

## From the Committee

Hepburn Shire is developing a positive aging strategy and you have an opportunity to contribute.

Just Google “Participate Hepburn Positive Aging”, read the policy and fill in the questions to have a say.

### New meditation course

**Commencing Thursday, 14 July, 10.00am to 11.30am, at the Neighbourhood Centre**

This course not only includes an introduction (in theory and practice) to some of the many types of meditative techniques but also will help participants to create and develop their own personal meditative style. Those who wish to will also have the opportunity to practice meditation facilitation. The tutor, Kevan Pitcher, is a retired psychologist. Participants are limited to 15 so register early to make sure you get a place. You will be seated during the session.

### Elvis the Movie

**Movie Lunch, 14 July at Regent Ballarat**



The Cannes Film Festival has confirmed that Australian director Baz Luhrmann’s biopic Elvis has been selected for its 75th edition, running May 17-28. “In addition

to Baz Luhrmann and Tom Hanks, the Festival de Cannes is also delighted to welcome Austin Butler and Olivia DeJonge as Elvis and Priscilla Presley,” the festival said in a statement.

Bill has organised a movie lunch for U3A. It will be a boxed lunch as the Regent are experiencing staff shortages which prevent a return to the High Teas at

the moment. Movie and Lunch are \$23. Your lunch box contains, 5 points of sandwiches, 3 small slices, fruit, chocolate, bottle of water. The limit for the Movie is 50.

However, Bill has arranged that we take over the café for an hour prior to the movie for socialising. Between 11:00 am and 12:00 noon, the café is ours then the movie starts at 12:15, finishing at about 2.50 pm. You can buy a coffee or a snack and mingle prior to the movie. Pre-lunch snacks and coffee are not included in the price. As this is the first time this arrangement has been made we would appreciate your support; other community groups would be able to follow our lead if it is a success.

The café only holds 40 so the first 40 to book will be those who can attend. When you register you can indicate if it is just for the movie or the movie and pre-movie get together.

We intend to invite Probus to join us at their next meeting on 7 June so get in quick.

### New Residents Meeting

Are you new to Creswick? Saturday, 30 July is the next New Residents Meeting. Come along and meet other groups, Hepburn Shire councillors, CFA, Police, SES, Parks Victoria and the Bendigo Bank reps and gain information on Creswick. Full details will be in the CDN.

If you are new it is a very good learning curve and a reinforcement of the wise decision to move here.

### Extension of vaccine requirement

The committee have decided that due to the high case numbers in the region the requirement to be at least double vaccinated to attend our groups (unless you have a valid exemption) will be extended to 30 June. Depending on the situation at the time this may be further extended if, in the view of the committee, it is warranted. The safety of our members is of paramount importance to us.

**Diary Date: Seniors week free travel dates 2 – 9 October.**

## Millie Gertrude Peacock

Lady Peacock (née Holden; 3 August 1870 – 7 February 1948), was the first woman elected to the Parliament of Victoria. She was the wife of Sir Alexander Peacock, a three-time Premier of Victoria. Upon his death in 1933, Lady Peacock won the by-election to replace him in parliament. She served only a single term, retiring at the 1935 state election.

Millie Gertrude Holden was born in East Framlingham, Victoria, to Marianne (née Arnold) and John Bryson Holden, the second of two daughters born from the marriage.

Her parents were both born in Ireland. Her father, originally from County Antrim, had arrived in Victoria in 1855, and became a successful land agent and auctioneer in Port Fairy. Her mother died when she was a few months old, and her father married Millie's



maternal aunt Jane Ellen Arnold. Millie was given eight half-brothers and half-sisters from this union, and Jane was referred to as her mother throughout her life.

Holden attended Methodist Ladies' College, Melbourne. She was first introduced to politician Alexander Peacock in 1899, when her family hosted members of the Australian Natives' Association during a conference. They married on 1 January 1901, when she was 30 and he was 38. After her husband's knighthood the following year she was known as "Lady Peacock".

Lady Peacock was the President of the Creswick Red Cross from 1914–1918, and a member of the Ladies Benevolent Society, Children's Welfare

Association, and Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind Auxiliary.

The Peacocks did not have any children. They appear to have stayed close to Millie's family, especially Millie's only full sibling Agnes (Nellie) and her husband, solicitor Charles Jonas Horsfall. When Sir Alexander Peacock died on 7 October 1933, Charles was named an executor of his will.

Following Sir Alexander Peacock's death in 1933, Robert Menzies encouraged Lady Peacock to stand in the by-election for her husband's seat of Allandale. She did so reluctantly and, because she

was mourning her husband's death, made no speeches. She was elected and sworn in as the first woman member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly on 21 November 1933.

Lady Peacock only gave one speech in parliament, on the third reading of the Factories

Act Bill. She spoke on her husband's role in forming the bill.

She retired from politics at the end of her term in 1935, saying that, "Parliament is no place for a woman."

Lady Peacock continued her community work at Creswick. She died in 1948, and is buried next to her husband.

***At their dinner on Friday 20 May the Creswick Historical Society added Lady Millie Peacock to their Honour Roll; she joins her husband Sir Alexander Peacock.***

## Lionel Lindsay : Creswick now at Ballarat Art Gallery



Old Miners Creswick Creek, Lionel Lindsay

The children of Creswick doctor Robert Lindsay and his wife Jane were all talented drawers, and five of them developed their skills to become professional artists. Lionel, the third oldest, excelled in drawing and printmaking and was also an outstanding watercolourist, having trained as a young man in Creswick with visiting English artist Miller Marshall and later with Australian Impressionist Walter Withers.

His early training is evident in a remarkable series of scenes of Creswick which he painted while refining his craft. They include views of gold mining as well as scenes of the romantic and desolate mansion The Ferns.

**7 May– 25 September 2022, 10:00 am–5:00 pm daily**



11-24

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"That should clear the rug."

### LOCAL HISTORY

From *The Argus*, Monday 10 January 1944, p3. Source: Trove

## Clunes hospital and 18 homes destroyed in fire

### No lives lost; many homeless

By a Special Reporter

CLUNES, Sun: Eighteen houses and a public hospital, large number of Stock, and a quantity of fodder and timber were destroyed in Clunes and districts yesterday in a big bush and grass fire which raged over 10,000 acres, sweeping 12 miles from Mount Cameron, at East Talbot, to Clunes in 2½ hours.

More than 25 persons have been left homeless. No persons lost their lives, but several firefighters and residents were burned, one so seriously injured that he was admitted to Creswick Hospital in a critical condition. He is Richard Jenkins, 68, of Leslie St, North Clunes who suffered burns to face and arms and shock in a lone attempt to save his home.

All of the 12 patients in hospital, which was in the path of the outbreak as it swept through and wiped out most of North Clunes, were evacuated when the roof of the building caught fire. They were at first taken to a casualty Station arranged at the to a casualty Station arranged at the Town Hall, and those most ill were taken to Creswick and Ballarat



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Base Hospitals. Those suffering from minor complaints were accommodated at Clunes Hostel.

Total damage by the fire has been conservatively estimated at £100,000, and, except that no lives were lost, it was the most disastrous in the State for 5 years. About 7,000 sheep were destroyed and hundreds of cattle and horses which had been injured or blinded had to be shot today.

Of the 18 houses destroyed 15 were in one area in the township north of Clunes, the others being in scattered areas over which the fire raged.

It is thought that the fire started at a sawmill at Red Lion, at the base of Mount Cameron, when a spark from the backfire of an engine ignited some timber shavings. Fanned by a hot wind, the outbreak quickly got out of hand and, with amazing speed, raced through Talbot State Forest, Glengower, Lord Clyde, Ullina, Tourella, Maryfield, Lawrence, Koorocheang, Majorca, and Clunes.

The fire reached Clunes township shortly before 3pm. Clunes is divided by Creswick Creek, and the flames raced down the northern bank, destroying homes on that side of the creek. Blazing pine trees formed a wall of flame that rose to 100 feet, and, because of the intense heat, firefighters could not get within a quarter of a mile of the flames.

### **Saving main part of town**

As there was no chance of saving homes north of the creek, firefighters concentrated on saving the main portion of the town, and a large force beat out flames as they crossed the creek. The hospital was on the top of a hill at the far end of the northern section of the town.

Water in the creek was being so strongly pumped to save burning homes that when the flames ignited the hospital roof water pressure was not sufficient to reach the outbreak there.

After having been diverted by fire-fighters the flames continued on the outskirts of the town toward Creswick. At 7pm the wind suddenly changed to the south, temporarily halting the flames. Then fresh winds from the NE set the fire racing again, this time to Glengower district.

By this time the firefighting force had grown to more than 2,000, including airmen, soldiers, and firemen from Creswick, Ballarat, Bendigo, and country and bush fire brigades, and before 10pm the outbreak had been completely quelled. While the fire raged at its height RAAF planes, flying over the area, sent radio messages to Ballarat and to a mobile

police communication van warning of danger spots. Cars were then sent to evacuate residents from their homes.

### **Wind change saved Creswick**

Planes first began spotting as the flames struck Clunes on a 14-mile front, and continued until the fire was 3 miles north of Creswick, and a sudden change of wind saved the devastation of that township. The assistance given by plane observation was probably the reason for there being no death toll.

While the fire was raging toward Clunes firefighters concentrated on saving the scattered homesteads, but on practically every property out-buildings, hundreds of miles of fencing, stock, and fodder were destroyed.

First house destroyed was that of Martin McCarthy, at Birche's Creek, and then in quick succession went the 15 homes in North Clunes. They were owned by Mrs Cowan, 87, of Albert St; Mrs Moralee, about 70, of Flood St; Mr Allan, sen, of Flood St; Mrs Gordon, Albert St; Mrs W. Pascoe, Angus St; Mrs Oliver, 84, Angus St; Mr R. Jenkins, of Leslie St; Mrs E. Small, 80, of Leslie St; Mrs R. Lee, of Smeaton Rd. These were all occupied and none of the contents were saved.

Unoccupied houses destroyed were those of Mrs. Nolan, Albert St; Mr H. Anthony, of Albert St; Mr E. Reid, of Angus St; Miss Bluett, of Angus St; Mrs Storey, of Smeaton Rd; and Mr E. Trembath, of Smeaton Rd. Next houses to be destroyed were those of Mr A. D. Fawcett and Mr W. J. Beveridge, in Glengower district.

The 25 persons left homeless by the fire include 10 children under 9 years of age. They were given temporary shelter by relatives and friends in surrounding districts pending provision by the State Relief Committee for those left destitute. Full details of the losses suffered by station owners along the 30-mile path of the fire are not known, but thousands of acres of grass were lost by Mr C. McRae. About 5,000 acres of the property of Mr J. Fraser, Glengower, were swept practically bare of grass, and 1,000 sheep were left dead or dying. Included in Mr Buick's loss were 500 sheep destroyed. Clunes Hospital was built about 6 years ago at a cost of £7,500. Three years ago there were suggestions by the Charities Board that the hospital be closed, but local subscriptions enabled an overdraft to be reduced from £900 to £52 at a meeting last week

# To Market, To Market

Looking for something to do on the weekend? Here are markets in our area...

<p><b>Daylesford Sunday Market</b>  <b>Every Sunday</b>                  Railway Station Precinct                  Raglan Street, Daylesford                  8am – 1pm</p>	<p><b>Creswick Market</b>  <b>Every 1st &amp; 3rd Saturday</b>                  Creswick Neighborhood Centre                  Victoria Street, Creswick                  9am – 1pm</p>	<p><b>Clunes Farmers Market</b>  <b>2nd Sunday</b>                  Collins Place                  Fraser Street, Clunes                  9am – 2pm</p>
<p><b>Glenlyon Village Market</b>  <b>3rd Saturday</b>                  Glenlyon Hall                  Daylesford – Malmsbury Road,                  Glenlyon                  9am – 1pm</p>	<p><b>Leonards Hill Market</b>  <b>3rd Saturday</b>                  Leonards Hill Community Hall                  2095 Ballan-Daylesford Road,                  Leonards Hill                  9am – 2pm</p>	<p><b>Trentham Farmers Market</b>  <b>3rd Saturday</b>                  Trentham Town Square                  High Street Trentham                  9am – 1pm</p>
<p><b>Daylesford Farmers Market</b>  <b>4th Saturday</b>                  Daylesford Primary School                  102 Vincent Street Daylesford                  8:30am – 2pm</p>	<p><b>Talbot Farmers Market</b>  <b>3rd Sunday</b>                  Heritage Precinct                  Scandinavian Crescent &amp; Camp                  Street, Talbot                  9am – 1pm</p>	<p><b>Maldon Market</b>  <b>2nd Sunday</b>                  Maldon Parkland                  Fountain Street, Maldon                  9am – 1:30pm</p>
<p><b>Ballan Farmers Market</b>  <b>2nd Saturday</b>                  Mill Cottage Gardens                  96 Inglis Street, Ballan                  9am – 1pm</p>	<p><b>Castlemaine Farmers Market</b>  <b>1st Sunday</b>                  Western Reserve                  Forest and Mostyn Street,                  Castlemaine                  9am – 1pm</p>	<p><b>Kyneton Farmers Market</b>  <b>2nd Saturday</b>                  St. Pauls Park                  Piper Street, Kyneton                  8:30am – 1pm</p>

