

# **WYE RIVER AND SEPARATION CREEK COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER**

**October/November 2013**

**Produced & distributed by the Wye River and Separation Creek Progress Association Inc**

**AGM Sunday 19 January 2014, 10am Wye SLSC**

**Inside: Notice of Meeting (including Special Business) and form for nominating to vacancies for two officers and four Committee members. Memberships are due for renewal! Please use the renewal form at the back, and make sure we have your e-mail address**

## **President's Report**

It has been an eventful year for the Wye River & Separation Creek Progress Association (WRSCPA). Long standing Committee member and President, Joanne Tyler, resigned earlier in the year. We all thank Joanne for her contribution to the association over many years.

Due to vacancies, two new members were co-opted onto the committee; Jennifer Wood and Ian Angus, who have both contributed positively to the operation of the Committee.

Membership of the Association is still strong and growing, with around 160 paid members. Over 90% of these are weekend residents and campers. Members are encouraged to stay in touch with the committee through --- [wye.seppa@gmail.com](mailto:wye.seppa@gmail.com).

The objectives of the Association are to advance the welfare and protect the environment of Wye River and Separation Creek. A membership application/renewal form is located at the end of this newsletter.

During the year, the committee formed three sub- committees, hopefully to deal with things a little more quickly. The sub - committees are: 1. Administration; 2. External; 3. Environment .

Vice President Rex Brown and I met with the President and Secretary of the Kennett River Association, with the view to building closer ties between the two bodies. As a result, the Kennett River Association Secretary, David Lang, attended a recent WRSCPA meeting as an observer.

We have also attended the two meetings, held in Wye River, about the closures of the Great Ocean Road, plus a workshop in Apollo Bay with the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority, regarding the Wye River and the future management plan for rivers in the catchment area.

Earlier this year, the Committee considered that as the WRSCPA was viewed as the main community "spokes group" within Wye River and Separation Creek, we should personally visit and meet with the main external bodies with whom we deal, to strengthen relationships. This ensures easier communication as issues arise.

Rex Brown and I also met with Vic Roads Regional Director, William Tieppo, in Geelong, and discussed issues relating to Wye & Sep, in particular matters relating to the Great Ocean Road closures for events, and general information about our Association. Prior to the Federal Election, several meetings were held with local candidates, Sarah Henderson and Darren Cheeseman, to lobby for funding to upgrade the Great Ocean Road.

Our Secretary Harry Lewis, Rex Brown and I went to Apollo Bay to meet with Otway Coast Committee (OCC) CEO Gary McPike. Gary had asked us for our input into the new Amenities Block at the Foreshore Caravan Park. We replied in detail, to assist Gary in finalising plans for the new Amenities Block. Together with the OCC, we have applied to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Victoria, for a “Communities for Nature” grant, for the eradication of weeds and the replanting of indigenous plants between the CFA and the start of Paddy's Path at the end of Wallace Street, down to the Great Ocean Road.

The River Walk has been on the agenda for several years and negotiations are still taking place between the OCC and the Management of the Big 4 Caravan Park. The Colac Otway Shire (COS )is currently holding funding of \$60,000 for the River Walk upgrade, in addition to an extra \$10,000 from the OCC. Let's hope it will soon be underway.

Rex Brown and I have been meeting every six weeks in Colac with COS – CEO, Rob Small, to improve relationships between the COS and to discuss all issues relevant to Wye & Sep. One of the main issues is car parking in Wye River in the summer peak. The WRSCPA Committee is concerned about congested parking in summer and our concerns were confirmed in a review of the interim results of the Member Survey, where nearly 80% of respondents agreed that the WRSCPA should work proactively with the COS to improve summer car parking. We have made our concerns clear to the COS, who are actively working on two fronts. A yellow line to discourage parking is being canvassed with residents of “The Boulevard”, and the COS is hopeful of an outcome by summer. The Shire is also exploring other options to free up parking near the store and beach, but we are advised that this will not be finalised by summer, due to the complexity of options. We consider it worth waiting until early next year for a good solution, and then we will provide an update to our members.

### **Harrington Park**

In recent months, the Progress Association Committee has been concerned at the extent of work being done at Harrington Park by volunteers and contractors, ostensibly under the oversight of the Shire. Some residents and members have communicated similar concerns.

As background, the Harrington Park Project was proposed a few years ago. Our association asked that the Shire consult the community, which was done in 2012, via a letter to landowners, with plans and with results collated by the Shire. The project was approved by Council in early 2013 and received a State Government grant.

The project included:

- An open-sided shelter, BBQ and picnic furniture
- Enhancement of the existing levelled area to enable a range of outdoor recreation activities (eg petanque) and community programs and events.
- Pathway rectification works
- Disabled car park.
- Landscaping and revegetation.
- Wye River pathway

In the course of construction, the Shire also agreed to allow a modest community vegetable garden, requested by several community members, along with a tank near the shelter.

Following concerns by our committee and landowners about the scale of the work, compared to the original plans, the Shire stopped the work in early October - at the time of writing. They have undertaken to ensure that work is consistent with the original scope and is safe. They have also agreed to reinstate the grounds back to an area consistent with the original plans. The garden will be extra.

The Shire has also decided to review the management of the park, which, up until now, has been by the Shire, with input from an advisory committee. This is the update that the Shire, as managers of the Harrington Park Project, has approved.

The Progress Association Committee is confident that following the review, the Shire will deliver a project that is a community asset. We are also hopeful that the community garden will be a place where people in the community can meet informally and work together. If anyone has any questions, please contact Ian Seuren from the COS.

The Progress Association reaffirms its commitment to the development of appropriate facilities that enhance the amenity of our communities. It will continue to work with Council and will seek to engage with other stakeholders to ensure that local projects are undertaken with appropriate governance and accountability processes in place.

**Stephen Rae, President, WRSCPA**

## **CFA News**

The BIG news is that fire restrictions for this year commence on December 1<sup>st</sup>! This is fantastic news for our community, which has often struggled to carry out fuel reduction works prior to November 1<sup>st</sup> - the deadline in previous years. The Brigade has been requesting a later commencement date for a long time without success. So there is no excuse now not to do a really thorough clean-up around your house!

Fortunately there have been very few call-outs over the last 6 months. Our biggest job was almost at our doorstep, where a large pine tree decided to uproot itself and fall, in slow motion, across the Great Ocean Road. Our members were on the scene within minutes and with the use of Well's excavator and our two chainsaws, the road was clear within 2 hours.

We welcome Michael Winn as a new active member; also the return of Murray Biddle from his residency with the orang-utans. Peter Mitchell has resigned as secretary/treasurer (a huge thanks to him for his contribution in these roles over 10 years), but he remains a Lieutenant in the Brigade. We welcome Adrian Lawler, on training wheels, as he starts to tackle these roles. Jen Hearne is currently in training and is champing at the bit to get into yellow. If anyone is interested in becoming an active member, please contact either Roy Moriarty or myself.

Our Brigade has just celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Wye Beach Hotel – that's young compared to most of the locals! We look forward to the next 10.

A reminder to all that a new siren system is in place. CALL-OUT siren lasts for 2 minutes and an EVACUATION siren lasts for 5 minutes – the siren sound is the same for both. The State-wide emergency text system should also be in place for this Summer. Here's to a safe fire season for our community.

**Andrew Hack**

## **CFA Auxiliary**

Our most recent fete was held last Easter and raised \$11,270. Funds raised by the Auxiliary go in support of our local Wye River Rural Fire Brigade. At our last Annual General Meeting, the Auxiliary decided, with the approval of our Brigade, that we can donate 10% of the proceeds of any fete to a bushfire disaster fund if felt necessary.

The Summer and Easter fetes are the only fund-raising events we conduct each year. We are so fortunate that we can draw on the strong and loyal support of residents, holiday home owners, and long standing campers who turn up every time to assist in the set-up and running of the stalls and activities. And, of course, not to mention the holiday makers and campers who buy our raffle tickets and turn up to our fetes, and generously support the stalls and activities. Speaking of which -

**The Summer Fete will be held on  
Friday 3 January 2014  
Starting at 10 am.**

As usual we are looking for your generous donations of new and pre-loved goods for sale – cakes, cakes and more cakes, other home-baked goods, clothing, jewellery, linen, books, magazines, CD's, DVD's, handcraft items, glassware, crockery, bric-a-brac, home-made preserves, home-grown produce etc., and items for our auction. All donations should be in good,

undamaged condition. Disposal of unsaleable items is a significant cost which has to be paid out of the funds raised. We do request that anyone donating large items for the auction not bring them until the morning of the fete, and undertake to take them back if unsold. We are always looking for new ideas for stalls and/or activities to boost the funds raised.

Of course we also always need lots of volunteers for our raffle ticket selling and to help on the day.

It's a lot of fun and we look forward to seeing you early in the New Year.

For any further information, please call myself or our **President, Carolyn Tatchell on 5289 0234.**

**Yvonne Sheppard: Secretary 5289 0068**

## **Wye River Surf Life Saving Club**

Wye River Surf Life Saving Club's management committee has continued to meet regularly over winter to plan and get ready for the patrol season. We have installed some new fittings in the club for boards and other equipment and a general paint and spruce-up has been happening. The working bee was well attended and thanks to the CFA for turning on a BBQ. Obtaining building permits for the improvements to the clubhouse is proceeding slowly.

New rules and regulations, especially in relation to water safety, for all active members and Nippers are being introduced nationally. These are designed to reduce the risks for all surf activities which became all too evident in some disastrous events experienced in recent national competitions. High viz rashies and new standards for equipment are some of these changes.

Changes to online communication systems are also in train and hopefully improvements to the online Surf Guard system will make registration and club administration easier. One requirement now is that any member of the club over 18 should have a Working with Children Check, as should age managers and parents involved in Nippers.

We have also arranged to have a phone line at Separation Creek with access to our patrol phones for emergency use. This also goes to emergency services. We will continue to build an out- post presence at Separation Creek when resources allow us to.

We also intend to have a 'Rip Awareness Event' soon after Christmas, depending on weather conditions. This event last year, which involves releasing dye into the sea to show where the rip is, was a big hit with the whole community.

Patrols start on 30th November 2013 and continue through until Easter 2014. Wye River SLSC voluntary patrols operate on weekends and public holidays and weekdays during the peak holiday period. Paid life guards patrol on working week days after this time. The clubhouse will be open in the first weekend that the foreshore caravan park opens for existing and prospective members to have a look around and learn more about the club. Please feel free to drop in and introduce yourself or ask for information.

Nippers enrolment is on December 27<sup>th</sup> (3.00-5.00pm) and activities continue until 10<sup>th</sup> January. Please enrol early on line if you can because we have a limited number of places and every year we reluctantly have to close off the list. This is partly due to the size of the beach and also to the ratio of helpers to children. Andrew Hack is also running training for those nippers who want to be involved in carnivals and details will soon be available on our website:-

<http://www.wyeriverslsc.asn.au/>.

Life Saving Victoria offers life saving training in Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) beach patrolling qualifications through its club system. Volunteer club trainers conduct various courses in a variety of nationally recognised awards. These courses range from week-long intensive Bronze Camps through to training sessions offered weekly over an extended period.

Finally I would just like to remind you that competition and training are also some of the fun benefits of belonging to a club like ours – these activities complement our emergency service role with the add-on benefits of maintaining fitness, enthusiasm and health. Please don't hesitate to contact me or other club members if you have any questions or need other information about the club or life saving more generally. New members are always welcome – you don't have to be active and can participate in many ways or be an associate member. However remember membership allows you to undertake award training and it is never too late to do your Bronze or other awards.

Here are details of some of our popular summer social events:

Trivia Night ... 11<sup>th</sup> January

Comedy Night ... 4<sup>th</sup> January

Wine Tasting ... to be confirmed

Seafood raffles – every Saturday in January

Wing Ding – Easter Sunday 2014

Please contact me if you would like more information or have a look at our website: <http://www.wyeriverslsc.asn.au/> I look forward to a happy and safe season. We are now on twitter and facebook.

**Debra Hocking: President: Phone 0417 690 291**

## **Otway Coast Committee (OCC) – Foreshore News – Busy Year continues for OCC at Wye River Wye River Foreshore Camping Ground – Sewage Treatment Plant & New Amenities Block**

Demolition of the old amenities block was completed in August and installation of the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) was begun immediately after the site was cleared. The STP is largely completed at the time of writing. The amenities modules are progressing with the modular decking completed and the first module expected to be delivered before the end of October 2013.

### **OCC and WRSCPA Meeting:**

The OCC met with representatives of the Wye River & Separation Creek Progress Association (WRSCPA) executive in early August to discuss the work of the OCC and the financials of the committee. Audited financial reports of the OCC were presented to the WRSCPA and a very productive discussion ensued. Both parties now have a good understanding of each other's endeavours.

### **Communities for Nature:**

Shortly after the OCC / WRSCPA meeting, both groups discussed making a joint application to the State Government's 'Communities for Nature' Funding Program. In mid-September, a two year funding application was made for weed control and re-vegetation of the Crown land managed by the OCC that is bounded by the Great Ocean Road, the Boulevard, the CFA Building and the freehold land between the CFA, SLSC Bunk House and Wallace Street. The \$10,000 application hopes to involve the OCC and weed control contractors in the eradication of weeds and then the OCC and any interested local volunteers in the replanting of the 4,500 square metre site with some 3,000 plants, over a two year period.

### **Wye River Beach Retaining Wall:**

The OCC has successfully applied for funding from the State Government's "Coastal Risk Mitigation Program" for funds to address the state of the retaining wall adjacent the mouth of the river. The OCC initially applied for funding for the replacement of the wall, however Department of Environment & Primary Industries (DEPI) officers advised that because of the highly competitive nature of the program, it would be preferable to undertake a "coastal hazards vulnerability assessment and options report" of the project by suitably qualified and experienced coastal engineers, to ensure that sound planning and engineering informed any replacement wall, thereby improving the chances of a successful funding application. It is expected that the report will be completed in time for the wall replacement project to be re-submitted for the next round of the program in March 2014.

### **Wye River – River Walk:**

The Colac Otway Shire (COS) has recently confirmed that the funding required to construct an aggregate path through the Wye River Big 4 Caravan Park Crown land leasehold, as originally planned, has been received and is available. Negotiations are continuing with the tenants at the Wye River Big 4 to formalise the river walk, that is a condition of their Crown Land Lease. Currently the Lease requires that "access to the general public for the purpose of passive non-vehicular recreation is to be freely permitted. A slashed grassy walking track of at least 2.4 metres in width, which generally follows the southern river bank "is to be provided" "and maintained by the tenant".

The WRSCPA initiated the proposal to formalise the path, with a formed aggregate path, to improve the access and remove any uncertainty of path users and campers alike to the provision of the public access, by successfully applying to the Colac Otway Shire (COS) for funding, under its Small Town Infrastructure Fund. The OCC supported the WRSCPA in the funding application to COS and subsequently the OCC supported COS in a further application to the State Government for the remainder of the funding required. The OCC has agreed to contribute the cost of construction with the funding expected to cover the cost of materials. There is no cost involved for the tenant with the construction of the path. Negotiations are continuing with the tenant, Wye River Big 4, on the construction of the path and we are hopeful of an agreement to proceed as soon as is practical.

### **Paddy's Path Update:**

As reported in the last newsletter, the OCC had a civil engineer with erosion - land slip expertise, inspect the slip on Paddy's Path and then write a project scoping report. The report identified the need for further investigation and that the 'slip bowl' (the likely area of movement) is larger than the area managed by the OCC and that other stakeholders are likely to be impacted, should any significant movement occur. Consequently the OCC recently forwarded the report to Vicroads, DEPI, and COS for their consideration. The OCC will endeavor to undertake maintenance work on the path prior to Summer, with spraying of the asparagus ferns already completed for the second year in a row.

**Gary McPike: Executive Officer: Otway Coast Committee.** E: [gmcpike@vicnet.net.au](mailto:gmcpike@vicnet.net.au) ; [www.otwaycoast.org.au](http://www.otwaycoast.org.au)

70 Great Ocean Rd Apollo Bay 3233 (Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve) M: 0419 301 311; F: 5237 6751;

### **EstuaryWatch**

EstuaryWatch is an initiative of the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) and the Western Coastal Board, to foster the interest of Corangamite region communities in their local estuary, and participate in its management.

It is hard to believe our local group has now been monitoring the Wye River estuary for a year, and our green caps are becoming a familiar sight down at the foreshore on the first and third Sunday mornings of each month, as we take our readings and photos for the CCMA data base.

Thanks and appreciation to Matt and Leanne and staff at the Big 4 Camping Ground who kindly store our equipment bag in the office, ready for collection by whoever is doing the Sunday morning monitoring.

Our co-ordinator, Rose Herben of CCMA, has promised to bring her information table to the CFA Auxiliary summer fete on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2014. Please say hello to her; she will be happy to answer any queries you might have regarding the rivers and estuaries in our region.

**Yvonne Sheppard : Phone: 5289 0068**

### **Wye River Community Garden**

We have started a community garden in Wye. Community gardens are springing up in cities and most country towns as a sort of rebellion against GM modified foods, cheap imports sprayed with goodness knows what, and the joy of growing something. It also brings together different generations to chat, as well as the act of sharing, all with a common goal.

The response has been terrific, with all beds now allocated and planting is starting. Please come and visit.

The emphasis is on veges and herbs, but our beautification and decorum manager, Corinne, has some exciting ideas for the surrounds, in a truly colourful indigenous landscape. As an aside, in your own garden, expensive veges such as garlic, herbs, greens and tomatoes thrive here, with the help of a little drink.

We are seeking 3 items –

1. Unwanted earthen pots for plants like mint that tend to take over.
2. Tall wooden stools for our older members to sit on while weeding, or more likely, chewing the fat.
3. And discarded staircases for mass planting of pot plants on the slope.

If you can help, or have a strong back, please call Peter Latham 5289 0047

**PS** I also make lots of jams etc for the CFA fete, but I am always on the lookout for small and medium sized jars with metal lids, preferably with labels removed. If you have some you don't want, please leave them for me at the shop.

**Peter Latham**

### **Otway Coast Tourism**

We welcome the recent commitment of \$50 million for upgrading of the Great Ocean Road made during the Federal Election.

While our tourism group is small and just one of many groups influencing the outcome, our lobbying was intense and influential over many months. It started with questions at a State Cabinet (Community Cabinet) Q&A session in June, then meetings with our local members, arranging public meetings with both local federal candidates at the Wye Pub, news releases to the press, letters to the press, press visits by newspaper, radio and TV journalists, a 3AW interview, and arranging

a press letter from all local tourism groups, urging bipartisan funding. The Progress Association also helped with a letter to Terry Mulder.

Throughout the campaign we worked closely with G21 and arranged a large campaign sign at a local spot of high visibility to passing Great Ocean Road traffic. We have learned that the new local member, Sarah Henderson has arranged for \$15 million to be made available to Vicroads immediately, for an early start to improvements to the road.

As a next step we have sent proposals to Vicroads and our local MPs for improvements to the road, for safety and visibility, that will improve the road for locals and tourists.

Telstra has recently advised us that there will be a major upgrade of the Wye River mobile internet system to provide 4G by the end of December 2013, with far greater reliability in peak times. This follows lobbying by ourselves and many local landowners earlier in the year. We now have a direct line to senior managers in Telstra. The recent 4G news is very welcome, given an upgrade in March that barely coped with Easter demand. Contact Rex if you want to contact the senior Telstra managers, who have said they will come to further public meetings if requested by locals.

A new regional tourism board has recently been formed, extending from Torquay to Port Fairy, along the lines our group recommended 3 years ago. We hope it will improve marketing of the Great Ocean Road after 4 years starved of funding. Our group is linked to Otway Tourism through two monthly advisory committee meetings. We have also been active in tourism workshops and contributing to road closure meetings. Our tourism group is open to anyone active in tourism.

**Rex Brown, Chair Otway Coast Tourism: 0408 006 992**

## **Local news**

After last summer, we were waiting for the rain to arrive to fill up our water tanks. Well, it certainly did rain this winter and everyone's tanks should be well and truly full by now.

As is usual we start by paying tribute to those of our community, past and present, who are sadly no longer with us.

Stephanie Berry passed away on 16<sup>th</sup> August – now united with husband Kevin. Stephanie was on the committee of the Progress Association for many years and had a great love of Wye River and its history. She researched and identified sites of historical interest in Wye River and Separation Creek, and the Wye River Heritage Walk tourist guide is the result of her efforts.

Sadly, we have also lost Mark Payton. Mark and his family have holidayed in Wye River for many years, during which they have been greatly involved with the Surf Life Saving Club. Mark was well known for his lifelong commitment to the protection of our precious environment. Here in Wye River, he was a core member of the Community Volunteers, being one of the team able to step into a leadership role if required. He will be sorely missed.

Before moving to Kennett River, Tim and Melia Scanlan lived in Wye River for many years; sadly Tim died suddenly at home on 25<sup>th</sup> May this year. As a local builder, Tim built a number of homes in Wye River and Separation Creek. Our thoughts are with Melia and their young family.

Shortly after they arrived in Australia from Scotland in 1959, Mary and Frank Campbell came to Wye River for a weekend. Mary liked it so much because it reminded her of home, so she bought a house for £1000 from Paddy Harrington and spent the next thirty years planting trees. In the 1990's Mary moved to Anglesea where, with her family around her, she died at home in March this year, aged 91, still happily smoking, and her strong-minded self to the end.

Our sincere condolences go to the families of Mark, Mary, Stephanie and Tim.

Lorraine and Paddy Mulder's daughter Rachel has become engaged to Eray Sahim and the happy couple hope to marry in the New Year.

The pink flag notched up quite a few flying hours over the last few months with the birth of three little girls in our midst.

Mel and Dave presented Molly with a little sister, Taylah; Katie and Ben welcomed Annie to their family; and Briony and Paul announced the safe arrival of Penelope, a sister for Max and Lila. Just to counter all this girl-power, Marcelle's daughter, Hayley, now has a baby son – Riley.

The Latham dynasty is growing with Sue and Peter's daughter Skye expecting a brother or sister for Lachlan in February next year. Not to be outdone, son Tom and Harsha are expecting their first child, also in February. You will know Harsha as the ever-smiling young lady sometimes seen in her chef's uniform when she manages to escape from the kitchen up at the hotel.

Roy has another passenger for the school bus, now that Luke and Marcela have welcomed Marcela's son, 12 year old Junior, to their home in Wye River. Junior was born in Bolivia and has been living in Canada for the last six years. Say hello to Junior when you see him walking Choluta, his lively little puppy, on the beach, or when he is helping Luke after school up at the hotel. Hope you are enjoying life here Junior – choose your football team carefully though.

Definitely a big girl now, Pemma Hack was so excited to be travelling on the bus to kindergarten in Lorne, especially when Daddy was the driver while Roy was away.

Pemma's big brother, Juna, is making the most of growing up in Wye River – at the Nippers' State Carnival he won Silver in the Under Nine's Board Race.

Peter Jacobs won First Prize in the 'Golden Fleece' competition at the Apollo Bay Show. Well done Juna and Peter.

The smiling young woman at the Store with the charming accent is Svetta who is far away from her home in Germany and will be with us until December after which she will continue her travels. We hope, when she finally goes home, Svetta will carry with her many happy memories of her time in our little townships.

Many of you will know that Al Howie has been on the sick list and completed a course of radiotherapy at the Austin over the past few months. During his stay he was overwhelmed by the number of people who took the time and trouble to visit him there. Al is back in Wye River now where we can keep an eye on him, and our thoughts and prayers are with him and Dymna.

One of our intrepid Wye Riders had a nasty accident while he was on a bike ride in Spain. We wish Richard the speediest recovery possible and look forward to seeing him and Sue down here, back on his bike on our 'safe' Great Ocean Road.

Actually, it might be better for some of these guys to stay at home. On his getaway with 'the boys', Matt injured himself with coral cuts to his feet while surfing in Sumatra.

Caz finished her last course of treatment, let her hair grow back, resumed playing golf and her regular duties at the Store, and now plans to run the half-marathon next year. Can't get out of it now Caz! True to form, it hasn't been all plain sailing, with Elvis wolfing down a baited fish hook on the beach. Fortunately clever Elvis arranged for the hook to turn the right way round so the Vet could guide it back up through his throat without the necessity of an operation. How many lives does Elvis have left?

While we're on the subject of dogs – not to mention children - Spring had barely arrived when the snake sightings commenced, so be on the alert and make sure no-one starts investigating something they shouldn't.

Enduring local identity, Dot Hutchins, after living with her daughter and son-in-law (Helender and Norm) in Cranbourne over winter, has spent a few weeks in the Lorne Nursing Home catching up with her friends there.

Eric and Nell are now living in the Nursing Home in Apollo Bay. We miss seeing Eric making his regular morning trip to the Store for the paper and mail.

Our 'oldies' are still represented by Georgia who returned to Wye River in September after some months visiting family in Hong Kong and Europe. She is busy making up for lost time with her U3A studies for which she catches the bus to travel to Melbourne every week.

Jeremy, or course, is still on his bike!

Some of our number chose to escape the Wye River winter (can't think why!) and seek milder climes; although travel arrangements varied considerably.

Paul and Angus made it safely to Europe after riding their motorbikes across Central Australia, over to East Timor (well not across the sea of course) then up through Indonesia, Malaysia, India, Pakistan – and sundry other 'Stans' – Russia, Finland

and Sweden. Phew! They spent some time in Europe catching up with friends before continuing on through Croatia, to Izmir in Turkey where their journey came to an abrupt halt when Paul had to undergo surgery for a ruptured appendix. At the time of writing this, he had just been discharged from hospital and was due to have his stitches removed in ten days' time. As it would take some time for Paul to recover sufficiently to ride his bike, he and Angus decided they would forgo the last 6-8 weeks of their journey and return to Australia as soon as Paul was well enough. Such a shame Paul, we wish you a speedy recovery.

Before taking over the running of the Kennett Rive store this December, Glenda and Kevin have spent the winter touring round Australia and catching up with family in WA.

After her successful campaign this year against the online advertising and sale of endangered animal products, Sibylla, in her role as a member of the International Snow Leopard Network committee, was off to Kyrgyzstan in October for the executive committee forum. We wish her well in her efforts to help save these rare and beautiful animals from extinction in the wild.

Gordon McCombe reached the milestone 70<sup>th</sup> birthday this year and he and Ann ran away overseas to celebrate! Carolyn and Jeremy left us for three months' travelling around the US and Europe. They needed to come home for a rest! Helen and Roy battled the drivers and roads of France – but managed to enjoy themselves anyway – before arriving home just in time for the CFA dinner.

For five weeks, Jany, Stuart and Lola had such a great time exploring the US, including a trip to Disneyland in Florida, that they didn't want to come home. But they did – much to the relief of Pearl and Astro.

Not to be outdone, Bill Davies had his usual winter trip north to the sunshine at Coolum.

Back to the real world now everybody.

Once again a simple but lovely service was held on Anzac Day at the Wye River memorial. A sizeable attendance gathered round and, with the murmuring sea in the background, hymns were sung, the time honoured words were spoken, and representatives of the various local community groups and associations laid wreaths in remembrance of the sacrifices made.

#### 'THE WYE RIVER SETTLEMENT'

Following a chance comment by Roy, and thanks to Peter Jacobs' local knowledge in identifying the author, Peter Latham has managed to track down the above article written by Dr Colin MacDonald and published in The Victorian Historical Magazine in December 1935. It traces the district's history from the original 'selection' in 1882 through to the momentous licensing of the 'Rookery Nook' guesthouse in January 1935.

Peter has obtained a copy of the magazine which he is happy to make available to anyone interested in reading it. He can be contacted on 5289 0047, or if you let Yvonne know (5289 0068) she will follow it up for you.

Finally, just to make sure everyone knows about it, the Surf Life Saving Club emergency telephone in Separation Creek is now operating. It is in the white box attached to the power pole on the corner of Sarsfield Street and the Great Ocean Road. Callers can dial 000 and the Surf Club's number, which is prominently displayed in the box and on the phone. Hopefully it won't need to be used this summer – but everyone should be aware of its location, just in case.

#### **The cub reporter**

*The Progress Association prints material from contributors, uncut. The views expressed are theirs and (rarely) may not coincide with those of the Association.*

**The Wye River & Separation Creek Progress Association Inc. hereby announces its**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Sunday January 19<sup>th</sup> 2014, 10am, Wye Surf Club**

The business of the AGM includes the adoption of the annual financial report and elections to fill vacant positions among the officers and Committee. This year there will also be some special business:

- Proposals from the Committee for adoption of new Rules

The new Rules have been drafted to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012,, which apply to all registered incorporated associations in Victoria. At present, the Rules of our Association consist of (i) the Rules adopted at the last Annual General Meeting in January 2013 and (ii) further provisions from the Model Rules that by law, apply to all registered incorporated associations in Victoria.

Our principal objective in drafting new Rules is to bring all the Rules that apply to us into a single document for easier reference. Members of the Association will receive full information about these changes before the AGM.

Nominations are open for the offices of President and Treasurer and for four members of the Committee. Please use the nomination form attached to this Newsletter.

Nominations to the offices of President and Treasurer must use the form and be received by the Secretary, Harry Lewis, no later than 5 pm on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014. No further nominations to those offices will be eligible for acceptance at the AGM.

Nominations to the Committee will be permitted at the AGM, but Members are urged to renew their membership, and others are warmly invited to join the Association, as soon as possible and in good time before the AGM, using the membership form attached to this Newsletter. (If you choose to renew on-line, you are requested to send an e-mail to [wye.seppa@gmail.com](mailto:wye.seppa@gmail.com) to inform us that you have done so, and confirming your contact details as per the renewal form below).

**Members of Wye River & Separation Creek Progress Association:**

**are you receiving e-mails from us?**

**If not, please give us your e-mail address using the renewal form at the end of this Newsletter.**

**You will then receive our notices promptly, including further information about the AGM**

**PROGRESS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM (FOR NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS)**

**November 2013**

To ensure continuation of the work of the Progress Association, and of the printing this Newsletter, PLEASE (RE)SUBSCRIBE. Annual membership is \$10 per person or \$15 per family.

Please complete this form and send it with your subscription to: The Treasurer WRSCPA, 14 Moore Street, HAWTHORN, Vic. 3122. Make cheques payable to WRSCPA.

You can also pay by direct transfer to our bank account: WESTPAC, Colac branch: BSB 033-637, Account Number 99-0081, Account Name: WRSCPA. *Following lodgement please e-mail [wye.seppa@gmail.com](mailto:wye.seppa@gmail.com) advising whom you have paid for, the amount paid, and giving the information requested below. This is important because we must, by law, keep a record of current members. Receipts will be issued on request.*

Please indicate whether **Individual**  or **Family**  membership; **renewing?** (tick)

Name (first or sole member):

Names of family member(s):

Contact address (must be a valid postal address; one only here - see also below):

Contact phone number(s):

E-mail (one for sole member, up to two for family):

Local (Wye River/Separation Creek) address if not your Contact address (this one need not be a valid postal address):

*Note: if you are using this membership form and the nomination form overleaf, please photocopy one of them and send them separately! (They have to go to different people.)*

**Wye River and Separation Creek Progress Association**

**NOMINATION FORM 2014**

Position(s) for which nomination is made (tick as appropriate)

President

Treasurer

Committee Member

**Candidate:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature indicating consent to nomination \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposer:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Secunder:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2013

*The Candidate, Proposer and Secunder must all be current members at the date of nomination or the nomination will be void.*

**Nominations must be received by Friday, 19 January 2014 and should be posted to the WRSCPA Secretary, Harry Lewis, P O Box 164, Clifton Hill, Vic. 3068 or handed to him in person.**