

The Jamieson News

News & Events in the Community

Vol 4 Issue 2

Winter 2016

JAMIESON COMMUNITY GROUP

Vice-President's Report

On behalf of the Jamieson Community, I would like to wish Chris and Rosemary a safe and relaxing trip up to the Kimberley and back home over the winter months. It's a very well deserved rest for the never-ending work that both of them have performed around the town and the community.

Thanks to Judy Ridley and her band of Jamieson Craft Ladies who hosted another very successful **Biggest Morning Tea** with live music by our legendary Denis Tucker. Despite the inclement weather, a big crowd attended as usual. The long table was fully laden with goodies like cakes, scones, sandwiches, slices, etc, etc. A total of just over a \$1000 was raised for Cancer Council of Victoria.

Thanks to Lauriston Girls for their Community Service on Tuesdays and Wednesdays over 4 weeks, starting from the 31st May 2016.

Thanks especially to Sam Ridley (Howqua Campus Principal), Pariesse, Maria and Ann-Maree (teachers) for their hard work and supervision of the students. So many important tasks were completed throughout the town and in homes of some of our senior citizens. If you take a walk around town, the Island and Matthew's Reserve, you will notice how clean the places look, thanks to the hard work of the Lauriston Girls.

I would also like to thank various members of the Community who helped out at these working bees: Peter Horan with his powerful and trusty tractor (*Ed: I detect some sarcasm here*), Wendy Blackledge, Murray Vague for his Sausage Sizzle, Bill and Pam Stacey, Karen Alderson, Chris Watt, Peter and Sabina Nettleton, Mark Hines, Sue Henderson and David Lean.

The Lauriston Girls and the Jamieson Primary School students had a combined concert at the Memorial Hall on the last Wednesday of their Community Service. It

was well supported by the community, with afternoon tea provided by the Jamieson Craft Ladies.

Finally, vale to the Giant California Redwood (*Sequoia Giganteum*) that had to be felled on the 4th July 2016. It was one of 4 Redwoods planted about 1862 from seedlings provided by the famous Baron Ferdinand von Mueller.

The Jamieson Community held a happy wake for this Giant Old Tree at the Police Paddock from 9am, while Miles Jackson and his team from Cole Clarke Guitars recorded the entire event from an overhead drone. It's great to think that the tree will live on in Jamieson Redwood guitars.

Reminder: Jamieson Community Group annual membership fees of \$10 (\$20 per family) are now due and payable by 30th June 2016.

[Working together for an even better community](#)

Freddie Leong

Vice-President, Jamieson Community Group

jamocommunity@gmail.com



Jamieson Community Group 2014/2015 Committee

President	Chris Badrock
Vice President	Freddie Leong
Secretary	Anne Maree Vague
Treasurer	Tracey Gravenall
Ordinary Exec. Member	Pam Stacey
Ordinary Exec. Member	Ken Hopkinson
Grants Officer	Genevieve Bolwell
Island Projects Officer	Freddie Leong
Rec Reserve Project Officer	Chris Badrock
Police Paddock Proj Coord.	Tracey Gravenall

Email: jamocommunity@gmail.com

Website: www.jamieson.org.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/jamiesoncommunity

REMINDER

JAMIESON COMMUNITY GROUP & ASSOC. BODIES INC.

C/- Post Office, Jamieson, Victoria 3723

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUE/NEW MEMBERSHIPS

Annual membership fee (payable 30 June): \$10.00 per individual or \$20.00 per family

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Footage of the tree felling can be seen on www.facebook.com/jamiesoncommunity.



Meanwhile we look forward to seeing the next batch of Jamieson Redwood Guitars, especially at next year's Autumn Festival.

GOODBYE GIANT SEQUOIA

As mentioned by Freddie in the Vice-President's report, a very good-humoured wake took place on the nature strip outside the Police Paddock on 4th July. Because the tree was 38.5m tall, and the fence line was 40 metres from the base of the tree, the gathered locals were required to stay outside the fence, just in case. Food (with an American twist in recognition of both California Redwood and American Independence Day) was brought by locals to share amongst the spectators.

The felling operation went through to last light and there were gasps of breath as arborists scrambled up and down the tree, drones hovered overhead, and huge branches regularly crashed down onto the



paddock. It all culminated in a thunderous crash when the full trunk of the tree hit the ground.

Incidentally, the 2017 Autumn Festival will be on Saturday 23rd April. That's the Saturday of the ANZAC long weekend. ANZAC Day will be on the Tuesday.



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JAMIESON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

So now that Winter is here, the Jamieson & District Historical Society Museum is closed ... but only until Cup Weekend in Spring. During this



time of closure, some of our member volunteers have been busy setting up new displays and tidying existing ones, all in preparation for reopening in early November.

Our new additions will include an informative display on the 1865 proposed tramway, as written about elsewhere in this edition of *Jamieson News*, and a Vietnam War shelf to complement the WWI display in our War Cabinet. The school room display has also been tidied up and looks a whole lot better. Time permitting, we may also create a commemorative display for the giant sequoia tree that was recently brought down.



During the Winter we had help from the Lauriston girls for jobs such as raking leaves and oiling the old saddlery items in the Police Stable – thanks so much girls!

See you in the Spring!! Cheers

Karen Alderson, Secretary, J&DHS

Contact: Marion 5777 0569, Karen 5777 0705, or Museum 5777 0690.

CRAFT GROUP

In May, we held our Biggest Morning Tea. Again another successful year. To those who attended and to those who helped – many thanks. Because of you,



were able to give \$1,074 to Cancer Research. People really are generous.

In June, the Lauriston Girls were in town raking leaves, washing windows and generally helping where needed. Many thanks girls.

As in other years, we provided morning tea on their last Wednesday when the girls, together with our own Primary School children, entertained us with a concert.

In July, we are busy knitting for the Guardian Angel. This project is one that we do every winter to enable some of our more needy folk to feel warm.

We meet each Wednesday at 10am in the Hall. Visitors always welcome, so do drop in for a chat and a cuppa.

Contact: **Jude Ridley on 5777 0655**

CFA NEWS

The fire season is well over, as evidenced by the very small turnout for the May brigade meeting. Not even the brigade Secretary was able to attend, so no minutes were issued. Shortly after, the brigade Captain headed North for a long well-earned winter break.



Of course, the big news throughout the last many weeks has been the stoush between the Victoria Government and the CFA Board. Regardless of the politics playing out between the State Government, the Furies Union and the CFA Board, the impact on our local brigade is purely annoyance and frustration because the contentious clauses in the proposal agreement would not apply in Jamieson.

Meanwhile, please take care with your wood fires at home. Brigade members appreciate the quiet season. (Ed: just after writing above, the beeper went off. Two 4WDers taken downriver at Bains Bridge. Gotta run.)

Meetings: 8pm, CFA Station, 2nd Wed

Contact: Peter Horan, 5777 0705



If you need a police presence, call 000. 000 will automatically contact the nearest Police, which could be Paul, the area Sergeant, or a patrol car that happens to be near the area.



If you need something administrative, leave a message and Paul will call you back.

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ALPINE COUNTRY CAR CLUB



Well, Winter is well and truly here. It's damn cold with plenty of heavy cloud, rain, sleet, snow, wind etc. I guess everyone has their heaters or fires going 24/7 trying to keep warm and avoid as many of the winter bugs as possible. Perhaps we should all be enjoying the warm weather up north like Jill and Peter and Loryce.

A special wish to Seth Leitch recovering from peritonitis in the Royal Children's Hospital. Get well Seth.



Jen and Noel's new pocket rocket (Ford Focus RS) has finally arrived after a 6 month wait.



It was wonderful to see so many folk at the Mansfield Golf Club on Sunday. We had 23 Members plus the Murphy's son Wayne and his family. Wayne is creating display boards for club cars - we sincerely thank him for his efforts.

Contact: Noel & Jenny McLaughlin on 5776 2257

TIPS FROM THE LONG ARM

It's that time of year again, when spotlighting and hound hunting damage the reputation of responsible



hunters. If you are aware of spotlighters, do not confront the culprits. If you can get a registration number without endangering yourself, write it down, together with the date, time and location.

It's not just visitors, because locals should be aware that seatbelts must ALWAYS be worn when driving. Continued disregard for this law will have to be dealt with.



SCHOOL NEWS (PS814)

Seen here in the bunker at Fort Queenscliff, the students enjoyed a five-day experience with many highlights, including an Eco-Tour of the bay, rock climbing and surfing.



Music has been a feature of this year's curriculum, with the students preparing the song 'Where Have all the Flowers Gone?' to perform at the ANZAC Day ceremonies.

Denis Tucker generously coached the students in vocals and guitar performance.



Each week, Maria Lieberth teaches the students vocals, music appreciation and notation. With the arrival of the Lauriston girls, the students were able to seamlessly develop a repertoire for their Concert in June.

Our acceptance into the Musical Futures program, enables Maria to conduct Professional Learning which will enhance our music program even further.

Jamo to Japan! Nearly half our students have signed up for a two-week study tour of Japan in November. They will visit Kitakyushu, Japan's southern island, meet some past Jamo-Japanese teachers, visit cultural sites, engage with host families and visit 3 primary schools. The kids will put their Japanese language skills into practice - authentic learning at its best!



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Kylie Russell will be the accompanying parent assistant. Current Japanese teacher Shiho Ishimatsu is working with the students to prepare them for Japanese customs, food, shopping and conversation. Shiho's brother will visit Jamo in September, and her parents will meet us in Japan.

BENALLA GARDEN CLUB VISIT

On Tuesday 16th May, the Benalla Garden Club had an outing to Jamieson. They visited the gardens of Wayne/Leanne Rotherham, Allan/Wendy Blackledge and Jim/Iris Tisdale, 3 very different gardens.

After first visiting the Rotherham's garden, the group proceeded to the Blackledge's. Wendy happened to have a dentist appointment on that day, which left Allan to welcome the 30 guests. When asked the name of a particular plant, Allan invented a name 😊. It wasn't long before the guests realised that Allan was having them on, and he had them all laughing. In addition, they returned to Benalla with several pumpkins from Wendy's veggie patch.



Cobra Lily ... or Green Lily if you're Allan B

After the gardens, the group visited the Jamieson Museum and Gallery; again, they were very impressed. Lunch was at Deb's Café which provided an enjoyable break. After lunch they had a choice of the self-guided Heritage Walk, the self-guided Significant Tree Walk and the School Arboretum. Those who went to the Arboretum also dropped in on Genevieve at the school. By the afternoon when they were in the Tisdale garden, members of the group (some of whom had never been to Jamieson before) were talking about what a wonderful day they were having, what a beautiful town Jamieson is, and what spectacular trees we have.

Before heading home, they called into the Protea Farm and the Berry Farm. Thanks to Kaye Draper for organising the day. Jamieson is now firmly on their list of Autumn destinations.

GALLERY ON NASH

Gallery on Nash is sponsoring a **Garden Design Workshop on Saturday 13 August**, to be conducted by Meg Geary. The



workshop will be hands-on with participants working through the steps to create their own garden design.

Starting with garden styles, then aspect, prevailing winds, views in/out, drainage, slopes etc, the workshop will finish with a planting plan covering colours, soil, plant shape, style and location.

With a Horticultural Degree from Melbourne Uni and winner of the Design Competition at Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show, Meg worked in Australia and overseas, spending most of her time in retail nursery. Meg also worked with Paul Bangay and Ian Barker, two renowned landscape designers. Meg now runs MG Gardens and is active in the Australian Institute of Landscape Designers.

The Workshop costs \$55 per person and includes refreshments, lunch and a Gallery on Nash pack. The event will be held **in the Jamieson Memorial Hall from 10am to 3pm**.

To book a place (max 25 participants) or to get more information, contact Julie Guppy on 0408 770 522 or Diana Kilford on 0417 075 491. Details of the day will also be on our Facebook page.

A CLIMB TO REMEMBER

When Julie Guppy and Wendy Blackledge were not yet teenagers, they climbed the Giant Sequoia tree next to the Jamieson Police Station – the one felled on 4th July. Read their stories below. Stories courtesy of forthcoming edition of J&DHS **The Jamieson Chronicle**.

It was sad to see the skyline of Jamieson, which I have known since childhood, change so quickly. I felt that I should have scaled the mighty tree on more time as Wendy and I did in the 1960s. It was a bit like climbing a giant

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spiral staircase and now none of our kids will get that chance. Not that kids are allowed those joys anymore.

One hundred and fifty years of growing brought down in a day, but everything has a use-by date. The welfare of people is more important than one tree.

Really amazing to watch the expertise of the arborists. The thought processes in figuring out how to go about felling such a behemoth was amazing.

Julie Gane (now Guppy)



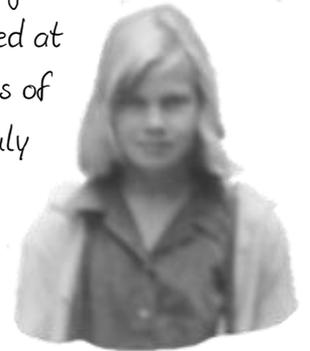
It was school holidays in the year of 1963. I went to visit a friend, Julie Gane, whose dad was Jamieson's Policeman. Sitting around wondering what to do, we decided to make a banner and climb the tallest tree we could find. We didn't have to look far because, in her back yard, was the tallest tree in town, a Giant Sequoia.

The banner was made from an old sheet we found in Mrs Gane's linen cupboard and some string. Off we went onto the shed roof and up into the tree, climbing spirally around the tree, the branches spaced perfectly, up and up we climbed. About half way up we stopped for a rest and looked at the fantastic view. One of us asked the other "where is the banner?". Oh no, it was at the foot of the tree beside the shed. We both said "not going down to get it now!"

So up and up we went. It was a wonderful feeling being so high and after such an easy climb. We eventually reached the top. WOW! We looked out in awe of the grand view of Jamieson – from the tallest tree in town. We stayed up there for quite a while; then down we came; didn't seem to take as long as the climb up! We both felt great, an achievement we would remember the rest of our lives.

During my 58 years of living in Jamieson, I have always looked at that tree with fond memories of the grandeur. Until 4th July 2016, a very sad day for me.

Wendy Matthews (now Blackledge)



FIVE JAMIESON-RELATED GRANDCHILDREN

Babies Matilda and Henry to grandparents Paul and Sherrin Molen, grand-daughter Ava to Andrew and Jane Dwyer, grand-daughter Skyla-Diana to John and Dianne Rushen, grandson Foster to Ian and Genevieve Bolwell.



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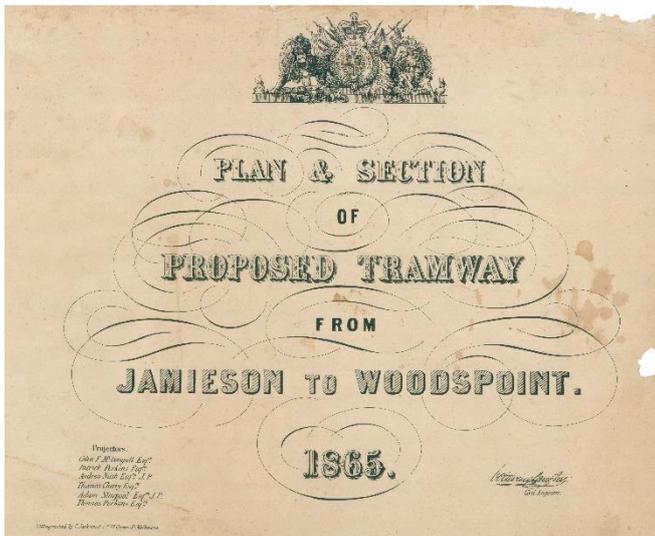
PROPOSED TRAMWAY FROM JAMIESON TO WOOD'S POINT

Remember the Tramway Station/Performance Space that was being considered for the Island in the "bridge project" at the start of 2016. Here's some more history on the Tramway, based on a new exhibit at the Museum.

THE DREAM IN 1865

No dream was too large for the men of the Upper Goulburn Goldfields. This tramway was an example of just how large the dreams of those early miners and businessmen really were and the belief they had in the continuation of the 1860's gold boom.

The proposal for a tramway from Jamieson to Wood's Point was first put to the Mayor and Councillors of the Borough of Jamieson by members of the Jamieson, Wood's Point, Matlock, Jericho and Black River business communities in 1864.



WHY?

The Tramway was to be used principally for the transporting of ore from the Woods Point, Black River and Lauraville gold mines to the batteries at Gaffneys Creek. It would also have reduced the transport cost for goods and passengers between the mines and Melbourne.

An example of the transport cost was a 36-foot water wheel ordered by the Morning Star Mine at Wood's Point - £400 to build in Melbourne, but £1,000 to transport to the mine. (BTW, £1,400 in the 1860s is about A\$750,000 in 2016 values)!

For smaller items, something costing £1 in Melbourne would cost £6 in the ranges, even after the wear and tear of the journey.

WHO?

The dreamers were the typical household names of the time such as Colin McDougal, Dr Andrew Nash, Thomas Cherry, Adam Stacpoole, Jamieson Bank Manager Edwin Lusignan and that ever optimistic entrepreneur, Thomas Holmes Justice.

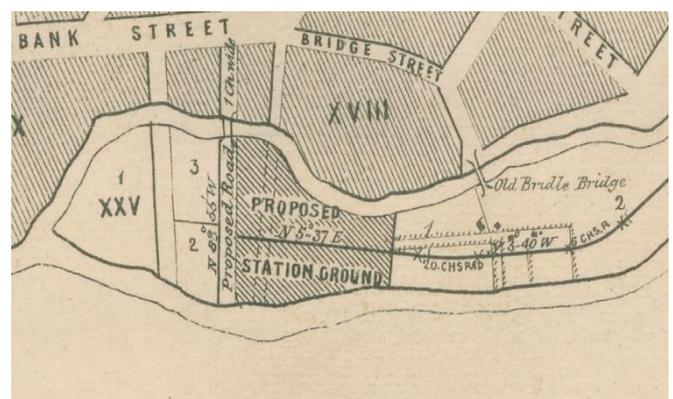
WHAT?

Contracted in August 1864, Octavius Langtree spent five months surveying the land between Jamieson and Woods Point. His survey and detailed plans, which can be seen in the Jamieson Museum, cost £4,328 (about A\$2.5m in today's money)

WHERE?

The plans called for a 37-mile (60 km) track commencing at a Jamieson terminus, which was to be on The Island.

The single tramline would wind its way up the Upper Goulburn Valley, terminating in Bridge Street in Woods Point. It would also have a 6-mile (10 km) branch line from Gaffneys Creek to Lauraville.



HOW?

Construction would involve not only the laying of tracks in this rugged area, but the building of bridges from local timber. There would be 99 river crossings of various heights and a tunnel at the Wood's Point end of the line.

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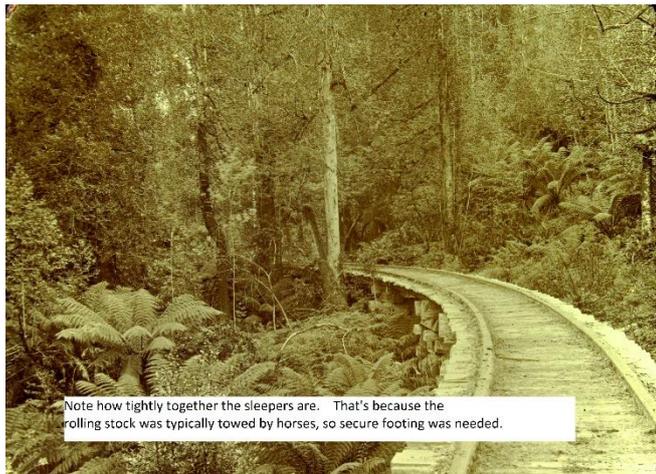
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Horse drawn from Jamieson to Gaffneys Creek, up to 200 horses, in teams of 6 to 8 depending on the gradients, would pull the carriages. From Gaffneys Creek, it would be cable drawn, using steam winches, on the steeper upper reaches to Lauraville and Wood's Point.

The tracks would be wooden (for traction on gradients), with occasional steel covers to minimise

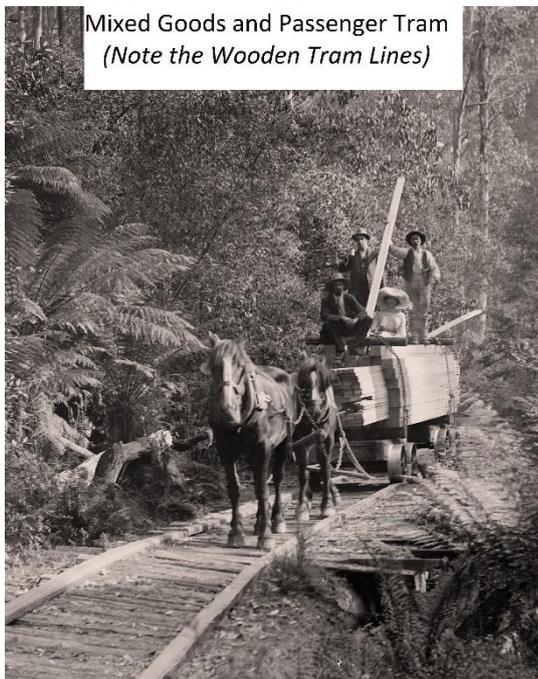


Note how tightly together the sleepers are. That's because the rolling stock was typically towed by horses, so secure footing was needed.

wear (eg. on inside of tight turns). Between the tracks were fully covered with timbers, so that horses could walk without injury.

HOW MUCH?

The Survey, the Plan and the Section Drawings were completed and presented in April 1865. The costs were estimated at £700 per mile (*A\$250,000 per km in 2016*



Mixed Goods and Passenger Tram
(Note the Wooden Tram Lines)

terms), including rolling stock and horses. Stations were an additional cost, bringing the expected total outlay to £40,800 (*A\$23m in 2016 terms*). The annual running costs were estimated at £12,000 with an annual income of £42,000 resulting in an annual profit of almost £30,000.

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG?

The idea was not without its problems.

The steam driven winches could have had major problems as a continuous water supply during the summer was already a problem for the mines.

Heavy snow during the winter would create problems with the track as well as the horses. Not to mention the floods which could be expected to regularly wash away the river crossings.

WHAT HAPPENED?

By 1867, the quality of the ore from Wood's Point goldfields had dropped from 30 ounces of gold per ton to a few pennyweight per ton. The gold boom was all but over, prospective investors started to lose interest, timber and farming started to take over. The need for a tramway faded along the dreams of these men of vision. And what incredible dreams they were! What an incredible project it could have been!!

NOTES:

Since the tramway was never built, we have used photographs from similar Victorian tramways. While most carried lumbar rather than gold, they accurately illustrate how the Jamieson Wood's Point Tramway might have looked.

The drawings you see here are scans of just 4 of the original 15 detailed survey drawings submitted to the investors by Octavius Langtree in 1865. The Jamieson Museum has copies of all 15.

THANK YOU TO DON AND WENDY

Thank you to Don Laird who originally found these survey drawings. Don handed them to Wendy Blackledge some 30 years ago because he wanted them to be kept safe for future generations here in Jamieson. Thank you to Wendy keeping them in great condition over those years.