

The Victorian
Seekers Club

MAY/JUNE
2025

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FOSSICKIN' ROUND

VOL. 46 ISSUE 3

The Victorian Seekers Club bi-monthly newsletter



Easter Bunny Sunday morning

Special guest Jimmy Cole
and Marianne at Sunday
night Five Flags Hotel dinner



Aerial photo of Pizza night



Your Committee of Management 2024-2025

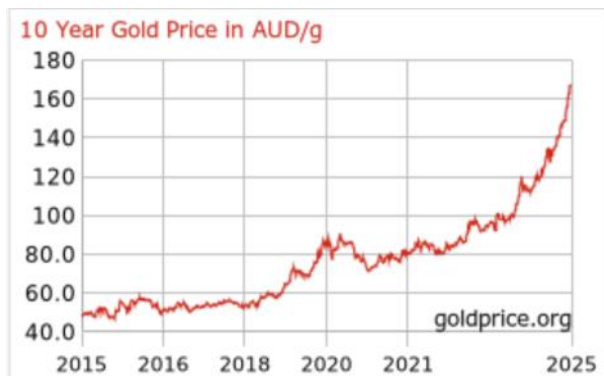
POSITION	DUTIES	NAME	CONTACT vicseekersclub@gmail.com
President:	Club management and representation, Chairperson	Steve Hillman	
Vice President:	President's deputy, arrange speakers.	Tony Pappas	
Research Officer:	Information about outings, field activity.	Eric Grummett	
Secretary:	Correspondence, meetings, 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 McKnight	
		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	John Wingham	
		Robert Hatvani	
		Ivan Albrecht	
		Tye Sweeney	
		Brian McGough	



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.**



Gold price as at 27/4/2025

MAY 2025

General meeting 7th May
Mountain Hut 16th–21st May

JUNE 2025

General meeting 4th June
Redcastle 6th–11th June

JULY 2025

General meeting 2nd July
Tarnagulla 11th –16th July
(Poseidon Road Camp Site)



WATCH OUT FOR
OUR NEW CAMP
DIRECTIONAL
SIGNS

Members are reminded that dogs at camps are to be kept on leash at all times.



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

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Email:

vicseekersclub@gmail.com

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"

President's Report

By Steve H



(The President and his wonderful "First lady")

Hello fellow members,

I do hope you are all doing well. We still have a few of our members suffering with ill-health and I know you will join me in wishing them relief and hopefully a recovery back to better health.

Easter camp is upon us! It looks like it will be another great camp with lots of fun games, the pizza truck and our Easter raffle. Preparations have been on-going behind the scenes. A lot of work has been done by committee to make the camp what it is. Thank you to all committee members and to the other members who help out.

Please try and remember to have a few dollars handy also for the CFA when they visit on Good Friday morning for the RCH appeal. Marj and I always make a good donation. We have 10 grandkids and you never know if one of them might need this hospital one day.

On the evening of 10th April, several of us attended the Bunnings Springvale Easter activity evening. We had a display of detectors, panning, a working sluice and many of Eric's

Bunnings Easter evening



coins and relics. I was surprised at the interest shown by adults and kids alike. The lovely Bonnie of Bunnings Springvale has supported our club, supplying prizes for our Easter raffle and now another very generous donation to our club in appreciation of our attendance on 10th.

The guest speaker at our last general meeting was Luke Philips of "Dig-It Detecting" fame. He gave a fascinating talk and display which was very informative. Thank you to Tony P for arranging his visit.



Dig It Detect presentation

At the next general meeting we hope to run a workshop on how to use the "Trilobite" app on your phone regarding tracking, marking waypoints (gold finds) and using the different data layers. If you have any knowledge in using this app, I would appreciate it if you could help out on the night – I am a novice user!

Quite a few members have stated their intention to travel North or West this winter and we wish them every success in their travels and endeavours in the pursuit of gold.

Best regards,
Steve H

THANK YOU!

TO **CC PICKS** FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATION OF NOT ONE, BUT TWO SUPERBLY CRAFTED HIGH-END PICKS FOR OUR EASTER RAFFLE.

TO **BUNNINGS SPRINGVALE** FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATION OF PRIZES FOR OUR EASTER RAFFLE, PLUS A FURTHER VERY GENEROUS DONATION OF GIFT CARDS TO SPEND ON EVEN MORE PRIZES FOR THE FUTURE.

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Kingower Camp Report

By Marj H

Our recent camp at Kingower was well-attended, with 21 camps and 34 people braving the warm weather.

However, the weather was very much a mixed bag. From very hot and humid, to very windy and quite cold some nights. But no rain!

Gold finds were few at first. But slowly we started to see rewards for our efforts. However as per usual, the lead shot tally was overwhelmingly greater. There were some nice gold pieces found; from tiny to a bit bigger and some nice specie's. Jenny H got a nice 2+ grammar and Rob S scored three pieces totalling 5 grams. Imi A found a 1.8 grammer and quite a few others ended up with gold finds of various sizes including quite a few smaller specie's.

Gary H and Tony P bought our new club BBQ's to camp and the committee decided to give them a test run. They are



more compact and lighter for transporting, plus easier to set up and to clean afterwards. The club purchased sausages, burgers and some kabana from the local butcher plus other supplies from the local supermarket, to have an impromptu BBQ on the Saturday night. Thanks to all of the helpers for

the cooking, serving and cleaning up. I think everyone enjoyed it.

Also thank you once again to Graham M for his wonderful party pies! Always a winner with members.

We also had a raffle on the Saturday night. It went well in spite of the wind trying to blow tickets away! Thank you to Louise for organising the raffle.

Geoff and Kay came to camp for a day visit and both were looking



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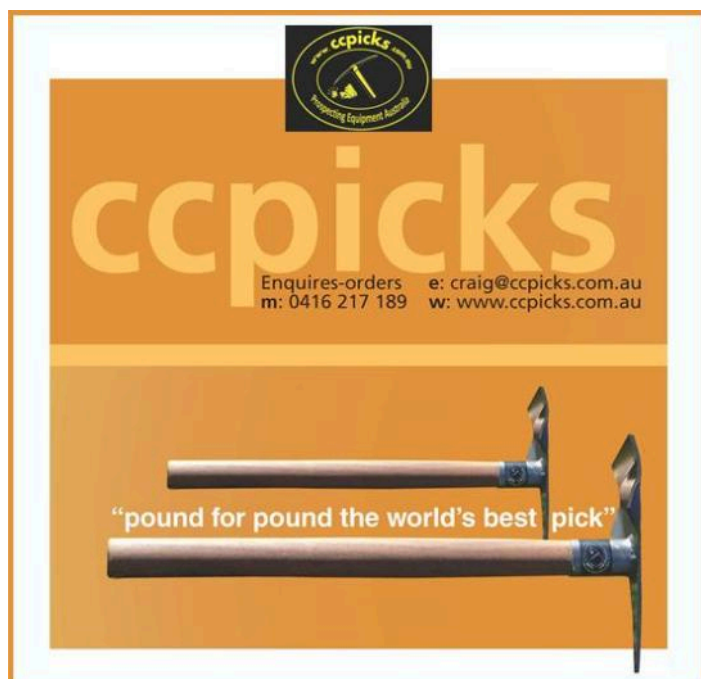
well. We enjoyed catching up with them. Thank you Geoff and Kay for sharing your delicious home-grown tomatoes!

Kingower camp was the first club camp that Steve and I attended, just before we joined the club. Although this camp was in a slightly different location, this was our first trip back to this area.

Welcome back to Rob S. after missing a few camps due to his recent health scare with a melanoma. Rob has given me permission to mention this, as he wants to encourage everyone to go and have their regular skin checks. He has had some surgeries and has good reports. Thank goodness. But of course

it would have been a very worrying time for him. It was great to see Him back and detecting again. Rob's Dad came along for a few nights and I think he helped Rob with some digging using the pick. Steve and I have made an appointment for our (much overdue) yearly skin check this week. We suggest everyone takes the time to do the same.

I think everyone had an enjoyable camp and we look forward to the next one at our new location: Smythesdale. Hope to see you there.



Dodgy Daves Buy Swap & Sell



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1xNf Round Evolution 15" coil
Including Lower Shaft \$400

1xNf Round Evolution 12" coil
Including Lower Shaft \$400

1xNf Sadie 8x6 coil
Including Lower Shaft \$300
Peter G. [0490500086](tel:0490500086)



Smythesdale Camp Report

By Imi A

Arrived at Smythesdale Gardens to find Bob and Virginia and Robbie and Thelma already there, so I camped near them. After setting up went for a walk to checkout the facilities. Met the caretaker and he explained they had saved the area near the camp kitchen for the Seekers. Forwarded this information to some committee members to let the rest of the club know where to camp. The camp was officially due to start on the Friday and most people arrived then.

We must be getting old, after consulting a newly bought map of the area together with Al and Anja we set off to detect bright and early around 10:00am. Not having been to Smythesdale before we looked for the nearest surfacing area and headed there. Watson's hill was quite different to what we expected. Hydraulic sluiced would be our guess. All very hilly no flat surfaced areas as expected and surrounded by 12m cliffs. Found some piles of rounded quartz rocks on top of the hill but only dug rubbish. Moved to another spot with the same result. No gold only rubbish. Time to head back to camp and have a drink and make dinner.

Next day headed out with Steve and Marj, Lachie and Peter and Andrew and Nikita. Peter had found a couple of bits somewhere there the day before. We detected for a few hours without success only rubbish. It was a bit warm and humid I scored a nice sounding target and dug down about 350mm to find a bit of steel rod. Wa-

closer to where Peter had found his second bit yesterday. The drive in was a bit interesting as there was a bit of wheel lifting going over some of the obstacles. The new spot was down a fairly steep track. As I was leaving heard Steve on the radio to Andrew 'don't go down the right hand track you will spear into the ground with your front end'. All cars arrived back at camp undamaged obviously due to the extremely skilled drivers.

Saturday evening was the BBQ. Yummy sausages and huge hamburger patties and fried onions. Lachie and Kerrienne were roped in again for the cooking. Thankyou to all who helped. A most enjoyable feed was had by most people except for the people who only eat chicken. We didn't demolish the whole lot and some people had leftovers the next day. A slight change to the Saturday raffle. Everyone had an entry in the door raffle, if you can call it that. The winners were grinners. And the losers bite your tongue. My tongue was bleeding. To me this seems quite a fair raffle, the winners get one prize not multiples like previously. My only complaint was that I didn't win!!! Who do I have to pay to get a prize??



hoo. Litres of sweat pouring off and I called it quits. Back to camp for me. The others decided to move





Then the next was buy some tickets and the prizes were roughly 60/30/10 of the prize pool. My memory was a bit blurry by then and I don't recall the names of the winners.

On two occasions Louise whipped up a great stack of delicious pancakes, two different recipes. The first time it was half a pancake, which just gave you a taste and left you wanting more. The second time was a whole pancake with jam and cream. Yum. If you want more you can pitch in and help cook more at any time.

The next day again with Al and Anja we headed out to a large area of diggings that looked great but 50,000 other people must have thought that as well cos all we found was rubbish. Tried another area with the same result.

I forgot to mention two cups of coffee and cakes and rolls and pies we had at various places also delicious.

In our bumbling around looking for places to detect we came across the memorial for the 5 fire-fighters who lost their lives in the Linton fires. We had heard of it from other members but we hadn't deliberately looked for it. The youngest was 17 years old. It really is sad to think these people were volunteers trying to help other people and lost their lives in their efforts.

I have the utmost respect for these volunteers, they are truly heroes.

We detected over the hill from there with little success. Again I found a deep target that was a bit of wire about 300mm down, that finished me for the day. Had to sit down for half an hour to cool down.

The last day we planned to go to the Jubilee historic minesite and we heard a whisper that M had gone down there and decided to check if the drop dunnies were in working order. M carefully opened the door and

did a safety check. No snakes or lizards no dingoes or wild dogs no visible spiders. What could go wrong?

Upon closing the door M has this feeling one is being watched.

Now at this stage I don't know if any clothing had been removed as I wasn't there. But it seems there were two large eyes looking at M. It was a huge possum. There may or may not have been a few expletives announced but M bolted from the dunny.

The last day we tried an area with a line of mines thinking there must be masses of nuggets spilled from near the successful mines and we would find heaps, cos we were getting desperate now. Gave it a couple of hours but no. No gold only lead.



Peter G.



Robert



Marius



Marj



Anja with all her friends

Fryerstown Camp Report

By Jenny H

We always look forward to the Easter camp as it brings together, the maximum number of Club Members for the entire year. We have missed many winter camps due to our travels so it is wonderful to catch up with everyone. This year was particularly special as we had our two eldest grandsons along for the ride. By the time we arrived on Wednesday there were 20 vans set up, 4 tents and a camper trailer. Lots of early birds. As the days progressed, we counted 56 camps in total with approximately 110 adults and children. Alistair and Anja kindly and generously donated a 1.66g nugget which was auctioned off on Thursday night. Sue K held on to successfully outbid other participants and paid \$300 which was then donated to the Royal Childrens Hospital Appeal as Al and Anja's requested.

Friday morning was an early start as Anja and I were in charge of pancake making. Unfortunately our original organizer Louise, was unable to attend as Brian has recently



broken his knee. We wish him a speedy recovery.



THANK YOU. What a great EASTER !!!
THANKS TO MONSIEUR AND MADAME PRESIDENT ,and great helpers. So nice to see the old and young members.
A big thanks to the lovely people who helped me ,and looked after me. Especially Eric for providing my Chateau (very comfortable) and to every one, for the great lunches and diners.
Francois would be happy to know the club is looking after me.
A week end to remember.
Francine

We started serving at 7.15am to some very hungry participants. Dav was a great help with his amazing Pancake Perfection maker. I'm definately getting one of those for home!

The Fire brigade arrived this year with 2 trucks and a vehicle. They were welcomed and were grateful for our donations which, last year, contributed to 3/4 of funds col-



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lected. This year, \$1237.80 was raised by Seekers Club alone. Amazing effort by everyone Thank you.



Tony P, Eric G and Paul H had some very interesting finds and presented them at camp for viewing on Friday night.

Ian found his first gold nugget over Easter. Congratulations. We all know how that feels.

Saturday morning would not be the same without a

visit to the Wesley Hill Market. A bit down on stalls this year but thanks to those who attended.

We made our first visit to The Mill Castle-maine. Such an interesting place and a great German Cafe where the boys enjoyed a magnificent hot chocolate.

Games started around 2ish on Saturday afternoon. Very well organized this year as each game was played, one at a time. This gave everyone a chance to watch and join in. We started with Throw the flipper. Large flipper for men and smaller flipper for women and children. Male winner was Conner

who did an amazing toss. Female winner was Atlas and kids was taken out by Cohen. Well done.

The Ring toss (coits) was more difficult than it seemed and the male winner after a play off was Mike O. Female winner, Johanna (Paul h sister)

Bocce throw winners were Mike O showing his sporting prowess and female winner Tracey h. Some very impressive Easter bonnets were paraded and were judged by the amazed crowd

Geoff S and Anne L took the prizes and our grandies Charlie and Tyler were pronounced winners in the kids section.

Pizza de wheels arrived late afternoon and were serving by 5.15pm, successfully cooking and serving 110 delicious pizzas.



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.

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Unfortunately it rained intermittently during the night which was a little disappointing. It was lovely to see the Committee members enjoying their night without all the work involved in providing a meal for so many Club Members.

Eric was the lucky 1st prize in the raffle winning him a 2g nugget. Congratulations Eric. Could not have gone to a more worthy person. Thanks for all you do for the Club.

Marj, Tracey, Kerry-ann and Nola helped to serve ice creams in cones with several choices of toppings, to a very eager crowd. They certainly rounded off a great meal. Oh, there was more!

Melissa also surprised us with a decadent chocolate cake for all to share, to celebrate her birthday. Thank you Melissa.

In the token hunt on Sunday morning, first winner was Francine followed by Ted C and Peter S coming in third place

Booby prize was won by Peter G and Addison.

Stake your claim, which is always exciting was won by Peter G with 2nd prize for Gary H, 3rd Chris F (Melissa's mum), 4th Darren K, 5th Paul B 6th Kevin H. The final game for the Easter camp was the egg on coil race. Male winner was Jarrod, female Joyce and kids winner was Tohan.

Congratulations to all involved for participating and providing us with entertainment and prizes.

The traditional Sunday evening meal was at

the 5 Flags Hotel which was enjoyed by the largest number of Club Members and a good time was had by all. We were very honoured to have a fit for 99 years old, Jimmy Cole and Marianne join us for the meal.



220 years of experience
fixing an 8 year olds bike

The weather was great for all but Saturday night when we got the occasional shower so we really can't complain. About half camp sites disappeared after Sunday night which made for a much smaller gathering around the campfire. Tuesday night Robbie treated us to some fire side songs and a sing-a-long. Gold was mostly very small pieces but there were two outstanding finds.

Geoff was lucky to uncover a lovely 2.64g and Ted C found a 2.1g nugget. Well done.

With the Easter Camp officially over, the remaining 10 to 12 stayers packed up and set off for home. As for us another adventure with Al and Anja awaits. Safe travels everyone.





Stake your claim



Five Flags Dinner



Easter Bonnet Parade



Token Hunt



Club Apparel



Acrylic Beanie - Toque - 4243

\$20.00
Ex. GST



Brushed Cotton Cap - 4199

\$20.00
Ex. GST

EUREKA MENS POLOS -
1304

\$38.50
Ex. GST

The new club clothing supplier (Fully Promoted) is now up and running. This is an on-line ordering system. You can pay them directly and the order sent to your nominated delivery address at extra cost, or if you can wait a little while then another member may be able to pick your order up and give it to you at the next camp or meeting.

Pick up is also available
(Glen Waverley)

[https://
shop.fullypromoted.com.au/
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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
- Avoca Dump Point.
Located outside Acoca Caravan Park in Faraday st
- Bendigo Showground Public Dump Point: 42A Holmes Rd., North Bendigo, Grid Ref. 36:44:18.3S, 144:16:17.5E
- Beaufort RV Dump Point
25 Lawrence st, Beaufort. Entry from Havelock st
Easy access for large rigs
- Clunes Public Dump Point : 70 Bailey St., Clunes, Grid Ref. 37:17:38.1S, 143:46:51.2E
- Dunolly Dump Point
Maude st Dunolly.
Shared use with privately run Dunolly Caravan Park
Enter through gate at Maude st.
- 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
- Newstead Racecourse Dump Point
McNabb Rd, Newstead. Open 24 hours
- Maryborough Goldfields Reservoir
Reservoir rd, Maryborough. Drive through
- Seymour Public Dump Point: Cnr. Wallis & High St., Seymour, Grid Ref. 37:1:14.6S, 145:8:6.0E
- Tarnagulla Recreation Reserve, Tarnagulla.
Gold Coin Donation.

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.

