

The Chronicle servicing the three communities

In the Dja Dja Wurrung Language Yandoit means

Brown Snake or



of Yandoit, Franklindford and Clydesdale

February 2018

also available



at

www.Yandoit.net

What: JONES-REECES ROAD REPAIR PLANS

When: 5.30pm, Monday February 26th

Where: Clydesdale Hall

What: HISTORY IN STORY

When: 6.00pm Saturday 7 April 2018

Where: Yandoit hall

What: DEMOCRACY FORUM

When: 7.00pm, Wednesday March 21st, 2018

Where: Phee Broadway, Castlemaine

JONES-REECES ROAD CLYDESDALE REPAIR UPDATE

Further to the community meeting in November, engineer Tim Powell from Hepburn Shire has engaged a designer to prepare preliminary designs for the repair of Jones-Reeces road in Clydesdale. If you want to look at the designs, give your feedback, discuss project status, timelines and any other details come along to the community meeting at 5.30pm on Monday February 26th at Clydesdale Hall. If you're not able to get to the meeting give your feedback to Peter Rawlins (0421 699 822) or Phil Reece (0428 859 512).

If you are interested in being on the Cemetery Trust ring the Secretary Carlene Sartori. You can get the application forms from the Internet. It is a grave responsibility, but it's not too onerous. The previous Secretary Don Morrison has retired after many years of serving the community. Thank you Don. Have you noticed how neat the cemetery is? That's thanks to the boys from Loddon Prison under the watchful eye(s) of Graham Thomas who was born in Franklindford. Did you know that the spring near the cemetery is called Thomas' Spring? There's a story there!!

CHRISTMAS CAROLS- YANDOIT UNITING CHURCH



Another successful Christmas event at the Uniting Church. Over a hundred citizens, including a choir and lots of children came together for carols and a reminder of where Christmas came from. At a prearranged time – Jingle Bells- the old man in red appeared and gave out gifts to the kids and told them to be good. Fantastic supper followed.

There's one carol about a

certain little Church in Yandoit.

HISTORY-IN-STORY AND MUSIC

After four successful history-in-story events another one is being planned. The theme, this time, is the part music has played in the history of our community. Put the evening of **Saturday April 7th** aside and there will be more information in the next edition of the *Chronicle*. The evening will start at 6.00pm with a BBQ/Picnic tea outside the hall, serenaded by local musicians, followed by stories, demonstration of old time dances, live music, old movies and audio tapes and community dancing inside the hall.



FRANKINFORD CEMETERY NEWS.

Cemetery Trust spill: four of the present Trust have been notified by the department that their terms of membership expire this year and they all need to apply again, applications in by April this year.

DEMOCRACY FORUM

Do you think our democracy could be improved? What does a successful democracy look like and how can we get there? These questions will be discussed at a forum on democracy to be held on the evening of Wednesday March 21st, 7.00pm at the Phee Broadway in Castlemaine, alongside the library, jointly organised by Localising Leanganook and Democracy4Dinner.

Join special guest Richard Walsh, author of *Reboot*, Renewable Newstead's Gen Barlow and Castlemaine's Cam Walker for a thought provoking conversation on the future of Australian democracy. This event has been prompted by Richard's book, 'Reboot: A Democracy Makeover to Empower Australia's Voters', and will explore and expand on the book's notion of democracy.



Richard will share his vision for a 'better democracy' that will increase participation, engagement, and direct representation through a redesign of the electoral system. Gen Barlow and Cam Walker will help us understand how alternative approaches to democracy and democratic processes already do, and can further enhance, the power of the people to create lasting change in Australia and here in our local communities. There will be plenty of time for asking questions and conversation afterwards.

HEPBURN SHIRE'S BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

A number of locals attended a fiery meeting to share their views on Hepburn Shire's biodiversity strategy in December last year. Here are some of the key points discussed:

1. **Water** is essential to biodiversity. Strategies need to be developed to ensure water supplies are carefully managed and a blanket ban should be imposed on commercial use of springs and underground water by companies like Coca Cola and mineral water bottlers, so as to ensure water is available for local residents and local farmers/food growers.
2. **Potential zoning changes** from farming to rural residential, as well as planning overlays, are of major concern to local farmers, opening the potential for farmers to be pushed out and for beautiful red soil to be lost to farming. Rural conservation zones are needed.
3. **Weed and pest control**- Residents/landholders need to be educated about their responsibilities for land management.
4. **Integrate farming and biodiversity management**- Farmers feel like a threatened and endangered species. We need to build resilience of our communities and our biodiverse species. *Connecting Country* acknowledge that 'Heathy natural landscapes and a prosperous agricultural sector are interdependent'.
5. Draw on **best practice examples of farming and biodiversity**

within Hepburn and other shires, eg Mitchell Shire's biodiversity strategy.

6. A **Community generated** biodiversity strategy is essential, which brings community and decision making together. The Strategy needs to come from the community not from state government. It needs to be bottom up from community to the shire, not top down.

7. **Education and awareness raising**- The Strategy needs to be a living document as we are in state of flux and change. Awareness of problems is needed as well as education around nature corridors.

8. Maintain the right to **food systems**- Good viable farmland is needed as well as the protection of biodiversity. We need to increase biodiversity of seed and breed – heritage fruit, vegetables and livestock.

9. Acknowledge approach and management of land and biodiversity by **Dja Dja Wurrung**. We need nature corridors and easements to protect biodiversity and remnants and to enhance connectivity.

10. Include **complementary strategies** such as agriculture strategy.

11. **Farmers should be central** to the process of developing a biodiversity strategy – they control the majority of the shire's land and are the primary custodians.

ADD YOUR NAME TO THE COMMUNITY EMAIL LIST

Remember to tell any new neighbours about the email list so they can be kept informed with an electronic copy of *the Chronicle*. Email Nikki (nikki.marshall@mmnet.com.au) to add your name.

NEXT EDITION OF CHRONICLE

The next edition of the Chronicle is expected to be late March/early April 2018. Let us know what's going on so we can include it.

NON SERIOUS SECTION.

Someone let the cat out of the bag!



Here's the file:

Name: Florence the cat

AKA: Flipper or Kitty

Address: Yandoit

Owner: Sharon

Description: Black & White

Distinctive Characteristics: Black

Face, White toe socks

Prior Offences: Nil

History: Came to Sharon out of the blue and stayed.

Sharon goes away leaving relative caring for Kitty. Kitty runs away.

Owner returns, distraught with worry and contacts Inspector Chronicle. **Outcome:** Florence returns by herself. **Prosecution:**

Possible Charge: Leaving Owner Without Permission - waived.

Flipper given a warning.

DO YOU HAVE ANY STORIES OR INFORMATION?

Contact **Bill**: email billodonnell47@gmail.com or mobile 0439398488, or **Nikki** : nikki.marshall@mmnet.com.au or mobile 0432 232 073, or **John Ross** at Yandoit.net.

This edition was edited/written by Nikki Marshall and Bill O'Donnell. Any comments in the Chronicle are made and written with the best of humorous intentions and no offence is intended to any person, thing, animal or group living or dead.