

The Victorian
Seekers Club

May / JUNE
2024

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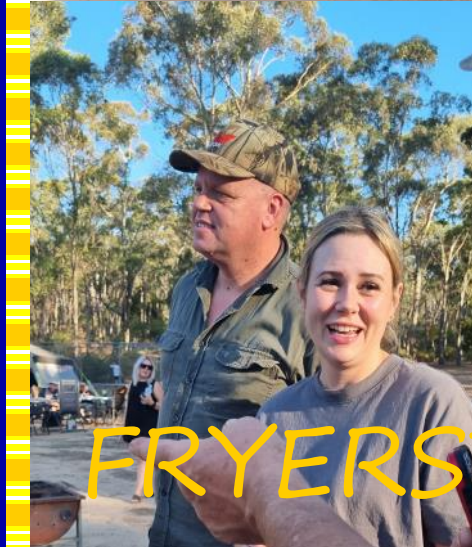
FOSSICKIN' ROUND

VOL. 45 ISSUE 3

The Victorian Seekers Club bi-monthly newsletter



Al, Peter, Mieke, Louise
Kaye
Peter Maffey



FRYERSTOWN CAMP

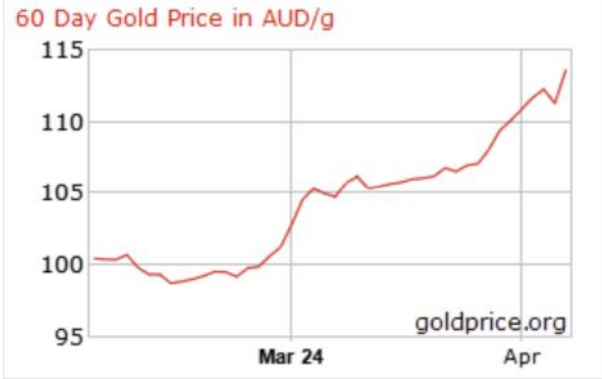
Your Committee of Management 2023-2024

POSITION	DUTIES	NAME	CONTACT vicseekersclub@gmail.com
President:	Club management and representation, Chairperson	Steve Hillman	
Vice President:	President's deputy, arrange speakers.		
Research Officer:	Information about outings, field activity.	Eric Grummett	
Secretary:	Correspondence, meetings, camp permits and other administration	Ken Barlow	
Treasurer:	Financial reporting, paying and receiving money, banking	Kevin Hubbard	
Membership Secretary:	Membership enquiries, subscriptions, membership records	Louise McGough	
Newsletter Editor:	Newsletter compilation and distribution	Gary Harvey	
IT & Social Media Officers:	Website administration & Facebook	Anja M	
		Rob Shannon	
Catering Supervisor:	Supper at General Meetings, special occasion camp catering	Steve Iorlano	
Social Secretary:	Organising social functions, raffles, theatre bookings etc	Tina Whelan	
Almoner:	Contact on matters of personal nature: weddings, bereavement etc	Susan Moore	
Library Officer:	Managing library at General Meetings	Sam Shvemer	
Clothing Officer:	Managing club clothing display at General Meetings and at camp outings	Susan Moore	
Field Officers:	Assist new members at outings, manage campfires, camp signage and any other campsite set-up/clean up duties	Bob Lake	
		Tony Pappas	
		Ivan Albrecht	
		Alistair M	
		Brian McGough	
		Paul Griffin	
		Pam Griffin	

CLUB CALENDAR

VSC General Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except January) at 7.30pm for 8pm start.

***Mulgrave Community Centre, 355 Wellington Road, Mulgrave. All welcome. (SUBJECT TO CURRENT COVID19)**



Gold price as at 9/4/2024

MINERS' RIGHT EXPIRY

A reminder to check that your miners' right is current. They are valid for 10 years.

APRIL 2024

General meeting	3rd April
Harvest Home	25th April (Anzac Day) to 30th April

MAY 2024

General meeting	1st May
Talbot Camp	17th -22st May

June 2024

General meeting	5th June
Moora	7th -12th June
Racecourse & Recreation Reserve	



The Victorian Seekers Club Inc. (Reg. No. A0001477T)

Postal:
PO Box 15
Mt Waverley BC Vic 3149

Email:
vicseekersclub@gmail.com

Website:
<http://www.victorianseekersclub.org.au>

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/Victorian-Seekers-Prospecting-Club-1985818041670592/>

The purposes of the Club are to:

- Promote the skill of prospecting using metal detectors and other suitable equipment in the search for gold, other precious metals, minerals, gemstones, coins, artifacts and relics.
- Encourage and foster friendship and co-operation amongst people interested in the above pursuits.
- Collaborate with other similar clubs and organizations.
- Hold meetings, lectures, demonstrations, field outings and competitions for the furtherance of members' prospecting skills and experience.
- Engage in fund raising activities for the bona fide purposes of the Club.
- Encourage all members to act in an environmentally and socially responsible manner, and in accordance with the Law.

Our prospecting activities are governed by a code of conduct as laid out in the Club Rules including respecting owners of private property and respecting the natural environment, hence our motto: "SEEK BUT DON'T DESTROY"

President's Report

By Steve H



(The President and his wonderful "First lady")

Hello fellow members, April already! Time flies when you are having fun, eh? A lot has happened in the last two months.

Our major Easter camp at Fryerstown was a great camp and once again very well attended. So much preparation has gone into that camp, much of which goes unnoticed by those who have never organised one. I simply cannot list out everyone's names who need thanking here. But suffice to say, I wish to thank everyone for all of their help before and during the camp. All the carting of "stuff" to and from the camp, preparation work, helping with running of games, cooking, serving, cleaning up, donations of prizes etc. you all know who you are. And can I make a special thank you also, to Jim Marsden for making the return journey to bring young Peter Maffey to camp for the day on Saturday. It was great to see him and have a cup of tea and a chat. Weather was great until late Monday afternoon when the skies opened up! Any of you who have been to the last two Easter camps will know that on one day of each camp we have had heavy downpours resulting in what became known as "Lake Grummett" due to the large pool of water surrounding Eric's van both times. This year, Geoff and Kaye's van was sitting in the middle of the latest "lake". So that area has been renamed as "Lake Geoff and Kaye" until any future members' camp gets stuck in the middle of a swamp after heavy rain.

See Rob Shannon's camp report in this issue for more details.

As previously reported at our last general meeting, the new club clothing supplier (Fully Promoted) is now up and running. This is an on-line ordering system. You can pay them directly and the order can be sent to your nominated delivery address at extra cost, or if you can wait a little while then another member may be able to pick your order up and give it to you at the next camp or meeting. Obviously if paying for delivery then if members get together and order several items at once, I am sure the delivery cost can be shared between you. Please see this web link for placing any orders:

<https://shop.fullypromoted.com.au/TheVictorianSeekersClubInc>

We have recently had several new members join our club. Please make them as welcome as we were made to feel when we first joined and help them on their quest to find their own bit of shiny gold.

I am also pleased to advise that we are still on track to meet the requirement of spending all additional funds received each year, back to the club and its members, as was voted on early last year by the committee. The term deposits are attracting a nice little compounding interest which is contributing to our spending. Our valued Treasurer is looking after the funds for us very nicely and thank you Kevin for the great job you do for us in collecting funds, spending funds and keeping the membership list up to date with financial members. Speaking of spending club funds on members, it was interesting for me to find out that another prospecting club similar to ours although not as large, actually asks its members to quote: "Bring a prize with a minimum value of \$5 to be able to get your raffle ticket". Due to the generosity of our members in

the past, our large membership and the careful use of funds, we don't have to ask for voluntary donations so we can run our raffles. Many of you have made prize donations to raffles in the past and most recently at the Easter camp. Those donations are very generous and very much appreciated by us all. Thank you.

You will notice in the newsletter that we have added to the list of dump points. It is sometimes a difficult task to find a dump point close to the vicinity of our camps or at least on the way home. If you know of other points that are in our gold prospecting areas that can be added to the list, please let me or Gary know and we will add them to the list for reference when needed.

Now to try and shake of the extra weight I seem to have gained due to the eating of Easter eggs, overeating and drinking at the last camp!

See you at the next one.

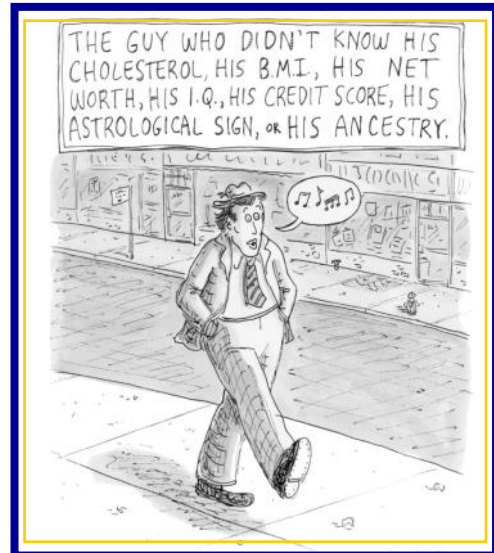
Regards,
Your Club President
Steve H



Support the group that is protecting your rights to enjoy the bush <https://www.bugu.org.au/>

Support the group that is protecting your rights to enjoy the bush - The BUGU - and buy a car sticker from Eric for only \$2. Also attend the protest rallies that show other that we care about access to the bush.

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Fryerstown Camp Report

Rob S

It's that time of year again ... Easter. Not only it's a time to stuff as many easter eggs into our mouths at once, trying to break the Guinness World Record. But more importantly, it brings us all together to a small peaceful mining town called Fryerstown. Once home to a bustling 15,000 gold diggers and their families, now only a handful of locals remain with the odd tumble weed dancing across the road. The Fryerstown Cricket & Recreation reserve slowly sprung back into life. Home to the Seekers annual Easter camp for a week with new arrivals coming through steadily filling the old sports ground. Experiencing some rather warm and pleasant weather conditions thanks to cloudless blue skies, and that giant

yellow fireball hanging above us providing heat, it was a recipe for a good turnout! Great to see some new members/guests at camp also. I'm sure they were blown away by the festivities and hospitality the club provided over the long weekend. Even the easter bunny himself/herself (let's just call it gender natural) visited camp delivering easter eggs to each caravan & tent early morning. 46 camps and 78 members/guests attended our Easter event, minus 2 with Kay having to drive Geoff to Bendigo hospital. He was experiencing pains and constant vomiting which turned out to be kidney stones. They returned at



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Louise and Anja



a later date to retrieve their caravan and belongings. Worth mentioning was the presence of Peter Maffey and Ken Whittaker at camp. Two faces we dearly miss seeing around the camp fire. Another warm surprise was Darren Camp from Lucky Strike Gold who did a speech and a 'golden' presentation. It was very golden presentation indeed with Darren bringing along a gold specimen nugget to the tune of a quarter of a million dollars!



Club legends Ken Whittaker and Peter Maffey catching up.

With some lucky members (me included) getting to hold and cradle it like a precious baby. I mentioned to my partner 'When he turns around, I'm going to swallow it'. However, she quickly reminded me 'what goes in must come out'. It was handed back to the owner at once. ♪ The hills are alive with the sound of ... CFA sirens! No fire thankfully, but the Fryerstown Fire Brigade visited camp Friday morning to

collect \$500 which was raised by the club for the Royal Childrens Hospital appeal. Saturday night continued to host our famous roast dinner which was free for club members. Also complimentary were delicious salads and potato spuds with sour cream. The night came to a close with Jim performing a few notes from his harmonica while Marilyn backing him up with her accordion. With the club holding more events than the Commonwealth Games, it was nonstop action with heaps of prizes, cash and even gold nuggets to be won throughout the

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In the event that a Code Red Day is declared for any camp days, the camp will be cancelled.

FIRE DANGER RATING

During Code Red days, no one is permitted to enter State Parks and Forests.

Camp may also be cancelled during other periods of severe weather.

Fryerstown Camp Report...cont



weekend. Saturday events and winners as follows – Frisbee Toss: Male - Paul H Female - Gemma D Golf: Male - Peter S Female - Lura J Egg & Detector Race: Male - Mario Female - Katherine L Water Bomb Throw: Tie for 1st place (Al & Anja + Robert H & Katherine L) Easter Bonnet: 1 st Robert H 2 nd Louise M 3 rd Kaytie A

Sunday events and winners as follows – Token Hunt: 1 st Laurie F 2 nd Imi A 3 rd Shirley S Oldest Penny found: Peter G (1914 Penny) Stake Your Claim: 1 st Mario 2 nd Laurie F 3 rd Ian Grummett 4 th Luke O 5 TH Robert H 6 th Brian M Congratulation to all the winners and a big thank you to the McKnight's and Peter who kindly donated some great prizes! I would also like to thank ALL volunteers and committee who worked tirelessly to ensure everyone was having a good time and bellies were full. Without you, this camp wouldn't be possible. Our president did another outstanding job. He is the type of person who drops everything just to ensure everyone else is having a good time. We are extremely lucky and thankful we have him as president, thank you Steve. I almost forgot to mention, some also went prospecting! Mostly small bits being found, a few specimens being crushed up and Ted.C finding a lovely 2 gram solid nugget. Keep on hunting guys and gals, you'll never know when the big one is just around the corner! While I was out prospecting and looking around my 'corners' for that big one, one thing I happen to find was a not so happy tiger snake. Let's just say I'll be investing in

Ken Whittakers Daughter, Son and Grandchildren were special guests.



some snake gaiters. On the very last day, a large thunder cell moved across camp around 7:00. It started to rain and a few resorted into the shed for shelter. Suddenly ... BANG! A huge lightning bolt struck just outside the oval. Eric had to submit a damage report to the local council, Apparently Shirley jumped so high she made a new 'skylight' in the roof. It rained all night and water flooded the oval, it's becoming a Seekers tradition now as it happens every easter camp. Last year Eric named his puddle 'Lake Grummett' but this one more resembled Lake Eildon. Luckily it dried quickly and everyone managed to get out ok next morning. Rob.S





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Jenny and Anja



1st Laurie 2nd Imi 3rd Shirley
Treasure hunt 2024



John



Thomas



Antes Spence



Ted 2.2gm



Graham



Lockie



Ted 2.2gm



Graham



Anja and Steve

DETECTORS FOR SALE

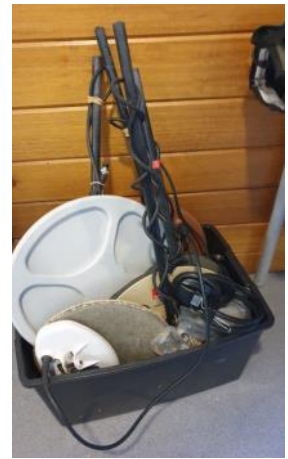
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The Prospectors and Miners Association of Victoria is a voluntary body established to protect and enhance the rights and opportunities of those who wish to prospect, fossick or mine in the State of Victoria, Australia <https://pmav.org.au/>

Interesting read on Australian Snakes...

Originally posted by Deniliquin RFS



Photograph by
Angus Emmott

DO NOT try to catch, kill or identify the snake!!! This is important.

In hospital we NO LONGER NEED to know the type of snake; it doesn't change treatment.

5 years ago we would do a test on the bite, blood or urine to identify the snake so the correct anti venom can be used.

BUT NOW...

we don't do this. Our new Antivenom neutralises the venoms of all the 5 listed snake genus, so it doesn't matter what snake bit the patient.

Read that again- one injection for all snakes!

Polyvalent is our one shot wonder, stocked in all hospitals, so most hospitals no longer stock specific Antivenins.

3000 bites are reported annually.

300-500 hospitalisations

2-3 deaths annually.

Average time to death is 12 hours. The urban myth that you are bitten in the yard and die before you can walk from your chook pen back to the house is a load of rubbish.

While not new, the management of snake bite (like a flood/fire evacuation plan or CPR) should be refreshed each season.

Let's start with a
Basic overview.

There are five genus of snakes that will harm us (seriously)

Browns, Blacks, Adders, Tigers and Taipans.

All snake venom is made up of huge proteins (like egg white). When bitten, a snake injects some venom into the meat of your limb (NOT into your blood).

This venom can not be absorbed into the blood stream from the bite site.

It travels in a fluid transport system in your body called the lymphatic system (not the blood stream).

Now this fluid (lymph) is moved differently to blood.

Your heart pumps blood around, so even when you are lying dead still, your blood still circulates around the body. Lymph fluid is different. It moves around with physical muscle movement like bending your arm, bending knees, wriggling fingers and toes, walking/exercise etc.

Now here is the thing. Lymph fluid becomes blood after these lymph vessels converge to form one of two large vessels (lymphatic trunks) which are connected to veins at the base of the neck.



Remember to be considerate of others if you feel that you must use a generator

Don't use it close to other campers, take measures to mitigate the sound such as put it in a ditch or use a sound baffle, don't run it all day, and observe the 9:00 pm cut off time

We encourage you to consider charging batteries with a solar panel instead of a generator.

Back to the snake bite site.

When bitten, the venom has been injected into this lymph fluid (which makes up the bulk of the water in your tissues).

The only way that the venom can get into your blood stream is to be moved from the bite site in the lymphatic vessels. The only way to do this is to physically move the limbs that were bitten.

Stay still!!! Venom can't move if the victim doesn't move.

Stay still!!

Remember people are not bitten into their blood stream.

In the 1980s a technique called Pressure immobilisation bandaging was developed to further retard venom movement. It completely stops venom /lymph transport toward the blood stream.

A firm roll bandage is applied directly over the bite site (don't wash the area).

Technique:

Three steps: keep them still

Step 1

Apply a bandage over the bite site, to an area about 10cm above and below the bite.

Step 2:

Then using another elastic roller bandage, apply a firm wrap from Fingers/toes all the way to the armpit/groin.

The bandage needs to be firm, but not so tight that it causes fingers or toes to turn purple or white. About the tension of a sprain bandage.

Step 3:

Splint the limb so the patient can't walk or bend the limb.

Do nots:

Do not cut, incise or suck the venom.

Do not EVER use a tourniquet

Don't remove the shirt or pants - just bandage over the top of clothing.

Remember movement (like wriggling out of a shirt or pants) causes venom movement.

Australian snakes tend to have 3 main effects in differing degrees.

Bleeding - internally and bruising.

Muscles paralysed causing difficulty talking, moving & breathing.

Pain

In some snakes severe muscle pain in the limb, and days later the bite site can break down forming a nasty wound.

Allergy to snakes is rarer than winning lotto twice.

Final tips: not all bitten people are envenomated and only those starting to show symptoms above are given anti-venom.



Club Apparel



Acrylic Beanie - Toque - 4243

\$20.00
Ex. GST



Mens Heavy Weight Fleece -
PF380

\$61.90
Ex. GST

The new club clothing supplier (Fully Promoted) is now up and running. This is an on-line ordering system. You can pay them directly and the order sent to your nominated delivery address at extra cost, or if you can wait a little while then another member may be able to pick your order up and give it to you at the next camp or meeting.

Pick up is also available (Glen Waverley)

<https://shop.fullypromoted.com.au/TheVictorianSeekersClubInc>

A graphic for 'Vic Seekers' featuring a mobile phone icon on the left, the text 'Vic Seekers' in a black box, and a blue speech bubble containing 'UHF 12'.



Clubs 2300 detector for hire.

Free for members and \$20/day to non members (accompanied by a member) and also comes with limits on frequency of use. To book, contact Eric 0488972922



Public Dump Points

Members are reminded that human waste is not to be dumped in the bush but is to be disposed of at home or a Public Dump Point. Here are some that are in our areas of the camps:

- Ararat Dump Point: 4 Alexander Ave. Ararat , Grid Ref. 37:16:49.7S, 142:56:0.8E
- Avoca Dump Point.
Located outside Acoca Caravan Park in Faraday st
- Bendigo Showground Public Dump Point: 42A Holmes Rd., North Bendigo, Grid Ref. 36:44:18.3S, 144:16:17.5E
- Beaufort RV Dump Point
25 Lawrence st, Beaufort. Entry from Havelock st
Easy access for large rigs
- Clunes Public Dump Point : 70 Bailey St., Clunes, Grid Ref. 37:17:38.1S, 143:46:51.2E
- Dunolly Dump Point
Maude st Dunolly.
Shared use with privately run Dunolly Caravan Park
Enter through gate at Maude st.
- Harcourt Public Dump Point 6 Bridge St., Harcourt, Grid Ref. 36:59:40.3S, 144:15:45.3E
- Kyneton Mineral Springs Stopover: 219 Burton Ave., Kyneton, Grid Ref 37:14:7.1 S, 144:25:9.1 E
- Newstead Racecourse Dump Point
McNabb Rd, Newstead. Open 24 hours
- Maryborough Goldfields Reservoir
Reservoir rd, Maryborough. Drive through
- Seymour Public Dump Point: Cnr. Wallis & High St., Seymour, Grid Ref. 37:1:14.6S, 145:8:6.0E

Refer: toiletmap.gov.au; highwaytraveller.com.au

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