

The Victorian
Seekers Club

MARCH/
APRIL
2022

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FOSSICKIN' ROUND

VOL. 43 ISSUE 2

The Victorian Seekers Club bi-monthly newsletter



Amherst camp

A special welcome back to a
fighting fit Peter M



President's Report

By Paul Hart



Hi All,

I hope you are all well. At this moment I am feeling a little more optimistic about the corona virus and its effect on our activities. We have had our Christmas party as well as several camps and general meetings so things are slowly returning to "normal". I am aware I have thought that things were getting back to normal a couple of times during this pandemic so we need to stay vigilant and always assess your personal risk before deciding to attend activities.

At our last General Meeting we had close to 30 attendees with Margaret and Ron making a very interesting presentation about opal mining at Lightning Ridge.

Due to a couple of issues and the threat of very hot weather I did not make it to the Tarnagulla New Year camp however along with another 20 odd hardy souls I did make it to Amherst for several days but left before the very hot humid weather started up again. The Amherst camp was the second time I was able to use my GPX 6000. I began the weekend by going into Coiltek Maryborough and used my "in store credit" to help buy the 17 " coil and a 2 nd battery.

I am far from an expert but I have a couple of things I can report in relation to my experiences with the 6000. The first is that it loves shot gun pellets. I estimate I am getting 3 to 4 times as many pellets as I was getting with my GPX5000. By the end of the weekend I had a good handful of pesky pellets and there were quite a few I walked away from because I was so sure it was another one in the pellet patch.....

The second things is I found my smallest

piece of gold ever. The weight would not register on my scales but I estimate it was less than half the size of a small match head. The optimist in me is saying that the number of pellets and the very small gold is a positive thing because I know it will also find the larger pieces of gold.

One of the main things I like about the 6000 is how light it is and how well balanced it feels. I made a simple bungy system when using the 17 " coil but I have found I can do around 6 hours detecting (with various coils) without getting as sore around the shoulders and neck. It is also relatively simple to use with just enough options to make it feel like you can improve the performance in different conditions.

I have heard some members saying that the 6000 can be noisy. While I am far from an expert it seems that most of the adjustments we make to our detectors involve getting maximum depth while minimising false signals from EMI or the ground. On the 6000 you can use noise cancel to "tune out" EMI. Ground noise can be dealt with by selecting the right sensitivity level (including 2 automatic settings), ground balancing, choosing the right ground type and / or changing coils. You can also choose to

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President's Report cont.

detect with no background hum / threshold tone. I don't mind "running silent" and as soon as I hear the faintest signal I scrape etc and for very faint signals and a little more depth you can push a button to go back to having a threshold tone.

One thing for sure is that I will going through the 6000 manual again before the next trip to make sure I am not forgetting some of many tips Minelab have for maximising performance.

It looks like the Eaglehawk camp also had a couple of hot days and I hope for all our sakes we get a break from the hot weather for our March Wedderburn camp. The Wedderburn detector jamboree is back on this year and coincides with our camp. Details should be in an ad in this newsletter. It is a fun, well run event that involves finding numbered tokens which are drawn out of a tin and give entrants a chance of winning all sorts of prizes including a GPX 6000. I have entered many times and on the event weekend I am happy to share my tips with those who wish to give it a go.

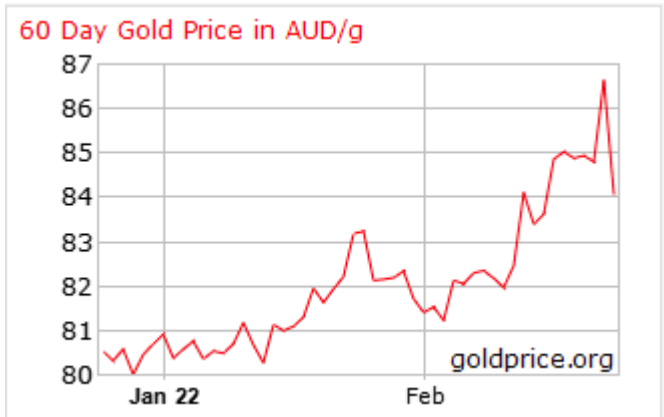
Easter is coming up and is our most well attended and popular camp for the year. The committee and I have discussed having a pancake & hot cross bun breakfast on Easter Friday and we are also looking at some fun new games with prizes.

After a couple of years when a Tibooburra trip has been difficult we are planning to go up in June this year. The dates are 18 to 26 June 22 for the official Seekers camp but members can come and go as they please. More details will be provided in the next Newsletter.

I look forward to catching up at a meeting or camp in the near future.

Regards,

Paul



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Wedderburn

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Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 March 2022

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 12 March 2022
9am to 4pm The Monster Town Garage Sales and Market
(maps to be obtained from the Loddon Visitor Information Centre 24 Wilson Street Wedderburn from 9am) (Sat only)

10am to 4pm Green & Gold Prospecting 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 13 March 2022

8am Registration

8.30am to 1pm Green & Gold Prospecting Junior Detector Token Hunt – cost \$10 per child (8 -16 years) Children must be registered and coils must not exceed 14 inch. 1st prize Minelab Vanquish 540. 2nd prize Minelab Vanquish 440. 3rd prize Minelab Vanquish 340. Draws to occur around 1.30pm

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 Green & Gold Prospecting 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 6000 value \$7999.00. Coiltek major prizes. Must be on site to win Detectors and Coiltek major prizes

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



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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"

Tarnagulla Report

By Anna C

It has been a trying couple of years so despite an ominously hot forecast, a squad of campers convened on the oval at Tarnagulla post-Christmas, enthused and ready to have fun. At the peak we numbered twenty-three but heat and injury had chased nearly half that number away by Friday's Masquerade Sausage Sizzle.

There is something to be said for a small camp; it is more intimate and there is greater opportunity to meet new people and reacquaint with old friends. It also makes for convoys of cars forming in the morning for social prospecting.

A determination on his part to ensure I found gold saw me hop into Eric's car on more than one occasion where we would lead a procession of white cars through the bush to some likely spot or other. However, despite the combined efforts of both Eric and Michael, the most exciting thing I found this trip was someone's abandoned pick.

As the week progressed so did the temperature. All but the hardiest had finished their prospecting by lunchtime but the convoy, undeterred by such trifles as the mercury advancing towards 40', set out one morning for Maiden Reef where I promptly got lost. In my defence such a large group of people requires a certain amount of spreading out and having ascended one hill and come down a completely different one I found the radio lacked enough oomph to signal my dilemma. As I was unsure of where I was I walked to the bitumen road where they were due to emerge and waited. Sure enough, like a knight in a slightly dusty, golden charger, along came my hero, Eric to the rescue.

I was the butt of everyone's jokes for the remainder of the camp.

The next day despite surely having some misgivings, Eric took me and Francois and led the posse up to the top of Mount Moliagol for some quartz prospecting. It was really interesting to see a different type of gold detecting and several people found some little scraps. Steve (Hillman) entertained us all at the end by smashing up a huge lump of quartz to extract some tiny but very pretty speccies.

It was punishingly hot, and I was looking forward to getting into an airconditioned car, but Eric's trusty steed let us down by refusing to start but nothing daunted Eric whipped out a portable charger, connected it up and off we

went. (Another thing going on my shopping list of 'must have's)

I was keen to get back to camp to cool off and have some lunch, but Eric had other ideas. I must show you the monument to the Welcome Stranger he said, so wilting slightly, I smiled and off we went, posse in hot pursuit.



Right enough it was pretty interesting, and the area is beautiful, but the thermometer was way past 40' at this point, as was lunchtime!

Let's do a bit of prospecting Eric said. Yes lets! Said everyone else and I wanted to cry.

Just for an hour he said.

I sighed and sat with Dave and Cathy under the awning of Dave's car. (Dave's car is like the Room of Requirement in the Harry Potter books, whatever you need or even desire he is able to produce it.)

Two hours later I had folded up like a limp lettuce leaf and the prospectors finally returned, Eric triumphant and the others undeterred. I sat back with awe at just how hardy the likes of Eric and Graham are – both have (considerable) years on yours truly but are twice as tough and

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Tarnagulla Report continued...

enduring than I am as I sat red faced, sweaty and resentful in the comparative cool of the shade.

Those of us too hot to cope debunked for the evening to the pub in Maryborough.

Having learned a valuable lesson, on the last day I hopped on my own trusty steed and scooted off into the forest for some solo time, but the mercury was hovering at 42 so despite shade hopping I soon joined the rest of the gang to guzzle ice cream at the cafe before shrivelling in our loungers while we waited listlessly for the afternoon to cool slightly.



The idea for New Year's Eve was to turn up in a mask – clearly the theme had been somewhat lost in translation and as most of the club were well over mask wearing in general there was an assortment of face masks, no masks and masquerade type masks on show.

Being the worst prospector in the club – i.e., the only person who has never yet, nor likely ever will, find gold, I know my strengths. I am nifty in the Art Department. Plus, throw in the C word (competition) and I develop a burning desire to win. Trout was judging ably assisted by Dave and Imi who made helpful suggestions but I was fairly sure I had this one in the bag and so it proved. Despite Eric looking very fetching in a wig and, what was possibly, a decorated fanny pad I was the lucky recipient of the winning wine followed by Steve and Alastair.

Eric was truly the star of the day, who along with Francine embarked on the early morning sausage run before setting up and cooking the assorted carnivorous offerings ably assisted and advised by various male campers while the women sat and relaxed in the shade. In a feat of temperature defying determination, we were even served ice cream for desert! True

to form Eric then told some rather blue jokes and after much drinking and desultory chatting we wandered off (or not) to hear Creedence Clearwater Survival at the café next door.



On the promise of yet another scorcher on the first day of the New Year I legged it home a day early leaving those remaining to reflect on how much fun had been had.

The camp had been full of highlights; visiting Mount Moliagol and the area of the Welcome Stranger, driving around the, soon to reopen, Ironbark mine with Imi, talking detectors with Michael were all great experiences but what stands out time and again in the Seekers is the warmth and generosity of its members... what a club! And what a joy to be a member of it.







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Member only information

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. (SUBJECT TO CURRENT COVID19 RESTRICTIONS)

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE

By now most members would be aware of the different covid related announcements which are made at the end of restrictions / lockdowns, and the need to stay flexible. Where public gatherings are restricted to 10 no official seekers camp will take place.

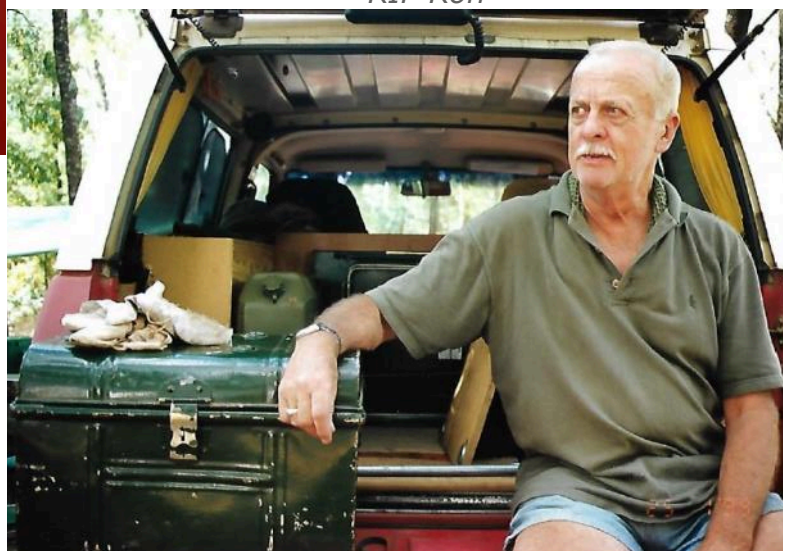
Vale—Ronald Whitling

Ron passed away on December 18th after a long illness at the age of 91. He joined our club in 1985, and was always a tireless worker in the background supporting our club by making videos and photos of our outings, researching historical information about our artifacts, co-editing our newsletter for many years and always helped out at the camps. Ron was fondly remembered by all of our older members.

RIP Ron



Congratulations to Graeme M
for August find of the month.



General Meetings

Well, we are finally able to conduct our meetings again after all the Covid restrictions that blocked us, albeit rules of spacing and masks still applying for the moment. At our February meet aprox.30 of us attended for an enjoyable reunion and catchup. The night was highlighted by a talk by Ron and Margaret Mansfield on their 25 years of opal mining at Lightning Ridge. They were considered as being quite successful, with some lucky finds of black opal worth many thousand dollars. Members were enthralled with their displays of opal samples, settings and photos of their life in this outback town. As they were long-time residents, they become very much involved in the local community and the beautification of the town. We thank Michael and Kathy for bringing along Ron and Margaret for a great incite into opal mining at Lightning Ridge.

The find of month was awarded to Peter Mafey for his nugget find at Amherst, although small, it was the best we could do which certainly put a smile on Peter's face. Thomas also showed a nice dress ring found over Xmas.

For our next meeting I have Bill DeCarli returning to upgrade us on his proof of the Lasseter's Reef's existence which

is located East of Alice Springs and not to the west as proclaimed by Lasseter. The legend of the vast gold-bearing Lasseter's Reef has long been shrouded in mystery. But now, Bill says he has uncovered it after decades of searching and has now shared the location. Bill has also just released a new book now available, outlining his evidence, called 'Lasseter's Reef, One Man's Journey Uncovers the Truth'.

At the April Meeting, I hope to have a well-known prospector and a past member of our club, John Garcia, who has teamed up with a tech expert to produce a much improved power pack/amplifier unit suitable for all GPX/GP/SD detectors which is a big improvement on existent equipment, especially those with hearing impairments.

Eric



I have lived next to the same guy for 3 years. Thought his name was Steve. I call him Steve. His name is Steve in my phone. I've been to his apartment. We've had dinner.
His name is Brian. His dog is Steve.



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Amherst Camp Report

By Marj & Steve H

We had never been to Amherst before, so were keen to get to this camp and have a look around the area. So keen, that we thought we would travel to the camp a day early. Van and car packed, checking that we had all of our required detecting gear, food, water and of course various other cold beverages, we actually headed up to Castlemaine on 17th for two days to catch up with another friend who is also into detecting. Alas, 1-1/2 days out in the bush and all we got was a pocket full of lead and rubbish (again!) and an encounter with a rather large scorpion.

On our arrival at Amherst on 19th we were glad to see a couple of people, Anja and Alistair plus Imi already set up at the site, so we then knew we were at the right place! After setting up our 'van we settled in and caught up with our fellow members, discussing the history of the area. A few other members including Eric also arrived later that day. Anna also arrived on the Wednesday afternoon, however on the Thursday she had a call to say that her husband was very ill so she quickly packed up and went home again. Her husband ended up in hospital however we are relieved to hear that after some emergency surgery he is now recovering. At the time of writing this report he is, however, still in hospital. We wish him a full and

speedy recovery.

The next day, quite a few more members arrived and set up camp. In all, we had 15 camps set up with about 21 members. We also had several members come to the camp for day-visits during the course of the camp.

Gold was very hard to come by and not much was found over the course of the camp. It was not for the lack of trying with all of us trying out several different very promising looking areas. One evening I took my GPX6000 to the area behind the camp, near the old Chinese baths. I heard a faint break in the threshold and after a brief dig through the quartz rubble I had a VERY SMALL flat piece of gold for my efforts which was quite deep and I was surprised the machine even picked it up.

One day, Kevin found chunk of quartz on top of the ground at one spot that gave off a nice signal on his SDC2300 but no gold could be seen in it. We took it back to camp at the end of the day and, thanks to the training by Dave Nelson at Mount Moliagul, Kevin and I wrapped the quartz in an old rag and gently smashed it with a hammer. One small piece of gold popped out of one of the broken pieces. Kevin was happy! Af-



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Amherst Camp Report continued...

ter checking the rest of the broken pieces of quartz, I happily announced to Kevin that he indeed had another piece of gold. This time a very nice specimen that was partially exposed and then ran the length of the shard of quartz.

With the weather being quite hot, most of our detecting was done in the mornings and sometimes late in the afternoon. Early afternoon was reserved for lunch and cold water drinks back at camp, except for the diehard members like Eric, Graham, Peter, Anja and Alistair who kept going all day long in the heat. I don't know how they do it! The last two days in the afternoon we adjourned to the Talbot pool for cooling off. It was bliss.

One time after the pool we came back to camp via the local hotel for one or two cold beverages. Its good to be able to support the local communities.



On the Saturday night we held a raffle and there were quite a few prizes to be had. Several of us had tickets drawn multiple



times. Having already won a prize, we all agreed to "re-draw" so more people could win a prize. Also we had some presentations for "find of the month" from last year.

Amherst Finds





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Amherst Camp Report continued...

On Monday, Eric took us to a new spot north of camp. We found a little grave marked with a small cross.



This area was where I found my second small bit of gold. Then I picked up a strong inverted signal (the first time for this newcomer to this caper). I asked Phil Coates if this was something I should dig or should I just walk away as I had heard such sounds a few times the last couple of days and I had walked away. He said "DIG IT!" So I did. As the hole became deeper and the sound became louder, I soon I became aware that Phil, Judy, my wife Marj, Eric and his brother Ian were standing around me watching. Eric commented that this could be the "Foot of Faith nugget". I got excited. Especially as Eric went to his car and brought back his crow bar and shovel! So after getting down about 300mm I was rewarded with a small piece of rusty, heavily encrusted metal. My heart sank. However on checking the hole there was still another strong signal underneath. More digging, probably another 50 mm or so and..... another small piece of rusty, heavily encrusted metal. What a let down! But it was good exercise and good experience for me. Everyone was disappointed for me as by then we had thought I was on to a big nugget. But alas, it was not to be. Thank you Eric for your ever constant guidance, advice - and the use of your crow bar.

On the Tuesday, with camp numbers dwindling due to the heat and other commitments, Eric took Graham, Marj and myself to yet another very likely looking spot by a small dam.



Eric and I drove around the area and found a massive area that had been excavated by the old timers I assume, chasing a reef. Not sure where all the soil/rock that came out of this hole went as there were no big piles anywhere nearby.



The whole area is vast and one can only imagine what it would have been like for the "old timers" working out here with their picks and shovels. I marvel at their ability to find and recover the

gold that they did with such limited resources and find myself thinking "if only" we have the equipment we have today and were able to work these areas back then.

Once back at the dam, Eric realised that he had left his detector back at camp! So I said to use my 6000 and I would use our

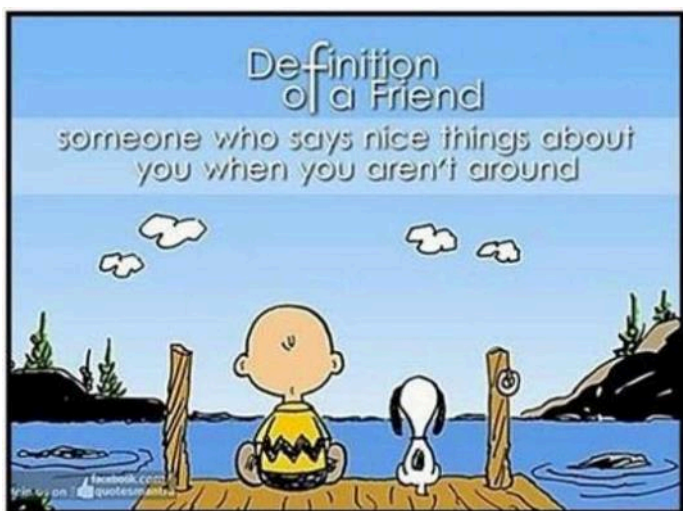
Amherst Camp Report continued...

SDC2300 as it had not had a run this trip. On starting the 6000, I placed it on the ground about 2 metres from my car and immediately detected something. Assuming it would be lead shot as it was very shallow, I jokingly said to Eric "here is your first bit of gold from here". Well, he dug it out and inside a clump of dirt was a very small bit of gold! But that was the only piece we found in the area for three hours or so detecting.

By the Wednesday (Australia Day) most of us had left camp or were leaving that day. A couple of people stayed an extra day or so and I think they may have unfortunately copped the wet weather and storms that came through. But I understand everyone survived and arrived home safely.

Marj and I are so very happy that we have been accepted as members of the club. Everyone is so friendly and helpful and we look forward to many more camps and get-togethers with club members and to contributing to the club where we can in the future.

Thank you to our Secretary Michael D for your work with Monash Halls and getting a Grant to pay for the Hall hire.



FOSSICKIN' ROUND

The Weekend Prospector
January 26 · 🌐

THE WEEKEND PROSPECTOR IS BACK!!

SATURDAY 26 MARCH 7MATE 12 NOON

Minelab Metal Detectors



Eaglehawk Camp Report

By Jenny H

We had difficulty locating the camp area and we were not alone. Seems there may be a new safety barrier on the main road which prevented a direct turn off. Suffice to say many of us took the wrong path. We eventually arrived at the Sander camp area on Thursday to be welcomed by Anja and Al and Marj and Steve. It was a small camp indeed.

The weather forecast was for very hot conditions, and this was obviously a detraction for many.

The camp area is large and is home to a rusty boiler barrel. There were a few shady spots and our first night was spent under the peppercorn tree with our small group, now including James. The Campers continued to roll in over the next days and we had the company of Kevin, Imi, Anna, Tony and Nola.



As a campfire is still a no no and with a small group, we generally gathered at a caravan somewhere in the middle.

It was great for conversation with many travel, life and funny stories shared.

Early starts were the go with the weather



heating up through the afternoon however, the first nights were cold and saw us wearing jackets and Peter M even wore his beanie. Graham M was the first to strike gold, followed by Anja, myself and Peter M. Happy to hear that Steve found a couple too. As seen in the photos, they were small!

Most of the gold seeking was done early in the day and by mid afternoon we looked for activities that kept us cool. Visiting, sight-seeing, shopping and all but the bravest, continued their search.

We certainly helped clean up the bush this weekend with countless shotties, bullets, ferrous etc. and very little gold.

Rarely do we find the nuggets of days gone by. We now get excited over the tinniest bits because it's the 'yellow' stuff.



The Victorian Seekers Club-members handbook

Lost in the Bush

It is advisable to always lock your vehicle and take a GPS reading before setting out detecting.

When you realise you are completely lost, panic and fear will set in and a desire to hurry or run will take over you. The first thing you must do is STOP. Look round for a place to rest and think. If it is hot, get into some shade and take time to calmly consider the situation. If it is raining, look for shelter. Look around you. Do you recognise any features at all?

Is there high ground easily accessible close by? If so, make your way up as from a higher vantage point you will see further and hear sounds better. Can you hear the sound of vehicles on a distant road? Can you see the glint of sunlight reflecting off a car windscreen? Is there a road nearby?

Unless you can actually see signs of habitation, do not cut through the bush but stay on the road or track. Searchers will initially look for you by car. The cars will only travel on the tracks. If you have ample daylight left, walk along the road in the direction of the traffic sounds you heard. If night is fast approaching it is far better to look for shelter close to the track.

If fire restrictions allow, and it is safe to do so, spend your time collecting firewood, sufficient to keep a small bright fire going all night; which is quite a lot of wood. Start your fire using a lighter or matches as soon as possible. A fire is very comforting and will keep you warm and its light will lead searchers to you.

Do not be tempted to stagger through the bush at night. Your chance of getting back to your camp is very remote while your chance of being injured is very high. If the spot you plan to spend the night at is out of sight of the road or track, draw arrows on the road surface pointing to where you are or which way you have gone. If your car breaks down and it is too far to walk to camp, stay with your car.

First Aid Equipment

The Club's First Aid Kit is present at the outings however **members should carry their own First Aid Kits at all times.**

It is important to carry a comprehensive First Aid Kit in your car (along with a woolen blanket and water) and highly advisable to have a small basic First Aid Kit with you while detecting, particularly a pressure bandage to use in the event of a snake bite. Stinging insects such as ants, scorpions and spiders are common on the goldfields so make sure that you have some anti-sting ointment in your kit as well.

Should further First Aid be required, check with the Duty Officer regarding the location of the Club's kit.

Mobile phone and water

If going out detecting, it is *highly recommended* that at a minimum you should always **carry a fully charged mobile phone and water.** You should have other members' mobile phone numbers stored on your phone so you can contact them in an emergency. Store close family and relative's phone numbers in your phone under the name of ICE (*In Case of Emergency*) to allow others to contact them if you are somehow incapacitated.

It is also highly advisable to have your mobile phone turned on while detecting, in case you need to be contacted in an emergency situation. Be aware that mobile telephone reception can be very poor in the mountainous country of the goldfields, even though the network mobile coverage has much improved over the last few years.

A smartphone with a GPS and map application such as Google maps or OziExplorer will assist you greatly in finding your way, but only if you are proficient in their use. Don't wait for an emergency to test out these apps.

Also download the CFA FireReady app and configure it to send you Alerts within a radius covering at least, the forest surrounding the camp and your prospecting areas - probably 20kms.

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

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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.

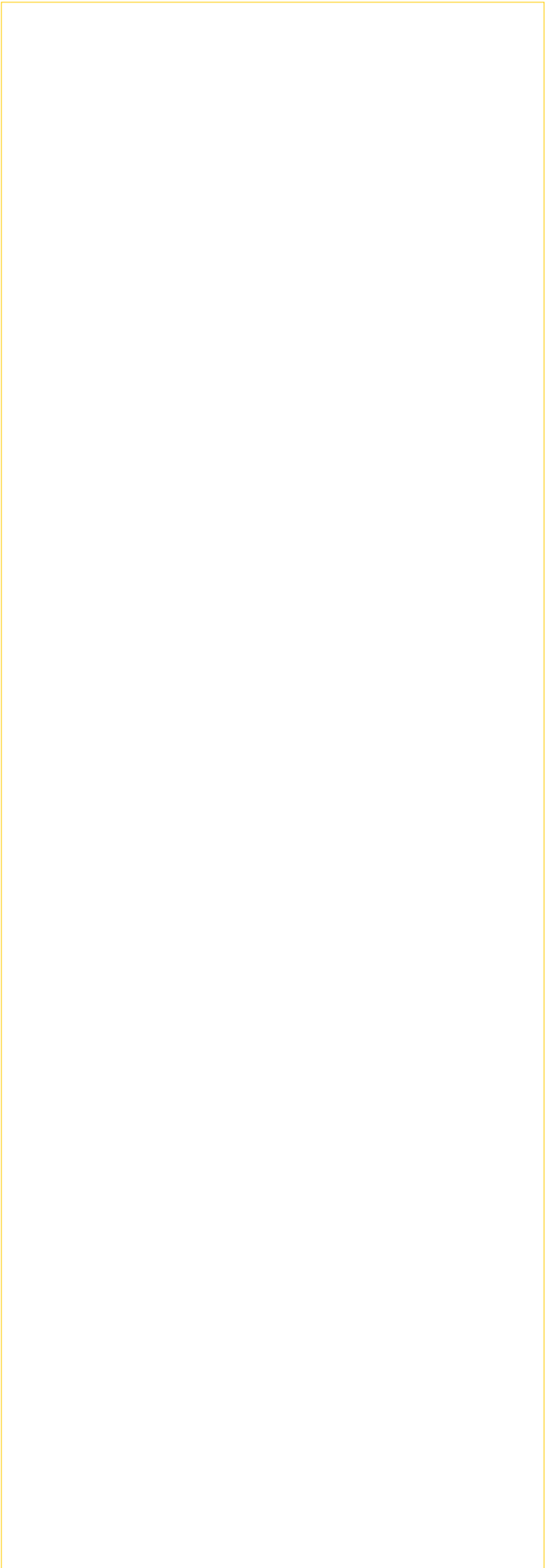


Public Dump Points

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





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.

FOR SALE

For sale, GPX5000, in good order, complete kit including 5 coils (12" Evolution NF, 14" Advantage NF, 6x8" Saidie NF, 12" and 8" ML). Also a camo carry bag and a pick.

\$4000 ph Eric 0488972922



Club Clothing

Available by order

Samples available at General meetings to try on



Caps \$18

Polo Shirts \$35

Polar Fleece Jacket \$40

Navy Polar Windcheater \$40

Polar Fleece Vests : \$38