

YARRA GLEN & DISTRICT TOWNSHIP GROUP

Newsletter No 8

IT'S RAINING!

It was great to see some much needed rain in our district on the weekend. 5 mm fell in Dixons Creek and with further rain this morning (Tuesday), it should freshen up the valley for the many activities happening over the next few weeks including...

YARRA GLEN AND DISTRICT ART SHOW

To be held at Balgownie Estate, Melba Hwy, Yarra Glen, Vic over Easter (6th – 9th April 2007), this show goes from strength to strength. Last year 140 artworks were sold for over \$25,000 and – with an increasing emphasis on the arts in the Yarra Valley – this year promises to be even more of a highlight.

Full details can be found on the website www.virtual.net.au/~yarraglenartshow/ or by contacting Christine Mullen by email: artshow@fullandplenty.com.

THE MELBA FESTIVAL

The Melba Festival is on next weekend with a collection of the best classical performers in Australia: **Alison Jones** (soprano), **Stefan Cassomenos** (piano), **Helen Noonan** (soprano), **David McNicol** (piano), **Boyd Owen** (tenor), **the Yarra Trio**, **Amir Farid** (piano), **Beth Williams** (mezzo-soprano) and **Simon Walkenhorst** (piano) and many others, performing at some of the best show places in the Yarra Valley.

In addition there is street art and musicians, **Local business owners** will dress in the costumes of “Yesteryear”, the **Melbourne Fire Services’ Museum** will display vintage fire engines – **classic cars** will be displayed along the main street and **cafes and food outlets** will have special breakfast promotions. An exhibition of **children’s art** and many displays at McKenzie Reserve means that the festival has something for everyone.

Tickets can still be booked on www.3mbsboxoffice.com or check out the Festival website on melbafestival@yahoo.com.au.

THE RYRIE FAMILY BOOK LAUNCH

John H Edwards’ book on early local pioneers the Ryrie Family is to be launched at **Gulf Station on Saturday, 24th March 2007**. Guest speaker will be Fr David Tomlins and further details can be obtained from Irene.Kearsey@bigpond.com or enquires about the book can be directed to norrongpress@ozemail.com.au.

HAVE BOTH SHOPS NOW BEEN LET IN YARRA GLEN?

Further to our brief mention last week, the “for Lease” sign is no longer on display in the new shops which indicates that they may now have been let.

THIS WEEK'S PLANNING APPLICATIONS

In a very quiet week for applications in our area, the only one was for an advertising sign for a winery/restaurant located at the end of Dixons Creek.

YARRA VALLEY CUP

Another big event occurring next weekend is the Yarra Glen Cup on **Sunday, 25th March**. This date coincides with the **Melba Festival** mentioned above and features the **Food and Wine Race Day**. No doubt the recent rain will be a huge fillip for **Brett**

Shanbrook in his preparation for this big day on the local racing calander. Further details can be found by emailing info@yarravalleyracing.com.au.

Other forthcoming events in the District include **Yarra Track's** release of their Pinot Noir on **25th March 2007** and the official opening of **Balgownie Estate Vineyard Resort & Spa** on **4 April 2007**.

Stephen Shortis, editor

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