



Community Investment



MAD!



Vale Stan Falloon



Summer Swap



Term One Program

T H E T R E N T H A M  
**TRUMPET**



# Council news

## COMMUNITY AWARDS



Council is proud to announce the recipients of the 2025 Community Awards, recognising individuals and community organisations that have made outstanding contributions to the local community.

The winners were announced at a civic event at The Mechanics Trentham on Friday 24 January.

- Citizen of the Year - **Steve Ellis**, for his exceptional community service and volunteer efforts in various local initiatives (Photo 1)
- Event of the Year - **160th Anniversary Clunes Show**, for its significant impact in celebrating and promoting the region's heritage and community spirit (Jenny Redpath) (Photo 2)
- Hepburn Together - **Daylesford and Hepburn United Soccer Club**, for fostering inclusivity, team spirit, and youth development in the region through soccer (Kirsty Plews and Chris Gingell) (Photo 3)

The civic event also included an Australian citizenship ceremony, with six people becoming citizens. The new citizens hailed from Germany, Philippines, Vietnam, New Zealand and Ireland.

## LISTENING POST EVENTS

We will be hosting a series of Listening Post events throughout 2025, aimed at strengthening communication and engagement with the community. The events will be held in major townships as well as smaller communities, with the opportunity for residents to share their ideas, provide feedback on services, and discuss matters that are important to them.

As part of the initiative, senior Council staff and Councillors will be attending local community spaces throughout the year.

The first three Listening Posts scheduled are:

- Saturday 15 February - Creswick IGA, 10am to 12pm
- Thursday 27 March - Daylesford Coles, 4pm to 6pm
- Saturday 3 May - Trentham Spudfest, 10am to 12pm

Details of other Listening Post events, including dates and locations, will be made available on our website – [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/listening-posts](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/listening-posts)

## LIBRARY OPERATION CHANGES

As part of Council's budget savings measures, Trentham and Clunes libraries will no longer open to the public on Saturday mornings from March 2025.

The decision was made after careful consideration of usage and borrowing rates, and aimed to minimise disruption to the community.

Meanwhile, Council has received a grant to expand community access to its four libraries beyond opening hours through the Open Access Libraries initiative, which allows library members to upgrade their membership to access library buildings beyond regular hours in the absence of onsite staff.

More on these changes at [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au)

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

The first Council meeting for 2025 is scheduled for Tuesday 25 February at 6pm.

Council meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month commencing at 6pm and are open to the public.

The meetings are recorded and live streamed to Council's YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/@hepburnshirecouncil5931](http://www.youtube.com/@hepburnshirecouncil5931)

Visit our website for more information at [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/council-meetings](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/council-meetings)

## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Council's Biodiversity Grants and Sustainable Hepburn Grants open for applications on 3 February.

The Sustainable Hepburn Grants Program supports community-based projects and initiatives that aim to reduce future impacts of climate change and promote or establish circular economy-focused programs, while Biodiversity Grants support community driven biodiversity initiatives.

Applications close on 16 March and announcements will be made about successful recipients in April.

For more information regarding Council's grants program visit [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/grants)

To discuss a project idea contact [grants@hepburn.vic.gov.au](mailto:grants@hepburn.vic.gov.au).

## POOL SEASON



Remember, our pools are open and community members can enjoy free entry until 13 March 2025.

For updates during the pool season about unexpected closures, visit [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/pools](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/pools)

## YOUR COUNCILLORS



Cr Don Henderson



Cr Lesley Hewitt



Cr Brian Hood



Cr Tony Clark



Cr Tim Drylie



Cr Pat Hockey



Cr Shirley Cornish

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



## Editorial

### Hi Trentham!

A belated welcome to 2025!

We're back for another year, and I don't think we're projecting when we say this issue contains everyone's favourite article of the year: Clyve and Jane's annual weather report! If you haven't already, you absolutely need to be watching their website for up to the minute current and webcams to admire our electric blue sky (well... today at least!) Bookmark [trentham.bs.ch.com.au/Trentham/Current\\_Vantage\\_Prop2.htm](http://trentham.bs.ch.com.au/Trentham/Current_Vantage_Prop2.htm), you won't regret it!

There's plenty to get involved in as you'll see throughout this jam-packed issue. From theatre, to film, to music, to sport, to fashion, to mahjong - there is something for everyone. Thanks to the volunteers, community groups and businesses who make this a fabulous place to be.

Want to volunteer but aren't sure where to start? Both the Trentham Easter Art and Craft Show (welcome back!!) and Spudfest are looking for helpers, and only require small time commitments - see details in this issue.

Lastly, a huge thank you to our contributors who fill our pages and advertisers who enable this free publication to exist!

Regards,  
Chris & Penny

## Takayna - the Heart of Lutruwita

### Spectacular film to screen in Blackwood!

One of the last wild places on Earth, and the campaign for its long fought for World Heritage nomination, has been reinvigorated by a film showcasing Australia's largest temperate rainforests and Aboriginal living landscape in Tasmania's Takayna. The film will be screening at St Martin's Chapel in Blackwood on Sunday 9 February.

Showcasing stunning wildness through breathtaking cinematography, powerful interviews with scientists, Aboriginal leaders and the Takayna defenders themselves, the new film 'Takayna – the Heart of Lutruwita' brings the wildlands of Tasmania's rugged North-West into cinemas across Australia.

Our Foundation is using the film to call for a change to the future for Takayna, one where secure protection is finally granted," said Jenny Weber, Bob Brown Foundation's Campaigns Manager. "The film, 'Takayna, Heart of Lutruwita', by Matthew Newton and Anna Brozek, will see a summer season of hundreds of screenings hosted by supporters around the planet. We are putting Takayna and its urgently needed World Heritage nomination on the agenda in the lead up to the federal election in 2025," Weber said.

"The Takayna/Tarkine is a wonderland of west-flowing rivers, giant freshwater crayfish, brilliant azure kingfishers and rare rainforest barn owls. It is the timeless land of the Tarkiner people who lived in abundance on one of



**SUMMER FASHION SWAP**

**Sunday 23rd February, 1-3pm**  
At the Trentham Mechanics  
66 High Street, Trentham

*Want to reduce fashion waste in landfill? Come along to our Summer Clothing Swap!*

Bring up to 8 clean & wearable garments to swap:

- womens clothing (all sizes)
- shoes, bags & accessories
- Gold coin donation appreciated
- Door prize and afternoon tea provided

Trentham Sustainability Group  
A great Idea for Sustainability  
In Trentham (GIST) Project

Kindly supported by  
community funding from  
Hepburn Shire Council

Earth's wildest coastlines. Every political leader who values Australia's natural and cultural heritage will back its nomination for World Heritage status.

"On the cinema screen is the grandeur and intimate beauty of Takayna, the jewel of Australia's temperate rainforests. Rooted to Earth with the great trees are Takayna's defenders, hundreds of whom have faced jail to protect the forests and wildlife. Here is one of the wildest and most arresting places on our planet," said Bob Brown.

Tickets for the screening in Blackwood are \$15 with all proceeds going to the Bob Brown Foundation.

**Sunday 9 February 7pm**  
**St Martins Chapel, Blackwood**

Get tickets:  
[takayna.org/screening/blackwood-screening](http://takayna.org/screening/blackwood-screening)

Trailer:  
[youtu.be/jzf0INXNHHg?feature=shared](https://youtu.be/jzf0INXNHHg?feature=shared)

For further details, contact:  
Fiona Ross  
0425 422 416  
[fiona@fionaross.com.au](mailto:fiona@fionaross.com.au)

## About the Trumpet

### Acknowledgement of Country

We are proud to acknowledge Dja Dja Wurrung  
as the Traditional Owners of this Country.  
We pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging



The Trentham Trumpet is published on the first of every month except January.

The Trumpet is the community's voice to: share local news and events; engage in topical discussion; provide a platform to express considered views and concerns; contribute to the historical record; and promote local trades and services.

All submissions need to embrace our pillars of inclusiveness, constructiveness and positivity. The editorial team reserves the right to refuse any article or advertising and to edit for length and clarity. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial team.

The deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month before. Please forward all items for publication to:

[thetrenthamtrumpet@gmail.com](mailto:thetrenthamtrumpet@gmail.com)

Electronic subscriptions (which we encourage) are available at:

[thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au](http://thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au)

Printed versions can be found in many retail and community outlets in and around Trentham.

*The Trentham Trumpet  
is gratefully auspiced by the TNC.*

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Advertising Rates <i>(from Feb 2022)</i>	Black & White		Colour	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
90mm x 55mm	\$40	\$400	\$55	\$550
90mm x 110mm (1/4 page)	\$75	\$750	\$95	\$950
190mm x 55mm (1/4 page banner)	\$75	\$750	\$95	\$950
190mm x 130mm (1/2 page)	\$145	\$1,450	\$180	\$1,800
190mm x 265mm (A4)	\$275	\$2,750	\$350	\$3,500

### What's on!

#### CWA - Trentham Night Owls

4th Thurs / month  
TNC 7pm  
[cwatrenthamnightowls@gmail.com](mailto:cwatrenthamnightowls@gmail.com)

#### Lions Schedule

Business Meeting: 3rd Thurs / month  
Dinner Meeting: 1st Thurs / month  
Farmers' Market: 3rd Sat / month

#### Sunday Church Services

St George (Anglican) 9am  
St Mary Magdalen (Catholic) 8.30am

#### Trentham Lions Club

Farmers' Market  
15 February 9am-1pm  
Trentham Town Square

#### Trentham Sustainability Group

Farmers' Market Food Swap  
15 February 10-11.30am  
Trentham Town Square

#### Trentham Cool Country Men's Shed

Open Wednesday & Saturday mornings  
9.30am - 12.30pm  
55 Mulchay's Road Trentham  
[info@coolcountrymensshed.org.au](mailto:info@coolcountrymensshed.org.au)

#### Life Activities Club

Ladies' Petanque  
10am every Tuesday  
Trentham Town Square, followed by coffee

Wednesday Walkers  
9.30am every Wednesday  
Easy town walk  
Meet at old Trentham Post Office

Men's Petanque  
10am every Thursday  
Trentham Town Square, followed by coffee

#### TNC

see [trenthamnc.org.au](http://trenthamnc.org.au)

#### Community Groups Listing

[thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au/our-community](http://thetrenthamtrumpet.com.au/our-community)

### On Our Cover

**Gus  
The Trentham Wombat**

Trentham Tales,  
page 6

## Trentham Lions

### Vale Stan Falloon – President of Trentham Lions and Community Campaigner

The announcement by Robyn Falloon in December came as a shock to all of us – especially his friends and colleagues at Trentham Lions.

"I am incredibly saddened to share with you, the passing of Stan Falloon on Saturday 30 November at the Austin Hospital as a result of rapid progression of recently diagnosed Motor Neurone Disease (MND). We are thankful that he left us peacefully and we are so very grateful for the care and compassion given by the hospital doctors, nurses and staff... He was my beloved husband and partner with everything in our lives, a passionate and dedicated Lion, and a mentor and friend to so many..."

Stan Falloon was born in Kyneton and grew up on their multi-generational family farm near Tylden. Stan and Robyn married in 1972 and lived in Essendon for many years raising a family of three wonderful sons. Educated in Woodend and Kyneton, he went on to complete an apprenticeship in carpentry and a Diploma in Building. Stan was a member of the Lions Clubs of Essendon, Doutta Galla and Trentham over a 20 year period, District Governor 2013-2014, Lions Crimewatch Chairperson and held numerous other roles.

A memorial Celebration was held for Stan at the Mechanics on 10 January which was attended by over 230 guests. One of the presentations was by Peter Hansard on behalf of Trentham Lions. Peter has been associated with Lions for over 20 years and is currently Treasurer of Trentham Lions. Extracts from Peter's speech which capture some of the essence of Stan and his life follow:

"I first met Stan, at a Trentham Lions Club meeting, after I had transferred from NSW. It was in his role as District Governor during 2013/14 that he addressed our membership that evening in Trentham. What struck me was not so much his eloquence, but his unbridled passion for Lions. He spoke of the projects that our District had completed, underlining his vision to improve the community by supporting people in need. In 2019, Stan transferred to Trentham Lions as he and Robyn had settled in Trentham some years earlier. Stan joined the Lions organisation, as a member of the Essendon Club in 2005. Robyn also joined Lions and has made a valuable contribution to the Lions cause. She has been District Governor of our region on two occasions – a rare feat.

"Every organisation, whether it be Service, Sport, or even Family involves some politics... but I can say, without hesitation that Trentham Lions operates with little or no politics. And it's been due, in no small measure, to Stan's contribution and personality. We are more a family unit, listening and caring for each other... He did not judge people and saw the good in all of us, in particular the Lions membership. Stan would always reach out to those of us who struggled with health issues and he would be the first to make contact and enquire about our wellbeing... He was incredibly humble, never talking about himself.

"In conclusion, as I have been speaking, you may have picked up on a number of character traits that Stan had in



abundance. Passion, dedication and excellent awareness skills. He, and the 'love of his life' Robyn, worked as a team on many projects during their lives together – they have been dedicated to each other, their family, Trentham Lions and the broader community.

"Vale Stanley John Falloon – your work here is done and your legacies will endure!"

Very few of us knew about Stan's life achievements prior to his passing. Stan wore a number of hats in the community – in addition to Lions he was a Director of the Community Bank Trentham & Districts for 7 years, worked tirelessly to help fund and establish the Cool Country Men's Shed, helped establish the Archive Centre for the Historical Society (which added great value to community history), he was co-convenor of the Trentham Coffee & Waffle Group and much, much more. Stan was also very passionate about our young people. He loved chatting with people from all community groups and businesses, and he firmly believed that finding opportunities to bring them together and understand each other would contribute to the welfare of Trentham.

He started as a carpenter in the building industry before becoming the Construction Manager for Grocon. Over 35 years he was responsible for the management and construction of many of Melbourne's largest building projects including; the Rialto Tower, Telstra, SECV, Shell, Crown Casino and a number of other high rise buildings. Among other activities, Stan was involved with the Master Builders Association (MBA) where he was recognised for his vision and service with a Life Membership award. Perhaps Stan's proudest achievement was helping to rebuild Darwin after Cyclone Tracy in 1974.

*Above – Robyn Falloon and Peter Hansard In Stan's Governor year (2013-2014) he presented a kookaburra to each club when he visited to remind the leadership and members to laugh and have fun as they were working on club activities. His theme was 'Endless Possibilities'.*

**Tony van Rensburg**



## Trentham Tales

### The Trentham Wombat - Symbol of the Gateway to the Wombat State Forest

No doubt most residents of Trentham and visitors to our town would be aware of the mounted wombat situated in our town square. However, have you ever wondered where the wombat came from and how it got there?

Many residents would have been aware of the shops on High Street that were called The Two Fat Wombats and Medallion, (originally the Mckenzie supermarket), owned and run by resident Rob Curtin. Rob had a unique range of very unusual gifts and memorabilia, including fiberglass and terrazzo animals.

Rob had his animals manufactured at his factory in Adelaide and stored in a warehouse in Trentham. They were sold or leased around the globe. Rob and his wife Julia moved to Trentham in 2001 as it was easier for them to commute from here to Adelaide, rather than from Melbourne where they lived.

In 2009 Rob decided to design and create a statue of a wombat, which he placed in the town square to promote his dream of Trentham being the 'Gateway to the Wombat Forest'. He wanted the statue to attract children and their parents and thereby help build the town's tourist image. He would watch the children as they played on the wombat and looked over it toward his shops.

The plinth is hollow and made from glass reinforced cement. The wombat is made from terrazzo (marble chip and cement) in which is placed - wait for it - the ashes of a family member! This was done in memory of Julia's brother,



Fergus Lockwood (Gus), who died from Leukemia. There is a small plaque on the opposite side of the statue explaining this.

Some would say that Rob is a little eccentric – defined in the Oxford Dictionary as 'unconventional and slightly strange'! Very often it takes a touch of eccentricity to make interesting things happen.

Thank you for our Trentham wombat Rob – we are most grateful.

**Tony van Rensburg**  
trenthamhistoricalsociety.org.au



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## Trentham Weather Review 2024

Greetings weather watchers of Trentham. Another year of weather has passed and as usual it was a mixed bag of Trentham weather. Following the summary is a month by month description of what we enjoyed... just about every kind of weather our region can conjure up!

*2024 was a warmer year than usual, but with a few cold spells thrown in just to remind us what Trentham can do. We achieved a near record maximum of 36°C in December and a near record low minimum of -6.5°C in June. Snowfall was light and we recorded 4 days with snow showers. The annual rainfall for 2024 was 839.3mm in Groves Street, well below our average of 1102mm and was recorded on 195 days.*

*2024 was not particularly windy. The highest winds were recorded across the region on September 2<sup>nd</sup> when gusts of 70 to 90kmh were recorded with minor tree damage.*

### January 2024

A slightly warmer than average month and a wet month. The warmest day was 32.1°C on the 12<sup>th</sup> and the coldest night a chilly 6.6°C on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. 104mm was near double the normal rainfall with the wettest day (17<sup>th</sup>) recording 27.4mm. There were 15 rain days, mainly drizzle and showers, making for a lot of damp weather for January.

### February 2024

A warm month with the average maximum near 3°C above the normal. The highest maximum reached 33.7°C on the 12<sup>th</sup> and the coldest night registered a very chilly 2.2°C on the 25<sup>th</sup> with reports of a brief ground frost early in the morning. The wet January gave way to a very dry February with only 8.8mm. February was the beginning of a very dry spell that lasted until April. The wettest day saw 7.2mm fall on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

### March 2024

A very dry month with only 5.5mm of rain, over 90% below normal. The wettest day (13<sup>th</sup>) saw a measly 1.8mm fall. Day temperatures were 2°C above normal and the warmest day (9<sup>th</sup>) reached 33.2°C. The coldest temperature fell to 1.8°C on the 22<sup>nd</sup> with patchy frost.

### April 2024

After a mild start, April was a very cool month. Rainfall was much improved with 85.4mm which ended the short 2 month dry spell. The wettest day recorded 31.6mm on the 1<sup>st</sup>. There were 19 days of recordable rainfall (>0.2mm). The warmest day reached 22.3°C on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the coldest night was -1.2°C on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### May 2024

A slightly milder month than average. The warmest day was 18.2°C on the 12<sup>th</sup> and the coldest night saw -4°C on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Rainfall was below the norm with 74mm, but sufficient to allow the creeks and rivers to maintain a shallow flow. The wettest day (24<sup>th</sup>) saw 52mm which briefly raised local creeks to inundate low ground.

### June 2024

A colder than average month with the warmest day reaching just 11.2°C. There were a few severe frosts and the coldest night registered -6.5°C, so several residents had frozen pipes on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June. Rainfall was well below the norm with just 48% of the average, with 62mm falling on 21 days of recordable precipitation.

### July 2024

A typical Trentham July with lots of drizzling rain and fog. Rainfall reached 134mm, slightly above the average and all creeks and rivers responded with strong flows. Rainfall occurred on 26 days. The wettest day was 25.2mm on the 19<sup>th</sup>. The mildest day recorded a maximum of 12.3°C on the 31<sup>st</sup>. There were numerous mainly light frosts during the month, except for the 7<sup>th</sup> with a low of -4.2°C.

### August 2024

A mixed bag for August. Showery, frosty and 2 days with light snow. Daytime temperatures were near average and the mildest day reached 17.3°C on the 14<sup>th</sup>. There was a nasty sharp frost on the 4<sup>th</sup> with a -5.7°C, just slightly above the monthly record of -5.9°C. Rainfall was below average but sufficient to keep creeks and rivers burbling along. The month returned 85.2mm on 23 days. 17.2mm fell on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

### September 2024

A cool start to spring with slightly below average maximums. The warmest day (24<sup>th</sup>) was 20.6°C and the coldest night (10<sup>th</sup>) -0.2°C. For the most part September was dull and cloudy. We recorded 77.4mm of rain, again below the average of 110mm. The wettest day (29<sup>th</sup>) saw 20.0mm fall. There were 20 days with recordable rainfall and one snow day featuring a few flurries.

### October 2024

A mild month with averages near normal. The warmest day was 25.8°C on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the coldest night -1.6°C on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Despite rainfall being below the normal with 83.6mm, creeks and streams showed a continued flow and pastures were all a healthy green around the region.

### November 2024

A warmer than normal month saw a very early season hot day (22<sup>nd</sup>) reaching 32°C. Despite the milder days there were several frosts and the coldest night reached -0.6°C. Rainfall was near average with 77.6mm, the wettest day (27<sup>th</sup>) saw 47.6mm fall. The countryside around Trentham looked lush and green for November and all creeks and streams returned reasonable flow rates.

### December 2024

A mixed bag with a few hot days and slightly below average rainfall. The warmest day recorded a near record 36.0°C on the 16<sup>th</sup>, the 3<sup>rd</sup> warmest December day in 50 years. The average maximum temperature was near 4°C above the normal, but despite the warm days, night temperatures still managed to fall to 2.1°C on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Rainfall measured just 42.4mm and the wettest day recorded 27mm on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### Clyve & Jane Herbert

[ausstorm@gmail.com](mailto:ausstorm@gmail.com)

[trentham.bsich.com.au/Trentham/Current\\_Vantage\\_Prop2.htm](http://trentham.bsich.com.au/Trentham/Current_Vantage_Prop2.htm)

Australian Sky & Weather [facebook.com/AusSkynWx](https://www.facebook.com/AusSkynWx)

Australian Severe Weather Assn (ASWA) [severeweather.asn.au](http://severeweather.asn.au)



## Councillor's Report

The key outcome of the December 2024 Council meeting was a number of changes to planning delegations. Planning applications must be forwarded to the councillor group for decision where there are more than 10 objections (previously 5) or more than 5 objections in farming zone. Officers had recommended an increase to more than 15 objections.

An application must also be referred to Council where it meets one or more of the following criteria:

- i. Raises issues of genuine municipality wide significance that would have a substantial impact on the achievement of Local Planning Policy.
- ii. The planning permit application will have a significant impact beyond the immediate locality, including an impact across municipal boundaries.
- iii. The planning permit application raises an issue not adequately provided for under existing Policy.
- iv. The planning permit application raises significant issues of public interest.
- v. The planning permit application will result in a use or development which is contrary to the adopted Future Hepburn Strategies or a proposed planning scheme amendment which is supported by Council.

These criteria were put forward by councillors. Officers had recommended the threshold of applications of a greater value than \$5m.

A new formalised process will also bring applications before Council for decision where 3 or more councillors "call" the matter in.

The December meeting also unanimously adopted a condolence motion which I had put forward: *That Council acknowledges the sudden passing of Stan Falloon and extends its deepest sympathy to Robyn and family. As the President of the Trentham Lions Club and a long-serving director on the Trentham and Districts Community Bank board Stan dedicated himself to countless hours of support for the community, with a particular emphasis on helping those community members most in need. A very popular and universally respected member of the community, Stan's wise counsel and cheerful disposition will be sadly missed.*

### Hepburn Shire electoral roll

In comparison to the 2020 election the Hepburn Shire electoral roll decreased 11%, from 14,858 voters to 13,231. This is largely due to the State Government initiative to remove property owners who reside outside the Shire from the roll. In order to be eligible to vote those ratepayers had to apply to be reinstated onto the roll. Across the Shire only 320 did so (in 2020 there were 500 in that category in Coliban ward alone and over 1000 in Daylesford/Hepburn Springs). I am informed that Council sent 3269 letters alerting ratepayers to that change. Anyone in that category seeking to be reinstated onto the roll should contact Council.

Council has appealed to the Electoral Commissioner to reinstate those ratepayers onto the roll without the need for them to re-apply. Council noted that despite targeted and broad communications from Council and the VEC, Council received numerous complaints from owner ratepayers during the Election Period, disgruntled that they were unable to vote as they had in the past.

In Hepburn Shire, this change has been compounded by the move to an unsubdivided electoral structure. Non-resident ratepayers are most represented in the central

and eastern parts of the Shire, largely in Daylesford, Hepburn Springs and Trentham. The removal of hundreds of these voters from the roll has the potential to mis-align the voting power to the west of the Shire, with a greater percentage of owner-occupiers, when combined with the unsubdivided structure.

### 2025 priorities

The three priority tasks in the first half of 2025 will be to develop an affordable Council Plan and short and long-term budgets that clearly identify strategic priorities and addresses the projected \$4m pa cash shortfall. Consistent with the resolution taken in September an application has been made to the Essential Services Commission (ESC) for a rate variation of 10% (including the State Government's annual rate cap increase of 3%). If granted in full the rate variation would increase Council's income by approximately \$1.5m pa. The remaining target of \$2.5m pa must be secured by reducing costs or finding new revenue streams. There will be further consultation with the community as changes to services are contemplated. The third key priority will be to advance the Future Hepburn project, progressing the adopted town structure plans and rural strategy into formalised planning legislation. This work will also entail further community input and work with the state government.

### Updates

I have asked officers to consider more appropriate arrangements for the use of shire-wide facilities, such as the Mechanics Trentham, on *extreme weather days*, including days the library is not scheduled to be open. I am hoping my councillor colleagues will support the introduction of arrangements whereby residents have access to facilities on extreme weather days.

The *Trentham library* will no longer be open on Saturday mornings. I am informed that attendance rates do not warrant the library being opened on Saturdays. However, the introduction of an Open Library scheme will actually increase the overall span of hours. Watch out for details on Council's Facebook page and website. I am discussing revised arrangements for the visitor information desk operation on Saturdays with Council officers.

I am working with officers to have a number of outstanding issues at the *sportsground* resolved. Extensive damage to the roof of the netball building must be repaired; the netball court surface cracks must be repaired; and a date has not yet been set for the installation of outdoor fitness equipment (which sits in storage).

The *Container Deposit Scheme* bin previously located at the Pig & Whistle will be relocated to a site in Trentham yet to be finalised.

### Upcoming Council meeting dates

25 February 2025, 25 March 2025, 22 April 2025.

### Cr. Brian Hood

[bhood@hepburn.vic.gov.au](mailto:bhood@hepburn.vic.gov.au)

ph 0427 797151

Facebook - Cr Brian Hood, Hepburn Shire Council



# Community Bank Trentham and Districts

## Invest in your Community!

So far, since our Trentham branch was established 13 years ago, we have provided local community groups across Trentham and surrounding towns with \$354,000 through sponsorships and grants. We call this Community Investment.



### OTHER BANKS DO NOT DO THIS!

Your own Community Investment can be as simple as opening an account with the Trentham branch, to applying for a home loan. Everything counts.

This year we have many local community projects to fund – you can help us do this and more.

See us at 37b High Street Trentham - or to make a private appointment online or at a convenient location, call our branch 5424 1608.

.....

A \$50,000 grant was formally awarded to the Trentham Golf Club in December to support the much needed upgrade of the aging irrigation system. This grant, combined with other fundraising and donations now sees the club two-thirds of the way to their target of \$175,000 to completely renew the irrigation system and provide for excellent green and tee conditions for years to come. Installation of a new wireless, app-controlled irrigation system has already commenced.

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Bookings: 03 5424 1046 or  
visit [trentham.miclub.com.au](http://trentham.miclub.com.au)

*We love a Big Cheque! Pictured below are Trentham Golf Club committee members: Alexandra Evered, Rhonda Holcombe and Jan Stephenson (far right) with Wendy White and Edyta Wyatt from Trentham & Districts Community Bank*



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**COMMUNITY PANTRY**  
THE METAL CUPBOARD OUTSIDE OUR FRONT DOOR IS A COMMUNITY PANTRY STOCKED WITH NON-PERISHABLE FOOD AND PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION, ITEMS MAY BE PLACED IN THE CUPBOARD OR THE DONATION BOX AT THE TRENTHAM IGA.



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL BOOKINGS AND MORE INFO**

**TRENTHAMNC.ORG.AU**



## Quarry Street Reserve

Quarry Street Reserve Committee of Management is one of three local volunteer groups to be involved in restoration projects on our two main waterways in town, Trent and Stony Creeks which are part of the Upper Coliban catchment.

Over thirty people attended the Bright-eyed Brown Butterfly Project Launch on Saturday 14 December, on the area adjacent to the so-called "old swimming pool" below Bath Street. The Trent Creek wetland provided a multitude of sightings of the small butterfly, the season, from mid-December to mid-January. There have been sightings in a greater number of locations this time across the Shire, a testament to weed removal and revegetation.

Sightings in the Reserve were re-assuring as the Committee looks to waterway restoration between the Red Bridge and High Street. Much of this section of the Reserve, and around the lake edges is dominated by the serious emerging weed, Sharp-flowered Rush - *Juncus acutiflorus* - Trentham is the only location currently recorded in Victoria for this rampant rhizomatous rush. That's not really what we want to be famous for!

Bright-eyed Brown Butterfly caterpillars feed only on Tall Sedge, *Carex appressa*, a common wetland plant. It is shaded out by woody weeds but is capable of rapid recovery following weed control. Adult butterflies require nectar during their brief flight period in December and January - with Prickly Tea-tree, *Leptospermum continentale*, noted as particularly valuable.



It has been encouraging to note specific self-generation of the *Carex* in several locations in the Reserve, not least between the footbridge and the road bridge on Victoria Street.

Invasive plants in public spaces and gardens pose an ongoing threat to surrounding bushland. Through this project, the Hepburn Shire, the Healthy Coliban partners and local volunteers hope to build on the growing culture of environmental stewardship among the neighbours of the Wombat Forest. See news of working bees and ways to get involved in this project on the socials and websites of the Hepburn Shire and the three Community groups - Landcare, Friends of Trentham Creeks and Reserves, and Quarry Street Reserve.

**The Great Trentham**  
**SPUDFEST**  
*Celebrating our People, Produce & Region*

**- DAY 1 -**  
Trentham comes alive with our famous Street Fair.

**SATURDAY**  
Street Fair

**- DAY 2 -**  
Join us to celebrate and explore Trentham and our region.

**SUNDAY**  
Discovery Day

**- 3 & 4 MAY 2025 -**

### Calling Volunteers for Spudfest!!

Spudfest is nearly here and its time to rally our spud-buddies for another spudtastic two-day event.

Want to join the amazing team behind our town's signature event? Spudfest supports local traders, farmers, artisans, and community groups, who raised over \$20k in 2024!

Volunteer for Saturday, Sunday, or both days. Roles include helping in the kids' zone, setting up, packing up, or assisting visitors at the info stand.

To sign up, email [info@trenthamspudfest.org.au](mailto:info@trenthamspudfest.org.au) with your availability. Our volunteer coordinator will contact you to confirm your preferences and next steps.

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## Trentham Easter Art and Craft Show

### Honouring the people who tirelessly gave to the Trentham Community

The Trentham Easter Art and Craft Show (TEACS) awards prizes annually in remembrance of two very significant and loved people in the Trentham Community.

#### Dr Gweneth Wisewould 1884-1972

In 1938 Dr Wisewould moved to Trentham, making 'the little town my home and its people my heritage', serving as its doctor until the day of her death at the age of 87. She worked long hours and travelled tirelessly on the poor roads over difficult hilly terrain often not charging for her services.



Life was hard in the small settlements such as Trentham and everyone, including her, needed courage and resourcefulness to survive. Her considerable surgical skills enabled her to deal with all manner of emergencies, sometimes operating in isolated cottages or in Trentham's tiny hospital which she called her 'home from home'. Gweneth wrote about life in Trentham district to shed light on the cold, challenging conditions of country Australia which she thought the townspeople were unaware of.

*Wisewould, Gweneth (2011) Outpost a Doctor on the Divide Elizabeth Berzkalns ISBN 978-0-646-56866-9*

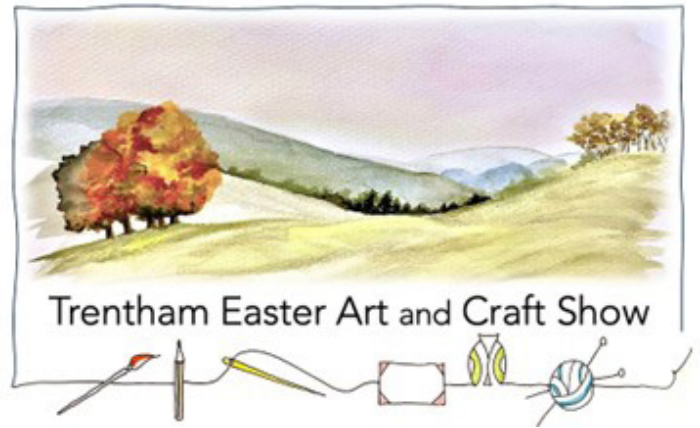
#### Stan Falloon 1949-2024

Stan was known for his unflinching good humour, seemingly boundless energy and his deeply held commitment to service of his community. Stan was the current President of the Trentham Lions Club, and a member of many other community groups throughout his life.



He gave generously of his time, wisdom, resources, encouragement and smiles. He was always there to lend a hand and particularly loved to give kids opportunities. He believed they are our future and he did whatever he could to involve and inspire youth and help all people to be the best they could be.

TEACS is grateful for the ongoing sponsorship of the Dr Gweneth Wisewould Portrait Painting Prize and the Stan Falloon Craft Prize by The Little Gallery and the Trentham Lions Club and look forward to awarding them at the Opening Night of the show to a deserving recipient on April 17 2025.



### Calling for Volunteers!

The Trentham Easter Art and Craft Show is back in 2025 at the new Mechanics Trentham!

It will begin with an Opening Night on Thursday 17 April, and be open every day over Easter, closing at lunchtime on Monday 21 April. Set up will start on Monday 14 April.

If you want to be part of the amazing team that is bringing this creative event back to our community and contributing funds to an array of community projects, then register now as a volunteer.

We have a variety of volunteer roles we are looking to fill:

- Admin/Set up
- Bar Service (must have RSA accreditation) Opening Night Only
- Food Service – Opening Night Only
- Front Desk
- Sales Desk
- Coffee making
- Admin/Pack up

All you have to do for now is register your interest by completing the volunteer form on our website: [teacs.org.au](http://teacs.org.au) OR email us at [info@teacs.org.au](mailto:info@teacs.org.au) and indicate which role/s and day/s you are interested in. Our volunteer co-ordinator will contact you to confirm your preferences and share next steps.

**Learn to sew**

At the Trentham Mechanics

Feb 18 & 25th; March 11 & 18th 1-3pm.  
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TRENTHAM FASHION SWAP



# The Trentham Garden

## Frost Tolerance

Trentham has a unique sub-alpine climate that many people struggle to reconcile with their image of Australia as a hot, dry country. With many nights well below freezing-point and almost double the annual rainfall of London, managing frost and winter weather is vital for a healthy, beautiful garden.

Almost always, choosing plants suited to the local climate is your best option. Check online, read the label, and ask at your local nursery when purchasing. Choosing fully frost-resistant plants is especially important for bigger investments like mass plantings and hedges. While I avoid planting smaller and more tender plants right before winter as they occasionally don't make it through; sometimes there isn't much choice as they only become available for purchase at certain times of year.

Often, it's the combination of cold and wet that really finishes plants off. Irrigation systems should be turned off over the cooler months. Consider doing a spot of hand-watering for any newly planted specimens rather than unnecessarily drenching the entire garden. For particularly wet spots consider installing drainage, creating a pond or bog garden or planting on mounded 'berms' of soil.

Techniques like planting in warm microclimates, bringing plants inside over winter, wrapping in hessian and straw and other such 'horticultural witchcraft' enable you to push the boundaries somewhat, but enthusiasm for these tasks often wanes when the lawn needs mowing, weeds are popping up everywhere etc.

There are many native plants which cope well with frost,

but even indigenous plants struggle if planted in an exposed location. For example, *Dichondra repens* will die back in winter rather than form a lush evergreen mat as it does in Melbourne. Vulnerable plants purchased as tubestock benefit from the protection of 'tree guards' while establishing.



The benefit of the 'deep-freeze' of a Trentham winter is that plants get the rest they need to go truly dormant and then spring back to life when the weather warms up again. This seasonal contrast is one of the things that makes Trentham gardens unique.

Happy gardening,

**Kaz Krasovskis**  
**Landscape Designer**  
[www.kazkrasovskis.com.au](http://www.kazkrasovskis.com.au)

*Above: Collage of frost-tolerant plants suitable for Trentham include clipped *Correa alba*, *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*, *Cotinus 'Grace'*, *Euphorbia wulfenii*, *Brachysome multifida*, *Bankisa marginata* and *Salvia Caradonna**

## Trentham Film Society 2025 Program

Meet and socialise with other locals and watch quality films from around the world.

### February 15 The Courier

Based on a true story, businessman Greville Wynne is asked by a Russian source to try to help put an end to the Cuban Missile Crisis.  
 Dir: Dominic Cooke  
 2020 UK M 1h 52m



### March 15 Driving Madeleine

Madeline leaves her small suburb to join a nursing home on the other side of Paris. She asks Charles, a taxi driver, to go through places of the capital, which have counted in her life.  
 Dir: Christian Carion  
 2022 Fra MA15+ 1h 31m



### April 19 Wicked Little Letters

When people in Littlehampton begin receiving letters full of hilarious profanities, the rowdy Irish migrant Rose is charged with the crime. Suspecting that something is amiss, the town's women investigate.  
 Dir: Thea Sharrock  
 2023 UK MA15+ 1h 40m



### May 17 The Taste of Things

The story of Eugenie, an esteemed cook, and Dodin - the fine gourmet chef she has been working for over the last 20 years.  
 Dir: Anh Hung Tran  
 2023 Fra PG 2h 15m



### June 21 A Stitch in Time

A heart-warming story about a former dressmaker who reinvents herself after befriending a young Chinese fashion designer.  
 Dir: Sasha Hadden  
 2022 Aust M 1h 38m



### July 19 Coup de Chance

A young married woman runs into an old school friend and is immediately smitten. The two friends grow increasingly close, eventually leading to infidelity and even a crime.  
 Dir: Woody Allen  
 2023 US/Fra PG 1h 33m



### August 16 The Good Boss

Awaiting a visit by a committee that could give his company an award for excellence, the owner of an industrial business tries to resolve any problems from his workers in enough time.  
 Dir: Fernando León de Aranoa  
 2021 Spain M 1h 56m



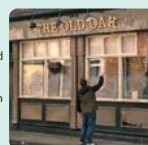
### September 20 La Chimera

Just out of jail, crumpled English archaeologist Arthur reconnects with his wayward crew of accomplices who survive by looting Etruscan tombs and fencing the ancient treasures they dig up.  
 Dir: Alice Rohrwacher  
 2023 Italy M 2h 10m



### October 18 The Old Oak

The future for the last pub in a village of Northeast England, where people are leaving the land as the mines are closed. Houses are cheap and available, thus making it an ideal location for Syrian refugees.  
 Dir: Ken Loach  
 2023 UK MA15+ 1h 53m



### November 15 One Life

Sir Nicholas 'Nicky' Winton, a young London broker who, in the months leading up to World War II, rescued over 600 children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia.  
 Dir: James Hawes  
 2023 UK PG 1h 49m



**When:** Third Saturday of each month, February to November inclusive, at the Trentham Neighbourhood Centre.  
 Social drinks and nibbles begins at 6.30pm.  
 Film begins screening at 7.00pm.  
**Membership:** For TFS membership details see TNC website.

Any prospective member is welcome to a complimentary introductory screening. DVD's of past screenings are available to members at no charge.  
**Guests:** Each member may bring one guest per year.  
**Enquiries:** Graham Orr on 0409 119 337 or at gmckorr@gmail.com

## Hepburn Gardens for Wildlife

February can be a trying month for the keen gardener. Temperatures can soar, winds play havoc with vulnerable trees, and a lot of flowering plants are past their prime. Apart from consistent watering, there may seem little to entice the gardener outside.

However, it can be a good time to take stock and plan ahead for cooler days and autumn planting, to think about what may flourish in the garden, considering the needs of birds and small mammals, insects, butterflies, skinks and lizards through these times, all in need of water. Some need a carefully placed stick to access the water, and birds especially like a bird bath a couple of metres from the ground and close to a dense bush to retreat to.

If you are wondering how to move forward in your garden and would like advice, the Hepburn Gardens for Wildlife team offer free home visits. Two of us will visit you and discuss ways to attract more wildlife, and suitable plants to create habitat, provide a report and can later return to talk about suggestions. Contact us via our Facebook page or the Trentham Neighbourhood House to have a registration form emailed or sent to you. We would love to meet you!

Our plant of the month is *Bursaria spinosa*, or to give it its common name, Sweet Bursaria. This twiggy shrub, with masses of attractive white flowers in summer and autumn, can be trimmed, be part of a screen or feature amongst other plants. Butterflies are attracted to the flowers, but it is really at night that the action takes place, with a multitude of insect pollinators,



drawn to the bush. So, if you take a torch and wander out you watch the amazing show unfold!

Tanya Loos' latest book, *Living with Wildlife: A Guide for Our Homes and Backyards* will be the basis of her presentation at Trentham Neighbourhood Centre on Saturday 15 February at 3pm. Book on the TNC website: [https://www.trenthamnc.org.au/service-page/living-with-our-wild-neighbours?referral=service\\_list\\_widget](https://www.trenthamnc.org.au/service-page/living-with-our-wild-neighbours?referral=service_list_widget)

## Trentham Heath - New Community Gym

### Charity Golf Day

Trentham Health, part of Central Highlands Rural Health, is thrilled to announce that the new gym for Community Health & Wellbeing clients, will be the recipient of funds raised through the Trentham Health Golf Day. The four-person, mixed ambrose event is on Sunday 23 February at the beautiful Trentham Golf Club. No handicap? No worries! All are welcome to play.

This community event is a major fundraiser for the gym that will be located in the old Library building (66 High Street, Trentham) and will feature new exercise equipment that was recently purchased with donations from an individual and the The Glenlyon Sports Club. The gym will have space for a variety of wellness activities to be used by a range of CHRH's Community Health and Wellbeing practitioners and their clients.

Central Highlands Rural Health (CHRH) staff and Board met with the event's major sponsor and Trentham Golf Club committee and captains in January to launch the event.

Sally Kirkright, CHRH's Engagement & Fundraising Committee Chair, said, "Last year we celebrated 90 years of healthcare in Trentham and heard wonderful stories from former Mayor and Trentham local Cr. Brian Hood about how much the community values its hospital. The hospital provides Residential Aged Care, community health, social support and community nursing."



The event is generously supported by major sponsors Troy and Liddy Upfield from Wooling Hill Memorial Estate. Troy said, Liddy and I are thrilled to sponsor the golf day and encourage other businesses to get involved."

Further information about the event can be found via [chrh.org.au/trenthamhealthgolfday](http://chrh.org.au/trenthamhealthgolfday)

We are still seeking community-minded, generous sponsors to support the event. Please contact Kathryn Kosloff, Engagement Fundraising Manager to discuss the sponsorship packages via 0439 705 039 or [giving@chrh.org.au](mailto:giving@chrh.org.au)



## Interior Design

### Interior Directions in 2025

In my articles this year I'm going to explore how we can introduce elements of emerging trends into our homes, whatever your style, outlining approaches that can be adopted in all situations, aesthetics, styles and periods. Interior fashions change in very subtle ways: some variations reflect new technology and production methods; other changes are a gradual development of what's been popular, with a few tweaks and enhancements. Let's reflect for a moment on recent developments.

Charcoal and greys came to the fore at the beginning of this century: they were the new neutrals, and worked to complement most style genres and aesthetics. A bit of a backlash to the all-white and beiges, resulting in a colour with a new name: greige!

At one point, the white kitchen was almost mandatory with two-pack cabinetry and bench surfaces of natural or engineered stone; cupboards were built right up to the ceilings; glass doors were featured. Slowly, stainless steel appliances were offered as the norm, not just in industrial style kitchens, but also in the ultra-modern home through to the modern farmhouse with their shaker profiles, exposed ceiling beams and shiplap or lining boards!

For bathrooms, everyone was trying to recreate a tranquil home spa, with free standing baths, if space allowed. Zen followers had egg-shaped baths, influencing clean lines, while more traditional baths rested on robust lions' feet. A sense of luxury was introduced with deep-veined marble, sanitary ware remained white, while tapware shifted away from silvery chromes to brass. Black was popular for a while: it looked good while new, but shows up water scale and isn't brilliant to clean and maintain.

More recently, stone and timbers are being introduced in bathrooms, as are coloured statement sinks – surface-mounted bowls are available in all sorts of materials and colours. Avocado and dusty pink are sneaking back into sanitary ware!

Colour is becoming a viable option to neutrals everywhere. Timbers are getting richer and darker, both on our floors and ceilings, but also as built-in cabinetry: think wardrobes, bookshelves, credenzas, plus kitchens and bathrooms.

Greys became greens, complementing our desire to be outside in nature instead of being locked inside with restricted movement during the COVID years! A lot more grey is being mixed into colour, toning things down: it feels moodier, warmer and comforting. Green hues have



become softer: think more eucalyptus or sage, with a lot more tonal contrast.

I'm liking how reds and browns are being promoted in all the paint charts; like greens, they are more tonal, with warm grey undertones. The new reds are more mauves or greyish purples and look great in more traditional architecture. Key themes regaining popularity include more antique, vintage and retro furnishings, with sophisticated and moody colour.

Join me in future articles to uncover in more detail some of these developing trends.

#### Robert Creedon Interior Design Studio

Mobile 0488 294 777  
Instagram @robert\_creedon  
Web robertcreedon.studio

Photo credit: Benjamin Moore colour chart 2025 - cinnamon slate.

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## The Mount Players

### The Importance of Being Earnest

The Importance of Being Earnest (A Trivial Comedy for Serious People) is a play by Oscar Wilde and will be The Mount Players first show for 2025. This classic was first staged in 1895 and widely regarded as one of the best theatrical comedies ever written. Full of high farce, dazzling wordplay and hilariously unlikely situations, it has delighted audiences across the world for well over a century.

Synopsis: Jack and Algernon are very close friends who are living double lives. In the country, they're respectable gentlemen but in the city, they're playboys without a care in the world. Their absurdly luxurious lifestyle is rudely interrupted when love enters the mix, and the pair struggle to keep track of who they're pretending to be and when. Silliness ensues with whimsical ingénues, jealous fiancées, indomitable dowagers, and the most famous handbag in theatre history.

The season runs from Friday 21 Feb – Sunday 9 March. For full details and to purchase tickets for the show go to [www.themountplayers.com](http://www.themountplayers.com) or call 5426 1892 for assistance.



Our AGM is being held at the theatre on Friday 14 February at 7.00pm for drinks and nibbles followed by the meeting at 7.30pm. All welcome to come along and catch up with friends or indeed come and introduce yourself and make new ones! Also on the evening, 2 stalwarts of the theatre will be presented with their Life Memberships. Who you ask? You'll need to attend to find out!

See you at the theatre

**Karen Hunt**

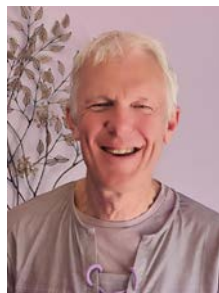
## Reiki

### New Reiki Business in Trentham

Reiki is a Japanese healing practice that uses gentle touch to reduce stress, alleviate pain and activate the body's healing processes.

It's a safe and effective means of supporting and enhancing physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being.

According to Phil Haggart, a trained Reiki practitioner now operating in Trentham, "There are many benefits of Reiki that include; deep healing and relaxation, enhanced well-being and quality of life and the feeling of being more empowered and at peace through Reiki."



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**Phil 0409 335 138**  
[sirphil8@bigpond.com](mailto:sirphil8@bigpond.com)

**Tranquil Reiki at Trentham**

Tranquil Reiki at Trentham operates from Phil's home healing room, set on a private property in Trentham. Ph: 0409 335 138

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## St Andrew's

### Trentham's loss

It now seems inevitable that the Uniting Church bureaucracy will sell the St Andrews property, cnr. Camp and Market Sts.

A small local group has been working over the past year to retain this land for some community use based on the community having a moral claim to the property. Affordable housing, particularly for older single women and service sector employees, was identified as a need that was compatible with the mission of the church. However, despite knocking on several doors into the church bureaucracy, we were met with a large brick wall: 'NO' to all approaches. None of the UC officers we contacted were willing to sit down with us to discuss our proposals.

So, the fate of what is probably the last (and certainly the best) parcel of available 'community land' in central Trentham will be determined by the real estate market...

## TRATA

### At the Station

#### Seasonal Market

Our Seasonal Market has been quite successful since we kicked off in October. It is currently our main source of fund raising. A big thankyou to Woolworths Kyneton (Scott the manager) for providing catering funding for our BBQs. It all helps TRATA raise funds to manage and maintain the railway precinct.

The next market is Sunday 23 February, 9am-1pm.

#### 2025 Challenge

If we add all our costs over a year to keep this facility for our community, it is costing TRATA approx \$110 a week, including, but not limited to public liability insurance, volunteer insurance, content insurance, water and electricity charges, rent to Victrack, and capital costs to our equipment etc. Our small number of volunteers work tirelessly throughout the year to raise funds to cover these costs. We get no funding elsewhere. The railway precinct is not a Hepburn Shire facility.

Our renewed public liability insurance precludes us now from certain events at the railway precinct. For this reason, there will be no 2025 Tractor Pull this year. The costs (mainly public liability insurance), compliance and risk assessments has put this beyond our capability to run this historical event. We are currently exploring other events that may be suitable to have at the railway precinct.

#### Damage to our Rolling Stock

The police are still making enquiries into the significant damage to our rolling stock. These old carriages were purchased by TRATA for the community as part of our history. They date back to the early 1900's, and repair work will be quite difficult and expensive. Just senseless vandalism. The doors were smashed, windows broken and interior graffitied.

unless some 'White Knight' might like to support much-needed affordable housing or other community purpose.

The Uniting Church gained legal title to the property following the vote for 'union' by the Methodist and Presbyterian churches in 1977. The Church will take a windfall profit out of Trentham, having contributed neither the original land nor to any of the care and operating costs over the past 150+ years. There will be no legacy left for Trentham – just a footnote to history and maybe a notation in a self-guided Walk Around Historic Trentham!

Thanks to Andy Robertson, Charles Sherlock, Cr Brian Hood and Glenda Holmes for their persistent efforts in this quest over the past year – it was not for want of trying. Thanks also to David Evans of Homeward Housing who provided valuable expertise and guidance.

Ian MacBean

### VicTrack Grant

We have been successful in obtaining a grant from Victrack to replace the old paling fence running along the platform, repair and paint the existing timber and wire fence, and create a new garden along the platform. It will bring the station closer to what it looked like back in the 1930's. Our discussions continue with Victrack re The Goods Shed restoration and the station being re-stumped. If we can get one completed over this year, it will help us immensely in raising funds to keep us afloat.

### Graffiti

Work has commenced on removing graffiti from our rolling stock. You will notice a difference in the carriage near the mobility path to the rail line.

### Membership

To continue the maintenance and preservation of the Trentham Railway Precinct, new members are always welcome, joining is fee \$10. The precinct is entirely managed by volunteers.

### Phil Davis

#### Secretary

#### TRATA

[trataattrentham@gmail.com](mailto:trataattrentham@gmail.com)

Instagram: trenthamrailwayprecinct

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## Trentham Sustainability Group

### Together We Can Be A Force For Change



It seems that many more people are concerned about our rapidly changing climate and the breakdown of biodiversity than they were a few years ago. Are you alarmed, angry, frustrated or even petrified at the ever-increasing devastating weather “events” happening all around our planet?

The enormity of the climate crisis can make us feel like “just giving up” and questioning ourselves, “what can I do about it?” Well, there’s a whole lot you can do about it!!

Don’t let your anger and despair let you down and turn you into a mouse.

#### **You can get MAD and Make A Difference!!**

Your negative energy can be channelled into positive action and bring hope for the future. Sure, there are many things we can and are already doing to reduce our carbon footprint at the personal and household levels – and that’s important too.

But, when we join forces and collaborate with other kindred spirits in our community, then what we can create and achieve together, can be truly amazing. Action does bring hope and change for a safer and more resilient community for ourselves and all those who come after us.

There’s never been a more important time to join your local Sustainability Group!

#### **Let’s get MAD together and Make A Difference (and have some fun doing it)!!**

TSG has many inspirational ideas and important projects in the pipe-line. All we need is more people power to bring these to reality. Are you up for the challenge?

The GIST (Great Idea for Sustainability in Trentham) project invites you to submit your great idea. We have seed funding and mentoring (if needed) to help you implement your idea. The Trentham Fashion Swap is a

## St. Mary Magdalen's

### **St. Mary Magdalen's Church, Trentham, to be a Centre of Pilgrimage for The Jubilee Year, 2025.**

Across the Catholic world, 2025 is a holy year, a year of jubilee. It began on Christmas Eve, with the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter’s Basilica. The door used as a symbol represent the passage to salvation that Jesus has opened to all of humanity.

Jubilee years have been held on regular intervals in the Catholic church since 1300, but they trace their roots back to a far more ancient Jewish tradition. They are intended as a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation. This jubilee has been given the theme of hope; something badly needed in a world torn war, violence, and natural disasters.

Pilgrimage, often to Rome, has always been a fundamental part of jubilee year celebrations. In declaring 2025 a jubilee year, Pope Francis said “Setting out on a journey is

successful GIST project that is really Making A Difference in reducing clothing waste to landfill and helping to create a circular economy. See dates for this year’s Sustainable Clothing Swaps and Sewing Repair Workshops elsewhere in the Trumpet.

Our energetic Energy Resilient Trentham team is working towards creating renewable energy solutions for our town and helping build a more resilient future. Watch out for news about the progress of this exciting project over coming months and how you can be involved.

Our monthly Produce Exchange, now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year, is a great way to swap and share backyard and kitchen produce from local and regional gardens. Come and see us at the swap table under the rotunda at Trentham Farmers’ Market on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month. It’s a great place to meet people, make connections, and gain information about TSG including how to become a member.

We are keen to expand our Local Food & Future Food Security key focus area. We are planning a Movie Night soon to revive this tantalising and important project. You will be invited - keep an eye out for promotions over coming weeks.

So, if you’re feeling MAD about the state of the world and you want to MAKE A DIFFERENCE, please get in touch and let us know how you’d like to participate. Let’s be MADies together!

You can contact us by email and request a membership form or find more information on our website. You can also check us out on Instagram and Facebook.

E: [trenthamsustainability@gmail.com](mailto:trenthamsustainability@gmail.com)

W: [trenthamsustainabilitygroup.com](http://trenthamsustainabilitygroup.com)

Wishing you all a happy and healthy and MAD 2025 from the TSG Team

traditionally associated with our human quest for meaning in life. A pilgrimage on foot is a great aid for rediscovering the value of silence, effort and simplicity of life.” On pilgrimage, we leave aside our normal lives and set out without all the baggage that normally gets in our way.

Of course, not everyone can get to Rome. For those who can’t, the good news is that St. Mary Magdalen’s Church here in Trentham has been declared a pilgrimage church for this jubilee. Our patron, St. Mary Magdalen, is a powerful symbol of hope and reconciliation, and our community is now preparing to receive hopeful and joyful pilgrims from all over Victoria and beyond. We ask you to join us in making them welcome.

**Deacon Joe**



## Barfly Bob

No one was more surprised to see me turn up a few days early from my annual sabbatical at the Birdsville pub than my stoic wife Alice.

“Struth Bob what are ya doin back s’early?”

Careful not to get too much red outback bull-dust on the good rug, I collapsed on the couch and placed my beloved sweaty acubra next to me.

“Well honey, I had to return when I heard that Hotel Trentham are hosting two music legends this Australia Day long weekend. Geoff Achison and Peter Cupples. And, they’re playing for free.”

Of course Alice was already fully onto it and with a group of her closest friends we went along and thoroughly enjoyed the treat of seeing these pillars of Australian contemporary blues and rock right here at one of our very own local venues.

Sitting out in the shaded beer garden we discovered they’ve also put on an external bar making for far more convenient service.

Good pub grub and fair priced drinks really added to the feeling of being spoiled listening to the virtuoso of these two musicians’ energy and talent.

Alice just told me that on top of Hotel Trentham’s local Sunday players they also put on the Wright Brothers in January. That would have also been a top gig. Good thing I had a ball up in Birdsville or I’d be spitting chips having missed them.

In February Hotel Trentham are hosting Pip Joyce on the 2nd and Catherine Britt on the 9th, both also in the beer garden.

You may not know of Pip and Catherine but let me tell you within the Australian music scene they are very highly respected musicians. Pip has played guitar with household names such as Glenn Shorrock, Frankie J Holden, Wilbur Wilde and Joe Camilleri just to name a few.

Catherine is a successful Country artist having released seven albums which all did well on the ARIA charts. And she has had 3 top 40 singles on the US Billboard Hot Country Songs charts.

I recommend you set yourselves up early in the beer garden at Hotel Trentham to be sure of a seat.

Yeehaw! Trentham’s truly being spoiled.

And lets not forget local duo "Rooftop Lounge" playing at Wombat Forest Winery on 8 Feb and several February gigs (see program below) lining up at the Cosmopolitan.

See ya at the gigs.

**FEBRUARY**  
THE COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL

**AT THE COSMO**

**SAT 01** **RICK + VANESSA HART** *FREE event!*  
Live Acoustic Tunes From 3 - 5pm

*FREE event!* **PETE DALY** **SAT 08**  
ACOUSTIC TUNES FROM 1.30 - 3.30PM

**SAT 15** **VICTORIANA GAYE** *FREE event!*  
Acoustic Tunes from 1.30 - 3.30pm

*FREE event!* **FEELDS** **SAT 22**  
LIVE ACOUSTIC TUNES FROM 1.30 - 3.30PM

**FRIDAY NIGHT MEAT RAFFLE**  
ALL FEBRUARY PROCEEDS GO TO THE TRENTHAM CFA

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## St George's

### News and Reflections

St George's Church is now part of the parish of St Paul's Kyneton and St John's Malmsbury. John, Paul and George. We are wondering what we can name after St Ringo (perhaps the bell tower at Kyneton?) and form a new Fab Four. Meanwhile some of us have met our new priest Lauren Lockwood Porter and look forward to welcoming her officially in early February.

How is your year starting? There are plenty of worries among the nations. Will a ceasefire hold and prisoners be released? How much will a new US President do for good and ill? How will school go this year for teachers and students? How will struggling families and businesses go? How will your health go? Will we be threatened by bushfires this season? We at St George's pray for these concerns, international, local, and personal. It may sound a little crazy, but we have hope that God is involved in all these things.

### Trentham & Districts Life Activities

Welcome to all new and existing members of Trentham. This is a Club for people 50 years and over who have recently retired or are nearing retirement.

Life sometimes presents major changes and transitions. People may experience new life roles, different employment patterns, changing family situations, move to a new area or from interstate, and have fewer social connections. Life Activities Clubs support people in managing their transitions and enhancing their lives through educational, social, physical, and recreational opportunities and experiences. We are a not-for-profit community group run by volunteers. Tell us what you are interested in, and we will try and make it work for you. There are over 25 clubs in Victoria - you can visit any of them at any time and partake in their activity.

#### Weekly Activities

LADIES PETANQUE: 10am Tuesday, Town Square, followed by coffee

WEDNESDAY WALKERS: 9am Meet outside the old Post Office, followed by coffee

COFFEE, TEA, SCONES and CHAT: 2:15 pm to 4pm The Mechanics Trentham

MEN'S PETANQUE: 10am Town Square, followed by coffee.

CHINESE HEALTH EXERCISES & Qigong: 2pm Trentham Mechanics Hall

CRAFT: 10am The Mechanics Trentham

MAHJONG: 1pm to 4pm The Mechanics Trentham, Afternoon tea.

#### Monthly Activities

GARDENS LOVERS: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month

FOODIES GROUP: Dinner in summer, Lunch in winter.

MUSIC, MOVIES, PICNICS and other OUTINGS as suggested

**Ladies:** We are looking for more Petanque players. It is a fun game and can be competitive.

**Pickle Ball:** We have the equipment, we have court access, and now we need people!

Contact Di Clausen for more information  
0405 750 340 or [diclausen@hotmail.com](mailto:diclausen@hotmail.com)

Our prayerbook encourages us to pray, not just for ourselves but for the preservation of the earth, for peace and shared prosperity, for the nations and governments, for the church, for our local community, for those sick and in need, and to remember those who have died.

There is also in our prayerbook a lovely collection of thanksgiving prayers including the General Thanksgiving: "We bless you for our creation and preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace and for the hope of glory." It is a healthy way to live, to be full of thanks and count our blessings. Happy New Year.

St George's continues Sunday worship at 9am and you are always welcome.

### Peta Sherlock

#### MIMMS

During the first weekend in February, Trentham will host a Major Incident Medical Management and Support (MIMMS) course at The Mechanics.

Aiming to increase the knowledge and skill of ambulance community officers and paramedics when they must respond to a major incident, the course includes ways to manage a major incident scene and how best to work co-operatively with other emergency services.

Many ambulance community officers and paramedics from the Trentham Ambulance Branch will attend. Course content includes command and control, communications, triage, treatment and transport of any injured from the scene to a casualty clearing station and then to hospital.

MIMMS is the Australian National and N.A.T.O. standard and is recognised in 34 countries and it's administered by the Advanced Life Support Group of Australia and the United Kingdom.

Trentham resident and course director Dr Helen Webb said this was "a fantastic opportunity" for local first responders to gain valuable knowledge in responding to a mass casualty incident.

"As we know from the recent Daylesford tragedy, disaster can strike anywhere at any time," Dr Webb said.

"In October, those who have completed the MIMMS course will be invited to take part in Exercise Eureka, a multi-agency mass casualty exercise in Ballarat."

Exercise Eureka is one of the largest of such emergency services exercises in Victoria where participants gain valuable experience in scene management and how to co-operate with other health, government and emergency services.

## Meditation for Peace

### Libraries

Like national parks, libraries are international domain. And librarians are - like park rangers - a special kind of human beings: friendly, informed, available with their knowledge.

In Trentham it started with a library-bus. Now a spacious, purpose-designed building and – in between – a re-purposed health facility which felt very welcoming, homely, especially – it seemed – for children.

Unlike parks, policy forbids donations from private libraries, depriving children from the experience of 'touching time', history, earlier generations. There is something un-natural about this: it's like Bridge Road lined with eternal saplings, our station (market) place without its majestic cedar 'gothic'.

Why ban libraries donations, collected and used over time? A while ago, a dear friend would comment: Trentham's Community Library resides in Trentham's private homes. Perhaps someone could organize "Open Library Day" like "Open Garden" day. Schools could organize excursions to visit the State Library, to get a feel of being in touch with 'lived time'.

Last time I visited Monash University library, I chanced upon the collected works of Raymond Lull of Majorca, late medieval scholar (c.1232 – 1316) in the service of the king of Catalonia. He bought a slave from North Africa to learn Arabic. At the Council of Vienne, South of France, he made sure that at least some Universities in Europe would teach

### The Plonkers

Our Plonkers had recently returned from travelling through Southeast Asia.

Looking trim, tanned and terrific after two weeks of beer and seafood, they were hankering for some local wine and pizza. So, it was off to one of their favourite wineries; Wombat Forest.

Taking a table out on the covered verandah they sat silently for a few minutes soaking in the dramatic elevated and peaceful view through the gum trees.

"We really are IN the Wombat Forest now aren't we?", enthused Niles out loud.

Just then Digby burst through a door noisily announcing;

"What are you guys all staring at then? I'm starved so I've ordered three pizzas to share and a bottle of the velvety peppery Merlot. No need to thank me, someone had to take charge. "

"Well we'll be sharing a bottle of their zesty Blanc de Noir", said Daphne, Niles' partner, "Won't we, dear?" She looked to Mrs. Digby who replied "We will indeed, it's such a lovely Summer's day, Merlot just doesn't seem right Digby."

Three pizzas were soon being consumed, a Margherita, a salami and a mushroom.

Arabic, Hebrew and Catalan. He also pioneered modern logic and scientific language in the service of debates with Muslim and Jewish scholars. At Monash I opened one of the ten tomes of Lull's writings, I closed it as if shocked by livre: Latin, Arabic, Greek, Catalan, Hebrew... Libraries can also be challenging.

In Umberto Eco's Name of the Rose a murder takes place in a Benedictine monastery. The detective is a Franciscan, modelled on William of Ockham, sharp intellect, still known for "Ockham's Raiser". The investigation leads to the library. The detective's apprentice becomes intrigued and impressed with the thought how - in a library – books speak with one and another.

In a library one's tone of voice slightly muted, And this is why.

### Henk Bak

*Monday mornings Peace Meditation, 8.30 am Trentham Neighbourhood Centre, entrance single door left to the main entrance.*

*Gold coin donation to the TNC.*

*Henk Bak, convener*

"Mmmmm, goes fine with MY Merlot." muttered Digby through a mouthful.



The live acoustic blues tunes of Brett Franke and Kevin Starling added to the atmosphere as the crowd grew and our Plonkers soon felt like they were back home.

The rich volcanic soil, natural springs and Winter frosts along with a passion for sustainable practices make Wombat Forest wines unique and a favourite of our crew. The closest vineyard and cellar door to Trentham also makes it a convenient destination.

"Try this wonderful Chardonnay Digby, it's delightfully creamy and herbaceous at the same time, and great value."

Digby had a taste and (although secretly enjoying its impressive balance for such a young wine) said with a slight hint of sulkiness "No I'll stick with my Merlot thanks" and wandered off to the cellar door bar to be alone, or perhaps make new friends.











"Look", said Uncle Worcester, "They've thrown in an extra mushroom pizza on the house, call Digby out from the bar, he'll miss out."

"No, let him be, he's made his choice...." said Niles.

Cheers!



Local Business Guide

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Spudman's Signoff

Wanna tell people where to go?  
And help them learn all the things you know?  
Then at this year's Spudfest on the 3rd of May,  
Join the team and make Spudman's day.



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