The Victorian Seekers Club

JAN/FEB 2025

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- -Christmas
  Breakup
- -Buy, Swap & Sell

# FOSSICKIN' ROUND

VOL. 47 ISSUE 1

The Victorian Seekers Club bi-monthly newsletter





Rob, Brent and Jayden at Moliagul Dig & Detect Day, organised by Rob.



Christmas Breakup Stake your Claim Winners

Moliagul Camp Fire



vicseekersclub@gmail.com

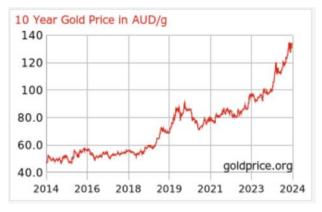
# Your Committee of Management 2023-2024

POSITION	DUTIES	NAME							
President:	Club management and representation, Chairperson	Steve Hillman							
Vice President:	President's deputy, arrange speakers.	Tony Pappas							
Research Officer:	Information about outings, field activity.	Eric Grummett							
Secretary:	Correspondence, meetings, camp permits and other administration	Ken Barlow							
Treasurer:	Financial reporting, paying and receiving money, banking	Kevin Hubbard							
Membership Secretary:	Membership enquiries, subscriptions, membership records	Louise McGough							
Newsletter Editor:	Newsletter compilation and distribution	Gary Harvey							
IT & Social Media Officers:	Website administration & Facebook	Anja McKnight							
		Rob Shannon							
Catering Supervisor:	Supper at General Meetings, special occasion camp catering	Steve Iorlano							
Social Secretary:	Organising social functions, raffles, theatre bookings etc	Tina Whelan							
Almoner:	Contact on matters of personal nature: weddings, bereavement etc	Susan Moore							
Library Officer:	Managing library at General Meetings	Sam Shvemer							
Clothing Officer:	Managing club clothing display at General Meetings and at camp outings	Susan Moore							
Field Officers:	Assist new members at outings, manage campfires, camp signage and any other campsite set-up/clean up d uties	John Wingham							
		Robert Hatvani							
:· — · · —		Ivan Albrecht							
	Vic Seekers	Tye Sweeney							
	UHF 12	Brian McGough							

### **CLUB CALENDAR**

VSC General Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except January) at 7.30pm for 8pm start.

\*Mulgrave Community Centre, 355 Wellington Road, Mulgrave. All welcome.



Gold price as at 18/12/2024

### **DECEMBER 2024**

Moonambel 26th Dec- 1st Jan 25

**JANUARY 2025** 

General meeting No Meeting

Talbot 24th –29th January

(Moved from Amherst)

### FEBRUARY 2025

General meeting 5th February
Kingower 14th-19th Feb

**MARCH 2025** 

General meeting 5th March

Scarsdale 7th-12th March

FILL IN ALL HOLES, take your rubbish home and carry a valid MINERS RIGHT at all times.

Under current Government requirements fossickers should be trained in first aid; should carry water, a mobile phone, a list of contacts in case of emergency and a basic first aid kit.

Members are reminded that dogs at camps are to be kept on leash at all times.





The Victorian Seekers Club Inc. (Reg. No. A0001477T)

Postal:

PO Box 15

Mt Waverley BC Vic 3149

Fmail:

vicseekersclub@gmail.com

Website:

http:/www.victorianseekersclub.org.au

Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/Victorian-Seekers-Prospecting-Club-1985818041670592/

#### The purposes of the Club are to:

- Promote the skill of prospecting using metal detectors and other suitable equipment in the search for gold, other precious metals, minerals, gemstones, coins, artifacts and relics.
- Encourage and foster friendship and co-operation amongst people interested in the above pursuits.
- Collaborate with other similar clubs and organizations.
- Hold meetings, lectures, demonstrations, field outings and competitions for the furtherance of members' prospecting skills and experience.
- Engage in fund raising activities for the bona fide purposes of the Club.
- Encourage all members to act in an environmentally and socially responsible manner, and in accordance with the Law.

Our prospecting activities are governed by a code of conduct as laid out in the Club Rules including respecting owners of private property and respecting the natural environment, hence our motto: "SEEK BUT DON'T DESTROY"

# President's Report



(The President and his wonderful "First lady")

Hello fellow members,

Here we are with Christmas just around the corner. Time flies!

I will keep it short this time as there is a lot of other stuff going into this newsletter.

It has been a mixed year for many of us and for many different reasons. I sincerely hope that next year is a great one for us all. We still have some members who are unwell and we send our best wishes.

We have enjoyed several great camps this year. At the Moliagul camp in November we had a "Movember" day on Cup Day. Everyone wore fake moustaches or if we had a real one, we coloured them blue. Imi bravely had his head shaved to raise funds and we raised \$220 on the day. The Club has topped that up to \$300 and this has been donated to "Movember", which is a cause for all men's physical and mental health.

Lars once again ran the Cup sweeps and it was really good to see him and Gunilla back at a camp after Gunilla's health issues this year.

The Club Christmas breakup picnic day was held on 8<sup>th</sup> December and was sadly only attended by 23 people. The weather was very kind and all who attended had a great time. Please see the report elsewhere in this newsletter.

By Steve H

The club 2025 calendar can also be found in this newsletter.

Special note re our January camp, which was to be at Possum Gully Rd, Amherst: It looks like the area has all been fenced off! Whilst we investigate, the camp venue has been changed to Norbury Rd Talbot.

Also regarding our January camp: Sue K has arranged for us to visit the Amherst Winery on the afternoon of 25<sup>th</sup> January. We need to let them know the numbers so please let me know ASAP if this is something you would like to do.

And I would like to make a special mention of the very generous donations that Miners Den has made to our raffles this year. Yes, we do purchase raffle prizes from Miners Den and always at a discount. However, these guys go above and beyond, donating many pricey items to us. Scales, Pro Gold Premium Panning kit, several paydirt bags, The large Doug and Julie Stone gold guide book - all higher priced items, along with caps etc. When you go to either Bendigo or Mitcham stores, please let the guys there know you are from The Seekers and thank them for their donations. It's nice for them to know that their generosity is appreciated.

Wishing everyone a very merry Christmas and a safe, healthy and happy 2025.

Your President, Steve H



### THE VICTORIAN SEEKERS CLUB CALENDAR

2025

	COM	DMMITTEE MEETING					GENERAL MEETING				CLUB OUTINGS					PUBLIC HOLIDAYS						VSC SPECIAL EVENTS							
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IOTES:		ov 4th Club Cup Day BBQ ec 7th Club Christmas breakup picnic. Venue TBC																											



### NUGGETFINDER

professional gold hunting accessories

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Evolution range: great coverage, sensitivity, depth, and lightweight... a fantastic all round coil perfect for both the weekend prospector or the serious professional



# Christmas Breakup-Wicks Reserve

Steve H

Our annual break-up day was held on 8th December. I was somewhat surprised to see only 23 of us turn up for the day as I was hoping for a lot more members to enjoy the day.

The day started off a bit ordinary. First of all the weather was rather dark and cloudy; however that soon changed and we were left with a bright sunny day with pleasant temperature. Secondly, when we arrived there, there was a load of what appeared to be rubbish, dumped in front of the rotunda. On inspection, we quickly realised this was the leftover stuff from a robbery as there were "break-in" tools and two receipts showing someone's full name, address and phone number details plus a key fob with a couple of keys on it. I called the number on the receipts and left a voice message. The guy called me back shortly thereafter and said that his car had been stolen from Fountain Gate shopping centre the day before. A lady who had been sleeping in her car at the other end of the parking area, told me she saw a blue commodore wagon pull up, the two occupants yelling and screaming at each other and they dumped all the stuff and took off. It turns out that it was the robbers and the stolen car! The poor guy came to Wicks and salvaged what he could from the rubbish, noting that his house keys had been taken of the garage fob and his credit cards and other important items had been in the car (Lesson there, do not leave keys or credit cards etc in your car – ever!)

Anyway, the day was enjoyed by all who attended and much fun was had.

The Stake Your Claim game was run and won:

First prize, 1.5 gram nugget went to Sue K.



Second prize, 1.0 gram nugget went to Marj H (even though I paid for her entry, she claimed it!)

Third prize, 0.5 gram nugget was won by Tony P.

The token hunt was very exciting. Everyone who entered was rushing through trying to find as many tokens and lucky keys as possible. This year we had all new tokens. Thank you to Eric for taking a lot of time to organise these. Plus we had two special old pennies worth a \$5 prize to anyone who found them. There remains in that area (we think) 5 or 6 of the old red anodized aluminium tokens. None of those were found so we wonder if "others" have found them over the last couple of years.

Steve H was pipped at the post by one of our newer members, Mario S. Steve found 25 tokens and thought he would have the most. However; Mario found 26! He won the prize for most tokens: \$20

Lucky key to gold casket: won by Tony P for the \$50 prize.







Token #1: won by Steve H for \$10 prize

Token # 100: won by Brian S for \$10 prize

First token number drawn: won by Lindsay T for \$50 prize

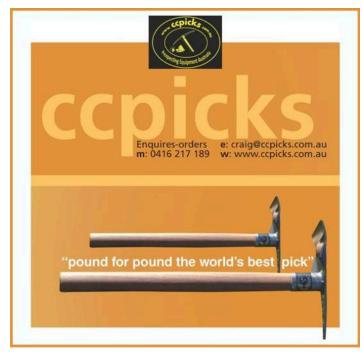
Second token number drawn: won by Mario S for \$20 prize

Third token number drawn: won by Mario S for \$10

Lucky penny #1: won by Tony P for \$5 prize Lucky penny #2: won by Mario S for \$5 prize

I believe there may have been some sort of mis-count as we thought we still had 11 of the new tokens remaining unfound at the end of the game. Tony P went out afterwards and recovered another 4 tokens plus the remaining missing key. On counting out the tokens after I got home, all 100 have been accounted for plus all 50 keys. Great work by our token





hunters and thank you Tony for going back and finding the last items.

Then we drew door prize tickets. There were lots of door prizes which were well-received.

Then the draw of the big Christmas Hamper raffle.

The winners:

1st price went to Tye S

2nd prize went to Bob L

3rd prize went to Sue M

Well done to all who won prizes on the day and I hope all those cakes, biscuits and donuts etc

have not contributed too much to our waistlines.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the day: Carting stuff to and from the venue, lending equipment for the day, helping out with the initial cleanup, assisted with running the games and with the cleaning up afterwards. A special mention goes to Tina and Susan for buying all the goodies for the door prizes and the hampers and of course for making up the hampers, wrapping the door prizes. Also special mention to Paul and Thomas for running the token hunt for us this year. I believe Mario may be running it next year! With help from someone else, of course.







severe weather. **FIRE DANGER RATING** 

periods of

Forests.

enter State Parks and

Camp may also be cancelled during other



# Dodgy Daves Buy Swap & Sell

### Minelab 2300 For Sale

We have a 2300 for sale because Judy is finding it too difficult to dig holes etc. The unit has hardly been used so we are asking \$3000 for it. For more details please contact

Phil Coates on 0411093015.



For Sale:

Deus 11 detector, one of the best coin and relic detectors on the market.

I purchased this and used it for a week at the Rosebud camp and never since. I just don't have the time! Still has original box and I custom-made a nice carry bag for it.

Screens still have original protective films on them.

Cost was \$2,500.00 I'm looking to get \$1,900 to \$2,000 for it. make me an offer if interested. steve - 0418171968



FOR SALE

Uniden 2 Way 2 watt radios.

A must for safety in the bush.

Both units in good condition

\$ 80 for both

Call Gary on 0417572205

# Snake Bite Helpful Information

That bite of summer has well and truly come early this year and with that heat, comes snakes. This article was written by Rob Timmings Rob runs a medical/nursing education business Teaching nurses, doctors and paramedics. It's well worth the read #ECT4Health

3000 bites are reported annually. 300-500 hospitalisations 2-3 deaths annually.

Average time to death is 12 hours. The urban myth

that you are bitten in the yard and die before you can walk from your chook pen back to the house is a load of rubbish.

While not new, the management of snake bite (like a flood/fire evacuation plan or CPR) should be refreshed each season.

Let's start with a Basic overview.

There are five genus of snakes that will harm us (seriously)

Browns, Blacks, Adders, Tigers and Taipans.
All snake venom is made up of huge proteins (like egg white). When bitten, a snake injects some venom into the meat of your limb (NOT into your blood). This venom can not be absorbed into the blood stream from the bite site.

It travels in a fluid transport system in your body called the lymphatic system (not the blood stream). Now this fluid (lymph) is moved differently to blood. Your heart pumps blood around, so even when you are lying dead still, your blood still circulates around the body. Lymph fluid is different. It moves around with physical muscle movement like bending your arm, bending knees, wriggling fingers and toes, walking/exercise etc.

Now here is the thing. Lymph fluid becomes blood after these lymph vessels converge to form one of two large vessels (lymphatic trunks)which are connected to veins at the base of the neck.

Back to the snake bite site.

When bitten, the venom has been injected into this lymph fluid (which makes up the bulk of the water in your tissues).

The only way that the venom can get into your blood stream is to be moved from the bite site in the lymphatic vessels. The only way to do this is to physically move the limbs that were bitten.

Stay still!!! Venom can't move if the victim doesn't move.
Stay still!!

Remember people are not bitten into their blood stream.

In the 1980s a technique called Pressure immobilisation bandaging was developed to further retard venom movement. It completely stops venom /lymph transport toward the blood stream.

A firm roll bandage is applied directly over the bite site (don't wash the area).

Technique:

Three steps: keep them still

Step 1

Apply a bandage over the bite site, to an area about 10cm above and below the bite.

Step 2:

Then using another elastic roller bandage, apply a firm wrap from Fingers/toes all the way to the armpit/groin.

The bandage needs to be firm, but not so tight that it causes fingers or toes to turn purple or white. About the tension of a sprain bandage.

Step 3:

Splint the limb so the patient can't walk or bend the limb.

Do nots:

Do not cut, incise or suck the venom.
Do not EVER use a tourniquet
Don't remove the shirt or pants - just bandage
over the top of clothing.
Remember movement (like wriggling out of a
shirt or pants) causes venom movement.

DO NOT try to catch, kill or identify the snake!!! This is important.

In hospital we NO LONGER NEED to know the type of snake; it doesn't change treatment.

5 years ago we would do a test on the bite, blood or urine to identify the snake so the correct anti venom can be used.
BUT NOW...

we don't do this. Our new Antivenom neutralises the venoms of all the 5 listed snake genus, so it doesn't matter what snake bit the patient.

Read that again- one injection for all snakes! Polyvalent is our one shot wonder, stocked in all hospitals, so most hospitals no longer stock specific Antivenins.

Australian snakes tend to have 3 main effects in differing degrees.

Bleeding - internally and bruising. Muscles paralysed causing difficulty talking, moving & breathing.

Pain

In some snakes severe muscle pain in the limb, and days later the bite site can break down forming a nasty wound.

Allergy to snakes is rarer than winning lotto twice.

Final tips: not all bitten people are envenomated and only those starting to show symptoms above are given antivenom.

Did I mention to stay still.

~Rob Timmings
Kingston/Robe Health Advisory
#vrarescue #snakebite

## Moliagul Camp Report

Bv Maree B

Moliagul Camp Report - By Maree B

The November VSC camp was held, with some of us enjoying an extended Melbourne Cup weekend. We had 39 campsites with a total of 45 people attending plus several day visitors in the bush at Moliagul. A few prospective members also joined us to try their luck. A big thank you to the members who assisted and offered advice to these eager prospectors.

The weather was generally kind to us, although there were occasional strong winds that prevented a campfire gather-



ing on some nights. Special thanks to those who kept the firewood well-stocked.

On Saturday, many members traveled to Dunolly for a presentation about the history of the battle with the government over permission to mine the land they owned. After the presentation, Brett jumped into an excavator and continued his digging, while Jayden used his metal detector to scan the freshly disturbed ground. He did manage to find a couple of small pieces. A big thank you to Rob for organizing permission for many of us to access the private land and see for ourselves how the hard work is done. Afterward, I think many of us stopped by







the bakery for some tasty treats.

Speaking of treats, we'd like to thank Graham for bringing his famous party pies out on Sunday night. The raffle around the campfire on Saturday evening was a big hit, with lots of prizes to choose from. I was lucky enough to win something I really wanted—thank you to everyone who donated prizes.

Due to popular demand, "Stake Your Claim" was set up again, and the winners



Jenny H Steve H Eric G

Graham M Well done to all the

The Melbourne Cup sweep was organized by Lars as always. There were two sweeps, and one of our friends Alan, who was at camp with his wife as our quests, won first in one of



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COILTEK@NEX.NET.AU



them. I think my horse is still running.

Finally, a huge thank you to Imi, who accepted the challenge to raise money for Movember. We all watched in anticipation as Alister took the clippers and shaved Imi's head. A total of \$220 was raised during this challenge and the club added to this and donated \$300 to the Movember charity. Thanks to everyone who participated in the blue hair and moustache event-it was a lot of fun,





The Prospectors and **Miners Association of** Victoria is a voluntary body established to protect and enhance the rights and opportunities of those who wish to prospect, fossick or mine in the State of Victoria, Australia https:// pmav.org.au/











and thankfully the blue color washed off easi-



Now, to the most important part of the camp—GOLD. That yellow stuff was very hard to find. Some tiny specks were found by quite a few of us and a few larger pieces. Notably Rob found a 7-gram nugget and John from NSW found a 2-gram nugget using his new Algoforce 1500 machine.

Thanks to everyone for making the camp such a memora-

ble experience. Let's keep trying and look forward to the next one!



















FOSSICKIN' ROUND

# Prospectors Perish

Bodies of missing prospectors, aged 65 & 69, found after extensive search

Published: November 15, 2024

The bodies of two experienced prospectors have been found in a north Queensland goldfield.

A massive search was launched for Garry Edser, 65, and Kristine Starr, 69, after they failed to return to the Croydon Caravan Park, 500 kilometres west of Cairns.

The Gold Coast Bulletin reports the bodies were found by a search-and-rescue team less than three kilometres from their car. They had been prospecting at Esmerelda Station, and it is believed they had become lost while trying to get back to their vehicle.



It is understood the caravan park initially alerted police when the couple failed to return. Concerns grew after the pair's personal possessions, in-



### Clubs 2300 detector for hire.

Free for members and \$20/day to non members (accompanied by a member) and also comes with limits on frequency of use. To book, contact Eric 0488972922

cluding mobile phones, was spotted inside their Toyota Hilux.

Many grey nomads enjoy prospecting as they travel. PIC: Cosmin Gavris / Pexels

The Bulletin reports that a massive search was launched, including general duties officers on horseback and motorbikes, officers from the Stock Squad and State Emergency Services volunteers.

The Rescue 510 helicopter searched from the air and local mustering helicopters volunteered to help.

A mustering helicopter is believed to have spotted the pair late on Wednesday afternoon.

"Police conducted an extensive land and air search over the remote area which sadly resulted in locating the pair deceased," Search and Rescue Coordinator Sergeant Winfried Weiss said.

According to the Bulletin, it is believed Mr Edser and Ms Starr followed the wrong gully while trying to return to their car and became lost.

Croydon has a dry season that lasts from April to November, with temperatures reaching into the high 30s earlier this week.

The caravan park posted about the tragic discovery on their social media account.

"So sad to hear the news – two of our regular guests were found deceased this afternoon," the post said. "Our condolences go to family, friends and loved ones,"

The Bulletin reports that business records show Mr Edser and Ms Starr jointly own a Toowoomba -based company called Finrank that offered mapping, geological and data analysis services, as well as mineral identification services.

The double tragedy is a reminder to prospectors, bushwalkers and everyone who ventures into the Outback of the potential perils that exist, and the need for extreme caution.





# 

Acrylic Beanie - Toque - 4243

\$20.00 Ex, GST



Brushed Cotton Cap - 4199

\$20.00 Ex. GST



Mens Heavy Weight Fleece -

\$61.90 Ex. GST



Brushed Heavy Sports Twill Hat - 4250

\$20.00 Ex. GST

# Club Apparel

The new club clothing supplier (Fully Promoted) is now up and running. This is an on-line ordering system. You can pay them directly and the order sent to your nominated delivery address at extra cost, or if you can wait a little while then another member may be able to pick your order up and give it to you at the next camp or meeting.

Pick up is also available (Glen Waverley)

https://
shop.fullypromoted.com.au/
TheVictorianSeekersClubInc



### **Public Dump Points**

Members are reminded that human waste is not to be dumped in the bush but is to be disposed of at home or a Public Dump Point. Here are some that are in our areas of the camps:

Ararat Dump Point: 4 Alexander Ave. Ararat , Grid Ref. 37:16:49.75, 142:56:0.8E

- Avoca Dump Point.
   Located outside Acoca Caravan Park in Faraday st
- Bendigo Showground Public Dump Point: 42A
   Holmes Rd., North Bendigo, Grid Ref. 36:44:18.3S, 144:16:17.5E
- Beaufort RV Dump Point
   25 Lawrence st, Beaufort. Entry from Havelock st
   Easy access for large rigs
- Clunes Public Dump Point: 70 Bailey St., Clunes, Grid Ref. 37:17:38.1S, 143:46:51.2E
- Dunolly Dump Point
   Maude st Dunolly.
   Shared use with privately run Dunolly Caravan Park
   Enter through gate at Maude st.
- Harcourt Public Dump Point 6 Bridge St., Harcourt, Grid Ref. 36:59:40.3S, 144:15:45.3E
- Kyneton Mineral Springs Stopover: 219 Burton
   Ave., Kyneton, Grid Ref 37:14:7.1 S, 144:25:9.1 E
- Newstead Racecourse Dump Point
   McNabb Rd, Newstead. Open 24 hours
- Maryborough Goldfields Reservoir
   Reservoir rd, Maryborough. Drive through
- Seymour Public Dump Point: Cnr. Wallis & High St., Seymour, Grid Ref. 37:1:14.6S, 145:8:6.0E
- Tarnagulla Recreation Reserve, Tarnagulla.
   Gold Coin Donation.

Refer: toiletmap.gov.au; highwaytraveller.com.au



Support the group that is protecting your rights to enjoy the bush <a href="https://www.bugu.org.au/">https://www.bugu.org.au/</a>

Support the group that is protecting your rights to enjoy the bush - The BUGU - and buy a car sticker from Eric for only \$2. Also attend the protest rallies that show other that we care about access to the bush. Get them from Eric Grummett.

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