

February, 2014

Volume 11, Issue 2



# Maroondah Message

## Dates to Remember

- **March 3-** Meeting at Federation Estate
- **March 6** - Walk at Lilydale Lake
- **March 6**—Dinner at Dorset Gardens Hotel
- **March 18** - Lunch at Mr Fox, Ringwood Golf Club
- **March 20** -Walk at Croydon
- **March 26** - Tenpin Bowling at Chirnside Park
- **March 27**—Coffee at Café Zukka
- **April 4**—Picnic at Rhododendron Gardens, Olinda
- **April 8** —Morning Melodies—Seekers' Songbook

## Coffee Shop

Don't forget our regular fourth Thursday coffee event at Café Zukka, at 2.00p.m. in Eastland, near the stage at the rear of Myer. No need to book, just come along for a friendly coffee, chat and perhaps a cake. Members and friends welcome.

Thursday, March 27

## FEBRUARY MEETING

The speaker at our February meeting was Brian O'Halloran, a volunteer guide with the Royal Botanic Gardens, whose talk was most informative., presenting a historical perspective on many of the features of the gardens. He discussed the first director of the gardens, Ferdinand von Mueller, who created the National Herbarium of Victoria and his successor William Guilfoyle who changed the style of the gardens to reflect that of other picturesque gardens of the time. Brian's talk was accompanied by a series of slides demonstrating the diverse variety of plants in the gardens and showing other significant features such as Guilfoyle's volcano and the Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden. His enthusiasm for the Gardens should rekindle our interest and, no doubt, for some will encourage us to revisit them..

It was great to see so many members at our new venue and to observe how quickly they adapted to their new surroundings.



Many thanks to those people who so willingly helped with tasks such as moving tables and chairs and clearing away cups and saucers. As observed previously—many hands make light work.

## NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, March 3, at Federation Estate. The speakers will be David and Shirley Williams of Wildwood Studios. Their topic will be 'small towns with big stories'. They will bring along some of their products, such as greeting cards, for those who wish to buy.

**Solution to last month's puzzle**  
**The Sum of Two Square Numbers**

The numbers are 23 and 24.

***This month's puzzle***

Rearrange the following eleven letters to make just one word:

TSUDOOJWERN

**WALKING GROUP**

**Please note that, from December until late autumn, walks will commence at 9:00 a.m.**

**Thursday, March 6— Lilydale Lake** Meet in the car part off Swansea Road, Melways Ref. 38G7

**Thursday, March 20 — Croydon - along the Taralla Creek Track at Croydon.** Park at Eastfield Shopping Centre, Cr. Bayswater and Eastfield Roads (Melways 50G7). We walk along the Taralla Creek Track through to Croydon Main Street, for a coffee break at one of the many cafes, before returning along the trail to our cars.

**Short version**—park at the end of Lusher Road and join the walk as it comes past (approx. 10-15 minutes later).

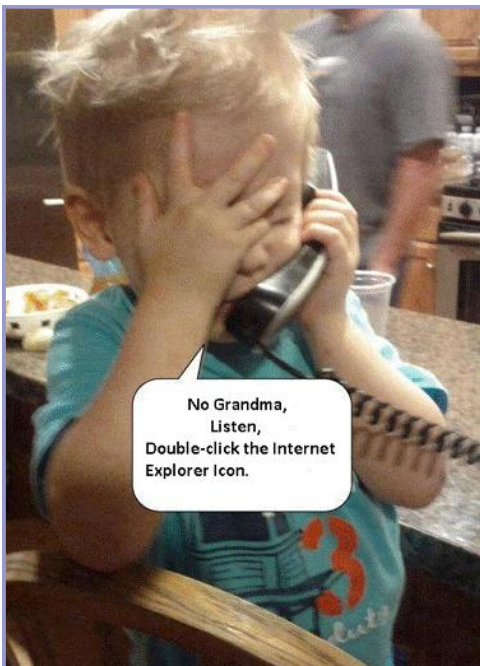
**If there is heavy rain or the temperature at 9:00 am is over 25°C (in summer) the walk will be cancelled and we will meet at Myer Cafeteria for coffee at 9:30 am.**



**Yarra Bend Park Walk—Kew**

Further to the announcement of this in the December 2013 Newsletter, the walk will now be held on a Sunday (not Mothers' Day) in May, commencing at 10:00 a.m. from Kane's Bridge. More details about this walk will be published later.

**Please contact Mel 9870 1597 for more details about any of the walks.**



No Grandma,  
Listen,  
Double-click the Internet  
Explorer Icon.

**MORNING MELODIES**

Don't forget that payment of \$18.50 for the April 8 Morning Melodies, *The Seekers' Songbook*, is due at the March Meeting.

**TRADING TABLE**

Please keep your donations to the trading table coming in. Particularly popular are recent paperback novels and your excess garden produce such as rhubarb, parsley, lemons and silver beet.

Money raised by the trading table is used at the discrimination of the committee. Last year's Christmas lunch was subsidised to the amount of \$8 per member using trading table revenue. Speakers from groups such as Red Cross and Royal Botanic Gardens sometimes request a donation in the vicinity of \$50 to their group and this is another way in which trading table proceeds are spent. So, as you can see, the money all goes to good causes.

## *Dine-Outs Coming Up*

**Lunch: Tuesday, March 18—12.30p.m.**  
**Mr Fox** at Ringwood Golf Club, 352 Canterbury Road. They offer a two-course 'express lunch' including a glass of wine or soft drink for \$28, or you can order from the regular menu.

**Dinner: Thursday, March 6—7:00p.m.** Dorset Gardens Hotel, Dorset Road, Croydon




### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

If you need to cancel a booking that you have made for a dine-out, please contact Trish Nixon on **9725-5883**.

For **breakfast, afternoon tea** and **bowling** cancellations please call Judith Griffith on **9726 5494**.

Also, don't forget to bring along enough to pay for your share of the bill as credit card payments are not permitted.



### **COACH TRIP TO CRANBOURNE BOTANIC GARDENS**

Planning is underway for a coach trip to Cranbourne Botanic Gardens on Thursday, May 8. This will be a whole day trip with lunch included. The anticipated cost for the trip is between \$51 and \$57, depending on the number of participants. More information will be available at the March meeting.

### **TENPIN BOWLING**

Come along for some fun, bowling and coffee with cake. The next scheduled session is at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26. Book online or phone Judith on **9726 5494**.



### **PICNIC AT OLINDA**

**Date:** Friday, April 4

**Location:** National Rhododendron Gardens, Olinda

A picnic to the National Rhododendron Gardens at Olinda has been planned. As our visit last year was in less than favourable conditions weather-wise, this will allow more time to explore the gardens at leisure and appreciate all their features. Car pooling will be available and we will depart from Sofia's car park in Maroondah Highway, Croydon at 10:00 a.m.

**BYO** picnic lunch, thermos etc. or, if you prefer, partake of lunch at a local café in Olinda.

The café at the gardens is not open at this time of the year.



**MAROONDAH-RINGWOOD BRANCH**

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Croydon, Vic 3136

Contributions to the Newsletter

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Trish Nixon 9725 5883

**Secretary:**

Carol O'Brien 9722.9870

**Treasurer:**

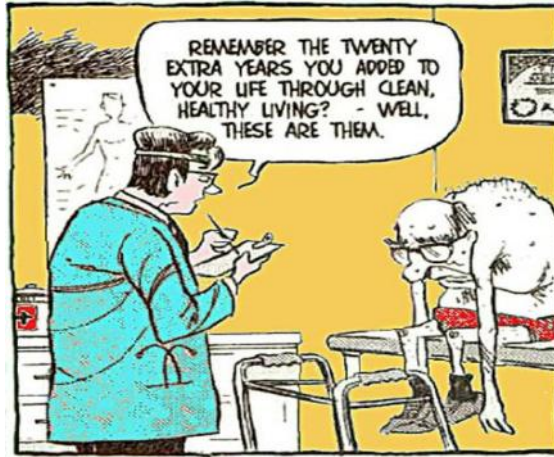
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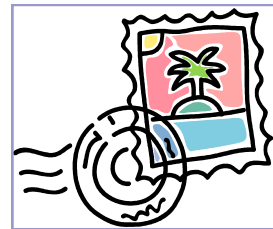


**I think there is a message here for all of us!**

**-Editor**

**POSTAGE STAMPS**

Thanks to those who have passed on their used postage stamps to Helen Fox, whose friend donates them to charity. Please keep them coming, as this is an ongoing collection.



**LUNCH AT THE MOVIES—MARCH**

Join us for the Seniors Lunch at the Movies at Hoyts Eastland. It costs \$14.50 for the cinema entry and a basket lunch. The movie starts at 10:30 followed by the lunch including tea and coffee. Meet at the theatre at 10:00 am.

**Wednesday, March 5— 12 Years a Slave**

In the pre-Civil War United States, Solomon Northup, a free black man from upstate New York, is abducted and sold into slavery. Facing cruelty at the hands of a malevolent slave owner, as well as unexpected kindnesses, Solomon struggles not only to stay alive, but to retain his dignity.

**Case:** Chiwetel Ejiofor, Brad Pitt, Sarah Paulson, Michael Fassbender



**Newsletter**

We are always on the lookout for contributions. You can send articles, jokes, news and especially pictures. Just e-mail them to me at carol.obrien6@gmail.com or hand them to me at the next meeting.



Don't forget, if you need transport to a meeting or social outing, just call a committee member.

If you know of a member who is unwell, please let us know so that we can send our best wishes. Call the President, Helen Fox on 9879 4058 or Secretary, Carol O'Brien, on 9722 9870.