

The Victorian
Seekers Club

NOV/DEC
2023

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FOSSICKIN' ROUND

VOL. 44 ISSUE 6

The Victorian Seekers Club bi-monthly newsletter



Tarnagulla Camp

Lochie receiving his find
of the year award



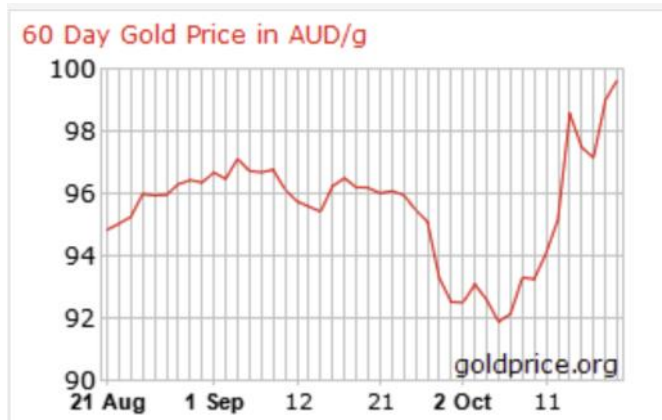
Your Committee of Management 2022-2023

POSITION	DUTIES	NAME	CONTACT vicseekersclub@gmail.com
President:	Club management and representation, Chairperson	Steve Hillman	
Vice President:	President's deputy, arrange speakers.		
Research Officer:	Information about outings, field activity.	Eric Grummett	
Secretary:	Correspondence, meetings, camp permits and other administration	Ken Barlow	
Treasurer:	Financial reporting, paying and receiving money, banking	Kevin Hubbard	
Membership Secretary:	Membership enquiries, subscriptions, membership records	Louise McGough	
Newsletter Editor:	Newsletter compilation and distribution	Gary Harvey	
IT & Social Media Officers:	Website administration & Facebook		
		Anja M	
		Rob Shannon	
Catering Supervisor:	Supper at General Meetings, special occasion camp catering	Steve Iorlano	
Social Secretary:	Organising social functions, raffles, theatre bookings etc	Tina Whelan	
Almoner:	Contact on matters of personal nature: weddings, bereavement etc	Susan Moore	
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	
		Tony Pappas	
		Ivan Albrecht	
		Alistair M	
		Brian McGough	
		Paul Griffin	
		Pam Griffin	

CLUB CALENDAR

VSC General Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except January) at 7.30pm for 8pm start.

***Mulgrave Community Centre, 355 Wellington Road, Mulgrave. All welcome. (SUBJECT TO CURRENT COVID19)**



Gold price as at 21/10/2023



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.

NOVEMBER 2023

- General meeting 1st November
- Moora 6th-12th November

Note this camp has been relocated from Whroo due to camp access issues.

Refer Camp maps for details.

DECEMBER 2023

- General meeting 6th December
- Christmas Picnic 10th December
Details page 8
- Moonambel 25th Dec- 1st Jan

JANUARY 2024

- No General meeting
- Amherst TBA



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

Postal:

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Mt Waverley BC Vic 3149

Email:

vicseekersclub@gmail.com

Website:

<http://www.victorianseekersclub.org.au>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Victorian-Seekers-Pro 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"

President's Report



By Steve Hillman

Hello everyone,

First of all, our club AGM was held on 4th October and those of you who attended will know that we now have a slightly different committee line-up. Paul stepped down as Vice President as was always the plan. We were not able to have anyone put their hand up to take on this role. So at time of writing, this position remains vacant. We do need this position filled! Please can I ask you to consider taking on this role as I am not confident that it will be filled by the time the newsletter is published. Please contact me if at all interested and we can discuss.

Michael stepped down as club Secretary. Thank you to a fairly new member, Ken Barlow, for stepping in to take on this important role.

Pam has stepped down as Membership Secretary. Louise McGough has stepped into the role. I thank you Louise for filling that gap in our committee.

To the committee members who have stepped down, we thank you for the commitment and service you have given to the club which has been greatly appreciated by all of us.

Thank you also to Pam and Paul Griffin and Brian McGough for nominating for positions of Field Officers. Your assistance at camps will be greatly welcomed.

Thank you also for those committee members who have stayed on to continue in their roles. The club appreciates the

fact that you are all here on the committee, helping to keep steering the club.

OK, so the next few months are going to be hectic!

Whroo camp location has been changed due to there currently being very poor access to the site. Eric will have arranged for details of the new location to be sent out to all members, so I trust that you have that already. Camp dates are 6th to 12th November and camp will include BBQ and Cup Sweep. If you intend being there, please let Eric know as we need to let the local butcher know numbers for the BBQ. At the Tarnagulla camp I did meet a nice man who said he knows the Rushworth area very well. He said he can come to this camp to meet us; show us some good gold areas (?) Also where he finds quartz crystals in the area. From my conversation with him, he also has a property with sapphires and, an opal mine! That is very nice of him and I do hope we get to meet him at this camp.

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December 10th we have the club Christmas picnic day. I suspect this will again be at Wicks Reserve, however there has been discussion about a possible different venue. TBC ASAP.

Christmas/New Year camp will again be at Moonambel. We are again hiring the facilities. Last year's camp I believe was a great success with everyone enjoying the festivities. I did ask in the last newsletter for ideas for a theme and activities/games for this year. However, since virtually no feedback has been received, at this stage the theme will be "Emerald" (TBC). Meaning anything green, green with envy, Ireland, Leprechauns, plants, etc. Use your imagination. I have been asked if we can please have some sort of trivia comp again this year. Anna has offered to put the quiz on this year. At least the rest of us now have a chance of winning! There will be other games and activities, all being arranged by our entertainment sub-committee of Marj and Anna. A program will be announced closer to the camp date.

Committee next meets on 31st October

and will be very busy making arrangements for all of the upcoming camps and setting up the club calendar for next year.

The committee meeting is followed the very next day by the next club general meeting, 1st November. Hope to see as many of you there as possible as you don't have to be at camp the very next day. Hint, hint...

On a different note.... I hate to finish like this but as much as our camps have been fun, I personally, and I have been spoken to by a few others, have an issue with the fact that members refuse to move back from the campfire to allow other members to take a place in the circle. Not cool. Also at the last camp I heard some other comments being made about our club. Our club is a great one and we are all friendly. If it's not for you, we all understand. However, constructive comments are always welcome. As president I feel it is my duty to mention these things in the hope that we do not have such issues in the future. Hope you understand what I am trying to say here.

Now let's set our sights on the next few months as we are all going to be very busy hopefully having a fun time at camps and maybe even getting some nice mellow sounds coming from our machines.

Regards,

Your Club President, Steve H



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Heathcote Camp report

By Kevin

September saw the club members heading for Hedley's dam track in the Heathcote area.

As is the norm this was a bush camp, with attendees spreading themselves out among the trees, wherever a parking area could be found. The weather was not ideal for the first day or two then the sun broke through for a nice weekend.

Many members took advantage of the close proximity to Heathcote to take time to visit its excellent bakeries, where hot coffee and sweet delights abound.



Rob's new best friend

Some 38 members attended camp with finds for the weekend been rather slim. Around half a dozen pieces in the sub gram range.

As usual when the campfire is lit the members gather with discussions a plenty on all topics from finds to world issues.

Members enjoyed trips to the local Pub in Heathcote and the legendary Gaffneys bakery.

May I remind members that this club is a family club, based on strong values of being kind and treating others equally and with respect. It's been



obvious that this is not the case anymore at camps. Campfires are for all equally to share and enjoy, when others join the circle, please make room and move back, no one is more entitled to be near the fire than any other member.

Stay safe, happy prospecting.



Great specie found by one lucky member



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HEART ATTACK-A POSSIBLE LIFESAVER!

Try to remain calm, and REMEMBER THIS!

Advice from Dr. Patrick Teefy, Cardiology Head at the Nuclear Medicine Institute University Hospital, London Ont.

1. Let's say it's 7:25 pm and you're going home (alone of course) after an unusually hard day on the job.

2. You're really tired, upset and frustrated.

3. Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to drag out into your arm and up into your jaw.

You are only about five km from the hospital nearest your home.

4. Unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far.

5. You have been trained in CPR, but the guy that taught the course did not tell you how to perform it on yourself.

6. HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE?

Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness.

7. However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.

A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest.

A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

8. Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it to regain a normal rhythm.

In this way, heart attack victims can get help or to a hospital.

Tarnagulla Camp Report

By Marj H

The October Tarnagulla camp was our first camp since returning from our WA trip. It was great to be able to catch up with lots of familiar faces and meet some of our newly joined members.

The weather gods smiled on Tarnagulla whilst we were there and the days were just perfect for detecting. The nights however, were very chilly. Gold proved to be scarce early on in the camp but the persistence of our Seekers group paid off with some nice pieces found. A highlight was Anna finding her very first piece of Victorian gold. It was very exciting for all of us to share her success.

I think Andrew found the largest piece, being 2.65 grams with a couple of other

smaller pieces for a total of around 3.6 grams. Eric found a large chunk of quartz that was telling his detector to "pick me". Upon investigation and breaking the quartz, a very nice specie was found.

Quite a few people also had success with at least one piece. An unhappy Steve said Tarnagulla had "beaten him this time". However in the last 45 minutes of our last session he did find three small pieces so he came home a bit happier.

The camp was well-attended with around 27 vans and 45 people. Tarnagulla is a great spot but we were all a bit spread out around the outside of the oval. This is a public camp, so we were sharing the area with other people's camps which were dispersed amongst ours.

Louise and Brian had set up an area near their vans for a communal fire and the "Queen of Damper Cooking" didn't disappoint. Louise assisted by



Join us at our Christmas picnic on Sunday 10th December!



Christmas is coming!

Mark this in your calendars now! Our Christmas picnic party will be held on Sunday 10th December from 11am onwards at Wicks Reserve, The Basin (Melways ref 65 D8).

Turn left at the roundabout on Mountain Highway, then 400m down The Basin-Olinda road, turn right into the Reserve.

* Drawing of the **Christmas Raffle: 3 HAMPERS TO BE WON!**

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

* Detecting contests for everyone with a coin machine (PI gold detectors are not to be used.)

* Door prizes

* Bring your spouse, kids, friends, food, drinks, coin detector. Digging tools (no picks) and have fun ...

Adults should collect their door prize ticket on arrival.

Electric BBQs and water on premises. BYO table, chairs, food and drink. Don't forget insect repellent and sunscreen.

Come along to this break up party and support the club. You're sure to have a great time !



Debbie, managed to whip up some fabulous dampers every evening for us all to share. Thank you so much from all of us. Thank you also to those members who contributed some ingredients such as flour, butter and jam. Anna

also made a nice rice bubble slice for us all to share. Unfortunately, just like the damper, it didn't last long!

Good news.... The Tarnagulla café at the info centre is open again with new management. Bob found out and brought some menus around for people to have a look at. Quite a few of us visited and supported them. Can recommend the pizzas and burgers which were very nice. I also enjoyed the coffee milkshake! They are open Thursday through Sunday at this stage and prices seem very reasonable.

The Laanecoorie Gold Bash held at the Laanecoorie caravan park was on again over the weekend of the camp. A lot of us wandered down to take a look and support the very worthwhile cause for cancer research. Some went to listen to Andrew Bayles' talk and purchase some goodies, or just to have a go at the token hunts or auction, grab some food. The Aussie Gold Hunter boys were there giving talks and Neville Perry was also there, passionate as ever and actually left hospital the day before to be there to do a question and answer session.

PMAV was there plus Minelab, Prospectors Depot and several other suppliers.

At our raffle on Saturday evening, Steve, Eric and Bob made an executive decision that we should donate the proceeds of our raffle to the Gold



Bash Peter Mac cancer research charity. A lot of members added donations as well as buying raffle tickets and we raised \$191.00 which Paul took to the Bash on Sunday and handed over to the Bash committee.

Just a reminder to be careful in the bush. With the weather warming up,

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Tarnagulla Camp Report cont....



Around the camp fire

snakes will be out and about. We did notice that a lot of areas had become quite overgrown and the grass was quite high making it difficult to see underlying holes. One of our group when parking in the bush went a little too far and ended up with the front wheel of their car in a very deep hole. We all pitched in, filling the hole with logs and dirt. Steve got his trusty Max Trax and jammed them under the wheel to straddle the hole and it was then possible to reverse the car back out and with no apparent damage. A very relieved driver. I guess a lesson here is to always travel with others. Without others being there they had no recovery gear and no phone reception. Steve recommends that you also have recovery gear and know how to use it. Even the long handled shovel was a very handy tool here and Les's chain saw helped get the logs we

needed. Our hobby can be dangerous at times and we need to be careful and not complacent.

A big congratulations to Brian and Louise on their 53rd wedding anniversary. Louise's Sister and Debbie made a lovely surprise for them with a set table, bubbly and dinner. We all sang "For they are jolly good fellows" and gave them a cheer on their achievement.

Thank you for a great camp and we are looking forward to the next one. Hope to see you there!



Eric's Specie



Brian and Louise Anniversary



Anna's 1st Victorian
gold.

Eri



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://>

John C Finds



Tarnagulla Camp

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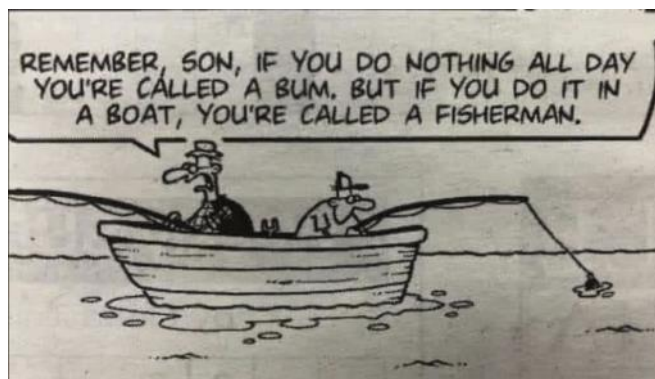
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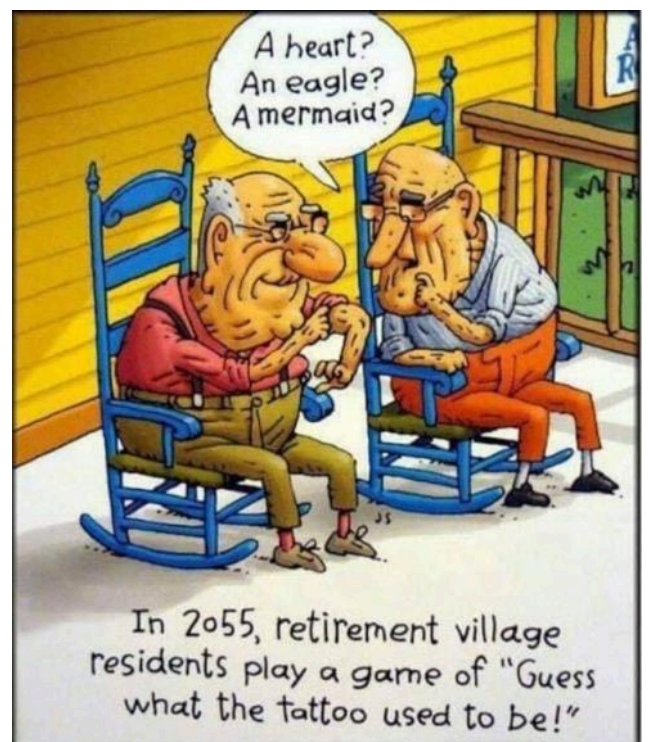
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Tarnagulla Camp Report



Andrew's 2.65 gram nuggie





Neville Perry with Aussie Gold Hunter at Gold Bash



Club Clothing

Available by order

Samples available to try on at
General meetings.



Caps \$18 each



Fleecy Jackets \$40.00 each



Lightweight Polo Shirts \$35 each



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.



Clubs 2300 detector for hire.

Free for members and \$20/day to non members (accompanied by a member) and also comes with limits on frequency of use. To book, contact Eric 0488972922



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

