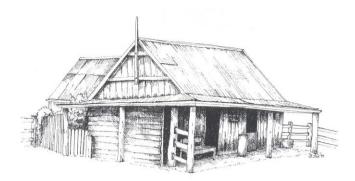
# FRIENDS AND RELATIONS OF GULF STATION DECEMBER 2018



# **Diary Dates (except if a Total Fire Ban** for *Central District*)

# Volunteers and supporters end of year celebration

**Thursday 20 December** after work (12.30pm). Please bring a plate or bottle of something to share.



#### BBQ 30 December - can you help?

Date for Yarra Glen and District Historical Society Bunnings BBQ; we can help in return for a share of profits. Let **Mike** or **Kevin Heeley** know if you can help.

#### First Sunday in January and February

Open to the public 11am to 3pm. Can you help on 6 January and/or 3 February?

#### David Clark 180th anniversary 2019

27 October 2019. Details on page 8.

#### **Thursday Work**

Newcomers welcome, all skill levels, gardening, general maintenance etc. Also visitor reception.

### Sorry for newsletter lateness

Just too little time, better late than never.

#### **Newsletter arrangements**

Emailed to those with email.

Volunteers' copies available for collection at Gulf Station.

Newsletter contributions always welcome.

# **Report from Work Group**

We hope all volunteers and other supporters will join in a celebratory lunch after work finishes on the last Thursday before Christmas (20th, 12.30pm). Please bring a plate or bottle of something to share.

Moving along to recent activities, the Open Day in October was a successful Saturday with 468 visitors, made all the more enjoyable with weather that couldn't have been better. We plan to do a similar day next year with a few more demonstrators and perhaps a couple more vendors.

Our Summer 'first Sunday in the month openings' was a little disappointing for November but we had 54 visitors for the December Sunday - made successful by the promotion in *The Age* gardening section, submitted by **Irene.** January opening will be on the 6th, a good time for those on holiday to visit Gulf Station. An embryonic plan is being hatched as I write.

We have a large contingent of agisted sheep munching their way through the grass and keeping the property in good shape (although they have a tendency to decide for themselves which field they prefer). Recent rains means that we are able to rotate them through the paddocks without lack of feed - at the moment.

Foxes have made their presence felt recently with two cubs seen in the garden and near the dam. Another vixen and three cubs have been sighted up by the reveg area (close to the western boundary). They will be welcome if they eat the rabbits, which are again busily excavating under buildings and creating ankle-wrenching holes around the place. Fortunately, there are no lambs at present.

Details of our activities for the last couple of months are elsewhere in the newsletter.

On behalf of the Work Group I'd like to thank everyone for their voluntary work around the property. We can look back over the last couple of years and see that Gulf Station has made progress to attract more visitors to enjoy all the work that everyone has contributed.

We wish everyone the compliments of the season - a safe and happy New Year.

Mike Ridley for the Work Group

# **Donations**

Thank you to those who sent donations towards Gulf Station. Trust head office now issuez receipts: if you haven't received yours, contact either the Trust or Irene who will follow-up for you.

### **FROGS and Volunteer news**



Belated congratulations on her 100th birthday in July to Betty Williams (an active FROGS supporter for many years who also had two ancestors on the David Clark with the Bells). The birthday was marked by a lunch with family and friends. Betty and her late sister Heather Oswin were key members of the organising group for the weekend of celebrations in 1989 to mark the 150th anniversary of the David Clark arrival in Melbourne. Betty's husband Noel is no longer driving so sadly Betty can't now get to Gulf Station but she sends her best wishes to her Gulf Station friends.



FROGS member Brenda Cawte of Yarra Glen sends her 'very best wishes to all the workers, ' and FROGS

member Margaret McKellar also sends greetings to all at Gulf.

At the recent Victorian Bands League State Solo and Ensemble Championships, Alex Moss (a trombonist) took first place in the Masters Slow/Sacred Melody section contest. Alex played a transcription for trombone and piano from the original violin piece by Corelli, Sonata No 10 Prelude (on this web site, the beautiful piece is played by another trombonist:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-LvHzSLMMw). Alex's prize (to

keep) is a very handsome cup. Many congratulations Alex! The band itself won second place, conducted by Melina Benger; the band, with Melina, contributed to Gulf Station's 'Parcels from Home ' event in 2014. Above image: VBL.org.au







Right image Melina Benger

No, this isn't a new animal at Gulf Station. Carina took this lovely photograph on her recent travels to India. She's now back to her busy life in Croydon and in Gulf's garden.

Sheila Wood is moving into supported accommodation; she enjoyed being in the School House on open days and helping during the Tadpoles era.

### Sad FROGS news

A long-time Relation member of FROGS, John (Jack) White, died in July. He was descended from William and Agnes Bell's son John (brother to Gulf Station's William). Jack grew up in Yarra Glen and newspapers of the day show he won prizes for writing and for his pony. In 1943, he joined the RAAF as aircrew. Recently Jack had moved from Bendigo to his son's home and had attended Betty's 100th birthday party only a few days before his sudden death. In recent years, Jack came to Gulf Station occasionally for family reunions and Christmas parties: the cake he regularly made and brought was so good, Irene asked for the recipe some time ago: this is re-published on page 8.



Image extracted from a 2016 group photograph by Carina Harding - the only one Irene could find



#### Death notice in Bendigo Advertiser

WHITE, John Alexander, July 30, 2018. Peacefully at Cherrywood Nursing Home, Orange. Dearly loved husband of Patricia (deceased). Much loved father and father-in-law of Chester and Janice, Karyn and Geoff, Cherished 'Gramps ' to Julian and Melinda, Emily, Cameron, Clementine, Caleb, Joel and great-grandchildren Oscar and Darcy. 'Ever In Our Thoughts ' Aged 94 Years.

We also had the sad news that an original member of FROGS, Norma Hay, had died last year.

# Work around the farm

These are just some of the outdoor projects but for each job taken off the list, another is added.

The wire gate in the fence between the small paddock beside the dam and the large paddock running below the school house has been replaced by a traditional wooden gate, much more appropriate in the heritage area (the wire gate has been used in the laneway, see below).

Ian has made a new gateway into the old pigsty yard (right). The old gate post on the left had rotted right through at ground level; **Cracka** provided a new post and after some serious digging the new post was fitted and the gate rehung. At least you can open it now! Well done, Ian. (Irene remembers that, when Peggy and her numerous litters lived in this yard, they used the gateway corner as their latrine, which could have hastened the rotting. The pigs' choice of site was not appreciated by any volunteer who needed to enter via the gate).



Now the two laneways have been fenced, those areas can be safely grazed (thus saving mowing). This job was on our task list and **Alan**, **Peter**, **Don**, **Barry** and **Ian** managed to get the job done. However, water troughs are needed (cost around \$700).

Before and after Images: Ian Gaff



Harvey has been restoring the sheep race behind the shearing shed. Does anyone know what other fences and gates would have been built to make these remnants fulfil their purpose in guiding the sheep through the foot wash and in or out of the shearing floor? In the photograph (left) you can just make out the parallel edges of the foot wash showing through the grass (shearing shed at the left). There are some puzzles to be solved by Harvey in this area.

Image: Harvey Clark





An area near the shearing shed has also had attention: the gate between the pig sty and the sheep/cattle yard where a gate had completely disintegrated. Ian has remade the gate and fixed the fence.

Before and after Images: Ian Gaff





# Tours and School visits - a busy year, reported by Pam

St Brigid's Primary School Healesville visited Gulf Station on the 16th and 30th August. Both of these visits involved a tour of the property as well as activities. The pupils had a lovely time churning cream into butter, grinding wheat into flour, peeling and coring apples, playing horse-shoe quoits and feeding our wonderful Clydesdales. There were 104 students and 16 adults over the two days.

35 members of the Rose City Benalla Probus Group visited on the 27th September and 40 tourists from Potter Travel on 9th October.

We were fortunate to be able to help Yarra Glen Primary celebrate their 150th Anniversary. The entire School visited Gulf Station over three Thursdays in November. This involved 161 children, which is a lot of apple coring etc. Ivanhoe Girls Grammar visited on Tuesday 20th November: 24 students all enjoyed a tour and activities.

Other school groups that visited through the year were Caulfield Grammar (47 students), Wonga Park Primary (100 students), Sacred Heart Primary (37 students)

We were also visited by Manningham City Council Social Support (12 adults) and U3A Hawthorn Photography (15 adults) and Yarra Ranges Genealogy(12 adults)

All of these tours, together with our Open Days, have kept our Guides really busy. Many thanks to **Ros**, **Neil**, **Barry**, **Arthur**, **Harvey**, **Peter** and **Mike**. Also a big thank you to **Marion** and **Irene** for their wonderful assistance on our big days

# Update for Gulf Station's Clydies from Bri Anderson

November marks my 6<sup>th</sup> month caring for the Gulf Station Clydesdales. I have enjoyed becoming part of the team at GS and building relationships with the horses here. As you know, I agist my two horses Mack and Red at Gulf Station also. Please fell free to give them a pat if you are keen!

Just a summary of what's been happening with the GS clydies:

- Booked for 6 weekly hoof trimming mid-November with resident farrier Jason Woods
- Ongoing regular treatment for mite prevention has been keeping the horses mite-free ③
- Kelly has spent some time in the small paddock by the main driveway due to her large stature and the emergence of sugar-rich spring grass
- Change of season brings worm prevention for the horses
- Dinah and Kelly currently enjoying the new shelter in the front pasture

# Matt's Clydesdales

**Matt** has a new Clydesdale - Cobber, just over one year old but he's not overawed by the big boys. When treats are on offer, the dominance of Trigger (the largest, and rather a bully) means Chance and Pride don't even come to the fence for a carrot; Gil comes, of course, but eventually gives way to Trigger and wanders off. But little Cobber doesn't give up - when Trigger pushes him away, Cobber just dodges to Trigger's other side, back and forth, until the treats are finished.

Cobber - dressed up but not yet working - with **Jane**, at the October Open Day Image: Irene Kearsey

# **First Sunday Openings**

Our experiment of opening on the first Sunday of each summer month got off to a quiet start in November: we had the 'open ' banners outside but the only other

notification was a change to our opening hours on the Trust website. However, for December, a submission to the 'Plotlines ' column of *The Age*'s Saturday garden page was successful and we had 52 visitors, almost all coming as a result of that listing. Visitors enthused about the garden, shown around by **Marion** and **Luella**;

HISTORIC PROPERTY The restored 19th-century garden at The National Trust property of Gulf Station, just outside the township of Yarra Glen, is open tomorrow (Sunday). The property includes historic box hedges, an orchard, herbs, vegetables and an ornamental cottage garden, all arranged around historically significant farm buildings dating from the mid-1800s. The property, at 1029 Melba Highway, Yarra Glen, is open 11 am to 3pm, \$9/ National Trust members free.

The Age Spectrum, 1.12.2018, p5.

they enjoyed **Pam** and **Ros'** house tours. **Alan** and **Stan** ran a BBQ, Mike's friend **Ann** provided tea and coffee, **Matt** and **Jane** (aided by Gil and Chance) mowed a paddock and Cobber was again handsome in his harness; Mike's friend **Vicki** took ticket money with **Irene**; **Mike** did a little scything; and **Peter, Glen** and **Betty** helped generally.

Gil and Chance Image Marion Bishop





## Garden news

Recent rain led to more weeds than Gulf's gardeners could cope with. Wanting to have the garden at its best for the December 'First Sunday,' **Justin Buckley** allocated three Trust staff gardeners, **Naomi**, **Darren** and **Luke**, for a day. They worked miracles, not even stopping for breaks. In addition to weeding, they found a vine growing in the middle of a garden bed so our gardeners are taking cuttings in the hope they get a plant to replace the (presumed) parent vine along the kitchen wing (which is very old and not looking well). The Trust gardeners also identified a plant, *Freesia Laxa*, that had stumped our gardeners: it's a bulb and doing nicely. And, if that wasn't enough, Justin sent three different heritage apple trees which **Alan** has planted in the orchard.

Thanks Naomi, Darren and Luke, and Justin for scheduling this help.



Freesia Laxa Image: Marion Bishop



# **Orchard news**

The orchard needs its own newsletter section this time: **Alan** had already done a wonderful job, mowing and trimming carefully around each tree, and generally tidying. The orchard already looked its very best when the Trust sent three new heritage apple trees which Alan planted strategically, filling gaps.

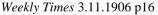
The next issue for the orchard is how to protect the produce from the fruit-rustlers who have struck for at least the last six years.

Recent visitors asked if we had preserves for sale. We'd need to process it in a commercial kitchen to sell to the public but, if we could harvest fruit, we could sell preserves among ourselves.

Image: Marion Bishop

# Wildlife at Gulf Station

Wood ducks have nested at Gulf Station in recent years using a hollow in the elm near the homestead's veranda, but that's not new: they've nested at Gulf Station at least as far back as 1906 (Gulf Station's dam was created only in the Trust's era):





Dr. Chapman, of Yarra Glen, is another sportsman who believes that black duck build their nests in trees high off the ground. He recently discovered a nest on the Gulf Station in a hollow of a tree stump 30 yards from the ground. The nearest water was close on a quarter of a mile away.

In September this year, a pair of wood ducks sat on the calf shed, perhaps checking out the volunteers as desirable neighbours. Later, a pair of king parrots also checked the real estate, but so far no indication of tenants. Now the elm tree is in full leaf, privacy is ensured.

Images: Irene Kearsey

**Mike** saw eggs in a nest built in the goose refuge on the dam island; these later hatched into ducks. Various types of duck have been using the dam recently and a darter has been seen a couple of times. The carp have also been seen, sometimes jumping clear out of the water - we need some fisherpeople!

A pair of willy-wagtails has again raised a family from a nest overhanging the dam. Before the chicks fledged, a wagtail parent was seen dive-bombing a fox cub (the cub retreated at speed).



# Report on the Open Day - Saturday 13 October 2018

A great success with over 460 visitors, thanks to the attraction of working horses, both **Matt**'s and those of members of the Victorian Working Draught Horse Association. Another attraction was **Cathie Berry**'s exhibition of beautiful painting inspired by Gulf Station. Blacksmith **Andrew** worked all day (and provided useful advice on items in the smithy); we hope he will become a regular at Gulf Station. A Spinners and Weavers group and a Basket-makers group demonstrated their crafts. **Jane**'s brother-in-law worked his sheep dogs. A great favourite was **Grayham Jowlet**'s horse-powered cart ride around the laneway (Grayham insisted on giving the gold coin collection to Gulf Station). **Peter Hopper** helped with the rope-making. The Tanjil River Band kept toes tapping. The Trust organised food vendors Wheelie Good Pizzas and Ma & Pa Organic coffee. And **Alex** recited bush poems.

All the volunteers worked so hard both to have the property at its best and then to make the day a success: the guides worked non-stop; the gardeners' stall did good business; the sausage sizzle team had to send out for more sausages; and FROGS merchandise sold well. We were grateful for help by Trust staffers **Sherredan** and **Alyse** on the front desk.



We'd been listed in several local newspapers; **Barry** photocopied (in colour) small posters (one put up in Montmorency brought two visitors): and **Cathie** arranged an article in *Living Today in Mooroolbark and the Yarra Ranges* (reproduced as the last page in this newsletter). The Working Group would welcome ideas for publicity (also for help in putting the ideas into practice).

R Spinners L Basket-makers Images Marion Bishop



# Fatal accident at Gulf Station in 1909

Evelyn Observer and Bourke East Record 16.4.1909 p2

## FATAL ACCIDENT.

Our Tarra Glen correspondent writes :- An accident of rather a serious nature happened to Mr W. Gordon, of Gelf Station, on Monday evening last whilst returning home from the Funthallers' Sports. The pony which he was riding turned saddenly through the gate and shot Mr Gordon of the other side, his head striking the gate. On being picked up was found to he unconscious. he Dr Vogla was quickly in attendance, and found he was suffering from a fractured skull. He ordered his removal to the Melbourne Respital at once, and he was taken on by the train that evening.

Be careful when turning into Gulf Station's drive - it's a dangerous corner:

The inquest records that William Edward Gordon died two hours after admission from a fracture of the base of the skull. Gordon, 53 years old, 'of diminutive stature,' single and of 'steady habits,' had worked at Gulf Station for about 15 years. The accident occurred when Gordon was returning from the Yarra Glen Football Club Sports fundraiser on Easter Monday. The Gulf Station party included John Bell, wife Rachael, Dinah Bell and friend Edward James Cunningham. The event included running, bicycle and horse races. J Smedley (perhaps Jack Smedley, later purchaser of Gulf Station) was third in the Footballers' Handicap and second in a 'Pony Novelty Handicap.' Both Frank and John Bell had entries in a 'Donkey Race' (for horses, not donkeys). Gordon was a starter in the 'Pony Novelty Race' on Jet, the pony he rode back to Gulf Station behind the Bells' buggy. At Gulf Station, Jet turned short at the gate and the saddle slipped causing Gordon to fall, landing on his head. John Bell called the local doctor

and William Bell took Gordon to the Melbourne Hospital by train arriving near midnight (what a nightmare journey for a serious injured man). The inquest records that Gordon was 'a fair horseman' and 'perfectly sober' at the time; the pony was 'very quiet.' The local constable presumed Gordon had 'neglected to sufficiently tighten the girth' when saddling up again to come home after the race. [The doctor's name was Vogler, not Vogla, as in the newspaper.]

In 1904, another accident happened near Gulf Station but with no serious done. Cr Smedley was the father of Jack, who purchased Gulf Station in the 1950s.

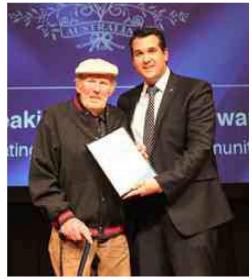
*The Age* 12.9.1904 p6

LILLYDALE.—Cr. Smedley, of Yarra Glen, while driving home with two other gentlemen in his buggy, collided with a butcher's cart near the Gulf station. The occupants were thrown out of the vehicle. Mr. Smedley received a nasty shaking, but the others escaped injury. The vehicles were somewhat damaged.

# Stan Hardidge, an 2018 Deakin Community Award winner

Although the August newsletter recorded **Stan**'s move to Pyalong, we're happy he's returned to this area and is back at Gulf Station. And he's in much better health - compare with the photograph below from August.

Nominated by the Croydon Men's Shed, **Stan Hardidge** was awarded a 2018 Deakin Community Award presented by local MHR, Michael Sukkar, at a ceremony on 6 August.



The commendation outlined Stan's many contributions towards the Shed and the wider community. These included

- Children's bikes restoration (for the Young Mum's Program)
- Bicycle restoration (Croydon Central School)
- Garden bed capping (Community Garden)
- Steps (for Community Garden)
- Mud kitchens (for Community Garden and local kindergartens)
- Croydon Community School Introduction to Carpentry
- Buddy Benches (for local primary schools)
- Picnic table/benches, callisthenics boards
- Possum boxes (for Warriors for Wildlife group)
- Restoration of outdoor benches
- Rosella breeding box, Tapestry stretcher frames

Stan's special project is the 'Treasured Babies' program, run through 'SIDS and Kids,' supporting bereaved parents while they are still in hospital with their stillborn baby: this includes provision of Angel boxes for burial and Memory boxes in which to keep precious items.

Congratulations from all your Gulf Station mates, Stan !

### Just suppose....

*The Argus*, 28.10.1857, p5 reported gold near Kangaroo Ground. A letter written by 'EGA of Wreckyn-street, North-west Melbourne' mentions a find near 'Mr Bell's paddock, about three miles from Eltham' presumably William Bell senior. It seems the Bells weren't tempted to look for the gold, merely to sell provisions to the diggers.

'I was also informed of another rush which had taken place to a spot called Rocky Gully—a place about three miles beyond Eltham, more towards Anderson's Creek where gold had been met with, but I could not learn with what amount of success.

This shows us four distinct parts of this range of hills in and among which gold has been struck, and in the cases of the first-named, got for a time in payable quantities. But I ought not to forget a spot called Dry Creek, adjoining **Mr. Bell's paddock**, also about three miles from Eltham, towards the Kangaroo Ground, which was rushed in a Dry Creek, Eltham Image: Eltham & District Historical Society



small way last year, and which I then paid a visit to, and obtained from one of the puddlers, who washed it in my presence, a small portion of gold. I am not aware whether any one is now at this place.'

# **Spruiking Gulf Station**

Thanks to **Barry**, reporter Kath Gannaway of *Mountain Views Mail* visited on 26 July, resulting in a nice article on Gulf Station. The web version includes several images of Gulf Station and volunteers (including this one): https://mountainviews.mailcommunity.com.au/mail/2018-07-30/maintaining-farm-heritage/

Peter, Barry, Mike and Harvey

Image Kath Gannaway



#### The Herald 25.2.1946 p5

### Bread Upon the Horses

SHE was an ardent church workand when she discovered was a lottery, and not a to which she had conthat 11 which she charity tributed and, more to the point, that she had won  $\pounds 50$ , she was norrified, and determined to wash her hands of ill-gotten loot without delay.

She rushed out into the street and thrust the notes into the hands of the first shabby man she met. "This is gambling money," she said. I can't handle it. Take it Good fortune."

couple of days later, the

shabby man was at the door, pushed a great wad of folding money into her apron.

Sorry, lady." he said. "I could around only get sevens Good Somebody else must be Fortune. wake-up too.

### Jack White's delicious boiled fruit cake

4oz butter

8oz raw sugar (brown) 12oz mixed dried fruit 1 can 15oz (425g) crushed pineapple 1teaspoon bicarb soda 1teaspoon mixed spice 1teaspoon cinnamon 8oz self raising flour 2 beaten eggs Melt butter and sugar together gradually in saucepan. Add mixed dried fruit and pineapple, and stir in bicarb soda and spices. Boil gently for 8 minutes then allow to cool.

Fold in additional flour and beaten eggs.

Pour into greased tin (Jack recommended putting a piece of parchment or greased brown paper in the base). Put into a moderate oven (175°C/350°F) and bake for approximately 1 to 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours.

### A special Croydon Cottage visitor

Our last visitor on the November First Sunday opening walked in and said, 'My grandmother lived in this house.' Warren Blee was able to tell us a little about the building and promised to share some photographs of his grandmother Eunice Blee inside the house. Luckily Matt was on site and could tell Warren about the building's move and explain why the roof-line differed from Warren's memory (Matt had found two segments of bargeboard in the roof-space which fitted perfectly, giving him the original angle of the roof).

### 180th David Clark anniversary 27 October 2019

Plans have not progressed far but soon an email will be sent to FROGS inviting anyone interested to respond to a special email address. The same message will be circulated as widely as possible and FROGS will be asked to forward the message to anyone they think might be interested. The event is aimed at descendants of any passenger on the 1839 voyage. The family surnames (spelling not necessarily as on the shipping list but using the best version Irene has been able to find in will, etc):

Aitkin, Armstrong, Arthur, Barr, Beith, Bell, Borland, Campbell, Cook, Dewar, Dick, Douglass, Duncan, Edgar, Farquharson, Finlay, Forman, Grierson, Halliday, Hawkins, Templeton, Johnstone, Joiss, Kennedy, Lawrie, Luckie, Macdonald, Mathieson, Mavor, McArthur, McDonald, McEwin, McFadden, McFarlane, McIntyre, McIntosh, McKenzie, McKindlay, McLachlane, McLaren, McLean, McMaster, McMillan, McNab, McNay, Menzies, Middlemiss, Munsie, Peacock, Renald, Robertson, Robinson, Rogerson, Shiels, Sloss, Smith, Stewart, Thomson, Walker, Welsh,

#### October garden images from Marion Bishop



# Tell it like it is?

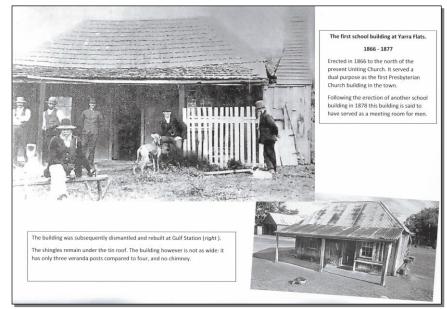
**Mike** and **Irene** took the rope-making machine (and the Gulf Station banner) to Mont de Lancey's two-day Draught Horse and YesterYear Festival (24-25 November) at Wandin. **Daniel Ball**, there to work his sheep dogs, came looking for Mike, saying, 'I knew you must be here - I keep seeing kids wandering around clutching bits of rope.' Mike took the opportunity of talking to some of the other demonstrators as possibly coming to Gulf Station events and got good responses.

But it wasn't all encouraging. Mike, when inviting kids to make some rope, always asks, 'Can you skip?' One small boy was only just tall enough to turn the handle.

Mike 'Can you skip? Small boy 'No, I'm too small.' Mike 'I can't skip either.' Small boy 'Well, you're too old.'

# Yarra Glen & District Historical Society 2019 calendar

This year the calendar features Yarra Glen State School, marking its 150 years, starting with the 1866 building built to serve as both school and Presbyterian church from 1868. This is the building later moved to Gulf Station. Each month is illustrated by a photograph moving forward through the years. Cost \$15 from Yarra Glen newsagent or from **Kevin Heeley**.



# **Gulf Station art**

As reported for the October Open Day, **Cathie Berry** exhibited (for sale) some of her beautiful paintings and drawings (all media) of Gulf Station. She still has a few available for sale (see two examples on the last page of this newsletter). If you are interested, email Irene and she'll forward your message to Cathie.

# Can you help?

We have a few large (corporate-style) umbrellas to lend visitors when it's raining but the supply is now one less - one umbrella has developed holes. Is there a large umbrella cluttering up your hallway? We'll take any off your hands.

# All the Colours of the Rainbow...

One Dreamtime story tells how birds were created when a rainbow shattered into a million pieces.

Each small piece of the rainbow had its own special colour, shape and size. And each piece turned into a beautiful bird that was different from all the others.

Most of the birds sang with joy as they flew down to earth. They developed beautiful, musical voices which everyone liked to listen to.

Other birds cried out in fear. Their voices were very rough and hard to listen to.

The Kookaburra was so happy as he sat watching the birds that he suddenly burst into laughter.

On the ground, the Kangaroos stood up on their hind legs to get a better view of the beautiful shower of birds.

Today, the Kookaburra is still laughing and the Kangaroos still stand up on their hind legs.

From Dreaming the Indigenous Way: Background notes, p7, Zoos Victoria

# National Trust's new garden book - the perfect Christmas present?

The Trust has just published a magnificent book on the gardens of 15 Trust sites in Victoria, including (of course) Gulf Station. The 200 pages are lavishly illustrated in colour; both text and photographs by Dr Anne Vale, writer and garden historian. This would be a lovely Christmas present at \$49.95 (10% discount for Trust members). There will be copies for sale and collection at Gulf Station, at Tasma Terrace and other major Trust venues; or order through the Trust's web site (plus \$15 postage): shop.nationaltrust.org.au/products/gardensof-the-national-trust-of-australia-victoria-by-anne-vale

