



MRAG committee L to R: Gordon, Maureen, Ron, and Bob with dog Max

'We want people to feel proud of where they live.'

Small town, big heart

By Lindy Schneider

One of the most pleasant sections of the Warburton Highway to drive, especially during spring, is the bend through Millgrove thanks to the Millgrove Residents Action Group (MRAG) and a small group of volunteers. An active community group makes all the difference in townships and Millgrove, with its population of 1653 people (census 2016), makes the most of their beautiful Yarra-side location and mountainous views.

'MRAG formed in 2006 and has about 10 members. Our mission is to provide residents with a sense of pride in place,' says Bob Lillie one of the founders. 'We donate money back to our community and try to build community engagement.'

'We're a small town so we know everyone,' says Maureen Halit, owner of the Millgrove newsagency which has become a central point for impromptu meetings in the community.

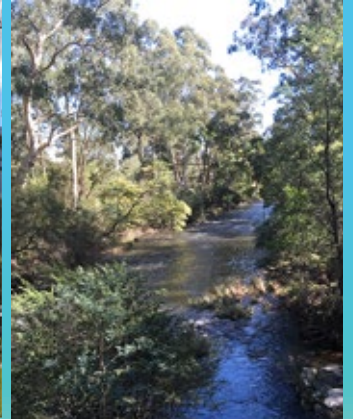
Sponsorship funding will be used to refurbish the exterior of the toilet block with

a 'timber town' themed mural, picnic tables and signage. The little township that dreams big is attempting to raise almost \$200,000 to establish a river walking track on a much loved area of the river. Good Tucker Day, a community lunch program run by River Valley Church, has also received funding this year.

Over the past almost two decades, Community Bank® funding has supported countless initiatives that have helped Millgrove thrive. If you have gone to the Sunday community market, played soccer or other sports, attended kindergarten, had children at Millwarra Primary School, enjoyed the gardens at the Rail Trail crossing, or attended an event at the Community Centre, you will have experienced first-hand the value of community investment.

Volunteer labour has helped transform Millgrove in recent years. MRAG have quietly chipped away at 'getting the job done' and have big visions for Millgrove's future. What a community!

For more info www.facebook.com/Millgrove-Residents-Action-Group



Congratulations to the winner of the 'My Place, My Community' Photo Competition, Damien Marley, principal at Warburton Primary School. He snapped the winning photo 'Morning' on the way to school one day. See page 3 for more details.



Gladysdale Celebrates Centenary – Linking past to present

By Lindy Schneider

With the 100-year birthday of the Gladysdale Primary School this year (celebration 20-21 October 2018), a group of dedicated volunteers associated with the Gladysdale Public Hall have embarked on project to gather and preserve the history of Gladysdale for future generations. 'Many people don't realise the school started in the public hall,' says committee member Mandi Ryan, 'and the hall is one of only a few in Victoria that are solely community run.' In addition to celebration dinners and activities for the school, the Hall committee will be holding a reunion event and are encouraging past residents, and in particular past and present elders of the community, to come along and share their own photos and stories, so that they can be digitised into an ongoing collection. 'With so much growth and so many new families in the area we believe it's important to create easy access to our history so there is an ongoing connection to the places and stories that make Gladysdale rich.' 'This builds a sense of community belonging and community spirit and brings to life the landmarks such as trees and buildings that still exist today,' says Mandi.



'An ongoing connection to the places and stories that make Gladysdale rich.'

Photos, memorabilia, films and videos, written and oral accounts are all welcome and people with something to contribute are invited to contact Mandi on 0433 109 100. 'People will have items in their personal collections that will be fascinating and we'd love to hear the stories of what life was like for the school children all those years ago. Our children love to hear stories about which building was the old post office and which was the service station. There is a story of a cow charging at a young boy

on his way to school in 1940 before being driven off by the principal. It was the cow's third offence!' The project is ongoing and the reunion event is set for 20 October. Contact has been made with several hundred past members of the Gladysdale community. The Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches are providing sponsorship funding to assist with this project.

From more info: www.facebook.com/GladysdalePS100years



Congratulations

Ros Caneva from the Warburton branch was awarded the individual award 'Wealth Engagement Manager' for her dedication to her role as the branch Wealth Product specialist.

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Photo Competition Winners Announced

Our 7th Annual Photographic Exhibition 'Upper Yarra—My Place, My Community' has again provided a wonderful insight into the many ways people live and see the Upper Yarra Valley.

The complimentary calendar, which will be available in November, will feature the 12 winning entries:

- Judges' Choice - Damian Marley for 'Morning'
- U18 Judges' Choice - Lara Bennett for 'Big Things, Little Things'
- People's Choice - Stuart Cooper for 'Mt Donna Buang, Mountain of Surprises Sunrise'
- Yarra Junction Branch Staff Choice - Margaret Baillie for 'Swing Bridge Grasses'
- Warburton Branch Staff Choice - Rose Sherriff for 'Sunset on the Silos'

Runners up were:

- Hetty Thomas – 'Fairies in Dolly Grey Park'
- Jill Witherden – 'Past Times'
- Marilyn Edwards – 'Frosty Morning on the Playing Field'
- Ray McMahon – 'Fly Fishing Fun'
- Graeme Edwards – 'Into the Dark Woods'
- Diana Southwick – 'Seville Ducks'
- Heather Walker – 'Donna Buang Road'



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Graeme Edwards – 'Into the Dark Woods'

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Email wendy@upperyarra.net.au if you need a PDF sent to you, or link to the newsletter via our website www.upperyarra.net.au/newsletters



Big cheque, big deal!



and make a big deal with your group or members. We have a 'Big Cheque' available on loan (48 hours) that is great for photo opportunities and to show your people just how much Community Bank® support is appreciated. Use a whiteboard marker and complete your own details – or ask for

Celebrate your successful sponsorship application

one of our directors to come and present the cheque to your next gathering! Email wendy@upperyarra.net.au to book.

New hours

From Monday 1 October 2018, the regular opening hours at Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches will be 9.30am to 5pm weekdays and 9am to 12 noon on Saturdays.




LocalLife newsletter

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The Community Bank® story

Supporting your Community Bank®

Since 2000, the Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches have been operated under franchise by the Upper Yarra Community Enterprise (UYCE) with the core purpose of advancing the Upper Yarra community.

Almost \$4 million has been invested in worthy local community-based projects through the allocation of sponsorship funding that is generated via the profit-for-purpose business model. The Community Bank® prospers because local people do their everyday banking at the Warburton or Yarra Junction branches.

Funds are distributed 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.

Sponsorship is the purchase of an association with an event, entrant, activity or organisation. Applications are accepted based on their ability to increase Community Bank® awareness and patronage, and communicate key messages regarding community development.

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

Warburton Community Hydro Powers Up



After many years in planning, Warburton can now produce its own hydro power.

The Warburton Community Hydro is a clean energy system generating electricity sufficient to power 150 homes. A turbine harnesses the natural energy created by the downhill flow of Ythan Creek. Constant environmental flow of at least 30 litres per second is maintained and the turbine adjusts automatically according to natural weather and seasonal variations. Water is returned to the creek unchanged. In future, additional power could be generated by increasing the vertical fall of the pipeline.

This project returns profits to the local community. The turbine and pipes are Australian made and construction has been provided by local labour.

Fast Facts

- The Kimberley Powerhouse*, which houses the turbine, is 35cm underground with 29cm thick concrete walls.
- The Powerhouse is adjacent to the 2nd tee at the Warburton Golf Course.
- The High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipe is 859m long and 450mm in diameter. The vertical fall is 69m.
- The turbine runs at 1500 revolutions per minute.
- The power output range is 20 to 100 kw.
- Water intake ranges between 30 and 206 litres per second.

Environment

Many hydro electric systems rely on dams to store water, but Warburton's natural water courses and steep hills are ideal for 'run of river' hydro

systems. These require less infrastructure, preserving creek and surrounding habitat.

Revegetation, improved conditions for fish migration and ongoing water quality monitoring ensure the creek remains in full health. The underground powerhouse ensures noise suppression. The system abates approximately 900kgs of CO² per annum.

History of Hydro Power

Hydro power was first generated in Warburton in the early 1900s. The Parbury Mill, home of the original turbine, produced power to support mill operations, The Chalet and other sites (circa 1917) until Warburton was connected to mains power in the 1940s.

The local hospital and wellbeing resort, Sanitarium Health Foods, Signs Publishing and at least 30 households were powered in part by hydro until 1980.

Warburton Community Hydro launches in early October. Project Partners include Warburton and Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches, the Victorian State Government, Upper Yarra Community Power, Yarra Ranges Council, Powershop, River Power Tasmania and the Warburton Golf Club.

*The Kimberley Powerhouse is named in honour of steering committee member and past Chairman of the Upper Yarra Community Enterprise Peter Kimberley, who passed away suddenly in July 2017, just months prior to project construction.



Pictured L to R: Carla (Yarra Junction Branch), Suzanne Mielnik (Bendigo Bank), Adam (Branch Manager), Dan, Ros, Julie, Wendy and Kate (Warburton branch).

Congratulations Dan! This September marked 20 years of service by Dan Mathers, our Customer Relationship Manager at Warburton, in the Community Bank® network.

Latest Sponsorships August Quarter and Ongoing Sponsorship 2018



- Auspicious Arts Projects Inc for The River Folk Festival 2019
- Warburton Summer Produce Market
- Gladysdale Hall Committee for Celebrating Gladysdale
- Millgrove Residents Action Group Inc for maintenance of parks and river walks
- Yarra Junction Junior Netball Club for affordable netball
- River Valley Church for Good Tucker Day
- Warburton Up & Running
- Yarra Junction Table Tennis Club (Keenagers) for 10th Tournament
- Adventcare for Resident's Bus

Ongoing Sponsorships

Warburton PS	Warburton Bowls Club
Wesburn PS	Yarra Junction Bowls Club
Millwarra PS	Yarra Junction Cricket Club
Gladysdale PS	Warburton Cricket Club
Yarra Junction PS	Yarra Valley Soccer Club
Little Yarra Steiner School	Warburton Golf Club
Upper Yarra Secondary College	Warburton Valley CEDA
Powelltown FNC	Warburton Tennis Club
Warburton Millgrove FNC	Youth Foundation Behind Bars
Yarra Junction FNC	UY Playgroup Network
Wesburn Junior FC	

Total this quarter/YTD - Sponsorships: \$119,026
TOTAL since 2000: almost \$4 million

Next Sponsorship Round closes at midnight on 11 November 2018.

Apply online: www.upperyarra.net.au/sponsorships

In 2019 Sponsorships will be distributed in three rounds in February, June and October.