

## YOUR VILLAGE VOICE

is produced monthly by the editorial board of the Violet Town Action Group.

Coordinator: Terry Frewin ph. 5790 8635

Articles to be in the box at Delahey's Supermarket by the 20th of each month, or may be posted to 661 Upper Boho Rd, Violet Town 3669, OR emailed to Terry at [terryf@activ8.net.au](mailto:terryf@activ8.net.au) If the 20th falls on a Sunday, then there will be a final pick up from the boxes on the following Monday.

**PLEASE NOTE ALL TRADING POST & COMMUNITY GROUP ADS ARE FREE OF CHARGE**

### Business Advertisement Rates

\$20 half page (if space allows)

\$10 1/4 page; \$5.00 1/8 page

For people outside the mail delivery area, it is possible to subscribe to the Village Voice. Cost is \$10.00 per year. Please send name, address & \$10.00 to the

Violet Town Action Group,  
C/- 661 Upper Boho Rd, Violet Town 3669.

## What's on in August

- 1 National Tree Day plantings
- 1 Seedsavers meet
- 2 Red Cross meet
- 2 Pie orders in
- 3 Family History workshop
- 3 Skate Park public meeting
- 4 Herbal Medicine course begins
- 4 VTAG AGM
- 5 Keep Aust. Beautiful presentations
- 12 History Group meets
- 14 Market Day
- 15 Pizza/bread making
- 15 Babbler plantings
- 15 Hymn-a-long
- 16 Garden Club meets
- 19 Prof Kate Auty speaking
- 22 Babbler plantings
- 22 Family 'up beat music' service
- 25 Neighbourhood Watch meeting
- 28 Aust. Plants Society garden visit
- 29 Ecumenical Service
- 30 Tennis Club AGM
- 5 Sept—Tour de Violet Town
- 12 Sept—Sustainable House Tour

### VIOLET TOWN HALL BOOKINGS

Pam Ellis 0418 571 419

### BUSINESS NETWORK COORDINATOR

Chris Nunn 0418 106 199

### TIP OPENING HOURS

Saturday, Tuesday & Friday 8.30am to 12 noon

Wednesday & Thursday 1.00pm to 4.00pm

Sunday 10.00am to 3.00pm

MARKET COORDINATOR: Deb George 0416 233 584

CREDIT UNION OPENING HOURS: Phone 5798 1761

Tuesday 9.30am to 1.30pm

Friday 12.30pm to 4.30pm

COMMUNITY HOUSE: 5798 1288 (leave message)

Monday 1-5; Tuesday 10-5; Wednesday 10-1

LIBRARY HOURS: TUES. 2.30-4.30pm (5.00pm-7.00pm - Daylight Saving months)

WED. & FRI. 2.30-5.30pm; THURS 10.30-1.30p; SAT 10am-12pm

### DOCTOR

Dr T. Wang

Ph: 5736 6310

Monday—Thursday

8.30am-5.00pm

Friday

8.30am-12.00noon

Market Saturdays

9-12noon

# Violet Town Village Voice

August 2010

Postage Paid

"Priceless"

No. 344

## Tour de Violet Town

### Spring Family Bike Ride on Fathers Day Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2010

 10.00am   
Registration at Tennis Clubhouse

Entry fee: 5kms = \$5.00  Includes Associate Membership VTTC

10 kms = \$10.00  Includes BBQ lunch

Children under 10 free

All children under 15 must be accompanied by a parent please

**Violet Town Tennis Club Inc**

**Come and have a fun morning**

**your support will help us upgrade our town tennis courts**

## VIOLET TOWN ECOLIVING PROJECT

presents

### Prof Kate Auty

the Commissioner of Environmental Sustainability

Thursday 19th August



7.30- 9.00pm at the Community Complex Supper room  
Cowslip St, Violet Town



Kate Auty will talk about the role of the Commissioner of Environmental Sustainability and how it relates to small communities. General discussion to follow.

All welcome More information phone Robin 57981735

**SUBS ARE NOW DUE FOR THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE VILLAGE VOICE POSTED EACH MONTH—Details back page**

**VIOLET TOWN ACTION GROUP INC  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Date:** Wednesday, August 4, 2010  
**Time:** 7.30pm  
**Place:** Community Complex  
Meeting Room

Guest Speaker Phil Rodriguez will speak  
on affordable housing

**ALL community members welcome**

Tuesday 26th October 7.30pm - 9pm Workshop  
Cool Roofs, window alternatives To be con-  
firmed

13th Nov (Market day) Vegetable gardening  
1pm -4pm

Also in planning— garden tour to Lou Costa's  
wonderful garden in Rushworth and Village  
Wildlife.....Possum walk, Bat trap, community  
bqq .

For more information please contact Robin  
Landvogt 57981735  
email [rplandvogt@gmail.com](mailto:rplandvogt@gmail.com)

**Sustainable House Tour  
in Violet Town**

**Sunday 12th September 10am – 2pm**  
**Starting at the Community Complex with a**  
**tour of the retrofit then visiting 3 houses in**  
**and around Violet Town. 2 new houses and**  
**a retrofitted 1980's house.**

**Free. Bus and light lunch provided.**  
**Registration essential by Sept 9th,**  
**numbers limited**  
**Bookings Robin 57981735**

**Energy Audits**

We have now organized for energy audits to be  
completed in 31 houses in Violet Town by the  
Uniting Care Cutting Edge project which pro-  
vides free home improvements to cut energy  
and water bills. The project provides free energy  
and water use checks, homes are then retrofitted  
at no charge with energy and water saving  
devices such as draught excluders, energy  
saving light globes, low flow shower roses and  
fixing dripping taps.

To be eligible for the program you must be a  
current health care or pension card holder.



**ECOLIVING PROJECT NEWS**  
**Ecoliving Project Report**

Thank you to the people who came and sup-  
ported the launch of the retrofit at the end of  
June. It was a good day and we had many posi-  
tive comments. The Connies were popular with  
their swap cards and entertained all.

Thanks also to the Seed Savers group for their  
fantastic display, Solar Valley goes Solar and  
the Benalla Environment group. The Kinder  
parents served a nice lunch to all, they do such  
a great job, .many thanks.

Importantly many people joined the tours of the  
complex and left with a better understanding of  
the way we hope the building will now be used.  
It is hard not to be impressed as you walk into  
the unheated meeting room. Remember the  
bitter cold and musty smell. It now seems to  
have a chill off the air and can be warmed up  
quite quickly. On cold sunny days the solar  
mate is pushing warm air into the room. The  
reverse will happen in the summer.

**We have a number of workshops planned**  
**between now and the end of the year**

Thursday 19th August 7.30 - 9.00pm .Dr Kate  
Auty on the role of the Commissioner of Envi-  
ronmental Sustainability and how it relates to  
small communities

Sunday 12th September 10am - 2pm Sustain-  
able House Tour (See ad )

# Village Voice Trading Post

Use this page to post your FREE ad

## FOR SALE

One (1) Single bed mattress. As new  
condition, no marks or tears, suitable  
for slat base bed, 12 months old.  
Dreammaster brand ( Captain  
Snooze ).\$80.

One (1) Small White melanite 3 drawer  
bedside chest, in excellent condition,  
has a slight small mark on top right  
corner, otherwise as new condi-  
tion.\$25. Ph. Toni 0357981486.

EMU/DEER fence mesh 1.9 metre  
high, 17 wire (17/190/30) approx half  
roll unused \$270. Phone  
Bob 0403151455 ah 57981455.

New Brother LS2160 sewing machine.  
\$160. Suit beginner.  
Phone Marg 5798 1214

Birds  
R.I.R. Trio \$55;  
Canaries (apricot) \$15 each;  
King Quail \$7.50each;  
Budgies—pied & yellow-faced blues ,  
\$15 each  
5798 1485

Dining setting—solid timber, 6 chairs,  
5' table, as new, \$350.00  
Phone 5798 1485



## **GARAGE SALE** **14TH AUGUST 2010** **MARKET DAY**

**2 PINK STREET,**  
**VIOLET TOWN**

9.00AM—2.00PM

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, COMPUTER  
DESK, TOYS, SUNDRIES

## **BENALLA DISTRICT** **PUMP REPAIRS**

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# seedsavers

A cold wet winter is here but luckily last month Seedsavers enjoyed a clear Sunday afternoon discussing and demonstrating pruning techniques in Joanne Matthews and Scott Campbell's orchard. We met Joanne's parents, Denise and Joe, who have recently moved to our area and thank them for a really enjoyable afternoon.

On Sunday, 1st August we will be getting together at Dave Arnold's property, 4446 Murchison Road, Violet Town (57 981679) where we will be having a pumpkiny afternoon, tasting soup etc and discussing winter fruits and vegetables.

## **SOW NOW:**

Asian Greens (Mizuna, Mibuna etc.), Broad Beans, Bulb Fennel, Chinese Greens (Cabbage, Pak Choi, Mustard etc.) Kohl Rabi, Lettuce, Onions, Peas (Snow, Sugarsnap and Shelling), Rocket, Silverbeet, Spinach. Mid-Late August - carrots, parsnips (tomatoes under glass).

## **PLANT NOW:**

Asparagus crowns, artichokes, horseradish, rhubarb, potatoes, berries and bare rooted trees and shrubs.

## **THINGS TO DO:**

Last chance to take scion wood of apples, pears, quinces for grafting. Cuttings of figs, mulberries and grapes. Spray for peaches & nectarines for Curly Leaf before bud burst.

Sandra 5795 1109

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## Violet Town Stationeers

The station is starting to look like it is getting to the point of having trains running in the near future. The car parking area should be finished this week; strips will go down on the platform for people with poor sight, and the garden will be nearly ready to get back into shape.

The kind railway men did a great job of removing the very old sleepers around the car park and replacing them with good new ones.. It won't be long before we have a working bee to do some planting, date yet to be decided—more hands make light work!

Dot Rae

### **Attention all VT Tennis Club Members**

We are booked in to tin rattle at the September Market.

It only requires 1 hour of your time to help the club out!

Please contact Kathleen - 57981865 or Kathy - 57981546 to put your name down.

### **BEISIC BOOKS**

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Valerie on  
0424 400 599 or email  
valerieb85@bigpond.com

## MARKET NEWS

Due to the inclement weather which had been forecast during the days leading up to the market we did have a number of stallholders who were unable to attend. However, the market went ahead successfully with many regular stallholders as well as an interesting selection of new and casual stallholders resulting in another much loved market.

You may have noticed we had a designated stall of locally-grown, **bare-rooted fruit trees** as well as a stall with locally-grown, **bare-rooted roses**. Both of these stallholders will be returning to our August market.

**Kyabram Rural Trees** were unable to attend our July market due to a last minute injury and send their apologies to their customers ensuring us they will return to our August market and continue on in their usual site beside the market gazebo.

**Sim Ayres** with his sour dough and scrolls will be away again for our August market but will return in September. We do have other bakers at the market so please take the opportunity to have a wander around and seek them out.

The **Violet Town RSL** ran the wood raffle at the July market. At this stage we have August free for a wood raffle and September if it is still cold enough!

The **local Garden Club** ran the tin raffle raising \$851, an impressive amount considering the weather conditions and, I am told, an increase on the amount raised last year.

While we await the construction of the pizza oven at the bowling club end of the market we were lucky enough to have a stallholder with a **mobile pizza oven** who will be returning to our market until the permanent pizza oven is constructed.

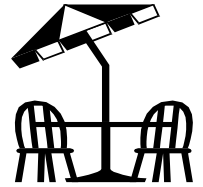
The market committee is in the process of undertaking a survey on our current television advertising.

We would like to take the opportunity to sincerely thank the three volunteers, **Vicki Lane, Dot Rae and Tarlei McDonald** who manned the main entrances to the market and approached visitors asking them to undertake the short survey. Should you wish to comment on the ad, whether you have seen it, if so, how recently and if you think it is effective please do not hesitate to email the market on [info@market.violettown.org.au](mailto:info@market.violettown.org.au)

Finally, we would like to welcome back and thank **Ro Allen and Anna Toland** who are both such a great help with the task of early morning siting and of course to thank all the volunteers, without whom the market would not operate.

We hope you are able to make it to the next market on **Saturday 14 August**.

Deb George - Market Co-ordinator  
0416 233 584



### **PLUMBING & HOME HANDYMAN**

**GRAHAM JONES**  
VIOLET TOWN  
LICENCE # 49191

**\*ROOF & GUTTER REPAIRS**

**\*HOME MAINTENANCE**

**\*GENERAL PLUMBING**

**\*PAINTING**

**\* FLUES CLEANED**

5798 1415  
MOB 0400 052 779

## Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability speaking in Violet Town



Dr Kate Auty has an impressive work background. Come and join in for a guaranteed lively discussion on Thursday 19th August at 7.30pm. She has worked as a lawyer for the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service and the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (Victoria, Tasmania and Western Australia); as lecturer and project coordinator in the Graduate Certificate in Environment and Heritage Interpretation at the Institute of Koori Education, Deakin University; as a barrister (Victoria), established the first Victorian Koori Court and acted as inaugural magistrate; and as a magistrate in Western Australia in the western desert goldfields region. She has undertaken a number of consultancies including a project on local government and climate change for the National Environmental Law Association and in 2008 Dr Auty was appointed a Charles Joseph LaTrobe Fellow with the Centre for Sustainable Regional Communities, La Trobe University. The fellowship involved a three year research project consulting with Aboriginal women about justice issues including heritage and environmental concerns. In 2008 and 2009 she was the Chair of the Ministerial Reference Council on Climate Change Adaptation and also a member of the Premier's Reference Committee on Climate Change. Victorian Minister for the Environment and Climate Change, the Hon Gavin Jennings announced the appointment of Dr Kate Auty as the new Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability effective from the 19th June 2009.

## \*WANTED ! for the History of the Bush Nursing Centre in Violet Town.\*

Does anyone have a photo or know where I can get a photo of the Doctors House that was in Lily St and was pulled down in the early 70's? to build the units now on the site. Keep Saturday 16th October free for the 80th year celebrations! More details soon. Many thanks to the many people who have contacted with photos, stories etc so far. We have some great material! Did you know there was a Private Hospital in Hurt St in 1924, apparently on the north side down the Mitchell St end.

Robin Landvogt phone 57981735

## Violet Town Meals on Wheels

Some of our meals on Wheels deliverers would like to have a break from their roster.

It is only 1 hour a fortnight to go on standby as a reliever.

Meals on Wheels are all delivered in the town vicinity.

Please ring me on 5798 1338 if you can help.

Dot Rae,  
Meals on wheels Coordinator

### VIOLET TOWN TENNIS CLUB AGM

August 30th at 7.30pm at the  
Clubrooms.

We encourage new and current  
members to attend.

## COMMUNITY HOUSE ACTIVITIES

### Pizza Oven

Come along and bring some food to share and make a pizza, roast some vegetables or bake some bread. There will also be some live music so bring along your instrument and join in. Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August at 4pm.

### Learn to use your Lap Top

Have you recently bought a lap top but have no idea how to use it? Well bring it down to the community house on a Tuesday at 1pm and we can teach you how to use it. Cost \$5 Kind Patient teacher. Drop in Bookings not necessary.

### Pie Drive – Kool Skools Youth Music Fundraising

The Community House is currently running a fundraising drive for our Kool Skools program. The kids are off to Melbourne again in the end of August and they need to raise some money to get there.

### Ivans Gourmet Pies and Pastries

Orders due into the Community House by the 3<sup>rd</sup> August and deliveries will come on the 10<sup>th</sup> August.

Pies – Single serves in packs of six – Aussie, Beef and Curry, Beef and Mushroom, Beef, Bacon and Cheese, Sheperds Pies, Chicken and Vege Pies, Thai Chicken, Chunky Beef and Red Wine, Lamb and Rosemary, Vegetarian Pasties, Sausage Pies.

Party Size Pies, Pasties and Sausage Rolls, Family Meat and Fruit Pies. Quiches.

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

### Violet Town Youth Seek Support to fix up Skate Park.

After consulting with many young people in the Violet Town community, the Youth Reference Group have targeted the Violet Town Skate Park as the issue to focus on. Pat and Will Mackrell, Brad James and Luke Cotchin have been working hard over the past year, visiting regional skate parks, collating information and ideas and presenting information to the Violet Town Action Group and other community groups for support.

The next step for the group is to hold a public meeting to gain support for the ideas and concepts presented. The meeting will be held at the Violet Town Community House Youth and Art Space on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August at 7pm. To date some funding has been applied for and some equipment has been selected but this is your chance to have a say in how you would like the skate park develop to its next stage.

### Zumba

Are you interested in doing a weekly class in Zumba? If so please contact the community house on 57981288. We need twelve to start.

### Creative Memories - Scrapbooking

The second Tuesday of the month at the Community House from 9.30am – 4pm. Come along and learn how to scrap book or just join in with the group. Products are available for purchase. Cost \$10 for the day

## Violet Town Campus of Peranbin Primary College

### Building the Education Revolution Update

Townpeople may be wondering what progress the Violet Town campus has made in getting new buildings through the Federal B.E.R. program. We can tell you that in the next month work will start on removing the old Art Room and Library buildings at the school, (Art and Library will be rehoused in the main building), and in Mid August a new double classroom building will be installed approximately where the Art room currently is. Once this happens, the central area (quadrangle) will begin to be transformed into a focal area for the school with an outdoor learning area for classes. Lou Costa – a landscape architect - will be developing the concept plan for the quadrangle so that the school has an attractive and functional heart. We hope to be moving into the new facilities in 4<sup>th</sup> Term.

### School Review

During last term Peranbin Primary College was independently reviewed by a skilled School Reviewer – Keith Redman – who made a thorough investigation of the school's operations, the standard of teaching and learning, our connection with students, parents and the wider community, and numerous other aspects. Keith was very interested in the views of all stakeholders in the school. He looked at the data on student achievements across all campuses, and how the multi-campus school really works.

Keith spent 3 days at the school, plus a full day panel discussion with staff, Hume Region and School Council representatives, prior to writing up his evaluation of the school.

In short, Peranbin Primary College is doing as well as any comparable primary school in this region.

Our students are performing well from the early years of school right through to year 6. Our student behaviour is excellent, we have a broad range of programs, and we cater for student individual needs to a high level. The School Council and staff were pleased with the outcome of the review, as it shows that Peranbin PC is an excellent choice for families wanting to enrol their children, (and we need to spread this message widely!)

The next step for the school is to develop our 4 year plan, (Strategic Plan), during the remainder of this year. It will detail the areas we need to focus on, in a school we are very proud of.

### School Numbers

For a number of years our school has had declining numbers, due to small numbers of pre-schoolers coming in. This changed with a jolt at the beginning of this term, with 6 new faces (two returning) at the VT campus. This brings the VT campus back to 49 students, with the whole school at 97 students. If you hear of any prospective students for our school, please let me know and I will make contact.

### Family History Week Workshop

At the Violet Town Campus as part of National Family History Week, I will be running an open Workshop for families who are interested in building up a Family Tree and exploring the history (and available records) of their family in Australia and overseas. If you are interested, the Workshop is at the VT campus from 7-8:30 pm, on Tuesday August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please contact me if you would like to attend, or want further information. **This workshop is open to anyone in the VT community.**

If you would like to know more about our school, have a good idea that you would like to share, would like to offer support to the VT campus, email me at [matthews.peter.pw@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:matthews.peter.pw@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
My School Mobile is **0457547148**

Peter Matthews, Principal

## Red Cross AGM Report

The Violet Town Red Cross Unit held their Annual General Meeting for 2010 on Monday, July 5. Rebecca Dodd, Red Cross National Manager for International Humanitarian Law opened the meeting and welcomed all who attended. Visitors were welcomed from Swanpool, Euroa and Longwood.

All positions were vacated and elections took place with the present office bearers being reinstated for the coming year.

Rebecca Dodd was invited as the guest speaker and gave a very informative talk on the meaning of the Red Cross Emblem in different countries.

At the conclusion of Rebecca's talk Peg Armstrong was awarded her 50 year laurel wreath badge for her services to Red Cross. Rosemary Long was presented with her 40 year bar, again for her work for Red Cross.

This year was the 50th Anniversary of Violet Town Red Cross so a memorabilia display from when the unit was formed up to current times, was set up and all visitors were very interested to study the items on show.

The meeting concluded with afternoon tea and the guest speaker, Rebecca, was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers and a famous Violet Town strawberry cream sponge.

## VIOLET TOWN GARDEN CLUB

Ian Chanter took the Chair for the Annual General Meeting held 19th July. Lorraine Sinclair was elected our new President and Lorna Buckley is the new Competition organizer. Most other positions remain the same.

Special thanks to our Past President, Gwenda Stephens for all her work over the last couple of years.

Thanks also to Val McLean for keeping the Competition entries up to date.

The next meeting will be held in the Community Centre at 9.30 am Monday, 16th August. Guest Speaker {bulbs?} to be confirmed.

Kath Utber

## Australian Plant Society APS Strathbogie Ranges

The August meeting on Sat 28th will be a visit to Jacci Campbell's garden, 193 Dorset Hill Road, Earleston.

The garden is a blended garden featuring plants that are suited to dry conditions and hard clay soil. Watering is restricted to the first year to allow plants to become established. The garden is about 50:50 of exotic and native plants and features eremophilas extensively. Val 5798 5453

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## † AUGUST at St Dunstons

Services each Sunday at 11.30am.  
Sunday 8th – lunch following service – all are most welcome.

Services for August:

1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd

29th Ecumenical Service

**VTBNC Thursdays 2.30pm service**

August 5th & 26th

Following are some items of interest during this environment month of August from the Australian Anglican Environmental Network [www.aaen.org.au](http://www.aaen.org.au) responding to the Fifth Mark of Mission

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, has stated: ***"For the Church of the 21st century, good ecology is not an optional extra but a matter of justice. It is therefore central to what it means to be a Christian.***

*"The Fifth Mark of Mission of the Worldwide Anglican Communion requires members . . . To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the face of the Earth.* Increasingly the church is embracing the care of the environment and creation as an essential part of Christian faith, mission and outreach.

And another interesting piece . . . **Response from Bishop George Browning, Chair, Anglican Communion Environment Network to Final Report of the Prime Ministerial Task Group on Emissions Trading Is environmental responsibility a "new religion" or the old religion finding its voice**

Since the release of the report, the Minister for the Environment has pejoratively said that folk who press for real action to mitigate the serious effects of the human footprint are religious zealots following a new religion.

It is a great pity he does not understand the

"old religion". Christianity, the life and teaching of Jesus, condemns a world in which the poor pay the bills for the rich, it condemns a world in which the children's heritage is squandered through self interest and greed, it condemns a world in which the integrity of creation is ignored.

No, this is no new religion; it is the old religion daring to exercise its voice.

The truth is, if we make conscious decisions to be part of the solution we will find the life-style changes add to our quality of life and contribute to a world in which we might dare to trust our neighbour once again.

**Bishop George Browning - June 2007**

## GREAT NEWS

### for our loyal GYM USERS

The new treadmill has finally arrived at the Gym centre (and it's a beauty!)

**So come along and try it out**

If you would like to use the facilities of our Health and Fitness Centre (Gym), all you need to do is

**Phone 5736 6366**

for a free assessment with our Physiotherapist

(Gym Membership – \$10 pa, \$2 each visit)

46 Cowslip Street, Violet Town

## HREP UPDATE

The rain has been a wonderful boost and relief for the HREP plantings, old and new, along the Honeysuckle Creek and walking track. But the weeds are getting away from us!

Thankyou to those who helped at the working bee on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July, to weed and mulch behind the oval. More planting is to take place there to fill the gaps.

Thanks also to the people who are taking time to weed a few areas on their own.

**Would you like to join a "Friends of the Honeysuckle Track" email group? Or would you like to join the HREP committee?**

If you would be willing to do some weeding of the planted areas along the Honeysuckle and Walking track, you might like the idea of adding your name to a "Friends of HREP" list to let each other know when and where you'd like to weed and others might choose to join you. It is often more enjoyable to weed in company. Also more hands make lighter work.

If this idea appeals to you, let Sue Paton know and she will provide you with the "Friends" email list.

This list is also the list that we use to advertise the larger scale HREP working bees. By joining this list you will be more informed and even able to have some input into the planning of these.

We'd also love to welcome more people onto our HREP committee. We are a friendly easy going group whose main interest is to make our community recreation area a more natural environment with more beautiful and interesting areas for people to relax or exercise in. Please contact either Lance or Sue if you would like to join us in this aim.

## NEXT WORKING BEE – AUGUST 1<sup>st</sup> – NATIONAL TREE DAY

Community Planting Day Sunday August 1st 10am - planting in the under-tree zones near the football clubrooms to beautify the area and to improve the safety of these areas. Further planting of the recently mulched area will also be done. Hope to see you there! Lunch provided.

HREP Committee Contacts:

Lance Williams 57633310 and Sue Paton 57981435

## Violet Town Hairdressing

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**Monday—mobile for clients**

**unable to come to the shop**

Wednesday 9 am – 5 pm

Thursday 1 pm – late

Friday 9 am – 5 pm

**Saturdays by appointment for special occasions**

Jo & Robbie



## VT History Group

Next meeting on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August** – 10am to noon at the Community Centre. All are welcome to our monthly gatherings. A wonderful collection of photo's has been digitally archived and we are most grateful for the continuing flow of 'new' photos of historic interest. These include farm scenes, street and business scenes, community gatherings, sports, community organisations and school photos. Please keep these photo's coming as you sort out your collections.

Our concentration is now turning to putting together a history of Cowslip Street since 1908 – up to this date has already been compiled by Don Chambers in his book "Honeysuckle in Australia Felix". This will largely be a pictorial history along with excerpts from the **Violet Town Sentinel** and stories from local residents. We also will be starting to gather our thoughts for the popular VT Calender for 2011. How do you like the VT Gallery? It continues to draw plenty of attention.

Information: Robin Landvogt 57981735 or Robyn Machin 57981686 or [www.violettown.org.au](http://www.violettown.org.au)

## Violet Town Community Op Shop Inc

Thank you to all who congratulated us on our first birthday at our new premises your encouragement is appreciated. Thanks to Pam Ellis who made us a large chocolate birthday cake that was shared with all the market day customers who really enjoyed it. Thanks also to Janine Palmer who vacuumed the next day, crumbs and more crumbs.

Our birthday week-end was a big success sales wise as well. We had lots of new donations coming in the couple weeks prior and so gave our customers plenty to choose from.

Ray has been very busy putting up shelves in

three of our rooms and the volunteers who worked tirelessly to dismantle the old displays and set up the new displays once the shelves were in place a really big thank you. Anyone who has not been into the shop lately a big welcome to come in to see all of our improvements.

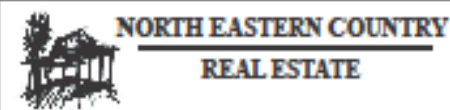
Violet Town Community Op Shop Inc crew.

### SNAP—Strathbogie Nature Atlas Project

For more information on this new initiative please contact Bertram Lobert 5790 8606 or Pete Kelly 9016 8123 or 9308 1966

SNAP aims to gather data on local flora and fauna through community involvement

More details next month



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Confidentiality Assured!

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

At our August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting a member of the Consumer Affairs from Wangaratta has been invited to speak to us and this has been organised by the Miepol NHW Group this will be a joint meeting held on our normal meeting date.

We will meet in the Meeting Room of the Community Complex in Cowslip Street Violet Town. The time will be 8pm instead of our usual 7-30 pm start. Members of the public are always welcome especially at this meeting to enable you to hear someone from Consumer Affairs. Please note the date of this meeting. Tea and coffee will be served. Please come along and make sure Violet Town are well represented.

Regards Jevan Dartnall  
57981668  
Violet Town Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.



## HUME CORRIDOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH HEALTH SERVICE

(A service of the Violet Town Bush Nursing Centre)



## !WANTED! Volunteer 'pushers'

### for our Walking Group

If you have an hour or two to spare on a Tuesday morning to enable residents from the VTBNC to participate in this activity, then we would love to hear from you.

Please phone 5736 6366  
46 Cowslip Street, Violet Town

## LANDMARK

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## Strathbogie Heritage Study

Our shire is one of the last in the state to undertake a Heritage Study and I have been delighted to be part of the advisory committee since the inception of this work by the previous council and continued by our current council. Here is a bit of an update on progress – which seems snail's pace but is progressing according to funding timelines.

A Heritage Study identifies places which are of cultural and environmental significance in the context of our local history within the State of Victoria. We are very privileged that there are a number of places which have been identified as significantly important to warrant recognition. The owners of these places normally value what they have and are keen to maintain and keep the character of their property intact – that's what they are attracted to in the first place.

This study is progressing through stage 2 and funding applied for the final stage 3 to complete the work. It is envisaged that the Heritage Overlays will be in place and amendments made by the Minister by mid 2012

The towns of our shire will be listed as precincts with individual properties outside towns to be listed separately. Need I say that funding rather dictates the number of out of town properties which can be listed at this time. Violet Town is proposed to be listed as 3 precincts which contain both significant and contributory places –

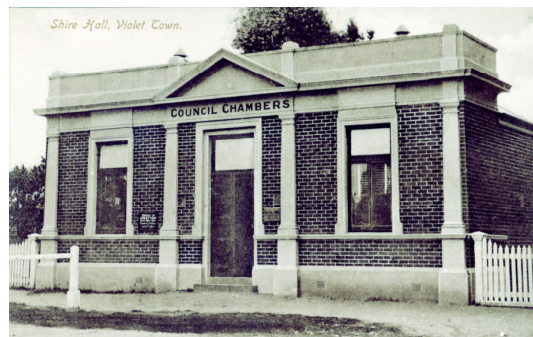
- The Central precinct which is Cowslip St between High St and Lily St
- Memorial & Recreation Precinct including the memorial avenue and school
- Public and Residential Precinct which are 3 non-contiguous areas – including Tulip St west of the school, south of Cowslip St between Lily and Rose Sts and the eastern area bounded by High St and Primrose.

It is important not to confuse a Local Government Heritage Overlay with a National Trust Listing. A Heritage Overlay is designed to promote the protection of the identified places to maintain the character and keep properties as intact as possible. It is far far more flexible than any works permitted on National Trust properties.

From here, the Shire council will table this Strathbogie Shire Heritage Study in August. Owners and managers of significant properties will be contacted if not already and the Study will be able to be viewed and comments received. The final document will be submitted to the Minister to make amendments to the Strathbogie Planning Scheme. I encourage you to take interest and pride in your properties and our township as this should greatly enhance the townships in our Shire. Further details will be available from the Strathbogie Shire shortly.

You are welcome to contact me if you would like any further details.

**Robyn Machin 57981686**



## HERBAL MEDICINE FOR EVERYONE!

An informal discussion about herbal medicine presented by: Jo Sharp-Wagner. Jo is a practicing Medical Herbalist and a Registered Division 1 Nurse. Come along and discover the safe, gentle, complimentary benefits of herbal medicine. All welcome!

Wednesday August 4<sup>th</sup>  
'What is Herbal Medicine?'

Wednesday August 11<sup>th</sup>  
'Herbal Medicine for the Older Person'

Wednesday August 18<sup>th</sup>  
'Herbal Medicine for Children'

Wednesday August 25<sup>th</sup>  
'Herbs as Food; Food as Medicine'

10.30 am at Violet Town Community House.  
Then join us for some homemade soup

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## Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria

will be coming to Violet Town on Thursday, August 5 at 1.00pm to present Regional Awards to the Violet Town entries in this year's Sustainable Communities – Tidy Town Awards. The categories and entrants are as follows:

**Community Action – Violet Town Quilt Airing**  
**Cultural Heritage – Historical Group**  
**Environmental Innovation – Eco Living Project**

**Zero Waste – Mal and Trish at IGA – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**

**Protection of the Environment – Possum Bridge over the Hume**

**Community Government Partnership – Violet Town Bush Nursing Centre**

**Water Conservation – Towners Tanks**

**Efficient Energy – Retrofit of VT 70's buildings**

**Young Leaders Category – Jack Smyth**  
**Dame Phyllis Frost – Dot Rae**

Everyone is welcome to come and support and congratulate the entrants in these categories. Join us for a cuppa at 1.00pm.

Robbie Rae



## Community Planting Days for the Grey-crowned Babbler project, 2010

The Grey-crowned Babbler is an endangered species of bird that has disappeared from more than fifty per cent of its former range in Victoria and has declined in abundance by at least 90%.

In Strathbogie Shire we are lucky enough to still have this threatened bird living along many of the roads and on farmland out on the plains. Strathbogie Shire in fact contains one third of the surviving population of Grey-crowned Babblers in Victoria and is consequently the main focus of the conservation project trying to save this species.

Over the last fifteen years, lots of people have helped protect habitat or revegetate habitat for the Grey-crowned Babbler in the Violet Town, Benalla and Euroa districts. In 2009, researchers from the University of Melbourne compared babbler populations at sites where landholders had protected habitat compared with sites where no habitat improvement had occurred. Their study showed that:

- babbler groups were more likely to have persisted at sites where there had been habitat works done (72% versus 56%)
- breeding success was much higher at sites with additional habitat (52% versus 30%), and
- the number of young raised per family at sites with additional habitat (2.3) was nearly double that of families at sites with no additional habitat (1.2).

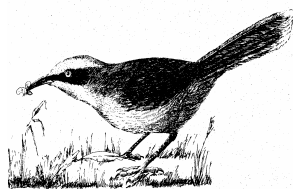
Based on these results, Friends of the Grey-crowned Babbler are continuing with our project's main focus on protecting and improving habitat at known sites for the babbler. This year two community planting days are planned. Please come along, if you can, and help to save one of Victoria's most threatened species.

**Sunday, August 15th.** Planting day at Parks Victoria's Goomalibee Nature Conservation Reserve, Burness Road, Tarnook (west of Benalla) (Vic Roads ref, map 47 G2 ). This 179 ha site was purchased by the State Government for conservation in 2005, partly on the basis of its value as habitat for Grey-crowned Babblers. This year's planting will aim to begin adding Bulokes and wattles to the site to increase habitat diversity. The planting day is being hosted by Goomalibee Landcare Group, who will provide lunch for all. Start at 9.30 am, finish at lunch.

**Sunday, August 22nd.** Planting day at Parks Victoria's Creightons Creek Reserve, Longwood-Shepparton Rd, Pranjip. Vic Roads ref map 46 F-G 4-5. If coming from Melbourne, come up through Nagambie. About 6 km north, turn right into Kirwins Bridge Rd. Go approx 12 km and turn north into Williams Rd. Follow this north for 7 km and cross over the diagonal, sealed Longwood-Murchison Rd. About 500 m north from the intersection, the reserve begins. Park on the right hand side of the road and south bank of the creek. Start at 9.30 a.m.. Finish by lunch.

Lunch and drinks will be provided but please bring digging equipment and gum boots. For more information about the planting day, contact Doug Robinson on 0408 512 441 or

[dougr@tfn.org.au](mailto:dougr@tfn.org.au)



## Cowslip St Committee

This small group have been getting a few small jobs happening along Cowslip Street.

Starting with the easier bits such as signs, the shire has had a look at those for which it is responsible and will replace dilapidated ones and straighten up crooked posts. Community groups have been contacted regarding their various signs along the street which will be replaced with new signs grouped together at the town entrances allowing removal of unnecessary posts. The large town entrance signs will be renovated and repainted in due course.

VicRoads have been contacted and have responded allowing erection of the final 15 street flower signs. This project we guess was started at least 12 years ago and can now be completed. These signs will go along both Cowslip and High Streets.

Very good comments have been coming forward about the new verandah and garden clean ups at the 2 hotels. Thanks to the owner helping that to happen - it looks so much tidier.

The last thing to report is that butt bins will be installed shortly in appropriate spots. We can monitor their success and location over time and more can be installed if property owners wish.

Your suggestions and help are greatly valued so please keep us posted on your ideas. This committee is auspiced by VTAG.

Contact: *Robyn Machin & Jo Beavis*

Wildlife Shelter—for injured wildlife  
Bill and Linda 0432 307 431;  
5763 3396  
For injured birds Shirley 5762 3208

## Uniting Church News

### Service Times

First Sunday of the month 11.15am  
a family service with finger food lunch to share  
Other Sundays 9.30am  
Sunday School—same time as church,  
all children welcome to attend  
Strathbogie Service Times—11.30am on the  
2nd & 4th Sundays  
Boho Sth Service Times—11,15am on the 3rd  
Sunday

### Coming Events

Hymn Along - Sunday 15 August  
6pm tea, hymns at 7pm  
Weekly Crafts Fridays 1 pm  
except school holidays  
Coffee Morning  
Wednesday 4th August at 10.00am

### ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Catholic Church, 6pm, 29th August  
Bring finger food to share

### FAMILY SERVICE

There will be an 'up beat music' service on  
22nd August at 2.00pm  
We are trying to provide worship for the modern family— everybody most welcome to attend, young & old.  
We want discussion on music, worship, suitable times  
If you cannot come on the 22nd but are interested, please see John Dunn with your ideas

### SAMARITANS PURSE CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES

Are available for filling, can pick up from the church or Fran Byrne. Last year VT sent away 49 boxes. A great effort, can we do it again?

Everybody welcome to join in with services & social functions

## e-waste, or - too many televisions are not good for us

The ever-accelerating technological 'revolution', the results of which we are pretty much all caught up in (whether we like it or not) is, aside from other effects, resulting in an ever-accelerating accumulation of the discarded, real or supposed out-dated, waste of its various pieces of hardware. According to a recently released federal government report (reported in 'The Sunday Age' 23/5/2010) almost 17 million televisions, computers, and computer accessories were discarded in 2007-08 in Australia, 84 per cent of them into landfill.

The prediction is that - unless current habits change - by the year 2028 this figure will have climbed to 44 million items (don't forget, this is just Australia!). It has been calculated that electronic waste is increasing three times faster than any other kind of waste. Whether or not these figures are entirely accurate hardly matters - there is, undoubtedly, a hell of a lot of old televisions, old computers, and old monitors being put out in hard rubbish collections, or just taken to the tip.

I dare say all of us have been through a television or two or three or more over the years, and many of us have now been through one, two, three or more computers over the last 10 or 15 years; enough to have a sense of what technological advances have compelled us to discard. (And, these are not like second-hand clothes or the like - who of us have gone looking for the televisions or computers of yesteryear?)

Apart from the sheer wastefulness of ever-dwindling, limited resources generally (electronic components such as tin, zinc, and copper will, at the current rate of consumption, run out within the next century), the toxicity contained within these discarded components is frightening. Chemicals such as lead, mercury, chlorine, chromium, lithium, and nickel cadmium are some of the highly poisonous elements and compounds from 'e-waste' that, once discarded into our landscapes, can leach into soils and waterways; the effects of these chemicals are, variously, related to cancer, infertility, birth defects, and effects on the nervous system - and that's just us humans! Imagine the wider potential, and long-lasting, effects on the plants and animals and ecosystems around us. A conservative estimate, based on the 2007-08 figures, is that 8,460 tonnes of hazardous chemicals went into landfill in Australia in that year.

In the face of this technologically and commercially driven potentially dystopian tidal wave it's easy to feel powerless. However, two aspects in relation to this come immediately to mind: one is to be as resolute as one can to retain and utilise the items that we have for as long as we can, and not be compelled to replace or supercede the model of last years', or even that of five or ten years ago (economic sabotage, no less!?). For those that have not already made the change to digital television technology, but will be compelled to when the switch from analog to digital comes in, maybe purchasing a 'set top box' is a better option, environmentally, than replacing your current television with a new digital television.

The other aspect to the waste/resources problem is that most of the components in electronic hardware are, in fact, recyclable, and we need to push the powers-that-be to put in place and implement recycling programs. (Many developed countries have laws prohibiting the disposal

of televisions in tips - Victoria has no such legislation.)

E-waste recyclers already exist in this country, albeit in relatively small numbers. The federal Environment Minister has said there could be a "small cost" added to the price of each new television to pay for the recycling of old ones, and it has been promised that a recycling scheme will be up and running by next year.....

In the meantime, we already have e-waste recyclers, or, at least, organizations gearing up to begin recycling, within reach; if you've got some extraneous electronic hardware that you really can't find another good home for, in Benalla contact 'CAL Industries' on 5762 6331. They are at 7 Enterprise Drive, Benalla, but please ring them first to let them know you have something that you want to drop off. They take phones, computers, and televisions, and should be in the process of dismantling, etc. about now. The waste transfer station in Shepparton also has an e-waste collection facility - contact the Council offices for further details.

Lance Williams

## Violet Town Red Cross



## Violet Town Fire Brigade

Violet Town Red Cross celebrated its 50th anniversary on the 5th July on which day we held our Annual General Meeting. There was good attendance with visitors from Euroa, Swanpool & Longwood. Rebecca Dodd, Red Cross National Manager for International Humanitarian Law, opened the meeting & welcomed all who attended.

Rebecca was our guest speaker & gave a very informative talk on the meaning of the Red Cross emblem in different countries. This was enjoyed by all.

Peg Armstrong received the Laurel Wreath Badge for 50 years service & Rosemary Long the 40 years service bar.

Blume's Winter Fashion day held on the 13th was a great success with 30 people attending. A big thank you to all those people and also to Brenda & Diane for bringing the ladies from the Nursing Centre.

Father's Day raffle tickets go on sale outside Trish & Mal's store on August 31st & Sept 1 & 2nd. 1st prize is a wheelbarrow filled with lots of goodies to keep dad happy. Next meeting 2nd August at 2.00pm at the Meeting Room.

CFA has launched the official rose of the CFA called the Firestar Rose. It was created as a consequence of Black Saturday and honours the lives lost and the many dedicated CFA members who were involved.

The cost is \$25.00 plus postage & handling of \$8.50. \$11.50 of this amount will be donated to the brigade of your choice; you nominate the brigade when ordering. The rose is a floribunda type growing approx 0.80m x 0.75m, light orange becoming raspberry-pink in colour with a light scent, double flowers with unusual frilly petals. It has very good disease resistance and is dispatched weekly during July as a bare-rooted rose. Orders after 1 August will not be dispatched until May next year.

It is available for purchase on-line at [www.firestarrose.com.au](http://www.firestarrose.com.au)

For more information go to the website or contact the secretary Sheryl Lockwood on 5798-1551 after 7pm

