



THE FUTURE OF OUR HISTORY

The towns we live in today serve as constant reminders of the history that created them. Whether you live in Gladsydale, East Warburton, Yarra Junction or anywhere in between, knowing the stories of the past, helps us understand the connections we enjoy today and the legacy we have inherited as communities. A visit to the Upper Yarra Museum provides a glimpse of the many people and places that have brought life to the valley for more than 130 years.

The Upper Yarra Museum has its home in the former Yarra Junction Railway Station (an 1888 building relocated from Lilydale in 1914) located on the Rail Trail, one of our most appreciated tourist and recreational assets. The last train left the Yarra Junction platform (pictured) in 1965.

Tom O'Meara is the president of the not-for-profit Upper Yarra Valley Historical Society (UYVHS), which, with the help of volunteers, manages the Upper Yarra Museum. In the last three years, membership has grown from eighteen to more than eighty. Funding has seen restoration of the buildings and the research and cataloguing of paper and non paper-based artefacts donated by the community. The collection contains railway memorabilia, toys, household goods, machinery and local icons. There is even a 'device for getting potatoes out of cows' throats,' says Tom – an example of the engineering knowhow of our elders.

A miniature railway train is being restored by volunteers and will soon offer rides and there is a themed children's playground. The collection also honours the ANZAC legacy and work continues on with a project to recreate an avenue of honour for 'fallen' WWI diggers. A display featuring indigenous leader and local William Barak takes pride of place in the former 'General Waiting Room', and a working blacksmith also offers 'try your hand' classes each month. Recent restoration projects include the Powelltown Union Church and the Centenary of the Powelltown Tramway.



Tom O'Meara with miniature engine

The cause of Upper Yarra History is enhanced by our sponsorships. We sponsor the annual Crank Up event, which has been running for more than 34 years. Crank Up, which includes the popular Wood Chop, brings more than 2500 attendees to the museum and showcases the industrial and economic features of our pioneering history.

The Back to Yarra Junction project invites locals with images and stories to participate in an event on 16 November to collect material for the History of Yarra Junction book project and will be a great opportunity for reunion. For more details see Facebook/YarraJunctionHistory

Nothing beats a hands-on history experience. Entry is \$5 per person or \$10 per family. (Concession \$3). Group visits by arrangement. www.upperyarramuseum.org.au



Branch of the Year 2014

Warburton Community Bank



Ros, Darren, Kate and Julie (Wendy absent)

Your Warburton Community Bank® branch has been awarded Branch of the Year 2014 for the region! This award acknowledges the dedication and achievements of the Warburton team. But we couldn't do it without you, our community, so it's congratulations to all of us.

Recent **sponsorship** highlights



Craft queens of the valley

Arts

Quarterly Crafternoons

Now in its third year, Quarterly Craft-ernoons and International Crochet Day attract more than sixty people to their family friendly events. Many locals attend the gatherings and several groups travel 'up the line' to participate in free skills sessions that bring together a diverse range of people with plenty of new techniques to share.

Group crochet pieces include the 5000 Poppies and a community blanket. The next Crafternoons is Wednesday 3 December. The creator of Crafternoons Le Boatwood keeps a regular blog on all things crafty. More: www.quarterlycrafternoons.blogspot.com.au

Children

Upper Yarra Toy Library

The Upper Yarra Toy Library has a range of fun and educational toys for children 0-6 years including baby toys, outdoor and active toys, imaginative play, construction, puzzles and games. Early childhood play is recognised as an important part of a child's development and the toy library gives children access to a full range of different play experiences. Available to members is the Party Pack, which includes a ride-on-roller-coaster. Located at the Upper Yarra Family Centre in Hoddle St, Yarra Junction. Open Saturday mornings. Memberships from \$30 per year and new members are welcome. More: www.toylibraries.org.au



Mountain vistas for horse and rider

Recreation

Upper Yarra Pony Club

Located at Wesburn Park, the Upper Yarra Pony Club (which began in 1961), offers a range of horse and pony activities including certificates, cross country, dressage, grooming and showjumping.

The pony club, with its distinctive green and gold colours, has more than 30 members and holds a regular meet for all riders on the third Sunday of every month. This includes a 'Come-and-Try' program for new or potential members with plenty of ponies for families to enjoy. The recently funded clubroom upgrade will include a kitchen renovation. More: www.upperyarra.ponyclubvic.org.au

Community resources

Student Scholarships now open

**Warburton
Yarra Junction**

Community Bank® branches



Applications are now open for a new scholarship fund for students entering tertiary education in 2015. Applicants must live or have a close connection to areas served by Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches. Scholarships will be awarded to full-time/part-time, first year undergraduates studying at an Australian university or TAFE (Dip or Adv Dip) for the first time. See www.upperyarra.net.au/youth/scholarship for details.

Warburton Valley CEDA



Business, tourism providers, not-for-profits and local groups are invited to become a member of our revitalised Chamber of Commerce and benefit from the shared resources and knowledge of the region's diverse economic and community groups. CEDA is a collective voice that represents the Warburton Valley as a unique region. CEDA's purpose is to promote sustainable economic development that enriches the lives of those who live in or have a close connection to the Warburton Valley and rely on its prosperity. Enquiries: CEDA@upperyarra.net.au



Running around town and forest

Running partners

a drawcard is the natural beauty of our forests

The parks and forests surrounding our towns offer a range of outdoor activities that encourage people to get outside and enjoy nature. In recent years, there has been an increase in sports activities in and around our towns, particular those that feature our hills and trails in feats of endurance and skill. For many years events such as Oxfam Trailwalkers have brought many people to the valley and our own Warburton Up and Running, which will be held for the twelfth year on Sunday 22 February, has seen participant numbers grow rapidly from less than 100 in the first year, to last year's record 700 people. The 2015 event is expected to attract up to 1000 entries.

A defining feature, and drawcard, is the natural beauty of our forests, and this is a resource that the Upper Yarra Valley can boast as a unique point of difference. So not only do our local events attract our community, they also draw many visitors to our region as participants, support services and spectators.

The running world has also taken notice and we are now attracting national events to our mountains. The Big Forest Run held its first event last April and an annual event, the Victorian Trail Running Festival, is now on the calendar for the first weekend of November. Not only do these events

bring many economic benefits to our towns, but they also raise our profile on a national, and often, world stage.

We are proud to partner with Warburton Up and Running, who this year are renaming their event the Community Bank Warburton Up and Running. Our sponsorship helped this event get started and now with it established on the national running calendar as a 'must do' event, our funding helps with prizes, promotion and operational costs. And as a double bonus, any profits from this event go to local service organisations such as the Upper Yarra SES and the Warburton CFA, who provide marshalls for the events.

So this February, run, walk, jog, volunteer or spectate but be sure to support Community Bank Warburton Up and Running – one of the great resources our town has to offer and a credit to the organisers.

More info: www.warburtonupandrunning.com.au
www.victoriantrailrunningfestival.com.au



Too easy...

Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches make it easy to support your local community. Switch your accounts with one simple form – we'll even redirect your debit arrangements, too. It's quick, painless and all done with a smile.

Because when you bank locally with us (and not one of those big banks), you help your community grow.

Switch your banking with one signature



Supporting your Community Bank®

The Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches are operated by the community and for the community under franchise by the Upper Yarra Community Enterprise (UYCE).

The core purpose of our Community Bank® is the advancement of the Upper Yarra community. This is achieved through the allocation of sponsorship funding that is generated via a

profit-for-purpose business model. The Community Bank® prospers because of the support of local people doing their everyday banking at the Warburton or Yarra Junction branches. Staying local is essential to our local economy.

More than \$2.6 million has been invested in worthy local community-based projects and organisations since our Community Bank® was established in February 2000.

Supporting your community through Sponsorships and Donations

Your Community Bank®, in conjunction with UYCE, distributes funds to community projects through Sponsorships and Donations. Every year, important investments are made in areas as diverse as sports and recreation, education, arts and culture and civic organisations that support the successful operation and growth of essential community initiatives.

Applications for sponsorships and donations are accepted four times a year. The final submission date for 2014 is **November 14**. Dates for 2015 are **February 9, May 11, August 11 and November 14**.

Sponsorship is the purchase of an association with an event, activity or organisation. Applications are accepted based on their ability to increase Community

Bank® awareness and patronage, and communicate key messages regarding community development. They must also benefit the community in some way. Proposals cannot be submitted for past events.

For friendly assistance with your sponsorship proposal, please call in to one of our Community Bank® branches or phone 5966 9028.

**Find helpful
information and
application forms on
our website:
upperyarra.net.au**

You can support the continued prosperity of your community everyday by simply doing your banking at your Community Bank® in Warburton or Yarra Junction.

New website to showcase our towns

A brand new website will be launched by Yarra Ranges Tourism that brings the abundant beauty and features of our townships to the world's fingertips. The new Yarra Valley Touring map is another excellent resource locals will also find of value. What can you discover in our towns?

See www.visityarravalley.com.au

UYSC human powered vehicles

Students at Upper Yarra Secondary College have, together with the talented members of Ben's Shed, built two ultra streamlined pedal powered vehicles. A competition between schools will allow students to test their stamina and their design skills.



My Place, My Community complimentary calendar

Our third annual calendar has just been launched and is available to our valued customers free of charge at our branches. Featuring twelve winning images from our recent photo competition, the calendar highlights the best of our towns and the breadth of our talents.



Photovoice in its second year

VCAL students at the Upper Yarra Community House are enjoying the practical hands-on sessions in photography that form the foundation of Photovoice. Claire Maud is guiding this year's students as they venture into their world to capture images that speak of their challenges, concerns and joys. An exhibition of works is being held at the Upper Yarra Arts Centre from 25 October.

Warburton Community Space, Thomas Ave.

Warburton Community Space, a not-for-profit initiative run by the community for the community, is available seven days a week to meet, make or be. Low-cost hire suitable for meetings, events and gatherings, with commercial kitchen also available. Call 0439 389 522 for info or see the Facebook page.



Volunteers, staff and visitors support each other at 'Redwood'

A place to call home

Every week more than 120 local people access the services provided by the Redwood Community Centre – and this is just one of many services supporting people in need in our region.

'Homelessness takes many forms and does not discriminate,' says Mark, a worker from Salvo Care – East. 'I would estimate there are 50-60 people in Warburton who are sleeping rough, living in cars, or couch surfing at the moment. Many people in the community are surprised when they hear this figure but it is a real life issue for many individuals.'

Organisations such as Redwood Community Centre offer support across a range of areas including fresh and packaged food distribution (Second Bite and Food Bank), food parcels, clothing, blankets, meals, accommodation referrals and crisis support, and other assistance.

'Anyone can come into the centre on a Monday, Wednesday or Thursday and we can connect them with what they need. There is no need for anyone in Warburton to go hungry, be cold or have nowhere to sleep,' says Kate Barratt, who manages the centre. 'And we're also focused on creating meaningful ways to engage people,

There is no need for anyone in Warburton to go hungry, be cold or have nowhere to sleep

especially those who are socially isolated, and provide opportunities for skill development. The kitchen redevelopment project that has just received sponsorship funding will enable us to provide weekly classes to teach cooking skills and also encourage social interaction.'

Demand for services has increased significantly in the past twelve months and this places escalating demand on service providers and their volunteers. Funding from sources such as the Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Banks® supports larger projects but also the day-to-day running costs.

There is a large network of services through the valley – Food Bank and LINC in Yarra Junction also provide non-perishable and perishable food distribution, and initiatives such as Thursday night's 'pay by donation' meals at Koha Community Café, and Mondays at Warburton Community Space are part of an offering that gives people ready access to nutritious quality foods.

Feeling a sense of belonging in a community is important and our townships, with their strong sense of place, can ask what else can be done and who might need extra support. 'Policy changes have many flow-on effects and have recently put further pressure on those that were already only just making it,' says Mark. 'Most people can relate to that feeling.'

Redwood is located at 3505 Warburton Highway, Warburton.



Gallery Greats

Local artists: Mandy, Jeff, Marie, Sandy, Carolyn and Kirsty

The Waterwheel on Warburton's main street is now a hub for local artists seeking gallery space to hold their own exhibitions. The gallery offers three-week exhibition opportunities for artists (criteria applies) at a weekly hire fee of \$70. All proceeds made from sales during an exhibition will be 100% returned to the artist. The Waterwheel Gallery is proud-

ly supported by our funding, and is just one of the ways we help further the profile of great artists, and the arts, in our region. Exhibitions will change on a regular basis so there is always something new and inspiring to see – every day between 10am and 4pm. For more information, or to express your interest, contact Mandy on 0408 752 521.



Community groups present their projects

Sponsorships: the rewards are mutual

Recently we announced a progressive new range of Sponsorship tools to help all of us achieve more, and simple tools, such as Club Rewards, to reward members for community bank patronage.

Our quarterly Sponsorship program continues to go from strength to strength. Our Ongoing Sponsorship program acknowledges the annual support we give to many established clubs, schools and organisations in our community. This streamlines the application process by awarding set amounts based on club activity for a three-year commitment. Several local groups are already benefiting from this funding.

We have also launched our Special Effort Fundraising (SEF) program, which is available to Ongoing Sponsorship recipients who have partnership proposals for major works or renovations,

significant cost projects or other suitable larger investments.

The Powelltown Football and Netball Club were our first group to set up a SEF program and have already successfully raised almost \$8333 towards the installation of new lights, which we will match two for one to bring their funding tally to \$25,000.

In September, we held our first Sponsorship Presentation Night. Attendees received their sponsorship certificate and cheque and also gave a short presentation to the group about their activities – a wonderful way to showcase the work done in our communities and cross promote with other groups.

We are always looking for ways to work in partnership with our community, and support projects that our community tell us are important to them.

Sponsorships

Congratulations to:

- Upper Yarra Pony Club for Club Room Upgrade \$4000
- ECOSS for Ecotopia Junction Festival 2015 \$3000
- Upper Yarra SES Kitchen Refurbishment 2014 \$6620
- Redwood Community Centre Kitchen upgrade 2014 \$5255
- Warburton Valley CEDA for Everesting 2015 \$1000
- Quarterly Crafternoons and International Crochet Day Gathering 2014 \$2410
- Upper Yarra Netball Association for Representative Squad Assistance 2014 \$6250
- Woods Point Gun Club for UYCE Cup 2014 \$3000
- Yarra Ranges Kindergartens for Mosaic Pavers and Sustainable Outdoor Play Area \$2300
- Upper Yarra Toy Library for Signage and Active Toy Promotion \$2000
- LINC Church Services Network for Cancer Treatment Transport 2015/16 \$6500 py

Ongoing Sponsorships

- Warburton Primary School \$6000
- Wesburn Primary School \$6100
- Millwarra Primary School \$11,600
- Upper Yarra Secondary College \$11,700
- Powelltown FNC \$5000
- Warburton Bowls Club \$4000
- Yarra Junction Cricket Club \$1500
- Warburton Millgrove FNC \$5000
- Wesburn Junior Football Club \$3000
- Yarra Junction Bowls Club \$4000

TOTAL \$2.6 million

Acknowledgement

The Warburton Network (Facebook group with more than 1200 likes) writes: 'We are endlessly lucky to have the Upper Yarra Community Enterprise in our midst. Their impact on our local economy and community wellbeing is boundless. Thanks to those who donate their time on the Board and those with the vision to set up a bank that gives its profits back to the community. What a different world we would live in if every large business worked in this way.'

LocalLife newsletter

Do you have a story to share? A cause to promote? Local Life is delivered twice a year to the homes of more than 6000 residents and shareholders in our community as a way of saying thank you for all the wonderful work done by those who use sponsorship funds to create Local Life.

Customers of the Community Bank know their community benefits most when profits are shared locally to build vibrant, sustainable local economies. Local prosperity is supported every day by 'keeping life local'.



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upperyarra.net.au



admin@upperyarra.net.au



To subscribe to our electronic newsletter, visit our website

Published by the Upper Yarra Community Enterprise. All enquiries to Lindy Schneider

e: lindy@warburtons.own.net.au

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Request more copies of **LocalLife** at your Community Bank® branch.