



STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY NOTES - NO 67 (June – July 2007) FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE VALLEY

<http://www.virtual.net.au/~thejollything/> for current activity photos and more commentary

A Century Young – former Steels Creek Resident turns 100! - Page 2
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COMMUNITY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT – MAY '07 UPDATE

This report has been prepared for the Steels Creek community following the May quarterly meeting of our SC3 Committee and follows on from the March Report in the last *Jolly Thing*. As I indicated, the Committee had received an interim Status Report from the Shire and we felt there were several questions needing clarification before we were in a position to call a meeting of the Working Group established last November, and to provide it with reliable information. Mark Doubleday from the Shire was at the Committee meeting and was able to clarify many critical things. These are the main ones:

1. The Shire recognises that the building is in reasonable structural condition and is prepared to provide maintenance on an ongoing basis – subject to normal Shire priorities and budgets for Community facilities. The comment was made that the Shire recognises the good work the community has done to maintain the building and grounds over the last 15 years.
2. Any major works the community proposes such as landscaping to provide better access and parking, or adding extensions to the building needs the approval of the Shire and could be done with capital works funding on a competitive basis in the Shire's Capital Works Programme. Community or other private funds could be used to supplement such funds.
3. Asbestos cladding of the exterior walls of the Community Centre adds considerably to the costs of modifying the building, but does not totally prevent it.
4. Some aspects of the existing building do not meet current building codes. It is not necessary to upgrade these at this stage, but if renovations are proposed, then all new works must be approved by the Shire and meet the building codes of that time.
5. Regarding the possible relocation of the Community Centre, the issues are both political and financial:
 - the Community must be strongly supportive of the idea.
 - a planning permit would be needed to erect a new building in a "Green Wedge" site.
 - as with all public buildings, construction must be by a registered commercial builder.
 - construction of a new centre would be expensive; the Shire would have to consider selling the existing Centre to provide significant funds. There is no certainty such a sale could be made because of the existing building's heritage significance. The Shire would, if a move was agreed, defer the sale of the present Centre until after the completion of the new facility.

As a result of these discussions and the interim Status Report prepared for the Shire, **the Committee decided that it was now in a position to call a meeting of the Working Group**. The Working Group will consider all options and provide recommendations to be presented to a community public meeting. The SC 3 Committee will prepare a discussion paper and **a meeting of the Working Group has been called at the Community Centre for Wednesday, 25th July at 7.30pm**. All members of the Working Group will be notified and sent a copy of the Discussion Paper when it is available. The Committee also decided that it was important to continue maintenance and development of the present Community Centre as the hub of the Steels Creek Community.

Malcolm Calder, President S.C.C.C.

NEW CROQUET CHAMPS AT STEELS CREEK

"Persistence, bring me men with Persistence" - Henry Ford

On a cool afternoon with drifts of Scotch Mist drifting across the drought-scarred playing lawns, some 25 players gathered at 'Kilravock' in Steels Creek Upper to contest the 4th Croquet Day.

Persistence paid off for **Albie & Gwen Leckie**, for after being bridesmaids for the past three tournaments, they were the undefeated champions! Left in their wake were **Ed & Betty Bartosh**, the last tournament winners, and **Mike & Anne Watkins** with the **Houstons** bringing up the rear.

With the Scotch Mist turning into Steels Creek rain, the intrepid players beat a hasty retreat to enjoy a hearty afternoon tea, superbly provided by **Judith** and **Alexandra**, and washed down with much local vino. In the gathering evening Gloom, Bill the grounds-man, cheered by the early close of play, was seen cavorting in the puddles on his precious lawn.

Another fine outcome of the Croquet Day was the sum of \$200 raised, to go toward the upkeep of the Community Centre.

Andrew Chapman

RSL ANZAC DAY APPEAL A SUCCESS

The Yarra Glen Sub-branch and the Victorian State Branch of the RSL wish to thank all who supported the ANZAC Day Appeal in town and at the races last month. You gave \$1440 through the ANZAC pins – of which 25% stays here in Yarra Glen. These funds go into the Welfare Fund that can only be used to help veterans through assistance, food, clothing, or necessary transportation. Because of the size of the Yarra Glen RSL, we are in the top ranks of money received per member in the state. THANK YOU! (www.yarraglen.com/RSL/)

Ed Bartosh, Secretary - 0438 508 235

CONGRATULATIONS TO DOREEN AYRES

Just in case readers may not have heard, it was the **100th birthday** of **(Emma) Doreen (Victoria) Ayres** (nee Hubbard) on 24th May. Doreen was born at Steels Creek and attended the original Steels Creek School. Her birthday was celebrated with a party at the Yarra Glen Memorial Hall, and the arrival of the letter from the Queen. Congratulations and very best wishes, Doreen, from Steels Creek Community.

RAINFALL REPORT – to end of May 2007

Gauge Location	April 2007	May 2007 (to 28/5)	Year to End of May 2007	Year to End of May 2006
'Yarradene Farm', Yarra ridge	15.5	68.0	218.5	291.0
'Blackwood Hill', Pinnacle Lane	18.9	69.3	214.4	301.4
'Newera', Brennan Avenue	20.4	69.6	226.9	307.8

DO YOU WANT TO HELP RECORD THE **BIG EVENTS**?

I'm talking about becoming one of Melbourne Water's **volunteer rain-gauge operators**! Melbourne Water has a whole network of volunteer rain gauge operators across greater Melbourne and beyond. Volunteer operators are provided with a 'professional' rain gauge (free!) and are asked to keep records of rainfall, mailing their records to Melbourne Water at the end of each year. The data goes towards understanding rainfall and runoff in the greater Melbourne region – an increasingly important activity! Maybe YOUR gauge might be the one that records that new record thunderstorm event that global warming is supposed to be bringing us! If you would like to find out more, either call **David Allan (5965 2556)**, or **Paul Rasmussen at Melbourne Water (9235 1513)**

MAYOR AND WARD COUNCILLOR TO VISIT STEELS CREEK COMMUNITY CENTRE - SATURDAY, 23rd JUNE

Yarra Ranges Mayor, Cr. Tim Heenan and Ryrie Ward Councillor, Jeanette McRae will be attending the **Steels Creek Community Market on Saturday 23rd June**. As Mayor, Cr. Heenan is keen to get to know more about the small communities of the Shire and to discuss their issues and needs. **This will be a wonderful opportunity for members of our community to get to meet our councillors.** I know that there are many in our community who do not regularly come to the Saturday markets, but I hope we will have a great turn-out on the 23rd, perhaps with simple displays of the different activities that are based on our Community Centre.

Please make every effort to come to Steels Creek Market on 23rd June at 10 am.

Malcolm Calder - President

YAARRA GLEN & DISTRICT TOWNSHIP GROUP'S AGM

The first **Annual General Meeting** of the Yarra Glen & District Township Group will be held at the Yarra Valley Racing Centre on 24th June.

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS WANTED!

During the past year the Township Group lost three of its founding members for various reasons. There is a need for these members to be replaced and also for new members to be recruited to build on the excellent start that the group made over the past year. The group will now need to be joined by others who are willing to make the effort to attend regular (generally monthly) meetings and join in discussions with councillors, shire representatives, politicians and other influential people to ensure the views of all stakeholders are heard, understood and valued.

Are you such a person? The only criteria needed to become a member of the group are an **affinity with the 3775 district**, a **willingness to be involved** and **respect for the views and opinions of others**. If you are such a person, the committee would love to hear from you. You can **nominate yourself** by contacting any of the current members in writing (email, fax, letter, etc) so come on, have **your** say about **your** community!

From YARRA GLEN & DISTRICT TOWNSHIP GROUP *Newsletter No 17- Stephen Shortis, editor*
(See the announcements and newsletters at www.yarraglen.com/townshipgroup/)

STEELS CREEK TENNIS & SOCIAL CLUB - It's Nearly Christmas!

This year's **Mid-year Christmas celebration** will take place on the night of **30th June**. The cost remains at **\$20.00 a head** for delicious Christmas fare including turkey and Christmas pud – BYO drinks. We have an exciting new venue in the form of **Tomlins' Winery** in Hunts Lane. Bookings are now being taken. To participate in this popular annual event, don't delay, **contact Alby Leckie 5965 2354, Jean Lowe 9737 6226 or Lindy Montell 5965 2202.**

Thursday evening tennis continues to attract a good number of local players and **Monday night under the lights** will continue for as long as there is sufficient demand. New players of the game are particularly welcome. Meet at 7.15 p.m. Please **contact Alby – 5965 2354** if you wish to join either group. **NOTE: New players are always welcome!**

Both Saturday teams are currently in the four and the Mid-week Ladies team is positioned mid-way on the ladder.

Contacts for the Tennis Club are **Alby on 5965 2354 or Lindy on 5965 2202**

JUNE 2007						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Tennis Comp
3	4 Women's Group Social Tennis.	5 Ladies Tennis Stitchers Singing	6	7 Art Social Tennis	8 Dinner and Movie	9 Market
10 YG & District Historical Society	11 Queen's Birthday Recycle Ladies Lunch Social Tennis	12 Garden Club Outing Ladies Tennis SSS** Singing	13	14 Art Social Tennis.	15	16 Tennis Comp FYFB Working Bee
17 Landcare Tree Planting morning	18 Social Tennis.	19 Ladies Tennis Stitchers Singing	20	21 Art Social Tennis	22	23 Market Tennis Comp
24 Clamberers – O'Shanassy aqueduct walk	25 Recycle Garden Club Growing Group Social Tennis.	26 Ladies Tennis SSS** Singing Book Group	27	28 SMB Art Social Tennis	29	30 "Blue Moon" Tennis Club Christmas in June Dinner

Recycle = reminder to put out your recycling bin

ART

Thursdays - 1:30 PM – 4.30 PM SCCC Bring your paints, discuss your art and share skills.

Malcolm Calder 5965 2372

BOOK GROUP

4th Tuesday - 8.00 PM

Christine Tomlins 5965 2080
10 members – limited by library book resources. Lively discussions at SCCC.

CLAMBERERS

Last Sunday (March to October) each month. Since 1993, the walking group has hiked over local tracks to explore the flora and fauna of the Valley and surrounding areas. Walks are announced at the SCCC Market beforehand.

David and Robyn Allan 5965 2556 drallan@gotalk.net.au

FRIENDS OF YARRA FLATS BILLABONGS

Development of wetlands adjacent to Yarra Glen.

Working Bees third Saturday of every second month starting at 12 noon

Kevin Heeley 9730 1704 kevinheeley@bigpond.com
<http://yarraflatsbillabongs.melbournewater.com.au>

GARDEN

Newsletter, Outings 2nd Tuesdays, 63 members. Fourth Monday Growing Group, 930 am at SC4 – all welcome.
More info 5797 8266

Chris Lumsden 9730 1136, Gillian Poulton 5797 8266

HEWI (Healesville Environment Watch Inc)

Environmental issues at Healesville Living and Learning Centre 1 Badger Creek Road.

Maureen Bond 5962 1224 maub@virtual.net.au

HISTORY

The Y.G. & D.H.S. meets 2nd Sundays at 1:30 pm YG Living & Learning Centre:

Mrs. Brenda Cawte 9730 1801 Eric Tetlow 9730 1445 etetlow@aphalink.com.au
www.yarraqlenhistorical.websyte.com.au

Steels Creek Tennis Club Christmas in June – June 30th at Cooida Estate Winery, 169 Hunts Lane

SC3 = SC4 =SCCCC = Steels Creek Community (and Cultural) Centre, 699 Steels Creek Road

JULY 2007						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2 Women's Group Social Tennis	3 Ladies Tennis Stitchers SINGING	4	5 Art Social Tennis	6	7
8 YG & District Historical Society	9 . Ladies Lunch Social Tennis.	10 Garden Club Scarecrows Ladies Tennis SSS** SINGING	11	12 Art Social Tennis	13 Dinner and Movie	14 Market
15	16 Recycle Social Tennis.	17 Ladies Tennis Stitchers SINGING	18	19 Art Social Tennis	20	21 Tennis Comp
22	23 Garden Club Growing Group Social Tennis.	24 Ladies Tennis SSS** SINGING Book Group	25 SCCC Working Group – 7:30pm	26 SMB Art Social Tennis	27	28 Tennis Comp Market
29 Clamberers – Mt St Leonard Wirrawlla	30 Recycle Social Tennis	31 Ladies Tennis SSS** SINGING				

MARKET

2nd and 4th Saturdays at SCCC, 10.00 AM Sharp! Community Announcements, local fresh produce, preserves, baked goods. The Creek's best home made scones, coffee and tea at every market! **SEE PAGE 3!**

Malcolm Calder 5965 2372

LAND CARE GROUP

Ongoing projects and a great opportunity to obtain information, advice and possibly funding about tackling Landcare issues of significance to YOU! '

John O'Neill 6965 2224 or David Allan 5965 2556

MOVIES

2nd Fridays – 6.00 PM classy food followed by classic 16mm films at SC3.

Chris Mullen 5965 2094, chris@fullandplenty.com

SINGING

A-Capella men and women folk songs Tuesday evenings 7.30pm 25 Wallace road, off Skyline Drive

Angie Macmillan 97301998

SMB

Last Thursday 10.30 AM – 11.30 AM. Men's morning tea at Anita's **DELICIOUS** Fudge Shoppe Yarra Glen.

Gordon Brown 9730 1937

STITCHERS

Every Tuesday, 1.30 PM - 4.00 PM at SC4. Since 1993. 24 members, 12 regulars. Bring own work – knit, patch, embroider;**SSS – Informal "Stitchers Sit & Sew" alternate Tuesdays.

Jane Calder 5965 2372, Christine Tomlins 5965 2080

TENNIS

Since 1911. Newsletter, competitions, 100 active and social members. Mondays, 7.00 PM, (**Social** tennis). Tuesdays 10.00 AM, Mid-week ladies competition. Thursdays 7.00 PM, Social **tennis**. Saturdays 1 PM to 6 PM, Regular competitions. Ladies Lunch 2nd Monday; bring a plate to share; just a chat and a feed at the tennis club 11:00 am – 1:30 all welcome!
www.yarraglen.com/SCTC

Albie Leckie 5965 2354, Lindy Montell 5965 2202

WOMEN'S GROUP Evening Friendship Group

1st Monday, 7.00 at JJ's in Yarra Glen. Come for company, conversation and coffee. You'll be made most welcome for a pleasant evening of food and chat. **Kitchen will be open.**

Pam Verhoven 5965 2274

CLAMBERERS — *‘These boots are made for walkin’, and that’s just what they’ll do...’*

On the last two Clamberers walks we have visited the untracked beauty off the Jerusalem Track in Kinglake NP, and lost count of the numbers of kangaroos around the shores of Sugarloaf Dam.

Our next walk is on **Sunday 24th June** when we will walk the **O’Shannassy Aqueduct Trail** in Yarra Ranges NP. **Meet at Millgrove**, at the store on Warburton Highway near the sawmill, **Melways 289 C4**, at **10.30 A.M.**, where we will need to organise a car shuttle. Bring lunch, drinks etc for on the track. Enquiries to **David Allan, 5965 2556**.

The July walk is on **Sunday 29th July**, around the **Mt St Leonard area**. Meet at 11.00 A.M. at the **Wirrawilla Rainforest Walk**. Follow Sylvia Creek Road from Myers Creek Road, about five kilometres or so towards Healesville from Toolangi. Bring lunch, drinks etc for on the track. We plan to have lunch at Mt St Leonard tower then walk back along Quarry Rd to Wirrawilla. Enquiries to **Barry Sheffield, 9730 1587**.

STEELS CREEK LANDCARE

We have now had three planting days in Steels Creek Road and the evidence of our activities is plain to see, rows of polythene guards and canes! If the weather patterns are kind and continue to produce rain over the next few months we should see hundreds of new trees peeping over their guards. We have also planted a range of shrubs and hundreds of native lilies to add to the wildflower display that Steels Creek was once famous for. Our next planting day is scheduled for **Sunday June 17th** 9am until 12noon, families of all ages most welcome. After this one we will have a break until spring. A very big thank you to the regular band of planters who have put in such a good effort so far.

Ivan Filsell project coordinator.

For more on planting days and Landcare issues contact **David Allan, 5965 2556** or **John O’Neil, 0418 260 227**.

STEELS CREEK GARDEN CLUB

Steels Creek Garden Club is having a **Bus Trip to the Cranbourne Botanic Gardens on Tuesday 14th August**. To help fill the bus **we are inviting anyone from the community** who has a love of Australian Plants and who would enjoy a day’s outing.

Cost will depend on the number of seats that we can fill, (with the Garden Club funding part of the cost), so **please come and join us!** Bookings plus a \$10 deposit must be made by 10th July.

For more information, contact **Gillian Poulton (5797 8266)**, or **Chris Lumsden (9730 1136)**.

Other Garden Club events coming up are:

Tuesday, 12th June – visit to **CERES Environmental Gardens in Brunswick**, cost **\$5.00** leaving **McKenzie Reserve at 9.30 a.m. sharp**.

Tuesday 10th July – have fun making ‘scarecrows’ – bring along old clothes etc, also a pole to mount. Old hay for stuffing will be provided. At **9.30 a.m. at the Community Centre**.

Signs and Portents.....

Why is it that there is a rather large boat in the vineyard opposite George Miller Reserve in Steels Creek Road??? Is it that someone has been given Insider Knowledge about coming rainfall – 40 days and 40 nights?? Better watch out for animals entering two-by-two – if you see ‘em, better break out the water-wings too....

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION – “Seeing You – Seeing Me - Sharing Life’s experiences Through the Generations”

The Shire of Yarra Ranges will be hosting an **Expo for the Seniors Festival** on Friday 5th October next from 1 pm to 5 pm, at Swinburne TAFE. The Shire is committed to working in partnership with the community to promote an age-inclusive community that recognizes that older people should be supported and encouraged to participate in all aspects of community life, **including the important aspect of intergenerational culture between young and senior citizens.**

As part of this Expo, the Shire **would like to support a photography competition** for all local Secondary Schools and **Community Groups**. The **theme will be, “Seeing You – Seeing Me, Sharing Life’s Experiences through the Generations”**. Final judging will be at the Expo with a prize of a \$500 voucher for photographic equipment to go to the school or group of the winning entrant. The winning Photographer will be acknowledged with their photograph used to promote Positive Ageing.

Steels Creek Community has expressed interest in participating, and the Shire will be forwarding further information in the next month or so.

So, early days yet, but all you Phanatical Photographers and Happy Snappers **could start clicking** around the above theme. **I will pass on further information as it comes to hand.**

David Allan – 5965 2556.

STEELS CREEK GOES TO THE MOVIES

Here are the **Features Movies** for June and July -

8th June

The Overlanders (009525X) Physical Black and White/Monochrome; Sound; 91 minutes Year 1946
Synopsis: Although superficially comparable with cattle drive Westerns like Red River, the emphasis in this film is on the cooperative nature of the enterprise - a cattle drive from Northern Australia in 1942 to escape the Japanese - rather than on notions of individualism at the centre of the western ethos. The Overlanders is a documentary in spirit, recreating the hazards of an epic drive and carefully assembling the mannerisms, vocabulary and attitudes to characterize the Australian bushman. There was also a strong role for a woman - Daphne Campbell as Mary Parsons - carrying on the tradition of the bush heroine established in Australian films of the twenties and thirties. Prod Co: Ealing Films. Credits: Producers, Ralph Smart, Michael Balcon ; director, writer, Harry Watt ; photography, Osmond Borradaile ; editing, Leslie Norman. Cast: Chips Rafferty, John Nugent Hayward, Daphne Campbell. ([web link](#) for more info)

13th July

The Fallen Idol (0055703) Physical Black and White/Monochrome; Sound; 95 minutes Year 1948
Synopsis: This is a carefully crafted drama about emotional isolation symbolised by the deserted embassy which becomes a kind of prison for a young boy caught in an adult world he does not understand. The butler, whom the boy looks up to as a father-figure, is caught in a bleak marriage, from which he does not have the strength to escape. The realities of childhood and adulthood intersect then diverge, trust corroded by misunderstanding and duplicity. Prod Co: Lion International Films Ltd. Credits: Producers, David O. Selznick, Carol Reed ; director, Carol Reed ; writer, Graham Greene ; photography, Georges Perinal. Notes Note: Based on the short story The basement room by Graham Greene. American release title: The lost illusion. Cast: Ralph Richardson, Michele Morgan, Bobby Henrey, Sonia Dresdel. ([web link](#) for more info)

CROSS CREEK 21

Across

1. Northern, all-but landlocked, sea (6)
5. Europe's and NZ's are high, ours are low (4)
7. Mild painkiller (5)
8. Nothing under a kilt? (4)
9. Littlest of a litter (4)
10. S. Austrn town known for its charter (5)
11. Great mid-year dinner (6)
13. French city with delicious climate? (4)
14. & 22. across. Rival winegrowing area to ours (6,6)
18. Relinquished claim (6)
21. Proper name of maples and sycamores (4)
22. see 14 across
24. Beloved children's author, A.A. (5)
25. Half (4)
26. pi r squared gives you a circle's (4)
27. Characteristic (5)
28. Goes with blue (4)
29. Alone (6)

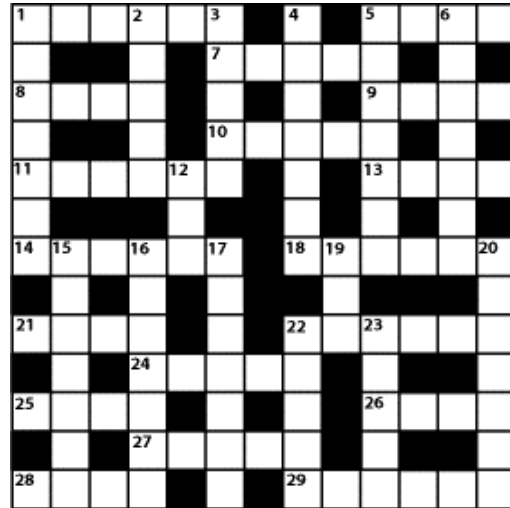
Down

- 1 Enchant in a female way (7)
2. Small straight saw (5)
3. Popular dietary term (5)
4. Small brown cheeky bird (7)
5. The Maori's Mt Cook (7)
6. Flair (7)
12. Water floating on water (3)
15. Not obvious (7)
16. Called an ant, but it ain't (7)
17. There used to be one to Healesville (7)
19. Big tree near Noojee (3)
- 20 Where some young children spend time (7)
22. Openings (5)
23. It should be lifelong to do this (5)

CROSS CREEK 20

Answers

- Across: 1. Truth 7. Arthur 8. Rates 10. Showground 12. Foul fowl 14. Hall 16. Ants 17. Sneezing 20. Restaurant 23. Shard 24. Verjuice 25. Laser
- Down: 1. Tariff 2. Ties 3. Crow 4. Shire 5. Traumatic 6. Syndal 9. Shift 11. Cutty Sark 13. Win !5. Beans 16. Arrive 18. Glider 19. Datum 21. Race 22. Thea



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The "Jolly Thing" is published by and for the greater Steels Creek Community Centre Inc 699 Steels Creek Road. PO Box 213 Yarra Glen, Victoria 3775 The Community Centre Management Committee: **Malcolm Calder**, President; **Alby Leckie**, Vice-president; **Keith Montell**, Treasurer; **Ed Bartosh**, Secretary, with **Geoff Keets**, **Greg Leonard**, **Vicky Stewart**, and **David Allan** elected as members. <http://www.virtual.net.au/~thejollything/>

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We gratefully acknowledge **Frank Hoogenraad** (Hoogies of Yarra Glen 9730 1611) for their support of the Steels Creek Community and *The Jolly Thing*.



No worries!

DEADLINE 28th July 2007 for
the next *Jolly Thing*