



## Creswick Neighbourhood Centre

It has been a wonderful year we have had at the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre (CNC). Many new faces have been welcomed and have enjoyed time with some old friends too. From dancing to art or singing, playing games or gardening, there has been something for everybody to do.



The Creswick Market has continued to flourish with over 10,000 people through the gate (and almost 600 dogs!). Thank

you to everyone who has supported the beautiful local market – and for those yet to come down, mark the third Saturday of the month on your calendar and come to see what the fuss is all about. If anyone would like to join Belinda and her team of volunteers come to the market or the CNC for a chat. It is a great way to meet people!

Another program CNC is proud of is the Food Assistance program. Under the guidance of Holly and her team of volunteers, the weekly Foodbank delivery to the CNC has



*Jenni, Evelyn and Sandy cooking for the monthly community lunch*

seen 10,000kgs of fresh fruit and veggies distributed and 1,150 meals cooked by Jenni and her team of volunteers at the monthly community lunch.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers, staff and supporters of the CNC. The Neighbourhood Centre truly wants to remain the heart of the community and can only do that with your support. Thank you and see you all after a break in January when we reopen on Tuesday, 28 January 2025. Note: January community lunch is still on Tuesday, 14 January from 12 noon to 1.00pm in the hall.

*Chrissy Austin  
and the Team at CNC*

All associated with *District News* would like to wish their loyal readers, subscribers, contributors and advertisers a happy and safe Festive Season



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gratefully acknowledges the ongoing  
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## Creswick District News

The CDN is a community newsletter imparting local information. Copy is invited from individuals and community groups reporting or advising on local events. All contributions are accepted in good faith with no intention or desire to misinform or offend. Articles must carry the name, phone number and/or email address of the sender. The Editor reserves the right to edit or not publish any article. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the CDN Team.

**The next issues of CDN  
No January 2025 issue  
18 February 2025  
18 March 2025**

Newsletter printed by  
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The CDN is also available online at  
[www.creswick.net/creswick/  
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## Greetings Fellow Garden Club Members

On Tuesday, 3 December at 12 noon, the Creswick Garden Club members met at the Commercial Hotel, Main Road, Kingston for the club's annual Christmas lunch. This was the final meeting for 2024.

This lunch was an occasion to thank the Office Bearers and committee members for all their hard work throughout the year which ensured that the Garden Club ran successfully for another year.

The club takes this opportunity to wish all members a happy and safe Christmas and New Year and looks forward to re-commencing in February, 2025.

*Karen Morgan*

*On behalf of Creswick Garden Club*

## Senior Cits News

The Christmas lunch, to be held on 13 December, will be a farewell to 2024 activities. The Sing Australia Choir will be a jolly send off with familiar songs and carols. The catered meal always proves popular, do have your name down?

The shock passing of one of our most valued members for many, many years, was that of Joan Hepworth. Joan was a regular, joining in all activities presented and a leader in the kitchen. Our sincere condolences to her family.

After New Year, members and friends will get together for bingo on Fridays and the Social Day will be the last Friday in February.

Best wishes and thanks to the *CDN* crew for keeping up with the Seniors' News.

May the holiday break be a joyful time and a happy and safe Festive Season to all.

*June Gray*

## creswick Rainfall

Monthly totals as sent to Bureau of Meteorology by Frank Slade.

	2022	2023	2024
	mm	mm	mm
January	163.0	9.5	97.0
February	1.0	28.8	4.0
March	49.0	45.0	0.0
April	65.5	116.0	66.4
May	39.3	70.0	34.5
June	104.5	125.0	28.5
July	51.0	45.0	97.5
August	156.0	46.0	41.5
September	82.0	25.5	52.5
October	214.1	67.5	58.5
November	129.1	29.0	*16.0
December	40.2	23.0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,094.7</b>	<b>630.3</b>	<b>496.4</b>

*\* to be confirmed*



## Creswick Cemeteries News

The Trust wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

Please slow down while driving in the cemetery. Gates close promptly at 5.00pm.

For any enquiries please contact the Secretary Wendy, on 0412 382 267 Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm

*Wendy Ohlsen*  
Secretary

# How a Community Event Can Benefit Creswick and District!



Organised by the Creswick Garden Club, the Creswick Garden Lovers Weekend (CGLW) was held on 9 and 10 November and was blessed with fabulous weather. Visitors came from all over Australia although most were from Victoria, with many making return visits. Garden owners reported that people came back to see what improvements had been made since their visit last year. Overall there were 2,398 garden visits to nine gardens. The commercial partners have advised a substantial increase in business over the weekend.



*Yeramba - photo courtesy of Terry Hope*



*Flower Show - photo courtesy of Terry Hope*

With over 40 volunteers and family members assisting at the gardens or selling tickets at the Neighbourhood Centre hall, it is an event which could not happen without such huge community support. The Garden Club's Monster Plant sale was a great success with plants all grown by members and sold at very realistic prices which meant lots of bargains were quickly snapped up.

The Flower Show was held for the first time this year in the CNC hall alongside ticket sales for the CGLW. This resulted in many more people viewing beautiful plants and creatively presented vases of flowers. The orchids were splendid! Thirty-one people put entries in various sections and the committee would like to see this number grow next year. Most entries in the Floral Art, both Novice and

Advanced sections were well represented. Mr Greg Block judged the Floral Art with Club President Pam Lockhart, taking out the Gold Ribbon for Champion exhibit in Floral Art.

The Creswick Flowers Posy Challenge was another popular section that was judged by Simone Broad. The Adult 1st prize of a \$30 voucher went to Evelyn Wilson while the Junior 1st prize of a \$20 voucher was won by Matilda Martin.

Judging of the Horticulture sections was done by Mr Kevin Moneghetti. Only a few entries in the children's section, so here's hoping for more next year. Gold Ribbon winner Under 8 years was Esther Murray for her painted rock. Gold Ribbon in Horticulture was won by Leanne Murray for her White Itoh Peony display.

Raffle winners, with prizes contributed by our commercial partners, were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Artwork - Lucky Monkey Blacksmith value \$250 - Miranda Fyfield
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Spring Park Nursery voucher, value \$250 - Catherine Van Dyk
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Black Truffles voucher, value \$180 - S. Glasspool
- 4<sup>th</sup> Overwrought Gallery voucher, value \$100 - Leslee Sullivan
- 5<sup>th</sup> Lambley Nursery voucher, value \$100 - Kerry McGovern
- 6<sup>th</sup> Bells Water Garden voucher, value \$100 - Ros Janes
- 7<sup>th</sup> Captains Creek Winery voucher, value \$140 - Meg Barry
- 8<sup>th</sup> RACV Goldfields Resort Dinner @ Three Founders Restaurant value \$100 - Dawn
- 9<sup>th</sup> Creswick Woollen Mills Picnic Rug value \$99 - Anne Harvey
- 10<sup>th</sup> Brenlissa Nursery voucher, value \$50 - Margaret Pearse
- 11<sup>th</sup> Maze House Entry 2 adults 2 children - Clare Torpy
- 12<sup>th</sup> Allendale Native Plants voucher, value \$40 - Janine Booth

The marketing prize of two nights' accommodation at Harvest Cottage was won by Sue McKeegan.

The Garden Club is now in the early stages of planning for next year's event. If you have a garden you might like to open, to learn more about the Flower Show or are interested in becoming a member, please let us know. Check the club's website for contact details.

*Margaret Giles*

***See page 20 for more photos***

Brian and Josie Reasons have been delivering Meals on Wheels to the Creswick community for the last five years and say it's an incredibly rewarding way to spend their days. Now in their eighties, the husband and wife duo travel together two to three times a week to deliver nutritious meals and provide valuable social connections to people within their community. Some days, the Reasons visit more than twenty people in the area starting in Creswick but going out as far as Smeaton.

Driven by a desire to give back, the Reasons have found their visits to be more than just a task - they've become trips to see their friends and cherished moments filled with connection and purpose.

Josie shares that each visit brightens her day just as much as it does for the people she sees. *'It's not just about delivering food; it's about making sure the people in our town feel that people are looking out for them. They're always happy when you walk in - sometimes we'll be the only people they speak to that day. The smiles on their faces are just amazing and extremely rewarding.'* Brian recalls moments where the impact of their service is evident. *'We've met so many lovely people who just need a friendly face and a bit of help. And it's not always just delivering the meals and having a chat - we've helped in all sorts of ways. Some people need help with reading their*



*mail or getting it from the mailbox and others have asked us to help with some tailoring of their clothes. We're always happy to help in any way we can. And we're not giving them a handout, we're give them a hand up.'*

The Creswick Meals on Wheels program is currently seeking volunteers to help keep the program strong. If you're looking to make a meaningful difference, consider joining this vital service. As Brian and Josie's story shows, the rewards of volunteering extend far beyond the meals you deliver.

Brian adds *'If you're at all curious about helping, pick up the phone and give it a try because I think you'll be hooked. I would say nine out of ten people have enjoyed it once they gave it a go and you won't know until you try. It's only a few hours a week and the rewards*

*are worth it'.*

### About Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels are delivered Monday to Friday usually between 11.00am and 1.00pm.

To find out more or to sign up, please email our Volunteer Engagement Manager at [j.cawton@chrh.org.au](mailto:j.cawton@chrh.org.au).

*Ben Steel*  
Communications Manager

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# Coming Together for *CresFest* 5 – 7 April 2024

A meeting of Creswick's business owners and operators, along with representatives from local groups, came together to find out how they could actively support next year's *CresFest* and to offer suggestions to ensure the ongoing viability of the festival, while building their own profiles in the community.

In an atmosphere of positive co-operation and enthusiasm, Stella Savy, co-director of *CresFest 2025*, opened the proceedings by sharing the magic that she envisages of marrying community musicians with their professional partners. As it approaches its fourth year *CresFest* has certainly made its mark on the Creswick community and this was acknowledged by those attending the meeting. The local groups, such as Lions, Bowling Club and Scouts, are very keen to work together to enhance the overall community involvement and to broaden the availability of food options throughout the festival precinct. The spirit of co-operation was palpable and exciting, with cafes making a commitment to stay

open longer. With more free entertainment, it is anticipated that Creswick will be alive with visitors.

Stella Savy said that there will be plenty of opportunities for local musicians to participate - from choirs, musicians, concerts and workshops. *'There truly is something for everyone. And if you're not a musician, you might well have the skills to become one of the many really important volunteers, without whom CresFest could not go on. Or perhaps you would consider hosting a musician. And if you can volunteer or host, you will receive a free ticket to CresFest 2025.'*

*CresFest* always remembers and values its community. From 1 February, 2025, *CresFest* is giving a special ticket price to locals. Pop into the Community Bank Creswick & District, to collect a voucher.

Further information at [www.cresfest.com.au](http://www.cresfest.com.au).

*Fiona Watson*



## Creswick Bowling Club News

Things have been running smoothly throughout November with the Pennant season under way. Bowling form is elusive at this stage and bowlers are not winning enough rinks overall to make their mark.

The first Summer Triples held in October was won by Daylesford with runners-up from Mt Xavier. It was well supported again by the clubs in the region and six rinks were filled.

Some ceiling acoustic noise-reducing panels have been installed in the club house and they appear to be making a difference to the noise generated at the Friday night dinners. These dinners are attracting big numbers with many members coming along to enjoy the night. The members' draw was recently won several times as luckily the winner was present. The sponsor for these dinners is Sinclair Meats in Ballarat and the club is very grateful for their support each week. They supply a very substantial meat tray and vouchers to raffle.

The 150<sup>th</sup> committee meets regularly now as the date for the luncheon is fast approaching. Information for past and present members can be obtained from Michelle Booth via email on [creswickbc150@gmail.com](mailto:creswickbc150@gmail.com). Contact Michelle on 0417 538 244 to book for the lunch in February. The club would love to hear from past pennant playing members and invite them to the celebrations. The committee has organised some commemorative items for purchase. A

150<sup>th</sup> key ring and two designs for coffee mugs are on display at the club for anyone to purchase.

The draw has been announced for the Men's Club Championship and is posted on the notice board. Entrants need to check the draw for dates and opponents. The women will organise their championship at a date to be advised.

Pennant competitions will have a break over the Christmas period. The last rounds for Saturday will be 21 December resuming on 18 January. Tuesday's last game 17 December resuming on 14 January.

The club's Christmas break-up will be 21 December from 6.30pm. All members are asked to place on the list, their name, number of guests and whether they could bring a salad and/or sweet. The club also asks for members to bring an item for the Christmas hampers to be raffled on the night.

Practice is still being held on Thursday mornings at 10.00am and afternoons from 4.00pm onwards. A number of ladies are participating in a Spring Carnival Series each Thursday morning against Ballarat teams with the finals to be played just prior to Christmas.

The Board and members of the Creswick Bowling Club, wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas and look forward to an exciting New Year.

*Bernie O'Malley*



## Creswick Lions Club Successful Year

As the year draws to a close, it is good to reflect on what has been done over the past year. The club has provided support to several organisations in town who look after the welfare needs of many people within the district. Organisations such as the Neighbourhood Centre, Anglicare, Creswick Essential Bags, Scouts and the RSL have all received cash donations.

Lions has supported youth in the community, sponsoring a local participant in the Junior Commonwealth Games in the West Indies and two members of the Creswick Brass Band who toured New Zealand with the Victorian Youth Band. There was also assistance for Pavilion Arts with their Halloween event.

The club continues to provide good value barbecued sausages, egg and bacon rolls at the Creswick Market and has provided similar items at the Creswick Motorcycle Club at Allendale. The Lions were invited to provide the sausage sizzle for the official launch of the Djuwang Baring (Creswick Trails) at the end of November. In November, a successful trivia night was held with thanks going to the local businesses and individuals who supported this event. Thanks also to Meg, Kathryn, Leigh and Bernadette for pulling the event together.

Lions final fund-raising efforts for the year will be a Christmas Hamper Raffle with tickets and a variety of Lions Christmas Cakes being sold outside the IGA in the lead up to Christmas. Lions Christmas cakes are also being sold at the Community Bank, Creswick Post Office, Davies and Rose, Flemos, John Curtin Aged Care, Clunes Newsagent and Clunes Medical Centre. Thanks to each of these businesses for their support.

The club continues to collect old car/truck batteries and sells them to raise money to put back into the community. If you have any, please contact Pat on 0429 581 591 to arrange collection or drop off. Unwanted eyeglasses for redistribution to developing countries are also collected. These can be left at the Shire Hub, Community Health Centre, Neighbourhood Centre or contact Bernadette to arrange dropping off.

If you would like to help out in the community, talk to a Lion.

*Pat Tacey, President*

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The year end is fast approaching and John Curtin Aged Care takes this opportunity to give thanks to our community for its ongoing support.

It is so pleasing to be in such a good financial position going into the new year. There is a strong, positive vision for our future development and that is now the focus, as well as maintaining a four star quality service rating.

We are still waiting patiently for the delivery of our bus; frustrating as it may be, but we no longer manufacture vehicles locally.

It has also been a struggle to fill Board vacancies, with the mandate that they be skills based appointments. Nonetheless, we continue to meet our obligations and are confident all positions will be filled in the new year.

While there are still many challenges ahead, we can face the future with real optimism, and our community has contributed to that.

On behalf of all the Board Members, Board Committee Members, CEO Steve Bruechert, management, staff and volunteers, John Curtin Aged Care would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and remember, stay safe!

*Susan Craven*

## Community Bank and Child and Family Services

### Thread Together Partner for a Pop Up in Creswick

CAFS Thread Together Mobile Wardrobe has visited the Creswick Neighbourhood Centre for the first time. Thread Together is an initiative that receives donations of brand-new clothing from fashion retailers across the country and distributes them to those in the community who need the most help. This program diverts new clothing from landfill and distributes it to people experiencing hardship. The Thread Together Mobile Wardrobe will visit the Creswick and Clunes communities quarterly. Community Bank Board Chair, Marcus Walsh said, *'We are thrilled to support bringing Thread Together to Creswick and Clunes, offering a tangible benefit to these communities. We remain committed to funding initiatives that enhance our community and believe Thread Together will deliver on that and more'*.

CAFS CEO, Wendy Sturgess added, *'We are proud of the work we do with Thread Together, offering the most vulnerable people in our community brand new clothing to promote social inclusion, belonging and a safe space to receive items they may need for a job interview, school social event or a changing season. We look forward to supporting the residents of Creswick and Clunes both now and into the future'*.

*Edited excerpt from a press release*

## Kingston Friends of the Avenue

Thank you to all who were able to attend the Remembrance Day Service and many thanks to Newlyn Primary School for their support and involvement.



*Guests reading students' reflections on Remembrance Day*

As guests assembled, students offered sprigs of rosemary and attendees were able to view the students' reflections on Remembrance Day. Special thanks to Barry Golding for the Acknowledgement of Country and John Laursen for conducting the Service. Wreaths were laid by various individuals and community groups.

The Service concluded with the National Anthem sung by Newlyn Primary School students. Hospitality was then shared at the Commercial Hotel with special thanks to Sue and Trace.

*Leah Armstrong  
On Behalf of the Friends*



**Carols by Candle Light  
Christmas Eve  
24 December, 7.30pm**

**Smeaton Presbyterian Church  
3375 Creswick/Newstead Road**

**All Welcome  
Supper Afterwards**

## ELECTED COUNCILLORS

The Victorian Electoral Commission declared the results of the Hepburn Shire Local Government Election. The successful candidates are as follows:

- Don Henderson
- Brian Hood
- Lesley Hewitt
- Tony Clark
- Tim Drylie
- Pat Hockey
- Shirley Cornish

Councillors were sworn in on 14 November 2024, and will commence their induction as required by the Local Government Act 2020. Council will consider the election of a Mayor and Deputy Mayor on 26 November 2024, before ordinary Council meetings resume in December.

Council would like to thank all candidates for their commitment and putting their hands up to represent our community.

## CHANGES TO AQUATICS OPERATIONS

The pool season is fast approaching and, FREE entry is back!

We are making a few changes to our aquatics operations this season (from 7 December 2024 to 10 March 2025), including a slight reduction to pool opening times. We have made these changes based on our analysis of past usage and running more efficiently.

During the season we will communicate unforeseen changes to pool operations, for example closures due to reactive maintenance or vandalism, on our website at [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/pools](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/pools)

Read our full media release on our website at [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/Latest-news](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/Latest-news)

## TECH TALK AND TEA IS BACK

Tech Talk and Tea digital literacy sessions are back, and again they are FREE.

- Creswick Hub - Mondays 10am to 12pm
- The Warehouse - Clunes - Mondays 2pm to 4pm
- The Mechanics Trentham - Tuesdays 10am to 12pm
- Daylesford Library - Tuesdays 2pm to 4pm

These casual and friendly classes provide a group learning environment and some time for one-on-one problem solving.

No need to book, and you do not need to come along every week. Join these sessions and learn how to get the best out of your smart phone or other digital devices. All welcome.

## IMPROVING OUR ROADS



The arrival of better weather means more opportunity to improve our roads. Council is commencing its road reseal program by stabilising patching on selected roads. As part of our \$450,000 contract awarded in September, our contractor has begun work in Creswick. Stabilised patching helps enhance road pavements using cement or other additives. We will also be resealing selected roads over the summer period to improve them. Our patching program

will focus on preparing roads for resealing before we tackle other areas in the Shire. Our works teams have been busy repairing pavements, especially around West Berry Road in Allendale. If you are travelling on our roads and you see the road reseal teams, please keep them safe by following all traffic signs.

## GRANT FINDER WEBSITE

Attention local businesses and community groups. We would like to introduce the Hepburn Grant Finder. It is your go-to tool for discovering grants and funding opportunities tailored just for you. This custom search tool hand-picks grants specifically for our region, making it easier to find the support you need.

Ready to explore your options? Visit the Hepburn Grant Finder website- <https://grantguru.com/au/hepburnshire>

## FIRE DANGER PERIOD

The Country Fire Authority (CFA) has declared that the Fire Danger Period for Hepburn Shire will commence on **25 November 2024 and conclude on 1 May 2025**. During this time restrictions apply on what you can do on your property.

For more information visit [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

## MAKING A SERVICE REQUEST



Did you know...? You can report issues or make service requests relating to Council services or assets via our website. You will be issued with a reference number so you can track progress on your request. It's easy!

Visit [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au) and click on "Report an issue" in the quick links, or go to [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/request](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/request). We are here to help.

## COUNCIL PLAN FOCUS AREAS



A resilient, sustainable and protected environment



A healthy, supported, and empowered community



Embracing our past and planning for the future



Diverse economy and opportunities



A dynamic and responsive council

The Council Plan 2021-2025 describes how Council will strive towards our vision, where to focus efforts, and how to measure progress. Each Focus Area has a series of priority statements, with actions against each item.

☎ 5348 2306 ✉ [shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au](mailto:shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au) 🌐 [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au) 📺 [www.facebook.com/hepburncouncil](https://www.facebook.com/hepburncouncil)



## Christmas Services for the Anglican Parish of Springmount

22 December 5.00pm,  
St Matthew's Church, Newlyn

24 December 5.30pm,  
St Paul's Church, Clunes

24 December 7.30pm,  
St John's Church, Creswick

25 December 9.30am,  
All Saints' Church, Learmonth

29 December No services

## St Augustine's Christmas and New Year Mass Times

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, 24 December  
Vigil 6.00pm Wendouree  
Vigil 8.30pm Daylesford

Christmas Day – Wednesday, 25 December  
9.00am Creswick

New Year's Day – Wednesday, 1 January, 2025  
10.30am Daylesford  
Thursday, 2 January  
10.00am Wendouree  
Friday, 3 January  
10.30am Creswick

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## PRD Real Estate Creswick

Wishing a Merry Christmas from us to you and your family.  
Office closure 20<sup>th</sup> December and re-opening on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.



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## FEATURED PROPERTIES



37 Cummins Road, Mount Rowan

Expression of Interest.

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This unique property offers a haven for nature lovers, attracting abundant birdlife and providing endless opportunities for families to enjoy the outdoors.

Creswick's Best Selling Team



10 Augusta Street, Creswick

\$830,000 - \$860,000

 3  2  2

Nestled next to the RACV Goldfields Resort, this beautifully presented double-storey home boasts stunning views across the Creswick Golf Course, all set on a magnificent low-maintenance allotment.

Upon entering, you'll be greeted by a sophisticated atmosphere, with plenty of natural light illuminating the entire space. This elegant property, complete with picturesque vistas, invites you to settle in and make it your own.

Creswick's Best Selling Team



25 Harvey Street, Creswick

\$750,000

 3  2

Elevated high in the beautiful town of Creswick, 25 Harvey Street offers a serene retreat with storybook charm and modern conveniences.

This delightful property combines character and practicality, with stunning views of the townships night lights to enjoy from the comfort of your home.

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&  
Happy New Year*



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As part of the local *HappyScraps* program, Rachel Yeo visited the school to provide morning tea and lunch for the students. It was a very successful day and most students participated. Rachel sources food from local farms to cook into healthy delicious meals sold at very affordable prices. The school was thrilled to be part of this great initiative and looks forward to continuing the connection into the future.

schools coming up to watch the games.

Two student leaders represented the school well during the Remembrance Day ceremony on 11 November at the Creswick Cenotaph. Layla read the poem *In Flander's Field* in front of the crowd and she joined Caelean in laying a wreath on behalf of the school. It is always a valuable experience for students to be involved with important local events.



*The soccer teams from both schools*

One of the highlights over the past few weeks has been the running of the annual Creswick Cup sports day between Creswick Primary School and Creswick North Primary School. This has been running for a few years and is always looked forward to and builds upon the annual tradition. Students from both schools have been practising hard and the soccer and netball matches are always played in great spirit, with wonderful sportsmanship shown from both schools. This year Creswick North PS hosted both matches under cloudy skies and some light showers. However, this didn't deter any of the teams.

There continues to be lots of enrolments coming in and the school continues to grow very quickly. The 2025 Foundation student transition days are coming up soon to



*The netball teams from both schools*

The boys from Creswick PS were too strong in the soccer, winning 5-0. However, in the netball the girls from Creswick North PS retained the Creswick Cup shield, winning 16-5. It was great to see parents from both

ensure they are set-up and ready for starting school in 2025. State schools are great schools and at Creswick North PS we have amazing facilities and resources. Please contact on 5345 2012 for a tour.

*Matthew Reyntjes, Principal*

## HONOUR ROLL INDUCTEE

### Raymond (Ray) James Laycock 1931 – 2021

*For His Contribution to Creswick Bowling Club as a Player, Administrator and Organiser*

Ray Laycock was born in Beechworth on 27 August 1931. His parents were Ernest James Pierce Laycock (1902-1960) and Sara Keighrey (1902-1958). He had three brothers: Ernest Keith Laycock (1930-2011), Leonard Laycock (1933-1933) and Noel Francis Laycock (1935-1970).

His early schooling was at Beechworth. From the age of nine he worked at the local newsagency as a delivery boy as well as working on the delivery van during the school holidays. At the age of 15, he began an apprenticeship (1947-1954) as a cabinet maker in Melbourne. He then worked at the Victorian Railway Workshop in Ballarat North.

Ray married Dalys Joy Torney, known as Billee, (1929-2007) on 13 November, 1954 in the Creswick Methodist Church. They had two children: Robyn Ann Laycock (Oswin) in 1955 and Ross Gregory Laycock in 1957.

Ray and Billee built their home at 51 Clunes Road, Creswick. In 1978 they purchased and ran the mixed business shop in Creswick North for eight years.

The first bowling green in Creswick was opened in 1876 at Leopold Park, later known as Hammon Park. In 1932, the green was moved to a site near the corner of Albert and Victoria Streets. The last move was from there to Lindsay Park in 2014.

Ray Laycock joined the Creswick Bowling Club in 1956 at the age of 25. At that time, he was the youngest player ever to have played with Creswick. This was the start of 60 years of service to the club in many roles and the start of a championship career that not only brought honour to Creswick and the bowling club, but also to the Victorian, Australian and International bowling scene.

In 1958, he became a member of the bowling club's committee. This was at a time of great growth at the bowling club in Albert Street. A new green was built on the site of the tennis court adjoining the existing green. The tennis court had been moved to Cushing Avenue. Construction of the green was done by members of the bowling club over two years and it was opened for play in 1959. One of the two greens was considered to be one of the best in the Association.

Ray was Works Manager for several years and oversaw the renovations and extensions to the club house. He organised working bees and maintained the buildings and surrounds. His organisational and administrative skills

extended to most major events at Club level, both socially and competitively.

In 1962, a new kitchen was built in the club house by Fred Hepworth. Ray, being a cabinet maker, assisted Fred as well as organising the working bees, some 18 in number. The old wooden green shelters were replaced by new ones. In 1965, a new and separate men's toilet was added. Then a sand shelter on a concrete slab.

To finish the club house, new collapsible tables were produced at Bill Mizzeni's farm using tubular steel. Bill was assisted in this project by Ray and others.

His organisational and administrative skills were also used to organise competitions, fund raising and social events, including the Annual Dinner.



*Raymond (Ray) James Laycock*

Ray was a selector from 1960 until 2003; a committee member from 1958 until 2005; Club President 1967-1968; Green Caretaker from 1987; then progressively assumed the role of Greenkeeper until 1996. This involved mowing up to three times weekly, rolling the greens, watering and all the other aspects of maintaining high-class grass greens.

He was also coach for Creswick teams, the Smeaton Ladies and Mens Indoor Bowls Secretary/Treasurer 1982-1995.

One story about Ray is the tale of the donated piano. The club was gifted a piano by the local chemist,

Mr Ken Barrell. Transporting it through the main street to the club house, it fell off the trailer right in front of the chemist shop! Not to be defeated, Ray painstakingly repaired the cabinetry while his wife, Billee, a gifted pianist, repaired the keys and other working parts. It then continued its journey to the club house.

Ray achieved many bowling successes. These are just a few of them:

*Club Champion nine times.*

*Ray played at State level starting in 1969. In 2001, a Creswick District News article stated that he had played 192 state games over 20 years. During that time he was a State Selector and State Coach.*

*He represented Australia at the Edinburgh Commonwealth Games in 1986.*

***Continued on next page***

**HONOUR ROLL INDUCTEE**  
**Raymond (Ray) James Laycock 1931 – 2021**



In 1985, the Creswick Bowling Club conferred Life Membership on Ray, recognising his long membership on the committee since 1958; selector since 1960; his two years of Presidency; many years of service as Works Manager, including several years of renovations and extensions to the club house and a term as Greenkeeper. His administrative skills extended to organising most major events at club level, both socially and competitively.

In his honour, a green at the Albert Street site was named the *Ray Laycock Green* which recorded, *'the passionate dedication of an outstanding sportsman and administrator'*.

Nationally Ray was honoured with the presentation of the Australian Sports Medal and in 2000 the Royal Victorian Bowls Association's *Medal of Merit*. He was Creswick's Sportsman of the Year five times.

Ray played bowls until he was in his 80s. He died on 26 December, 2021, aged 90.

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**PROBUS CLUB**  
**Celebrating a Very Full Year**

It is almost the end of another year and almost a quarter of the way through this century – where has the time gone? Creswick Probus Club, like all the local organisations and clubs has had a very busy and successful year.

Several new members have been welcomed to the club which is great, but sadly we have said goodbye to some. Some members have moved to be closer to family and some changed their living arrangements which just goes to show nothing stays the same.

Throughout the year members have been fortunate to listen to some very interesting guest speakers covering a range of topics including updates on Her Majesty's Theatre, gold mining in the area and Indigenous land sites. They have been entertained by the Ballarat U3A Celtic Band and learnt more about local groups including Creswick Neighbourhood Centre, Hepburn Shire Positive Aging Strategy, Creswick Emergency Readiness Group and Shannon's Bridge.

Travel wise a lot of the state has been seen through bus trips to the Echuca/Moama area, Seppelts Winery at Great Western, a train trip from Castlemaine to Maldon and a scenic trip right around Port Phillip Bay including catching the ferry from Sorrento to Queenscliff. On some of these the travellers were joined by members of other organisations which was great. Several members also enjoyed a terrific few days in Geelong recently on the Caravan and Cabin outing.

Lots of trips to the theatre have been enjoyed by members with still more to come. Our organiser secures some great tickets for a wide range of entertainment mainly at Her Majesty's and Wendouree Performing Arts Centre which makes getting there relatively easy. There are at least four theatre outings already planned for next year along with a trip to the Werribee Rose Garden and the Werribee Zoo in March.

If you would like to know more about the club, please don't hesitate to contact us or come along to a meeting. Visitors are always welcome. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 4 at 10.00am at the Uniting Church hall.

On behalf of the Committee and members of the Creswick Probus Club I would like to wish everyone a safe, healthy and happy Christmas and New Year. May it bring everything you are hoping for.

*Aileen Dellar*  
*creswickprobus@gmail.com*

**December 2, 1924**

Hollinwood – The sale of property at Hollinwood on Wednesday last, conducted by Messrs John T. Sloan and Co., auctioneers, on behalf of the trustee of the estate of John Hawkins, proved successful. The competition was very keen, and the property was eventually purchased by Mr. Joseph Sanders, who intends to establish his home on the property at an early date.

**December 5, 1924**

The plant, land, buildings, stock, etc., of the Creswick Brick, Tile and Potteries Ltd. (in liquidation) at North Creswick, were sold by public auction yesterday. The whole was sold in one lot. Bidding started at £2,000 and when £2,310 had been reached, was knocked down to Mr. M. T. Batkin, formerly managing director of the company. We understand Mr. Batkin acted for a party, who intend carrying on operations.

**December 9, 1924**

Kingston – The Red and Black Entertainers will give an entertainment in the Kingston Mechanics' hall this (Tuesday) evening, when the proceeds will be in aid of the school funds and an injured footballer. The prices of tickets are 1/6 and 1/-. A dance will follow, for which the gentlemen will pay 1/6 and ladies provide refreshments.

**December 12, 1924**

The opening ceremony of the Dean Higher Elementary School was carried out on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> inst., under most favorable weather conditions. The widespread interest in the school and the occasion was evinced by the throng of people who filled the new assembly hall to overflowing.

**December 16, 1924**

St. John's Tennis Court. Opening on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> December, at 3.30 p.m. Members of the Congregation and Public generally invited. F. Mann, Hon. Sec.

**December 19, 1924**

At the recent examination for the certificate of the Royal Victorian Trained Nurses' Association, the Misses Mavis M. Moroney and Sadie McKay passed. These young ladies trained in the Creswick District Hospital and can be congratulated on their success.

**December 23, 1924**

That well established organisation, the Springmount Sports Club, will hold its annual races and sports in Mr. Hackett's paddock on Christmas Day – Thursday next. In past years some very pleasant and enjoyable gatherings have taken place at Springmount, and Thursday's event should be no exception to the rule. The programme is of a diversified character, consisting of horse races, various kinds of athletic events and dancing for the juveniles. An addition has been made to the programme, an event for buggy horses being included.

**December 30, 1924**

The Creswick Victory Brass Band, under the leadership of Mr. Herb Vague, had a very busy time during the Christmas holidays. On Christmas Eve the band played in several parts of the town; on Christmas Day they played at the Springmount Sports; on Boxing Day at the Talbot sports; and on Saturday at the Allendale Sports. On each occasion they acquitted themselves well.

**I'm here to help.**  
For assistance with state government matters, please contact my office.

**Martha Haylett**  
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## St Augustine's News

### *A Letter from the Principal*

Dear Creswick Community,

Thank you from St Augustine's.

*As we move towards the end of the year, I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude for the incredible support and spirit that you, as a community, have shown to our students and staff throughout 2024. In working with groups such as the Creswick Community House and the Creswick RSL, we in partnership, have fostered an environment where our children can flourish both academically and personally.*

*As a school, we are immensely proud of our students and the manner in which they have conducted themselves. They have exemplified respect and kindness, demonstrating strong values in their interactions with peers, teachers and the wider community. It is heartening to see their passion for learning deepen, which is a testament to the strong foundation their families all help provide.*

*Equally important, is the focus on our students' social and emotional development. Our school community prioritises creating a safe and inclusive environment, where every child feels valued and supported. We have implemented programs that not only address academic learning but also promote resilience, empathy and teamwork among our students.*

*As we eagerly anticipate our move into the new building next year, we look forward to the opportunities this will bring for enhanced learning experiences and facilities. This new space will allow us to further cultivate our community and strengthen the learning we share. Thank you for being such an integral part of our school's journey.*

*Together, we are shaping a bright future for our students and our community.*

*May you all stay safe and enjoy the many blessings Christmas may bring.*

Warm regards

Michael Heenan, Principal

If you need the services of a  
**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE** in the Creswick district  
Ring 5345 7414, 0408 317 872 or 5345 7522  
or visit [rvahj.org.au](http://rvahj.org.au) for more information.

## Creswick Readiness Group

### ARE YOU PREPARED FOR SUMMER?

With fire season upon us, preparedness is essential. While the Creswick Readiness Group is dedicated to building community resilience, each of us must take accountability for our own property and safety. Every small action helps to protect families, neighbours, and community.

Start by asking: are you truly prepared for this summer? The Vic Emergency app is an excellent resource for staying informed. It provides up-to-date information on emergencies across Victoria and sends real-time alerts tailored to your location. Download the app to stay connected and prepared.

Preparation begins with a solid plan. The *SES - Plan and Stay Safe at Home* site offers practical tips on securing your property against fires, floods, and storms. From trimming back vegetation to creating firebreaks, these simple steps can make a significant difference.

The Red Cross *RediPlan* is another valuable tool, guiding you through steps for emergency planning, including preparing an emergency kit and storing important documents safely. For those in fire-prone areas, the *CFA - Plan & Prepare* site is essential for creating a bushfire survival plan and understanding fire danger ratings.

#### **Together, We Build Resilience**

In our mission for a resilient Creswick District, the Creswick Readiness Group is thrilled to share that the first eleven people have successfully completed a two-day Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) course with Jacqui White, Psychologist. The training focused on equipping community members with skills to identify and support individuals facing mental health challenges, which is critical during and after emergencies. These skills empower our community to look out for one another, reinforcing the social fabric that is key to resilience.

The benefits of MHFA training extend beyond emergencies, enhancing everyday interactions and building a supportive, aware community. Look out for future MHFA sessions in 2025! If you're interested, these will be excellent opportunities to learn and contribute to Creswick's ongoing resilience.

Finally, don't forget to stay informed about local conditions. Monitor fire danger ratings, set up alerts on your phone and consider a battery-powered radio for backup.

Together, with each household and individual prepared, Creswick will be better equipped to face this fire season with strength and unity. Preparedness is a shared effort that starts with individual accountability.

Stay safe and proactive, Creswick!

Isaac McCann

Creswick Readiness Group



## Creswick Capers

### A Wonderful End to Seven years at Creswick Primary School

We wish all of the Year 6 students well as they transition to secondary school with students heading to Mount Rowan, Daylesford, Mount Clear, Damascus, Loreto and St Pats. Congratulations, Year 6 students.

**Below, School Captains, Lucy, Kobe, Immy and Joey (with some help from Kysan), reflect on the school year from a Year 6s perspective. Helen Romeril, Principal.**

*Throughout 2024 the grade 6s at Creswick Primary School have done many excursions, incursions and events. We have many highlights from our final year of Primary School such as sport days, camps and concerts.*

*We were honoured to be included in the Daylesford Winter Sports day hosted by St Michael's Primary School. We played netball, newcombe, soccer and football.*

*Our school Athletics Day was held at Llanberris. House teams competed against each other with team Victoria taking the bragging rights and trophy this year.*

*Grade 5/6 camp was in Melbourne this year. There were many highlights including the Immigration Museum, Queen Victoria Market, Old Melbourne Gaol, the Police Museum, Parliament House, the State Library and ACMI.*

*This year we performed The Wizard of Oz. It took place at the Mt Rowan Secondary School auditorium. We practised for all of term three learning multiple lines, songs and dances. We held two concerts over two nights and it was a memorable experience for all of us.*

*We have been on many excursions including BioLab, BioCats and EarthEd. For BioCats we travelled to the GMHBA stadium where we learnt about what it takes to be a professional football player and the history of the Geelong Football Club.*

*A group of grade 5 and 6 students were featured in an after-school netball team. It was a competitive season, and we fortunately won the grand final.*

*During term 4, facilitators from bus operator CDC Ballarat and PTV came to teach the grade 6s how to catch the bus and use a myki. We learnt a lot from this experience.*

*We also are excited for the upcoming events including our last Jogathon, swimming lessons, high school orientation, Grade 6 Big Day Out and Graduation Night. We can't wait for all these events coming up but we're sure it will be amazing!*

*By Lucy, Kobe, Immy, Joey and Kysan.*



## SMEATON BOWLING CLUB

The month of November has seen the installation of the lighting upgrade on the synthetic green, a successful Barefoot Bowls/Community night and many games of bowls played.

It was great to see so many come along for a social game of bowls and a chat at the November Barefoot Bowls/Community night. Everyone is welcome to come again on Friday, 13 December at 6.00pm and Friday, 10 January 2025 for the next Barefoot Bowls nights. The new lighting will be showcased which has really increased the brightness on the green for play at night. Our thanks to Adam Briggs Electrical for their timely installation of the upgrade.

Upcoming Events Calendar at Smeaton Bowling Club:

Friday, 13 December, 6.00pm - Barefoot Bowls/Community night.

### 2025

Friday, 10 January, 6.00pm - Barefoot Bowls/Community night.

Sunday, 19 January, Nebpak Transport Mixed Fours, entries welcome.

Wednesday, 5, 12 and 19 February - Twilight Triples, entries welcome.

Club events are underway with players getting good match play practise. As always, anyone can beat anyone on the day! Bowlers are also travelling to other clubs to play tournaments and to spread the word about Smeaton's upcoming club tournaments.

If you wish to learn more about the happenings at Smeaton Bowling Club please make contact with the Secretary, Russell 0417 535 297, President, David 0418 584 942 or via email [smeatonbowling@gmail.com](mailto:smeatonbowling@gmail.com).

The club facilities, the hall, Bowling Clubrooms, and kitchen are available for hire for functions. The Greens can also be hired for a Barefoot Bowls session for a workplace or family event.

We wish all our bowlers and friends of the club a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Thanks for your support and the many voluntary hours that members contribute to keep the club up and running.

Laraine Toose

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# CRESWICK AND DISTRICT

## REGULAR AND ONGOING EVENTS

**Anglicare Emergency Food Relief** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month 1.00pm – 2.00pm. All Concession cards welcome, ring ahead on 5333 0600 to receive your pre-packed Food Hamper. Collection is from Creswick Neighbourhood Centre, Victoria St.

**Anglican Parish of Springmount**  
St John's Church, 103 Napier Street, Creswick  
Holy Eucharist: 10.00am 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays  
Contact: 0413 689 003

**Business & Tourism Creswick Inc.**  
Meet every second Tuesday of the month at 7pm and open to anyone who is interested. Creswick Neighbourhood Centre. Contact the secretary on [info@creswick.net](mailto:info@creswick.net)

**Catholic Parish Creswick**  
St Augustine's Church  
Mass Sunday 9.00am  
**except 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month,**  
Assembly of the Word and Communion.  
Contact 0488 220 685.

**Creswick Cloggers (tap dance)**  
Tuesdays 6.30pm - 8.30pm  
Creswick Scout Hall, North Parade, Creswick  
Contact 0418 306 321

**Creswick-Clunes Uniting Church Parish** Every Sunday - 9.30am All Welcome. 130 Albert Street Creswick (The pretty pink church on the hill) Supply Minister: Rev Kate Tierney 0404 853 505 or email [tierneycatherine53@gmail.com](mailto:tierneycatherine53@gmail.com)

**Creswick Cemetery** -  
Gates Open 9.00am to 5.00pm.  
Daily

**Creswick & District Aquatic Centre Inc.** - first Wednesday Feb. Apr. Aug. Nov 7.00pm  
Phone 0434 071 185

**Creswick & District Historical Society**  
fourth Thursday every month (except December and January)  
Seniors' Club rooms 2.00pm.  
Phone 5345 2065

**Creswick & District Hospital Auxiliary** meets at hospital last Monday monthly 7.30pm. No meeting in June. New members welcome.

**Creswick & District U3A** -  
0490 444 519 email [info@creswicku3a.com](mailto:info@creswicku3a.com)  
website [www.creswicku3a.com](http://www.creswicku3a.com)

**Creswick Folk Club** Second and fourth Friday 7.30pm, Creswick Railway Station, Contact John Harris  
0428 842 234

**Creswick Garden Club** - first Tuesday every month (except January) Seniors' Club Rooms 1.15pm.

**Creswick Havilah Lodge** -  
Meeting fourth Thursday every month 7.30pm.  
Bob Orr 5345 2165

**Creswick Lions Club**  
second Wednesday every month. 7.00pm R.S.L. Hall  
Membership Chairperson Maria Marco 0410 499 007  
[mariamarco3363@gmail.com](mailto:mariamarco3363@gmail.com)

**Creswick Museum**  
open Saturday between 11.00am to 3.30pm.

**Calembeen Parkrun**  
Every Saturday at 8am a 5km run, walk or come to volunteer! All welcome to join this fun, free weekly activity.  
For more information email [calembeen@parkrun.com.au](mailto:calembeen@parkrun.com.au) or find us on Facebook

**Community Repair & Share Event**  
3rd Sunday, 1.00pm to 4.00pm  
Creswick Neighbourhood Centre  
[transitioncreswick@gmail.com](mailto:transitioncreswick@gmail.com) or 5345 2356

**Creswick Market** - Third Saturday every month 9.00am-1.00pm. Creswick Neighbourhood Centre, A happy small town market, bookings 5345 2356 [creswicknc.org/creswick-market](http://creswicknc.org/creswick-market)  
Email [market@cnc.org.au](mailto:market@cnc.org.au)

**Creswick Probus Club** - first Tuesday every month (except January) meetings St Andrew's Hall, 10.00am.  
Inquiries email [creswickprobus@gmail.com](mailto:creswickprobus@gmail.com)

**Creswick Senior Citizens** - last Friday each month members enjoy social day and \$5 Lunch at Seniors' Clubrooms 12 noon

**Creswick Senior Cyclists** - meet Sundays and Wednesdays, 10.15am Creswick Band Rotunda.  
All casual cyclists welcome.

**Creswick Walking Group**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays 8.30am. Meet Albert Studio, cnr Ballarat Rd and South St.  
All Welcome, Rain, Hail or Shine.

**Creswick Ward meeting** - second Monday every month.  
**Cr Don Henderson** 7.00pm  
Creswick Railway Station

**Cr Tim Drylie**  
by appointment  
Creswick Community Hub  
Ph. 0427 503 258 Email: [tdrylie@hepburn.vic.gov.au](mailto:tdrylie@hepburn.vic.gov.au)

**CRWA** - Members Meeting - First Sunday every month 1.00pm after Working Bee. Railway Workshops Precinct Judy 5345 1374

**Freedom In Christ-Church**  
RSL Hall Albert St Creswick  
Jesus heals and sets free.  
Sundays 10:15am - 1:00pm  
Pastor Margaret Tamkin  
Contact Mob. 0449 917 503

**Friends of Park Lake**  
Park Lake working bees  
10am-noon every Wednesday, weather permitting.  
Meet at the jetty.

**Joey's, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers** - every Thursday during school term. Enquiries via Scouts Victoria website [scoutsvictoria.com.au](http://scoutsvictoria.com.au)

**Museum Research Centre** -  
Open Saturdays, 11am to 3pm.  
Email requests to [info@creswickmuseum.org.au](mailto:info@creswickmuseum.org.au)

**Music Jam** for music lovers every Friday 7.00pm-9.00pm  
Neighbourhood Centre.  
Audience welcome

**Parents Without Partners Weekly Dance**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month with live band.  
Invermay Hall, Muscatel Street, Invermay.  
\$12 & \$10 members. Supper to Share please.  
**Social Dance**, Thursday nights at VRI Hall Ballarat  
7.30pm – 10.00pm. Phone 0487 222 924.

**Pavilion Arts & Sustainability Inc**  
9 December 2024 - Monday 6.00 pm  
3 February 2025 - Monday 6.00 pm  
7 April 2025 - Monday 6.00 pm  
AGM 27 April 2025 - Sunday 2.00 pm  
Creswick Neighbourhood House  
Enquiries: [secretary@creswickartspavilion.org.au](mailto:secretary@creswickartspavilion.org.au)

**RSL meeting** - last Wednesday each month 1.00pm. RSL Hall Phil Greenbank 0490 374 006

**Tiplers** - third Wednesday every month. email: [barrymarj@hotmail.com](mailto:barrymarj@hotmail.com)

**Victoria Street Craft Group**, every Monday 10.00am – 2.00pm at the Creswick Bowling Club. BYO lunch.  
Contact Rita on 5345 2239 or 0407 452 232

**VOGA Cycle Club** Regular group rides that may be road, CX or MTB. Details on VOGA Facebook page. Free club membership via [www.vogacycleclub.com.au](http://www.vogacycleclub.com.au)

# Creswick Garden Lovers Weekend



*Miners Cottage*



*Black Cat*

*All photos courtesy of Terry Hope*



*Harvest Cottage*



*Nandina*



*Poziers*



*The Folly Garden*