



What: MUSIC FROM THE MAGIC LANTERN

When: Saturday March 19th, 7.45 pm

Where: Yandoit Uniting Church

What: YANDOIT COMMUNITY MARKET

When: Saturday April 2nd

Where: Grounds of Yandoit Hall

YANDOIT CULTURAL- CHURCH AS CULTURAL CENTRE

A Hirer's Agreement has been signed with Castlemaine Uniting Church parish council so our beautiful Uniting church is now in community hands and is being transformed into a community cultural centre. A number of concerts and events are being organised and, as a starter, we have '**Music from the Magic Lantern**'. In addition to charm, history and a bush setting, the church has excellent acoustics so it's a perfect venue for music, concerts, theatre, story-telling, film screenings and much more. The church is also available for weddings and other significant rituals. Let us know your ideas for an event at *Yandoit Cultural*. Contact Nikki on 0432 232 073 or nikki.marshall@mmnet.com.au or Suzi Cordell on 0402 460 080.

Yandoit Cultural's calendar will start off with a creative audio-visual



event- **Music from the Magic Lantern**- at 7.45pm on Saturday March 19th. Artist *Petrus Spronk*, in collaboration with *Ken Buddha Trio*, will create an evening of pure magic. From the moment Petrus cranks up his magic lantern until he blows out the candle you will have experienced an evening of old fashioned magic and entertainment. The colours and textures

of Van Gogh's palette will be splashed like faerie dust while the Trio create music to accompany the Dutch master's paintings.

Entry by donation to support *Yandoit Cultural* and cover costs of the church. A **Subcommittee** has been established to manage the church and events, and a number of locals have generously offered their time and expertise. We are looking for donations of equipment to make the church into a cultural centre including lamps, fairy lights, spotlights, kettle or urn, a small fridge, coffee plunger, heaters, fans, a PA system, data projector, outdoor pot plants for front and rear entrance, and drinking glasses. So let us know if you've got anything sitting around not being used that might benefit this new project.

OUR NEXT 5 YEAR PLAN

It's time to prepare a new 5 year plan for our communities of Yandoit, Clydesdale and Franklinford- the previous one is 8 years old and well out-of-date. As a way of starting this process we are asking everyone to respond to two opening questions:

1. What is precious about this place that we want to protect?
2. What new things are needed to strengthen our community and our sense of place?

You can do this via the attached sheet (and deliver to a box at the side of the Yandoit Hall) or email your responses to YCFCPG@gmail.com or phone Nikki on 0432 232 073. At our next community meeting we will make time for further discussion of our community plan. We welcome any questions you suggest as well as ways to ensure everyone's views are heard. There will also be an opportunity to share your ideas at the upcoming community market in Yandoit on April 2nd.

COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP REPORT

Our Community Planning Group meeting in February at Clydesdale Hall was well attended. Committee members of the newly incorporated Community Planning Group were introduced. The interim Hirers Agreement for the church has been signed. John updated on storm firewood distribution to raise funds for local community needs. Concerns were raised about a planning application for Clarkes Road Franklinford in which farm land will be subdivided for housing- also about significant works which have begun prior to approval- and the process for lodging objections. Here's a link to the application.

https://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/PA-3089-Combined-Application-Clarkes-Road-Franklinford-202174P-compressed_Redacted-compressed.pdf

Our community plan is due to be updated- see above. Locals can register interest in Renewable Newstead's solar energy initiative. Mining concerns were discussed further - John Combes indicated that there's not much new to report locally and that the Canadian company Nubian's share price has dropped significantly. Debra has established a website: No mining Yandoit region- and she welcomes any feedback people have regarding what they need or want to see on the site :<https://nominatingyandoitregion.com> Visitor, John Lewis, from Elphinstone, shared his research into gold mining in central Victoria. There's renewed interest in gold mining for many reasons including: significant advances in technology that allow for sophisticated imagery and the use of artificial intelligence which helps collate large amounts of historic data; the increased price of gold; big Canadian companies making big profits and

paying very little tax in Australia; new technologies which allow companies to drill much deeper beyond the water table (which can have various negative effects on the environment). Governments are also keen on the economic advantages. John reminded us that we don't own anything under the surface of our property; we can say No to any company coming onto our land without a signed agreement but eventually the process could end up in court. There are various examples of success in stopping mining and if we are mobilised and prepared we have a better chance of succeeding. Ideally a change in the mining laws is needed.

SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

If you have significant trees on your land contact Beth Higgins on 54764336 and these can be included in our local tree register. March 23rd is National Eucalypt Day- a good day to plant a eucalypt. (www.euclayptaustralia.org.au)

YANDOIT COMMUNITY MARKET

Come along on **Saturday April 2nd from 10am to 2pm in the grounds of Yandoit Hall** and support our local, producers and stall holders. Grab a coffee and cake from Georgie (Piccolo Coffee); pick up some artisan bread from Katy (Two Fold Bakehouse). You can also peruse Beth's selection of plants and jams; Les's trees ready for planting; Diane's jams and delights; Melissa's eggs and books; Philippa's olive oil; Wendy's mix of goodies; and Marnie, Dale and Gilbert's treasures...and more. Let's celebrate our wonderful community. Additional stall holders are welcome – contact Liz on 0414 525 074.

JIM CROW CREEK NAME CHANGE

Hepburn Shire Council will hear from community members at a virtual **Special Meeting of Council**, on **22 March 2022 at 5:30pm**. Those who put in submissions on the proposed renaming of the creek are invited to speak but must register by 2pm 15 March 2022. Go to <https://participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/proposed-renaming-jim-crowcreek> for the online form and email this completed form to creekrename@hepburn.vic.gov.au or submit a hard copy to customer service office in Duke St. A report to council will be made for a decision at the April council meeting.

SUSTAINABILITY GRANTS AVAILABLE

Community organisations can apply for up to \$50,000 to cut energy costs and reduce waste. The Fund is looking for local and regional projects that will use resources in a smarter way, such as repair cafes, community worm farms, compost hubs, tool libraries and skill sharing workshops. Round 2 applications close on Thursday 31 March 2022. For more information and to apply visit www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/grants

YANDOIT PARK & RECREATION RESERVE COMMITTEE TRIENNIAL MEETING

A new committee was elected at the February meeting. Thanks to Carlene Sartori, Ross Sartori, Liz Butler, Manole Plousie, Sandra Plousie, Roz Willett, Josh Symons, and Louise Cruikshank. Andrew Kimpton was elected as President and Bill O'Donnell was confirmed as secretary and treasurer. Thanks to Steve O'Connor for his time as President and previous members Noel Richards, Nikki Marshall, and Margaret Hazler.

ARTS OPEN STUDIOS- MEET THE MAKERS

120 visual artists from all corners of Mt Alexander shire and more than 70 studios are open over two coming weekends- March 12, 13 and 14 as well as March 19 and 20.

NEWSTEAD ARTS HUB- LOCAL NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY



What: Nature in Time- Images from Central Victoria
Where: Newstead Railway Arts Hub, 8a Tivey St, Newstead
When: Starting Saturday March 5th, 2022; every weekend in March, Labour Day long weekend, 10am to 5pm

RENEWABLE NEWSTEAD GOES SOLAR

If you use grid-connected electricity in and around Newstead – Green Gully, Sandon, Clydesdale, Werona, Welshmans Reef, Yandoit, Muckleford, Strangways, Strathlea, Maldon, Guildford – you might want to register your interest. Energy retailer, [Flow Power](http://FlowPower.com.au), needs to know enough locals intend to sign up to buy their energy from our solar farm. All you need do is go to our website www.renewablenewstead.com.au, click on the home page button that says 'Show MeThe Deal', complete the form and click submit. Signing this form is not binding. Off-liners can contact Renewable Newstead by calling 0403 801 147 and we'll complete the form with you.

LOCAL WELLNESS CENTRE- YOGA, MEDITATION AND MORE

James Henderson's Wellness retreat- Arisaig- in Limestone Rd Yandoit, runs yoga and meditation classes. <https://www.wellness.arisaig.com.au/pages/classes.php#friday>. James is keen to find out whether there's interest in cinema nights including for kids, open mic/live music events and a Sunday market. Here's a survey form: <https://www.wellness.arisaig.com.au/app/survey/index.php/332211?lang=en>

COMMUNITY FIREWOOD UPDATE

Unfortunately the availability of firewood from the Hepburn Shire storm firewood recovery effort abruptly ceased in January. We only received three of our promised eight deliveries for our fundraiser, with shire staff still advising that we would have plenty of firewood available until June. We raised \$1400 towards the Yandoit school and CFA but had a further \$2000+ outstanding orders that we were unable to supply. We understand firewood crews stopped work in December for reasons unknown to us. Thanks to those who supported our fundraising effort. For those residents who now wish to cut their own firewood in designated forest areas from 1st March to 30th June here are details: www.ffm.vic.gov.au/firewood
Cheers John

This edition of the Chronicle has been contributed to and edited by John Combes, Liz Butler, Debra Waters, Bill O'Donnell, Nikki Marshall, and Jill Williams.

NEXT EDITION OF THE CHRONICLE

Scheduled for April/May 2022. Send through stories and suggestions to: 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.