this year lent has a particular resonance. It is a pilgrimage. We put aside the things of this world so that we are unburdened for an inward journey. One in which we come to a deeper understanding of who we truly are. Not the bright show we offer the world but our real selves with all our flaws and brokenness as well as our gifts and (sometimes hidden) beauty.

This is a true pilgrimage and all the pilgrimage trails across the world are only physical expressions of this inner journey, or they are nothing more than a walk in the countryside.

An important thing about pilgrimage, however, is that it goes somewhere, it has a destination. Here in Trentham, we have already welcomed many pilgrims since being named as a pilgrimage church. They have come in cars and in buses. They have come as groups, as families, and on their own. All to seek the silence and stillness of our church, a place where they can find peace and renewed hope.

What the of our inner pilgrimage? What is its destination? A true knowledge of self? Yes, indeed, but we can go still deeper. For Christians the end of our pilgrimage is Easter where, love conquers hate, life conquers death, and we come to know the God who loves us.

Deacon Joe

Aside from the recent Mechanics, sportsground and Quarry St developments, Trentham got the bare minimum for the first 25 years even though we paid our (higher) rates and agitated for a fair go.

And now?

We face a 10% hike in rates and heavy cuts in Council services (yet to be determined). Trentham's higher property valuations mean that we will continue to pay a disproportionate share of the total rate bill - for the benefit of other far-flung parts of the Shire.

Wards have been abolished and several hundred absentee ratepayers have been dropped from the (former Coliban Ward) electoral roll making it an incredibly difficult task for any future local candidate to attract the quota required to be elected.

A 10% rate increase and \$2.4M in service cuts will only achieve a 'holding pattern' – there will be no scope for new major initiatives or reserves to respond to disasters.

Where to from here?

Ian MacBean

0438 529 481

Women's Health Clinic in Kyneton

Seeking New Patients

Central Highlands Rural Health is now taking new patients for its women's health clinic located at Kyneton Health.

Women in rural and regional areas often face barriers to accessing the healthcare they need such as long travel distances, limited specialists, and delayed diagnoses. This clinic was created to address these barriers ensuring timely access to specialised care - close to home.

Our Women's Health Clinic provides expert services in:

- Endometriosis: Diagnosis, treatment, and management to improve quality of life.
- Pelvic Pain: Comprehensive care for persistent pelvic discomfort.
- Menopause and Perimenopause: Support for navigating hormonal changes.
- Menstrual issues: Diagnosis and treatment of menstrual pain and heavy bleeding.
- Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS): Tailored treatment and management plans.
- Continence: Solutions to improve pelvic floor health and daily comfort.

Our caring team understands the personal nature of these issues and provides a confidential, compassionate environment. Whether you're seeking a diagnosis, treatment, or advice, we're here to help.

To learn more, call (03) 5422 9946 or email whc@chrh.org.au. See page 15 for more details

Interior Design

It's a White-Out

White is a popular colour which gains its brilliance when accompanied with an abundance of natural light. Every paint chart will have hundreds of whites to choose from, often making it difficult to find the right white.

No matter which style of interior resonates with you, in an all-white interior you need to play with your full decorating toolbox. It's all about contrasts of texture to play shadows, and how different materials either absorb or reflect light.

Take advantage of different materials: an undressed piece of driftwood will provide visual stimulation with its gnarly knots and grain; a slab of polished granite or marble will be smooth and reflect light differently.

Layering different materials and shapes is important. Rooms tend to be square and can be boxy, so using rounded occasional furniture and curved details will soften the look.

White interiors allow you to unify a broad mix of furnishings: soft furnishings step up when you blend cottons with wools, natural and organic fabrics with distinctive texture. I enjoy using and placing a blend of furnishings together, some older and more elaborate, juxtaposed against cleaner and simpler more contemporary pieces. Oversized fluffy white towels are a romantic favourite in the bathrooms, but think white bedlinen with delicate embroidery, lace work and interesting stitching, either neatly tailored or jumbled together. Use glass objects and ceramics, corralled together into a tray for lustre.



Architectural features can be emphasised in an all-white interior: you could adopt the colour drench route, covering walls, ceilings and millwork (mouldings, architraves, doors, windowframes) using a single colour; or search for and use raw and recycled timbers, as beams, fire surrounds, doors and windows.

For a more modern Scandinavian aesthetic, consider a lick of matt black paint on the architrave framing a window, acting like a makeup eye liner, clearly defining the change of materials from wall to glass.

Nothing quite says a country home welcome more than a blazing open fire: think about the stone or brickwork surrounds left exposed and painted white for texture, with a glossy white mantel, or no mantel at all. A sculptural light fitting will look spectacular in a mix of glass and pewter, with decorative task and ambient lamps around your room. An all-white interior is all about creating a comfortable home for you, in which your collections shine - whether your style is traditional or more modern - utilising the rules of contrasting size and shape, collating furnishing and building materials of varied texture and patina.

Robert Creedon

Interior Design Studio

Mobile 0488 294 777
Instagram @robert_creedon
Web robertcreedon.studio

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Barfly Bob

13 March was a mild Thursday evening in Trentham. Kathleen Halloran opened in support of Tim Rogers down in the Cosmo stables. Guitarist, singer and songwriter, Halloran has been a sought after live musician for many well known artists including Kate Cebrano.

Embarking on a solo career she shared her latest single "Free with me" as well as other memorable songs and some covers including a mind bending version of Dire Straight's Sultan's of Swing.

Stepping out into the spotlight, unlike the calm conditions beneath the Cosmo elms outside, she raised a storm with voice and strings. We all soon fell under her spell. No doubt she'll be a star in her own right in no time.

Tim Rogers probably evokes images of the sweat soaked, booze fuelled, Melbourne pub rock scene. Tonight's performance however, was solo acoustic and much more tame. Tim's beloved guitar had some issues at first and it took him a song or two to hit his straps but once he got going the audience were swept away.

There's no bs with Tim, he's like the brickie on the worksite, not the site supervisor. Perhaps a little confronting for some but I thoroughly enjoyed his open and honest performance. Sitting somewhere between Perkins and Cave I've long since been an admirer.

Playing favs from his 23 year solo career I'm always struck with his lyrics; a little surreal yet poignant, who else would rhyme "Cars and girls" with "Stars unfurled"?



Tim also dipped into his You Am I days with memorable hits such as Heavy Heart, Purple Sneakers and of course Berlin Chair.

I'm loving the diverse sounds of the original artists Duzel and Delsinki are bringing to the Cosmo in Trentham. Some may be an acquired taste but like a fruit and veg shop there are many flavours and it's fun to try something different each month.

Next month over the Easter weekend, Rod & Co. celebrate 15 years since they swooped in and saved the burnt out shell of the pub with music all weekend. Jump online for tickets to see Steve Kilby (lead singer of the legendary The Church) on Easter Sunday, all other gigs are free.

See ya at the gig.

Trentham and Districts Life Activities Club

**Member of the Month:
Judy Weatherhead**

Judy joined the club 13 years ago when it was first established. She started a weekly walking group, which still takes place every Wednesday morning. Judy meets with the other keen walkers for a 4-5km walk around Trentham. This walk is also an opportunity to have a good chat and meet new friends.



Judy is very passionate about making your life in the town where you live and contributing to the community. She certainly puts this into practice, always keen to help at functions, and makes a beautiful chocolate cake!

When discussing how TLAC could help enrich the lives of older residents Judy was full of ideas. She is aware that there are many women living alone, and men too. She would love to have music concerts and interesting speakers. She also feels that bus trips to galleries, gardens and social events would be welcomed.

If you would like to join Judy's walking group on at 10am on Wednesday mornings just turn up outside the old post office. You'll be welcomed warmly and there will be no

cost to you or need to become a member - we like people to have a taste before they buy!

And if you see her in town with her walking boots on and her sticks beware - she may just be heading up Blue Mount!



TRENTHAM LIFE ACTIVITES CLUB

HELLO MEMBERS AND THOSE WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN JOINING

We are offering newcomers a 'try before you buy' experience - you are welcome to visit any of our activities at no cost and see if it's the one for you. This offer will end in August at our AGM which is always a friendly lunch at a local venue.

Our usual activities are –

Qui Gong/Chinese Health Exercise

- Stitch & Craft
- Wednesday Walkers
- Pétanque for men and women
- Mahjong
- Garden Lovers
- Foodies Group

We are also seeking expressions of interest in the following –

- Pickle Ball
- Walking Netball
- Various Card Games i.e., Bridge, 500, Poker etc.
- Monopoly
- Chess
- Painting – water colour

Should any of the above be of interest please email trenthamlac@gmail.com

Tree Planting in Trentham

We're planting trees in Trentham – May 2025!

Join us this autumn as we plant indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses to restore local landscapes.

[TreeProject](#) is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to revegetating Victoria. We get urban and rural communities working together to put trees back on the land. Our network of trained volunteers grows indigenous seedlings for rural landholders and Landcare groups who need our help with revegetation.

Working together, we are restoring urgently needed indigenous vegetation and repairing Victoria's damaged ecosystems. Our volunteers contribute their time and hard work to propagate and care for seedlings of Indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses in their own backyards. For landholders, being able to access 'at-cost' seedlings from TreeProject is often all the incentive and encouragement they need to start restoring degraded areas.

Join us for a day of planting trees, shrubs and ground cover to assist to protect waterways, improve ecosystems and create habitat for wildlife.

Our revegetation works create much needed shelterbelts to provide shade and wind protection for livestock, mitigate erosion and slow wind speeds across pastures and crops. Native shelterbelts also support many species of animals, helping conserve wildlife and contributing to natural pest control.

The Mount Players

A Psychological Thriller!

After a sell-out season for *The Importance of Being Earnest* our 2nd production opens on Friday 9 May.

The Girl on The Train by Rachel Wagstaff & Duncan Abel is a psychological thriller adapted from Paula Hawkins' novel – an international phenomenon selling over 20 million copies worldwide.

Synopsis: Rachel Watson longs for a different life.

Her only escape is the perfect couple she watches through the train window every day, happy and in love. Or so it appears. When Rachel learns that the woman she's been secretly watching has suddenly disappeared, she finds herself as a witness and even a suspect in a thrilling mystery in which she will face bigger revelations than she could ever have anticipated – this gripping play will keep you guessing until the final moment. (Warning: this play contains strong language & depicts scenes of domestic & sexual violence & alcoholism. Suitable for mature audiences 16yrs plus.)

We will be celebrating Mother's Day at the matinee on Sunday 11 May - there will be a complimentary glass of bubbles for all the mums and a 'high tea' at interval.



Tree planting involves digging, bending and walking on uneven ground so you will need good physical fitness. Please check the individual events as to whether they are child friendly or not. Please read the [safety requirements](#) to see what items you need to bring along eg: sunscreen, hat, water bottle, gloves etc.

Click on this link [TreeProject | Humanitix](#) which will take you directly to our event's page to register for the date of your choosing.

We look forward to seeing you out on the paddock this autumn planting indigenous seedlings – get your gloves and gumboots ready for planting!



The season runs 9 - 25 May and tickets are available at www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892 for assistance. Book early to avoid disappointment,

See you at the theatre!

Karen Hunt
The Mount Players

Meditation for Peace

Erasmus of Rotterdam - Citizen of the world at the birth of a new nation.

What is usually referred to as the 'invention of the printing press' has coincided with a new development in human consciousness: a shift from collective to individual - from stratified to functional - which spread around the world departing from cities at the river Ysel in Nederland collectively known as 'Hansa'. One of the Hansa cities is Deventer. Birthplace of Geert Groote, scholar from Paris, deacon and preacher, eloquently fulminating against church misconduct as part of an (ongoing) Catholic reformation movement, late 14th century, 120 years before Martin Luther.

Geert Groote's initiative started a lay movement, not bound by 'vows' like religious orders, but by 'promises' (like later the Quackers). Under the name "Devotio Moderna" the movement spread throughout Europe: Copernicus in Poland, Ignatius in Spain, Thomas of Kempen, Germany, author of "De Imitatione Christi", which - after the bible - became the world's most printed book for centuries. Thomas a Kempis belonged to the 'Brothers of the Communal Life' with its centre in Deventer where Erasmus was educated. Erasmus suffered from gout and remembered how cold life with the brothers had been. But they had a way of living and working with books, that made Erasmus a pioneer in using the printed word for public discourse, education, debate and critique. With his sharp pen he directed the course of public thinking. He was expected to defend church doctrine against Luther's interpretation but defended freedom instead. He travelled Europe from monastery to monastery to collect Greek and Latin texts from their libraries and doing so helped lay the foundation for classical education in European high schools: Homer, Plato, Livius, Virgil, Ovidius, Tacitus and so on.

Twice he travelled to England, complaining about rough treatment by customs. Thomas More, Lord Chancellor to King Henry VIII was his friend. Both criticized the ruling powers and manners of the time.

Erasmus wrote an elaborate treatise "In Praise of Stupidity", which allowed him to take the micky out of prelates and princes, cardinals and kings without falling out of grace. More wrote his 'Utopia', [from 'eu = good]: an ideal society imagined somewhere in the newly discovered Pacific Ocean, where children are given precious stones, gold and diamonds to play with, so as adults they would treat these as 'kids' stuff' not worth pursuing. More's 'Utopia' started a literary genre and inspired social renewal, including the 8-hour workweek.

Erasmus inspired a whole nation to become a republic

where no monarch would impose his religious faith, which made - from the 16th century onward - Nederland a safe haven for all who were persecuted for their convictions. Five hundred years later, his name still resonates in the Europe of our time: baptised as 'Geert Geertzoon', "Geert" from 'begeren' = "to desire, to love" he translated his name into latin: Desiderius and Greek: Erasmus (from Eros, Love). At the end he declined the Pope's offer to make him a Cardinal. "One doesn't make a Cardinal out of a dying man". (a hint for future popes?). He died in Basel on a visit to his printers. His last word: "Lieve God" (dear God).

Henk Bak

Weekly meditation for world-peace Monday mornings
8.30 - 9.30am Trenttham Neighbourhood Centre.
Entrance single door left to main entrance

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Sport

Trentham Football and Netball Club

The Saints footballers and netballers have been working hard throughout the preseason. Our first home and away game offers a shot at redemption for last season's senior football grand final, as we kick off against Natte Bealiba on 5 April.

Football Updates

New senior coach Mark Adamson, with extensive coaching experience across clubs such as Kyabram, Golden Square, and Stanhope, leads the team this year. He's supported by senior assistants Travis Baird (former AFL and Bendigo League player), Mark Strickland, and Jack Elkington. Senior captain: Joel Dovaston, with Al Ferrier as vice-captain. Congratulations, Joel and Al!

Reserves coach: Chris 'Chooka' Whelan. U17.5 coach: Tom 'Wombat' Boyer, assisted by Al Ferrier (new players welcome - contact Wombat or President Nick Shearer)

This season welcomes new recruits Joey Nesci, Rhys Smith, and Travis Baird, alongside returning players. Mark Adamson is eager to elevate the Saints' performance and is eyeing premiership success.

Junior teams are thriving, with Brent Holmes and Al Thompson coaching the U14.5 and Simon Beattie and Xav Keighran continuing with the U11.5.

Trentham Golf Club: Captain's Couch

Attention. "This is your captain speaking".

Another fun filled month at the Trentham Golf Club. While we've had a great summer, the course has dried out, typical for this time of year. Fortunately, recent rain has helped the fairways to look a little greener. We are still running with preferred lies on the course for a more playable experience. Keep an eye out on the far side of the dam by the 12th hole where the headless monk seems to be slowly disrobing... More to report later.

With the irrigation system upgrade now underway we will be changing to a more reliable watering regime - saving water in the long run and having better coverage on the tees and greens. The funding was made possible by our wonderful fund-raising committee running events, raffles and finding sponsors. An enormous thank you must go to our local Trentham and Districts Community Bank for their very generous grant of \$50,000 toward this project.

On the course this month we hosted 47 valiant juniors for the Dalhousie District Golf Association, Junior Competition— and what a day it was! With the sun blazing and the competition fierce, these young stars put on an incredible display of skill, determination, and sportsmanship. Playing 3 events; 9 holes for the very juniors plus 9 and 18 hole games for the older players, everyone seemed to have a wonderful time. A big thank you to all the helpers on the day: Alex for her event coordination, food prep and desk work with Jason; Donna, Bruce and Joy for producing an excellent BBQ experience, President Chris and Secretary Adam for running the bar and David for the last minute chip run.



Netball Updates

Our A Grade side is coached by Briarley Delaney, with Kasey Evans leading B Grade and Jalna Holmes taking C Grade. Junior teams include: U17 coach: Jess Walker, U15 coach: Georgia Harvey, U13/U11 co-coaches: Emma Whelan and Stevie Courtney.

New additions Kasey Button (South Bendigo) and Carly Elderfield (Hepburn) are already making their mark. Briarley is excited about a strong season ahead for all grades.

Club Leadership and Community

Club president Nick Shearer and Vice President Corina Sabo extend a warm welcome to all new and returning players. With Peter Love continuing as Secretary and Treasurer, the Saints have strong sponsorship and a growing membership.

Major events this year include:

Ferret Racing: 24 May 2025.
Country & Western Night: 28 June 2025.
Annual Ball: 2 August 2025.

Follow us on social media or visit [trenthamsaintsfnc.com](https://linktr.ee/trenthamsaintsfnc) <https://linktr.ee/trenthamtfnc> for registrations, events, and updates. Let's make this season one to remember!

The following weekend saw the Autumn Tournament held over two big days with tremendous support for the members and guests from around the area. Once again Rhonda and Jan found very generous sponsors for the event hosted by the Community Bank Trentham and Districts as you would have seen by the sponsors' signs now around the course. The weather could not have been more different for the two days, Saturday very warm and Sunday a course soaking storm front came over to disrupt our game (with a welcoming cool change). Many winners of the two days were very excited to receive their prizes with all the results featured on the Trentham Golf Club Facebook page.



This month the District Pennant events commenced. Run over 6 weeks, these comprise team rounds of head-to-head matchplay with the final held at Woodend Golf Club. Results of the first contest were: Trentham Scratch team defeated Romsey 4/1 in Seymour; Trentham Restricted Div2 defeated Lancefield 4/1 at home; and Trentham Handicap Div2 lost to Woodend 3/2 in Broadford. Congratulations to all our players. Go Trentham!

To keep informed about upcoming events just take a look at the website: trenthamgolf.com.au/golf-program.html

Kent Newton
Captain

Food for Thought

Well, this month we are readying ourselves for our first Autumn jaunt, this coming Thursday. As at last we see the leaves changing to amber and yellow and gold, as we dance in joy of the rains that this new season brings, and we look forward to grass that is green again, our little group is taking a train ride from Kyneton to Castlemaine, to enjoy the glorious spectrum of the countryside, in this, our very special part of the world.

Originally, our plan was to suss out the Wednesday Farmers' Market in Castlemaine. However, on foot, the walk from station to the Western Reserve, and on to our destination café seemed, within the allotted time, a little daunting. Pity really, because we all know the main Castlemaine Farmers' Market, held on the first Sunday of the month is a very special treat indeed, stocked with a sheer abundance of fabulous fresh country produce. The Wednesday afternoon weekly market on the other hand, is considerably smaller, but the quality and variety of produce is still there, and a mid-week shop for farm-fresh produce is always welcome. Anyway, we'll report back to you on this, on another day.

Our selected café this month and within walking distance, is Origini, "not just your average cafe; it is a culinary haven that celebrates the art of food and the joy of sharing a meal with loved ones". Sounds pretty good, leaning on the Italian side, and we'll let you know all about it later. Funnily enough, the café is run by a young man who many years ago attended primary school in Kallista with our daughter Charmaine, who many of you will remember.

With the arrival of autumn, and the end of daylight saving for a while, our dinners will become slightly heavier. We may say farewell to the salads of summer, Nicoise,

The Plonkers

Digby sat alone, staring blankly at the TV, his finger pressing the remote flicking from one channel to the next. Mrs Digby was off staying with her posh sister in Mt. Martha.

He realised he missed her as the sound of his empty stomach caught his attention. Oh geez, what am I going to eat? I don't wanna cook.

"The Trentham Food and Wine Co. will save me, Todd always has something delicious, maybe some of his own potato pies", Digby said out loud to himself as he pulled on some pants and rushed out the door.

Todd greeted him with a cheerful smile, "Evening Digby, where's your better half?"

"She's away... I'm on my own. Do you have any of those special pies?"

"Yes I have a choice tonight of chicken and leek, beef bourguignon or slow cooked lamb".

"Oh is that lamb the one with Meredith's goat cheese?"

"Sure is mate, I made them just a couple of hours ago."

Caesar, etc., but the incoming vegetable list is ever so large and satisfying, and hereabouts, in Cool Country, at last we are seeing out tomatoes on the plate, tasting oh so wonderful. So Osso Bucco-type dishes become part of our table. Talking Osso Bucco, I rather fancy the variation of this famous Lombardy dish, to be found in Elizabeth David's "Is there a nutmeg in the house?" Same old veal shanks, but dusted with flour, pepper, cinnamon & nutmeg, browned, then cooked in a stock with garlic, parsley, lemon slices & peel, capers and white wine. Light & lovely. Bellissimo!!

I just love being part of this little group Food for Thought! Oh sure, we discuss recipes as we meet monthly (mostly at a nearby restaurant or pub or even in the park on a warm day) and we talk about dining out experiences; we chat about our veggie gardens and we cook in each other's houses, and we're all a little bit "Foodie", but when it's said and done, we are a group with a very wide range of interests: in the arts, in lifestyle, in society, in current affairs, and in friendships. And whether we are on an exploratory tour of an olive grove, or going to an international seed-growing empire, or a winery, or a small local farmer who supports his family from half an acre of land, or just the pub, we all look forward to our monthly fix!!

Cheers and bon appetit,

Michael Johnson
Food for Thought

"Ok, I'll take one of each and a bottle of this Tellurian Viognier."

"Ok buddy have a good night and give my regards to your wife."



Once back home Digby heated up the pies and sat at the table to eat. Set for two he poured the glasses and raised his and, gesturing to the long suffering Mrs. Digby's empty place, he made a toast. "Cheers my love".

The acidic yet creamy stone fruit texture of the Viognier cut through the rich flavours of the chicken, beef and lamb perfectly. The crusty shell of potato and parmesan around the slow cooked lamb with feta in particular filled him with happiness and he momentarily forgot his loneliness.

If only she was there to share it with him, he lamented.


Digby, full of delicious food and wine, moved to the couch and soon fell asleep as the TV blared.

Cheers!
The Plonkers

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