



## Keep up-to-date with METG News:

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The Mt Evelyn Township Group meets the first Thursday of every month in the Community Room at the Station House, 50 Wray Crescent, Mt Evelyn, at 6.30 p.m.

If you are interested in Mt Evelyn, come along and meet us. Everyone is welcome.

## Contact Us

The Secretary  
**METG**  
P.O. Box 289  
Mt Evelyn  
Victoria 3796

## Mt Evelyn Town Planning Event

Every town within the Shire is encouraged to produce a Community Plan to be presented to Council that, when accepted, will be used as a reference point for planning the town's future. July 13 was the first of three planned community 'Have Your Say' events to gather the information for the Mt Evelyn Community Plan due in 2017. The next meeting will be towards the end of this year and the last one early next year.

To gather information that reflects the community as a whole, the invitation went out to the many community, business, and interest groups that Mt Evelyn is privileged to have. On the night 60 people, residents and business owners alike, arrived to participate. Our aim for the evening: 'Everyone will be given the opportunity to be heard'.

The evening was launched with an interesting explanation of Indigenous culture from Andrew Peters as he provided the 'Acknowledgement of Country'.

Chad Foulkes, our facilitator for the evening, laid down one simple rule, 'We all have a voice and we all have feet, use them'. One at a time people stood up and presented their topic. A table was allocated to each topic and over the night other topics were added. We all took the opportunity to 'Have Our Say'. Each topic had a champion who gathered information and ideas, which were documented and added to the pile of future possibilities.

The topics ranged from increasing the Christmas Spirit, building a sports complex, traffic problems, to the development of a community garden. Many of these ideas are already into the next phase with teams signed up on the night, and you will hear more about them as the year unfolds.

If you would like to know more, please email [mtevelynplan@gmail.com](mailto:mtevelynplan@gmail.com) Don't forget to look out for the date of our next community 'Have your Say' event. If you have an idea you wish the community to discuss at our next planning event, let us know and we will notify you personally of the date. Community involvement helps to create a cohesive and functioning township.

I wish to thank TastyAz, a not for profit organisation, for the amazing food, and the many members of the Mt Evelyn Township Group that made the night run so smoothly. ☐

**Sue Colverson**  
President

METG News

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Below: Scenes from the Mt Evelyn Township Group Planning Event



# The Purple Patch

Parks and gardens are monuments to the contemplative nature of men and women. There are some well-known Botanical Gardens and many famous private gardens. The charm of Claude Monet's garden at Giverny is preserved for us forever on his canvasses. Anne Hathaway, William Shakespeare's wife, is known for the delightful garden surrounding her cottage. Vita Sackville-West created utter delight and enchantment with a garden planted entirely with white-blooming flowers. It is said that at dusk this White Garden at Sissinghurst in England gave an unearthly, ethereal feeling, for many white flowers are evening-scented.

Jacques Frich wants to create a purple garden right here in Mt Evelyn. The Purple Patch is a piece of ground offered by Yarra Hills Secondary College for Jacques to develop into a community garden. The garden overlooks Yarra Hills Secondary College, and then your gaze sweeps across the wonderful vista of the valleys below and upwards to the purple misty hills against the wintery horizon.

This initiative came out of the suggestions put forward at the Mt Evelyn Planning Event.



Holes dug by *Oryctolagus cuniculus*

The fenced plot of land has a water tank and pump. Some evidence of pathways and terracing is visible through the thicket of brambles. There seems to have been a drip-feeding watering system but it probably needs to be replaced. And, an essential for every garden, a scarecrow. Now all this garden needs is a bit of TLC.

Why the name 'The Purple Patch'?

Jacques would like to grow mainly purple or blue vegetables. Purple and blue vegetables and fruits are often high in antioxidants, making them an excellent source of this vital ingredient in our diet. There is evidence that purple foods improve heart health, vision and brain power.



Jacques Frich among the *Rubus fruticosus*

There is much hard work to be done. Unfortunately one of the first tasks is to evict a large family of rabbits who have made an extensive network of burrows under the garden. The other urgent task is to eradicate the blackberries. Most of the Patch is covered with this invasive plant and we need to get on with clearing. Spring is not far away and Jacques wants to prepare the soil for early planting.

There are some fruit trees there – perhaps an apple tree and a couple of plum or nectarine trees. With some judicious pruning, there is no reason why they should not bear abundant fruit. A bare vine, probably a Kiwi fruit, snakes extensively around the fence and fence-posts. Again, a bit of pruning ....





We need something to scare the rabbits!

So what might Jacques and his team grow? Why don't you enter the competition to name as many edible purple or blue fruits and vegetables as you can? You must not only give the plant's common name but also include its binomial Latin names. The rules are that the plants must all be able to be grown in the Mt Evelyn soil and climate. I know blackberries are purple, rich in antioxidants, and delicious. Unfortunately blackberries are classed as noxious weeds, for obvious reasons, and you must not include them on your competition list.

The winner of the competition will receive a \$50 gift voucher from a local plant nursery. To enter simply email your list of plant names, your name, address and telephone number to: [mtevelynplan@gmail.com](mailto:mtevelynplan@gmail.com)

Jacques is inviting expressions of interest to establish a dedicated team of experienced and novice gardeners to cultivate and maintain this glorious plot of land by the school. Please call or text Jacques Frich on 0414 562 586 to register your interest, skills, and availability to make this a truly successful community garden. □

**Eva Windisch**

## Goodbye UYCH Hello CIRE Services

Cire Services is an organisation whose team of professionals continues to meet the daily needs of local communities and beyond.

The Upper Yarra Community House has a proud 35-year history providing educational and support services to families and individuals. As a not-for-profit organisation we pride ourselves on delivering a diverse range of programs that benefit people of all ages and backgrounds. Young children, working families, youth, adults, and the elderly all benefit from the services offered.

People matter to us, and it is our job to find solutions for their care and educational needs. Cire provides care for the elderly with Cire In Home Care, childcare arrangements with Cire Children's services, accredited and pre-accredited training with Cire Training, and senior secondary schooling with Cire Community School.

Upper Yarra Community House (UYCH) has grown significantly and now with its new name CIRE is one of the largest employers in the Yarra Valley. A suite of services is offered across several sites, and we are renowned as the gateway to community education. The breadth of services has expanded organically and this has led to the expansion of services geographically too. Having more relevance in areas outside of its origin has therefore driven the name change whilst maintaining the quality.

Becoming a registered independent senior secondary school was one of the proudest milestones in 2014. A Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) program for young people needing an alternative to mainstream schooling with a hands-on approach to learning was well received by families who needed another option for their children's education.

Providing quality educational courses with Cire Training gives community members the opportunity to receive recognised qualifications in a supported training environment within their own community.

Opening extra outside-school-hours care sites to augment the long day care centres supports families and provides quality care services for the children with peace of mind for the families.

Supporting our elderly to remain living in their own home is the commitment and passion from Cire In Home Care.

We came to realise that UYCH was more than its origins as a community house. It became a household name with a reputation of established trusted services within its community. The varied services were of such quality that they grew in demand beyond the local community. By confidently supporting people throughout their lifespan, from new-born babies to seniors, our reality was that we needed to create a relevant brand beyond the local Yarra Valley region. We remain proud of our history



L-R: Chris Mosley, Ajesh Abraham, Tim Knowles, Gus Seremetis, Jeni Sykes, Nina Bekker, Marisa Grillo

and recognise the contribution that it has played in our achievements. It is now time to consolidate our services under the one name in order to broaden our customer reach and create new opportunities. Our uninterrupted commitment to our clients demonstrates our commitment to the community, and we are now very excited about sharing this experience with other communities. I am excited about the new name and the strength and opportunities for others it will bring. □

**Gus Seremetis**  
Cire Services CEO.

## Stitch and Craft Group

In a warm and social atmosphere of kindness, like-minded people meet on Wednesday mornings at 10.30 at the Mt Evelyn Community House. Members of our group make craft items such as quilts and jumpers for families or for various charities.

You may want to learn a skill or share and teach others your skill. You might just have a bit of time on your hands and want some pleasant company. Why not take some time out and come along and join us for a cuppa? There are many skills to learn. I joined to learn how to crochet and stayed on to learn how to do needle point, quilting, applique, and spinning.

You might like to help with some of the charity work such as making quilts for children in hospital or tiny garments for babies born prematurely. We also make the most beautiful layettes for babies who have died. Perhaps you would like to knit a jumper for a needy child. We have an easy pattern for a jumper that is made in one piece. Many jumpers are sent to Africa, as it can be cold in the desert at night.

Each year our ladies decide on a theme and put together a quilt. The quilt is raffled, and the money raised is donated to a charity of our choice. Many quilts were made for the families who lost everything in the bushfires. Come and have a look at the applique panels we have made for this

year's charity quilt. Perhaps you may like to buy a ticket for a chance to win the quilt when it's completed. Raffle tickets can be bought at the front desk in the Community House. The phone number for the Community House is 9736 1177.

Amy has made a quilt of 5000 one-inch hexagons. What a lot of patience she has and her work is fabulous. Chris and Helga make also wonderful quilts.

Joan, one of our talented ladies, makes the most delightful cards. They are works of art, and Joan often holds workshops, especially around Christmas, to teach us how to make the cards.

Lillian's baby blankets are beautifully embroidered, and she makes Christmas table runners for her family and friends at Christmas. You should see Pat's embroidery – it's as good on the back as it is on the front. Dianne and Amy do stump work; these three-dimensional embroideries are superb works of art.

Wendy showed us all how to do bargello\* embroidery. We work-shopped the embroidery piece, and we are very happy with our new-found skill. Pat is a skilled spinner and taught me to spin raw wool. Dawn and Julie are artist with fabric and produce wonders in applique. Marilyn makes colourful socks and is happy to teach anyone this wonderful craft. Sheena knits lovely squares which are donated to charity.

It is so nice to be able to learn all these interesting crafts. Often we have small workshops to learn a new skill. Perhaps you can show us how to make something new or just bring your knitting and have a natter.

Don't be shy. We will be so happy to make your acquaintance and you will be made very welcome. For further information you can drop into the session or contact the Mt Evelyn Community House on 97361177. □

**Chris Mann**

\*Bargello is a type of needlepoint embroidery consisting of upright flat stitches laid in a mathematical pattern to create motifs. The name originates from a series of chairs found in the Bargello palace in Florence, which have a "flame stitch" pattern.



# Diamond Women

Adelaide Ntim-Duodu arrived in Australia twenty years ago. She has been living in Mt Evelyn for the past eight years with her husband and five children. Adelaide says she came to Mt Evelyn to enjoy the semi-rural life style and to be closer to her church. Her children attend Mt Evelyn Christian School.

'I am a country person,' says Adelaide. 'Mt Evelyn is peaceful and we often go for walks. We love climbing the hills and enjoying the surrounding beautiful trees and fresh air; we don't mind the cold.'

Adelaide says that living in Mt Evelyn has been good for her and her family. 'We have met wonderful neighbours and friends along the way.' But she was aware that, for some people, arriving in semi-rural Mt Evelyn could be an isolating experience.

She says, 'I have always loved community and I initially wanted to start a charity, but having small children at the time did not help. However, last year I met a few women who were interested in starting a women's group. We wanted a meeting place where we could share our experiences, tell our common stories, and engage with other women.' So Purple Diamond Women of Diversity of Vic Inc. was formed.

'We are a group of diverse women with one voice,' Adelaide says. 'Our aim is to mentor young women, alleviate feelings of isolation, have a referral system for domestic violence and for each of us to learn new skills and share our knowledge.'

The group had its first meeting on International Women's Day 2016 in the RSL hall in Birmingham Road. Many women come from outside Mt Evelyn and Purple Diamond Women Vic Inc. hopes to grow and start new groups in other areas. The group provides motivation, rapport, and fosters meaningful relationships among its members.

Adelaide says, 'We are purple because we are royal, we are diamonds because diamonds are enduring. We need each other and we respect the notion of inclusion.'



Back row (left to right): Eva, Judith, Mimi, Katinda, Dorothy, Coby, Vivian, Awo, Jane-Rose, Ruphina

Front row (left to right): Rebecca, Adelaide

The group meets on the last Sunday of every month in the RSL hall from 12.30 until 4 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity to meet women of diverse backgrounds. You may bring food to share, as this adds to the overall friendly atmosphere. Any skills you have to share are most welcome.

By the time you read this, the Purple Diamond Women will have had their Christmas in July lunch. If you missed out this year, there is always next year. Look them up on Facebook and get in touch with Adelaide. □

Eva Windisch

## Your Rates at Work

**Council Projects in Mt Evelyn in progress this financial year, continuing next financial year.**

<i>Roads &amp; Footpaths</i>	<b>Cost</b>
• Clematis & Falkingham Roads Road upgrade & drainage improvement	\$2,250,00
• West Hill Drive & part George Road Road upgrade & drainage improvement	\$790,000
<b>Trails</b>	
• Mount Evelyn Aquaduct Trail Trail improvement	\$ 90,000



# About the T.O.W.N. Club

I have lived in Mt Evelyn for almost eight years. Having grown up in a country town in Victoria, I appreciate efforts to build a sense of communal belonging. When I moved to Mt Evelyn I knew very little about the town so I decided to join the Mt Evelyn History Group to familiarise myself with the town's history. I also joined Vicki Walburg's exercise class in the RSL Hall. However, I wanted to lose weight and when the T.O.W.N (Take Off Weight Naturally) Club came into the RSL Hall I joined them as well.

T.O.W.N. is a registered not-for-profit charity that offers peer support and incentives to achieve natural weight loss. We do not promote special diets, prescribed sets of exercises, or promote food products to entice members to lose weight. Instead, we stimulate a positive encouraging environment where members reduce weight at their own rate. Through peer support, members begin to enjoy better health, smaller-sized clothes, renewed energy, and they feel more positive about their appearance.

Before joining, a prospective member must seek his or her doctor's approval and agreement about a weight goal target.

After attending the Club for nine months, I became the club leader. I have held that position now for eighteen months. Our group took part in the Mt Evelyn Street Party last year, and we also screened 'That Sugar Film', as a gift to the community. The Mt Evelyn Christian Reformed Church freely offered us the use of the church auditorium to show the film.

Over the months, I have learned about the serious side of weight gain and how it can damage lives. Most of us are aware that obesity impedes the health of a community. Enabling Mt Evelyn folk to regain and maintain good health is our way of supporting a thriving community.

We meet on Tuesdays at the RSL Hall, 49 Birmingham Road in Mt Evelyn from 10.45 a.m. until 12.15 p.m. Men and women who cannot attend at those times might be interested in joining evening clubs that meet in nearby suburbs:

Croydon North	Tuesday 6.30 p.m.	phone 9728 3154 or 0425 195 310
Croydon North	Friday 9.15 a.m.	phone 9737 1788 or 0427 839 913
Ferntree Gully	Tuesday 7 p.m.	phone 9762 1534
Ferntree Gully	Wednesday 6.30 p.m.	phone 9842 1738 or 0419 376 821
Monbulk	Thursday 6 p.m.	phone 9756 6286
Monbulk	Friday 8.30 a.m.	phone 9756 7543
Montrose	Tuesday 6.30 p.m.	phone 9729 7620
Mooroolbark	Thursday 6.30 p.m.	0414 984 062
Yarra Junction	Wednesday 6 p.m.	phone 59 64 7188 or 0409 162 189

Our present leader is able to give a short presentation and answer questions about town to parents and friends of schools, school staff, church groups, and fund raising groups.

Please contact Joan Vanderhorn on 9737 0397 or email [rosemont.townclub@gmail.com](mailto:rosemont.townclub@gmail.com) You can find us on <https://www.facebook.com/RosementTownClub>. □

Joan Vanderhorn

## Metaphors and Similes Found in High School Essays

Her vocabulary was as bad as, like, whatever.

The revelation that his marriage of 30 years had disintegrated because of his wife's infidelity came as a rude shock, like a surcharge at a formerly surcharge-free ATM.

McBride fell 12 stories, hitting the pavement like a plastic bag filled with vegetable soup.

Her hair glistened in the rain like nose hair after a sneeze.

The hailstones leaped from the pavement, just like maggots when you fry them in hot grease.

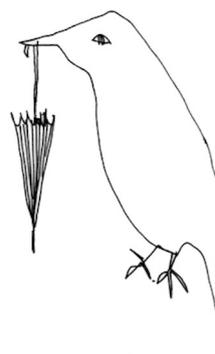
John and Mary had never met. They were like two hummingbirds who had also never met.

Even in his last years, Granddad had a mind like a steel trap, only one that had been left out so long, it had rusted shut.

The plan was simple, like my brother-in-law Phil. But unlike Phil, this plan just might work.

The ballerina rose gracefully *en pointe* and extended one slender leg behind her, like a dog at a fire hydrant.

It hurt the way your tongue hurts after you accidentally staple it to the wall. □



**Yarra Hills Community art SHOW**

**9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

Open night : Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September  
Light refreshments served from 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Saturday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Sunday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Total prize money pool of \$2,500**

Best in Show Prize \$400  
Total of 12 prize categories

Enquiries from all community artists welcome  
For more information visit the YHSC website or Yarra Hills Community Art Show Facebook page  
Entry via gold coin donation for Rotary

Yarra Hills Secondary College  
15 Burdap Drive, Mount Evelyn, 3796  
9736 3650 | 9839 8800  
www.yarahills.vic.edu.au  
Artwork by Cara Robinson

## For your amusement

Very tricky math! Note: this must be done in your head only. Do NOT use paper and pencil or a calculator. Try it.

Take 1000 and add 40 to it. Now add another 1000.

Now add 30. Add another 1000.

Now add 20. Now add another 1000.

Now add 10. What is the total?

Did you get 5000? The correct answer is actually 4100.

Don't believe it? Check with your calculator!



Mary's father has five daughters:

1. Nana, 2. Nene, 3. Nini, 4. Nono.

What is the name of the fifth daughter?

Answer: Nunu? NO! Of course not. Her name is Mary. Read the question again.



You are participating in a race. You overtake the second person. What position are you in?

If you answered that you are first, then you are absolutely wrong! If you overtake the second person and you take his place, you are second!



If you overtake the last person, then you are ...?

If you answered that you are second to last, then you are wrong again.

Tell me, how can you overtake the LAST person?! You're not very good at this are you?



There is a mute who wants to buy a toothbrush. By imitating the action of brushing one's teeth he successfully expresses himself to the shopkeeper and the purchase is done.

Now if there is a blind man who wishes to buy a pair of sunglasses, how should he express himself?

Think about it first before reading further down for the answer ...

He just has to open his mouth and ask, so simple. If you got this wrong please – do not pass go, do not breed, just go dig a hole and hide.

