# FOSSICKIN' ROUND

THE VICTORIAN SEEKERS CLUB BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 36 issue 3

May/June 2015

Wedderburn Camp Report Ryerstown Camp Report Ryerstown Camp Report EPX Tracking, Motion & Sweep Speed Pt. Detector Tech Talk & Tips Recent Cold Finds

Nola unearths a find at Fryerstown



#### The Victorian Seekers Club Inc. (A0001477T)

Is a family oriented organization, the objectives of which are to promote friendship, cooperation and exchange of ideas among people interested in prospecting and metal detecting. To realize these aims, we have meetings, lectures, discussions and practical demonstrations to help members acquire the skills required to make prospecting and metal detecting an enjoyable and rewarding pastime. We arrange outings to the goldfields and other prospecting sites, beaches, camps, ghost towns etc, to search for gold, coins, relics, gemstones and other natural and man made objects of value and / or of interest. In addition, we also have functions to foster social contacts among members. Our conduct is governed by a strict code of ethics including avoiding trespassing on private property or damaging the natural environment, hence our motto:

### "Seek, But Do Not Destroy"

Membership is open to adult persons and their minor children without regard to race, creed or political persuasion, who are interested in these pursuits and prepared to abide by our Constitution and Rules of Conduct. VSC has general meetings on the first Wednesday of each month (except January) at the Mulgrave Senior Citizens and Community Centre, 355 Wellington Road Mulgrave, and at a field trip each month and, in addition, we also have some occasional day outing.

#### **Annual Membership Fees**

Family Membership: \$55.00

## Single Membership: \$45.00

One-off joining fee: \$10.00 single, \$20.00 family.

#### Subscriptions are due and payable from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July each year. The VSC Inc. Constitution states:-

Clause 6. (3) Members whose current subscription are in arrears on the first day of September shall automatically cease to be members and can only be re-admitted upon payment of both the annual subscription and a joining fee.

Website: http://seekers.metapath.org/ email: eric.grummett@bigpond.com PO Box 15, Mt Waverley BC, VIC 3149

### Committee of Management

#### PRESIDENT: Lindsay TRICKER,

Club management/ representation, Chairperson.

VICE PRESIDENT: Eric GRUMMETT

President's deputy, arranging speakers. email; eric.grummett@bigpond.com **SECRETARY:** John CLOSE

Correspondence, meetings, admin. matters.

TREASURER: Warren IBBOTTSON

Budget, finance matters (other than subscriptions)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Ian SEMMENS

Compiling & setting out Newsletter, & distribution

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Warren IBBOTTSON

Subscriptions, membership records,

RESEARCH OFFICER: Rob SHANNON

Information about outings, field activity.

CATERING SUPERVISOR: Jim & Maureen LAUNDY

SOCIAL SECRETARIES: Val LIPPINGWELL

#### Tina WHELAN

Organizing social functions, raffles, theatre bookings, etc.

ALMONER: Louise McGOUGH

Contact on matters of personal nature, weddings, bereavement, etc.

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Geoff LEE

FIELD OFFICERS: Ted COX, Bob LAKE, Graham SILVER, Mick SCHOTT, Barry WESTON

## **Events Calendar**

#### May

Wed. 6th: General Meeting.

Thurs. 14th - Tues 19th: Camp Talbot. Note change of campsite location to Potter Dam

#### June

Wed. 3rd: General Meeting. Thurs. 4th - Tues 9th: Camp Kingower

### July

Wed. 1st: General Meeting. Thurs. 9th- Tues 14h: Camp TBA

#### August

Wed. 5th: General Meeting. Thurs. 6th- Tues 11h: Camp TBA

#### September

Wed. 2nd: General Meeting. Thurs. 10th- Tues 15th: Camp TBA

## Treasurer's Note



Please fill out the form on page 5

## The Victorian Seekers Club Inc. Website: http://seekers.metapath.org/

General Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month (Except January) at the Mulgrave Senior Citizens & Community Centre,

355 Wellington Road, Mulgrave, MELWAYS (80, C1). Meetings start at 8.00 pm sharp, punctual arrival would be very much appreciated.

General meeting dates for 2015: Feb 4, Mar 4, Apr 1, May 6, Jun 3, Jul 1, Aug 5, Sep 2, Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2.

**Committee meetings for 2015:** Feb 3, Feb 24, Mar 31, Apr 28, May 26, June 30, July 28, Aug 25, Sept 29, Oct 27, Nov 29.

## President's Report

by Lindsay Tricker

In the January/February 2015 issue of the newsletter I explained in detail the situation concerning the Club Magazine. I suggest you re-read that article in the 'President's Report' to refresh your memory.

Escalating costs of printing, collating, plastic sleeving, addressing and postage charges for the Club Magazine has caused your committee to consider an increase in general membership fees. However, of our 200 odd members, the majority are receiving the Club Magazine by e-mail and printing out their own paper-copy if they desire to. This means these members have elected to cover the cost of printing their copy of the publication and saving the club this cost. It would therefore be patently unfair to increase general subscriptions to all members, merely to subsidise a small number of our membership who still require a paper copy of the club publication. Committee will therefore further debate the problem and decide on the amount of additional fee to be levied upon members receiving a paper-copy. It is likely to be in the order of \$20 per annum and will be collected with the annual renewal of membership due on the first of July. The Treasurer will forward a separate invoice to the members concerned.

The usual renewal form is included in this edition. If you have not already supplied your e-mail address and wish to avoid the additional fees, then include it on the form with your renewal fees. If you do not have an e-mail address, considering arranging with a relative or friend to use their e-mail address to receive your copy. Even though I have recently got an e-mail address, I do not have a printer and will therefore be paying the additional fee to receive the paper copy of the Club Magazine.

Whether we like it or not, the world is moving on and we to must embrace the electronic age. Australia Post has already indicated big changes to the old system of receiving mail are soon to be implemented. This will involve even higher postage charges and greater delays in delivery times.

# New Members

- Trevor GIBSON
- Laurie FARRUGIA and Shirley SCHUBACH
- Brent and Debbie MUDIE
- Petru BALINT
- Codrin and Petronela BALINT

Welcome and Good Luck!

## Code Red Fire Days Notice

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



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.





# General Meetings

## By Eric Grummett

At our March meeting, we welcomed Dean Smith, a model maker and taxidermist from the Melbourne Museum. His specialty is making exact replicas of any large gold nuggets he can get his hands on. The specimens he showed us looked incredibly like the real thing, even the weight felt right. It is an art form he has developed over many years. I offered him some sub-grammers for his next job but declined, as they need to be visible from outside the museum's display cases.



Dean explaining how the replica nuggets are made.

Other work he does is creating birds and animals for various other museum displays, everything from frogs, birds, and snakes to wombats, kangaroos and crocodiles, even plants and large trees. He is very talented, it was interesting to learn the trade secrets of his work. Dean's talk was enjoyed by all. Dean is also a keen prospector, and is a member of the PMAV committee working for the good of us all.

At our April meeting, talk about abandoning ship for the goldfields, Lindsay felt like a captain without a crew due to many members taking off for Fryerstown several days before our scheduled camp date. It was easier to count the number of members present than the apologies recorded (20). Members must be aware that our public liability insurance only covers us for the period of our official

## This newsletter is copyright.

The entire contents, including the advertisements, of this newsletter is protected by copyright. No part may be reproduced by any means without written permission from the VSC committee.

## Disclaimer:

Opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect that of the VSC Committee.

function dates; outside this you are on your own. Three new members and 3 visitors helped to fill seats.

After the meeting Ian Semmens screened a documentary film of historic gold discoveries in Australia showing what it was like during the original rushes. It was well researched and put together, thanks again Ian for setting it up.

As all the good gold finders were on apologies, no Find of Month was recorded.

For our May meeting we have Scheduled Tammy from Carac Caravan Accessories to tell us about their business and to offer us advice on caravan maintenance.

For June, Barry Weston will impart some of his knowledge on the infamy of Norfolk Island and a member his family who was a guest of the penal colony during the 1840's. Barry and Emelia have recently returned from a visit there to pay respects to their past. My wife's great grandfather was also sent there in 1846 in chains from Port Arthur when he became unmanageable.





www.ccpicks com.au

## The Victorian Seekers Club Inc.

## Membership Renewal for 2015-2016

Membership fees become due on the 1st of July 2015.

#### The fees are: Single Membership \$45.00 **Family Membership**

By renewing your membership you agree to abide by the terms and conditions of membership to the VSC. For members who have not renewed their membership by the 1st<sup>th</sup> of September 2015 it will be considered that the membership has expired and they will no longer receive the newsletter nor be able to attend camps until the membership renewal fee is paid.

## To renew your membership please make payment by one of the following three methods:

## 1. POST

Complete this form and return with your payment to:

The Treasurer, The VSC Inc., PO BOX 15, MOUNT WAVERLEY B.C., VIC, 3149

Please print clearly. Tick the appropriate box.

Single Membership \$45	Family Membership \$55.00	
First Name(s)	Surname(s)	
Address		
Suburb/Town	Post Code	State
Phone No		
Email	(Required if no	t receiving newsletter by post).
Emergency Contact details:		
Name	Phone No	Mobile No

## 2. DIRECT DEPOSIT

If paying by Direct Deposit to your Club's Internet Bank Account, please ensure your nameand initials are clearly recorded in the Reference Section of your Bank or your Post Offices' Pay-In Advice. Please keep a copy of your Pay-In Advice for subsequent confirmation should it be needed.

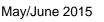
Please advise the Treasurer of your emergency contact details.

Name of Account: The Victorian Seekers Club Inc. BSB Number: 633000 140771171 Account Number:

## 3. IN PERSON

You can make payment to the Treasurer, Warren Ibbottson, at the meetings or on a camp. Please advise the Treasurer of your emergency contact details.

The Treasurer's contact details are: Phone: 03 9857 7449 Email: ibbottson@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 15, Mount Waverley B.C., VIC 3149





\$55.00

# March Camp Report

## Wedderburn

## by Ken Whittaker

Wow – what a turnout. With quite a few Seekers campers and a few from the Sunbury Club who shared our site, it looked like Burke St. For those of you that didn't go, you missed a most beautiful few days of excellent weather in the bush over the long weekend.

Due to the "Jamboree" function on Sat. night our raffles were held over to the Sunday evening, and drew some 65 sitting around the sadly missed camp fire.

Peter Woodland of Detector Mods stayed for a few days and educated a few of our interested prospectors with some comparison coils and discussion.

I heard that one day, member "Kay" was almost lost in the bush, and if Nola had not directed the distressed detectorist, using their joint VHF radios, to turn around and walk the other way, we may still be out there looking for her now. "Onya" Kay & Nola.

It was good to see one of our older members John Douglas, 86, He only gets out a couple of times a year.

There were mixed reports of gold found with a couple of the regular performers, using the new Minelab GPZ 7000 detector accumulatingup to 10grams of smaller gold each, at good depth. Some nuggets of 5, 6, & 7 grams were shown. Geoff L persisted with his new machine and on the last Wednesday I believe, he unearthed a nice 4 grammer at depth. (*Ed. :He went on to find another one of 5 grams*). Barry S also had a good showing.



Another drama occurred when Anja & Al, while out detecting, experienced a flat car battery, fortunately not far from camp, they had to walk in to get assistance. I have it on good authority that Al did not swear or "carry on" or jump up & down and yell or anything, about someone else leaving the ignition on, and I believe that to be true, as I'm sure he would not give me false information.

(Editors Note: If you store some of the members phone numbers who are on the camp in your mobile phone it may save you time and effort in these types of situations. This type of situation has happened before.)

Worth noting too, that Val & Tina again travelled up to camp just to run the raffles. Sterling job girls, thank you. I only got to the Jamboree on the Sunday just in time for the prizes and raffles. Our Vice President Eric collected several prizes. As he should too, because he detected some 10 out of the possible 200 tokens – well done Sir Eric. Also present there was the guy that found the 87 Oz nugget recently and Eric and Ian had a chance to talk to him and find out more about it.

Whilst there, watching the presentations, I could not help but notice the camaraderie amongst the attendees. We all have a common interest which brings us together, even though the search for the allusive stuff can be sometimes competitive.

Peter M, representing the PMAV, gave a closing speech, and he reminded us all who have that common interest, that access to our Parks is always under threat from some quarters and we need to be vigilant and continue to work to protect our rights. Well spoken Peter.



Barry S. at Wedderburn.



Herman at Wedderburn.



Geoff L. at Wedderburn.



Marius digging up a half-grammer from around 6" deep.



## Safe Detecting

Prospecting is an enjoyable activity however there are some inherent dangers on the goldfields.

 Take care around any open shaft and when walking through the bush.



- Carry a mobile phone and water and the usual emergency provisions such as GPS, compass, first aid kit, torch, matches, UHF radio, snack bar.
- Be aware of hazards such as snakes.
- It is not advisable to prospect alone. Team up with a mate.
- And be SunSmart. Slip on a shirt, Slop on some sunscreen, and Slap on a hat.

Members are responsible for their own safety!



## 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.



# April Camp Report

## Fryerstown

By Lindsay Tricker Photos by lan S. & Brian S.

When I arrived on Good Friday afternoon at our Fryerstown camp site, I couldn't believe the number of caravans present! Fortunately all vans had been reversed into position so the maximum was fitted into the site. About 100 persons were present by the middle of the weekend and all up there were around 50 caravans and 8 tents set up by members.

A Club outing of this magnitude cannot function without a concerted team effort and this outing was a great example of this. Many thanks to the willing hands who assisted in the erection and taking down of the Club Marquee – we very nearly did not have the marquee as no-one was able to carry it to camp; fortunately our secretary John Close made room for it and also member Bruce Perrott graciously volunteered to carry it to his home at Maryborough and store it. Many thanks to you both.

Special mention must be made for the work done in organising events by the following members: Francine & Francois for setting out the extremely popular "Stake your Claim" game of chance with it's Club supplied gold nugget prizes the fifty claims were soon sold. The work done by Val who ran (single-handed) a very lucrative raffle, and with her visitor friend helped with the clean up of the webber BBQ's. Eric, our vice president worked tirelessly at numerous tasks - marquee erection, treasure hunt preparation (\$80 paid out in prizes), and collecting donations from members not attending Jim Cole's Chewton Dance, where proceeds go to the Red Cross, to name but a few. Also, new member Shirley Schubach worked solidly for a couple of days collecting the fees and distributing tickets (89) for the Sunday night roast dinner. The dinner was a great success due in no small part to the marvellous selection of salads and sweets supplied by our memberships. Many thanks to you all.

The Saturday night dance, unlike last year, was a resounding success. Jim Cole, (our honorary member and owner of the nearby land we detect on), was very happy – he turns 90 next January! The detector and egg races were a lot of fun as were the Easter bonnet parade and fancy dress. On a more sober note, Leslie learned at camp that his 97 year old

mum had fallen and broken her hip – she was operated on and at last reports was recovering. Also, Alwyn tripped on her tent peg and broke her right wrist. She was conveyed to hospital and had a plate inserted. She is recovering well at home. Fortunately she was in RACV Total Care and when they were notified, arranged for the car and caravan to be transported home. We all hope Alwyn and Leslie's mum recover quickly. On a lighter note, a very funny sight – always when you don't have a camera – was when Ian Grummett headed off in his vehicle to go detecting which was still hitched to the caravan with his toilet tent tied to the back of the van! Mayhem ensured at the tent was

brought down and poles bent.

Some very nice gold was found during the week-end with Rob getting one nugget of 10 grams and another just under 20 grams.

This was another great Easter week-end with lovely weather and inviting camp fire. See you all at the Potter Dam camp site at Talbot.



19.7 grams



Kaye at Fryerstown.



Easter bonnet entrants..



Australian character fancy dress entrants..



Women's Egg and Detector race.



Men's Egg and Detector race.



Rob and his10 grammer.

> Geoff K. detecting on a "heap".





# More Fryerstown Photos



Tony P. at Fryerstown.



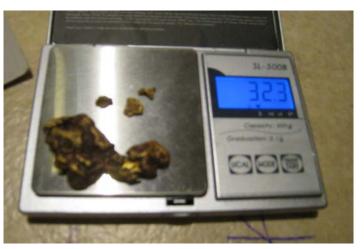
The Three Grummetts; Ian, Eric and David.

# Gold Finds

## Recent finds from Victoria's Golden Triangle

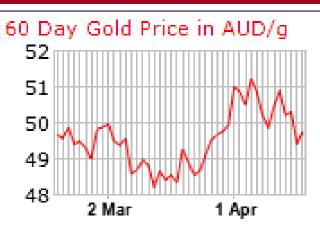


A 5 oz. nugget found at Campbells Creek two weeks ago.



Two club members upgraded their old Minelab GP series machines to two GPX 5000s and on the second day with the new machines they found these nuggets.

# Gold Price Report



Gold Price as at 19 April 2015

### HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED THE COLLEK ADVANTAGE? You can rely and trust in their range of metal detector coils and accessories, knowing that you are Optimising Discovery when prospecting and metal detecting. Look for their fully Minelab



A BendigoGold customer recently showed the staff some of his great finds.

One was a 222.6 gram nugget. The nugget was found using a Minelab GPX 5000 metal detector with a Nugget Finder 14x 9 Elliptical mono coil.

It was found at a depth of around 12". The ground was very hard & dry, it was virgin ground. The nugget was very dirty when pulled out after cleaning in hydrochloric acid it weighed 10 grams less.

What a great find!! Not a bad day's prospecting!

# **Detector Tips**



## Check all of the rocks that give you a signal.

A member states the following; "I found this mudstone rock close to a creek which made a noise under the coil. So last night I gave it a tap to pick out 60 little piece of water worn nuggets (largest .4g) and all up 3.7 grams of gold."

# THE RV REPAIR CENTRE

- Servicing Caravans, Campers and Motor Homes
- Insurance work including hail/storm damage quotes
  & repairs
- Air Conditioning & dedicated heating installations
- Sway control & ESC installations
- Refurbishments for older Caravans & Motor Homes

## Phone 9761 4189

Rear 120 Canterbury Road, Bayswater www.thervrepaircentre.com.au sales@thervrepaircentre.com.au

# **NUGGET FINDER** COILS

When You're Ready to Take Your Detecting to the Next Level

### Nugget Finder Advantage Coils offer improved stability and sensitivity.

- Fully potted winding
- Epoxy reinforced polyurethane shaft mount
- Superior Litz wire
- Fully bonded construction
- 2 year warranty

## News



## Warning about butane canister "lunchbox" cookers

Energy Safe Victoria is warning Victorians not to use butane canister or "lunchbox" cookers due to concerns they may overheat, catch fire or explode.

Recent investigations have found that these cookers don't comply with the Australian Standard and their safety devices may fail if they overheat.

Victoria's Director of Energy Safety, Paul Fearon, said ESV was advising consumers not to use the cookers following six reported incidents across the state in the past year.

"The safety devices have failed when these products have not been used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions," he said. "The use of oversize pots and pans reflects heat onto the butane canister and causes it to overheat. If the safety device does not operate, there is a risk of fire or explosion."

For further information, contact ESV during business hours on 1800 652 563.

Or go to: http://www.theage.com.au/national/easterholidaymakers-warned-about-faulty-gas-cookers-20150401-1mcrr3.html

## **Basic camping fee axed in national parks**

April 2, 2015

Campers have been handed an early Easter gift with the state government dumping camping fees for more than 500 basic camp sites.

The former Napthine government introduced a \$13 fee for basic camp sites, as well as increases to fees for other types of camp grounds in national parks, in a bid to boost maintenance.

On Thursday Environment Minister Lisa Neville said the fee for 536 camp sites at 70 camp grounds had been axed. People who have already paid for Easter camping will be entitled to a refund.

## Victoria Takes First Steps To Reduce Mobile Black Spots

Wednesday 15 April 2015

The Andrews Labor Government has partnered with Telstra to make a joint bid to the Federal Government's Mobile Black Spots Program.

Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade, Adem Somyurek, today signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Telstra, in what is a first step to reducing mobile black spots in Victoria.

Under the MoU, the arrangement between Telstra and the Labor Government will be part of Telstra's application to the federal Mobile Black Spot Program to extend and improve mobile phone coverage in rural and regional areas.

If successful under the federal program, the partnership will lead to greater investment in Victoria, resulting in the construction of more mobile phone towers across the state.

The Minister for Emergency Services, Jane Garrett has said;

"In contributing to the submission to the program, Emergency Management Victoria has given consideration to bushfire vulnerable areas of Victoria.

"These towers will improve mobile coverage and help improve access to emergency information in the event of bushfire."

Editor's Note: Hopefully this may lead to better mobile phone coverage in the goldfields areas that we visit.

Battery Repair
 Including the Minelab
 GPX Li-ion battery
 10% discount for VSC members



• Replacement Batteries For a wide range of devices.





Hye Trading Power P/L Unit 5, 35 Lacey Street

Solar Panel Kits

**Batteries** 

Accessories

Croydon Vic., 3136 T (03) 9725 1822 M 0407 021 966 (John) email:sales@hye.com.au www.hye.com.au

# **Detector Tips**

## <u>Tracking, Motion, and Sweep Speed</u> for GPX – Part 2

From the Minelab website and reproduced with kind permission from Minelab.

http://www.minelab.com/aus/treasure-talk/tracking-motion-andsweep-speed-part-1

### By Nenad Lonic



Coil Sweep Speeds

One of the hardest skills for a new detector operator to develop is a slow swing speed. I've lost count of the number of times I've seen new users swinging the coil so high and so fast you'd swear they were using a whipper snipper! The gospel of "low and slow" has been preached enough, but the importance of a slow swing speed has never been greater since the introduction of the slower Motion options in the GPX series.

Basically, for maximum stability and to detect targets at the limit of their detection range, a slower sweep speed is best, but what is slow? I have done a number of tests to determine what a slow sweep speed actually is, and on average I would say that it should take you 4 seconds for every left – right sweep. Now, there are several variables to this, which can determine what the optimum sweep speed is:

1. Mono coils can allow a slightly faster sweep speed.

2. If you sweep too slow, a large deep target can sound quite broad, and almost ground noise like, particularly with a large mono coil. In this instance a slightly faster sweep speed will sharpen the target response, but too fast and you may miss it altogether. If you sweep too slow you won't cover much ground, and as mentioned deep targets may be difficult to recognize.

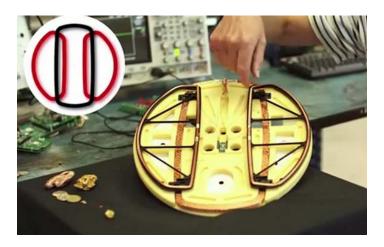
So, the next question is - *What about when I am patch finding?* Obviously there needs to be a compromise between detecting slow for maximum sensitivity and detecting slightly faster to cover the ground. I guess if you think you are in a good looking area (whether you know there is gold there or not) you should slow your sweep speed down a notch. On the other hand, if detecting in a large open area, with good looking gravels, ironbark trees or other good indicators but no natural or obvious concentrations (i.e. the gold could be anywhere) then opt for a slightly faster sweep. The trick here is to go fast enough to cover the ground, but not too fast so as to



potentially miss a 1 gram nugget buried at 6 inches, that is on the edge of a 40oz patch! A good combination here would be a Mono Coil, Medium Motion, Slow Track, and drop your Rx Gain slightly to keep the threshold nice and stable.

For patch finding and general detecting, about 2 seconds for every Left-Right swing is a good compromise, particularly if using a Mono coil. So what about working a small defined area that has produced gold? I'd say that approximately 5 seconds for every L-R sweep is recommended, and yes that means 10 secs for one full return sweep, from left to right to left. I have seen video footage of operators in WA detecting at a rate of 3 sweeps in 2 secs, and although they do find gold, I'd be very keen to walk behind them and follow their chain lines!!!!

# Detector Tech Talk



The new GPZ 7000 coil is a 13" x 14" coil fully waterproof to 1 meter (three feet). It comes with a scuff cover and has its own lower rod section attached. The coil, lower rod, and scuff cover together weigh 1.36 kilograms (exactly three pounds). It uses a winding configuration not used in consumer detector models before which facilitates the technology used in the GPZ 7000. Minelab call it a Super DD coil and it has one transmit coil and **two** receive coils. There is over 1800 metres (6000 feet) of copper wire in each coil! No wonder they are so heavy. These coils are compatible only with the GPZ 7000. Minelab GPX

# \_\_\_\_\_

coils will not work on the GPZ 7000.

# New Minelab accessory for GPZ 7000 released



No need to worry about those deep signals that you get with your new detector. This little baby will handle it with ease and you won't have to break out into a sweat! Folds up for convenient storage.

# What it takes to be a Gold Digger



When we go out today on weekend or maybe even longer, camping and detecting, we have it pretty easy with our 4WDs, the caravan or tent, the refrigerator or esky, and maybe even a TV and a laptop computer, not to mention the mobile phone.

Cast your mind back now and try to imagine the hardships and deprivations that the early diggers had to contend with in their search for gold. They had to be fit and hard-working, resourceful and able to endure extremes of weather and very poor living conditions.

The following was written in that period by a Melbourne journalist Alfred Clarke of what it takes to be a Gold Digger in Victoria in the 1850s.

"A gold digger must be a Jack-of-all trades. He must be able to strip bark, fall a tree and saw it, dig sods, make embankments, put up a hut, mend clothes, draw firewood, after chopping it, bake, boil and roast, use a pick and spade, delve, dig and quarry, load and unload, draw a sledge and drive a barrow, cut paths, make roadways, puddle in mud and slash ankle deep in water, with occasional slushings from head to foot, bear sleet and rain without flinching during the day and sleep in damp blankets during the night, thankful that they are not entirely saturated. If you can do all this, and have spirit enough to attempt it and endurance enough to carry it on for three months, then there is gold and rheumatism in store for you." This map is for viewing by members only.

This map is for viewing by members only.

THIS IS A BUSH CAMP. BYO water, power and toilet, strictly observe park and fire regulations. Dogs must be on leash and under constant supervision. No unattended fires. FILL IN ALL HOLES, take your rubbish home and carry a valid MINERS RIGHT at all times. THIS IS A BUSH CAMP. BYO water, power and toilet, strictly observe park and fire regulations. Dogs must be on leash and under constant supervision. No unattended fires.
 FILL IN ALL HOLES, take your rubbish home and carry a valid MINERS RIGHT at all times. Under current Government requirements fossickers should be trained in first aid; they should carry water, a mobile phone, a list of contacts in case of emergency and a basic first aid kit; any incident or injury should be reported to a Committee Member ASAP.

# Parting Shot

## Photo by Ian Semmens



Group photo of most of the Club Members at the Fryerstown Camp on April. A copy will be emailed to those who are on the email list.

The editor welcomes articles, letters, photos, comments or detecting stories to publish in the newsletter.

It's your newsletter, so have your say!

# World's best Minelab detector upgrades and modifications.

We now provide the latest upgrades to all Minelab Pulse-Induction detectors. Lightweight battery systems, high quality boosters, and clip-on speakers are now available for all models.

New upgraded headphone inserts can be installed in your old headphones, the sound difference increases the response

from both small and deep gold.



P 03 9766 0430E detectormods@gmail.com

DETECTOR MODS detectormods.com

# Detecting trip to Navarre

John Fricke is again inviting members to take part in a detecting week camping on private property at Navarre. Numbers are limited to 20 and if inquires exceed this there will be a ballot to determine places. The cost is \$80.00 per person. If you would like to go then contact John on

0427 831 168 or jjfricke1941@gmail.com



Taking an afternoon break while detecting at Wedderburn in March.