

From the Committee

When you receive this newsletter most of you will have resumed your activities and we sincerely hope you find your membership fulfilling. We are so lucky to have such dedicated tutors giving freely of their time and knowledge.

New equipment on the way

Two of our activities, Croquet and Table Tennis, were very much in need of some new equipment as their current equipment is showing its age. To assist with the purchase of this equipment a QR Grant application was made to Hepburn Shire Council towards the end of last year.

This month we received advice that the grant had been approved so we have gone ahead and ordered new Croquet mallets and hoops and a Table Tennis Table.



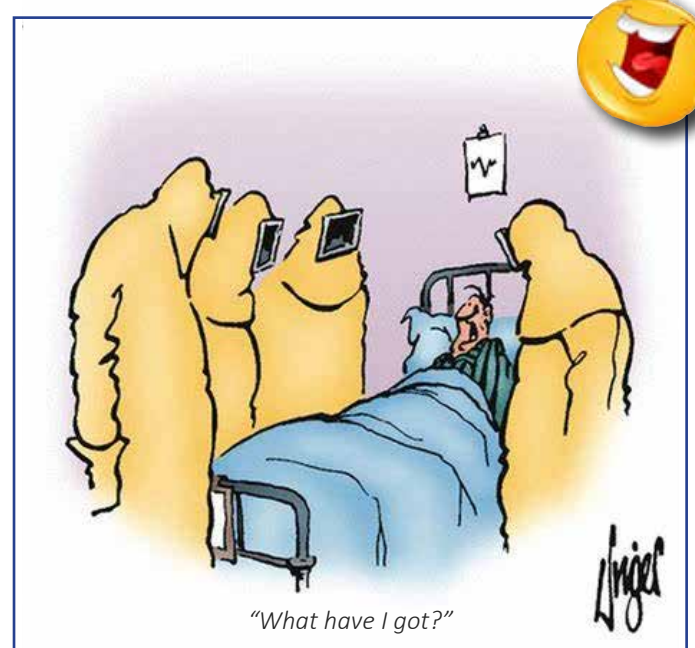
The Croquet equipment is due to be delivered later this week and the Table Tennis Table should be in place for use later in the month.

Some very happy croquet and table tennis players!

We thank Anne for submitting and following up on the successful application.

Notes for your calendar

- Labour Day long weekend is 9, 10 and 11 March, Good Friday is 29 March and daylight saving finishes on 7 April.
- This edition sees contributions from members Val Lawrence and Russell Bowey and we thank them both for taking the time to put pen to paper or finger to keyboard. We always welcome your input.
- Also there are two offers from Probus to join them on an excursion to the RAAF Museum at Point Cook and a trip to Norfolk Island – details inside.
- **Thursday 11 April is our 15th Birthday Lunch** at the American Hotel so keep the day clear so we can celebrate together. Full details closer to the date.



Invitations from Probus

Trip to Norfolk Island in 2025

Please note, no passports are required to visit Norfolk Island; we are covered by Australian Medicare medical emergency evacuation; and I am assured the Australian Government covers it.

I have forms to fill out for our booking, then we can pay \$250 deposit to hold it, then no more to pay until 90 days before the trip. Plenty of time to save up.

The cost of the trip includes return flights to and from Melbourne to Brisbane then Norfolk Island. (There are no direct flights from Melbourne.)

Available dates: 4-11 March 2025. Accommodation is a the Governors Lodge in twin-share cabins.



Experiences and excursions include:

- Welcome Dinner
- Progressive Dinner
- Fish Fry Dinner
- Convict Settlement bus tour
- Glass bottom boat trip
- Island life tour
- Cyclorama & Devonshire Tea
- 5-day car hire – 4 people per car.

The cost will be \$3,125.00 per person twin share in one-bedroom cabins.

For one person in a one-bedroom cabin the cost will be \$4,085.00.

Expressions of interest in the Norfolk Island trip can be emailed to info@creswicku3a.com



Bus Trip to Point Cook RAAF Museum with flying display

Thurs March 14, 2024

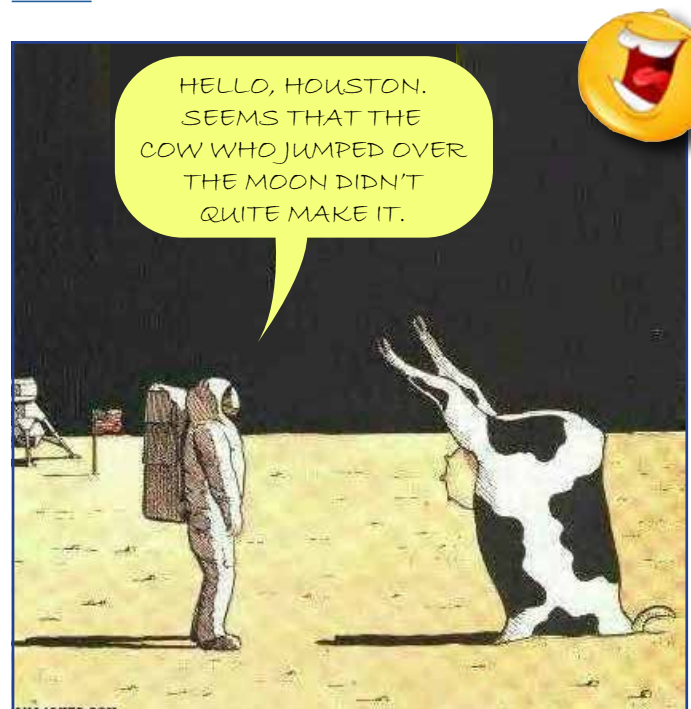
This trip is arranged by Andrew Prime who volunteers at the museum. He will conduct the tour and commentary.

As this is a working RAAF Base with high security, we are very lucky to have the opportunity to visit, and the flying display should be very exciting.

Cost of \$36 covers bus and morning tea for 30 people. Price comes down if more people attend. 9am pick up to be advised. BYO picnic lunch. Payment is due by 26 February.

There is sure to be a lot of interest in this activity so get your name down quickly.

'Enrolments' for the trip to Point Cook are available [online](#).



William Anderson



William Anderson (23 December 1853 – 3 May 1898), was a politician in colonial Victoria, member of the Victorian Legislative assembly for Creswick, and later Windermere. He was also the fourth Chief President of the Australian Natives' Association.

Anderson was born in Dean near Creswick, his father, James Anderson, was born in Cumnock, Scotland and was a partner in the business of Anderson Brothers, with saw-milling, landed and mining interests, which William Anderson inherited.

He was educated to secondary level at Ballarat College. He married Helen Glover Naples on 23 March 1882; they had eight children.

The eldest, Albert Naples Anderson, was killed in action with the 8th Light Horse in Egypt in April 1917 after being wounded, repatriated, and returned to the conflict.

A second son (one of twins) was William Wallace Anderson (20 January 1888 – 7 October 1975), known as Wallace Anderson or W. Wallace Anderson, art teacher and sculptor, known for memorials at the Australian War Memorial and elsewhere.

By the 1880s he was taking a prominent role in community organisations in the Creswick and Ballarat area, serving as vice-president of the Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society and later as the Western District representative on the Board of Public Health.

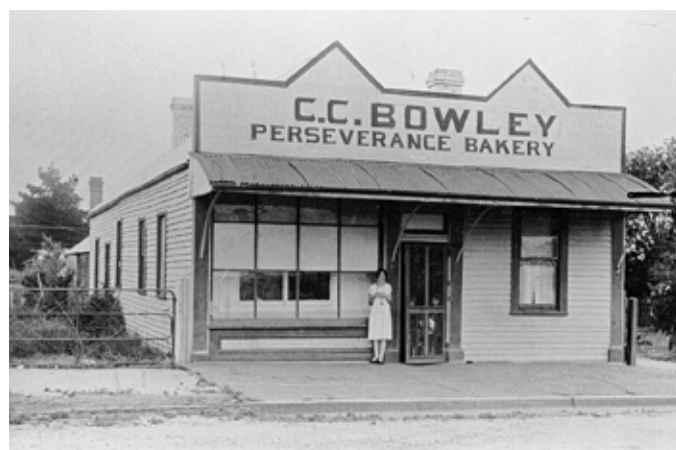
Anderson was president of the Bungaree Shire Council in 1883-1886 and again in 1896-1897. In 1886 he was elected as Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for the electorate of Creswick, losing this seat in 1889. In 1894 he became MLA for Windermere, and held that seat until his untimely death in 1898. He was remembered as one of the most popular members of the House, who was 'always listened to with attention... when he rose to speak on matters pertaining to farming and mining.'

William Anderson was a founding member of the Creswick No. 11 branch of the Australian Natives' Association (ANA) in 1880, and was elected its first president. In 1882 he served as Chief President of the association. The branch was very active and hosted the 1884 Annual Conference. He was active in promoting new branches, achieving five new branches in 1882. But perhaps his most valuable contribution to the ANA was to persuade Alex Peacock to join the Creswick branch.

Anderson died on 3 May 1898 after a short illness: erysipelas of the head. He left a widow and eight children, the eldest being only 10 years old.

Source Wikipedia

A letter from Val Lawrence solves the mystery posed in our last newsletter



There would be many people still alive who remember Bowley's bakery on the site of the current Davies & Rose Hardware. Not so many would know that the young girl standing outside was an employee – Martha Alice Gurr, better known as 'Wardie', who married plumber, Fred James, hence Wardie James – mother of Enid, Mrs. Doug Blake; Ivie – Mrs. John Blake and Coral – Mrs. Ken Labbett.

Wardie's mother Martha, was one of the many Ward family members in Creswick, hence the 'tag'. She married Richard Gurr. They moved to W.A. Their daughter, who contracted polio, came back to Creswick to be raised by her aunt – Mrs. Mary Gurr (nee Ward) who lived in the house on the South West corner of Cambridge and Victoria Streets. Enough!

Val Lawrence.

In Memory of the Bad Old Days – or An Old Pirate’s Lament

Where do old pirates go to die? An elephant instinctively knows to seek out a graveyard. I would like my ashes scattered across somewhere more watery – the seven seas, in Davy Jones’ Locker. But let me share some of my story with you.

My name is Captain ‘Greybeard’. You are more likely to have heard of my fearsome forebears ‘Blackbeard’ and ‘Redbeard’, and the fictional ‘Captain Jack Sparrow’ and perhaps ‘The Dread Pirate Roberts’. Even Gilbert & Sullivan wrote an operetta about us. But I fear my seafaring life is coming to its conclusion, as my swashbuckling days are now a lot less swash and a lot more buckling.

My ship, the ‘The Nomad’s Revenge’, and my motley crew prey on small cruise ships filled with wealthy retirees – very soft targets. I hardly have to fire a cannon in anger for the cruise ships to stop and allow themselves to be boarded. Unfortunately, the passengers lately are more interested in taking ‘selfies’ with myself and the more ferocious members of my crew, than handing over their money and jewellery.

I should take this opportunity to strenuously deny the malicious rumours being circulated that I have an agreement with the cruise companies to provide ‘entertainment’ for their passengers.

My mind often reminisces about the bad old days, but the world has changed. I am grateful I don’t have to fire my cannons. There is only one company that still manufactures cannon balls and, with such a monopoly, they charge an arm and a leg for them. No wonder there are so many one-legged pirates!

And don’t get me started about the cost of insurance for my vessel, and worker’s compensation for my crew! The crew are even suggesting they want to join PU – the pirate’s union. Next, they will be demanding that I become an equal-opportunity employer – with 50% of my crew female! Whoever heard of a female pirate?

Last year the maritime authorities deemed my plank ‘non-compliant with OH&S regulations’, and ‘walking the plank’ as ‘discriminating against wheelchair users’. So, at great expense, I have had to have a new, wider plank installed, complete with compliant handrails and fitted with two lifebuoy rings, which

really defeats the entire purpose of the plank!

I also recently received a solicitor’s letter, acting on behalf of a Swiss company, that has copyrighted the Jolly Roger flag! If I want to continue to fly my skull and crossbones, then I will have to pay a royalty. And Switzerland is land-locked so doesn’t even have a coastline!



Who is the real pirate here?

I was looking forward to a quiet retirement, living in luxury using the proceeds of my ill-gotten plundering. Unfortunately, my memory, once sharp as a cutlass, isn’t like it used to be, and I can’t recall where I buried all the chests full of cash and jewels, and some of the islands are now completely under water. I also was reluctant to draw maps because I couldn’t trust the murdering thieves and cutthroats who sailed with me.

So, fame has eluded me, and fortune has been lost forever. But at least I can take many wonderful experiences with me when I sail beyond the horizon to my next big adventure.

Russell Bowey

U3A Membership Policy

When a member pays the required membership subscriptions they become a member of Creswick & District U3A and must follow the Terms and Conditions of membership. Listed below are some of these conditions. The complete list of Conditions and Policies is available on the [website](#).

1. Always act in the best interests of the U3A and never do anything to bring the U3A into disrepute.
2. Abide by the terms and conditions of the constitution.
3. Treat fellow members with respect and courtesy at all times.
4. Comply with and support the decisions of the elected Committee.