



FOSSICKIN' ROUND

THE SEEKERS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Published by the Committee of
THE VICTORIAN SEEKERS' CLUB INC.
FOUNDED 1980

Vol. 31, issue 11

December 2010

Marvelous Moliagul Outing

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- *Moliagul Report*
- *News Special*
- *"Give Me The Money"*

Website: <http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/home/seekers/web/index.html>

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: Feb 3rd, Mar 3rd, Apr 7th, May 5th, Jun 2nd, Jul 7th, Aug 4th, Sep 1, Oct 6th, Nov 3rd, Dec 1st.

Committee meetings: Feb 2 & 23, Mar 30, Apr 27, May 25, June 29, July 27, Aug 31, Sept 28, Oct 26, Nov 28.

The Victorian Seekers' Club

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: \$40.00

Single Membership: \$35.00

One off joining fee: \$ 5.00

Subscriptions are due and payable by the 1st of July each year.

Website: <http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/home/seekers/web/index.html>

Committee of Management

PRESIDENT: Eric GRUMMETT

Club management/ representation, Chairperson of meetings.

VICE PRESIDENT: Graeme SILVER

President's deputy, arranging speakers.

SECRETARY: Lindsay TRICKER

Correspondence, rules, meetings, admin. matters etc.

TREASURER: Denise HEGARTY (Mrs)

Budget, finance matters (other than subscriptions)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Ian SEMMENS

Typing & setting out Newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.. Mieke SMITS (Mrs)

Subscriptions, membership records, changes of addresses, etc.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION: Mieke SMITS (Mrs)

Collation, distribution and mailing of newsletter.

RESEARCH OFFICER: Geoff LEE

Information about outings, field activity and site control.

CATERING SUPERVISOR: Jim LAUNDY

Lis Forster

Catering at meetings and functions.

SOCIAL SECRETARIES: Val LIPPINGWELL

Tina WHELAN

Organizing social functions, raffles, theatre bookings, etc.

ALMONER: Virginia LAKE

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

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.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Please send your articles, ads, etc, to reach the editor no later than by the 15th of the month in which they have to appear in the newsletter. Articles need to be sent by email as a Word or similar file.

Please email to:

and if possible include any photos as a jpeg file.

Events Calendar

December 2010

Wed 1st: General Meeting.

Sat 4th Victorian Gold Panning Championships
Central Deborah Mine, **Bendigo**

Sun 12th: Christmas BBQ Party: **Wicks Reserve, The Basin.**

Sun 26th to Sun 2nd Jan. Camp: **Laanecorrie**

January 2011

No General Meeting

Fri. 21st to Wed 26th Unofficial Camp **Chute**

February

Wed 2nd: General Meeting.

Fri 11th to Tues 15th Camp **Craigie**

March

Wed 2nd: General Meeting.

Fri 11th to Tues 15th Camp **Wedderburn**

Front Page

Marty is detecting near a puddler a short walk from the camp. A number of nuggets were found here. See the report in this issue.

Almoner's Report

Murray H is still slowly recovering from the infection that occurred following the hip operation earlier this year. We wish him a full recovery.

ND MINERS DEN
www.minersden.com.au

See us for **all** of your
prospecting needs.

Hours:
Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00
Sat. 9:00-12:30



New, Used and Hire Metal Detectors
We have a full range of prospecting equipment.

Phone 9873 1244

464 Whitehorse Rd., Mitcham

www.minersden.com.au

Email: minersdenmelb@bigpond.com.au

President's Report

by Eric Grummett

Well here we are at the end of yet another year. Time sure flies when we are having fun, so they say. It doesn't seem possible that we have done so much in the twelve months. We have had 11 outings to the Golden Triangle, including 3 bush dinners, trips to Tibooburra and Korumburra, Xmas breakup, a 30 year dinner party, bowls night, PMAV 30 year dinner and AGM at Castlemaine, all successful thanks to our hard working committee. The only downer to our camps was the record wet weather we had during the year which was annoying, but it didn't stop us from completing all events. [Climate Change caused by methane gas emissions released by Friesian cows in the Western District I have heard].

Owing to our declining years, many of us are having knee and hip replacements lately [7 or 8 this year alone], so many in fact that it seems most members have or will get at least one sooner or later. As a benefit to members the club should bulk buy a box of these things and offer them at a discount to us all.

Our membership has steadily grown through the year and has now reached 200, its nice to know we are popular and so must be doing things well. As I've said before, if members enjoy what we do in the bush we must be prepared to fight for that privilege in the future against the Green bureaucracy that threatens us.

At our last outing to Moliagul we finally conducted our huge 30 year Anniversary Raffle and congratulations go to Mieke who won the main prize of a Minelab E-Trac detector. She was rapt [move over Pete in the coin hunts from now on]. Many thanks to all of the sponsors for generously donating prizes for this raffle. We urge you to support them because they support your club. We raised close to \$200, a great effort.

The GPX 5000 was finally released late this year, and those that have got one are having great success on shallow small gold. The jury is still out on its benefit over the 4500 on deep gold.

Overall, the year has been a busy and enjoyable one and hope the next 12 months is equally successful to us all.



Eric digging himself out of a Bog Hole at Moliagul

General Meetings

by Graeme Silver

November

Dave Nicholson gave a very interesting presentation on **Fire Safety in the Home**; and also some history on the formation of the MFB.

He mentioned that it was a good idea to keep a fire extinguisher handy in our caravans and tents for whenever a fire happens to spring into life.

I guess he means the Boy Scouts motto --- **BE PREPARED** and have a fire plan ready for emergencies.

December

As this is the last meeting for the year there will be no guest speaker present.

Have a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year in Gold Detecting etc. from the Committee.

February --- 2011

Peter Woodland from Link Technologies will be present for this meeting and he will be explaining how he manufactures coils and detectors etc.

This promises to be a very informative presentation.

March

Peter Leslie from the Melbourne Antique Bottle Club will be present to give a presentation on antique bottles including Torpedo Bottles which have a round bottom. We often find or dig up these kind of bottles but we will be enlightened as to their origins etc. for this monthly meeting.



Dave Nicholson from The MFB talking about Fire Safety.

Cup Weekend Camp Report

Moliagul

by Mieke S.
Photos by Geoff L.
and Ian S.

Peter and I arrived at camp on the Friday morning and we already found several camps set up, even the big party tent was already erected. The weather looked promising with Friday's temperature in the high twenties. During the day more hopeful campers arrived and we ended up with around 30+ camp sites. The camp fire was well attended, with the company of several mozzies, however every one enjoyed a mild evening.

The next day was a bit different. We woke up surrounded by mud and puddles and pouring rain, which didn't stop for the whole day. The planned festivities for the night had to be postponed till the next day, in the hope that the weather would clear. Most people stayed the Saturday in their vans. Night time was showery but still some gathered around the camp fire.

Sunday was better, just a few spits of rain now and then, but some detecting was done with reasonable results for a few lucky people. Around 5pm people started to gather around the fire securing some advantage point to put down their dining tables. Salads and deserts were brought up and arranged on the food tables ready for a evening of fine dining. Eric finally got the jenny started after trying for 20 minutes before realizing that there was no petrol in it. Due to the weather not everyone was dressed up for the fashions on the field, but a few made a great effort. Sophie, who was disguised as a horse and Norma dressed in a vintage dress, took out first and second prize. Well done girls. Some of the men did a great job too, so goodonya fellas. After the parade and judging, we all enjoyed our chicken and salads with a champagne or wine or whatever beverage was brought along. As usually, the salads and desserts were superb. The special raffle was drawn and the winner of the Minelab E-Trac detector wasMieke!

The rest of the night we chatted and after everyone had enough to eat and drink, slowly people went back to their vans. It is not recommended to drink and drive though, as somebody found out, you just might forget that there were a few large holes around, filled with water from the rain and hard to see in the dark. So a late rescue had to be done to pull a car out of a large bog hole. That was not the only time a car got bogged over the weekend. Eric had a mishap in front of Ian's van and needed assistance from a powerful 4 wheel drive. Well done Warren and Geoff. Peter S. got himself bogged coming back from detecting, but managed to dig himself or rather the car out.

The Sunday morning with the ground reasonable dried up the token hunt got on the way and was won by Francine, James and Peter S. The weather was good so detecting was the past time for the day.

Some went packing and went home, but the majority stayed the Monday and Tuesday, we had to leave on the

Tuesday, hence we have to work to keep the money coming in for all you retirees.

All in all, I think it was a good weekend with several nuggets found and lots of fun.

See you next at the Christmas camp and I hope you all enjoy the festivities with Family and Friends.
Merry Christmas.....

Editors Note: This was a very successful camp with most Members finding gold, and a total of 235 nuggets detected, although admittedly most of it was very small nuggets of less than a gram. However there was a 13.8 g nugget found by Marty and a 58 g found by Dennis. A number of specimens were also found.



58 gram nugget found on the outing.



Panning in the track leading into the campsite from the main road after the huge rainstorm on Saturday night



Marty's 13.8 gram nugget found near a puddler



Is it a nugget or another piece of lead?
Dave N. checking out a target.



Fashions on the Field entrants



The main campfire early evening on Sunday



Mieke receiving First prize of the Minelab E-Trac Detector from the President, Eric.

30TH Anniversary Raffle

A Big Thanks to our generous sponsors for donating these items and helping make this 30th Anniversary Raffle a great success.

Winners *First Prize*

Minelab E-Trac Detector - Mieke Smits
Valued at \$1795.00
Donated by **Minelab Electronics**

Other Prizes:

2. Coiltek 14" Elliptical Mono Coil - Peter Muller
Valued at \$400.00 (**Miners Den, Melb.**)
3. Locket of Gold valued at \$200.00 -
(The Diggers Hut) - Nola Poskit
4. CC Pick "Prospector" - Eric Grummett
Valued at \$160.00 (**CC Picks.**)
5. Doug Stone Gold & Relics Book signed - Ted Cox
Valued at \$123.00 (**Outdoor Press**)
6. Doug Stone Gold & Relics Book unsigned - Russell Kurz
Valued at \$123.00 (**Miners Den, Melb.**)
7. Gold Fields Prints - Graham Ashton
Valued at \$60.00 (**Gold & Relics, Clunes.**)
8. Digital Gold Scales - Don Pinsent
Valued at \$60.00 (**GoldSearch Aust.**) -
9. Digital Gold Scales - Lindsay Tricker
Valued at \$60.00 (**GoldSearch Aust.**)
10. Doug Stone Prospecting - J Bosnjakovic
Valued at \$35.00 (**Miners Den.**)

Many thanks to the sponsors. Please support them as they support your club.



Seekers' Christmas Party

Sunday 13th December, from 11am
Wicks Reserve
(Electric BBQs and water in the premises)

- * Games for kids and Santa will be calling!
- * Detecting contests for everyone with a coin machine (gold machines are a "no-no")
- * Drawing of the **Christmas Raffle**.
One huge hamper plus two more hampers.
- * Door prizes
- * Bring along your spouse, kids, friends, food, drinks, coin detector. Digging tools (no picks) and have fun ...

A visit from Santa (if enough kids are present—please let us know at the General Meeting).

Children's presents to the maximum value of \$10.00 should be wrapped and labelled then given to Val, who will pass them on to Santa for distribution.

Adults should collect their door prize ticket from Mieke on arrival. Electric BBQ available, BYO table, chairs, food and drink, don't forget the AEROGARD. and sun cream!

VSC New Product

VSC POLO SHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE!



Club's new Polo shirts:

Thanks to Bob & Virginia Lake for the new smart Club' shirts. They were so popular that they sold out in a flash. More have been ordered, we hope to have them for the November Outing.

At only \$20.00 each, it's a bargain!!

(Bob & Virginia - our newest life members – paid for the embroidery artwork, Thanks again)

Find of the Month

S.
1872 Six Pence



Coin

Find of the Month

Ralph
2oz of small nug-gets



Nugget

CC Picks

latest design & features

Wing shape design

Single piece of tempered spring steel (no weak welded joints)

Spring steel heat treated to 50 rockwell c

Heavy gauge 2.6mm handle spigot

All Australian hardwood handle

30 day money back guarantee

- 4, 5 & 6 mm picks heads
- Australian design, materials and manufacture
- Innovative design (patent pending)
- High quality, industrial strength heat treated spring steel
- 4 unique models

Pound for pound, the world's best pick

Available from prospecting shops
www.ccpicks.com.au



Minelab announces Price Drop on GPX 5000 & X-Terra range.

As of November Minelab have surprised the prospecting community by announcing a price drop of \$ 105.00 on the recommended retail price on the popular GPX 5000. This takes the retail price to \$6,595.00.

Also Announced is a price drop on the X-Terra Coin & Relic hunting detector range. The price of the X-Terra 305 entry level detector drops to \$395.00 (was \$495.00), the mid-level model X-Terra 505 drops to \$650.00 (was \$795.00) and the range topping X-Terra 705 with one coil drops to \$950.00 (was \$1150.00) and the X-Terra dual coils is \$1100.00 (was \$1300.00).

This is a "Summer Special" and is expected to finish on February 28th, 2011.

State marks wettest season in 18 years

from The Age November 30, 2010 **Thomas Hunter**
Rain-soaked race days, flooded rivers and weekends wiped out by wild weather - that was spring 2010, Victoria's wettest in almost two decades. In fact, Melbourne recorded 305 millimetres over the three months to November 30, making it the wettest spring since 1992 when 371 millimetres fell on the city.

"Victoria has recorded one of its wettest springs on record due to a moderate to strong La Nina weather pattern across the Pacific Ocean," meteorologist Alex Zadnik said.

"The effects of a La Nina tend to wane through summer so we expect rain to return to near average for most of Victoria during the next few months." But Melbourne was not the only part of Victoria to rewrite the rainfall record books.

Data supplied by the Bureau of Meteorology showed **Maryborough**, south-west of Bendigo, recorded its heaviest spring rains since records began 131 years ago. The town saw 377 millimetres fall, more than 230 millimetres above the long-term average.

Dunolly, west of Bendigo, recorded 402.8 millimetres, the area's highest total in 121 years of records.

Inglewood (359.2), **Boort** (269) and **Natte Yallock** (333.4) also had their wettest springs since records began more than a century ago.

Editors Note: So get those pans and sluices out and make the most of this water while it lasts.

Steady Gold Price

The price of Gold in US dollars has risen again to US\$1374.10 as at 30th November 2010. The AU\$ per ounce price is AU\$ 1430.34 per ounce. Per gram gold is now AU\$ 45.99. It has been hovering around the \$1350—\$1400 range for the last 3 months.

Coiltek announces two new GoldStalker coils

The newest additions to the GOLDSTALKER™ series take superior performance and ramp it up even more. Offering excellent search capabilities over large open areas, these coils not only see more ground with each swing, they give maximum depth penetration to find the lodes the others miss.

22" ROUND

Weighing in at only 1110g, this large coil is very lightweight for its size and makes light work of searching large areas. It offers a good stable threshold in most circumstances plus the best depth capabilities of the round coils. Although suited to larger, deeper targets, it still impresses with its sensitivity; during testing it found 2g pieces at approx 25cm deep.

Size: 540mm Weight: 1100g / 38.8oz Price \$525.00

24 X 14" ELLIPTICAL

The largest of our elliptical coils features a new, broader shape. This increase in width compared with the standard 24"x12" adds to the coil's depth capabilities and gives better overall performance. As with all the elliptical coils, the narrow ends provide good pinpointing ability and manoeuvrability through more dense terrain. Great as a patch finder or a general search coil, it also picks up smaller targets closer to the surface. Lightweight for swinging all day, it's perfect for searching for a good cross section of targets.

Size: 590mm x 345mm Weight: 1018g / 35.9oz Price \$525.00

Both coils will be available from the 7th December at the Miners Den and Bendigo Gold and other prospecting shops.



"GIVE ME THE MONEY !!!"

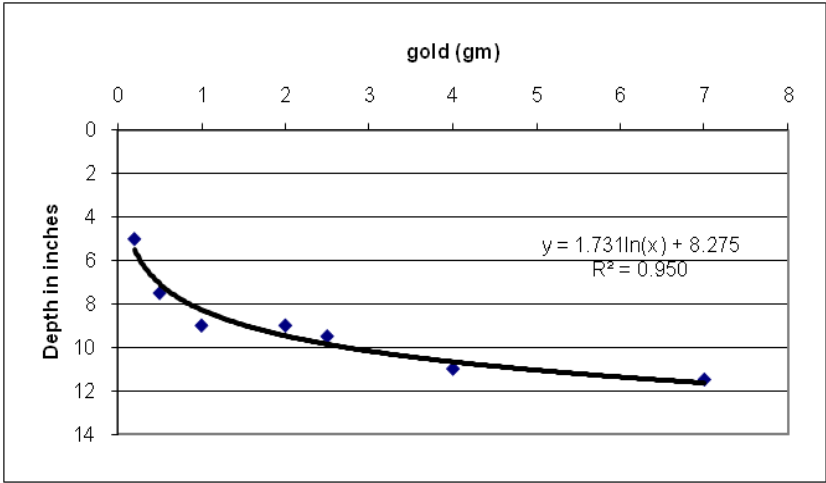
The Jerry McGuire interpretation of Graham's wonderful data on coils (with a little logarithmic extrapolation).

GOLD:

@\$43.42/
gmWages

Gold (gm)	Depth inches	predicted inches	Value	\$ per ft dug
0.02		2	\$1	\$7
0.05		3	\$2	\$8
0.1		4	\$4	\$12
0.2	5	5	\$9	\$19
0.5	7.5	7	\$22	\$37
1	9	8	\$43	\$63
2	9	9	\$87	\$110
2.5	9.5	10	\$109	\$132
4	11	11	\$174	\$195
7	11.5	12	\$304	\$313

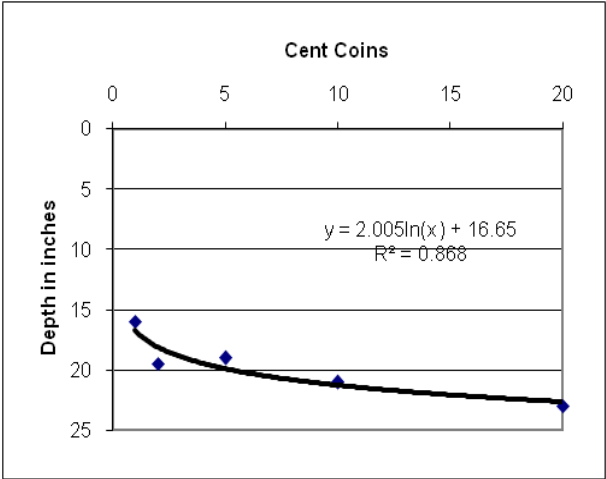
31.1	One ounce	14	\$1,350	\$1,139
23260	Ausrox nugget	26	\$1,009,949	\$471,898



Coins:

Coin	Depth inches	predicted inches	Value	\$ per ft dug
1c	16	17	\$0.01	\$0.01
2c	19.5	18	\$0.02	\$0.01
5c	19	20	\$0.05	\$0.03
10c	21	21	\$0.10	\$0.06
20c	23	23	\$0.20	\$0.11
\$1		21	\$1.00	\$0.56
\$2		21	\$2.00	\$1.13

(assumes \$1 and \$2 are similar to 10c coins)



Conclusion: There is easy money in gold fly shit !

however it would take

or

or

1,163,000dig

744pieces of 0.2 gm gold flyshit and dig

39pieces of 4 gm gold and dig

pieces of 0.02 gm gold flyshit and need to

44.8kilometers to equal the Ausrox nugget

3,722inches to buy a GPX5000

412inches to buy a GPX5000

(I know, I know, you can't extrapolate, 'size matters' and 'never mind the quality feel the width' but... 23kg at 26 inches is the stuff of dreams)
but don't sell the gold to Costello - Abbot found out why

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MFbd8KORzc4>

Dec. Outing: Laanecorrie

Jan. Un-Official Outing: Chute

Vic Seekers have arranged prices with the Caravan Park. Details will be in the next issue. Book powered site early so you don't miss out. Contact Jim or Robyn Stewart at the Park on 03 5435 7303 or email

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.



**EVERYTHING FOR THE RECREATIONAL &
PROFESSIONAL PROSPECTOR**

Phone 03 5460 4700

6 Drive-in Court, Maryborough

email:coiltek@nex.net.com.au

www.coiltek.com.au



**CENTRAL
DEBORAH
GOLD MINE
BENDIGO**

2010 Victorian Gold Panning Championships.

Saturday 4th December

9.30am – 5.00pm

Central Deborah Mine, 76 Violet Street, Bendigo 3550.

Central Deborah Mine in Bendigo has offered to host the 2010 Victorian Gold Panning Championships. This will be a first for the Tourist Mine and all going well, we could see this as an annual event.



- Servicing All Makes & Models
- Insurance Repair Specialist
- Air Conditioning Installation
- Camper Trailer Repairs

Phone 9761 4189

120 Canterbury Road Bayswater

www.thervrepaircentre.com.au

Brakes, Lights, Bearings & Towing Gear.

WANTED

**Secondhand Cobb
Cooker**

Please contact Dale/Shirley 9999
9999 or 0408999999