



FOSSICKIN' ROUND

THE SEEKERS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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

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November 2010

Terrific Tarnagulla Outing

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- ***Tarnagulla Report***
- ***Aussie Flies***

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 gold-fields 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.

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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: sales@regentvideo.com.au and if possible include any photos as a jpeg file.

Events Calendar

November 2010

Fri 29th Oct. to Tues 2nd Nov. Camp: **Moliagul** Melbourne Cup Weekend - Special "Fashions of the Field" theme also 30th Anniversary Raffle drawing

Wed 3rd: General Meeting.

Sun 14th: Special Outing: Coal Creek, **Korumburra**

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**

Front Page

Warren is swinging the coil at Tarnagulla. See the report in this issue.

Almoner's Report

Paul W and Val are recovering from a knee replacement operation, Murray H has been back in hospital to treat Golden Staph from a recent hip operation, Nola W. is also recovering from a hip operation. Gunilla L and Ampero B are also recovering from recent illness. We wish all of them a full and speedy recovery.



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President's Report

by Eric Grummett

What a great weekend was had by all at our last camp at Tarnagulla, perfect weather, good company, [about 100 including guests from the Bendigo club]. We all fitted in quite well, and as I detected through the bush I wondered if heaven could not be any better, I wouldn't mind going in that direction one day- unless I'm sent the other way.

We certainly are very fortunate to be able to have the free access to our gold fields and experience the good life that it gives us.

Now all the above leads me to remind everyone of the threat to us of losing the privileges we have out there with the political pressures of both parties in the coming state elections to appease the Green Party who are hell bent on kicking us out of the bush. So think careful were your vote goes in these polls.

Come one, come all to our special cup eve party at Moliagul on Sat 30 Oct. We will have our marquee just in case of bad weather and our club will have hot chickens [not chicks] for everyone. Members need to supply salads and sweets. The big 30 year raffle will be drawn on the night and there will be other events designed to entertain and maybe embarrass. Dress theme is "fashion on the field." It should be a night to remember.



President Eric G. detecting near old Reef workings

General Meetings

by Graeme Silver

October

David Fahey who is the State Manager for Pedders Suspension gave a very interesting presentation on how to get the best results out of our vehicles for every day driving and towing through his company's products and also braking by recommending the use of Bendix disc brake pads.

He was kind enough to send a thankyou email and I am including this in part for the Newsletter.

"Please pass on to the club my appreciation for being allowed to give a Trade Talk on Pedders Suspension. You have a good bunch of people in your club and I was made to feel very welcome. Obviously, I hope that I was able to inform and inspire your members and I look forward to our company being able to look after the safety and reliability of their vehicles in terms of Steering, Suspension, Brakes and Towing solutions."

Barry Weston was the winner of the door Prize. Congratulations.

November

Dave Nicholson from the M.F.B. will be present for this meeting giving a presentation on **Fire Safety Around The Home**.

This promises to be a very informative evening.



Barry W. receiving his prize from Davis Fahey

**Moliagul Camp Special Theme
Dress up for
"Fashions on the Field"
Plus drawing of the Raffle**

September Camp Report

Tarnagulla

by Denise & Colin H
Photos by Geoff L.
and Ian S.

Congratulations to research officer Geoff for selecting such a wonderful site, Lindsay for getting the permit and Eric for connecting all the parties at the camp. The country side and fields on the way out from Bendigo were a picture of fantastic growth, canola a foot above the fence height, crops powering ahead and lush green as far as the eye could see.

The area surrounding the camp was clear open undulating forest with numerous lines of quartz mines on the rises and lines of closely packed alluvial diggings in the shallow valleys. The Bendigo club joined us and the camp had a wondrous feel of diversity and excitement. Thanks to Bendigo for joining in the spirit of the weekend. The weather was perfect and over 80 people were around the camp fire on Saturday night. Country and Weston entertainment was provided by Tom (washboard), Tom's daughter (Guitar & vocals) and Geoff (Tom-Tom). The raffle was a spectacular success thanks to Tina and Val. The walking group also enjoyed a boost in numbers with ten striding out (well wandering off) to enjoy the pretty bush. They also welcomed two new ladies, Rosemary and Jane.

Over 100 nuggets were found by Seekers, albeit small – the largest was 6.66 gm and many specimens. There was water in the dam, so a few tried their hand at panning and the odd speck was found. The GPX5000's were all the talking point, they certainly found the majority of the small bits, and were said to run much quieter in the mineralized ground. The question of whether the GPX5000 goes deeper is controversial – some think it is as deep as the GPX4500, if the GPX5000 is very carefully tuned eg they could both hear an old sixpence at 21 inches in a test patch.

Among the visitors was a fox at 3am and the occasional kangaroo was seen in the distance. Beautiful wattle, wild flowers and not too many mozzies completed the idyllic scene. (And I am sure the local Chamber of Commerce noticed 100 campers in their area looking for supplies) Everyone was so very pleased to see Albert back uninjured with a camper replacing the van that disintegrated on the way home from the last camp. Joanne also looked particularly well with her new knee and was more than keeping up with their delightful little great-grandson. We also had a visit from Dennis and Karen O'Sullivan (long time members) who have been very successful prospectors and live part-time in Tarnagulla

Tuesday 2 October 1894: A "JEWELLER'S SHOP" THREE INCHES BELOW THE SURFACE. the rubbly quartz lying on the top of the hard reef...great pieces of gold sticking out all round as large as pigeons' eggs, that could be twisted off with the thumb and finger... washing the surface.. in .. 9ft...enough to fill a pickle bottle and a half pound tin. It is so fine that it almost looks liquid resembling a brilliant sample of Judson's gold paint.



6.66 gram nugget found not far from camp.



Is it a nugget or another piece of lead?



Dave N. in hope of a nugget



Francois swinging the coil



Checking out the days finds



Main campfire on Saturday night

A SPECIAL LETTER OF THANKS

On our last day at Inglewood Camp when we were packed up and ready to go home, I retrieved Maries jewellery from their hiding place, turned around and unknowingly dropped her engagement ring in long grass. When the ring was discovered missing panic then set in, but Francine came to the rescue with her coin machine but after an hour, nothing. Francios and Ted turned up and started searching with their coin machines. I had been pulling out long grass and throwing it aside but I decided to retrieve the grass and shake the dirt in one area. After another hour of searching, Ted yelled out, found the ring in the dirt that I had thrown away. Oh what a relief!

Thanks to everyone who helped out searching. It was very much appreciated

Thank you, David & Marie

SPECIAL RAFFLE

30TH Anniversary

Raffle

First Prize

**Minelab E-Trac
Detector**

Valued at \$1795.00

Donated by Minelab Electronics



Other Prizes:

2. Coiltek 14" Elliptical Mono Coil
Valued at \$400.00 (Miners Den, Melb.)
3. Locket of Gold valued at \$200.00
(The Diggers Hut)
4. CC Pick "Prospector"
Valued at \$160.00 (CC Picks.)
5. Doug Stone Gold & Relics Book
Valued at \$123.00 (Miners Den, Melb.)
6. Digital Gold Scales
Valued at \$60.00 (GoldSearch Aust.)

And Many Other Prizes!!!

Ticket are only \$5.00 each

**Get your tickets at the meetings,
at the outings or by post .**

Contact Val 9879 1470, Tina 9878 9886
For further details.

Social Outing

By Val & Tina

**Special Social Outing to Coal Creek
on Sunday 14th November.**

Make sure that you put this date in your Diary!
There may be a free bus from Dandenong.



**KORUMBURRA VICTORIA
FREE ENTRY**



**SOUTH GIPPSLAND HIGHWAY
KORUMBURRA**

*Come take a walk through time!
Ride the bush tramway, dine in the café or
simply enjoy the natural surrounds.*

VSC Special Outing to Coal Creek, Korumburra: Sun Nov 14th.

VLine bus from Dandenong Station at 9.04am, arrives at Coal Creek 10.36am.

Leaves Coal Creek at 14.42pm, arrives Dandenong 16.27pm

VLine Fares: Concession and Children (up to 17 yrs) \$8.00; Full \$11.20; Family (2+2) Children Free, concession price for extra children..., children under 4yrs free; Pensioners can use their Free Travel Voucher.

OR drive yourself.

Free entry at Coal Creek, bring your own lunch or eat at cafeteria. Also explore Korumburra.

<http://www.coalcreekvillage.com.au/>

Our club has been saddened by the news of the death of a popular past member **Eric Euston**. Those of us who attended our Easter concerts a few years ago will remember how he entertained us with his ukulele and harmonica. He was also a life member of the Moorabbin Prospecting Club. There is always a spot in heaven for people like him.

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)

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Monica's Rumball Recipe

by Geoff Lee

Warning: These rumballs are addictive!



Ingredients and utensils

Makes between 20 to 30 rumballs:

- About 160gm sundried raisins (Sunbeam Australian Raisins).
- About 150ml Jamaican Rum (Captain Morgan).
- 2 x 375gm Dark chocolate (Nestles Melts).
- Double boiler, or saucepan and bowl to melt chocolate (or can be microwave, not recommended).

Method

- Put *about* 160gm of raisins into a medium sized bowl; breaking up any clumps.
- Cover with rum and let soak overnight or at least 8 hours, turning over occasionally to ensure even soaking. Cover with cling-wrap whilst soaking. *Caution: Too much rum will later cause mixture to be too soft to shape into balls.*

After soaking:

- Use a double boiler to melt 375gm chocolate. *Ensure double boiler and utensils are dry or chocolate will not give a smooth consistency.*
- Transfer soaked raisins to a larger bowl and thoroughly fold melted chocolate through whilst it remains fluid.
- After folding raisins and chocolate, allow to cool until mixture becomes malleable.
- Use a tablespoon and a teaspoon to shape teaspoon sized blobs on a tray (use baking paper on the tray to minimise cleaning up). Complete this whilst mixture remains malleable.
- Allow to cool a bit further but whilst mixture remains

malleable, hand roll each blob into a ball shape. Allow these to firm up.

- Use double boiler to melt another 375gm batch of chocolate. After it has obtained a smooth consistency, remove from heat.
- Using a tablespoon and teaspoon, again, dunk each ball in the melted chocolate. Ensure an even coverage and place on tray. You may need to reheat the chocolate to maintain a dunk-able consistency.
- After all balls have been dunked, drizzle and swirl remaining chocolate over rumballs for decoration.
- Once decorated rumballs have cooled—enjoy!

Beware: at 30ml per nip, your rumballs contain about 5 nips; or about 4 to 6 rumballs per nip. ☺

Australian flies are shrinking

By M. Vetustissma



**An outstanding
archeological find**

Archeologists often rely on a study of scats to determine the size of things that are either extinct or extremely difficult to find. Now new technology has discovered 'fly shit' that was previously unknown except to those that used cheap primitive unreliable pan methods to examine the terrestrial environment (all nurses know what a pan is used for). The detection and reclassification of this new material that was previously considered fly shit, that is that which could not be heard with the then existing technology, and therefore not classified as a 'bit' or 'nugget', will have significant implications for the archeological literature as it relates to the size and diet of flies in the Australian bush. The question on everybody's mind is where will it all end. Will fly sphincters continue to shrink as technology advances, has the pan had its day, will flies suffer the same fate as the birds that flew in ever decreasing circles, will the scats become so fine that the 'Yes' Minister for the Environment will be tempted to deny the very existence of the golden scats, will scat meters loose \$3000 every upgrade..... only the complacent-voters ballot box indifferent to scats, and the international commodity markets trading in scats hold the answers (at \$40 per gm old scats are worth about \$1 each, new scats are 50 cents).



Sent to the editor with no details..

Plastic tube frame is used here to support what appears to be a Nugget Finder 40" x 20" coil



New Coil from Nugget Finder : 40" x 20" Mono.

Buggy style frame is used here to allow a Nugget Finder 40" x 20" coil to be pushed around. This is ideal on salt flats or flat, smooth ground. It is possible to find a target the size of a soft drink can up to 5 feet down! The price, excluding the detector, is around \$3,800.00. It is available now for sale or hire from the Miners Den..

November Outing: Moliagul

Dec. Outing: Laanecorrie



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**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.



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