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# Yarragon Skate Park Development

Design and construction of a plaza-style street skatepark for the Yarragon community, delivered in partnership with Baw Baw Shire Council.

Project Yarragon Skate Park Development | Contribution \$221,250 | Completion October 2018 | Information Ivavic.gov.a



Have you followed this development in Yarragon? Long campaigned for but now getting close to completion.

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This group of Yarragon Community Members is pleased with Baw Baw Shire Councils decision to oppose the development of the Service Station proposed for this site. See the YDCA report, Page 6, for more details.



Rainfall for Yarragon 2018 compared with 2017 & 2016 As recorded in McIntyre Rd

	2018 mils	2017 mils	2016 mils	
January	54	33	73.5	
February	15	83.5	16	
March	46	35	64	
April	16	64	40	
May	140.5	66	95	
June	75.5	42.5	106	
July	127	93	148	
YTD Total	457.5	417	543	

The Yarragon Community Newsletter is produced monthly by community volunteers.

Editors Jen Lowe, Christine Whiley, Inge Mitchell. Printer R.M.I. Print, —Warragul



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NEXT DEADLINE: For September 2018 26th August 12 noon







By Marcus Hanley 28th July, 2018

After a clear night with some keen stargazers up early to watch the rare 'blood moon', it began as a very chilly winters morning, but with a forecast top of 18 and sunny, we knew we were in for a beautiful day.

It took quite a while for the locals and visitors to come out of hibernation, but once they did, we all had a really good busy spell from around 10am until 1pm. Don't forget you can come earlier, as

we kick off at 8am!

Our pasture raised free range eggs from Hillgrove farm in Darnum sold out early, so we'll look to get more of them next month. Hope Farm bread, and the fresh fruit and veg both had good days, as well as many regulars back to stock up on their nuts and seeds from the Nut Bloke. New stallholder Marijke with her soy candles and melts had a busy day, and local photographer Di Armstrong had a wider range of photo gift cards this month, and she had a busy day

also. The flower and plant stalls were enjoying the warmth of the sun,





and so they were kept on their toes once the chill in the air had vanished. Unfortunately the fresh pasta stall Little Red Bucket couldn't make it back this month, with many customers looking for their tent. They have assured us they'll be back next month as they are still adjusting to attending multiple markets each weekend. Our regular petting zoo was back again to keep the little ones entertained, and we look forward to having them back again next month.

Next market is Saturday August 25<sup>th</sup>, so we hope to see you there!



#### Being open to different perspectives

Ross and I have been travelling across Europe for several weeks now. In some ways, it feels very comfortable because we share many common values. There are similar dress codes (unlike parts of Asia and Africa), we know what to expect in cafés and on the streets. Because we've chosen to travel independently we've needed the help of local people, some of whom have little English. It's better than my grasp of Swedish or Polish though! I have been appreciative of those who helped us use automated ticket machines for public transport for instance. Their kindness and patience eases the stresses inherent in navigating unknown systems. How good

that these folk weren't dismissive because we were foreigners!

There have been differences though that we have learned to not just tolerate but to enjoy. Breakfasts in Australia are usually quick affairs, just something to get us on our way. Interestingly in Scandinavia, Germany and France the traditional breakfast seems to be more of a household time, chatting about what is happening that day and taking time to savour the food - fish, meats and cheeses abound and conversation flows. Of course accepting this meant we eat less throughout the day. How easily we add snacks to our day in Australia!

In Germany I was struck by the thoughtful efforts of the community to resettle refugees. Each town was allocated some - our niece's had 100 young men. They were then given language skills or eased into jobs or further studies. Community volunteers help their transition. Their aim is to grow great young citizens.

Travel is great especially when we greet differences with a willingness to learn from other traditions.

# THE HISTORY BEHIND OUR STREET NAMES

### Campbell Street

John Campbell was born in Greenock, Scotland, in 1863, and came to Victoria with his mother and 6 siblings in 1874 aboard the "Great Britain". His father, John Campbell and older brother Edward sailed on the "Loch Lomond" to Port Phillip 23 June 1873. John Campbell Senior was brought to Victoria to supervise the building of the Yarraville Sugar Refinery. He also managed this. He was educated at the Collegiate School, Footscray. On leaving school he entered a mercantile firm as clerk, remaining there for two years, and in 1880 came to Gippsland where he entered into farming pursuits and dairying. Later he commenced grazing operations at Allambee, about six miles from Yarragon, where he carried on successfully for a number of years. The home of Mr John Campbell became the first Allambee Post office as mail was posted and collected from here when the journey was not made to Yarragon. In 1892 a fire destroyed the building that Mr Campbell had provided.

In 1889 Mr Campbell was elected to a seat in the Narracan Council and filled the position of Shire President for two terms, 1893-94 and 1904-5. He served on the council from 1889 to 1937. He also acted as



returning officer for the Narracan School District in connection with the Education Department and was one of the Trustees and later Secretary of the Yarragon Cemetery, for forty years. In 1890 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace.

Mr Campbell married, in 1884, Clara Eleanor, a daughter of Henry and Ellen (Finnegan) Daw of Westbury, Tasmania, and they had a family of three children. Their younger son, Private Douglas Campbell, was killed in action in France in 1916.

He took an active interest in all local movements and was an elder of the Yarragon Presbyterian Church. John Campbell was among the early pioneers to settle in the dense forest of Allambee. He moved into the Yarragon township in the early 1900's. Their home was on the south side of Campbell Street, about half way between Murray and Rollo Streets.

(Continued next page)



Left: John and Clara Campbell on their wedding day. Above: Clara and John Campbell with Ronald, Alma and Douglas.

Some of his great grandchildren still reside in Warragul and take an active interest in Yarragon: Janice (Dawson) Swan, Ross Dawson and Graham Borland, to name a few.

An interesting article was published in the West Gippsland Gazette, Tuesday 20 May 1924, Page 3. I have only published some parts of it, but much of it could Assembly, and 34 in the Council, at an annual cost of still be relevant today with a change in the \$ amounts!

Cr Campbell addressed the electors of Gippsland West at Yarragon last Tuesday, and on Thursday spoke at the theatre hall, Warragul. Cr Campbell said: "I appear before you to-night as a Liberal candidate for the vacant seat in the Legislative Assembly, rendered so by the lamentable death of Sir John Mackey; .... I felt his loss as of a personal friend, having known Sir John and being associated with him during, the whole of his Parliamentary life; having in my capacity as a councillor accompanied him on many occasions on tours of inspection when inquiring into and attending the needs of the district. I claim in support of my candidature to have gained some legislative knowledge thereby; also by having been associated with former members for this electorate-the late F. C Mason, a former Speaker; A. C. Groom; G. J. Turner and J. C. Nicholls. I have been resident in this electorate for over 40 years, and been serving ratepayers as councillor in the Narracan Shire for the last 34 years; and have done a fair share of pioneering in that time, We feel proud of our constitution, which gives us true liberty and freedom, of self-government was elected. We also are proud of our Parliamentary institutions; but in my view of things we pay too much for our whistle. Our cost of government is altogether too high to begin with. We have the Commonwealth Parliament, consisting of 75 members in one House and 36 Senators, or 111 members in all; and a representative of our King, at an annual cost of £135,000 all of which sum of money is found by the people in the shape of taxes, and these 111 members handle no less a sum of money than £64,720,000, out of which no less a sum than £24,807.000 is taken for administration. This large sum of money is contributed by

us a people in number 5,000,000.

STATE PARLIAMENT. So much for our first Parliament. Now let us examine the position as regards the State Parliament. It also consists of two Houses, the Assembly and Upper or Council, consisting of 65 members in the £45,800, or £33,200 Assembly representatives, and  $\mathring{E}7,600$ for Legislative Council and a Governor at £5,000. The total revenue of our State is £20 000 000, fully half of which is found by direct taxation. We have had a party in power for the past six years, advocating "economy" with efficiency, Let us examine their ideas of economy. They have raised their own salaries by £200 per annum in the Assembly, increasing the amount of expenditure by £13,000; although the same work has been performed for the last 70 years at a much less cost. They have also appropriated the sum of £7,600 for payment of members of the Council, in which we have had representatives serving gratuitously ever since separation from New South Wales, I am in favor of reducing the cost of Parliament, and would advocate a reduction in the number of members. Ican see no use for a second House in the State Parliament. The money thus saved, at least £20,000, would be more usefully employed in providing metal roads and wire netting for farmers.

He went on with many more interesting arguments but I will not include all of those. I cannot find any proof that he

- References: From the Dawning 1878-1978 Waterloo Yarragon
- So Tall the Trees A history of the Southern Districts of the Narracan Shire, John Adams
- Settlers and Sawmillers Mike McCarthy
- trove.nla.gov.au

I thank Janice Swan for providing some of this history and the photos, and Tini Cook for her wealth of information on the history of our area.

By Jen Lowe

## **YOUR RECREATION RESERVE NEEDS YOU!!**

The Dowton Park Recreation Reserve, Committee of Management is seeking new members. The Annual General Meeting of Dowton Park is being held on Monday August 6<sup>th</sup> 2018 @ the Main Clubrooms starting at 7pm.

It is vital that we get some new members to join the committee and help carry on the management of the reserve.

If we do not get new members to join the committee at this AGM then the committee may be forced to relinquish its management responsibility and the council will become responsible for the reserve and all funds of the Reserve will be transferred to the Baw Baw Shire. Reliable, knowledgeable and enthusiastic committee members are the key to a successful committee and this results in a well maintained Reserve for everyone to use If you are interested and would like more information please contact the committee on

0418512074 or 0409541502

## ARE WE GETTING A NEW NEIGHBOUR? NOT JUST YET!

Council officers recommended that the proposed BP Service Centre in the block on the western side of Hazeldean Rd NOT be approved. Our councillors unanimously agreed. Some Yarragon residents feel that an opportunity has been missed, but most are breathing a sigh of relief. However, the applicants may take their proposal to VCAT, so we're not resting on our laurels yet!

Many issues were raised in submissions, [73 written objections, 1 letter of support] including:

- The impact on traffic. The western end of town brings vehicles from the freeway in both directions into Loch St, which serves both the commercial centre and the school and kinder, and now the childcare centre. Vehicles leaving the childcare centre enter the highway near Hazeldean Rd, and some of those will be crossing the median strip. All this happens in the 80/110km speed zone. Adding vehicles wanting to slow to the exit into a service centre where other vehicles are speeding up adds to the accident risk. VicRoads sees no problem with this. This is the same VicRoads that refuses to answer any letters from us about the numerous near-misses at the traffic lights. We have asked many times for a turning arrow to control the traffic turning east onto the highway from Rollo St, but it seems they don't act until fatal accidents occur. VicRoads saying something will be ok gives many of us NO confidence!
- The impact on employment. A long-time Trafalgar trader described how the development of the service centres at Longwarry and Pakenham had a measurable impact on his employees and his community; he went from employing 18 local people and donating \$20,000 a year to local endeavours, to only employing 10 people, and donating \$10,000 a year. If you multiply that by all the traders in Trafalgar, Yarragon, and Darnum, and the current petrol stations on this stretch of highway, a lot of people will be looking for work, quite possibly more



than the 58 equivalent full-time jobs the applicant thinks they will need to fill.

The applicants' representative spent some time explaining that the service centre needs to be that big to make it easy for drivers of B-doubles to move around the space. This representative explained that there were few safe stopping areas for large trucks, and they wanted to fill that need. However, Cr Leaney spent some time searching out and speaking to drivers of large trucks travelling the eastern seaboard route, and found that they:

Prefer to stop away from built-up areas so they don't annoy residents,

They tend to carry their own food,

- They can get from Bairnsdale to Melbourne on one tank of fuel and well within the legal driving time of 6 hours,
- They would be impressed by good showers, which are not included in this proposal.

There have been grumbles from people who wanted a service centre right next to our town; mainly from travellers who don't realise they can buy late-night fast food at the 24-hour petrol station on the eastern side of town, and from people who have been captured by clever advertising, who will only put BP fuel in their cars, but don't want it enough to drive off the highway at Newborough or Warragul. For their convenience we are supposed to be grateful for our locally-owned businesses to do less well, and for the 24-hour lights and noise, and the increased traffic congestion on the western edge of town, and for that intangible ambience of Yarragon that we appreciate so much, being changed forever.

Lots more could be said about this ... you can go to the council website and listen to all the council meeting if you wish\*, but I want to celebrate something else that Yarragon is very good at, and that is working together. Yarragon Business Association and Yarragon & District Community Association are not natural partners; we don't usually have the same priorities, but on this issue we all worked together. And at the council meeting there were Yarragon people speaking who have never had anything to do with either of those groups. We all wanted what we believe is the best for Yarragon. And we were grateful that our councillors take their representation of their constituents seriously. Council officers examined the application in great depth, and councillors invested a lot of their own time researching the claims that were made by the applicants and the submitters, and in thinking about how Yarragon fits in the Baw Baw Shire 'family'.

\* <u>www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au</u> then click on 'About Council' then 'Council Meetings' then 'Live Streaming' then 'Council Meeting webcast'

## AND WHILE WE'RE THINKING OF GRATITUDE ...

Like all other small organisations in Yarragon, YDCA has Annual General Meetings where new office-bearers are elected. We had an unambiguous quorum, so thank you to everyone who turned up. Eva Turra stepped down from her position of minute secretary, a position she has discharged with diligence. Thank you so much Eva for taking on that role and keeping me on track. Jen Lowe (public officer), Bev Gilligan (Treasurer) and I were happy to stand again, but who was going to be our new minute secretary? A room full of people with busy lives all looked away ... and then Inge Mitchell agreed to take on the role. Whew. Our future is assured for one more year. Thank you Inge, and thank you to everyone who turns up. Adding your voice to discussions is every bit as valuable as taking on an office-bearer's role. Decisions are most likely to be good ones if they have been tested by vigorous and thoughtful debate. All residents of Yarragon & District are welcome to attend our meetings, held on the third Tuesday of each month at the comfortablyheated fire station in Murray St, starting at 7pm.

# Positive Community Outcomes

#### The Impossible Dream

Just last week we were living the dream in front of our lovely open fire in Yarragon. The end of the evening, ready for bed, putting a little piece of paper on the fire, something I've done hundreds of times, was enough to spark the soot-laden chimney into life. A chimney fire. What a roar! The noise was inescapable as we rushed outside to see massive flames and sparks roaring from the flue. We flew into action with the garden hose and to 000. Yarragon and Trafalgar Fire Brigade units sprang into action and you would not believe the relief of seeing those flashing lights down Shady Creek Road. Within just five minutes, four vehicles wound their way into our driveway. Our closest neighbour Mark, arrived post-haste with torch and fire extinguisher. What a guy! He was the one to lead the CFA into our property in the dark, we didn't have a light on our gates and he led them in.

Cool, calm and collected, they appraised the situation, measured temperatures with their infra-red gauges, climbed the ladder into the ceiling and stayed for an hour until they were convinced all was safe. We had the chimney sweep in the next day and shame on us for thinking this sort of thing could not happen to us! An annual sweep of the chimney is now in the diary/calendar! We wanted to share our story of good fortune, a story that

could have ended badly but ended well, thanks to the quick action of the local Fire Brigade in our hour of need. Here is a big thank you to the unsung Fire Brigade volunteers in our midst. Because of you we continue to live the dream. Thank you

Trish Nelson.



Getting to know our businesses in Yarragon....

### Take a moment @ Orange Blossom Lingerie





Yarragon can certainly boast of the variety of stores we have to offer. Carley Burdon opened **Orange Blossom Lingerie** 18

months ago looking forward to offering a personalised service and meeting the needs of locals and visitors alike.

At **Orange Blossom Lingerie** you will find all styles of lovely lingerie in sizes A to K and everything in between. Carley also stock handbags, scarves, ECO products, skin care and some sexy little numbers.

Carley's dream of opening **Orange Blossom Lingerie** came from her own needs and wants in Underwear. Being able to walk into a store feeling comfortable with who you are and what you look like is a big deal. Also tired of having trouble trying to find a bra that suited.... **Orange Blossom Lingerie** was born. Carley hopes the store will grow into the kind of place where everyone can get all they need with a large range of lingerie brands, styles and sizes on offer.

Christine Whiley.



Late in July our friends from Yarragon Fire Brigade arrived at Yarragon Primary School and Early Learning Centre, to share with the students and school community the results of this year's Yarragon Book Fair. While the Book Fair has been held in Yarragon by the Fire Brigade for many years, 2018 was the first time the Fire Brigade and School teamed up. The students worked to produce posters and promotional videos and

students and parents contributed to the set up and running of the Book Fair weekend. Feedback from our volunteers includes 'working at Book Fair is lots of fun', Book Fair is a great experience' and that 'Book Fair has a great vibe'. Our School Captains received a cheque for just over \$3000 which will be used to buy new books and furniture to enhance our school library. We want to continue to develop the new library space and support the major curriculum focus this year which is reading. The Yarragon Primary School and Early Learning Centre is looking forward to continuing our partnership with the Yarragon Fire Brigade and can't wait to see you all at Book Fair next year.

Emma Conway - Yarragon Primary School Parents Club member







#### By Pat McPhie

We would like to thank everyone who enjoys the variety of our barbecue supplies. The Swap Meet at the Warragul Show Ground kept us very busy from 6.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. It was

worth it though as we made \$2467.10. This enables us to help other people.

Our barbecue at the clearing sale on 30th June made us \$686.00

We very much appreciate a "Thank you" from people we are able to help.

We donated \$400 to the Breast Cancer Network and \$400 to 3BBRM and we received lovely thankyous from them.

Some of our members drove to the top of Mount Worth on 22nd July where three groups of runners took part in the Mount Worth Trail run. We were up there to supply them with three sorts of soup, egg and bacon sandwiches, sausages and hamburgers. Many thanks to our members who made beautiful soups for that day.

We are currently selling raffle tickets which will consist of a Bunnings voucher and a petrol voucher.

On the 25/26 August we plan to have another raffle to help Andrews House have a new wheelchair.

We will have a barbecue on the 10th August at Bunnings.

Time sure passes by. Our men who set up our Christmas raffle trailer for us, will be seeking donations next month. We start selling the tickets from September in various places. This raffle makes the most money for us each year and we thank you all for your support.



## Yarragon Primary School

#### Yarragon CFA Book Fair

A huge thank you to all our student, parent and friend volunteers who supported the setting up and packing up of the Yarragon Book Fair. This was the first year our school was involved in an official capacity. From all accounts this was highly valued by CFA volunteers and completed in a very quick and organised manner.

The fair was a major success again this year. It was terrific to see this event supported by our students and families. So many bargain books were available. Families travelled from around Gippsland to secure a bargain. I'm sure there are many households with new collections of book to enjoy for many months ahead.

Funds raised for our school will go towards the purchase of new reading material and furniture for our library space. We are currently completing a major stocktake of all our library books and reorganising the way our library functions and looks.

Mr Riddle and Crystal have been working through this at an amazing rate. With the support of Andrea, Denise and Sharon our library is maintained and kept neat and tidy for all our students, teachers and families to enjoy.

#### **Scholastic Book Fair**



The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Yarragon Primary School & Early Learning Centre soon, so get ready for some out-of-this-world excitement! We'll be launching our Book Fair in our School Library Space between Monday 30<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August.

The Book Fair will be open to our school community each day of the fair during 8.30am-9.00am and 3.00pm-4.00pm.

#### Our Junior School Council will be organising a **Dress Up Fundraising Day on Tuesday 31**<sup>st</sup> **July** around the theme of our Book Fair – **"To the Book Fair and Beyond! Reading Is Out of this World!"**

Students are encouraged to dress as their favourite Sci-Fi character or a space themed outfit for a gold coin donation (to be collected on the day) to support student funded initiatives at our school.

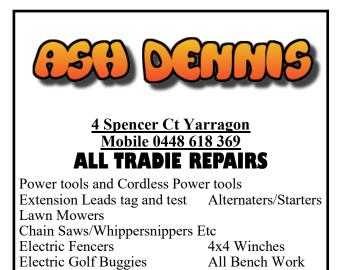
There will be several "Best Dressed" awards that will be handed out on the day with the prizes being vouchers to use at our Book Fair.

The Scholastic Book Fair allows our school to raise funds to put towards new resources for students in our Library space.

Melissa Rock.

The school will be running the Yarragon Spring Clean again this year, at the end of October.

Keep your eyes open for more details in the next newsletter.



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Carol Monson.

The Baw Baw Arts Alliance series' of exhibitions in The Station Gallery, Yarragon, change each month so it is often a challenge to maintain the variety required to attract visitors. However 2018 is proving to have some truly extraordinary displays of a wide range of artwork from the members' Dot Points challenge to the work of landscape artist, Wendy Russell, Nola Clark's beautifully executed scratchboard works and most recently the work of felter, Cheryl Cook,

During August The Station Gallery will be the venue for a wonderful range of work of two increasingly well known artists Graeme Myrteza and Jo Caminiti. Both of these artists were part of the Gippsland 'Artist in Residence' programme during May.

While Graeme Myrteza describes himself as a 'proud family man, farmer and painter from the hills of Thorpdale' this humble description contrasts starkly to the large, bold and stunning canvases of the Australian landscapes he creates in oils.

Jo Caminiti is most well known for her striking wire sculptures which she describes as 'generally figurative with anatomical or botanical plausibility, or functionally decorative'. Jo has been largely self taught but with sheer determination and attendance at a range of workshops she has developed a singular sculptural style over the past two years and most recently furthered her painting skills while 'Artist in Residence' in Drouin.

The work of these artists in the main gallery section provide a wonderful foil for the quiet, calm paintings of Eucalyptus trees for which Liz Bowley has become known. The work of Liz will be displayed in a small



section of the gallery familiarly referred to as The Wall. At the exhibition opening on Sunday, August 5 at 2.00pm at The Station Gallery, Yarragon, Jo will talk about her work in the exhibition, her paintings and sculptures. There are no charges to hear this inspirational artist talk about her work when you will also have the opportunity of asking questions.



Ben Codling

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Cr Darren Wallace 0476 000 053 Darren.Wallace@ bawbawshire.vic.gov.au

To get in touch with us, contact Council's Community Information and Service Team on 5624 2411 or visit us at: Drouin 33 Young Street

Warragul 90 Smith Street (Annex Building) Please note: Council's Warragul Customer Service Centre, Arts Centre Team and Box Office have been temporarily relocated to the Annex Building on Smith Street to make room for the exciting upgrade works that are starting at the West Gippsland Arts Centre.

Cr Michael Leaney 0476 000 119/5165 6263 Michael.Leanev@ bawbawshire.vic.gov.au



Have Your Say is an opportunity to provide your thoughts, feelings and ideas on a range of Council projects and activities. Your

feedback is highly valued and will ultimately influence Council's decision making on various projects in the Shire

We encourage all residents to visit the Have Your Say section on Council's website and take this opportunity to get involved and be part of shaping Baw Baw Shire

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Cr Peter Kostos

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