



What: VISION FOR HEPBURN SHIRE
When: 4-6pm, Thursday March 11th, 2021
Where: Clydesdale Hall, Locarno Rd

What: YANDOIT COMMUNITY MARKET
When: Saturday March 27th, 10am -2pm
Where: Yandoit Hall Grounds

10 YEAR VISION AND 4 YEAR PLAN FOR HEPBURN & Mt ALEX SHIRES

Both Hepburn and Mt Alexander shires are inviting us to have our say in the development of 10 year visions for both shires as well as 4 year plans. Make sure our shires understand our needs and aspirations and help shape the future of this place we call home. Here's a few ways in which you can share your views.

- Meeting at Clydesdale Hall- 4-6pm next Thursday March 11th.
- On line survey for Hepburn, by 19 March- individual and group surveys
<https://participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/hepburn-together>
- Have your say- coming up soon in Mt Alex shire-
<https://www.mountalexander.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay>
- Talk directly with your ward councillors- contact details are available on shire's websites.

Both Shires need data to plan their focus and our input is the data needed. What's your vision for the shire? What do you love about living here? What do you want to keep? What do you want to improve? What brilliant new ideas do you have to make our home even better? What can Council's pull back on so that the money can go round? The more voices Councils hear, the better the future plans will be. Surveys can also be completed by hand and dropped off at Daylesford library or council offices. Put your name and contact email on the survey so council can keep you up to date.

YANDOIT POP-UP COMMUNITY MARKET

As a welcome to a year of better times, Yandoit is celebrating its wonderful community spirit by holding a Pop-up market. Join us in the grounds of Yandoit Hall from 10-2pm, Saturday March 27. Stall holders welcome. Please contact Liz: 0414 525 074 or Beth on 5476 4336.



YANDOIT GARDEN AMIGOS (YGA)

A call out for local members. A small group of locals gathered in February with the expressed aim of connecting with fellow gardeners. The group could best be described as a combination of avid, aspiring, and in a couple of cases, down right desperate, Yandoitian gardeners keen to see, and learn first-hand

of their neighbour's successes, challenges and/or failures. The first garden visit was hosted by Beth Higgins. It was a wonderful experience to explore her amazing, all encompassing garden. We were able to quiz Beth on many different aspects of



her garden, of difficulties with soils, plant successes and/or failures, and to plunder her knowledge based on years of successful gardening. It

was a lovely, relaxing, fun-filled afternoon - and a wonderful informative experience for all. If you would like to join us for our monthly meet up, contact Liz: 0414 525 074

HELP WITH AN OLD FERGIE TRACTOR

Nick in Clydesdale is seeking some help with an old grey Fergie tractor that's proving difficult to start. New Distributor, coil and starter motor. Anyone local prepared to help out with some advice? Nick's happy to pay you for your time in either cash or labour. He can be reached on 0418436269. Let's keep those wonderful old workhorses going!

YANDOIT BONFIRE AND GREEN WASTE

The Yandoit Bonfire, traditionally held around Guy Fawkes Day in November, is no more. Given the extended fire season, it is considered too much fire risk. Dumping of green waste at the Recreation Reserve is not permitted. If you have suggestions for managing green waste, contact the *Chronicle* team so we can include your ideas in the next edition. You can also open up a discussion by posting on the Yandoit.net website.

CASTLEMAINE STATE FESTIVAL

It's festival time from March 18th to April 4th, 2021. There's music, theatre, talks, writers, performance, artists' open studio's, circus and much more. There are free events, indoor and outdoor venues, as well as family friendly activities. For more information and program go to: <https://castlemainefestival.com.au/>

YANDOIT RECREATION RESERVE AND ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

The tennis courts have been well utilised during the covid period. The Recreation Reserve Committee is looking for new young

people who use the courts and the picnic area and want to make sure they are kept in good condition for many years to come. The Government Lands People have contacted Bill O'Donnell (secretary /treasurer of the Yandoit Recreational Reserve Committee) advising that an election for the committee needs to be held by 30 June. So there will be an election called in the next couple of months where all positions will be up for grabs. Time and date will be in next issue of *the Chronicle*. Join and become a committee member. New young people welcomed. Ring Bill (0439398488) if you're interested.

MEETING WITH NEW COUNCILLORS-REPORT

In spite of the heat, a good number of locals gathered at Clydesdale Hall in January to meet our 4 new ward councillors- Jen Bray, Lesley Hewitt and Juliet Simpson from Hepburn, and Matthew Driscoll from Mt Alexander shire. Since then Hepburn's community engagement policy and strategy has been developed. The policy and a summary are available at :

<https://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/wpcontent/uploads/2021/02/Hepburn-Shire-Community-Engagement-Policy.pdf>

Some issues raised at the meeting included: additional tip tickets being requested when recycling material has been separated. This is a disincentive and raises questions of consistency and whether the shire or the contractor make the rules at the Hepburn's tip? Some other concerns were: use of glyphosate and leaching into waterways; depletion of our underground water; and mining exploration in the local area. There's a state government website where people can search for mining licences in our local area:

<https://earthresources.vic.gov.au/licensing-approvals/location-of-mining-petroleum-licences/mining-licences-near-me>

The creek is in the process of being re-named by the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Corporation.

Issues and requests can be logged at shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au and relevant councillors can also be copied in.

Community members are invited to contact our councillors with issues and feedback- contact details are available on shire websites.

We agreed to hold Community-councillor meetings on a seasonal basis, every quarter. Look out for details in the next *Chronicle*.

Our Community plan for Yandoit, Clydesdale and Frankford is 8 years old. It needs updating to develop a clear vision and direction for our communities. We envisage starting this process mid year. Some initial ideas for consideration include: a sharing shed/tool library; preferred options for weed management; tree register and protocols; reconciliation with first nations people; history – launch of written & photographic panels at Clydesdale, and further oral history-in-story sessions; water security and concerns about underground syphoning; & local sharing economies. More info in the next *Chronicle*.

PAY THE RENT SCHEME

The scheme *Pay The Rent* was endorsed in the 1970s by the National Aboriginal and Islander Health organisation. It is a way of acknowledging that all Australians live on and benefit from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander land that was taken without consent, payment or treaty. The scheme enables other Australians to contribute "rent" directly to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander led groups & organisations: <https://paytherent.net.au/> Other Australians can contribute to *Pay The Rent* in different ways, through money transfer or by providing useful services or skills. Payments can be made through any of the schemes in Australia. A scheme in Castlemaine is hosted by *Nalderun Education Aboriginal*

Corporation website. <https://nalderun.net.au/pay-the-rent/>. Phone Nalderun: 5472 4842 or email: nalderun@cch.org.au

YANDOIT YOGA

Two yoga classes are being held in Yandoit. One at Arisaig Wellness Retreat, 339 Limestone Road. Contact Renée on 0412 265 580. In addition Jessica will restart her classes in Yandoit Hills in April. Contact Jessica on: 0411 260 717

YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP

Mt Alexander shire is recruiting young people aged between 12 and 25 to join the Youth Advisory Group (YAG). The group plans and delivers local events and projects that directly benefit young people. They have delivered projects including a youth awards festival, film competition, young makers' markets and more. Members of YAG also receive training in areas such as public speaking, advocacy and event management. [Apply](#) before Friday 26 March.



NEXT EDITION OF THE CHRONICLE

Our next edition is scheduled for May/June 2021. Let us know what's going on so we can include it in *the Chronicle*. We welcome local stories and your ideas.

NON-SERIOUS SECTION

Don't worry about the non-serious part of the heading- it's also a space where some issues can be discussed that may have an element of seriousness, but put in a conversational style. Have you noticed the presence of Scottish Thistles around the *Chronicle* District? In recent times I have been stopping along Limestone Road and High street to pull out the thistles and recently I attended at the Cemetery (I'm a trustee so I am allowed to be interested and take action) and cleaned up all the thistles within the fences and immediately outside the fences. Someone had cut down about 10 large thistles but had left them on the ground in the Cemetery and they had matured and were ready to spread their seeds far and wide. I collected them too and am now waiting for the fire season to end to burn them. I would like the community to help with a list of places where the thistle thrives or even where there is a single one or two and we might be able to form a Landcare anti thistle group and finish off this terrible weed. If you see a thistle pull it out or cut it down but take it away and put it in a bag. Don't leave it lying on the ground or it will mature and allow the spread of seeds. More next *Chronicle*.

DO YOU HAVE ANY STORIES OR INFORMATION?

Contact **Nikki**: nikki.marshall@mmnet.com.au or mobile 0432 232 073 or **Bill**: email billodonnell47@gmail.com or mobile 0439398488, or **John Ross** at Yandoit.net. This edition was edited/written by Nikki Marshall and Bill O'Donnell, with contributions from Liz Butler, Beth Higgins, Nick Richardson, Kate Roberts and John Ross. 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.