

YOUR VILLAGE VOICE

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

Coordinator: Terry Frewin ph. 5790 8635

Please Note that opinions expressed in articles & letters etc. in the Village Voice are not necessarily those of the editorial board & VTAG.

Articles to be in the box at Delahey's Supermarket by the 20th of each month, or may be posted to R.M.B. 3061, Violet Town 3669, OR emailed to Terry at 2frews@mcmedia.com.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

\$10 1/4 page

Full page ads only if space allows, \$40

For people outside the mail delivery area, it is possible to subscribe to the Village Voice. Cost is \$6.50 per year. Please send name, address & \$6.50 to the Violet Town Action Group, C/- RMB 3061, Violet Town 3669.

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: Chris Coles 0416 233 584

CREDIT UNION OPENING HOURS: Phone 5798 1761

Tuesday 9.30am to 1.30pm

Friday 12.30pm to 5.00pm

COMMUNITY HOUSE: 5798 1288 (other times leave message)

Monday 1-5; Tuesday 10-5; Wednesday 10-1 (emergency contact 0417 166 824)

what's on in May

- 1 Probus meets
- 7 Seed Savers & Permaculture group
- 8 Pap Clinic
- 9 Senior Citizens trip
- 10 free hearing screening
- 12 RSL meets, 4pm
- 13 Market Day
- 15 Garden Club meets
- 15 Come and Try It Day
- 17 Bereavement seminar
- 17 Immunisation Day
- 19 Evensong, St Dunstan's Day
- 21 Stick Horse Race Day
- 25 Big Cuppa, Cancer Research
- 29 VT 70's + luncheon
- 30 VT 70's + luncheon

date grabbers

- June 4—15/15 film festival, BBQ, music
- June 9 RSL meets
- July 14 RSL meets

Violet Town Village Voice

May 2006

Postage Paid

"Priceless"

No. 292

May is a busy month for the Violet Town Bush Nursing Centre Ladies Auxiliary who do a wonderful job in raising money to provide many extras to make life for residents more comfortable—please support them!!

MARKET STALL SATURDAY 13 MAY

General goods—donations welcome

Make sure you get your ticket in the famous Mother's Day Cake Raffle to be drawn at the market

The cake is made by Mrs Meryl McDiarmid & decorated by Mrs Barb Ramage

THE BIG CUPPA FOR CANCER RESEARCH

THURSDAY 25 MAY

At the Violet Town Hall from 10—11.30am

Can You Help?



Volunteers are needed to help out occasionally with the folding of the Village Voice. This is generally around the 24th/25th of each month. At present the Day Care people fold some— number depending on their time available, & the Robinsons & Masslochs have been folding the remainder. We now need some extra helpers to be able to call on occasionally. If you can help out please contact Terry 5790 8635 or Virginia 5798 1774 to put your name down—thanks!!

The Village Voice is printed on 100% recycled paper and is folded each month by the Violet Town Bush Nursing Centre Day Care clients and community members.

COFFEE OPPORTUNITY

Violet Town Market Committee is seeking expressions of interest for another coffee venue at the Football Pavilion end of our Market .

We would prefer a local person or organization.

Interested persons or groups please apply to

Sec. Violet Town Market Committee
24 Hurt Street, Violet Town 3669

by the 12th May 2006

The May market **COMMUNITY GROUP OF THE MONTH**

is the hard working
Violet Town Lions Club.

The Market Committee would like to thank patrons for their support of these community groups.

MARKET REPORT

The weather tricked a lot of people at our April market. Early on it looked like it could shape up to be a pretty nice morning weather wise and by 10 am or so there was our normal number of people for that time of morning. Numbers usually build up from then on throughout the morning. I think lots of people hadn't worn enough winter woollies- including me- and so instead of staying all morning the early crew went home, of course more people arrived as well but the numbers never built up to the usual late morning crowd.

The most significant event at this market was the relocation of all the stalls normally at the footy club end to the bowls club/creek end of the market. This was done to accommodate the football matches being played on the

oval during the market. We would like to thank all those regular footy-end stallholders who so co-operatively uprooted and moved from their regular sites. We believe that in the future, the footy fixture will be set up to avoid this occurrence.

We had heaps of interesting new stalls this month but I have been asked to keep this report shorter than usual so none of my normal ravings about our casual stall holders or about a particular part of our market.

Thanks to all those who continue to support our market by coming along and being there, and those who have stalls or support it in any other way. Once again I hope to see you at the market.

Chris 0416233584

Strathbogie Shire Social Support Program—70's + Luncheons

Monday 29th & Tuesday 30 May
Violet Town Hall

11am for a cuppa, 11.30am for a
3 course lunch. Cost \$5.50

Open to aged 70's and over,
any aged person with a disability,
carers and volunteers

Thanks to volunteers & the Violet Town school students, who assist with serving the meals, chat to participants, wash dishes etc

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

It is possible that a couple of items were dropped after collection from Delaheys—if your item does not appear this issue please resubmit for next month if still relevant. Sincere apologies if this has happened to your contribution.

Village Voice Trading Post

Use this page to post your **FREE** ad

FOR SALE

Wheel away bed, as new, 2'6" wide, \$38.00;
1 carved wood veneer front entrance door, new, \$38.00;
1 exercise machine, vgc, \$28.00;
3 piece blue-grey lounge suite, excellent condition, \$275.00
Please phone 5798 1433 for the above items

HAY—this season's pasture hay, small squares under cover, 500 bales available, \$3.50/bale
Phone 5798 1617

WANTED

Carpet in reasonable order. Phone Dana 5790 5153

WANTED TO BUY

Violet Town Kindergarten 2003
Cookbook
Phone 5798 1433

Wardrobe and a chest of drawers, or combination, phone Terry 5790 8635



MAMMOTH GARAGE SALE 14 Rose Street, Violet Town **Saturday 13 May, 8am—2pm**

A combined sale of antique English china & collectable bric a brac (blue & white) plus lots more also

Framed pictures country craft
Linen doonas sheets
Wooden garden barrow
Mens and ladies clothing
2 LPG small gas heaters
Camping tumble washer
Ex-army clothing
quality table lamp
Books

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Violet Town Seed Savers and Permaculture Group

Our April meeting was at Yalca northwest of Shepparton to visit Campbell and Tanya Holt, and it was terrific to see how much they have achieved there over the past 2 or 3 years. Their young children, Jack and Annie, are doing very well on the home grown food, and there is plenty of food growing there.

Vegetables were in substantial surplus at the end of summer, and we could see that there would be plenty of fresh vegetables over winter as well as some of the preserved summer harvest. Their many fruit trees are starting to produce, and they have ample milk, eggs, beef, mutton and chicken meat available.

Wine, and bread (in their neighbour's home made woodfired oven) were being made on the day we visited. Tanya's bread, feta cheese and other preserves were enjoyed for afternoon tea.

Campbell was already a keen organic gardener when he and Tanya moved to Violet Town in about 1999. Since then he has acquired the skills for large scale treeplanting, farm forestry management, small-scale irrigation, small-scale market gardening and orcharding including using Biodynamic methods, beekeeping, livestock husbandry, winemaking, owner building, and plant nursery skills. For a copy of their list of heritage fruit trees available this winter (54 varieties) ph. 5868 2101, or email camandtan@yahoo.com.au

Yalca was able to offer them a reasonably priced 3 acres with good water supply for irrigation, and a place to live. Yalca is a little isolated, they did like the community of Violet Town, but were not able to buy a suitable small rural property while they were here. With suitable rezoning we may yet be able to attract them back here, along with others like them.

David Arnold

Thanks to everyone who saved seed this past season, there are now large amounts to clean, package and get ready for sale, so our May meeting will be to do just that. Terry's summer WWOOFers managed to clean most of the seed, so the main task will be to package - both into envelopes for sale, and into foil packets/containers for our group's use.

Sale of our seed at markets funds our group - bus trips, purchase of books etc - and the market seed box is currently very empty (our seeds are becoming very sought after).

There are also a few varieties of seeds to be grown on to maintain freshness and viability, and to bulk up if possible - so we'll be looking for willing growers for these - even if you just take one variety that is an enormous contribution. We're meeting at David Arnold & Annabelle James' property (4446 Murchison Rd, 5798 1679) on **Sunday 7 May at 1.30pm**. Bring a small plate for arvo tea and as usual any seedlings, produce, tastings etc.

This is your chance to see what new varieties have come into our collection and to stock up on your own seed needs for the year ahead.

Dave will be available on this day to show interested people around his Permaculture designed property.

Terry

And a note from Sal regarding Jade beans—*I grew Jade beans this year which I got from VT Seed Savers. I usually give up watering pretty much sometime in Feb because our water is limited. Other beans died or produced short stringy pods with one big seed BUT these beans not only persisted but continued to produce long straight STRINGLESS beans that I was able to leave on the bush quite a while before picking. Great variety! Thanks!*



Notes from your Mayor Robyn Machin

We have had a taste of winter with the first frost and look to good rain for crops to be sown and creeks to flow again.

Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) was considered at the April council meeting and has been referred to an independent panel for consideration of submissions made following public exhibition in October/November 2005. This is an important planning document which provides the overarching vision and direction for Strathbogie Shire. It has not been updated since 1999 and should be each 3-5 years. When adopted, council can then proceed to conduct information sessions regarding the Rural Living Strategy and place the those documents on public display where submissions can be made. Planning is a long slow process but council are endeavouring to provide good guidance for future economic and social development of our Shire.

Farming Zone to replace Rural Zone-I have written tomes about this over the past 3 years and am sure everyone in the Rural Zone is aware by now of the State Planning Ministers intent to directly translate to the new Zone. Council expect this to occur during May. The main affect will be on the ability to build dwellings on lots under 40 ha. Strathbogie Local Planning Policy Framework will consider dwellings on lots of more

than 20 ha only if they support an existing & established agricultural enterprise. No hobby farms or rural lifestyle dwellings will be permitted in the new statewide Farming Zone.

New Local Law No 1 was adopted by council at the April meeting. These are a much more simplified and easily understood set of community rules. They set out provisions for uses and activities on council land such as alcohol consumption and behaviour, vehicles including skateboards and motorised wheelchairs, damage to public facilities and roads, domestic pets, straying stock. Private activities are also outlined such as burning times and permits required, disposal of domestic and trade



waste, construction and maintenance of vehicle crossings and neglected or unkempt property. I am confident these new community local laws will be far easier to use than the old document.

Transport Forum- was recently held in VT. A small number of people attended and only a few submissions were received however representation was made by the VTBNC and the Neighbourhouse House regarding transport availability for the aged and youth. The outcome of the 3 forums in Strathbogie Shire will be used to lobby state government for resources to provide better transport in our Shire.

Tourism Lakes and Ranges-are producing an A5 sized Official Visitors Guide including a regional map. If you wish to have your business or event included in the guide please contact the Shire Tourism Officer ASAP for information.

Shire Schools in decline- Council met with Principals recently to discuss the issue of declining student numbers and the affect this has on the future of our schools. Economic development is one way council wishes to increase diversity in our population and become a more sustainable area. Strathbogie has the 3rd fastest ageing population in Victoria – placing enormous demands on our medical and health facilities.

Building Investments-Violet Town continues to consistently lag behind in the value of building approvals and particularly in major projects which are attracted to other parts of our shire. Local employment and economic activity usually requires growth but this indicator suggests stagnation in Violet Town. The 2006 census will provide further information for our community to consider.

Dogs not welcome on Market Day- the VT Recreational Reserve Committee of Management have requested that you leave your family pet at home on Market Day. The confined space with a large crowd combined with food stalls is not a place for dogs. Patrons and stall holders
continued over...

support a hygienic and safe environment and are concerned with incidents of dogs attempting to fight in the market precinct and the general public fear of some dogs as well as the presence of dogs urinating on stallholders goods. Council has supported the committee by making an Order in accordance with the Domestic Animals Act to prohibit all dogs from the VT Recreational Reserve on any day the VT market is operating.

VT Footbridge Honeysuckle Creek-late 2005 council applied for and received a grant of \$67,000 for construction of a footbridge over the creek to link the VT Recreation Reserve and Hurt St Reserve. The bridge is to be constructed with permanent materials to reduce ongoing maintenance costs. Tenders will be advertised within the next few weeks and evaluated with a factor including aesthetics along with overall cost and other factors. The HREP committee will assist in evaluation of designs received.

VTAG Licenced Agreement- VTAG has been appointed by council to manage the Community Complex Facility excluding the Library and RSL Rooms. This agreement keeps management of the local facility in local hands and updates the expired previous agreement. *Please contact me if you have any questions Mob 0417 496785*

EnVTAG

Some information regarding facilities available at the VT Landfill

OIL: used engine oil can be taken to the landfill where it is collected for recycling. It must be—free of contaminants eg. Transmission fluids, water etc & in containers of 20l or less (for OHS). If the used oil is in larger containers, & you have a suitable pump it may be transferred to the storage container at the Landfill.

OR

If you have 3 or more 44 gal drums then the recycling company may come to you & pump from the drums.

In both cases talk to Dennis at the Landfill (open hours on back page) & he will help you sort out the best method.

DRUMMUSTER: used farm chemicals with the drumMUSTER symbol (circle of arrows pointing inwards) can be taken to the VT Landfill for storage. They need to be triple rinsed etc & this info can be obtained from www.drummuster.com.au or council; Agsafe accredited chemical seller, or again talk to Dennis.

UNWANTED CHEMICALS: Also available through Agsafe is ChemClear, a chemical waste disposal program for disposal of unwanted rural chemicals. Some are collected free of charge, others have a fee that applies. For more info call 1800 008 182 or visit chem-clear.com.au

If you need other info please give Andie Guerin a call on 5798 1698. I have some of the relevant pamphlets (which I have relied heavily on for this article).

Hume Corridor Community Outreach Health Service "Pap Clinic"

Hume Corridor Community Health Service has a female Doctor available to do a pap test. Free transport is available if required

When: Monday 8th May 2006

Time: Commencing at 9.00am

Cost: \$10 and Clients Bulk Billed—please bring your Medicare card to the appointment

Bookings Essential: For appointment drop into the Hume Corridor Community Health Service or give us a call on 5736 6366

Supported by: Hume Corridor Community Outreach Health Service, PapScreen Victoria, Victorian Cytology & Dr. Caroline Hawkins

How to Care, What to Say:

The Experience of Bereavement

Date: Wednesday 17th May

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Hume Corridor Community
Outreach Health Service

Cost: Free

When we encounter a person who is grieving, their shock, pain and anguish can create reactions in us that cause us to feel anxious and confused. We may feel embarrassed by saying things that are inappropriate, or by not actually knowing what to say. Many of these concerns can be addressed by understanding the grief experience, including the diverse ways that people can respond to loss. The 'How to Care, What to Say: The Experience of Bereavement' seminar explores how we can respond sensitively and compassionately to people who are grieving.

Designed for the general & professional community interested in grief & bereavement.

Aims: To equip participants with an understanding of common grief reactions; and to assist participants in their support of people who are grieving. **Learning Outcomes:** Participants will have explored the experience of bereavement & become familiar with helpful & unhelpful responses to grieving people.

St Dunstan's News

On May 19 we will be having a special EVENSONG at 7pm to mark St Dunstan's Day, to be followed by refreshments at the Community Centre. All welcome.

St Dunstan was an early Bishop in the Anglican Church. The story goes that St Dunstan was tempted by the devil as he prayed in his cell, whereby he caught the devil by the nose with red hot pincers and caused him to flee. The banner in the church, made by Mrs Barbara Ramage, bears the same design. May 19 is believed to be St Dunstan's birthday.

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Kath Washusen

TUBB'S HILL & MAYGAR'S HILL

In driving to Melbourne, one is confronted with 2 signs near Longwood, TUBB'S HILL & MAYGAR'S HILL. What is their significance? Both hills honour the memory of soldiers connected with Longwood, both winners of the Victoria Cross.

Frederick Tubb was born at Longwood & educated at East Longwood State School. He enlisted in the AIF in 1914 & served in Gallipoli at Lone Pine. He became a Major in 1916 & served on the Western Front where he won his VC.

On the 20th September 1917 in the battle of Menin Road in Belgium, Tubb led his company to capture a group of nine pill boxes. Seriously wounded Tubb died that evening. He was buried at a military cemetery in Belgium. Next month I will write of Leslie Maygar, who has the hill named in his honour, and the following month of Robert Mactier, another VC winner who has a close connection with Violet Town.

Violet Town Kinder News

Can you believe it. The op shop raised the amazing amount of \$3175.00 for the kinder during the month of March. A huge thank you to Norm & all the volunteers at the op shop & to all who donated & bought goods. The op shop has given the kinder tremendous support this year with the \$3175 plus the \$500 donated on Australia Day & now they are going to run a raffle with \$200 worth of \$2 scratchies on a camellia. Wouldn't we all like to win that.

The children had an excursion on the Thursday before Easter. They stopped at the op shop & had their photo taken with Norm, Julie, Lorna & Joan, and Norm presented the cheque for the March takings.

The children continued on to the Nursing Home where they presented the residents with an Easter egg & some entertainment & in return were given a bag of Easter eggs. A very enjoyable visit for both groups.

We had a lovely afternoon tea for Mrs Rita Tobias to thank her for her kind donation of a garden seat & bird bath. The children made a beautiful card & presented it with a bunch of roses. Thank you to the Village Voice for the insert next to our notes last month, Mrs Tobias thought it was a lovely touch.

Our fundraising efforts continue & we catered for the Lions Games night & thank you very much to Sue, Margaret & Lou for helping with preparation & dishes, Glenys for helping to serve & Jenny for washing & ironing tablecloths. The weather turned cold for the monthly market so people were able to enjoy their Devonshire tea in the warmth of the kinder. If the weather is cool again in May we will be offering soup as well as the tea & cake stall.

Thank you to all our helpers & the wonderful people who support us each month.

Judy Sands



Peranbin Primary College News

Winter sports days are a great way for the children, and staff, from our 4 campuses to interact, socialize and have fun. The first for this year was held at Swanpool, with Bocce, T-ball & hockey on the main oval, minor games around the school and music & other activities indoors. The next day will be at Baddaginnie on Wed 3 May and then at Violet Town on Tues 16 May. You are welcome to come along & watch or join in if you wish.

Students from VT who have qualified to run in the Zone Cross Country in Wangaratta on Thursday 18 May are Robert S, Liam B, Caitlin S & Sarah H. Well done!
5798 1431



Now available at Violet
Town Garage & Engineering
2 Cowslip St, Violet Town
Ph: Luke & Tanya
5798 1452

**Hume Corridor Community
Outreach Health Service
&
Better Hearing Australia
In Partnership with
Australian Hearing
Is offering free hearing screening
and information
on
10th May 2006**

For bookings please contact the
Hume Corridor Community Health
Service on 57366 366

Hearing screening provides sufficient information to determine if any further hearing testing is necessary for management of a hearing loss & the possible use of hearing aids. The screening is followed by an opportunity to talk with a **Hearing Loss Management Adviser** about any support and information which may assist.

We look forward to seeing you there

Violet Town Hairdressing

**22 Cowslip St, Violet Town
5798 1427**

For all your family hairdressing needs
also Manicures, Pedicures, Waxing,
Lash & Brow Tinting

Trading Hours

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*

Packaging = Waste

Remember that less packaging equals less waste. People can cut down on the amount of garbage in their homes by reducing the amount of materials they buy or bring home which will become their waste. Every year, the average Australian family produces enough garbage to entirely fill a typical three-bedroom house, floor to ceiling.

Research has revealed that one in four people admit to still putting recyclable materials in their garbage bins. This means thousands of tonnes of recyclable materials are still ending up in landfill each year. It is important that we each take whatever steps we can to avoid sending recyclables to landfill wherever possible.

One scary fact is: If everyone on the planet was to consume the same kinds and amounts of resources as people living in Australia, we would need at least another two or even three more planet Earths to support us all.

Cleanaway's Education and Compliance Representative Joe Anka is available to give talks on recycling to interest groups, businesses and schools. He can be contacted for further information on (03) 5831 6270.

Violet Town Garden Club

The March meeting was held at the Shepparton home of George Faderson where George gave us a talk about his orchid collection & showed us through the shade houses full of beautifully healthy plants. He has lined one area with bubble wrap to protect plants from frost & keep them warmer in winter.

George is also interested in collecting gemstones & has a large area where the local club meet & use the cutting & polishing equipment. Thanks George for making us at home at your place. The next meeting will be 9.30am 15 May (day after Mother's Day) at Lorraine Ralston's home & the June meeting, a plant swap, at the Community Centre. Lorraine has been enquiring about a 5 day trip to the Blue Mountains in early Oct, '06. Would you like to go? More info at the May meeting or phone 5798 9517.

What a lovely surprise to have all those bales of straw delivered right here to Wayford—thanks Gwenda & Barb. See you all in May—after the rains come! Kath Utber

The Best Little Op Shop in the North East

A great day Thurs 13th when all the Kinder kids dressed in Easter head gear, along with teachers & committee, paid a visit to the op shop on their way to the Bush Nursing Centre. The op shop made a presentation of \$3170 to the kinder, which put an extra smile on their faces. With kids & teachers of this calibre Violet Town has no worries about the next generation.

Sorry about our Thelma who is in hospital after a fall off a ladder (almost on your birthday too) Hope you get well soon, we all miss you.

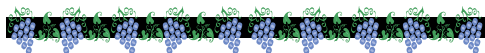
Thelma tried to outdo Kay who also had a fall off a ladder—you'd do almost anything to get a holiday from the op shop, but we'll be waiting for you both! We won't mention Pam Brown & stepladders either!

We welcome Leanne Russell-Jones who has volunteered one day a month, also Venetta Davis who will be on call, fantastic to have you both on board.

We will present a cheque to the Lions Club for \$500 for their Good Friday Appeal, also \$500 to the Bowling Club.

We need westerns at the moment so any you have read & could pass on would be appreciated.

The Op Shop Crew



Probus Notes

We had 27 members at our April meeting, Bill chaired the meeting in Jevan's absence, and welcomed us [The first time this year we needed the heaters]. Robert White has been nominated to join as a new member and we will welcome him.

Our scheduled guest speaker was unable to be there and Graham McNutt very ably stepped in at short notice. He described his 40 year career as a meteorologist, starting with his student days at RMIT, on a cadetship from the Weather Bureau. He told of the use of hydrogen to fill balloons used to measure wind speeds at different altitudes. Hydrogen can be explosive and today's Occupational Health and Safety rules would not have allowed it.

Helium is now used, safer if more expensive. Modernisation also means that the balloons are no longer tracked by using theodolites since radar took over.

The advent of satellites and computers has improved the accuracy and extent of forward forecasts but is less hands-on and personal, I guess this happens in other disciplines too.

Graham has a special interest in Aviation Meteorology and valued the feedback from the pilots in those earlier more personal days. There were many anecdotes in his most interesting talk which was enjoyed by all, proving once again that talent is plentiful in our community.

Our outing on 20th April was to the Pinjarra Alpaca Farm near Strathbogie, a very chilly day too. We set off in convoy though one car decided to take a long way there.

We were welcomed by Angela and Ian Preuss and had morning tea on their veranda with alpacas grazing nearby. Angela had arranged a display of items made from alpaca fleece, most impressive, and told us about their enterprise. They have nearly 1000 al-



pacas at the farm, they own 400 and the others are agisted and managed for local, interstate and overseas owners.

They started with three animals in 1996 and have built up from there. Their specialty within the industry is the coloured suri type but they also breed white suris and all colours of huacayas [these have the soft dense crimped fleece, suris have long lustrous staples in locks which hang down from a centre part] We were able to see a crea [baby] which had been born the day before. Then we went to the yards to observe some alpaca reproductive behaviour which differs from that of more familiar farm animals. We really appreciated the hospitality we received and all enjoyed the visit and felt we had learned a lot.

We then moved back to Strathbogie, to the golf club where the ladies had lit the fire and provided us with a delicious three course lunch. It was great to look out over the golf course from inside the warm Clubhouse.

Our next meeting is May 1st at 10 am in the Community hall and as usual visitors are welcome.

Senior Cits Notes

Excellent attendance for the April meeting. Our Thelie was recognised on her OBE. Viv Eller & Joan McFarlane welcomed as new members & we know they have a lot to offer the group. Great ladies!

17 members met & bussed to RSL Shepparton for the morning melodies. Reg Poole & a 2 course lunch—a great outing for us all. Our thoughts are with Thelma Butts as she comes to grips with her problem.

A brief meeting on arriving home decided that future meetings of the club will be the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2pm. Further all agreed to attend the RSL morning melodies on Tuesday 9 May - a 10am meet at the rear of the complex. Bring \$15 for lunch & the bus.

Laurie Connors, Facilitator

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Son of Epicurious

.....the basket of red and yellow fruit attracted Laura's colour-loving eye. 'What are those?' she asked old Jerry
'Love apples, me dear. Love apples they be; though some hignorant folk be acallin 'em tommytoes. But you don't want any o' they - nasty sour things they be, as only gentry can eat. You have a nice sweet orange wi' your penny'. But Laura felt she must taste the Love apple and insisted on having one.

Such daring created quite a sensation among the on-lookers. 'Don't 'ee go tryin' to eat it now,' one woman urged. 'It'll only make 'ee sick. I know because I had one of the nasty horrid things at our Minnie's'.
'Lark Rise' by Flora Thompson.
Penguin Modern classics

use more than 1/2 cup of oil as the tomato slices should not be completely covered. While the oil is heating, flour the tomato slices.
When the oil begins to sizzle place only as many tomato slices in the pan as will make a single layer. Sautee until golden brown on both sides then transfer to a paper towel to drain. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Fry the remaining slices in the same way.

Beat the eggs very lightly with a pinch of salt and set aside. Heat the extra oil in the cleaned pan. When it is hot put in tomato slices to fit in a snug layer and add the eggs.

Cook gently until the eggs are set. To finish cooking the top layer you can slide the pan under the grill for a few minutes. The other way involves upending the frittata onto a plate and then sliding it back into the pan to brown the other side [a bit more tricky].

Barrie Mather

While I was browsing in search of a topic for this month's 'Village Voice', I came across a delightful quotation (above) which gave me a lead-in to the topic of tomatoes.

The recipe for a frittata of green tomatoes (below) is one used in our house to finish up what is left of the tomato crop and to remind us that the winter crops should be in the ground.

Choose a heavy based or non stick frypan to suit your family size.

1cm thick slices of green tomatoes, enough to make a snug layer in the pan and a few extra to allow for shrinkage when they are fried.

*Plain flour for dusting the tomatoes
About 1/2 cup of olive oil plus one tablespoon extra*

*3 or 4 eggs
Salt and pepper to taste*

Heat the 1/2 cup of oil in a frying pan. Do not

Computer Operating Services

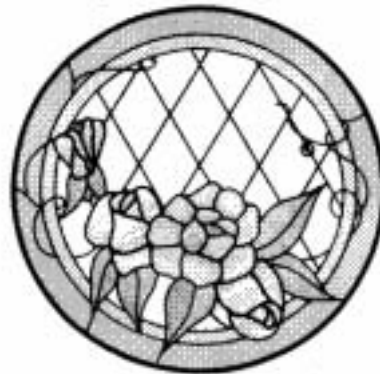
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Violet Town Community Playgroup

Thursday afternoons
(during School Terms)

2.30pm at the Violet
Town Kindergarten
Cost: \$2.00 per family
& a piece of fruit to
share
Ages 0 - 5 years

~ All Welcome ~

Contact: Jenny or Heather
(03) 5798 1477

VIOLET TOWN COMMUNITY HOUSE

Enhancing the skills and spirit of our community

Come and Try It Day for Elder People and the rest of the community

Presented in partnership with Valley Sport. This day will be an exciting and safe introduction to many different activities suiting all levels of fitness, and all ages.

To be held on May 15th 2006 at the Community Complex.

Starting at 10.00 am with Tai Chi, then a game of Life Ball at 10.40 am, Morning tea will be held at 11.15 am, strength training at 11.30 am Lunch at 12pm, Cards and Scrabble at 12.30, Bolle at 1.10, Carpet Bowls at 1.50pm, Dance for Life at 2.45 and meditation/relaxation at 3.30 pm.

There will be no charges at all for this day and all meals are included.

We do ask however that you RSVP prior to the 12th May for catering purposes. If you RSVP you will be entered in the draw for a fantastic door prize.

You are welcome to only attend one activity or part of the day. Please call 57981288 to RSVP or for further information

Benchmark - The Benchmark project is coming along with all the benches in town now having red gum arms installed. We are now beginning work on the decoration of the benches and this will involve sanding back and then repainting the benches.

If you or your group would like to be involved in this exciting place making project we would really love your input and participation. We are

also looking for an artist to lead the decoration team. If you are interested please contact 5798 1288.

The benchmark decorators will be meeting on Saturday afternoons (first and third of the month at the Skills shed from 12pm).

Thanks to the Shire of Strathbogie for funding this project.

Youth Music Program

The Youth Music Program run by Andie Guerin is growing from strength to strength. Over twenty young people attend the centre every week to learn music, engineering and roadie skills as well as to support their friends. Two bands have been formed and the young performers have taken part in many workshops and recently did their first gig at the youth week event, which was a huge success. Both bands have now been selected to record an EP in Melbourne as part of the Cool Schools program.

The program always welcomes new young people so if you would like to join in please come along on a Sunday afternoon or contact 5798 1288 or 5798 1698 for more information.

Seniors Citizens

- On May 9th the Senior Citizens will be traveling to the Shepparton RSL to see well known performer Kevin Walsh and to enjoy a two course lunch. Everyone is welcome to join in and come along. The cost for the outing will be \$15 (which includes bus fare and lunch) Last month the group went on a bus trip to see Reg Poole. Reg was great fun and everyone involved enjoyed themselves. Congratulations to Val, Laurie and Julie for organizing the outing.

Please book with Val Russell or contact the Community House for more information on 5798 1288.

Community Day Music and BBQ followed by 15/15 Film Festival Screening

Bring along your own BBQ meat and a Salad to Share (BBQ's Provided) and listen to some great music by some of our community's fantastic musicians, enjoy some silly activities and games, see Buster Juggler and his amazing juggling performance and bed of nails and then sit back and enjoy a fun and exciting selection of short films including four made in Violet Town as part of the 15/15 Film Festival. June 4th from 4pm on the lawns of the community centre (and if raining in the memorial hall). Buster Juggler 4pm, Music from 5 pm, films from 7pm. All welcome. (If you would like to join in or help out please call 5798 1288)

Public Access Location

The community house offers public access computers and internet access to the community of Violet Town. We have recently upgraded our internet service to broadband and reformatted all our computers to ensure a faster and more efficient service. The computers are open during office hours Mon 1 - 5, Tues 10 - 5 and Wed 10 - 1 and at other times by appointment. The cost is \$ 2 /hour.

Web Design

A new course is starting up on Wednesday 17th May in Web Design. This course is a self paced, hands on course which will look at designing, developing and creating a web page. For more information please contact 5798 1288.

Resume Writing and Job

Seeking skills - Currently looking for expressions of interest from Members of the community who are interested in updating their resumes and other job seeking skills information. We will be holding three two hour workshops on this topic one on a Monday afternoon, a Monday evening and a weekend. The cost will be \$5 (assistance is available)

please express interest on 57981288.

Stick Horse Race Day -

Once again it is time for this fun Community Celebration Sunday 21st May at the Violet Town Recreation Reserve from 12pm. Starting with the Pet Parade and then a series of great races and concluding at approximately 4pm. Come along and see who will win the "Concrete Slipper" this year. Other activities include Poo Lotto, Bra Chuck and Equestrian Event. Sponsorship still welcome. Great Prizes. Contact 57981288 for more information.

This is a fund raiser for the Violet Town Community House to help us continue to serve the community.



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