



THE SCARECROW

CABBAGE TREE CREEK NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2012

Garden Concert in Cabbage Tree Creek an Overwhelming Success

Nick Charles on Sunday October 14th brought the crowds out into the sunshine with his roots and blues rhythm guitar.

It's been suggested that we invite Nick Charles back for an encore concert sometime in the future.

Thanks to everyone for their help and support on the day.



This happy Cabbage Tree crew enjoyed the sunshine and music. Arno, Scott & Alfie, Suzie & Ramona, Francesca and Cammy



Bill Killick (Host of Music in the Garden) applauds the guitar stylings of Nick Charles. Thanks to Bill and Trin for the hard work in preparation for the day and for making everyone so welcome.

The MAGIC of BICARB

By Denise Moody

It's not often that a naturally occurring 'miracle' comes along to make our lives easier in and around the house and saves you cash as well!

Fortunately for us Sodium

Bicarbonate is one of those products and has more uses than you can poke a stick at! Bicarb is a naturally occurring salt in nature (it can also be produced artificially) and is ideal for neutralizing acids which makes it a perfect antacid for treating heartburn and upset tummies, simply add ½ teaspoon to half a cup of water and drink.



8. Add a small container of Bicarb to the back of fridge to eliminate smells, replace every couple of months
9. Deodorise a dishwasher & washing machine- add handful & put through short rinse cycle
10. Blocked Sink – pour ½ cup down plug hole before going to bed then give a couple of plunges next morning to remove blockage
11. Remove stains from clothes – make into paste & rub on stain, leave 10 mins rinse off. For 'hard to remove stains' : ½ cup into a bucket of warm water & soak ½ hour before washing
12. Dog 'on the nose' ? –rub some Bicarb into its fur, rough it up & brush out
13. Soak paint brushes in 1 tsp. Bicarb in a jar of water to remove paint, making them easier to clean.
14. Test for acidic soil - place a small quantity of soil in the palm of your hand. Sprinkle on soda and wet. If soda and soil foam it means lime should be added to the soil

SOME OTHER USES

1. Cleaning your teeth – mix 1/2 tsp. with a little water into a paste
2. Mouth wash (for ulcers) – 1 tsp to half cup of water & rinse, spit & repeat
3. Deodorise socks & shoes – sprinkle a little Bicarb on them, leave 15 mins, dust off
4. Relieve itching – ½ cup in bath water (2 tbl in baby's bath for nappy rash)
5. Insect bites – make into a paste and smear on
6. Bicarb mixed with vinegar into a paste, makes a great cleaning product for showers & baths. It can also be used to clean up stains such as tomato, lemon juice & red wine on benches
7. Smear a paste onto chopping boards & leave for 15 mins, rinse off, this will clean & remove odour

Check out other uses on the Internet or in the library, there are many books written about its uses. It won't harm the Biolytx or other toilet systems either.

SODA BREAD RECIPE

4 cups plain flour, 2 tsp Bicarb, 1 tsp salt, 60gms butter cut into cubes, 2-2 1/2 cups of buttermilk

Place dry ingred. Into bowl & rub together then add buttermilk, mix & form into a round or oval. Bake 190C for 35-45 mins. Serve warm with butter & have with soup OR spread with honey – Delicious!!!!

HALL UPDATES

PAINTING & CLEANING



In preparation of its possible use as a wet weather alternative venue for the Nick Charles concert the hall was thoroughly cleaned and tidied up. The green and pink lower part of the walls was given two coats of cream paint to freshen it up. Thanks to all those who assisted with

their labour - it was well worth the effort.

ASSEMBLY OF CUPBOARDS

A group of willing workers assembled the flat-pack cupboards in preparation for their use for storage in the kitchen area.



HALL TOILETS

Plumber Ken Trewin replaced the toilet cisterns and bowls, urinals and hand basins and connected the pump to the tank. Thanks to Kev Burns for thoroughly cleaning the walls and floors. The external Hall toilets are now in full working order and ready for use.

THEATRE SEATING

The Hall Committee agreed to a trial renovation of one of the blocks of 4 connected seats.

The men's shed are undertaking the metal and wood restoration and Denise & Jack will recover the cracked and tired seat covering with new vinyl.



Bob runs the oasis ^{HERALD 4/12/85} on the road to Orbost



By INNEZ WILLOX

When it first comes into view, the first thought is that it must be a mirage, or that you have definitely been driving too long.

Standing out like an oasis in the Sahara Desert for the thirsty Princes Highway traveller is the Bell Bird Hotel.

Near the 410 km post on the tree-lined road between Orbost and Cann River in eastern Victoria, it is a curiosity stop for hundreds of intrigued travellers on the highway.

When asked who patronised his bush hotel with its pool room and two bars, publican Bob O'Shea laughed and said: "Well, you stopped didn't you?"

With his mother, Gwen, he moved four months ago to the isolated hotel — with its clock which operates backwards — after 31 years working on Melbourne tug boats.

He first went to the area about nine years ago when he towed a boat from Melbourne as a favor for a friend. Later he heard the pub was for sale and he jumped at the chance.

"Most people do something like that when they retire. They usually buy a farm or something.

"Here I'm a bit tied down, but I

suppose you've got to get used to that. I might lease it out later, and go fishing — or something like that."

He said he had no worries about a lack of patronage. "Usually people who call in once, come back and get to like it here. Already, I've noticed that every three or four weeks you get to see the same people come in," he said.

Bob wants to develop the hotel as a base for visiting fishermen and passers-by with motel units and a caravan park, and also wants to extend its local image as a "family hotel".

Pool nights on Thursdays and Fridays are regular events, and Bob says at least 15 people emerge from the off-road, tiny logging towns to compete.

He wants to develop a competition with hotels in the nearby town of Marlo, as well as start a wood-chopping competition in the hotel's yard where he hopes horses and birdlife will roam for the enjoyment of the patrons.

"I suppose I'll never get rich here — but who needs to?"



Proud pub owner Bob O'Shea, his mum Gwen, dog Jedda, and the Bell Bird Hotel on the highway to Orbost. Picture: PETER CHARLES.

When Stock Go By

Ah me! How clearly they come back
Those golden days of long ago,
When down the droughty Bogan track
Tom came with stock from Ivanhoe.
The cattle passed our homestead gate,
Beside our well I watched them pass,
While Dad was in a fearful state
About his water and his grass.
Tom rode a bonny dark haired nag;
He wore a battered cabbage-tree;
And as I filled our water-bag,
He came and asked a drink from me.
Tom said that drink was just like wine;
He said my eyes were soft and brown;
He said there were no eyes like mine
From Dandaloo to Sydney Town.
I watched him with a trembling lip,
Yet little thought I then that he
Who asked a drink from me that trip,
Would next trip ask my Dad for me!
Tom's droving days long since are done;
The wet tear oft has dimmed his eye;
For days when I was wood and won
Come back to me - when stock go by.

Poem by Harry Morant (*The Breaker*)

On the Hall Agenda

.. we hope to have the slabs laid soon for the cob oven and the storage shed, both alongside the hall. A working bee will then be needed to construct the oven base etc.

.. working bees will also be needed to install the new storm water down pipes at the hall and the construction of the metal storage shed.

.. watch for dates



GRANTS

An application is being prepared by Scott on behalf of the Hall Committee to Regional Development Victoria for further Hall maintenance. This will include external door replacement, window sills, exterior painting, wood heater and renewal of eaves etc.

An additional application is also being prepared to seek funding for a Cabbage Tree Creek Oral History project. Further information will be posted in the Newsletter regarding the outcome.



IN THE GARDEN *by Bill Killick*

Warmer soil, reduced threat of frost, longer days and everything is beginning to jump out of the ground, making this a wonderful time of year for us gardeners. But with this activity comes a time of frantic sowing, planting out, spraying, watering, feeding, digging and desperate lawn mowing.



The windy weather, typical of spring, has been a bit worse than usual causing quite a bit of damage to established trees and shrubs. Remove and replace damaged plants and prune or stake those affected. Check mature trees for splitting and broken branches hanging which may fall later.

With all this lush new growth plant pests are on the increase and need to be controlled be it snails or leaf suckers like aphid. These pests can do great damage to your favourite vegies or flowers. Also keep weeds well controlled as they can not only look untidy but provide hiding places for unwelcome pests.

What to plant at the moment gives the gardener a huge choice and what I suggest is only a small sample of what can be set out in the garden.

Flowers: Alyssum, Aster, Begonia, Calendula, Cornflower, Dahlia, Geranium, Marigold, Salvia, Snapdragon, Petunia, Waratah, Zinnia.

Vegies: Beans, Beetroot, Cabbage, Carrots, Capsicum, Celery, Eggplant, Cucumber, Leeks, Lettuce, Melons of all types, Sweet Corn, Silver beet, tomato.

A watch needs to be kept on pots as they can dry out very quickly.

With the relentless growth of lawns do not be tempted to lower the blades to cut shorter. This will not reduce the number of times you need to mow but will make the area more prone to drying out later and allow weeds to become established in areas which have been shaved. One thing to remember when using chemicals in the garden is the need to follow the instructions carefully. This applies particularly to sprays used for killing blackberries and shrub plants.

Happy Gardening!

WILD LIFE IN CABBAGE TREE CREEK

Long- Necked Tortoise *By Trin Preston*

A small group of locals, while strolling around the bottom dam on Noel & Kathy's property, came across a turtle making its way through the undergrowth. Jo (shop) after some inspection pronounced the species as a Long-Necked Tortoise because (obviously), of its long neck and its habit of instead of pulling its neck back into its shell bent it around to the side to withdraw it for protection. It was a healthy specimen and to save it undue drying out was picked up and carried to the dam by these inquisitive humans. After investigation this is what was discovered about the breed:



Distribution: Coastal and inland waterways and wetlands of eastern continental Australia from south eastern S.A. to eastern Queensland.

Habit: Swamps, oxbow lakes & billabongs, or slow moving rivers. Sometimes extensive overland migrations occur in summer. The tortoise feeds on a variety of aquatic organisms – molluscs, crustaceans, tadpoles & small fishes, most of which live in the dam.

Breeding: The Long Necked Tortoise lays up to 10 or more eggs in a hole excavated in the bank of a stream or swamp, usually in early summer.

Description: Colour variable, from rich dark brown or black. White or cream below, the sutures of the plastron (breastplate) and lower margin of the carapace (shell) broadly edged with black. In some areas the hatchlings have bright orange or red plastron.

So, if you are walking around the dam at any time, keep your eye out for the Long-Necked Tortoise and if you're lucky you may spot its offspring.

AROUND THE VILLAGE

Welcome to Chrissy and JohnBoy, who are now full-time residents of CTC.

Both JohnBoy and Arno are available for casual work around the village.

Welcome to Mel - a newcomer to the Cabbage Tree Creek community.



Deadline for the next Newsletter is the end of December 2012.

E-mail or deliver any articles, recipes, photos, history, news or notices etc to Jack or Denise.

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NEXT HALL COMMITTEE MEETING

10:30am - 9TH DECEMBER 2012

At the Cabbage Tree Creek Hall

ALL WELCOME