The Victorian Seekers Club

NOV/DEC 2026

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FOSSICKIN' ROUND

VOL. 47 ISSUE 6

The Victorian Seekers Club bi-monthly newsletter



Tarnagulla Camp



Great to see

Francine back at camp



Inglewood Camp

Your Committee of Management 2026-2027

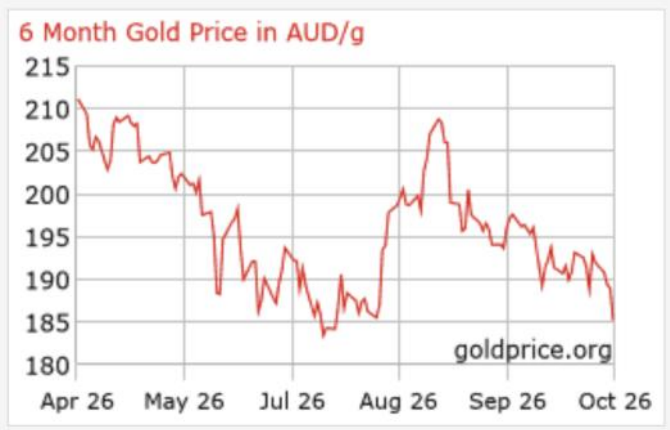
POSITION	DUTIES	NAME	CONTACT vicseekersclub@gmail.com
President:	**Club management and representation, Chairperson**	**Louise McGough**	
Vice President:	President's deputy, arrange speakers.	Position Vacant	
Research Officer:	Information about outings, field activity.	Jarrod Adams Eric Grummet	
Secretary:	Correspondence, meetings, camp permits and other administration (Joint role)	Susan Moore	
Treasurer:	Financial reporting, paying and receiving money, banking	Gary Harvey Dean Richards	
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	Brian McGough	
Social Secretary:	Organising social functions, raffles, theatre bookings etc	Tina Whelan	
Field Officers:	Assist new members at outings, manage campfires, camp signage and any other campsite set-up/clean up d uties	Eric Grummett Paul Gower Jarrod Adams John Wingham 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.***



NOVEMBER 2026	
No general meeting in November	
Meeting will be held at Moliagul camp	
Moliagul	30th Oct-4th Nov
DECEMBER 2026	
General meeting	2nd December
Christmas Picnic	13th December
Moonambel Camp	26th Dec–1st Jan 27

Fees payable to Reserve Commitee
Power $20 (16 sites) Unpowered $15

JANUARY 2027	
General meeting	no meeting
Eaglehawk Camp	21st-26th Jan 2027

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.



Moonambel Camp will be a Hawaiian theme dress up. Dust of your 70s stuff.





Christmas is coming!

Join us at our Christmas picnic on Sunday 13th December!

Mark this in your calendars now! Our Christmas picnic party will be held on Sunday 13th 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 !

President's Report



President Louise McGough

Having had the AGM we did not get the Committee members we were seeking. Therefore, I have taken on the President's job.

I will try to do my best, with help from all the members of the Club.

I am disappointed by the response at the AGM and still hoping that members think about putting a hand up for a position on the Committee.

We still need a Vice President and the Secretary position will be vacant at Christmas. Several people are doing multiple core roles which is unfair and cannot continue. Please consider these positions as it is very important to have a Committee to ensure the Club continues to be the good Club it's always been.

Thanks to all the previous members who have been on the Committee and given their best. Its time for other members to step up.

Let's hope we have another great year and we find lots of gold.

Please note that the November General meeting will be at the Moliagul camp so there will be NO meeting at Mulgrave on the 4th November.

Louise McGough

Caravan for Sale



2023 Jayco bush pack caravan for sale, $65,000.00 - 19ft duel wheels, full ensuite, bike rack, double bed.
For more info please call Ivan on 0409 184 042 or Susan on 0412 428 479.



Find of the Month



Congratulations to:

GRAHAM MEE

Winner of the $100 for paying his fees by 31/7/26 for the current financial year.

Don't miss your opportunity to be in the draw next year!

Pay your fees on time and you could be a lucky winner.

Please be aware fees are annual

for financial year 1/7/26-30/6/27.

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Inglewood Camp Report

By Anja M & Louise

Well, what can I say? I have taken this position on as President and I will do the best that i can. First of all, i should thank John and all the other committee members for their fantastic work this past year.
I have to say that I admire the old members of the club. They have worked very hard for what we have today.
My first camp as President, and the weather was absolutely beautiful !





There were about 21 members and two new members wanting to join the club their names are ABBAS and Wayne.
They stayed a couple of nights, and the members looked after them, showed them around and took them to the bush gold detecting.
We had bacon and eggs Saturday morning cooked by Jeff and Kay and it was beautiful, thank you.










I would like to thank Jarrod for always stepping up and collecting wood setting up a fire and bringing all the equipment we need in the camp.
Saturday evening we had our raffle and we also had the draw for the members who paid their fee early, and the winner was Graham M.
We also celebrated the birthday of Brian M with a cake and singing happy birthday and it was also Alistair and Jeff's belated birthdays, it was a great night.
Sunday morning, I put a dressing on Paul G's hand, he had a fall the night before by the campfire. He was probably a little bit under the weather ha ha.
It was a lovely night. The weather was



perfect almost the whole weekend.
We had pancakes Sunday night with ice cream.
A few members got a little bit of gold. You will see the pictures on Facebook by Anja. A few people went home on Monday and almost everyone left by Tuesday except Mujeeb, who stayed a bit longer to try out his new detector. Good luck to him. I hope he finds lots of gold.















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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Evolution range: great coverage, sensitivity, depth, and lightweight... a fantastic all round coil perfect for both the weekend prospector or the serious professional



Tarnagulla Camp report

By Nola P

Back from our interstate travels, Tony and I arrived at camp a day early but weren't the first, and by the end of the day a little village had sprung up beside Billy Goat Dam, Tarnagulla. So lovely to be out in the Victorian bush once again.



I think we peaked at 17 camps over the weekend, though some arrived late while others left early, so it was hard to keep tabs (the sign-in book never being quite up-to-date). It was great to see Francine make the effort to come along, especially as she took the long way around.

It was glorious weather, there were great tracks for me to walk, and the myriad of old mullock heaps show the historic richness of this area.

Where to set up the camp-fire caused a conundrum by the random scattering of caravans, but a new area was declared fit to be cleared, firewood collected, and a circle of rocks made it official (thanks Jarrod!) First night we laid low ourselves, but by the sound of laughter, a good time was had by those who joined in (that night, as every night).



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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.





By mid-morning the next day, the camp looked deserted, everyone else off in search of the yellow stuff. More searching than finding for most, though sluicing at the dam brought some success for Jarrod.

Happy hour turned into pancake hour that night - such a lovely surprise (why not have dessert as entree?) put on by the barely-there committee, lead by president Louise - who is doing a sterling job, only possible with the aid of extra helping hands.

With no Vice President it was announced that club members need to rally around their own contact networks for speakers (for either at the hall or at camp) to fill that void, so keep that in mind.

Saturday morning and 8.30am eggs, bacon, and sausages were delicious - thanks again to the committee and especially to James for his help. The marquee was a great central point for that, and also provided a welcome shady spot for random daytime gatherings, along with serve-yourself tea and coffee.



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Tarnagulla Camp Report cont....

By Nola P



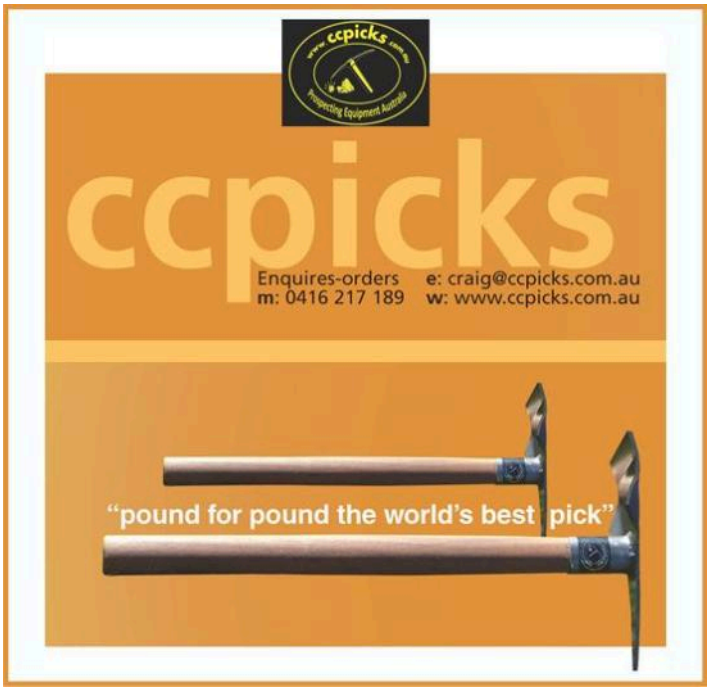


Many went to check out the Laanecoorie Gold Bash - an annual fund-raising festival for the Peter McCallum Clinic, to which the club donated $300.

Saturday was Louise and Brian's wedding anniversary - an amazing 56 years! - and a celebration cake was shared, ahead of the Saturday night "door prize" raffle for vouchers, and a few club stubby holders as consolation prizes. Then Eric bestowed Paul B with the Find of the Year trophy for his 2 oz nugget... obviously not found anywhere around here!

Sunday morning breakfast was cooked up to use the leftovers (thanks to Mel for helping out - it's so great to see the newer and younger members stepping up to the plate, but thank you to all who contributed across the weekend - you know who you are!) and there ended the official weekend activities, and the committee could finally relax and enjoy the rest of the camp.

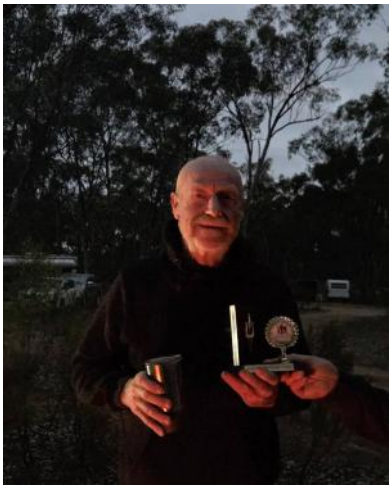
A few members did find small pieces of gold, and Maree was excited to find















one herself (not her first ever, but her first with the 6000), and Rick's tally totalled 1.8g.

Some rain fell overnight, but soon dried up, but by Monday night many had left as commitments called, but those of us who were lucky enough to be able to stay on till Wednesday continued to enjoy the beauty of the bush and the campfire camaraderie.

So au revoir from me, till we meet again

Nola



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Amateur prospector discovers gold nugget worth $150,000 on outback station

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-10-26/gold-nugget-discovered-in-outback/107306976

Sounds of excitement fill the air as an amateur prospector digs his hands into red, rocky dirt.

What he comes up with is something he hopes isn't "a painted rock", but instead a gold nugget worth about $150,000.

He had been digging for several days on Mount Stuart station near Tibooburra, in the north-western corner of New South Wales.

But he said the discovery was one of



The nugget has been affectionately named the "Tibooburra Spud" by the prospector who found it.

persistence, after having nearly walked past the nugget.

'The machine was squealing'

The lucky prospector, who wishes to remain anonymous, has been fossicking for years and is familiar with coming up empty.

"You dig lots of rubbish … lots of lead bullets, old timer's nails, horseshoes, everything," he said.

Metal scraps are the most common find for prospectors. (ABC Broken Hill: Kristina Rosengren)

He was finishing up a day of searching in mid-October, when he stumbled across a signal with his metal detector, the Gold Monster 2000.

"It wasn't a loud signal for the size of the piece that it is [but] once I got down to 100 [millimetres] or something like that, the machine was squealing," the prospector said.

"It might have been on the first or second scrape I just seen this bright yellow dot in the centre of the hole."

The gold nugget specked with quartz weighs more than 1,200 grams, with testing showing about 940 grams is pure gold.

On spot price, it is worth between $150,000 to $160,000.

But with plans to sell the nugget to a collector, the price could be pushed as high as $200,000, according to the prospector, who has nicknamed his precious find the "Tibooburra Spud".

Prospecting a popular pastime

In his 20-odd years selling prospecting supplies in Broken Hill, Greg Spangler has only seen one other person find a gold nugget that weighs more than a kilogram.

It is more typical to find gold flakes or smaller nuggets weighing only a few ounces.

"We have a fictitious club [called] the Ounce Club … but not many people [are] in the 'Kilo Club'," Mr Spangler said.

Greg Spangler says more people are taking up prospecting as a hobby. (ABC Broken Hill: Kristina Rosengren)

Despite the rarity of discovering a nugget worth six figures, Mr Spangler believes a surge in gold prices has drawn more people to the hobby.

"It's got a lot of people interested," Mr Spangler said.

Gold prices soared to new heights this year, peaking in January at almost $8,000 per troy ounce (or 31.1 grams). While the price has since dropped, it is still sitting favourably at $5,700 per troy ounce.

The nugget has been affectionately

named the "Tibooburra Spud" by the prospector who found it. (ABC Broken Hill: Kristina Rosengren)

Beyond the chance of an instant boost to your retirement fund, Mr Spangler said there were other benefits to the hobby, including exercise, fresh air and a bit of quiet.

"You get up in the morning, you're the first one to see the sunrise … it's very peaceful," he said.

"Just another pastime you can involve the whole family in."

More gold in Tibooburra

Gold prospecting around Tibooburra, which dates back to the late 1880s, is a major drawcard for many tourists.

Today, fossicking on the Tibooburra Common, an area surrounding the remote township, is currently banned while Native Title permissions are being pursued.

But at least two stations in the region, Mount Stuart and Gumvale, allow fossicking for a fee.

The lucky prospector found his $150,000 nugget with the Gold Monster 2000. (ABC Broken Hill: Kristina Rosengren)

And Mr Spangler said for anyone looking to have a go, there could be plenty more gold to be found.

"[It could] keep going forever and ever, because every time it rains, other people find gold where they didn't before," he said.

As for the prospector, he has just one tip for would-be fossickers: "Just keep walking, keep swinging [and] keep digging every target."



Club Apparel



Brushed Heavy Sports Twill Hat - 4250

$20.00
Ex. GST



Acrylic Beanie - Toque - 4243

$20.00
Ex. GST



EUREKA MENS POLOS - 1304

$38.50
Ex. GST



Brushed Cotton Cap - 4199

$20.00
Ex. GST



Mens Heavy Weight Fleece - PF380

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Ex. GST

For Club Clothing order online

https://shop.fullypromoted.com.au/TheVictorianSeekersClubInc



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.

Membership Report

Membership Report as at the end of

October 2026

Please welcome new members

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

Postal:
PO Box 15
Mt Waverley BC Vic 3149

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"



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
  Point is located outside caravan park
- Harcourt Public Dump Point 6 Bridge St., Harcourt, Grid Ref. 36:59:40.3S, 144:15:45.3E
- 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 https://www.bugu.org.au/

Support the group that is protecting your rights to enjoy the bush - The BUGU - and buy a car sticker from Eric for only $2. Also attend the protest rallies that show other that we care about access to the bush. Get them from Eric Grummett.