

DEREEL SPOKES

Edition 11: October 2016

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 Dereel Spokes

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DCHI News

Dereel Community Plan

On 27th September, Pam Bailey presented the Dereel Community Plan to the Golden Plains Shire Council. The presentation was to seek approval for the plan and to formalise funding for the proposed seven projects. The seven projects were determined by the community planning process including the Vision Workshop and the Seed Funding workshop as outlined in previous editions of Dereel Spokes.

The seven projects are:

1. Dereel Community Garden—\$500
2. Dereel Community Spaces—\$2000
3. Pop-up Shops—\$1000
4. Art Spaces \$1000
5. Knowledge Sharing—\$1000
6. Develop Swamp Area—\$1000
7. Maps, Signage and Brochures—\$1000

Project teams to turn each project into a reality will be formed shortly, so if you have an interest in any of them, please let us know.

Team members can contribute in a range of ways, depending on time and skills. So, if you can give two hours work, or a range of ideas on how we can get to the next stage, we'd love to hear from you.

The presentation documents are on our website. Find them under Projects/Community Planning.



Dereel Community Day

Thank you to Fiona Robson and Lucy Osmond for organising the Dereel Community Day on Saturday 10th September. Thanks also go to the Men's Shed for a wonderful job of cooking lunch, including vegetarian options, CERT, the CFA, the Walking Group, the History Group, CentaCare, BDNH and other participating organisations and individuals.

Janine Hourigan from BDNH, Kim Stanley from Dereel and Golden Plains Shire Mayor, Des Phelan launched the event. Golden Plains Shire also brought the iVan to provide activities for teenagers.

More photographs from the day can be viewed on our website under Health and Wellbeing.



Dereel People

Lisa Hunter

By Richard Emery



1. How long have you lived in the area?

We moved to Dereel in August 2012. Before that I lived in large regional towns or in Melbourne. The move was sparked by a camping trip I had been putting off for 25 years. Came home after being in a National Park with wildlife an real sense of peace...the built up environment suddenly seemed unbearably noisy and crowded.

2. What's great about living here?

The peace and quiet, the wildlife and wildflowers, and the people. It sounds like a cliché but it isn't. When I worked in Melbourne I had to put on a mask. Here people accept me for who I am.

3. What do you feel passionate about?

Wildflowers, the bushland, and simply walking around soaking up the sounds of birds and seeing what is growing, how the light of the day or hour changes the look of bark, moss and leaves.

4. What do you find joy in doing?

Photography, fabric design, mixed media art and other creative explorations. Usually these are inspired by the bushland in Dereel. Moving here really did change me. Prior to that, my creativity was always written, not visual.

5. What is your current pet project?

I have a few different things on the go. At the moment I am exploring fabric design, playing with mixed media and also putting together a collection of personal essays.

6. What community groups are you involved in and why?

At the moment, primarily Dereel Community Hub Incorporated (DCHI) because I think I can contribute more to this group and I can see the long-term goal of creating a cooperative shop.

7. Tell us about your best community experience.

I'm not sure if there was one standout experience. I've just enjoyed getting to know people through the community groups I've been involved with. Being part of the organising team for the first two Spring Festivals was a big learning curve for me.

8. How could you see more of this happening in Dereel?

Thinking about the Spring Festival, I think we can achieve so much if all of the community groups and

interested individuals take on a small part of a larger project. If we can choose projects that benefit the whole community and develop plans to achieve them, we could accomplish so much. There is such a broad range of skills in this community.

9. Describe a future vision of Dereel that you would like to see.

After the fires, I witnessed the community centre being open every day, with local groups holding meetings in both the daytime and in the evenings. These included gardening groups, history groups, the walking group, the Mens Shed group, Tai Chi, the Writers Group, and a range of introductory workshops. I'd love to see that happening again.

If people were able to drop in to the community centre at any time of the day, sit down with a cup of tea or coffee and just chat to others who were there, many new ideas would spark. We need this random interaction, not just organised meetings, to find out more of the Dereel community needs and wishes.

Hopefully there would be a small cooperative shop there in the future too, where people can browse through local art and craft items and local products. Wouldn't it be lovely to be able to get the essentials you need right here in Dereel?

10. What would we do as a first step to realise that dream?

I think chatting is the starting point. The Hub Café on Saturdays is a start, I think. If we can get a few different activities happening on a Saturday afternoon, hopefully it will grow from there and run on other days too.

With the Men's Shed also meeting on Saturdays, a vibe is beginning to develop. I sincerely hope it grows and grows and grows. Maybe we can have a market on Saturday afternoons before too long?

Dereel Plant Species

Early Nancy (*Wurmbea dioica*)





Winter in Dereel

By Mudguts

Well, Winter arrived with a vengeance. Freezing cold winds and rain... and rain. Full tanks, full dam. It's painful to see water running out of the overflows of the tanks. Should I have more? If I do, will they fill up? Depends on "El Nino". Well, the last two months, "El Nino" has 'El Wentto."

The Maggies and Kooka's must think it's "Christmas in July." All those worms sticking their heads up for air from the soggy ground. Bang, you're gone! Protein for the birds.

I don't mind the cold. You can always put on another layer of clothing or put another log on the fire and I can creep into a warm bed thanks to "Mrs Sunbeam."

Hey, it seemed not too long ago we were moaning how hot and how dry it was. If present conditions carry on we will be whinging that we've had too much rain. We are never happy with the weather. The wind tho...hate it. Blows through you. Not only that, the last time it snowed - horizontally - the wind blew that hard I had one huge branch and two trees come down. It must be Murphy's Law. On 5 acres of ground, they all managed to fall over a fence. Oh well, compulsive fire wood.

Winter - trees, vines and shrubs have lost their leaves and stand stark and bare. To offset that, Grevillea, Rosemary, Lavender and Violets bloom. It's fascinating to watch the Eastern Spinebill hover above a flower, its wings a blur as it extracts the nectar. All the bulbs are pushing up from what looked like bare ground. The Jonquils are blooming and the first of my Daffodils have bloomed like a burst of yellow sunshine against our black skies. Freesias and other bulbs whose names I know not are breaking out. In a few weeks, the once-bare garden will be a riot of colour and fragrances. The Daphne is blooming and will add to the heady aro-

mas. The Boronia will follow on.

Hey, Winter in Dereel ain't that bad. Especially if you see the snow drifting down. The cold is worth it. The planet, they say, "is warming". Enjoy it. Though "the Boss" reckons they have moved Antarctica closer to Ballarat.

Rejoice! In amongst the cold and wet we have had a couple of good days: clear skies, no wind and that funny yellow stuff. Sunshine! Temperatures above average. At the same time, we had a full moon. I walked out to the garage to get another tinny from the beer fridge and the moon shone through the branches of a tree. Its bare branches were like hands reaching towards the moon. What were they saying? "Embrace me!" or "I'm cold. Why aren't you the sun?"

Dereel Community Garden News

By Robyn Miles

Things are starting to happen around the Hall. You may not have noticed but the Dereel Community Gardening Group have been working feverishly on the next phase and you should start to see small changes.

Spring has sprung and we are all in a rush to get our garden beds planted out with our summer salad crops. If you have got over excited and bought too many seedlings we would love to add them to our plots. If you have a green thumb or ever wished you had a green thumb we would love you to join us in these exciting times.

Want to Get Involved?

Our next get together will be:

Wednesday 19th October
Dereel Hall
7.00pm through to 8.30pm.

We would also like to identify local people with knowledge to pass on to all of us: in particular, grafting or propagation. The group would like to keep you all up to date via the *Dereel Spokes* newsletter and we hope you enjoy the changes.

We will be having a two hour working bee sometime in November. The date will be published in *Dereel Spokes* after the next meeting.

If you would like to contact the group to make a donation of seeds/seedlings or time: phone Robyn Miles on 0409 802 756 or email rjmiles444@gmail.com

New Program

Intro/Info Sessions

The new program of Introductory Information Sessions run by local people for local people is underway.

All sessions are two hours in length and are for beginners. The session will give you a brief overview of the topic including things you need to know or equipment you will need to get started. Presenters are all volunteering their time. They don't get paid.

Bookings are essential for these sessions. The cost is a gold coin donation to cover room hire.

The following sessions are confirmed

Saturday 8th October—2pm to 4pm

Essential Oils

Presenter: Clio Ellis-Perez

Saturday 15th October—2pm to 4pm

Putting on a Theatre Performance: How We Did Captain Cat.

Presenter: Kim Stanley

Saturday 22nd October—2pm to 4pm

Keeping A Creative Writing Journal

Presenter: Lisa Hunter

Saturday 5th November—2pm to 4pm

Coffee: Barista at Home

Presenter: Richard Emery

Saturday 12th November—2pm to 4pm

Orchids that Live in Dereel

Presenter: Emily Noble

Saturday 19th November—2pm to 4pm

Securing Your Property

Presenter: Rick Olsson

To book your place please:

go to the Dereel Spokes Facebook Event Page

<https://www.facebook.com/DereelSpokes/events>

or email dereelspokes@gmail.com.

Planning Future Info/Intro Sessions

We would like the Info/Intro Sessions to be an ongoing program, with topics appropriate for the seasons. If you would like to run a session, or you would like to learn about a specific topic, please let us know.

In particular, we would like to incorporate sessions about self sufficiency, gardening, cooking and art. If you can help with this, please get in touch.

Photographed in Dereel

Dereel Spokes website has a new section for art, craft, photography and writing. If you would like to submit a photograph, poem, short story or tell us about your creative pursuits, we would love to gather a collection of the things Dereel people love to do and create for all to enjoy.

The first post in the Photography section is by Carol Moyse. Carol has been taking beautiful photographs of birds in Dereel, and this one is the Yellow Robin.

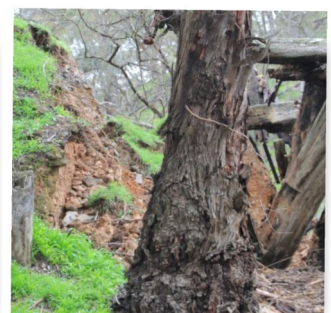


© Carol Moyse

'Yellow Robin' by Carol Moyse

Misery Creek Bridge Washed Away

Last month we showed the Misery Creek Bridge with the centre section knocked out by a fallen tree. Sadly, the high rainfall and flooding creek washed away the Berringa side of the remaining structure and the Dereel side is very unstable.



What's On?

Homework Hub for Students

A Homework Hub will be open every Tuesday 4pm to 5:30 pm from 18th October for the last school term of 2016. If you want help with your studies, or just want a time to focus on homework, come along to the community centre after school.

Community members with a good understanding of school subjects who would like to help students in their learning are encouraged to be involved.

Saturday's At Hub Café!

The Hub Café is open every Saturday between 2pm and 4pm. Come to participate in an activity or to enjoy a chat with friends over coffee, chai or hot chocolate. Everyone is welcome!

Activities in October

Saturday 1st October—2pm to 4pm

Adult Colouring and Art

An opportunity to chat with local people while working on your colouring or art work over coffee.

Saturday 8th October

Dereel Camera Crew – 2pm to 4pm

Meet at the Dereel Community Centre at 2pm for photographic activities with the Camera Crew. Join the Dereel Camera Crew Facebook Group if you would like more information.

Saturday 15th October

2pm to 4pm—Dereel Gold Diggers

The Dereel Gold Diggers meet on the third Saturday of each month. This month the group will be talking about easy locations to go prospecting and the gear needed to do so. In the discussion, a location will be selected, and at the end of the month, the group will go to that site to pan and detect using the equipment discussed.

Saturday 22nd October

2pm to 4pm—Dereel History

A team of local people are working together to record Dereel's history. At the moment, the focus is on recording the oral history of Dereel and making lists of photographs, objects and maps which tell the story of Dereel's past. Look for us on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month as well.

During The Week

Tuesday 4th October:

12noon – Footy Pie Lunch (bookings essential).
Contact: Lorraine on 5342 0492.

Tuesday 11th October

1pm to 3pm - Dereel History Group
Contact: Julie Donaghy

Tuesday 18th October

9.30am– Online Buying and Selling
Contact: Geelong Regional Library

Wednesday 19th October

7:00pm to 8:30 Dereel Community Garden Group
Contact: Robyn Miles (see page 3)

Tuesday 25th October

1:00pm to 3:00pm—Dereel History Group

Coming Up:

Tuesday 1st November

8am: Community Breakfast
Contact: Lorraine on 5342 0492.

Tuesday 8th November,

9.30am – Food for Life
Contact: BDNH Group on 5334 1500

Tuesday 15th November

10.30am: Safe Driving for Seniors
(bookings essential)
Contact: BDNH Group on 5334 1500

Thursday 1st December

10am: Trailblazers - walk followed by lunch
Contact: Jacinta on 5321 1500

Dereel History Group

Was there a Grandstand?

An interesting discussion is unfolding on the Dereel History Group's Facebook Page. Once, horse racing was held in Dereel with the track being around the perimeter of the Dereel Swamp. Racing results can be found in historic newspapers.

A photo purporting to be the grandstand at the Dereel race track is one of the artefacts currently under investigation by the Dereel History Group. People have been walking around the swamp, in the process running into snakes and lots of water, trying to work out where this grandstand was located.

The more research the group does, the less likely it is that a Grandstand ever existed.

On a closer examination, the photograph reveals carefully cultivated turf, and a Grandstand much larger than would have been likely for a town the size of Dereel. Perhaps it has been mislabelled.

If you would like the full story, read through the comments and documents on the Dereel History Group Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1762380420699750/> or come to a meeting—see left column on this page.

Our New Office Holders

Councillor Helena Kirby presided over the Dereel Community Hub Incorporated Annual General Meeting on Monday 19th September in the Dereel Community Centre.

The newly elected DCHI office holders are:

President:	Pam Bailey
Vice President:	Carol Moyse
Secretary:	Mitchel Fielding
Treasurer:	Richard Emery

Congratulations to all. We look forward to our second year with much excitement and anticipation.

Reports from outgoing office holders are posted on the Dereel Spokes website -DCHI/Office Bearers

Community Notices:

Dereel Spokes is happy to publish free community notices about local events.



Leigh Catchment (Dereel) CERT Annual General Meeting

Leigh Catchment (Dereel) Community Emergency Response Team will hold their Annual General Meeting in October.

Date:	Wednesday 5 th October
Time:	7:00pm
Location:	Dereel CERT Facility, 14 Swamp Road, Dereel.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Submission Guidelines

Dereel Spokes is the communication arm of the Dereel Community Hub Inc. Along with news of events, we would like to publish items of interest to the Dereel community. You don't need to be a member of the Dereel Community Hub to submit an item to our newsletter.

We accept photographs and articles related to community announcements, local events, light news items, local flora and fauna, local community groups, schools, sporting clubs, agricultural organisations and any other items in the spirit of bringing the community together.

Lucy Osmond: Dereel Community Wellbeing Officer-

If you came along to the Dereel Community Day on 10th September, you may have met Lucy Osmond, our new Dereel Community Wellbeing Officer.



Lucy Osmond

Lucy is based at the Dereel Community Centre on Mondays, Tuesdays and alternate Wednesdays. Her role is to facilitate wellbeing programs for residents of Dereel, to promote involvement within the Dereel community, as well as to assist us to build on our health and wellbeing.

Recently, Lucy has taken up ceramics and she's spent the last term learning to master the wheel. She laughs as she says she still has a way to go with this. Among her other interests are travelling, walking in the beautiful Australian bush and reading a good book!

Lucy's background is in Nursing and she is currently completing a Graduate Diploma in Public Health. She's keen to meet with local people to find out more about health and wellbeing needs in Dereel. So if you have ideas about how Lucy can help our community, please drop in and say hello.

Acknowledgements

The Dereel Community Hub Inc. would like to thank CentaCare for paying our first year Public Liability Insurance and covering the cost of printing the Dereel Spokes newsletter for our first year.

You must own copyright for any photograph you submit. Please include signed permission to publish if your photo includes a person.

Note:

We will not publish jokes, political comments or advertising. We reserve the right not to publish items we consider are offensive to the community.

Lisa Hunter
Editor
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