

2026 | TRENTHAM
Words in
Winter

BOOKINGS
NOW OPEN

25
events

30
presenters

7
authors

www.trenthamwordsinwinter.org

A great line-up to brighten your winter, with something for everyone.
• plus competitions and prizes

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





Council News

Council meeting wrap-up

- Aquatics review - alternate motion adopted
- Daylesford Hanging Rock Rail Trails - recommendation approved
- Planning Delegations review - recommendation approved.
- s229 Local Government Act 2020 - acknowledgement of advocacy efforts

Learn more at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/minutes

Future of aquatics

Council has resolved to release the final Indoor Aquatics Provision Feasibility Study and Business Case to the community and establish a representative community panel to help inform the future direction of aquatics in the Shire.

We acknowledge the important role public outdoor swimming pools have played in local communities for many decades, while recognising the need to make financially responsible decisions about future aquatic services and infrastructure.

Information on the community panel will be available soon. We look forward to opening for a fantastic 2026/27 summer season.

Learn more at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/aquatics-future

Winter school holidays

The upcoming winter school holidays are the perfect time for children and families to enjoy some fun activities. From animation workshops to making your own mystical creatures, there are plenty of opportunities to stay active and entertained. View a full list of activities at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/events

Your Councillors



Cr Tony Clark



Cr Shirley Cornish



Cr Tim Drylie



Cr Lesley Hewitt



Cr Pat Hockey



Cr Brian Hood

Learn more at www.hepburn.vic.gov.au, phone (03) 5348 2306 or email shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au

Have your say

We want to hear from you on the draft Trent Creek Reserve Landscape Plan and possible changes to Bath Street in Trentham.

The landscape improvements plan aims to improve accessibility at Trent Creek Reserve, increasing biodiversity values and providing opportunities for increased use of the space. The plan will also investigate options for proposed changes to Bath Street between High and Albert streets.

Trent Creek Reserve is owned by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action and managed by Trentham Public Reserves Committee of Management. The landscape plan will enable community groups to apply for future grants to implement actions in the landscape plan. Council does not have ownership, management or maintenance responsibility for Trent Creek Reserve.

Bath Street in Trentham is a local road that is owned and managed by Council. As part of the landscape plan, Council is seeking feedback on three options for Bath Street: one way closure, closure to through traffic and no change. Council also has funding from the Safe Local Roads and Streets Program for improvements at Bath Street.

Find out more and have your say at www.participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/tcr



Editorial

Hi Trentham!

One month into winter and we've had all the weather already! But how good were those crispy mornings followed by blue sky days?

Following on from a stellar Spudfest (the numbers are in!) the Words in Winter crew have released their diverse and eclectic program (trenthamwordsinwinter.org).

Running for the whole of August there is truly something for everyone – so rug up and venture out! Or from the coziness of your own home, enter our annual Words in Winter Six Word Story competition for your chance to win \$100: details to come next month.

Council are looking for community input on a number of fronts. We encourage you to take a look (hepburn.vic.gov.au, or their summary on page 2) and have your say: especially on the Trentham-centric proposals. Thanks to TCA for their ongoing critical thinking and advocacy and (as always) Brian Hood for his tenacity in championing Trentham.

Have a great month, stay warm – and dry!

Regards,
Chris & Penny

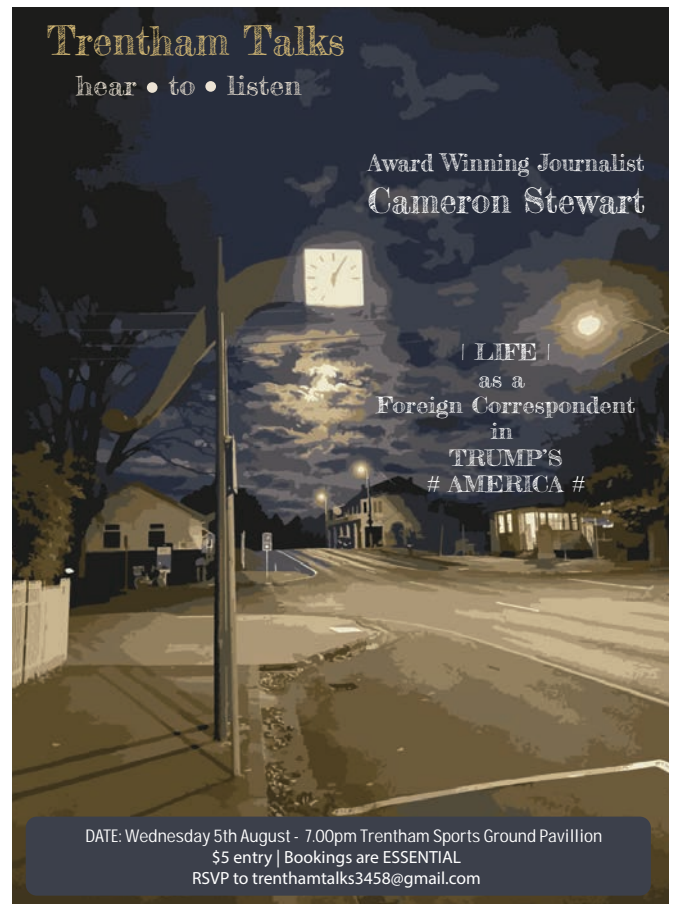
Trentham Words in Winter

The Importance of Writing Letters

By now some of you would have seen the publicity for Trentham Words in Winter that starts on 2 August running to the finale event **Singing for Your Pasta Supper** on 30 August. We have worked on creating a broad and interesting program with something for everyone, and at very affordable prices and/or free events, forever mindful of costs including overhead and running, presenters and judges fees and cash prizes.

One of the events will be The Trentham Salon, **Love Letters**, at Casa Allegra, and as the website states, some of Trentham's finer voices will present readings of famous and infamous Love Letters. It should make for a fascinating and delightful evening. However, within my research into letters written during the 2nd World War, they were not romantic or you could say 'love-dovey', rather they were detailed accounts (subject to censorship) of war life overseas and how the men and women of the armed forces desperately missed their family back home and their every-day life in Australia.

They wrote of their gratitude and excitement in receiving hand written letters from their children to know how they were managing at school and that they were 'looking after Mum'; of the food parcels that arrived via the Red Cross and the YMCA, especially the Rosella curried spaghetti, coffee & milk, sheep tongues, a jar of marmite (today its Vegemite) and a fruit cake, and via the Australian Comforts Fund, paper, pencils and envelopes for their writings, some the last before the German and Japanese troops came upon them.



Trentham Talks
hear • to • listen

Award Winning Journalist
Cameron Stewart

| LIFE |
as a
Foreign Correspondent
in
TRUMP'S
AMERICA

DATE: Wednesday 5th August - 7.00pm Trentham Sports Ground Pavillion
\$5 entry | Bookings are ESSENTIAL
RSVP to trenthamtalks3458@gmail.com

Of course there was no other way of communicating other than writing, but how the postal/delivery services managed to gather letters from those in the trenches of Europe, from the jungles of Malaya to the censorship tents and onwards across the various lands and seas to 'home', was a remarkable feat. And can you imagine the relief and happiness in receiving a hand-written letter, oft from those who could barely write nor spell, but regardless, to know that your loved one was safe.



Today, through a time poor and technical/computer-driven world, have we not lost the art of letter writing? To sit quietly within the thoughts of a person or a subject; to find the words from our amazing language that best describes feelings or a situation.

Letter writing, even a penned or biro note, is an act that creates lasting emotional connections, now replaced by symbols and a kind of cryptic shorthand. I wonder how many years it will be before our expressive and colourful written and spoken language will be gone, I sadly think it will be soon as AI 'speaks' on our behalf.

Sylvia Johnson
Trentham Words in Winter Committee
0419 229 488

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

Electronic subscriptions (which we encourage) are available at:

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.

Advertising Rates <i>(from Feb 2022)</i>	Black & White		Colour	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
Width & Height				
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

Lions Schedule

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

Monday Morning Meditation

8.30/9.30am every Monday
TNC

Sunday Church Services

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

Trentham Lions Club

Farmers' Market
18 July 9am-1pm
Trentham Town Square

Trentham Sustainability Group

Farmers' Market Food Swap
18 July 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@coolcountrysmensshed.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

Trentham Dance

2nd Sunday / month
The Mechanics 1pm - 4.30pm
Enquiries Dianna 0418 173 920
Noellene 0428 464 664

TNC

see trenthamnc.org.au

Trentham Community Table

CWA / TNC / Lions joint initiative
last Friday of each month
TNC 12.30pm

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On Our Cover:

Wombat Winter

by

Chris Campbell

The Numbers Are In!

As promised in the last issue, we are now excited to share that Spudfest 2026 was not just a fantastic event, it was a financial success too.

The festival recorded a gross income of just under \$90,000, an impressive jump of around \$20,000 on 2025. The biggest driver of that growth was sponsorship, which made up 70% of Spudfest's income - a great vote of confidence from our generous supporters. The rest mainly came from stall fees, gold coin donations and ticket sales for events like the ever-popular Ceilidh.



Of course, putting on a festival of this scale does not come cheap! Total expenses for 2026 came in at just under \$87,000, reflecting the ambition of what was delivered. The major costs included:

- High Street Closure - closing High Street (a VicRoads-managed road) is a significant logistical and financial undertaking, but we believe it made the Street Fair amazing and think our traders would agree
- Entertainment - this year Spudfest featured three music stages across Street Fair and also expanded Saturday night events with Spudfest Up Late. All worth every cent!
- Advertising and marketing - investment that not only brought more visitors to Spudfest but benefited the wider Trentham region, beyond just the Spudfest weekend.
- Infrastructure - including the purchase of some exciting new assets for future use (more on that below!).

After all that, Spudfest 2026 is reporting a profit of around \$3,000 which will go into the kitty to ensure that the festival remains sustainable for future years. As a not-for-profit volunteer-run event, that's a genuinely wonderful result given everything that went into making 2026 so special.

New community assets available to you!

New assets include an additional shipping container for Spudfest storage down near the Railway, currently being organised with the TRATA committee. But other purchases went towards assets the whole community can benefit from. These include:

- Uplights and small tables purchased for the Ceilidh - these would be great for events held at The Mechanics to create ambience and to give options for tables and seating; and
- A large 8m x 6m marquee - this was in the Kids Zone on Street Fair Day and used for the puppet show (it can be divided into two marquees of 4m x 6m if required).

These assets are available to Trentham community groups for future events. If your group could use them, please reach out to us at info@trenthamspudfest.org.au. We'd love to see them get as much use as possible!



Spudfest Community Grant

As mentioned last month, part of the income (in particular the gold coin donations) has been set aside for the Spudfest Community Grant. We are sharing the spud love by offering community grants to support local groups, clubs and organisations doing great things in Trentham and the surrounding region. Grants of \$500 to \$2,500 are available, with around 3 to 10 grants awarded each year, depending on donation funds and applications received.

These grants are perfect for local projects, events and grassroots initiatives in areas such as arts, environment, health, youth, sport, aged care and community wellbeing. Spudfest is looking to support ideas that bring people together, celebrate our region, create lasting benefits, and are welcoming and accessible to all. Applicants need to explain how the funds will be used and be happy to share a simple update on the outcome. Preference may be given to projects with strong community impact, smaller groups with limited funding options, and initiatives that help local groups grow.

Applications for funds from the 2026 festival are open until 21 July 2026. Please contact info@trenthamspudfest.org.au for an application form.

We will open applications for 2027 in October 2026, to close on 30 June after next year's festival. We will need time to figure out what's in the pot to distribute and funds will be awarded in September 2027.

Looking ahead

The committee held a review of the 2026 event in early June. Lots of discussion, lessons learnt, review of feedback received and more importantly, new ideas for 2027! The current motto for the committee is "better, not bigger" so watch this space on what we can deliver next year!

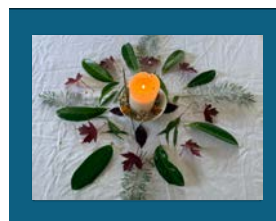
Brooke Limmer Spudfest Organising Committee

photo credit: Amber Gardener Naturalight Photography

MONDAY MORNING MEDITATION

8.30am to 9.30am

Trentham Neighbourhood Centre



A free community meditation providing space for stillness, reflection and renewal, where intentions of kindness are refreshed and the noise of the world is gently set aside.

Book online at trenthamnc.org.au/classes or ring p. 54241354

Trentham Neighbourhood Centre

Winter Solstice Lantern Festival Brings Light to a Winter Evening



On Sunday 21 June, the Trentham community gathered at Quarry Street Reserve to celebrate the Winter Solstice Lantern Festival, a joyful event supported by Hepburn Shire Council and coordinated through the Trentham Neighbourhood Centre.

Despite the cold, between 50 and 60 community members came together to mark the longest night of the year with warmth and creativity. The festival provided an opportunity for people of all ages to celebrate the turning of the seasons and enjoy the simple magic of light in the darkness.

In the days leading up to the festival, the Trentham Neighbourhood Centre hosted a series of lantern-making workshops. Many people who attended the festival had participated in these workshops, and a number of other people made lanterns independently at home.

The glowing procession of lanterns around the Reserve created a beautiful spectacle, lighting up the winter darkness. Some of the younger participants clearly thought the parade was more of a race to the finish, while those a little older walked together, sharing in a sense of community and celebration. At the end of the parade everyone enjoyed a warm drink and some refreshments.

The event was more than just a parade. It offered an opportunity for people to connect with one another, enjoy the evening, which was thankfully neither windy or wet, and reflect on the significance of the winter solstice: a time traditionally associated with hope, renewal and the return of longer days.

The Trentham Neighbourhood Centre would like to thank everyone who participated in the lantern-making workshops, attended the festival, and helped make the event such a success. Special thanks also goes to Hepburn



Shire Council for its support, which helped bring this community celebration to life.

The Winter Solstice Lantern Festival demonstrated once again the creativity, generosity and community spirit that make Trentham such a special place to live. We look forward to building on this year's success and hopefully making this an on-going annual event.

Locally owned and operated



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Monday - Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 9am-2pm



23 High Street, Kyneton 03 5422 2090

KN284703/K

Trentham Community Action

TCA: Four Major Issues, One Month – and We Need You

The Trentham Community Action Inc. has had one of its most active months on record, advocating for residents on four important fronts, but now depends on the community staying informed and engaged.

Trent Creek Reserve – With about \$1.4 million in Open Space Levy funds from Trentham developments sitting in reserve, TCA has been urging residents to complete Council's consultation (open until 7 July) on the Reserve's landscape plan. TCA asks residents to show strong support for the Trent Creek Reserve improvements and to select Option C (no change) for **Bath Street**; noting the two questions should be decided separately. As at 5pm Friday 26 June, Council had received 145 response to the Survey, probably a record!

Swimming Pool – TCA sounded the alarm when Council proposed capping emergency pool maintenance at \$150,000 per pool – when \$800,000 is needed just to extend Trentham's pool life by five years. In a worrying twist, the final budget includes the cap but not the cash: if an emergency arises, the money will have to be found elsewhere. Council will establish a community panel to consider the future of the pools; but we all need to be watching closely to ensure the panel is genuinely open to all options, not steered toward a predetermined outcome. Widespread community action will be critical.

Councillor's Report

Key outcomes from the June Council meeting: Council acknowledged the role and value **public outdoor swimming pools** have played in the community for many decades. It resolved to release the final Hepburn Shire Council Indoor Aquatics Provision Feasibility Study and Business Case to the community and to publish it on Council's website. The decision was taken to create a shire-wide representative community panel to undertake community engagement to inform the future direction of aquatics provision, including natural waterways, for approval at the August 2026 Council Meeting. Council also resolved to set an expenditure cap of \$150,000 per pool for any urgent major repairs or works (required to keep any pool safe and operational) that emerge during the 2026/27 pool season. The draft 26/27 budget includes an allocation of \$290,000 for the three pools. The additional \$150,000 per pool is not included in the budget, so any urgent need for funds will have to be found in other areas of the budget. Council will continue to call for the establishment of a dedicated funding program by State and Federal Government to substantially support the refurbishment and improvement of rural and regional outdoor swimming pools. The realistic outlook is that Hepburn's three pools are fast reaching the end of their life and at this stage there are no funds for their replacement.

Council resolved to cease actively progressing the **Daylesford-Hanging Rock Rail Trail** project, and to relinquish the leases for the parcels of the rail corridor between Bullarto and Lyonville, for the purpose of allowing Daylesford Spa Country Rail to take up the leases from VicTrack to construct its planned rail extension. To safeguard options that may arise in the future Council will

2026-27 Budget – This year's budget projects a deficit of \$599,000: even after ratepayers absorbed a 10 per cent rate rise on the promise of a path to financial sustainability. TCA's submission challenged a number of the budget assumptions and called for genuine community participation before adoption. Some concerns were heard: the final budget will include sensitivity tables showing what happens if key revenue targets aren't met including the \$900k owed by Belgravia. But the fundamental questions about long-term financial sustainability remain unanswered – and the community deserves clear, honest answers, not vague reassurances.



Domino Trail – On a positive note, landscaping works are now underway between Station Street and Falls Road, funded from the Open Space Levy. The repair and re-opening of the Station Street footbridge is being evaluated alongside all other bridges in the Shire; no funding is yet allocated.

Town website – a report of how the website is being used has just been compiled for the last 8 months since launch and it's looking good. Check this out on the website. Thanks are due to the Website Management Group and Administrator.

TCA and Cr Hood can't do it all – be informed, get involved. For more information on these matters, see trenthamvic.org.au. Join TCA via the website Contact page.

negotiate an agreement with Daylesford Spa Country Rail with an intent to review and work together on any future plans around a rail trail. While the aspirational project may have delivered great results for the area this is a pragmatic decision that once again highlights Council's very limited financial capacity.

In a 4-2 vote councillors closed the meeting to the public in order to consider an agenda item "**maternal and child health transition**". I was of the view that dealing with the matter in a public meeting would provide greater transparency and information to the public. I expect an announcement on the matter will be made soon.

[Trent Creek Reserve Landscape Plan | Participate Hepburn](#) – responses to this survey close 7 July. The project is in two separate parts – possible landscaping works in **Trent Creek reserve** Trentham and three options to consider full, partial or no **closure of Bath St to vehicular traffic**. This is grass roots democracy at work: I encourage you to have your say on both topics.

Council will meet at 6pm Tuesday 30 June to consider adoption of the **2026/27 budget**. Thank you to the many from Trentham and the eastern part of the Shire for your considered input.

The **2026 community satisfaction survey** is available on Council's website - [Slide 1](#). The results are extremely disappointing and of great concern. With a 46 to 41 decline Hepburn has fallen further behind the State average, which improved 53 to 57, and the rural average which improved 54 to 60. Results deteriorated in 13 measured categories,

Trentham Tales

The Vanishing Village: South Tylden

You know when you're in a ghost town: houses that were once shops, peeling paint and dereliction, perhaps a speed limit. But there's nothing to remind you if a settlement has disappeared entirely. South Tylden is one of these.

From Trentham the road runs straight towards Tylden until it rises and bends to the right. This is Goodfellows Hill, and you have just passed South Tylden. John Goodfellow (1831–1876) and his wife appear in the farm diary of Thomas Clowes at Woodside from 1854.

South Tylden had the institution that defines a settlement—a Post Office. It also had a pub, or at least a 'refreshment tent', a school and a church.

Gook's Tent, shown on maps from 1855 on the Trentham side of Goodfellows Hill, was the first business. [Loddon30, Dist82] George Gook (1815–1893) and his wife offered refreshments to travellers between Kyneton and Blackwood. An inquest in 1858 heard that a witness had gone to Gook's for two bottles of rum. [Kyneton Observer, 15 June 1858, p. 2; 24 November 1870; 12 November 1878.]

The South Tylden School No. 633 was opened by Wesleyans in 1857 or 1858 at the same time as they built a church. The school had an average yearly attendance of 28 Pupils. [Blake, L. J., & Victoria. Education Department. (1975). Vision and realisation. Volume 2: a centenary history of state education in Victoria, Melbourne: Education Department of Victoria.] A history of the Tylden School No. 621 includes a photograph of pupils and teacher outside a log hut with a bark roof and flagpole (*top right*) that is believed to be the South Tylden School, unfortunately without proof.



Time passed. In 1897 the Wesleyan Church, unneeded as the congregation was dwindling, was transported by traction engine to Blue Mountain (Newbury). [Bacchus Marsh Express, 18 June 1897, p. 3.] The dwindling population was a sign of a wider crisis: the depression of the 1890s:

The people of South Tylden are receiving their full share of retrenchment at the hands of the Government. In December last the Education Department closed the school, and the Postal Department did likewise with the post office...

[Kyneton Observer, 7 February 1895, p. 3.]

By the mid-1890s the public institutions that underly a village had gone. The Kyneton Observer (12 March 1895) was printing stories about locals seeking gold 'with varying success'. The gold rushes had produced many temporary settlements, but South Tylden's 50 years of existence fell victim to international matters, not local ones.

Peter Parsons
Trentham & Districts Historical Society

Councillor's Report *cont.*

while 3 achieved improved results and one remained static. For me the key message in these results is the need for Council to focus strongly on core functions and substantially improve the delivery of those services. The 2026/27 budget must allocate appropriate resources to the core functions as a matter of urgency. For a myriad of reasons the Council workplace continues to be a very challenging environment.

The Mechanics Trentham - Bookings can be made here [The Mechanics Trentham Hepburn Shire Council](#). Community groups can and should apply for a fee waiver.

Contacting Council – to report an issue or request work please use the following link on Council's website - [Report an issue Hepburn Shire Council](#) Your request will be directed to the relevant department, you will receive a job number and an update.

Planning applications – for information on tracking an application, lodging an objection, viewing the planning register, etc visit Council's website here [Track an application, view planning register or lodge an objection Hepburn Shire Council](#)

Council meetings – meetings in 2026 will be held at 6pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The public may attend in person or view proceedings via the live broadcast on council's YouTube page. Agenda papers are publicly available on Council's website the week before the meeting.

Upcoming Council meeting dates:

- 30 June special budget adoption meeting
- 28 July
- 25 August

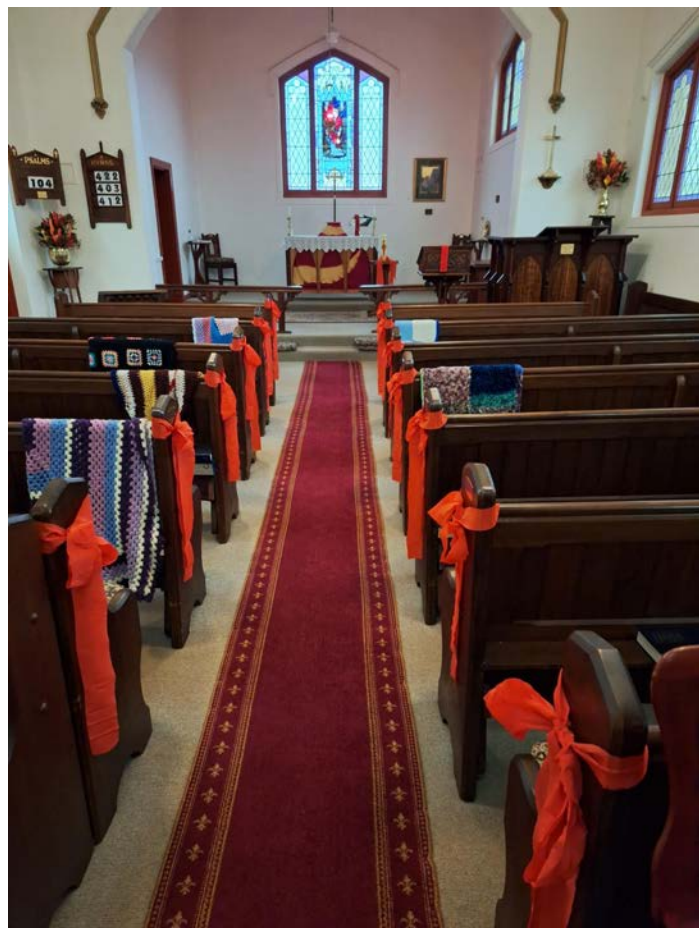
Cr Brian Hood
email bhood@hepburn.vic.gov.au
ph 0427 797151
Facebook - Cr Brian Hood, Hepburn Shire Council

News and reflections

In a conversation mentioning St George's with long term residents of Trentham I was surprised when one resident said, "What's St George's?". "That little red brick church at the top of the hill in High Street", I answered. "It's been there since 1927 and shares its year of completion with the temporary parliament house in Canberra.

But as an Anglican church community, it has been there for a lot longer". Churches still play a part in communities reminding us of ideals that transcend time and place and by promoting core values like compassion, charity, and service that contribute to our community. There is also a lot of rich history surrounding Churches within a town.

There are national trust artefacts within many churches including St Georges. The stained glass window behind the altar is one of them. A replication of the famous William Holman Hunt painting of Jesus with a lamp knocking at the door. The artist left-out the door handle because people need to invite Jesus in, he doesn't just barge-in (Revelation 3:20). The 1850s painting titled "Light of the world" toured Australia in 1927 and inspired church benefactors (the Byrne family) to commission the stained glass window. No doubt it will play a part in St George's centenary celebrations next year. The original life-sized version is located in the side chapel of Keble College at Oxford, but seeing the stained glass version at St George's is much easier.



The photo above depicts St George's at Pentecost showing the Holman Hunt and rugs for extra warmth - yes there are heaters too!

Feel free to join us at 9am on a Sunday morning to hear a little of the gospel and what Holman Hunt was trying to capture in the stained glass. Or just drop-in during the week for a short time of reflection in the quiet; the church is always open. If it's prayer you seek, there is a session on Tuesday mornings at 9 am.

Stephen Hehir
www.centralhighlandsanglicans.org
Parish phone: 0401 127 132

Photo credits: stained glass (left) Stephen Hehir, St George's at Pentecost (above) Faye McGee.



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The Trentham Garden

Winter Survivors

At this time of year many local gardens are looking a little more subdued. Frost, cold temperatures and shorter days inevitably take their toll, but there are still lots of ways to create beauty and interest in the garden.

In Melbourne, where temperatures rarely fall below zero, it's quite possible to maintain a lush, green garden throughout the year using subtropical and evergreen plants. In Trentham, however, many of those same plants won't tolerate the prolonged frosts and damp conditions.

Rather than trying to recreate a subtropical garden, it often makes more sense to embrace the changing seasons. In many colder parts of the world, deciduous trees provide spectacular autumn colour and then stand bare through winter. Herbaceous perennials disappear beneath the soil, returning with renewed vigour in spring.

Structure is key. Evergreen shrubs, hedges, carefully placed trees and built elements such as paths, walls and screens continue to provide shape, privacy and visual interest long after many other plants have died back.

Another approach is to make greater use of frost-hardy Australian natives. There are many species native to the Trentham district, and an excellent guide to these can be found in *Grow Wild* by Jill Teschendorf, available locally. I also regularly use hardy Australian natives from other regions, such as *Correa alba*, together with cultivated forms of *Dianella* and *Lomandra*, all of which perform beautifully in frosty conditions.

Dwarf conifers are another excellent option. Given good drainage, many thrive in cool climates and provide year-round form and structure. They may remind some people of bad gardens in the 1970s but when used in a modern context I think they can look chic and sophisticated.

TRATA



At the Station

Market News – it's time to stall!

Our monthly markets at the station will be back from October 2026 to April 2027. Spots are still available and if anyone is interested in having a stall please contact us. Our pricing is incredibly reasonable ; an unpowered spot is \$10, a powered spot \$20, and gazebos (which are put up and packed up by us) are available for hire for \$20.



Winter strips a garden back to its essentials. When the bones of a garden are strong, it can be just as rewarding in June as it is in spring.

Happy gardening,

Kaz Krasovskis Garden Designer

Instagram: @kazkrasovskis
www.kazkrasovskis.com.au

Clockwise: Pinus thunbergii 'Yatsubusa', limestone crazy-paving in Mt William aggregate, Lomandra 'Tanika' and Cornus alba sibirica

Come and join us! Next season's market dates are;

October 25, 2026	February 28, 2027
November 22, 2026	March 28, 2027
December 13, 2026	April 25, 2027
January 24, 2027	

Membership Renewals

All our membership funds go directly towards maintaining the station precinct. New members are always welcome, and existing TRATA members are reminded that annual fees of \$10 are now due. Please use your name as the reference and many thanks for supporting us.

Our bank details are as follows:

Account Name: TRATA
BSB: 633000
Account Number: 149570301

Phil Davis Secretary TRATA

Email: trataattrentham@gmail.com
Facebook: trataattrentham
Instagram: trenthamrailwayprecinct

The Little Gallery

Creative Refresh

The Little Gallery in Trentham continues to celebrate visual artists of the Central Victorian region with a fresh rotation of new talent from emerging to established creators. With this commitment to supporting the local art community, the Little Gallery remains a dynamic hub in showcasing inspiring works.

Rose Wilson, the founding member of The Little Gallery, shared, "Over the past 15 years, we have proudly exhibited more than 250 artists. This not only highlights the gallery's strong profile but also reinforces our dedication to nurturing our fellow artists in the community."

The Little Gallery welcomes two exceptional artists-in-residence: Damien McNamara and Steve Lees. This gives visitors to the gallery an opportunity to engage directly with the artists, as they share their passion and craft.

Damien McNamara, known for his unique approach to woodwork, carves his forms with a lathe using native timbers that have mostly fallen in storms.



Employing techniques like burning, fuming in ammonia, and delicate copper stitching, his pieces are both distinctive and deeply connected to nature. His current work explores classical forms with influence from Greek vessels, creating sculptural forms with balance and simplicity.

Steve Lees is a ceramic artist based in Trentham. His practice explores material transformation through processes of erosion, exposure, and weathering, drawing on the subtle ways objects and landscapes are shaped by time. Using wheel-thrown and hand-built techniques, he investigates the relationship between material, process, and place.

In addition to welcoming new in-house resident artists, The Little Gallery is proud to feature outstanding work by Daylesford ceramicist Kay Goldfinch and Macedon Ranges painter Justine Hutchison. Their contributions enrich the gallery's vibrant artistic offerings.



Unfortunately the annual Winter Show has been cancelled for 2026 due to unforeseen circumstances; we know it's a calendar event for the locals, however, the Little Gallery remains committed to maintaining the highest standards. Plans for a standout 2027 Winter Show are underway, ensuring that regional artists will have the opportunity to exhibit in a renowned regional gallery and be a part of what is garnered as an exceptional mid-year exhibition celebrating local artists.

Visitors to the Little Gallery in Trentham can look forward to an ongoing showcase of new and fresh works by all the artists its represents as it continues as a vibrant hub of creativity, where art and community flourish together.

Women's Wellbeing Day
 Saturday 5th Sept 2026
 9:30am to 4:15pm
 @ the Mechanics, Trentham.

Join us for a day of workshops to enhance the general wellbeing of women living in Trentham and districts.

This special event will connect you with local women's health services, explore wellbeing resources, and offer a range of fun and uplifting wellness experiences.

Save the Date and registration details are coming end of July.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY
 Hosted by the Trentham Lions Club
 Saturday 25th July
 6:00 pm
 The Mechanics Trentham
 \$ Cost: \$60.00
 Three-Course Festive Meal
 Lots of Raffle Prizes
 Dress Code: Red & Green
 Payment Details:
 Trentham Lions Club
 BSB 633 000
 Account 144 945 409
 RSVP by 17th July
 Mary – 0478714050
 trenthamlion@gmail.com
 Join us for a cosy winter celebration filled with food, fun, and festive cheer.
 Please let us know of any special dietary needs when RSVPing.

COMMUNITY BANK NEWS



TRENTHAM'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

We are pleased to announce that together with our local communities we raised **\$3380 for the Cancer Council hosting Trentham's Biggest Morning Tea**. It was another display of country people and businesses working together to support each other. This event took a lot of help - and there were so many were willing to help - by donating prizes, assistance on the day, and over 100 ticket sales.



Thank you to all our amazing volunteers and the Trentham businesses who generously donated prizes and equipment:

- Trentham Neighbourhood Centre
- Trentham Gas
- Emma James
- Adeline, Trentham General and Mr Peacock
- Frankie & Mae
- Hotel Trentham
- Pig & Whistle
- Cosmopolitan Hotel
- Kuki
- Sisko Chocolate
- Belle Property
- Jargon
- Casper's Ridge B&B
- Stuart Leong
- Trentham Golf Club
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Interior Design

The Sixth Sense

Winter is the season where you can pull out from your toolbox all your home decorating tricks, to make your rooms feel welcoming and inviting. One of these techniques is what I like to call the "sixth sense".

When you walk into a room for the first time, you get a feeling; it could be positive or indifferent, but when the room feels "not quite right", inevitably you will feel uncomfortable.

Over the recent long weekend, some city friends stayed with us in Trentham, for an escape and some fresh country air. Being a delightfully cold weekend, our guests arrived rugged up in hats, gloves and scarves; they ran from their car into the house, carrying their weekend gear, moved down the hall and positioned themselves in front of the firebox, defrosting themselves as they slowly peeled off their winter layers.

There is something so special about the magnetism of a real fire, its warm radiant heat working its way through every nook and cranny, removing the chill. The sight of flickering flames, the crackling sounds and smell of burning wood, and the feeling of radiant heat are far more enticing than an electric split system. That's four of the senses satisfied; I suppose if your fireplace is in or near an eating area, that could be your sense of taste looked after, too!

These separate subjective reactions, when combined, have a certain feel that is like a sixth sense - a sense of completeness: think of the country atmosphere of big



comfy sofas and armchairs to support a relaxing body, upholstered in leathers, suedes or woven fabrics.

Put your feet up on plushly-filled ottomans; run your fingers through contrasting piles and textures on your soft furnishings. Dim the overhead lights, turn on the lamps and light some candles, allow yourself to slip into an indulgent slumber in the middle of the day.

To me, true luxury is all about being comfortable; nothing over stimulating, so not too many bright colours or shiny fabrics. Add some natural fibres in your décor: raw linens, knobby cottons, woollen knits, perhaps some faux furs on your cushions and throw rugs. Underfoot, I'm thinking of fitted jute or sisal with woollen floor rugs, exposed timber flooring with the sound of puppies pattering down the hallway.

A room feels completed when you are truly comfortable, with nothing jarring or distracting: that's the sixth sense in action.

Robert Creedon
Interior Design Studio
Mobile 0488 294 777
Instagram @robert_creodon
Web robertcreodon.studio

Photo credit: www.heatmaster.com.au

THE TRENTHAM COMMUNITY TABLE
INVITES YOU TO OUR

CHRISTMAS (EVE) IN JULY

Join us for a delicious Christmas lunch!

FRIDAY 24TH JULY
Time: 12.30pm - 2.30pm
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Barfly Bob

Morning melophiles. We were very spoiled last month with Kathleen Halloran's third visit in the past year down in the stables at the Cosmo.

Spoiled because, along with her gob smacking talent, she was also able to bring along some of her talented musical friends to help support her, on this, the final gig of her promotional tour of her debut album "Nobody's Baby".

Gypsy Lee opened with her set of sweet indie pop tunes, sometimes set with a little dark humour, her confidence and musicality belying her 21 years. On either side of her sat her stand-in band, a percussionist sitting atop his Cajun drum box and the other playing acoustic guitar. Acoustic, exposed and dynamite.



Kathleen played almost every track from her recent debut album, which recently peaked at no.2 on the ARIA charts. She nails singing, songwriting and of course guitar. She's been playing since she could walk and has toured live with major artists since she was a teenager.

Alongside her in support, fresh from her recent tour were Dusty Lee on guitar (have a listen to his Adelaide band Wanderers) and Jay-Z on double bass. What a show. Throwing in a few covers they finished with a spirited performance of Led Zeppelin's Rock and Roll, the audience wanted more but time did not allow.

Seeing Kathleen play live, it is her skill on the guitar that leaves a lasting impression. However, since I've been listening to her album on vinyl at home and in the ute along country roads, what strikes me is the power of her singing.

THINK WOMBAT FOREST

THINK WINE

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Trentham's two iconic pubs are celebrating huge milestones this year with Hotel Trentham clocking its 100th birthday and the Cosmo 160 years!! Both have a ton of free music all month so why not come out of the cold, catch up with friends and enjoy whoever is playing.

Charlie Owens is the one ticketed gig on 11 July in the stables, and is well worth seeing. He sold out early last time he visited in 2025, his superb guitar playing and stories of over 40 years in the industry playing and collaborating with the who's who of Aussie rock is a show not to be missed.

See ya at the gig.

Photo credits: Chris Campbell

JULY AT THE COSMO

JULY 04 SATURDAY 3PM - 5PM NORWOOD <i>FREE event!</i>	JULY 11 SATURDAY 7:30PM CHARLIE OWEN <i>SUPPORTED BY AL CARR</i>	JULY 11 SATURDAY 3PM - 5PM ANDREA ROBERTSON <i>FREE event!</i>
JULY 18 SATURDAY 3PM - 5PM PAPER JANE DUO <i>FREE event!</i>	JULY 25 SATURDAY 3PM - 5PM SUZIE SO BLUE <i>FREE event!</i>	

FRIDAY NIGHT MEAT RAFFLE
July proceeds go to Trentham District Primary School

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Trentham
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CWA

Trentham Night Owls

After a very busy April and the wonderful success of Spudfest, we realised we completely missed the June edition of the Trumpet! So, here is a catch-up on what our members have been up to and what's coming up in July.

Spudfest was, once again, a fantastic community event. Our members baked around 900 scones and supplied the jam for the popular Devonshire Tea. Members also lent a hand to the Food For Thought group, helping to serve scones, tea and coffee throughout the day. It was a wonderful example of local groups working together, and we would like to extend a belated thank you to the Spudfest Committee for delivering such a successful festival.

St Mary Magdalen's**Musings**

Well, winter is well and truly upon us. It's been wet and the days are often grey. Even when the sun shines, it has little warmth. Each Sunday in the church, we're slowly working our way through the gospel according to Matthew. We've just passed the winter solstice, and this is the season where, if we were in the northern hemisphere, we'd be celebrating Christmas, a time of joy and celebration to light up the dark and warm the cold. Here we're in ordinary time orderly time, where the days flow past in an orderly progression.

Actually, that's not entirely true. Even now, the weeks are punctuated by the bright grace of feast days. The winter solstice was marked by the birth of John the Baptist. This was quickly followed by the feast of Saints Peter and Paul. One the leader of the twelve, and the other the great teacher of the church. All through July there are many

In May, we swapped our regular monthly meeting for an evening of dinner and trivia at the Hotel Trentham. While we didn't take home the trophy, we certainly enjoyed ourselves! Towards the end of the month, two of our members attended the State AGM and Conference in Melbourne, where delegates welcomed a new State President and Treasurer.

This month, we are delighted to welcome local resident and wool expert Kitty Milliken to our July meeting. One of this year's CWA focus areas is Australian wool, and we are looking forward to learning more about this remarkable natural fibre and the many creative possibilities it offers.

If you would like to learn more about the CWA or join us for a meeting, we gather at the Trentham Neighbourhood Centre on the fourth Thursday of each month from 7pm. New members and visitors are always welcome.

other saints whom we celebrate, including the apostles James and Thomas. Over two thousand years we've accumulated many reasons for celebration, all shining now like stars in our winter dark.

Of particular significance for us here in Trentham is the feast of Saint Mary Magdalen on 22 July. This is our patronal feast, and we'll be celebrating this wonderful woman over two weekends with days of reflection and pilgrimage. Also, with gatherings over tea and coffee, with cakes and biscuits, and maybe even warm soup. It might be cold and wet outside, there could even be frost or snow, but our celebrations will be warm and bright for all that.

Come along. You'll be very welcome.

Deacon Joe**The Mount Players****Happenings**

With 2 successful productions under our belt we are now in full rehearsal for our August production, **After-Light** The Dramatic Prog-Rock Opera. The Mount Players is proud to present this brand new, original rock opera written by Zac Vanstone with musical direction by Castlemaine's Tom Foster. A truly contemporary piece in the vein of Jesus Christ Superstar and The Who's Tommy, boasting a rock band live on stage with singers and dancers telling the story of Boy as he struggles through his mistakes, exorcising his demons in a journey of self discovery and ultimately redemption. Penned during Covid this production does explore some darker themes.

'This is a show about learning how to let go'; said composer Zac. 'Following the break-up between Boy and Girl, Boy falls into a life-threatening coma. In order for Boy to wake, he must forgive the past, reconcile with the future and learn to let go of Girl. If Boy fails, his intrusive thoughts: Addiction, Paranoia and Depression will consume his soul.'

Zac performed a stripped back version of this show at the 2024 Melbourne Fringe Festival which TMP President Craig Lenaine-Smith and other committee members attended.



'What impressed me the most was the music,' said Craig 'it was incredibly evocative with undertones of King Crimson and Pink Floyd's The Wall. To now be able to realise Zac's vision with a full band on stage is going to be amazing. Visually it takes its cues from The Rocky Horror Picture Show and 1930's German cabaret, with lots of corsetry and elevated glamour makeup.' The season runs from 14 – 30 August.

Auditions - for our November production, Money And Friends by David Williamson will be held on Sunday, 12 July. For full details and to book tickets to **After-Light** go to www.themountplayers.com

See you at the theatre!

150 Years Ago in Trentham - July 1876

A family in difficult circumstances

Last month's article about Trentham events in June 1876 mentioned a teenager who failed to appear to give evidence at an inquest, the teenager having 'gone into the bush with his father'. Later the same month, the teenager's 13-year-old sister was sentenced to 24 hours in the Trentham lockup 'for laying down broken glass bottles on a public pathway'.

On 3 July 1876 the circumstances of this family deteriorated further when their mother was arrested, accused of stealing from the Trentham home of Maria Roberts a brooch, a pair of earrings, a parasol and a silk scarf, valued together at three pounds; later the same day, the accused was imprisoned on remand in the Trentham lockup.

A committal hearing was held in the Trentham Police Court on 19 July 1876, with various Trentham residents giving evidence regarding the alleged theft of jewellery and other items. Maria Roberts gave evidence that she had left her house shortly before the alleged theft, securing her front door shut with a piece of string!

The outcome of the hearing was the committal of the accused to trial in Kyneton on 15 September 1876. Bail

Singing Circle

The Singing Circle has re-formed, currently gathering to sing on Tuesday afternoons at 4pm, at the Trentham Neighbourhood Centre, with at least 12 names on our list!

We re-started, calling ourselves the "I can't sing" choir because that is often the first response someone gives when invited to come along! So, we are slowly adjusting to the fact that "if you can talk, then you can sing!" – it's simply a matter of noticing how your voice works, after all it's just another muscle connected to the brain!!! And there's singers amongst us who can explain this and help us along.

The Plonkers

Resplendent in green and gold our plonkers made quite the entrance into the bar at Hotel Trentham, and at 11:30 in the morning no less.

It was the World Cup match between Australia and Paraguay that they'd come to see. It was a sunny Friday and some in the group were reluctant to be indoors. I think you might be able to guess who was hoping they could kick on to happy hour at 4pm.

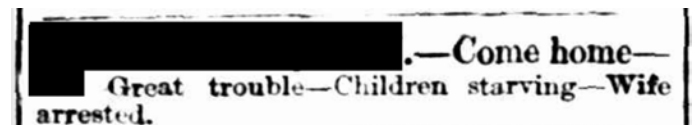
Before the long suffering Mrs. Digby could say, "It's too early for a beer dear", Digby was already returning from the bar with four pints of Guinness saying "Don't worry love, I got you girls Rosé too. It's 12 o'clock somewhere."

Almost everyone tucked into the \$22.50 lunch specials off the delicious selection of bistro classics. Beer battered fish and chips, salt & pepper squid, beef and veggie burgers and even a vegetarian lasagne which Daphne proclaimed to be the best she'd ever had. All meals came with a glass of the Scotchman Hill wine or Baykers beer.

was set at the substantial sum of 20 pounds. As no person would act as surety for that amount, the accused was remanded to await her trial.

Where was the husband of the accused? He had left Trentham with the couple's eldest son, the teenager who had failed to appear at the inquest; they travelled to Nunawading to look for work. With their father away and their mother in jail, the couple's three youngest children were left to fend for themselves, with the assistance of neighbours.

An indication of the dire circumstances of the three youngest children comes from an advertisement placed in the Kyneton Guardian on 15 July 1876:



By 22 July 1876, local newspapers reported that a warrant had been issued for the arrest of the accused's husband, on the basis that he had abandoned the couple's three youngest children.

The Nostalgic Narrator

We sing all sorts of songs, light pop, heavy pop, D&M pop, old folk songs, new folk songs, etc. We mostly sing unaccompanied and singing in a circle produces a great sound. We are also interested in organising some bigger community sing sessions, maybe a pub sing!



If you would like to check us out, feel free to drop in! No audition, of course, and the science now tells us how good singing is for us.

Digby went large with the steak sandwich.

Well set with all the screens blaring the game live from the San Francisco Bay Area Stadium our crew looked on, most oblivious to the subtleties and strategy behind the game.

"Very un-Australian, another nil-all draw, I never get to see an exciting soccer game" moaned Digby, leaning against the bar.

The sometimes saucy uncle Worcester, still with his eyes glued to the screen and who had barely touched his beer for an hour disagreed.

"You have to be kidding mate, that was an awesome game, how good were Volpato and Bos!?? We're into the round of 32, WooHoo!!!"

Cheers!
The Plonkers

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Spudman
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Oil on Canvas

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