

The Victorian
Seekers Club

JAN/FEB
2020

FOSSICKIN' ROUND

VOL. 41 ISSUE 1

The Victorian Seekers Club bi-monthly
newsletter



The Victorian Seekers Club Inc

gold prospecting and metal detecting

40th Anniversary Celebration

The Stamford

(1200 Stud Rd, Rowville VIC 3178)

Sunday 9 Feb 2020 , 12 pm - 3.30 pm.

Function starts 12.30 pm.

Dress: Smart Casual.

Buffet Meal (please advise of special dietary requirements)
Includes buffet, cake, tea and coffee. Drinks at own expense.
Presentations and Big free raffle (1 free entry per member)

Meal \$15pp for member, \$35pp for non-member
Prepayment is preferred (see page 6 for details)

RSVP: If you have not paid or you did not write your name on the Attendance Form
please RSVP to the club Secretary, Tony at nolaandtony@gmail.com.au

President's Report

BY PAUL HART, PRESIDENT

It has been a busy couple of months with a big camp at Moliagul, working on the 40th Anniversary celebration, Christmas functions and reviewing our new Member procedures.

The November camp at Moliagul was a successful outing and included a couple of things we haven't done for a while. While looking for gold is our primary purpose it is good to entertain ourselves with other activities while working on the next big find.

As you know we have our 40th Anniversary celebration next year and I have been approaching metal detecting suppliers for donations. In return for significant donations I asked donors if they wanted to make a presentation at a General Meeting or Camp. QED have generously given us one of their detectors and director Howard came to our November camp and demonstrated his QED detector. The general consensus is that it is definitely worth looking at if you are in the market for a good value, light weight, dedicated gold machine. (more details page 7)

Also on page 7 please find details of donations to our 40th from Minelab who have donated a pinpointer and 2 metal detectors. CGS gold tours have also donated a 10 day tag a long tour in WA valued at \$1,500. As these tours tend to book out early in the new year, we are auctioning this before years end. (contact me for details).

Before the Moliagul camp I was also approached by Alana who is a professional photographer and artist. Alana has relations who were involved in the gold rush and she is undertaking a lengthy project broadly related to gold. Alana caught up with a number of members at our free dinner at Moliagul and spent some time the next day with Peter M, Rob S and others. Alana also came to the December general meeting and has applied to join the club as she undertakes her project.

Another highlight for the November camp was a first aid presentation from Mark David who was a qualified senior instructor with St John's ambulance. The presentation included what to do when first responding to an accident, snake bite and CPR. A couple of things that stayed with me from the presentation - a new emergency app for your smart phone, new snake bite bandage (Mark generously donated a couple) and the number of members that owned up to having heart issues. Continuing to address health and safety related issues will be something I will be encouraging the committee to keep top of mind. Thanks to all involved in the November camp especially those who helped with the dinner, the cup sweep (Lars), token hunt, looking after new members etc.

On the topic of new members a few committee members have been reviewing our current procedures when prospective members first contact us. I have recently updated the new member information and application forms. In short, the process emphasizes the need for prospective members to have read the club rules and ensure they understand their safety obligations and the need for a Miners Right etc. To assist with this and the basics around metal detecting, prospective members will also be allocated an experienced "buddy" for their first meetings and camps. This new process makes it less demanding and more straightforward for the Membership Secretary, a position we are still needing to fill. It is not fair on Pam to be undertaking the Treasurer and Membership Secretary roles and to be frank I am more than a little embarrassed that a club with so many capable people with time on their hands cannot find it in themselves to help out. The same applies to the Secretary role.

The December general meeting was a Show & Tell + Buy & Sell evening. It was very well attended and there were not too many spare seats in the club room. Eric, Peter, Tony and myself had interesting items to look at. There was also some great value detecting and camping / caravanning items for sale. Tony entered a recently found ring in find of the month but was just beaten by Alex with a 5g nugget found in WA.

Our last camp for the year is at Moonambel oval / campground. It has modern toilets and showers and costs \$10 per night for unpowered and \$15 per night for powered sites. Numbers attending will very much depend on the weather. If numbers are reasonable, we will try and get the airconditioned function room again and have a low key new years eve party. Lindsay is the camp duty officer and is arriving boxing day.

It has been a good few months and a good year overall and a final thanks to all those who have contributed. On behalf of the committee we wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a great New Year.



General meeting

NOVEMBER

At our November meeting, members were informed of the committees' planning for our upcoming 40th anniversary celebrations.

Our membership was reported to be remaining strong with about 190 members currently, and another 6 visitors on the night interested in joining.

The find of month was won by Imi with his 53 gm nugget found recently.

The night ended with a replay of Andrew Bales talk he gave us a couple of years ago called "How to find patches of gold".

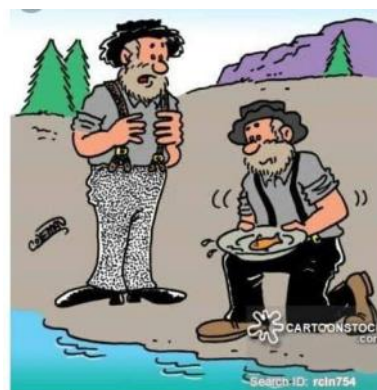
For the December meeting, see the presidents' report. At the February meeting we will have an episode of the hilarious BBC produced "The Detectorists".

In March we will be honored to have back Andrew Bales again to give us a new presentation, titled "Alluvial Gold", which should not be missed by those who are still looking for the necessary clues to locate their "big one".



Eric Grummett

BY ERIC GRUMMETT, VICE PRESIDENT



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Wick's Reserve Christmas Picnic

BY PAUL HART, PRESIDENT

Sunday 8th December

About 40 of us enjoyed another fun filled Christmas picnic at Wicks Reserve.

Eric, Peter, Francine and Francois, Alex, Susan & Ivan, Tina and others all pitched in to make it a great day and our thanks go to them.

As usual there was a stake your claim and token hunt and lots of prizes on offer. The prizes seem to be fairly evenly spread and those who did not win something ended up with boxes of sweets which Sam bought along. Yours truly had not won anything until the Christmas hamper draw when Susan read out my name for first prize and then Susan reads out her own name for the next hamper. Good Karma for those on committee I say. Third prize went to Barry Shaw.



Stake your claim winners!

Top Prize winners!



Stake your claim!



Token hunt. Ready, set, GO!

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Your Committee of Management 2019-2020

POSITION	DUTIES	NAME	CONTACT vicseekersclub@gmail.com
President:	Club management and representation, Chairperson	Paul Hart	0490 315 156 paul.hart@live.com.au
Vice President & Research Officer:	President's deputy, arrange speakers. Information about outings, field activity.	Eric Grummett	9729 1026 / 0488 972 922 eric.grummett@bigpond.com
Secretary:	Correspondence, meetings, camp permits and other administration	Tony Pappas	0425 949 440 nolaandtony@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Financial reporting, paying and receiving money, banking	Pam Griffin	0419 355 379 pgriffin8@bigpond.com
Membership Secretary:	Membership enquiries, subscriptions, membership records	Pam Griffin	0419 355 379 pgriffin8@bigpond.com
Newsletter Editor:	Newsletter compilation and distribution	Gary Harvey	0417 572 205 garyseekersnewsletter@gmail.com
Information Technology Officer:	Website and YouTube administration	Mark David	0439 830 439 mdd041@gmail.com
Catering Supervisor:	Supper at General Meetings, special occasion camp catering	Alex Eram	0474 117 783 eramalex@hotmail.com
Social Secretary:	Organising social functions, raffles, theatre bookings etc	Tina Whelan	9878 9886
Almoner:	Contact on matters of personal nature: weddings, bereavement etc	Virginia Lake	0407 098 648 vtoebelmann@hotmail.com
Library Officer:	Managing library at General Meetings	David Gothard	-
Clothing Officer:	Managing club clothing display at General Meetings and at camp outings	Susan Moore	0412 428 479 suziem99@hotmail.com
Field Officers:	Assist new members at outings, manage campfires, camp signage and any other campsite set-up/clean up duties	Bob Lake	0418 314 524 vtoebelmann@hotmail.com
		Lindsay Tricker	9793 4943 / 0428 325 816 lintricker@gmail.com
		Ivan Albrecht	0409 184 042 oz_biker_au@hotmail.com
		Mark David	0439 830 439 mdd041@gmail.com



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

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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"

CLUB CALENDAR

VSC General Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except January) at 8pm sharp, *Mulgrave Community Centre, 355 Wellington Road, Mulgrave. All welcome.

DECEMBER 2019

- ♦ Moonambel Camp: Thurs 26th Dec-Wed 1st Jan

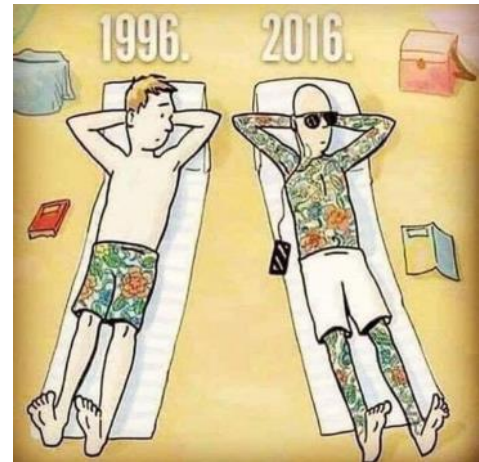
JANUARY 2020

- ♦ No General Meeting
- ♦ Amherst Camp: Thurs 23rd Jan– Tues 28th Jan

FEBRUARY 2020

- ♦ General Meeting: Wed 5th Feb, 8pm, Mulgrave*
- ♦ 40th Anniversary Sunday 9th Feb

MARCH 2020



40th Anniversary Update

Things are progressing with our preparations for the 40th Anniversary next year. At our last committee meeting for the year we agreed on the Melbourne venue, having another country function at Easter and details around the raffle and fund raising.

After spending some time evaluating the various function centers in the Monash/Knox area "The Stamford" has been chosen as the venue. They offered the best overall value, were flexible with their buffet menu, had the most parking, allowed us to bring our own celebration cake and also donated a meal voucher for 2 for our raffle. The committee has also agreed to a subsidized function at the Easter Camp for those who cannot make it to Melbourne.

We have a small sub-committee working on decorations, presentations and the big raffle and we are sure it will be a memorable event for those attending.

Donations are still coming in for our 40th Anniversary celebrations next year and I take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Donors for their support. You will find a list of donors on page 7 with some additional information on our very generous Gold level donors - Minelab, QED and C.G.S. Gold Prospecting Tours. Many donated items will go into a big raffle where all members get one ticket. Some of the larger items will be auctioned at the Easter camp and funds used for the 40th and other club requirements. **A ten day CGS gold tour to WA will be auctioned by the end of December 2019 (see page 7).**

If you have not put your name in the RSVP folder for the Melbourne Function please email our Secretary Tony at nolaandtony@gmail.com.au and let him know if you are coming or not.

To save time on the day prepayment would be appreciated via the following options. After the club discount the cost for current members is only \$15 pp. The non member price is \$35 pp e.g. if you have a single membership and want to bring a partner the total price would be \$50.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

1. Direct Credit / Internet Banking (preferred payment method). Payment details are as follows: Name of Bendigo Bank Account: The Victorian Seekers Club Inc. BSB No : 633-000 Acct No : 1407-71171 In the "description" box **ensure you include a your name and payment reason e.g. "SURNAME40TH"**
2. Cheque - Made out to The Victorian Seekers Club Inc. Please give to the Treasurer or mail to: The Victorian Seekers Club Inc. P.O. Box 15, MOUNT WAVERLEY BC VIC 3149
3. Cash - Pay to the Treasurer at Moonambel or the General Meeting in early Feb 20.

Please also be advised that on the 24 Jan 20 we will have to go firm on numbers and the club needs to pay in full for all who have said they would attend. **For those who have said they would attend you must let us know by the 24 Jan 20 if you cannot make. After this time no refunds will apply and you will need to pay if you have not already paid.**

Donor / Sponsor Acknowledgement

The Seekers club extends our warm appreciation to all those business's that have donated items to be used in our raffle or for fund raising for our 40th Anniversary.

In particular we acknowledge our

Gold Level Donors - Minelab, QED and C.G.S. Gold Prospecting Tours.

Silver Donors- Nugget Finder Coils, Detech Australia, Coiltec, Miners Den

Bronze Donors- Phase Technical, Australian Canvas, Doug Stone Gold Maps, Lucky Strike Gold, Medal & Trophy, Jm Clothing, The Stamford Hotel.

Minelab

For our 40 th, Minelab have generously donated a bunch of merchandise as well as a Profind Pinpointer and 2 detectors, a GoFind 44 and an Equinox 800.

The Go Find 44 has the following features

- 10" Coil and 3 FIND Modes
- Compact & lightweight
- Easy to use
- Handheld detector
- Large search coil
- Bluetooth functionality for Smartphone app interaction
- Deeper searching with more find modes
- The Equinox 800 has the following features. This detector is very versatile and a number of members have one as it is gaining a good reputation.
- Simultaneous Multi-Frequency
- Waterproof Design
- Sleek & Lightweight
- High-Speed Wireless Audio
- 8 Custom Search Profiles
- Fast & Accurate Target ID
- Advanced Settings
- Gold Detecting Mode



QED

QED have donated one of their detectors to Seekers and Director Howard Rockey demonstrated a unit at the Moliagul camp. Howard brought several sub gram nuggets of gold and in "air tests" the detector was able to detect even the smallest sub gram target. The detector has the following advantages according to Howard.

- It is very light weight and well balanced when fitted with the nugget finder Sadie coil
 - It runs quietly and is very good at finding small gold in the hands of an experienced operator
 - It is suitable for many coils
 - It has a 5 year return to base warranty
- It is about 50 % of the price of its main competitor



One of our members has a QED and is very happy with it. I spoke to a couple of club members who are going to have a serious look at this machine..... QED have a member special price for December on their facebook page. Below are two online sites for more information.

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

[http://](http://australianelectronicgoldprospectingforum.com/)

australianelectronicgoldprospectingforum.com/ - QED detector group (official).

C.G.S. Gold Prospecting Tours

CGS gold prospecting tours is owned by Corey Mathews. Corey is an experienced operator and great WA tour guide. I enjoyed one of Corey's tours and gave a detailed account of the trip at one of our general meetings. Pam and Paul have been on a couple of trips so feel free to ask us for details. I follow Corey on Facebook and I am always impressed how he keeps putting his clients on the gold in WA.



www.cgsgoldtours.com.au

Corey has donated a 10 day tag a long tour to WA for next year and full price is normally \$1450 pp. He does about half a dozen trips each season and they tend to book out early in the year. For this reason **we will conduct a blind auction for the tour voucher with a closing off date of 30 Dec 2019.** For all expressions of interest phone me or contact me via email (paul.hart@live.com.au) for details regarding the tour and auction.



November camp report: Moliagul

BY SHIRLEY SCHUBACH

31st October - 5th November

Our traditional Melbourne Cup weekend camp was held in the historic Moliagul State forest, home of the "Welcome Stranger" found in Bulldog Gully on 5 February 1869, ahh! I am sure many fellow prospectors have visited this historic site and dreamt about finding such treasure! Being able to be out there in our beautiful bush is truly special, but when we find that "golden sparkle" it sure is magic! This year the Committee organized some extra events which were both informative, interesting and provided some hopefully preventative knowledge in case of an emergency when we are out in nature. Awareness is the key.

These events included: Saturday 1pm a QED detector demo by developer, Howard Rockey from QED Metal Detectors. It is a new lighter weight easy to use detector to rival the 2300 that some members currently use. Tests were carried out with the new detector, against Lindsay with his 2300. The results were very similar, however the price of the QED is substantially less. One of the new detectors has been kindly donated to the club by Howard.

At 4pm on Saturday Mark David shared his St Johns Emergency Training and gave an informative talk on signs of heart attack, defibrillation and resuscitation procedures. Mark then spoke about snake bite and what is the new method of administering first aid if this unfortunate event occurs!



Mark's presentation was well received and very easy to understand. A big thanks to Mark. Note, talking from experience maybe a lesson in prevention and cure of ant bite? Apparently you could hear my screams from the camp?



Another event held at 5.30pm Saturday was a meet and greet with Alana (photographer), who had Swedish ancestors who migrated to Australia during the gold rush. Alana is undertaking a photography project related to gold. Alana has a keen interest in photography and also what drives people in their quest for this elusive metal, their love of being in nature and future protection and freedom of access to these wonderful state forests in and around central Victoria's "Golden Triangle". Members chatted with Alana and made arrangements to go out in the field with Alana on Sunday morning. (cont. page 9)



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November camp report cont.

BY SHIRLEY SCHUBACH

This camp was attended by 45 to 50 campers, A big thanks to Mark, Eric and Alistair, who ensured we had a great wood supply for the traditional last fires of the season, well done and you can be assured the wood was appreciated especially when the typical "Spring weather" saw the weather and temperatures vary, from 33 to 15 degrees, four seasons in one week-end. The cooler temps meant for pleasant prospecting conditions.

After 20mm of rain on Saturday morning, the skies cleared in time for the traditional chicken dinner, with members bringing a variety of salads, vegies, cakes and sweets (including chocolates and ice cream), a fantastic evening was enjoyed by the members. Big thank you to Francine and Françoise who made the trip to Maryborough to collect the chickens also Eric and fellow Committee members who did a great job setting up the marquee and the tables in readiness for the banquet which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.



After dinner it was time for the fun and festivities of the raffles, lots of interesting donated prizes for lucky ticket holders, the draws were carried out under the watchful eye of Peter and Lindsay who ensured there was no bribery and corruption, fairness prevailed, also there were a number of redraws thanks to some lucky winners.



Christmas hamper tickets were available for sale from Eric, which will be drawn at the annual Christmas Party being held in December. Thanks also to Lars who once again organized the Melbourne Cup Sweeps.



Early Sunday morning Alana went out with Rob, Jeff, Kay and Peter M, to take photos and

observe the members prospecting, They discussed their love of being in nature, protection of the bush, for example ensuring that when prospecting we fill in our diggings, collect rubbish and act as guardians of this precious land whilst still enjoying the freedom to do what we love doing, prospecting!

The regular "treasure hunt" was held at 9am Sunday morning, the lucky tokens were found by 1st Peter G, 2nd Shirley, 3rd Pres Paul, it was exciting for some first time winners.


On Sunday morning we were most concerned about Virginia who suddenly received severe abdominal pains, so Bob took her to the Dunolly hospital where she was immediately transferred to Maryborough to be checked out for a possible heart attack. After many hours of tests it was shown only to be a gastric infection, eventually returning to camp at midnight, and after a good rest was ok the next day. That was a relief to us all. (must have been too much of a good thing on Saturday night) Alas there were no major finds that I was aware of, although many smaller pieces were found by a number of club Members, happy prospecting, see you in the great outdoors, you never know when lady luck will strike!

Cheers, Shirley Schubach

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- Recovery Tools



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Member submissions

Photo of the month!

Thanks to Briony for this shot!

Share your photos from upcoming camps to be featured in the photo of the month to seekersphotocomp@gmail.com





Email: corey@cgsgoldtours.com.au

0409318324

www.cgsgoldtours.com.au

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Our appreciation goes to
C.G.S. Gold Prospecting Tours
 for donating a
 10 day guided Gold Prospecting tour in Western
 Australia to the Victorian Seekers Club

Find of the month

Each month we invite our members to present their recent finds to be judged in our "Find of the Month" competition, and at our AGM, one of these is selected as Find of the Year. Don't forget to bring along your next find to our General Meeting for judging. If you cannot make the meeting, please forward a photo and details to the club secretary.

Let's celebrate our successes. It's nice to see what we're all searching for!

November

Congratulations to Imi , 53g



December

Congratulations to Alex, 5.2g



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Member information



MINELAB

Wedderburn

Detector Jamboree

7 & 8 March 2020
Labour Day Long Weekend
At Hard Hill Tourist Reserve
FREE ENTRY FOR NON PARTICIPANTS

Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 March 2020
Senior Detector Token Hunt \$50.00 for the weekend including breakfast & entertainment on the Saturday Evening \$40.00 for one day

6.45am Breakfast & Registration (both days)
7.45am Competitors briefing (both days)

Saturday:
8am to 3pm Token hunt – All tokens found are to be handed in by 4pm.

Sunday:
8am to 1pm All tokens found are to be handed in by 1.30pm

Rules & regulations must be adhered to and coils must not exceed 14 inch.

10am to 2pm Coachhouse Gallery and Museum (both days)

Saturday 7 March 2020
9am to 4pm **The Monster Town Garage Sales** (maps to be obtained from the Loddon Visitor Information Centre 24 Wilson Street Wedderburn from 9am) (Sat only)

10am to 4pm **Gold & Relics Gold Prospecting Adventures** Detector demonstrations – These demonstrations are to introduce beginners to prospecting. Run every 2 hours

4pm to 6pm **Seniors Gold Panning Knockout** – (Victorian Gold panning Association assisting with this activity) – registration \$5.00

Saturday Evening – 6pm tea followed by 8pm entertainment and minor draws for competitors in Detector Jamboree (must be on site to win).



Detector Jamboree
Come, Enjoy & Participate

Sunday 8 March 2020
8am Registration
8.30am to 1pm **Gold & Relics Gold Prospecting Adventures Junior Detector Token Hunt** – cost \$10 per child (8 -16 years) Change to Children must be registered and coils must not exceed 14 inch. **1st prize Minelab GO-FIND 60 detector valued at \$399. 2nd prize Minelab GO-FIND 40 detector valued at \$299. 3rd prize Minelab GO-FIND 20 detector valued at \$199.** Draws to occur around 1.30pm

9am to 1pm **Wedderburn Country Market** – at Jacka Park, High St, Wedderburn
Stall holder enquiries contact (03) 5494 3489

9.30am **Registration for Inglewood & Districts Bendigo Bank Junior Gold Panning Competition** \$5.00 per child.
10am Inglewood & Districts Community Bendigo Bank Junior Gold Panning Competition, Tiny Tots 3 to 7 yrs, 8 to 10 yrs, 11 to 13 yrs and 14 to 16 yrs 1st, 2nd & 3rd trophies for each age group.

10am to 2pm **Gold & Relics Gold Prospecting Adventures** Detector demonstrations – These demonstrations are to introduce beginners to prospecting. Run every 2 hours

2pm to 3pm **Minelab Wedderburn Detector Jamboree Token Draws** Major Draws for senior token hunt sponsored by **Minelab, Minelab GPX 5000 value \$5999.00. Coiltek major prizes, Wedderburn Tourism to donate Minelab GO-FIND 60 detector valued at \$399. Must be on site to win Detectors and Coiltek major prizes**

Stalls Local Attractions Children's Activities
No BYO Alcohol No Glass Dogs must be on a leash

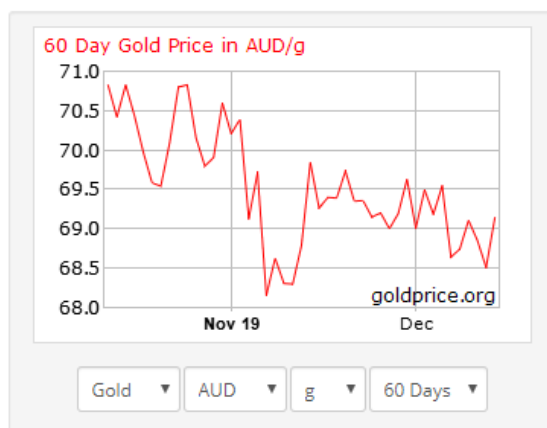
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Loddon Visitor Information Centre (03) 5494 3489
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Gold price as at 14/12/19




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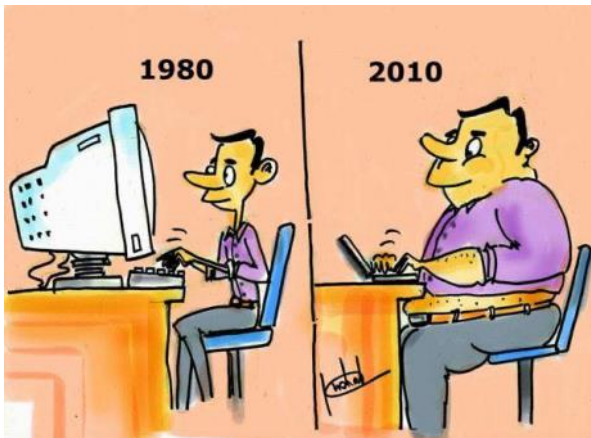
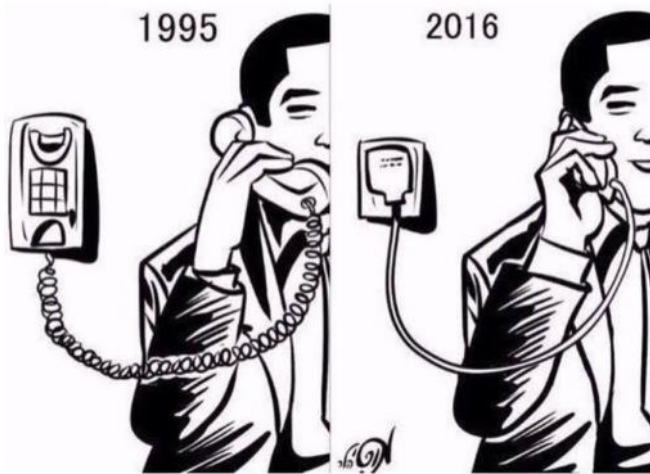
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Member only information



REMINDER- Membership fees are due 1st July annually

Contact our Treasurer Pam Griffin if you are unsure about your membership or for payment details.

Phase Technical offers
VSC Members 10% off
all orders!

Almoner's report

Jimmy Laundy - After a wonderful road trip to Adelaide and Central Australia organised by their daughter, Jimmy had two hip replacements, one in July and the other in November. It will be good to catch up with them at the 40 year anniversary dinner in February.

Tina Whelan - Shortly after her trip to Singapore, while waiting to go on her cruise to New Zealand, Tina had an episode that ended up with her having a Pacemaker and having to cancel her NZ cruise. Tina thought she had managed to slip under the radar however it was bought to my attention she recently had a significant birthday, Happy Birthday Tina from all your friends at The Victorian Seekers Club.

Nola Pappas - Nola had a skin cancer removed from her shoulder and is pleased to report it wasn't "a biggie". Good to hear Nola is vigilant, as we all should be.



Alex Eram - Alex recently had a biopsy on his kidney and requires further surgery which he is having 2nd January. On a happier note, Alex's daughter who lives in America is getting married next week (in Australia) and Alex is proud to be walking her down the aisle.

Graham Mee - Graham won't be at the Christmas camp this year as he is having a hip replacement on 22 December, 2019. Best wishes for a speedy recovery Graham.

Michael Schott - Michael's mother recently contacted Lindsay Tricker advising him that Michael has been placed in care. He had a fall which escalated the onset of dementia. Those who knew Michael know he battled Parkinson's Disease and Depression for many years - this did not stop him helping out at camp wherever he could e.g. collecting wood etc

Birthday wishes were sent to **Ted Cox** who turned 80 and **Raywyne White** who turned 70.

Wedding anniversary wishes were sent to **Bob and Lorraine Hill** for their 60th anniversary. Best wishes to **Brian and Louise McGough** on their 49th anniversary.

Please contact me on 0407 098 648 or vtoebelmann@hotmail.com if you think a card should be sent to a member regarding a health matter, a significant event such as big birthday, birth, death etc. Please advise if the member would prefer the matter not publicised.



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/>

Camping and detecting tips

Bushfire Awareness

During Camps and especially during the bushfire season, it is the Members' responsibility to keep themselves informed of potentially hazardous or severe weather. This could be through the radio, Victorian Bushfire Information Line, the CFA website or the CFA smart phone application "FireReady", the VicEmergency website, or the Club's Bushfire Status board. VicEmergency is Victoria's primary website for incident information and warnings on fire and flood, and lists other types of emergencies and incidents.

During adverse or threatening weather conditions, Members should make a special effort to maintain UHF and/or mobile phone communications. However, as mobile phone and UHF reception is not always available, Members should periodically check for Voicemail and SMSs. Members who use a channel other than UHF Channel 12 should maintain a scan on Channel 12.

In the event that a Member detects smoke or fire, they should (not necessarily in this order):

- Refer to any Bushfire Status notification on the Club's noticeboard
- Check if it is a local burn-off via any of:
 - VicEmergency <http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au/respond/>
 - CFA website <http://cfa.vic.gov.au>
 - CFA FireReady app
 - Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 226 226
- Inform the Duty Officer or a Committee Member (be it a burn-off or bushfire)
- Advise 000, if warranted



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The Club has a Minelab GPX4500 detector for hire on club camps

The charge for members is \$5 for ½ day, \$10 for a full day. (For non-members it's \$10 for ½ day, \$20 for full day.)

*****Please BOOK PRIOR TO CAMP*****
contact Eric G or Lindsay T

All dogs brought to field trips must be kept on a leash at all times.

Dogs may not be brought into most National and State parks - not even in your car.

FOSSICKIN' ROUND

FLASHBACK TO THE 1996 NEWSLETTER!



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.



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.

Get them from Eric Grummett.

Camp information

NOTE: 3 camp maps are published here...

Refer to Club Calendar on page 6 of this newsletter for actual camp dates

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.



Vic Seekers

UHF 12



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
- Bendigo Showground Public Dump Point: 42A Holmes Rd., North Bendigo, Grid Ref. 36:44:18.3S, 144:16:17.5E
- Clunes Public Dump Point : 70 Bailey St., Clunes, Grid Ref. 37:17:38.1S, 143:46:51.2E
- 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
- 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

FOSSICKIN' ROUND

Dec 19/Jan 20: Moonambel

THURS 26th DEC—WED 1st JAN

DIRECTIONS: From Melbourne travel to Avoca by the most suitable route for you. One way is via Ballarat on the Western Highway then turn onto the Sunraysia Highway (B220) to Lexton and on to Avoca. An alternate way is to turn off the Western Highway at Wallace, and go through Springbank, Creswick, Clunes and Talbot, Amherst, turn left onto the Pyrenees Hwy (B180) and then to Avoca. At the main intersection of the Pyrenees Hwy and the Sunraysia Highway (Gollops Garage - Mobil) reset your trip meter and travel north for 13km and then turn left onto the Moonambel Rd (C221), travel along it for 5km to the Recreation Reserve on the left. **This is a CARAVAN PARK.** Showers and toilets are available. **Unpowered sites are \$10 per night and powered are \$15.00 per night.** Payable at General store in town, before or just after setting up camp. No bookings are taken for powered sites.

EMERGENCY INFO: Call 000

Police: 148 High St. Avoca. Ph. 5465 3300

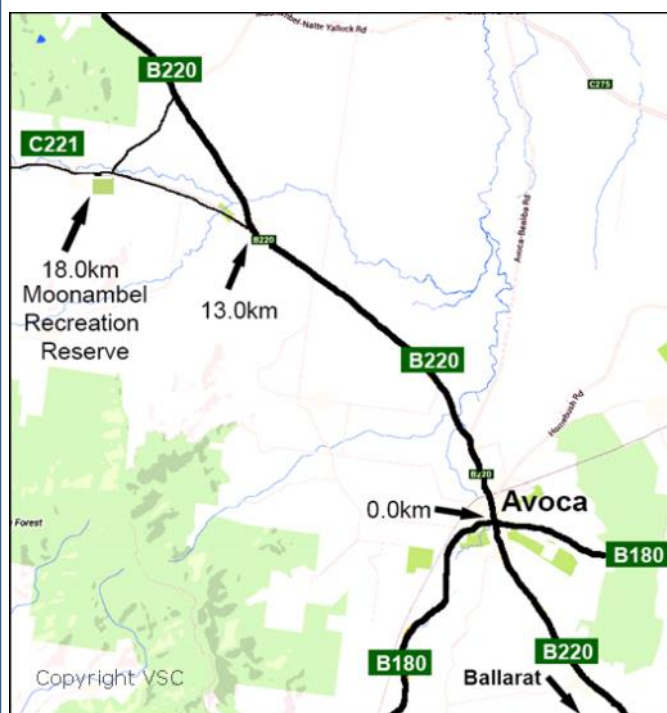
Hospital: 75 Clarendon St., Maryborough. Ph. 5461 0333

Fire District: South West

Map (GPS) Datum: WGS '84

Grid Ref.: UTM: 54H 7 07 533E, 59 03 533N

Lat/Long: 36° 59.483'S, 143° 20 155'E



THIS IS A CARAVAN PARK.

Toilets and showers are available.

Fees are payable by members to camp or use facilities.

While detecting 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.

January 2020: Amherst

THURS 23rd JAN—TUES 28th JAN

DIRECTIONS: From Melbourne travel via the Western Highway (M8) pass the Ballarat exits and turn onto the Midland Highway (A300) to Creswick. Travel straight through Creswick to Clunes (C291) then towards Talbot (C287).

At Talbot, turn left at the Avoca turn-off and continue towards Avoca for 4.8km. At Amherst, turn right into Adelaide Lead Road (aka Possum Gully Rd), the camp site is about 1 km on your left.

EMERGENCY INFO: Call 000.

Police-24 hr: 55 Clarendon St, Maryborough. Ph. 5460 3300

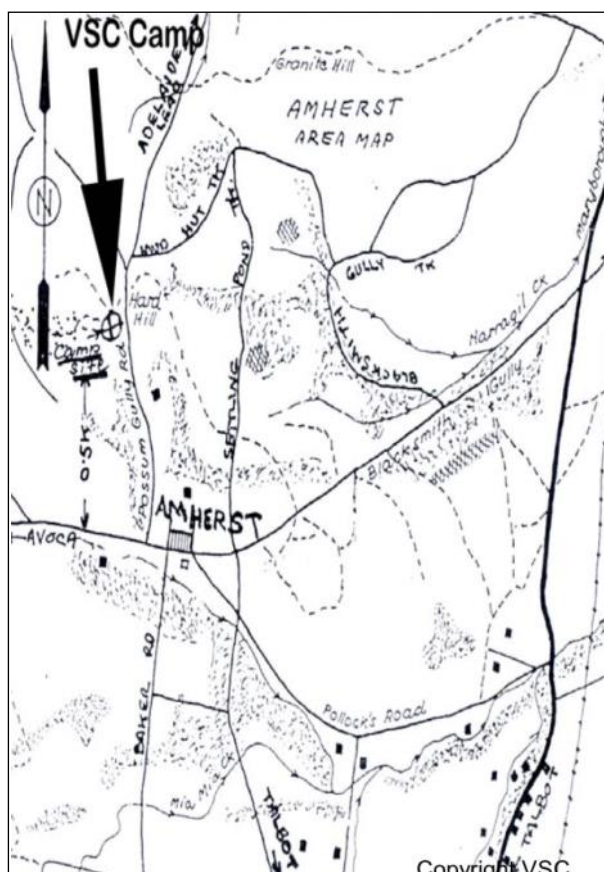
Hospital: 75 Clarendon St., Maryborough. Ph. 5461 0333

Fire District: North Central

Map (GPS) Datum: WGS '84

Grid Ref.: UTM: 54H 7 36 597E, 58 86 291N

Lat/Long.: 37° 08.392'S, 143° 39.823'E



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; should carry water, a mobile phone, a list of contacts in case of emergency and a basic first aid kit.

March 2020: Inglewood

THURS 5th MARCH—TUES 10th MARCH

Directions: From Melbourne take the Calder Highway and north of Ravenswood turn on to By-pass. Rejoin Calder Hwy at Marong and pass through Bridgewater. As you approach Inglewood and go past the 75km sign, cross over the railway line (with the golf course on your left) 400 m. from the line is Sullivans Street, signposted in blue with yellow lettering, is the Maxwell's Mine sign post. Turn right here and travel down Sullivan St., cross the railway line, continue ahead for about 400m, then veer right following the sign to Maxwell's Mine. Travel down this road (Powlett Road) for about 5.5 km. The turn-off to the camp is a small track on your right in the bend of the road before a turn-off on the left to Rose Hill (on which there is a Telstra tower).

Emergency Info: Call 000.

Police: 98 Grant St, Inglewood Ph. 5438 3200

Hospital: 3 Hospital St., Inglewood. Ph. 5431 7000

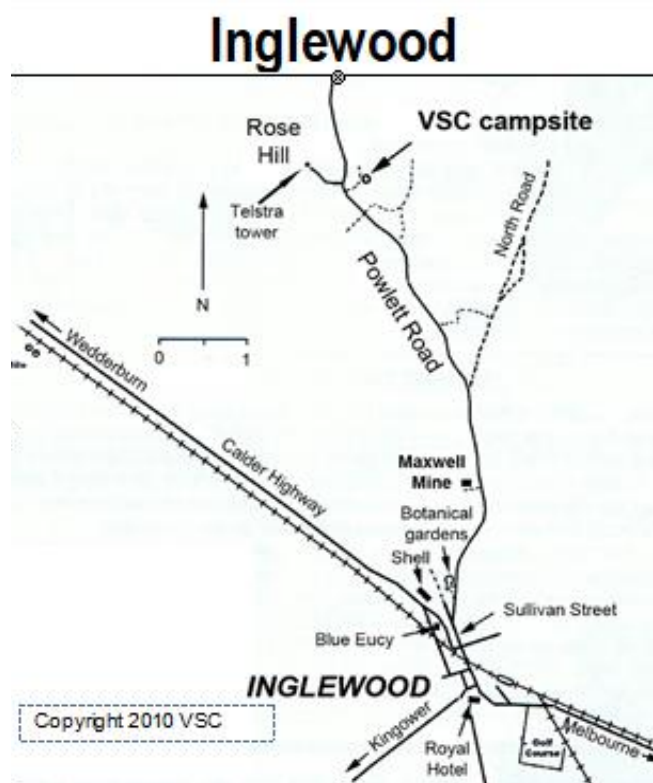
Fire District: Northern Country

Map Ref.: VICMAP Inglewood North Map 7624,

Map (GPS) Datum: WGS '84

Grid Ref.: UTM: 54H 7 55 346E ,59 53 949N;

Lat/Long: 36° 31.547'S, 143° 51'.112



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; should carry water, a mobile phone, a list of contacts in case of emergency and a basic first aid kit; report any incident or injury to a Committee Member ASAP.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA 2020

FULLY INCLUSIVE TOUR DATES

Only new to prospecting? Don't have a caravan or 4wd? This 5 day tour is for you!
All accommodation, meals and transportation supplied!

Coolgardie October 4th - 9th

TAG ALONG TOUR DATES

Have all the gear and don't know where to go? Looking for some company? This 10 day tour is for you! Come follow us on our adventure prospecting private gold, bearing leases!

1. Lake Carey April 8th - 17th	4. Leonora May 26th - June 4th
2. Laverton April 24th - May 3rd	5. Laverton June 25th - July 4th
3. Leinster May 10th - 19th	6. Menzies July 11th - July 20th

All Tours \$1495.00 per prospector
Deposit required to secure your spot, limited positions available









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Corey Matthews
Phone: 0409 318 324
Email: corey@cgsgoldtours.com.au

 Find us on
facebook.
www.facebook.com/WesternAustraliaGoldTours

Club Clothing

Available by order

Samples available at General meetings to try on



Caps \$15

Polo Shirts \$30

Polar Fleece Jacket \$40

Polar Fleece Vests : \$30

Interested in joining?

Contact us through our website
www.victorianseekersclub.org.au/how-to-join
 or by email vicseekersclub@gmail.com
 to be invited along to a couple of General Meetings or camp outings, to understand the club and its activities before applying to join.

Membership fees:

Family Membership \$65.00 p.a.

Single Membership \$40.00 p.a.

Plus one-off joining fee:

\$10.00 single, \$20.00 family

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