

# YARRA GLEN & DISTRICT TOWNSHIP GROUP

*Newsletter No 11  
(Monday 9th April 2007)*

## **I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN!**

As soon as we committed to weekly newsletters (as we did in this newsletter last week) I knew that the news would dry up and I would struggle to fill the normal two pages we produce each week! Come on all you excellent contributors: let me have your latest news!

## **THE JOLLY THING**

One excellent publication I did receive recently is the “Jolly Thing” produced by members of the Steels Creek community. This newsletter is always full of interesting and relevant information about the district and the people and is a very good read. Anyone interested in receiving a copy should approach **Christine Mullen (email: [chris@fullandplenty.com.au](mailto:chris@fullandplenty.com.au))**

## **WATCH THIS SPACE**

**Ed Bartosh** – who often receives a mention in this newsletter because of his many community activities – is currently working on a website for us (the **Yarra Glen & District Township Group**). This will be another major step forward for the Group in its aim to engage as many stakeholders as possible to ensure that the views formed by the Group are truly representative of the Yarra Glen and District community. The Group has now chalked up a number of achievements and interested internet users will eventually be able to read about these, learn about the current and past members of the committee, access previous newsletters and link to other pages of interest including a copy of the Values and Visions Statement that forms the basis of the philosophy of the Group.

## **BALGOWNIE OPENING**

The Minister for Tourism **Tim Holding**, this week officially opened the Balgownie Resort and Spa in front of a number of dignitaries including fellow pollies **Ben Hardman, Christine Fyffe** and **David Hodgett**. Also present were shire representatives **Len Cox** and **Rob Hauser**, local vignerons **Steve Webber, Leanne DeBortoli** and **Bernadette Miller** and representatives of local businesses (**Marjorie Wollands, Frank Hoogenraad, Brett Shanbrooke** and **Brian Moyle**)

## **THIS WEEK'S PERMITS**

There was much more activity on the permit front this week after a couple of quiet weeks previously. Three planning applications were lodged for properties located in our District, all of them for Yarra Glen. These included: Construction of one dwelling and barn (1030 Yarra Glen Road), a Two lot subdivision (Sayle Street) and the Construction of second dwelling (Yarra Street).

## **YG & DTG MEETINGS**

All readers are reminded that they are invited to attend any of the monthly meetings of the **Yarra Glen & District Township Group** which are held on the second Thursday of each month. Dates for the next 8 months are as follows: 10<sup>th</sup> May, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 13<sup>th</sup> July, 10<sup>th</sup> Aug, 13<sup>th</sup> Sept, 11<sup>th</sup> Oct, 8<sup>th</sup> Nov and 13<sup>th</sup> Dec so mark these dates in your diary and contact our correspondence secretary **Melinda Koth** ([mkoth@bigpond.com](mailto:mkoth@bigpond.com)) with any submissions you care to make or just turn up at the meeting!

## **ACCOMMODATION STATISTICS**

With the ever raging debate over the big picture future for the valley, it is always interesting to read the occupancy rates and average length of stays provided by the Bureau of Statistics on a quarterly basis for the Upper Yarra region (and all other regions as well). For the December quarter, the occupancy rate for the Motels and guest houses from our area included in the survey was 26.3% and the average length of stay 1.7 days. As you would expect, the average length of stay in the month of December was above this average at 1.9 days but the occupancy rate was lower at 22.4%

## **ART SHOW**

**The Yarra Glen Art Show** at Balgownie Estate, Melba Hwy, Yarra Glen, Vic is on over this weekend. I hope to see you there. I will be able to report in next week's newsletter on the success of the show.

## **NEW READERS**

Once again we are able to welcome a number of new readers to our distribution list. Our aim is to be as inclusive as we can so we hope you enjoy our newsletters and we welcome any feedback that you wish to give to the Group.

As always, should you not wish to receive future editions of our newsletter, please reply to the editor with the word "delete" and we will remove you from our distribution list.

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