

YARRA GLEN & DISTRICT TOWNSHIP GROUP

Newsletter No 12 (Monday 16th April 2007)

VALE MICHAEL JONSON

An accident on the Vasey Haughton Bridge leading into Yarra Glen last week (Easter Monday) claimed the life of a local, Michael Jonson. Michael was born and bred in Yarra Glen – a local by any definition as he attended primary school in the district, went to Lilydale for his secondary schooling and returned to the town to live, play sport, socialize, be with his children, parents and many of his siblings who also remained in or near the township of Yarra Glen. He played football for Yarra Glen, tennis for Yarra Glen, Dixons Creek and Steels Creek and was known to nearly everyone. The huge congregation at the Uniting Church to pay tribute to him and his family showed the size of the footprint that he and his seven siblings have made on the social landscape of this district and the Yarra Glen & District Township Group mourn his untimely passing. Our sympathy is with his two children and all of his extended family.

YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED

After my plea last week for help with articles to fill this regular newsletter, I arrived at work after a wonderful Easter break to find emails from two of the **Yarra Glen & District Township Group's** biggest supporters: **Councillor Jeanette McRae** and **Ed Bartosh**. Both gave me good feedback on the **Yarra Glen Art Show** whilst Ed also passed on a report from **Athol Smith** on the recent **Dixons Creek/Steels Creek Wine Show 2007**. All of these reports are featured below, so thank you both for your quick response and ongoing support. Another good supporter has been **Eric Tetlow** who forwarded the **Yarra Glen & District Historical Society's** newsletter number 23.

YARRA GLEN & DISTRICT ART SHOW

Jeanette McRae was certainly extremely impressed with the opening of the art show. Here are her exact words: *I attended the opening of the Yarra Glen Arts Show last night and was in awe of the amazing talent. Christine Mullen and her band of volunteers - over 80- how impressive is that - a marvelous expression of community working together. The atmosphere was fantastic -the sense of community, so much involvement and energy, an opportunity to showcase talent, including a local young pianist who provided background music, a lot of involvement through donations from the Yarra Glen and Healesville businesses and a wonderful venue to boot! I felt privileged to be part of it.*

Ed Bartosh was able to provide me with some numbers to back up Jeanette's impression of how successful the art show turned out to be:

There were 497 works of art - paintings, sculptures, and mixed media pieces from 153 artists on display and for sale. The opening crowd jumped at the chance to support local artists - over \$9500 of art was sold on the evening. A portion of the proceeds goes to the Good Friday Appeal of the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne. Last year \$ 1,400+ in gold coin donations were collected and \$ 4,000 from commissions was sent to the Good Friday Appeal.

Three works, from Cherry Manders, Raelene Sharp, and Joke Frijlink were selected as best representing the Yarra Valley and its environs. The show ended Monday 9th April - thanks to all the artists, volunteers, sponsors, and visitors for making it possible.

Should you wish to know more, you could visit www.yarraglen.com/artshow/

DIXONS CREEK/STEELS CREEK WINE SHOW 2007

The 2007 Dixons Creek/Steels Creek Wine Show was held from Friday 23 March to 25 March 2007 at the Berry Café in Dixons Creek.

Despite a smaller number of wines being entered this year, the quality was high. A silver medal and best wine of the show was awarded to Panthers Paw for their 2003 Cabernet Sauvignon. Panthers Paw also picked up another three medals for their wines. Sticks 2006 Sauvignon Blanc and Sutherland Estate 2003 DHV Shiraz were awarded silver medals. There was a different format to last year with the amateurs wine makers being separated from the Commercial Wineries. Senior Judge Matt Aldridge believes that in future years both amateurs and commercial wineries should be in the same classes, as a wine should be able to stand on its own merit. He also said the show gives the opportunities for winemaker to showcase their wines, and following the show, discuss their wines with the judges and obtain helpful information.

Details on the show may be found at www.yarraglen.com/DCSC-wineshow/.

THIS WEEK'S PERMITS

Two permits of interest this week: one from a member of our township group **Brett Shanbrook**, who applied for a Liquor Licence Variation for the **Yarra Valley Racing Centre** and one for Restaurant and Cellar Door Sales at 1568 Melba Hwy (formerly Henkell's) as mentioned in a previous newsletter.

YG & DTG MEETINGS

Jeanette McRae also pointed out that it would be a lot easier for people to attend meetings of the **Yarra Glen & District Township Group** (as I invited in last weeks newsletter) if I had told them where the meetings are being held! They are held in the committee room at the **Yarra Glen Racing Centre** on the second Thursday of each month. For the remainder of 2007, these dates are: 10th May, 14th June, 13th July, 10th Aug, 13th Sept, 11th Oct, 8th Nov and 13th Dec. Contact our correspondence secretary **Melinda Koth** (mkoth@bigpond.com) with any submissions you care to make or just turn up at the meeting!

Stephen Shortis, editor

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