

The Victorian
Seekers Club

SEPT/OCT
2026

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FOSSICKIN' ROUND

VOL. 47 ISSUE 5

The Victorian Seekers Club bi-monthly newsletter



Saturday Morning
Breakfast cookup at
Avoca & Amherst

Avoca Camp



Your Committee of Management 2025-2026

POSITION	DUTIES	NAME	CONTACT
			vicseekersclub@gmail.com

President: Club management and representation, Chairperson **John Wingham**

Vice President: President's deputy, arrange speakers. **Mike Oldfield**

Research Officer: Information about outings, field activity.
Paul Bakx
Gavin Bell

Secretary: Correspondence, meetings, camp permits and other administration (Joint role) **Susan Moore**

Treasurer: Financial reporting, paying and receiving money, banking **Gary Harvey**

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 **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**

Field Officers: Assist new members at outings, manage campfires, camp signage and any other campsite set-up/clean up duties **Eric Grummett**

Paul Gower

Ivan Albrecht

Tye Sweeney

Brian McGough

Mujeeb Afzal

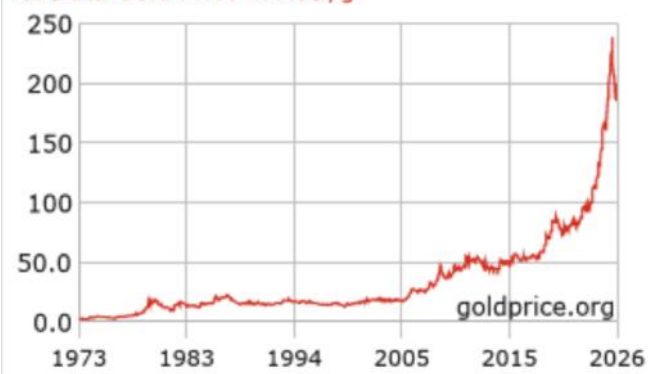


CLUB CALENDAR

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.**

All Data Gold Price in AUD/g



SEPTEMBER 2026

General meeting 2nd September

AGM see page 4

Inglewood 11th-16th Sep

(Note: Camp is in a nature reserve and dogs are not permitted. Refer Parks Victoria for details.)

OCTOBER 2026

General meeting 7th October

Tarnagulla 9th-14th October

NOVEMBER 2026

No general meeting in November

Moliagul 30th Oct-4th Nov

FILL IN ALL HOLES, take your rubbish home and carry a valid MINERS RIGHT at all times. Respect Historical features such as Heritage Puddlers and Monuments . Regulations prohibit removing, defacing, or disturbing these sites.

Under current Government requirements fossickers should be trained in first aid, carry water, a mobile phone, a list of contacts in case of emergency and a basic first aid kit.

Remember Annual membership fees where due 30/6/2026. If you have not paid yet see previous newsletter for details.

**EVERY DAY
PAYS**
WITH THE NEXT-GEN

**والتش الذهب ٢٠٠٠
GOLD MONSTER 2000™**



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

Postal:
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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"

President's Report



President John Wingham

Well , here we are , looking forward to some warmer weather. It's been pretty cold this winter, so I can only admire those of you that braved the conditions in the recent camps , especially Avoca. The storm on the Saturday night , threatened to wash away the camp site, but all turned out fine. For me , I was snuggled up at a motel, due to my caravan being out of action.

Once again, there have been some good gold found and well done to Dragan for find of the month. Well done Gary also.

So , at the time of writing we are approaching our AGM , when we will be appointing a new committee.

As some of you may know, I will not be putting my name in the nomination hat this time and would like to thank all of you that have helped me , in my attempt, at filling the position of President.

Let's look forward to another year of meeting up with friends at our camps and meetings and finding plenty of the yellow stuff.

Notice of Annual General Meeting.

Members, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Victorian Seekers Club Inc, will be held following the September 2nd 2026 general meeting.

All Committee positions will be declared vacant. Nomination forms for committee positions will be emailed to members during August 2025. Return nominations to Secretary up to 7 days before AGM.

Please consider supporting your club and have a say in what happens.

Have a read through Committee positions on page 2 and whatever role you feel comfortable with have a talk with John Wingham.

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Find of the Month



Find of the Month: Dragan 8.5 grams, was his first time detecting with our club.



Caravan for Sale



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Avoca Camp Report

By Jen H

The Avoca 2 site was new to most of the Seekers Members who attended this camp, but the older group was very familiar with the area. David N dropped by during the weekend and informed us that many ounces had been pulled from the surrounding hills. It was similar to Mountain Hut, with its long, narrow road and tall timbers. Many caravans were set up within an enclosed carpark, while others set themselves up among the trees. The carpark was also designated for Trail-bike riders and we had about 6 riders come along over the weekend. The Avoca area is surrounded by over 25 vineyards that produce premium cool-climate Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon. It is the gateway to the Pyrenees. There are a couple



over the weekend. The Avoca area is surrounded by over 25 vineyards that produce premium cool-climate Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon. It is the gateway to the Pyrenees. There are a couple

of pubs and a few cafes to enjoy.

A few braved the weather by arriving early, with Ian, Paul and Jarrod providing us with plenty of perfectly cut wood to keep the fire burning for the entire time. It was so cold and the fire was a pleasant relief as we all gathered around throughout the day and night. Many thanks for all your hard work.

We had first-time visitors, including Ian and Anne from Cowra, and Isabella and Carmine from the Basin. Jill and Gary P, as well as Anne T and Greg, were on return visits and all are now our new Seekers members. We welcome them to our Club and look forward to getting to know you better. Dragan had his first outing with the Club.



A few tried a members new 8000

Although cold, the rain held off, and Anja, Al and Paul all found gold early.

We enjoyed a complimentary breakfast of bacon, eggs and sausages on Satur-



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day morning, with thanks to Gisela and Peter, who did a great job. Thanks to Shirley also, for helping with the shopping on Friday afternoon. Please let us know when you are available to take a turn at buying and preparing a future breakfast. Gary and Jen will on the task for the August camp in Amherst.

The drizzly rain started after breakfast was served on Saturday and continued throughout the day.

Dragan set off on foot and returned with some fantastic finds on Saturday, the largest piece was 2.68g. He also found a



couple of smaller nuggets. Gary H had a good find and after careful cleaning, his nugget was 2.7g.

The heavens opened up Saturday night with thunder, lightening, wind and torrential rain. Very few of us dared to venture out, preferring the warmth of our caravans.

The camp was a wet, muddy mess however, the fire was kept burning. Thanks to Jarrod we had some shelter as he brought along the Clubs' gazebo. Thank



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/>

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Avoca Camp report cont...

By Jen H



Gisela and Peter cooked everyone Saturday morning breakfast

you, we know it's bulky and heavy. We appreciate your efforts.

Gary H had another good find on Sunday with about 4 species. Jenny H also picked up a few pieces and Dragan had another little find after trekking seven kilometres. Anne also mentioned she ventured up to the nearby waterfall, which was approximately a four kilometre walk. The drizzle started again on Sunday afternoon,

preventing us from having our normal raffle and chit-chat around the campfire at night. However, Louise did present Alistair with an award for find of the month. Congratulations Alistair.



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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.

A final burst of energy on Monday to find more gold was again interrupted by the weather, so many campers decided a warm house and bed too tempting. Rob S, Brian, Shirley, Lachie, Kerrieanne, and Marj all had some finds so overall, a good weekend on the gold for nearly everyone. Avoca 2 seems to be the place to return in the future.



Garys finds



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Amherst Camp Report

By Jen H

The Amherst camp was in a new location and those who were in attendance, were impressed with the large and open spaces. It was a very small winter's gathering, due to the impending weather. Lots of rain and a storm was forecast.

There were a total of 9 camps, 7 vans and an upgrade for Dragan with a lovely new tent. A total of 13 people and several day visitors. We welcomed back our visitors from Avoca, Ian and Ann from Cowra. Friday we had a visit from John Bone. He is remembered for helping newcomers and others with their detecting machines, when he was a member of our Club. Steve and Marj dropped in with Marj scoring 3 small nuggets while there. Well done. Geoff and Kay called in and with 6 detecting for many hours, we all came up empty handed. Marj must be a gold magnet! Paul and Pam visited our newest Club members, Greg and Ann who were presented with their new badges. We had a lovely warm fire on Friday night and it was decided we would conduct the raffle due to the unpredictable weather. Fortunately the evening was fairly mild with no wind. Jarrod and Bryan had kindly gathered and cut an enormous amount of wood for the fire

and Jarrod also brought along the gazebo for everyone to enjoy. A few small bits of gold were found with Dragan again, doing well. Saturday, Gary and Jen were up early preparing bacon and egg rolls which were enjoyed by all. It was quite a pleasant morning as we gathered around the fire. The swallows took a liking to Jarrod's caravan thinking it would make a perfect nest. We watched with great interest as they flew in and out of the open doorway. Once Jarrod was





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aware, he sprinted to his caravan like we haven't seen before. He made his cup of tea and was sure to close the screen door, hoping it would remain intact as the swallows continued to gather. The first few drops of rain appeared about 1pm and that was enough for several campers to up stakes for home. Hopefully the rest of the time at camp went well for those who remained.



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Perth Mint sets Guinness record for world's largest gold bar

By Mya Kordic

A gold bar produced in Western Australia weighing more than half a tonne has claimed the Guinness World Records title for the world's largest gold bar.

The Perth Mint created the 521.2 kilogram bar using Australian gold, refined to a 99.999 per cent purity.



The record-breaking gold bar is made from Australian gold. (Supplied: Perth Mint)

Mint chief executive Paul Graham said the current world standard was 99.99 per cent.

"To get to five-nines gold, 99.999, not many can do that," he said.

The achievement broke the previous world record of 300 kilograms, set by a mint in Dubai two years ago.

What's the point?

A team of more than 35 specialists were involved in the project, which Mr Graham labelled the "People's Bar".

Mr Graham said the idea for the project came a year ago, with the Mint conducting a "practice run" ahead of the bar's creation.

He said officials from the Guinness Book of World Records attended on site to watch every step of the process, which took up to three days.

As for what the record-breaking bar was worth, Mr Graham said he wished he knew.

"Naturally most people work out that the metal price alone is over \$100 million, but something that unique, it's never



Mr Graham says the gold bar's metal price is over \$100 million. (ABC News: Mya Kordic)

been done before,"
he said.

As to the purpose, the bar serves as promotion of the Perth mint and its capabilities.

The Mint said the spectacle would help showcase the expertise of its local refiners and Australia's gold industry to the world.

It will eventually be on display at the Mint alongside another record-breaking creation, a one tonne gold coin unveiled in 2011.

Gold exports grow

Australia's gold export earnings are forecast to grow to \$60 billion in 2025-26 from \$47 billion in 2024-25, according to the Minerals Council of Australia (MCA).

That trajectory would see gold become Australia's second-largest export earner after iron ore, the MCA said.

The price of spot gold was about \$US4,079 per ounce on Friday, according to the global financial data provider LSEG.



Club Apparel



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**Remember to be consider-
ate 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.*

Membership Report

Membership Report as at the end of

September 2026

We currently have a total membership of 170 including 19 honorary and life members

114 Family members

56 Singles

Please welcome new members

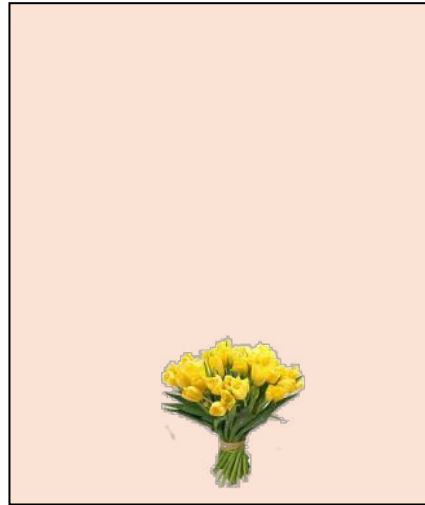
Gary & Jill

Greg & Anne



Almoner's report

By Susan Moore



Please contact me on 0412 428 479 or suziem99@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 Victorian
Seekers Club
Inc. (Reg. No.
A0001477T)**

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Website:

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<https://www.facebook.com/Victorian-Seekers-Pro Prospecting-Club-1985818041670592/>

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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.



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.

