



Energy Resilience



Gold Rush



Photography Comp



The Plonkers



Birthday Cakes

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







# Council news

## REPAIRING OUR UNSEALED ROADS

We are out there working on grading our unsealed roads across the Shire. With the dry weather, you might have noticed some changes in road conditions. While the lack of rain makes things a bit tricky, we are doing our very best to tackle the challenges of our extensive network of unsealed roads.

Thanks so much for your patience and understanding as we work to make our roads better. Stay safe out there, and keep an eye out for our friendly crews in your area.



## 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](http://www.participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au)

## 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.

Listening Posts scheduled are:

- Thursday 27 March - Daylesford Coles, 4 pm – 6 pm
- Saturday 3 May - Trentham Spudfest, 10 am – 12 pm

Details of other Listening Post events, including dates and locations, will be made available on our website

[www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/listening-posts](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/listening-posts)

## LIBRARY OPERATION CHANGES

A reminder that the Trentham and Clunes libraries will no longer be open to the public on Saturday mornings from March 2025.

The decision was made after careful consideration of usage and borrowing rates, and we're aiming to minimise disruption to the community.

Meanwhile, Council has received a grant to expand community access to its four libraries beyond opening hours through the Open Access Libraries initiative, which allows library members to upgrade their membership to access library buildings beyond regular hours in the absence of onsite staff.

More on these changes at [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au)

## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Council's Biodiversity Grants and Sustainable Hepburn Grants are closing soon.

The Sustainable Hepburn Grants Program supports community-based projects and initiatives that aim to reduce future impacts of climate change and promote or establish circular economy-focused programs, while Biodiversity Grants support community-driven biodiversity initiatives.

Applications close on 16 March and announcements will be made about successful recipients in April.

For more information regarding Council's grants program visit [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/grants)

To discuss a project idea contact [grants@hepburn.vic.gov.au](mailto:grants@hepburn.vic.gov.au)

## REUSABLE PRODUCTS VOUCHERS

Want to make the switch to reusable nappies, period or incontinence products? Council is offering households a \$50 voucher code to use on the purchase of eligible reusable products from local business [Darlings Downunder](http://Darlings Downunder).

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](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/reusables)

## 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](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/Councillors) ☎ 5348 2306 ✉ [shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au](mailto:shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au) 🌐 [www.facebook.com/hepburncouncil](http://www.facebook.com/hepburncouncil)

## Editorial

### Hi Trentham!

Happy Autumn! We are in full agreement with the late Saskia Post: Autumn is Trentham's best season.

Another jam-packed issue cause there's so much going on in and around town - both in March and in the coming months. Thanks as always to our contributors who make the magic happen. We've some longer format articles this month which we're sure you'll enjoy, but it's a real challenge to fit everyone in, so it is probably not sustainable while we print. (There's no plan to not print, relax Peter!)

If you haven't already, we do recommend subscribing! Jump onto our website [thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au](http://thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au) and you'll be notified first when the new issue is up online, ahead of the print copy being out and about.

And, there's never been a better time to subscribe as the printed copy of our April Edition won't be available until Wednesday 2 April, cause, yep, you guessed it: *someone* is on another golf trip!

Have a great month,

Regards,  
Chris & Penny

## TRATA

### At the Station

#### Thankyou

A big thank you to The Lilac Moon Tai Chi School for their kind donation towards the maintenance and restoration of the railway precinct. A quote from them "We wanted to show our appreciation for what you do down at the railway station"

Just lovely to get that feedback from community members.

#### Working Bee

A huge thankyou to the volunteers (Leigh, Ross, Jenni, George, Lea, Kate and Adam) who have been working tirelessly at the railway precinct over the last couple of weeks. It takes quite a lot of work to keep the gardens and grounds in pristine condition for everyone to enjoy.

We are in the process of establishing a new garden on the North side of the railway station (where the container is) and hopefully some funding will make this another fantastic area for our community and visitors to use.

#### Seasonal Market

The February market was cancelled due to a total fire ban. Our stall holders are aware of this condition within our guidelines.

The next market is 23 March and our theme is *all things garden*.

All funds raised go directly back into the restoration and maintenance of the railway precinct. Let's keep it in community hands!!

### Trumpet Photography Competition

It's back again – now in it's fifth year!

We are looking for a(nother) fabulous photo of Trentham to grace our April cover next month.

Entry is open to all ages, camera types and abilities – and again we're offering a \$100 cash prize for the winner.

Your photo can be taken with any type of camera (including your phone) but it needs to be square or cropped to square so it fits on our cover (17cm x 17cm)

To enter: simply email your photo to [thetrenthamtrumpet@gmail.com](mailto:thetrenthamtrumpet@gmail.com) with your name and the title of your work. By entering, you agree to let us share your work including on our social media (with appropriate credit, of course!)

Entries close Sunday 23 March. The winner will be notified before the issue goes to print. Judges decisions are final.

*And, congratulations again to last year's winner Annie Adams for her textural, spidery masterpiece!*



### Station Works

We will be commencing replacement of and repair work on the fencing running along the station over the next few weeks. The funding has been provided by VicTrack and all work will be done by local tradespeople.

### Membership

New members are always welcome, annual fee is \$10. The railway precinct is entirely managed by volunteers who have a commercial contract with VicTrack to keep it for our community use.

### Phil Davis

#### Secretary

#### TRATA

[trataattrentham@gmail.com](mailto:trataattrentham@gmail.com)

Instagram: trenthamrailwayprecinct

Facebook: trataattrentham



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Call Bernadette for an appointment  
**0410 714 567**  
39 High Street, Trentham  
[laurenthairtrentham.com.au](http://laurenthairtrentham.com.au)

# 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](mailto:thetrenthamtrumpet@gmail.com)

Electronic subscriptions (which we encourage) are available at:

[thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au](http://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.*

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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  
[cwatrenthamnightowls@gmail.com](mailto:cwatrenthamnightowls@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  
15 March 9am-1pm  
Trentham Town Square

### Trentham Sustainability Group

Farmers' Market Food Swap  
15 March 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](mailto: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](http://trenthamnc.org.au)

### Community Groups Listing

[thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au/our-community](http://thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au/our-community)

## On Our Cover

'On the Domino'

Chris Campbell



## Trentham Lions

### Trentham Lions Birthday Cake Project: 40 Years and Still Going!

Trentham Lions Club was chartered on 31 August 1984. The Birthday Cake project was one of the earliest activities, and still runs to this day. All residents of Trentham and District who are 80 or older, have been entitled to receive a birthday cake.



This all began as a result of a relationship between Lions and Trentham baker Jack Groves. Jack was the master baker who stocked every possible cake that you would ever expect to find in a Bakery. Birthday sponges were one of his specialties. So with this close connection of Lions to the Bakery, it really was a “no-brainer” that the Birthday Cake project came to pass.

The biggest challenge then, and still today, is having a complete and current list of the eligible over 80yo residents. Some are in the Trentham Aged Care facility, but many are still living in their own homes. So, if you are 80 or older and you are not on our list, contact one of the current Birthday Cake project coordinators.

Although not as visible as other Lions projects, the Birthday Project is one of the few Lions projects which has endured for the full 40 years. It has become one of the most appreciated of our projects as is indicated by a recent thank you card from recipient Noelene Hewitt: “Thank you!! Trentham Lions Club. My birthday cake was soooo yummy. Such a kind gesture from you”.

A short history: At the outset in 1984, Lion Alex Robertson (or “Robbie” as he was commonly known) delivered the cakes – he had ‘the gift of the gab’ so was well suited to this project. Alice and Betty did all the work, and “Robbie” got all the credit! The late Lion John Bone may have taken over from Robbie. Alice and Betty, or as John called them – ‘Ada and Elsie’ were still going strong and John, like his predecessor, had a cheeky personality that enabled him to make the deliveries with great aplomb.

John was in charge of the project for a number of years until he finally gave it away due to ill-health. It may have then been Lion Adrian Kasbergen who took on the project. Alice and Betty had also finished and it was at about this time that Groves Bakery closed its doors in the late 80’s/ early 90’s. In the early 1990’s a new Bakery was opened in High Street run by Juan and Denise Guzman. Adrian, with his outgoing personality and quirky sense of humour, did a great job of the cakes for a number of years until he also had to resign from the post due to failing health.

Lion John Marion and his wife Velette stepped in at that point, with Velette doing the Lions Share (no pun intended)! Velette made the mistake of saying - “I’ll do it for a few months until you find someone”. We all know how that usually ends! Like all of those before her, Velette did a great job in maintaining the tradition and keeping the project going.

One of the great stalwarts of the Birthday Cake project was Lion Dorothy Hancock. Dorothy joined the Lions Club in 2012, and a few years later took on the role of Birthday

cakes chair. She took to the project like a ‘duck to water’, and quickly built a great rapport with everyone on her list. Even after resigning from Lions due to failing health, Dorothy continued with Cakes for a few more years, a total of 8 years in the role.

Following Dorothy was Lion Allan McGaughey, (right) who transferred to Trentham from Kyneton Lions. Once again, Allan’s bubbly personality, dedication and empathy for people, meant that he ticked all the boxes and was a natural fit for the role. Allan had the additional challenge of needing to find a way to keep the project going during the COVID period. Fortunately, this was achieved – legally of course. Ceri Spain and the late Lion Stan Falloon were also great backups to Allan during these years.



More recently, the team of Ceri Spain, Kath Morrison and Mary Kennedy are running the project – maintaining what is now a 40 year tradition. Approximately 100 cakes are delivered every year. So across 40 years, Trentham Lions have delivered somewhere in the vicinity of 3,000 to 4,000 birthday cakes! Each one of those deliveries has brought joy to a special person on their birthday.



But, the biggest challenge is maintaining an accurate list of our “80 and over” residents. In these days of information privacy, it is difficult to maintain our database. So if you are in this age-group, or know a Trentham person who is, please notify Kath Morrison 0419661630 or Mary Kennedy 0478714050.

For the Lions Club, this project is just one of the ways in which we ‘improve the lives of people in our community by supporting them when in need.’

### Tony van Rensburg Trentham Lions

(Acknowledgement – historical information: Tim Walsh)

# Trentham Film Society

## Season 2025

Under our affiliation with the Federation of Victorian Film Societies (FVFS), we are obliged to operate as a society under a membership model, with minimum membership of 3 consecutive months (3 films) to annual membership of 10 months (10 films Feb-Nov)

Our Membership options for 2025 are:

- **Annual subscriptions (10 films Feb-Nov) : \$50**

Paying an up-front annual membership provides the member with flexibility throughout the year to attend as many films as they wish.

- **3 consecutive months : \$20**

This can be renewed once the 3 monthly term has expired.

In the past members have paid cash for their subscription to TFS. We appreciate using cash can be inconvenient on occasions, and so this year we are now offering alternative payment methods for membership. Prior to the day of screening payment can be made via the TNC website: [trenthamnc.org.au/tfs](http://trenthamnc.org.au/tfs) On the night of screening payment can be made via cash or credit card.

Our full 2025 program is available on our page on the TNC website: [trenthamnc.org.au/tfs](http://trenthamnc.org.au/tfs)

We look forward to welcoming you!

Trentham Film Society presents

# DRIVING MADELEINE



**Saturday, March 15**  
 Trentham Neighbourhood Centre – 7pm  
**\$50 annual membership** or **\$20 for 3 consecutive months.**  
 Pre-show drinks and nibbles available from 6.30pm.

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## Councillor's Report

The key focus of the **February Council meeting** was the financial reports for the first half of 2024/2025 and to note progress on 116 deliverables in the Council Plan. The detailed report, available on Council's website, outlines that 50 actions are completed, 58 are on track, 4 delayed, 3 cancelled and one is yet to commence.

**Financial performance** in the first half year is mostly close to budget. A significant number of operational and capital works will be undertaken before June 2025. At December 2024 cash holdings to fund statutory and other reserves was insufficient to fully fund those reserves. Cash management is an ongoing challenge. The 2024/25 budget projects a deficit of \$2.1m. This follows deficits of \$20m accumulated over the past 4 years and again starkly illustrates the challenge before Council if it is to be financially sustainable.

Work has commenced on developing a new **4-year Council Plan**. A 44-member consultation panel of community members is being put in place to assist councillors in that work. The preparation of short term (2025/26) and long-term (10 year) budgets will soon commence. Council has applied to the Essential Services Commission (ESC) for a 7% increase to rates, in addition to the 3% rate-cap increase approved by the State Government. A decision is expected by the end of March.

The February meeting also included three notices of motion that I tabled:

- Council unanimously agreed to write to the Minister for Local Government expressing our objection to Council being designated as the collection agency for the new emergency services and volunteer fund levy which is a state-imposed tax. Charging the levy on rates notices would add administrative burden and cost to Council and potentially create adverse perceptions of Council charges. MAV have also been asked to assist with that advocacy.
- My second motion called for the Minister for Local Government to enact changes so that non-resident ratepayers removed from the electoral roll last year would be reinstated and it again sought the MAV's assistance with advocacy. As noted in last month's Trumpet in comparison to the 2020 election the Hepburn Shire electoral roll decreased by 11%, from 14,858 voters to 13,231. Council had appealed to the Electoral Commissioner to reinstate those ratepayers onto the roll without the need for them to re-apply but that request was handballed to the State Government. In Hepburn Shire, the consequences of this poorly-communicated change was compounded by the move to an unsubdivided electoral structure. Non-resident ratepayers are most represented in the central and eastern parts of the Shire, largely in Daylesford, Hepburn Springs and Trentham. The removal of hundreds of these voters from the roll has the potential to mis-align the voting power to the west of the Shire, when combined with the unsubdivided structure. It is a fundamental democratic right for all ratepayers to have the opportunity to vote. Following some animated debate the motion was lost 2-5, with only Cr. Hewitt in support and the five councillors from the west of the Shire in opposition.
- Following lengthy debate and wordsmithing my third notice of motion eventually succeeded 6-1. Council will consider a report in October 2025, ahead of next summer, where Council-owned and perhaps other community

facilities (such as libraries and community centres) will be made available to residents for respite on extreme weather days.

**Other Updates.** Spoiler alert- I don't have much good news.

The **Trentham library** will no longer open on Saturday mornings. I am informed that attendance rates do not warrant the library being opened on Saturdays. However, the introduction of an Open Library scheme will be advertised soon on Council's Facebook page and website. The fate of the visitor information desk is yet to be determined.

The relocation of the **container deposit scheme** (CDS) bin is yet to be determined.

I am informed that responsibility for repairing the extensive damage to the **roof of the netball building** falls to the sportsground committee of management and/or DEECA and their insurers.

Works to rectify the **netball court surface cracks** will be subject to councillors supporting their inclusion in the 2025/26 budget.

Any works to repair new cracks in the recently refurbished **tennis courts** would also be subject to a budget bid. Notwithstanding an announcement and photo opportunity last August the installation of **outdoor fitness equipment** at the sportsground has a target date of 30 June 2025.

In response to **community road safety concerns** I have asked for consideration of the installation of a pedestrian crossing (such as a "wombat" crossing) and the reduction of the speed limit in High St. between Quarry and Bath Sts, subject to a budget bid in 2025/26.

Studies and data gathering is underway to support an application to the Department of Transport for new safety measures at the intersection of Pearsons Rd and James Lane (the Pig and Whistle intersection).

Much-needed works to repair Chanters Lane/Pearsons Rd have been seriously delayed. The works are shared with Macedon Ranges Shire Council who are managing the project. The potential removal of trees and the need for a planning permit also triggers the need for a cultural heritage management plan (!). At the February meeting Council resolved to divert the funds for this project to repairs of the Newlyn-Dean road which had been planned for 2025/26, and a \$900,000 contract was awarded for the Newlyn-Dean work. It was also resolved that the Chanters Lane project would be included in the 2025/26 budget. It is therefore likely that Chanters Lane will not receive any significant improvement works until 30 June 2026.

### Council website links:

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

Report an issue or request work - [Report an issue Hepburn Shire Council](#)

Planning applications [Track an application, view planning register or lodge an objection Hepburn Shire Council](#)

### Cr. Brian Hood

[bhood@hepburn.vic.gov.au](mailto:bhood@hepburn.vic.gov.au)

0427 797151

Facebook - Cr Brian Hood, Hepburn Shire Council



## Trentham's forgotten gold rush.

During construction of an extension to the Trentham Neighbourhood Centre in 2010, a substantial void opened up in the excavations for the foundations. The void was inspected by the then Mines Inspector, Paul Ulrik, and found to be a relict mine shaft, about 3m wide and at least 3m deep, filled with old bottles and rubbish. After inspection, the void was filled with concrete and the project taken to completion.

But why was there a shaft in the middle of Trentham township? The answer lies in some complex geology beneath the streets and the work of early European and Chinese pioneers in search of gold. Alluvial gold was discovered at Blackwood in 1854 and the miners followed the shallow alluvial gold up to Blue Mount (south of Trentham) by 1858. This is shown by annotations on an 1855 survey map: "New Rush at Ogdens Forest or Clowes (Newbury) June 23 (18)59". Whilst these easily accessible alluvial deposits (such as those in Stoney Creek) were quickly worked out, an 1858 Parish Map clearly shows a narrow area of "gold workings" that today lies between Cosmo Road and Stoney Creek, south of the Cosmopolitan Hotel. This is significant because this area is not within a shallow creek bed or on the gold-bearing rock later mined at Blackwood.

A 1990 article reprinted in the TDHS's February 2025 'Recorder' by Dr Julian Hollis explains the geology beneath the town. In essence the deepest rock beneath our feet is a predominantly fine sandy rock, complexly folded and faulted over geological time, during which major gold deposits were formed within white quartz "reefs". However, after approximately 300 million years of uplift and erosion, sand and gravel deposits (derived in part from exposed gold-bearing quartz reefs) were laid down in extensive river channels and flood plains. Another prolonged period of weathering and exposure of these deposits led to cementation to form a conglomerate known as the "White Hills Gravel"

In relatively recent geological time, the basalts that we see all around Trentham (and on which a large part of the township is built) were laid down. These basalt flows followed existing drainage channels in many instances, burying the White Hills Gravel to form what the old-time miners called "deep leads" where they contained gold. The workings noted on the 1858 Parish map are likely to have been chasing the deep lead that passes beneath the basalt under the township. The basalt increases in thickness to approximately 25m thick towards Trentham Falls however at the south end of Trentham it thins, to the extent that the deep lead is exposed around the present-day historic cemetery.

Further evidence for what might be described as Trentham's first "gold rush" is available from an article in the Mount Alexander Mail, dated 24 June 1859: "...the diggings are situated about three-quarters of a mile from Ogden's public house in a south west direction. I estimate the population at about 600, but very scattered, ...the workings are not sufficiently prospected for any person to say what is or what is not auriferous ground... At present there is a fair supply of water for washing purposes, but in the summer this will cease... If this drawback did not

exist, I am of the opinion that this would prove a tolerably fair goldfield, the sinking being easy and not more than 15 to 30 feet, and perfectly dry..."



The location of the "diggings" suggests that the extent of workings under the town by 1859 were substantially broader than indicated on the 1858 map. This is supported by a 1906 Department of Mines Bulletin (No. 18) that notes: "About the township of Trentham there are several leads which were worked in the early digging days. One passes under Dr Sleeman's house [now 60 High St], one under the Commercial Hotel, one under the blacksmith's shop at the railway station; there is also said to be a lead at the back of the Cosmopolitan Hotel". The Bulletin also suggests that mining these leads had ceased at the time of publication. However, an article in The Woodend Star dated Sat 16 May 1931 records the accidental finding of gold while cleaning out a well on a "Mr Watsons property" in the town, which appears to have triggered a second rush with claims being staked "...along the same line across the town, from Victoria Street across Mr Dwyer's paddock and below Miss McPherson's property".

In the TDHS publication "Early History of the Trentham District", GW Trehwella recalled: "...In the town, two main leads have been worked, one running roughly from the Church of England to the Police Station and the other from the foundry past Doctor Wisewould's...."

Modern geological maps indicate an inferred line of lead passing NE from the cemetery, connecting with another lead near Trentham Falls. However, information gathered so far suggests that the deep lead may actually have been a series of channels and associated flood plain deposits spread across a broad area beneath the town, trending generally in a NE direction.

Informal interviews conducted with knowledgeable townfolk confirms that there was once a widespread network of shafts into the deep lead beneath the town. It is also likely that tunnels were excavated in places along and across the deep lead. Dr Gwyneth Wisewould noted in her 1971 autobiography: "There were legendary figures, such as the Chinese miner who stayed after the gold days as a market gardener down by the creek, and who lived in the entrance of a horizontal shaft, like a cave..."

By all accounts these voids have been backfilled when encountered, although some are thought to remain partially open and further discoveries of shafts and tunnels (and even gold!) should not be discounted.

Whilst a fascinating story of a little-known period in the town's early history is emerging, research continues because much still needs to be understood for a more complete picture of Trentham's own gold rush. The TDHS welcomes any published or anecdotal information about the deep lead mining, including shaft and tunnel locations within the township boundary, and can be contacted on [info@trenthamhistoricalsociety.org.au](mailto:info@trenthamhistoricalsociety.org.au)

**Steve Macklin, MSc (DIC), FGS, CGeol.  
Trentham & Districts Historical Society**



### Trentham and Districts Life Activities Club

Did you know that the Life Activities Club has nine different groups operating in Trentham? These range from mahjong, knit, stitch and sew, and the foodies group to the more energetic bush walking, pétanque and visiting local gardens.

We are offering newcomers a 'try before you buy' experience! You are welcome to visit any of our groups 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. Contact Di Clausen (0425 618 340) for more details.

And keep in mind the upcoming garden visit on Monday 3 March. Meet behind the Cosmo at 1 pm, and after seeing the garden adjourn to the Red Beard for coffee together.



## COMMUNITY BANK TRENTHAM AUTUMN TOURNAMENT

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**4BBB STABLEFORD**  
**SATURDAY 15 MARCH 2025** Multi-tee start at 10:00  
 Mens, Womens and Mixed pairs **\$60**  
per pair

**AGGREGATE TEAMS STABLEFORD**  
**SUNDAY 16 MARCH 2025** Multi-tee start at 10:00  
 Four players in any combination. There is also an individual Stableford event with prizes for the best Stableford scores. **\$30**  
per player

**TRENTHAM PLATE**  
 Teams of TWO MEN AND TWO WOMEN in the Aggregate Teams Stableford event are eligible to win the Trentham Plate. Three best scores to count, fourth in the event of a tie.

Register from 9:00am  
 Excellent daily prizes in all events including vouchers and nearest the pins

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pictured left to right: Edyta Wyatt, Lisa Dickerson, Kate Smith, Lance Whitehouse

## Refurb for Newbury Hall

Twice destroyed by fire, with 151 years of history Newbury Hall is looking fresh! From school, to community dance hall and riding clubs, what memories will this grand old lady make next?

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ESTATE AGENTS

## FOR SALE - TRENTHAM FAMILY HOMES

**89 HIGH STREET TRENTHAM**  
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4 BED | 3 BATH | 3 CAR 1,986M<sup>2</sup>

CONTEMPORARY, HIGH-END CHIC TWO RESIDENTIAL Homes IN ONE!

With grace and sophistication this impressive 3-bedroom newly built Harkaway residence wonderfully blends period-style with spacious rooms and high-end contemporary finishes. Set on a generous 1,986 sqm (approx. half an acre) and bordered by a wrap-around verandah stepping down to landscaped gardens, the stage is set for an exceptional country lifestyle from this much sought-after High St location, walking distance to the beating heart of Trentham Village.

**9 COLIBAN DRIVE, LYONVILLE**  
\$1,895,000



6 BED | 7 BATH | 6 CAR 2.02HA

IDEAL FOR LARGE FAMILY OR A GREAT INVESTMENT! 5 ACRES ON TWO TITLES

Large Rebuilt Country Home , just over an hour from Melbourne. Retaining the original granite-stone and brick country-style home, this expansive property set on approx. 5 acres on Two Titles, featuring 2 dams has undergone a stunning 300 square meter extension, plus the 100 square meters of the Original home (also 200 square meters of outdoor entertainer area). This 2-storey upscale transformation was built by local Messina builders.

**150 BERGS LANE, TRENTHAM EAST**  
\$2,395,000



2 BED | 1 BATH | 8 CAR 19.42HA

NATURE FILLED OASIS

This beautiful, peaceful and secluded property offers a rare opportunity to acquire 47 acres of picturesque farmland situated within the Central Highlands in the tightly held and sought-after location of Trentham East. Opportunities like this are incredibly rare. With direct road access, the property features a rustic entrance, leading down a tree arched driveway, flanked by mature conifers of many varieties, creating a welcoming and picturesque approach.



58 Cosmo Road, Trentham  
**\$1,095,000**

"Frances worked above and beyond to take care of the sale of our home. She exceeded our expectations on price and communicated with us every step of the way."  
Jack and Michelle

"Frances managed to list and sell my much-loved property for an excellent price in only 2 weeks! Drawing on her warm and sensitive approach combined with strong local market knowledge, she made the experience of selling a breeze, as I knew I was in confident and experienced hands. Thanks Frances for an exceptional and speedy result!" - Dave



5 Vigor Street, Blackwood  
**\$495,000**

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Visit Fran in her new office - 14 Market Street, Trentham



## The Trentham Garden

### Spirit of Place and Garden Personality

Garden design is a practical artform: it needs to fulfil dozens of day-to-day functions such as providing privacy, wind protection, a space for kids to play, to eat, dry clothes etc. This is where I start with my designs; a practical list of what you would like your garden to do for you.

However, one of its main functions is undoubtedly to look fantastic; garden should look 'on-purpose' and form a cohesive whole. Otherwise, you can end up with the horticultural equivalent of wearing a tutu, gumboots and a snorkel.

Grouping plants together that require similar growing conditions (water, light, soil etc) will often take you halfway there; nature has done some of the work for you. There are some different styles that can be used as inspirations too: modern native gardens, naturalistic gardens, cottage gardens etc.

On top of this, the best gardens have a distinct sense of individual personality. For example, 'Great Dixter', a garden I worked at in the UK had a strong sense of energy and quirkiness, combining a deep understanding of garden history with a love for enthusiastic innovation. There is an element of 'punk' about it; high-wattage, almost clashing colours and textures and the prolific use of self-seeding plants which gave the garden a wild, somewhat chaotic quality.

One approach to refining your garden's personality is to list a few keywords for each area. For example, 'wild, dry, purple and yellow flowers and naturalistic' or 'woodland,

lush, contrasting leaf shapes'. Take note of existing features of the property and natural conditions present, and let the garden tell you what it wants to be. It's good if there's a sense of variation throughout the garden, but also some linking elements.



Enjoy the process of creating a garden; great designs have a unique point of view and can evolve with time. The very best create memories that last a lifetime and can be enjoyed by generation after generation.

By the way, I'll be doing a garden at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show running from 26-30<sup>th</sup> March. Please come and say hi if you're visiting!

### Kaz Krasovskis Landscape Designer

Insta: kazkrasovskis

[www.kazkrasovskis.com.au](http://www.kazkrasovskis.com.au)

*Great Dixter in the UK: a dynamic garden with a strong sense of both history and innovation*

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## Quarry Street Reserve

At the last Committee of Management meeting Charles Sherlock tendered his resignation after eight years working for the Reserve. Charles has made a variety of contributions, one being primarily a dab hand at writing funding submissions. He has also kept an eagle eye out for loose or protruding nails on the Red Bridge, keeping us all safe. Apart from all the weeding, brush-cutting, trips to the island, he has assisted with sourcing all sorts of assistance from the Men's Shed. Thank you Charles!

It might be useful to explain that the Reserve is managed by a Committee of Management (CoM) appointed by the Victorian Minister for Lands. The CoM is elected at a public meeting and the term of the present Committee concludes on 10 April 2027. The Committee usually meets monthly. Information about the Reserve, working bees and general issues, is communicated on the 'Quarry Street Committee' Facebook page, regular articles in the Trentham Trumpet and occasional posters around town. The Committee works with Hepburn Shire Council on a number of practical matters but overall responsibility is to DEECA. Volunteers are always welcome to join in, particularly as our new project with North Central Catchment Management Authority kicks off. Contact via our Facebook page or email [quarrystreetreservetrentham@gmail.com](mailto:quarrystreetreservetrentham@gmail.com)

Seasonal changes are already happening across the Reserve, mainly exotic foliage turning red. Meanwhile the range of local native species are engaged in different cycles such as the Silver Wattles sprouting new leaves and filling



out after a long flowering. The Sweet Busaria, a seemingly unlimited pollinator smorgasbord, is now producing the attractive-looking seed pods. The Cassinia aculeata is still blooming and the Kangaroo has produced some of its purple flowers amongst its distinctive leaves.

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during school terms  
Trentham Mechanics Hall  
in the Loddon Room.



## Interior Design

### What's it all About?

I was recently asked, "What do Interior Designers actually do? Don't you just do a lot of shopping, picking lots of cool stuff and arranging it?" It's more than just picking the fun stuff and throwing it all together, moving on to the next client and project!

Designers create solutions, drawing on their experiences, training, and analysing client expectations. As a designer I'm looking for the right balance for the space involved, deciding what to introduce or repurpose, and how to link it all together harmoniously.

I'm trying to find the right balance of all sorts of variables in a space, from the purely functional to the decorative. I'm also looking at the client's objectives and budget: is going with custom joinery and bespoke furniture the best option? To make a room feel balanced, I'm looking at multiple different elements: each decision cascades to form the unified whole. I ask, "Who is using that space and how do they want to use it; what are their personalities and aesthetics?"

Designers search for pieces that look good and mix in the room with existing pieces. I like to start with something bold that leads other choices in all sorts of directions; fine tuning and making decisions as the room reveals itself, allowing space for different adjustments as the room evolves.

I'm also thinking about technical logistics. For example, if I have a watercolour, it needs to be placed away from direct sunlight. A bold or loud wallpaper could be introduced to an infrequently used room, however using a bolder wallpaper will affect whether you can have artwork, and whether your artwork will be displayed to its best advantage.

A floor rug can be quite bold with a riot of pattern and colour, but these will interact with the selected surrounding walls and furnishings. A delicate floor rug and upholstered furniture need to be kept away from harsh sunlight to avoid fading.

Natural day light can't be replicated with artificial lighting; however, artificial lighting is essential for both practical reasons and creating atmosphere.

The designer's role is selecting the truly beautiful that you respond to, and finding the balance that's perfect for your situation.



**Robert Creedon**  
**Interior Design Studio**  
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 robertcreedon.studio  
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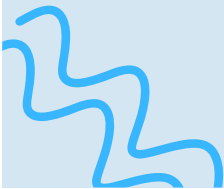
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## St Martin's Chapel

### Chris Stout & Catriona McKay

Ahead of their performances at the Sydney Opera House, the National Folk Festival in Canberra and CresFest, we are thrilled that Chris Stout & Catriona McKay – leading lights in Scottish contemporary folk music – will give an intimate concert at St Martin’s Chapel in Blackwood!

Winners of BBC Radio 2 “Best Duo” Folk Award in 2018, fiddle player Chris Stout & harpist Catriona McKay have taken these most traditional of Scottish instruments and catapulted them into the contemporary world of music making. A 30-year long telepathy sees this remarkable duo weave their way seamlessly between glorious soundscapes and music of breathtaking simplicity. In 2022, Catriona McKay played at Queen Elizabeth II’s funeral in Edinburgh.

Chris Stout is from Fair Isle, one of the Shetland Islands, and Catriona McKay is from Dundee, in Scotland’s east. The intense and rugged coastal scenery and the dramatic seas that surround their respective origins are ever-present in this unique and treasured duo’s sound.

*‘Clear and strong...always a startling freshness and spontaneity at work...virtuosic and physically engaging’ 5 stars* The Glasgow Herald  
*‘Sonically exquisite’* The Guardian  
*‘Unimpeachable’* The Irish Times  
*‘This music is Breathtaking.’* fROOTS

Thursday 3 April, doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Bar at venue. Tickets \$20 at: [trybooking.com/CZDNH](https://trybooking.com/CZDNH)

Contact Fiona Ross (0425 422 416 / [fionaross16@gmail.com](mailto:fionaross16@gmail.com)) with any questions





## The Mount Players

### A Sell Out Show & Life Memberships Awarded

What a fantastic start to the 2025 season. Our production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde was a sellout a week before it's opening night on 21 February, ensuring a wonderful atmosphere for every performance!

Our next production, *The Girl on The Train* opens on 9 May so, lots about that next month or go to [www.themountplayers.com](http://www.themountplayers.com) for full details on this and everything happening at The Mount Players.

On 14 February we had a huge turnout for our AGM, which is never boring as it's a perfect excuse for members to gather for a social evening.

4 members received their Life Memberships on the evening. Two of these became the first canines to be honoured with this award! Reg & Millie Taranto (*bottom right*) who never missed a set build, working bee and social occasion stepped on to the stage to receive their trophies for "their pawfect input over many years".

On a more standard note, David Runnalls and Karen Hunt were humbled to receive their honours after many years of dedicated service to the theatre. They are both very proud to share the honour board with fellow Life Members. Thanks to an abundance of nominees, all roles on the 2025 committee were filled, ensuring the ongoing success for the Mountview Theatre.



See you at the theatre!



## Central Highlands Rural Health

### February Golf Day Raises \$5,500

The Trentham Health Golf Day raised \$5,500 thanks to the generosity of Troy and Liddy Upfield from Wooling Hill Memorial Estate as well as sponsors, donors and players. The day was a huge success thanks to the volunteers from the Trentham Golf Club who hosted the event with CHRH.

Players took part in a mixed 4 ambrose tournament around the picturesque course under team names that honoured current Trentham Hospital Auxiliary members, current and past donors and well-known former staff Dr Gwen Wisewould and Mrs Mary Walsh.

The winning teams were:

- 1st place: *Professional Mowing Group Team* - Marty Hull, Hugh Fitzpatrick, Gavin Thompson and Stuart Leong *pictured right*
- 2nd place: *Trentham Self Storage Team* – Chris Lingard, Jamie Lingard, Glenn Cook and Simon Nabbs
- 3rd place: *Karen Gibb Team* - Gary Kirwan, Janine Lord, Andrew Robinson and Jonathan Langmaid

CHRH would like to congratulate these teams and thank all of the players for attending the event.

Funds were raised through sponsorship, player fees, silly sock sales and a silent auction with the proceeds from the event going to the new CHRH Trentham Gym and Social Space for allied health clients. The silent auction remains

open for online bids from anyone in the community via [chrh.org.au/donate](http://chrh.org.au/donate)

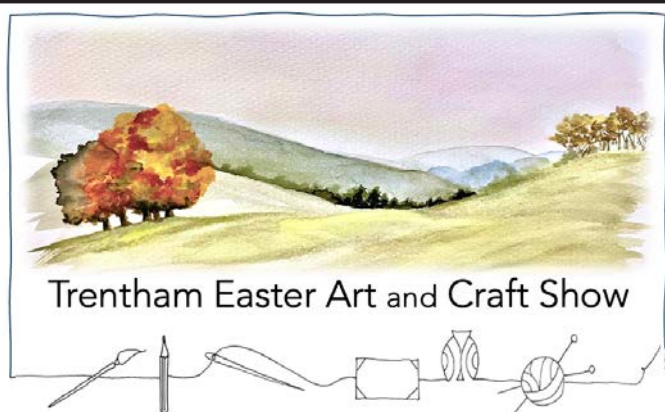
Trentham Health is part of Central Highlands Rural Health, a winner in the 2024 Victorian Public Healthcare Awards for Excellence in Public Sector Residential Aged Care services and a finalist in the Premier's Small Health Service of the Year category. Trentham Health provides Aged Care, Community Health, Community Nursing and Social Support services to the Trentham and district community.

If you'd like to know more about Trentham Health or The Best Care Project please visit [chrh.org.au/donate](http://chrh.org.au/donate) or get in touch with Kathryn via 0439 705 039 or [giving@chrh.org.au](mailto:giving@chrh.org.au)





## Art News



There are only SIX weeks left to get your art and craft creations into the Trentham Easter Art and Craft Show!

Do you knit, crochet, do macrame or embroidery, patchwork, cross stitch, tapestry or weaving? Are hard mediums your thing like leatherwork, metalwork, ceramics, or basketry? What about sculpture, photography or jewellery? TEACS is not just about paintings in oil, acrylic, watercolour or drawings in pencil, charcoal, pastel, or ink.

There are 17 Award categories with significant prizes. Check out the website to see the complete list - including best local artist and best emerging artist (working for less than 3 years). There are three age groups for submitting entries: under 12, 12 to 18 years and above 18.

**Join us for the Grand Opening Night and Award Presentations.**

**Tickets are available through the website for only \$10!**

[www.teacs.org.au](http://www.teacs.org.au)

Tell your friends and fellow artists!

The Trentham Easter Art and Craft Show opens on Thursday April 17 April 2025 and is open every day over Easter, closing at 1pm on Easter Monday (21 April). To volunteer or assist us with Prize sponsorship, please chat with Lynne Farrell on 0408 013 391, Leonie Hehir, Elizabeth Parsons or Cam Heagney.

## Dogs of Trentham

### Great Progress for Dogs of Trentham.

Dogs of Trentham Inc. (D.O.T) is an enthusiastic group of local dog lovers and owners working with Hepburn Shire Council to establish a permanent off leash dog park.

Last year, the Shire council approved a plan to have water directed into the off lead area. Fund raising efforts have enabled D.O.T to pay for the plumbing work. We are pleased to announce that work was completed in January and dog owners no longer need to carry water from the toilet block to the park - a relief for both dog owners using the park and dog walkers passing by.

Money was also raised to pay for much needed, safe and comfortable picnic tables in the off leash area. These have now been installed in the park and are proving very popular with the dogs as well as the owners. We are grateful to the Cool Country Men's Shed who supplied the labour to make the picnic tables.

Dogs of Trentham Inc. continue to raise funds for a permanent off leash dog park with appropriate facilities.

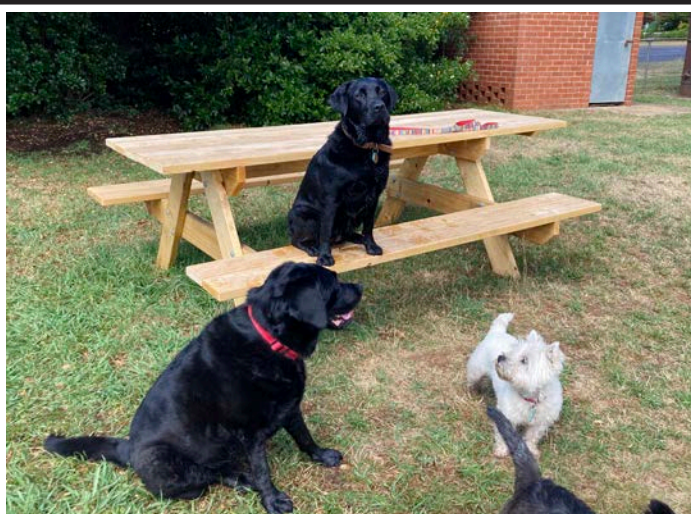
## Art at The Cosmo

Recent winner of the Daylesford Landscape Prize, local artist Kevin Smith, will be exhibiting 30 new paintings at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Trentham from Saturday 8 March.

These exciting, colorful works depict landscapes, townscapes, abstracts and social commentary. They are contemporary fine art in oil, acrylic and mixed media, primarily on canvas and tastefully framed.

Winners of multiple awards for oils, acrylics, pastel and sculpture, Kevin's creations sit proudly in many private and public collections.

There will be an opening and chance to meet the artist on Saturday 15 March from 4 to 6pm.



Dogs of Trentham will be the beneficiary of the Friday Night Cosmo Meat Tray Raffle in March. Pop down and grab yourself a ticket or two!

## Meditation for Peace

---

### Art Precedes Science

The goldsmith that crafted the king's crown knew something that the scientist didn't. Archimedes had discovered – sinking his body in his bath-tub – how to measure the volume of an irregular object, e.g. a crown, eureka! What he didn't know, but the craftsman knew, (and my father told me as a life's lesson): pure gold is too soft to make a solid object, say a crown or wedding-ring: an alloy is needed. The king had the goldsmith executed for cheating. The craftsman became the victim of the scientist's ignorance. Pure mathematics can be a nuisance: in front of Stalingrad, thanks to German precision, at minus 40 degrees Celsius the machine guns, trucks and tanks were stuck, while Russian style artillery kept operating. After WWII, at Cape Canaveral, where the launch of a space-missile failed, a tradesman was called in: he didn't need 'rocket-science' to find that everything had been screwed too tight!

In Nederland, traditionally built flat-bottomed, rounded barges are now kept and owned by Friesland's 11 cities to compete in races on the IJsselmeer. Massive ships - mighty masts, booms and sails - are prepared for the race by being full-speed sailed into a dike, to supple up the bulky bodies. Up into the 19<sup>th</sup> century a shipbuilder was able to shape and bend the boards over fire by hand and sight, guided by a little notebook with sketches and measures. Even Medieval architects used scanty notes by which to build cathedrals.

Life shows a great sense of proportion and most cultures live and work out of an ancient 'feeling of form', through

### Musings from St. Mary Magdalen's

---

Our summer this year has been one of heat, clear blue sky, and sudden storms. Life can be a bit like that, for some people at least. Everything seems fine and then problems sweep in without warning. For others, the clear summer days can seem like brief interludes between the storms that roll through their lives. None of us, however, live in eternal warmth and sunshine, and when the storms hit, the winds against us can be strong and the clouds dark. That's when we need the gift of hope.

Hope is the theme of this jubilee year, and hope is something our violence torn world desperately needs. This year, Catholics all over the world are called to be pilgrims of hope. Here in Trentham, we have already greeted those who have made this pilgrimage, but what does it mean to make a pilgrimage of hope? Well, sometimes hope doesn't come easily. We need to make a firm decision that we are going to hope, no matter what the world throws at us. Sometimes, when hope seems far away, we need to physically mark that decision by action, like walking to a church and taking the time to sit in silence – knowing that we are in the presence of a loving God.

For Christians, of course, hope is a gift given to us through our trust in Christ. It can weather the storms of life and even penetrate the mystery of death itself.

**Deacon Joe**

which air, water, earth and fire are still experienced as qualities: 'etherial', fluid. It is remarkable how young, immature our western familiarity with 'physical' matter is. The words 'matter' and 'physical' were originally Greek words for 'mother' and 'nature': 'natura' from 'nasci', (= Latin: 'about to be born'). Even making steel was originally a craft: Damascus was famous for its swords as well as its fabrics!

Francis Bacon, 1600, chancellor to Queen Elizabeth I, founder of modern empirical science, based his *Novum Organon* (New 'Handbook') on the experience of craft-people: potters, glassblowers, stained glass makers, gold/copper-smiths: much to do with heat. He noted that water appears cold when one comes from dipping in hot, appears warm after a dip in cold. Ironically Just when thermometers had become available, rising and lowering of temperatures could be measured, thus 'objective', enlightened scientists had 'deemed' our sense of warmth 'subjective'.

Our language tends to disagree: we talk about a cold or warm reception, there has been a cold war, an economy can be overheated, when we meditate for peace we imagine warmth in human relationships. Perhaps defrosting cold ones... and so on.

### Henk Bak

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

### Trentham Community Action Inc.

---

As 2025 gets going, the TCA Committee has kept busy, setting up processes, working towards some of the projects already recommended by the members back in November.

Save the date: Monday 24 March at 7pm at Trentham Neighbourhood Centre. First up, a public/members meeting is scheduled to provide time and space for conversation, updates on various matters, including some of the processes necessary to our new Council as it sets up for the next four years.

Treasurer – David Sanders has volunteered as treasurer and has been co-opted to the Committee. Thanks David!

Looking for a logo Preliminary work for the website is underway. Suggestions for a logo are invited – please send to [trenthamca@gmail.com](mailto:trenthamca@gmail.com) One idea is to include the outline of the Town Square Gus the Wombat, highlighting the town's unique place as the gateway to the forest.

New Members always welcome! Membership forms can be obtained from and handed in at Trentham Neighbourhood Centre and Trentham Post Office.

See you at the meeting!

**Fay Magee**  
TCA Chair



## Hepburn Gardens for Wildlife

### Tanya Loos

Tanya Loos is a local naturalist, author and environmental consultant who loves to work in the environmental not-for-profit sector.



Hepburn Gardens for Wildlife were fortunate to have Tanya present 'Living with Our Wild Neighbours' at the TNC last month. Sponsored by the Hepburn Shire Community Grant Program, Tanya provided practical information advice and solutions to encounters with wildlife, based on current guidance from wildlife rescue organisations and the latest research, sprinkled with plenty of amusing anecdotes.

She is the author of "Daylesford Nature Diary" (available from her [website](#)). The following is an edited extract from "Living with Wildlife: a guide for our homes and backyards" first published in the Wombat Post.

In these uncertain times, staring out the window watching multiple species of birds bathing in our bird baths is a soothing salve for the soul! Bird baths also allow us to observe wildlife at close quarters, carrying out natural behaviours such as drinking, bathing and preening on bushes nearby afterwards. And great for wildlife too – the provision of cool, clean water during droughts, extreme heat periods and after bushfires literally saves lives.

And bird baths benefit more than birds! 'Bird baths' is actually a misnomer, as they can provide essential drinking and bathing water for many of your garden visitors – from the smallest insects to larger animals, such as wallabies... This summer I have particularly enjoyed seeing a few Brown Tree Frogs floating in the bird baths near our outdoor toilet each night. The trick is to offer a wide variety of water receptacles as different species have different preferences. All bird baths need a rock or stick to allow animals to climb out again.

Managing a suite of bird baths involves keeping them scrupulously clean by scrubbing with a stiff brush occasionally and replacing the water regularly. Refilling the bird bath is very rewarding, as sometimes the animals are waiting nearby for their fresh water, or even forming an orderly queue!

Shallow bird baths placed at ground level will provide water for small birds, such as fairy-wrens, and ground living fauna, such as echidnas and blue-tongue lizards. If you suspect your garden has wandering cats, avoid ground level baths.

Pedestal bird baths are a popular choice and commercially available. The provision of a stick or some rocks is



important as many are glazed ceramic and can be very slippery. Avoid bird baths made of metal as the water may get too hot in summer.

All bird baths need to be located near trees or shrubs, which provide shelter and perching spaces for small birds. Small birds need to feel safe when using a bird bath, and shrubs provide a few vantage points to allow the birds to check for danger before drinking or entering the water. A pedestal bird bath located in the centre of the garden in an open grassy area will be visited by only the boldest of birds and other animals!

To avoid birds flying into windows after their bath, place baths either very close to the window (0.5 metres) or well away.

Bird baths placed near the house allow for plenty of enjoyment as you watch through the windows, but consider a deeper bird bath away from the house in a quieter part of the garden for your more timid backyard visitors. Some bird bath aficionados have seven or more baths. Caring for a suite of bird baths is an excellent addition to your enjoyment in the garden – for you and for your local wildlife!

For more info check out Tanya's website: [tanyaloos.com](http://tanyaloos.com)



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- DARYL HANNAH

# Rachel's Farm Film

ONE WOMAN'S JOURNEY TO REGENERATE HER FARM AND HERSELF

## FREE SCREENING

Wednesday, April 2, 7.30pm  
Trentham Mechanics

Presented by Trentham Sustainability Group

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL COMMUNITY SCREENING OF RACHEL'S FARM

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## St George's

### News and Reflections

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 5 March. It takes us all the way to Easter Day on 20 April.

Unlike Christmas, the date depends on the moon, and this is about as late as Easter can get. These 40 days plus Sundays have been used for centuries to make a spiritual difference to ourselves and our world. It could be called "counter-cultural".

Did you see Cr Brian Hood's report that median house prices in Trentham are over \$1 million, almost twice as much as Clunes and the highest in Hepburn Shire? There is little to no affordable accommodation in Trentham but countless Air BnBs. We are in danger of becoming an elite town and a mere holiday destination. But we do not want to discourage tourists.

Here's a counter-cultural idea. What if we who actually live here walked up the street at weekends and said "Good morning" and "Good afternoon" to everyone we meet? It

### Trentham Sustainability Group

There are some exciting and important things happening at TSG and we want you to know about them!

#### Energy Resilience

March will be an exciting time for the Energy Resilient Trentham team, as they start to develop their Business Case for the implementation of an islandable microgrid based on the Market Street transformer. This will provide power to the centre of town whenever the grid goes down due to bushfires, storms or transmission tower failures.

Formed as a response to the June 2021 storm, the team has attracted funding from the Hepburn Shire Council (HSC), Cool Country Climate Enterprises (CCCE Community Bank) and the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal.

This has enabled the initial scoping study of the Energy and Climate Resilient Trentham (Oct. 2022), by Middleton Engineering. Now we have engaged Yarra Energy Foundation to undertake a technical feasibility study to provide the design, technical details, management and costings for equipment and installation.

We will be running Community Engagement forums in The Mechanics Trentham (TMT) with Mycelia Renewables to outline the project, discuss the benefits and the next steps. These will begin in late March.

The TSG team recently worked with HSC and the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance and applied to the Victorian Government's 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program for a battery at TMT, to power the building whenever the grid fails. This is very important for us all as TMT will now function as the emergency relief centre for the district. Successful applicants will be notified in March.

So, watch out for the forums: come along, ask questions, have your say and help us build an Energy Resilient Trentham.

could be surprising, welcoming, say all sorts of good (or weird) things about our town, and slow us all down just a little. It is slightly old-fashioned, what Stan Grant calls "soft intimacy". Remember the good old days when we talked to the taxi driver or other passengers on the train.

People do not have to respond. If they fail to respond to me, they may greet you walking along behind me. If your confidence grows, expand your repertoire to "Good morning. Enjoying Trentham?" If a small conversation develops, fan the flames by suggesting they visit Trentham Falls after their latte, or walk down to the old race course. This Lent join the quiet revolution towards a slower, kinder world.

Sunday worship at St George's is at 9am and you are always welcome.

#### Peta Sherlock

**Movie Night** – Local Screening of "Rachel's Farm" and you are invited! (see promo on the left).

With food security and the environment in mind, TSG will be hosting a Movie Night at TMT on Wednesday, April 2 at 7.30pm. The film is the compelling 'Rachel's Farm' produced by Rachel Ward after she and her husband Bryan Brown realised the precariousness of our environment on their farm in NSW.

The film is highly recommended for farmers, gardeners and anyone interested in restoring the health of Australia's farmland, food and climate. We would love to see you at this free film night and hear your ideas for food security in Trentham. Light refreshments will be available

#### Local Food & Farming

We are wanting to gauge interest in expanding our Local Food & Farming project areas.

TSG has a history of local and sustainable food initiatives, including our monthly Produce Exchange, now in its twelfth year at the local Lions Club Farmers' Market. The Food Hub's annual 'Celebration of Local Food' dinners and the seasonal Veggie Box Scheme were popular and successful in their day. What would you like to see next? Contact us at [trenthamsustainability@gmail.com](mailto:trenthamsustainability@gmail.com)

#### Membership

If you would like to become a member, please go to our website for the Membership form: <https://trenthamsustainabilitygroup.com/> For more information please email: [trenthamsustainability@gmail.com](mailto:trenthamsustainability@gmail.com)



## Women's Health

### Women's Health Clinic seeking new patients

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

Women in rural and regional areas often face significant 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.

The clinic is for all women, and women assigned female at birth, going through puberty to those navigating menopause and beyond.

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.

Conveniently located at Kyneton Health, we welcome women across the Macedon Ranges and Hepburn Shires to get in touch. To learn more, call (03) 5422 9946 or email [whc@chrh.org.au](mailto:whc@chrh.org.au).

Hours of operation

Monday	8.00am – 4.30pm
Tuesday	7.00am – 3.30pm
Wednesday	8.00am – 4.30pm
Thursday	11.00am – 7.30pm
Friday	8.00am – 4.30pm

Our Women's Health Clinic has been made possible through recent government funding. In September 2024, the Minister for Health and Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas, announced Central Highlands Rural Health in Kyneton as one of the 20 locations to open specialised women's health clinics in Victoria.

*\*Some eligibility criteria for services may apply. \*While all services at CHRH are free, some out-of-pocket fees may apply for referred services.*



# WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINIC

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## Food for Thought

All could be forgiven for wondering about the vagaries of our weather! Always within our conversations is weather talk as we begin to close in on the Calendar Summer Season. A season for much ado about our gardens. I find it the busiest time of the year keeping up with the growth, the watering and the harvesting of vegetables and if you are very lucky, fruit. The rain will come, eventually!

About growing Tomatoes and holding the hope! For the first time, after many years of consoling myself only the small Cherry Toms ripen in our climate, this season has proven me wrong! It's a bumper crop of Tomato 'all- sorts'.

Always the optimist, I plunged into a number of seedling varieties, planting them under an old window supported by old bricks on the north side of the house. Pretty rustic looking really, but it worked a treat in giving them protection from the late frosts with the warmth of a sunny day here and there to kick them along. Each day now, enabled by the hotter days, there is a daily collection, big, small, wrinkled, squat, round & oval!

I must say the happiest success has been growing from seed, 3 metre (at a guess, well 2-1/2) high sunflowers plus runner beans. The Apple trees are laden, figs abundant but unripe so far and with the encouragement of a friend,

## The Plonkers

This month our Plonkers decided they'd check out the newly renovated Blackwood Hotel. Much anticipation for the opening had been brewing over many months. Expectations were high.

Upon entering, a light and tasteful renovation greeted them. They were led to their table in the main dining room past a fine looking stone topped three sided bar.

"Now that's a proper bar", said Digby pausing by the beer taps and ordering himself a tall pint of Mountain Goat Pale Ale.

The others took their seats at a table and were admiring the stunning views out over the Wombat Forest. "Look at Digby, he's standing with his pint staring at a wall. Hey, over here Digby."

Digby joined the group and The Duke asked why he had been standing in front of a wall for five minutes.

"Not just any wall, but a piece of Blackwood history preserved under glass. Wallpaper said to have been hung the same year as Ned Kelly."

"Yes, well it truly is a haven in the hills up here" commented Niles. "Now, who's up for some wine? Too hot for red I think."

"First things first dear, let everyone decide on their food." said Nile's partner, Daphne. The group had heard of the hotel's legendary chicken Parmas which made for an easy decision for some. Digby and Niles both ordered the porterhouse, Digby rather pompously stressing to the helpful young waitress; "I'll have mine blue thank you luv, make sure chef understands."

I'm to try my hand at Apple Cider Vinegar. Definitely there are Apricots in my DNA with Grandmother Kate having had an Apricot Orchard. Surely you would agree there is nothing like the taste of home-grown Organic Apricots, and although a far cry from Granny's Orchard, I succeeded in harvesting 10 small spotty treasures. You may laugh, but that yielded 1 jar of the most delish jam. Next year, well who knows!

Summer and Autumn days bring opportunities for our group to head out of town. This month we are visiting 2 of the hardworking market gardeners in our region with 'Food' a hot topic of our conversations. Growing is about the health of our soil, what we keep out of it and what replenishes it, climate changes, water usage, organics, animal welfare, keeping in mind how we garden and produce our food is multi layered, with ethical considerations.

Speaking of minds, the benefits of gardening and our backyard food production, our free ranging conversations, all are a big mental health tick.

**Susie Kilby**  
**Food for Thought Group**

The chicken sanga, Blackwood burger (both served with chips) and pork belly rounded out the orders.



"Right", said Niles, "I'll order a couple of bottles for us all to share." Niles returned from the bar with a bottle of the McPherson Pinot Grigio and a Shadowfax Minnow Rosé.

"That's very kind of you mate", said Digby rather impressively draining his pint and managing to pour a glass of the McPherson at the same time. "What? Don't give me that look, you know I represented Victoria in Polo, I've got good hands. "

"Mmmm hints of honey and apple on the nose, a slight savoury pear flavour on the palate with a rather clean crisp finish" declared Niles upon tasting the wine.

The sometimes saucy Uncle Worcester mumbled something about everyone should know he didn't drink wine and wandered up to the bar for another cider.

The meals came quite quickly and everyone was quiet and content. Quiet until Digby began reciting the bush poetry printed nearby.

"Its fern hills and its gullies.  
It's crystal mountain streams.  
The lovely smell of gum tips,  
Are forever in my dreams"

"Somebody, please - open the Minnow and shut him up!" pleaded the long suffering Mrs. Digby.

The Plonkers vowed to definitely return soon.

Local Business Guide

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