Darraweit Guim Cemetery Trust

Public meeting

Wednesday 15th April
7:30pm at the Darraweit Guim War Memorial Hall

New Members wanted

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Duncan or Patience McDonnell on 5789 1210.

Tennis Club News

Our Hot Shot Night held Friday 6th February in conjunction with the Primary School and Sue Dundas from Tennis Victoria was a huge success. The school children spent the afternoon learning tennis skills which they were able to use and show their parents later that evening at the club BBQ evening. We have had numerous enquiries regarding coaching, the committee members are currently in the process of selecting a coach for our club. Finalised details will be advised as soon as possible, or if you have any questions please contact one of the committee members.

Due to the success of the evening we are running Hot Shots evenings for children aged 3 years and over on Friday 12th, 19th and 26th March from 5.30-6.30 pm at a total cost of $10.00 per child for the 3 sessions (payable on the first evening). We will have available for sale hot dogs and cans of drink at a cost of $1.50 each. We hope to see our courts full on these nights.

These are free workshops being conducted by Sue Dundas from Tennis Victoria for anybody (adults only) within the community who is interested in learning more about the program. The workshop will run for approximately 1 hour.

MITCHELL SHIRE TENNIS FORUM

Thursday 5th March, Kilmore Tennis Club, Union Street 6-8.30pm. Tennis Victoria staff Sue Dundas and Peter Jenkin and Mitchell Shire Council staff MaryAnne McCue and Michelle Barnes will host the night. Agenda includes Clubs on court - Fast 4's and Hot Shot Leagues, Tennis Victoria Update Q & A Australian Open/Tennis Connect/Game Set Match, Mitchell Shire Update and Club Development. This night is open to anybody who would like to attend.

Finally we hope that you like our new sign.

Advance notice

Sale of Gifts

Saturday 9th May

DARRAWEIT GUIM MEMORIAL HALL

TRIENNIAL MEETING

Tuesday 17th March 2015 commencing at 7:30 pm.

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate no less than three (3) or more than nine (9) persons as the Committee of Management for the Darraweit Guim Memorial Hall for a term of three years.

All positions will be declared open and nominations will be accepted prior to or on the night.

For further enquiries please contact Chris on 5789 1373 or Viki on 5789 1237
Craft Group
Saturday 14th March
12:30pm at the hall
Contact Viki on 5789 1237
Everyone welcome

Bookclub
Tuesday 17th March
This month is still the return of Don Tillman in *The Rosie Effect* by Graeme Simsion. The charming and hilarious romantic comedy of the year.

Next month’s book is *Catch 22* by Joseph Heller. Set in the closing months of World War II, this is the story of a bombardier named Yossarian who is frantic and furious because thousands of people he has never met are trying to kill him.

Come along to the tennis clubrooms at 7:30pm. We discuss the book, and chat about this and that, and maybe you could come along just to suggest a book we may try next time?

Happy Birthday in March to

Lauren Potts 1st
Jasper Wright 9th
Christine McDonald 14th
Mathilde Wright 25th

School News

This year we have started with our new Preps Harper, Primrose, Ben and Zara as well as new students Britt and Indiana. It has been a short but busy first term which will end on March 27th with our annual Easter Bonnet Parade.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter and hope everyone has a safe holiday break.

EASTER RAFFLE

Tickets ($1.00 ea) will be for sale shortly and the raffle will be drawn on the last day of term at our Easter Bonnet Parade. Tickets are available from families of the school and from the school directly.

First 3 prizes are –
- Voucher for Free Party for 10 guests courtesy of Jungle Kids Indoor Playcentre, Wallan
- A lovely chocolate hamper kindly donated by Mrs Maguire
- Beautiful double handmade quilt donated by the Kolotelo Family

New enrolments are always welcome. We will be having an Open Day in term 2. Please view our website and visit our Facebook page or call the school (5789 1234) for an appointment to have a tour.
Local author publishes novel set in the area

After living overseas for several years, I travelled home across Asia. Everyone was talking about climate change. They were not necessarily using the term “climate change” to describe what they were experiencing, but they expressed that something was out of kilter in their worlds. Seasons were changing or failing to arrive; crops and rainfall patterns were not what they had been. Climate change did not really enter mainstream public discourse until after the release of An Inconvenient Truth in 2006; I returned home that year, right on the cusp of mainstream reception of the idea that our lifestyles were causing ecological damage to the environment; that something was seriously going wrong.

I was home in time to rejoice with my father as he celebrated the fifty-year anniversary of his connection with the land on which he lives on Old Sydney Road, in between Darraweit Guim and Wallan. He first moved to that place with his family as a boy in 1956. The farm was subdivided in the 1970s and my father developed ten acres for himself. I grew up on that land with him, as well as in inner city Melbourne with my mother. Although my father is quick to point out that two or three generations of contact is very little in the context of Indigenous connection to country, and even far less than many rural settler families can claim in other parts of Australia, it is a connection of a longevity more enduring than any other about which I personally know. Although all of the characters, events and even some places in my novel, Anchor Point, are fictional, much of my experience – if not literally, then in essence – and the experiences of my family in Wallan, have influenced the direction my writing has taken, though largely unconsciously.

In that first summer home I was already beginning to become interested in climate change. In fact, my interest was cemented by the dawning realisation that I had places worth caring for and preserving. I saw those homes as being local (Wallan and Melbourne), but began to understand that they were part of a symbiotic, global ecosystem of places, each reliant on others to survive. I am now convinced that climate change is occurring and that it is serious. Aside from the academic and scientific evidence at my disposal to support this belief, I experience the effects of our changing climate daily – as we all do. Beyond the empirical, scientific substantiation from experts that support and reinforce it, my individual experience too tells me that something is changing in our climate and ecologies. What I have uncovered about our environments in the last several years invokes a feeling akin to grief. As a young Australian, feeling hope in the face of climate change is difficult to maintain. Yet to be without hope is a kind of death in itself, one I am not ready, or willing, to accept.

Old blankets, towels and old pillow cases wanted

If you have any old blankets, towels (even with holes) and pillow cases (without holes) that you are not using or throwing in the bin or taking to the op shop Helen Callahan is collecting them for a shelter.

Please, no pillows or cushions because they cannot be used.

If you have any please ring Helen 5789 1305 and she will pick them up from you.

Anzac Day 2015 Poppy project

Darraweit Guim
War Memorial Hall

Patterns for poppies are available at tp://5000poppieswordpress.com
Contact Viki Speeding on 5789 1237 if you would like more information or to drop poppies off.
Additional water for firefighting in Darraweit Guim
Macedon Ranges Shire Council and the CFA have partnered in a special project that has increased the supply of water for firefighting purposes in Darraweit Guim from 60,000 litres to 106,000 litres. The need for additional water in the township became apparent during the devastating fires that impacted the town in February 2014. The water supply at the fire station was exhausted by 10pm on the night fires surrounded the town.

After the fires, Council worked with the local brigade to come up with a solution to increase the water supply. An application was submitted to the CFA’s Fire Access Road Subsidy Scheme and resulted in a $20,000 contribution from the CFA on the basis of a $10,000 Council co-contribution. The $30,000 project has provided two 23,000 litres tanks next to the recently extended Darraweit Guim fire station, including site preparation, plumbing and installation.

"Thanks to this funding opportunity, we’ve been able to implement the best possible solution for increasing the firefighting water supply in Darraweit Guim," said Council’s Manager of Community Safety, Anne-Louise Lindner.

"We worked with the local brigade captain and regional CFA representatives to carefully plan the best, most accessible location for the tanks, with the extension of the fire station in mind," said Ms Lindner. The site has also been prepared to enable a third tank to be installed, which will hold a further 90,000 litres. This tank is being provided by CFA.

AGM & Brigade Elections Monday 27 April 7:30pm
A relatively quiet season this year (so far) after a corker last year. How did we go? Come along to our meeting and pass on your input. All those serving in executive roles in the brigade must face the voters, fancy a job? Our next monthly meeting will be an Annual General Meeting open to all members of the community. If you haven’t yet you can check out our new station!

Please be at Darraweit Guim Fire Station at 7:30pm on Monday April the 27th to have your say on how the brigade is run for the next two years and who gets the epaulettes.

End of Daylight Savings—Change Your Smoke Alarm Batteries
Daylight saving will end in Victoria on Sunday, 5 April 2015, when clocks will go backward one hour at 3:00 am. As well as testing your smoke alarms this month, (by pressing the test button with a broom handle), changing your clock back is also a signal to replace the batteries in all your smoke alarms. If you have hard-wired smoke alarms they have a battery too so get up there!

When you do, vacuum around the smoke alarm vents and give it a test. But first, if the alarm is more than ten years old you have been wasting your time because you should replace it! They don’t last for ever.

For more information on the recommendations for smoke alarm usage and fire escape plans visit www.changeyourbattery.com.au
Dear Resident,

It has been 5 years since the brigade last sought community financial support via a donations appeal. In that time the brigade have been busy operationally, attending to grass and scrub fires, structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, assisting with storm & flood damage.

Our 2015 Appeal is seeking your financial assistance to

- Update the Land-Rover Slip On unit.
  The Slip on is a brigade owned appliance that we purchased in 2012, and which was specifically selected for its capacity for rapid response, and for gaining access to areas that may not be readily accessible with the larger trucks. The slip on proved itself to be a very valuable asset to the brigade and local community in the February 2014 fires.

- Fund the replacement and maintenance of existing brigade owned fire-fighting equipment.

Put simply, we need your help in order to be best equipped to help you.

Donations may be made to the brigade via the following methods:

• Send a cheque made out to ‘Darraweit Guim Fire Brigade’ and crossed “Not Negotiable” to:
  Secretary / Treasurer – Danielle Craig.
  Darraweit Guim Fire Brigade
  1500 Bolinda – Darraweit road
  Darraweit Guim, Vic. 3756
  Please include return address for receipt purposes

• Donations may be deposited via Internet Banking

  Darraweit Guim Fire Brigade
  BSB: 633-000
  Account: 112636113
  Please leave your name in the description field and email the brigade Secretary at danelle.craig@members.cfa.vic.gov.au with your name, address and payment details so that a receipt may be forwarded to you.

• Call into the station (Francis Lane Darraweit Guim) any Sunday morning between 0830hrs and 0900hrs to meet the volunteers and have a cuppa

All Donations over $2.00 are tax deductible.