

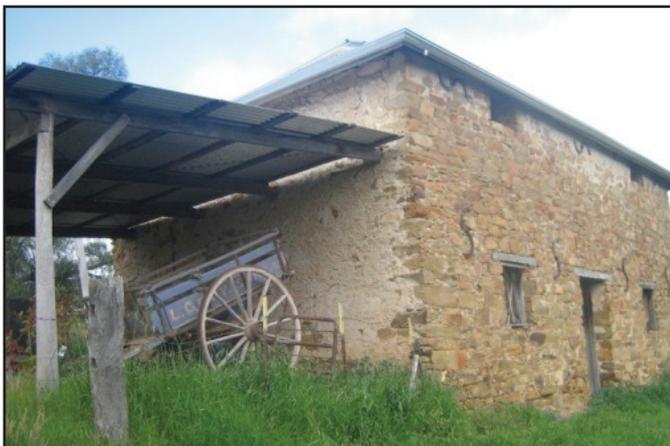
The Chronicle

OCTOBER 2025

• Keeping our communities informed •

Yandoit's Stone Houses Tour

- part of the 2025 Swiss Italian Festa



Sun • 26 October • 1.30 – 3.30pm

Last year's stone houses tour of Yandoit, as part of the Swiss Italian Festa, was a sell-out. This year we will focus in more depth visiting three local stone houses in Yandoit and Yandoit Hills. We'll learn more about their history, coupled with stories of the families who built the houses and their daily lives.

Our tour will be guided by John Combes, descendant of the original Gervasonis who settled in Yandoit Hills in the 1850's.

Transport: We will gather at Yandoit Cultural and then travel in convoy to the stone houses via community buses, plus a few cars.

Bookings Essential: Cost and booking links coming soon via www.yandoitcultural.org and www.swissitalianfesta.com.

Upcoming Local Markets

NEWSTEAD CFA Community Market
Saturday 15th November • 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

CLYDESDALE Community Market
Sunday 7th December • 10:00 am to 2.00 pm

To register a stall at Clydesdale
pls txt Liz: 0414 525 074



Franklinford Fire Brigade Ladies Committee - AGM

Franklinford Fire Brigade Ladies Committee will be holding their AGM on **Wednesday 8th Oct 2025; 2pm** at the Yandoit station meeting room.

Afternoon tea to follow.

All very welcome.

0407740619 Rhonda Muller
0427764237 Anne Richards

Wednesday 8th October • 2pm

Are You Fire Ready?

This year the CFA is encouraging Fire Brigades to host an **Are You Fire Ready** day for it's local community before the fire season is upon us.

The Franklinford Brigade will be opening up the Yandoit Station on **Sunday the 19th October from 10:00am-12:00pm** for the community to visit for advice and obtain information packs. It would be great if you could call in for a catch up, a cuppa and discuss any concerns you may have.

BURN OFFS

If planning to complete any burning off please register it by calling **1800 668 511** or online at: www.firepermits.vic.gov.au/

Doing so can prevent unnecessary fire brigade response.



Sunday 19th October • 10am-12pm

Chronicle Contributions: We welcome any and all contributions. The next Chronicle newsletter is scheduled for Jan/Feb 2026. Please send any contributions to e: Chronicle3461@gmail.com

Thanks to the following contributors for this October issue:

Nikki Marshall, Jill Williams, Anne Richards, Dan Richards, Katie Minchinton, Gendrie Klein-Breteler, Liz Butler, Kell Wooster

Yandoit Cultural

Here's what's coming up at Yandoit Cultural over the next couple of months:

Sun • 5 October • 5 pm

Kinship - Songs that Speak to the Soul

Sarah, Kim and Clare will delight us with their live performance, blending lush harmonies, acoustic melodies and heartfelt voices.



Kinship assembled around 2 years ago. All three women have been singing in different capacities for many years. They focus on harmonies.

Suggested donation: \$20.00 cash at the door (to support musicians and Yandoit's community cultural centre)

For more information and bookings:

www.yandoitcultural.org/

Sun • 14 December • 4 pm

Pluck - Plucked Strings from Around the World

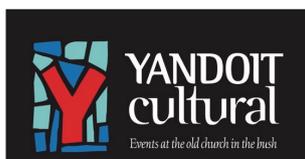
What began as three guitarist-friends sharing with each other the music that inspires them, grew into a joyous exploration of the wonderfully varied musics for plucked strings from around the globe including mandolin, guitar and bass.

Hailing from diverse musical backgrounds, their members unite around a shared love of new horizons, improvised mischief and the well placed musical dad-joke. Expect the unexpected – anything from choro to Czardas de Monti, from bluegrass to bulerías.

Sun • 21 December • 7 pm

Christmas Carols with Castlemaine Peace Choir

A joint venture between Yandoit Cultural, Yandoit Sacred and the Castlemaine Peace Choir.



MORE EVENTS: Discover a wide range of events in Yandoit and surrounds - from yoga to festivals, concerts, gigs to sports, and so much more. So many activities and free events. Find what's on, visit:

www.humanitix.com/au/events/australia/yandoit

Yandoit Sacred



Over the next period of time, Yandoit Sacred will undertake a series of explorations into different wisdom traditions/sacred practices within and beyond our group. We will contemplate some of the following questions:

- How do the different traditions/practices/rituals offer healing into the crises of our time?
- What are the intersections and unifying principles between the different wisdom traditions/sacred practices?
- How do each of the traditions/practices help us tune into the sacred that is forever present?

Some of these traditions/practices include: Zen Buddhism; meditation; earth as mother/feminine; song poetry and dance; the Christ spirit; and more ...

At our next Yandoit Sacred gathering on **Friday October 3rd at 5.30pm**, together we will share what path/s each of us find helpful in tuning into the sacred in our lives. This discussion will assist us to determine where and how we start our Into the Sacred exploration over forthcoming gatherings.

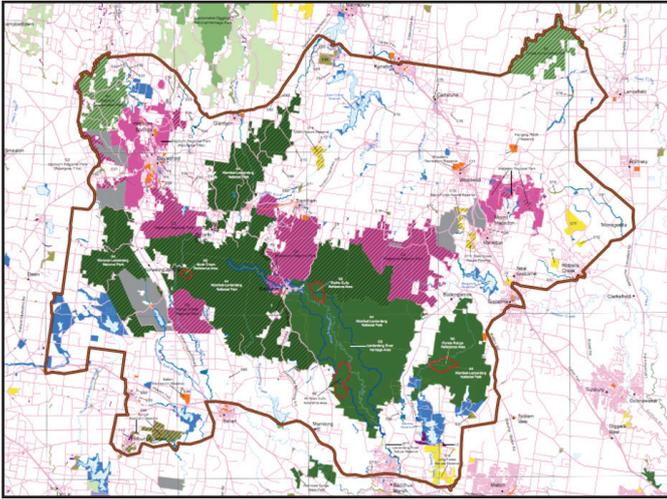
If you'd like to participate in Yandoit Sacred, subscribe via Yandoit Cultural's web page, to receive updates and reminders (www.yandoitcultural.org) OR contact Nikki (0432 232 073) or Alison (0415 555 081)



Frog and yellow (flowering) time

September-mid-November – as the weather warms, the peak flowering season for many wildflowers begins. Frosts and rainy days are still common, this is according to the Dja Dja Wurrung seasonal calendar. We have certainly welcomed the explosion of Wattles brightening up the bush after what seemed to be a long dry and dusty spell. And recent rains have heralded the Banjo frogs, having their own jamboree.

The presence of frogs is a sure sign of a healthy ecosystem, to encourage and foster frog life in your area, water bodies should have logs, branches or rocks for habitat, plant species growing around the edges for places to lay eggs and refuge from predators. Consider planting some of the local Carex species, including Tall Sedge (Carex appressa) and Rush Sedge (Carex tereticaulis). Just not too close to your bedroom window unless you want your own backyard Banjo Jamboree.



Wombat Forestcare

The Wombat Forestcare group has campaigned for over 14 years to achieve National Park protection for the Wombat State Forest – soon to be a National Park, and finally there has been real progress.

A Bill has been tabled in the Victorian Parliament to create three new national parks - Wombat-Lerderderg, Mount Buangor (part of Mt Cole) and Pyrenees National Parks. There will also be two conservation parks (established under the National Parks Act) - Hepburn and Cobaw Conservation Parks.

The Bill will be debated in October and then needs to go to the Legislative Council, where it is assumed that it will pass with the support of the Greens and Animal Justice.

It is understood that legislation to create the regional parks and bushland reserves will be included with legislation for the new Public Land Act.

The map above shows the new parks:

Dark Green is the existing Lerderderg State Park and will be added to the Wombat-Lerderderg National Park

Dark Green hatched is the Wombat Forest addition to the Wombat-Lerderderg National Park - except the dark green area west of the Ballan Road will be a regional park, not part of the national park.

Pink hatched are new regional parks

Mid-green hatched are the two new conservation parks (Hepburn and Cobaw)

Grey is the pine plantations.

Gayle Osborne, Wombat Forestcare
e: info@wombatforestcare.org.au

REMINDER - Newsletter Distribution:

We are gradually reducing the number of printed copies, reducing emissions and saving trees. For those who prefer to continue with a paper copy please advise (for those that haven't as yet) by tel. to: 0414 525 074.

A number of 'Distribution Stations' are being considered for future paper copies. This will mean: Simply drive by, wind down window, and collect your copy from the box! :) Stay tuned!



Guildford Upper Loddon Landcare

We've been busy planting trees...on National tree day 13 members planted close to 200 native seedlings along Kennedy's Gully in Guildford. Earlier this month another 17 members planted 300 trees along a creek – riparian corridor in Limestone Rd Yandoit.

We finished both days satisfied with our contribution to the land and with a barbeque lunch prepared by the Guildford Progress Association.

If you'd like to join or learn more about Landcare, contact Gendrie (President) on 0428 732 561.



YGA - Yandoit Gardening Amigos

Yandoit's Gardening Amigos (YGA) group continues with their monthly, casual visits to member's, and/or local resident's gardens who are simply happy to share their landscaping/gardening experience with the group.

The garden visits are a great way to not only meet your neighbours, but also to learn about the differences in soils, plants, and environmental challenges for all gardeners in Yandoit and surrounds. We have members from Yandoit, Hepburn, Clydesdale, Yapeen and Castlemaine. It is a great way to meet local people passionate about their garden and environment. All Welcome. To join: contact Liz on 0414 525 074.

A fun way to celebrate the unique natural wonders of our fauna and flora whilst increasing awareness of the biodiversity. Become a Citizen Scientist.

Three upcoming Citizen Scientist Annual events:

The Great Southern Bioblitz (GSB): 24th-27th October 2025



The Great Southern BioBlitz is an opportunity for all Southern Hemisphere countries to record organisms during Spring and showcase our beautiful biodiversity to the world. The event is run by a grassroots network of keen citizen scientists from across the globe.

All who have an interest in conserving Nature are invited to participate by taking observations/photos of plants, insects, animals (not domestic) and uploading them onto the iNaturalist platform – to be included in the Castlemaine Field Naturalists Club (CFNC) Mt. Alexander/East Hepburn Shire project.

1

More information at: www.castlemainefieldnaturalists.org.au/great-southern-bioblitz/

Great Southern Bioblitz: 24–27 OCTOBER 2025

The Annual FrogID Week

Friday 7 November to Sunday 16 November 2025!

2



Frogs play a crucial role in maintaining healthy ecosystems. As environmental indicators, they provide early warnings about changes in environmental health.

FrogID Week is Australia's biggest frog count. Held annually, it's when anyone with a smartphone can help record frog calls through the free FrogID app, and help scientists better understand frogs and environmental health around the country.

From croaks and barks, to whistles and bleats, every frog species makes a unique sound.

Using the free FrogID app, you can record the frogs calling around you and help them count Australia's frogs.

www.frogid.net.au/about-frogid

Annual FrogID Week: 7–16 NOVEMBER 2025



Aussie Bird Count - Join Australia's biggest citizen-science event from 20-26 October.

Today, almost 1 in 6 Australian birds are threatened with extinction. Our birds are facing growing threats like climate change, fire, habitat loss and predation by introduced species.

The Aussie Bird Count is for all ages and involves observing and counting the birds that live near you, be it in your garden, the local park, the beach or even outside your office window! You don't need to be an expert birder to take part – all you need is a little enthusiasm!

With just 20 minutes, you can help build a picture of how our feathered friends are faring and contribute to something that really counts.

3

www.birdlife.org.au

Aussie Bird Count: 20–26 OCTOBER 2025