



### October 2015 Newsletter

#### Rootes Car Club Event

What a great day. Beautiful weather and really good company, fine food and enjoyable petanque. Doesn't get much better.

The overall winner of the petanque on the day with 3 wins and delta of +28 from 3 games in the Triples Melee event was Graeme Martin from the Rootes Car Club, while the best WHRPC performance, also with 3 wins and a delta of +16), was Graham Richards. Well done to all participants.

And a big thank you to all helpers and particularly the 'kitchen crew' of Helen C, Helen L, Carol and Jill.

#### Shelter Clean Up

And another thank you to all the club members who came along recently and swept years of rubbish and accumulated debris out of the shelter.

We now have a new fridge, better storage and a generally much cleaner area to work in. Please assist in keeping it tidy from now on.

In the near future we are replacing some of the old black chairs that are a bit the worse for wear and adding new ones to increase the total number. If there is anything else you, as a club member, think we could acquire to improve the club's resources and facilities, please let a committee member know.

#### Shelter Lock Up

After each Thursday evening petanque we have to be a little more careful about clearing up and locking up as we leave to comply with our agreement with the shire to use the shelter.

We have decided that the close of evening activities are determined by the departure of the last committee member. That person is required to ensure the shelter area is clean of bottles, glasses and that all tables and chairs are put away – so if you are also one of the last to leave please lend a hand.

We also need all the lights turned off. And finally we are responsible for at least closing the Tennis Gate if that has been left open for us. If the padlock is "closed" then please just loop the chain so that the gate cannot blow open, but if the padlock is open please actually lock it around the gate with the chain. Timing is not usually an issue, but we are required to have left the park by 9.00 at the very latest.

#### Bank Account Details

This is very important! The WHRPC has changed banks. We now have our accounts with the Bendigo Bank and are about to close the original WestPac accounts. So in future please make all payments to WHRPC as follows:

**BSB: 633 000**  
**A/c Name: WHRPC Inc**  
**A/c No: 155713530**

#### Club Petanque Diary

##### Sat-Sun 14-15 November – Avoca Triples

Just a reminder that the Avoca Triples are on in a couple of weeks' time. Always good fun and a club we are very happy to support and call genuine friends.

Saturday will be 5 Rounds of Qualifying with the Finals played on Sunday. But if that's all a bit too much for you then why not just drop over to Avoca on the Sunday for their Social Triples.

You can register on the day or on [www.mypetanque.com](http://www.mypetanque.com)

##### Sunday 29 November – PATR Triples

Our next major event is the "Petanque At The Rock" Triples on Sunday 29 November. We have run this event for many years and it's the one time we have to showcase our playing facilities to the rest of the Victorian petanque community. So we need a good turn-out of teams from within the club to start with. In a few days' time we will put out a tournament flyer with details of how to register teams for this tournament.

We were somewhat dismayed by the quantity of gravel recently dumped on 'our' pistes (but I guess the Macedon Ranges Shire thinks it's their 'carpark!'), but we have been given permission by the shire to re-distribute the gravel for our 'main event' so it looks like it was meant to be a petanque terrain.

We will also be running a raffle for this event and possibly for other activities as we approach Christmas. Louise Potter has kindly agreed to look after this task so if you have any goods to contribute to a hamper that we will be raffling during PATR please get in touch with Louise.

##### Petanque before Christmas

We will run a Lightning Premiership a week or so before the final WHRPC Christmas function; more details about this and the Christmas 'do' in the next newsletter.

## Summer Star Award

We are encouraging all players who participate in the social play on Thursday evenings to put in their scores. In fact the winners should do this, please. We ask this for a purpose. Carol Richards, week-by-week, updates the records of all winners and their “deltas” and the club is making an award (as we have done every year) to the best social player over the Summer Season. This award has taken various forms but is always announced/presented at the AGM.

For the 2015-2016 Summer Season we have decided to make the presentation by way of a small personalised trophy, and hope to do this every year from now on. It's not worth a million dollars but certainly worth putting in your scores each Thursday if you are lucky, or skillful, enough to win a game.

## It's Your Club – Make it Better for You

The WHRPC has been going for about 16 years. Over that time it has run some of the best petanque events in this country – and that's no exaggeration for those who remember the 2005 National Triples we hosted.

For many years we were the largest petanque club in Australia – we are still the second largest club in Victoria. We have also conducted a range of other fund-raising, catering and community involvement activities apart from just playing petanque.

We pride ourselves on never having “stuffed up” when we have decided to do something! However, this has at times lead to a perception that there are 2 groups within the club – those that seem to organise (or at times, boss!) and others who tag along and sometimes may feel left out. It's not meant to be that way but we acknowledge it may sometimes appear that way. Whenever we have an important task to undertake we ask for volunteers, and in the end there is a deadline and things get done by those who came forward. But it is still your club, and if this tends to leave you in the ‘dust’ we apologise.

So we want to know if there are things we (the committee) can do to make it a better club for you and all members. We generally don't knock back ideas (and good ones are hard to come by), but to be truthful we don't get many. We do hear when players seem to be dissatisfied by rumour and second-hand grumbles, but they are hard to act on. Please speak out, tell us what we can do better, and what we can do to add to the list of club activities. If you have a complaint please tell us (politely) in person and we'll listen and act.

## Hire of “Our” Shelter

Some of the newer members may not know how the shelter at Hanging Rock came about. A little history.

In 2008 Chinka Steel and Ken Helmore approached the shire to see whether we could get a storage area near the BBQ (the site of the present pair of new BBQs). Apart from a small slab of concrete this was all that was there alongside this carpark area.



*The BBQ area before the shelter was built*

After a lot of hard work the WHRPC committee put in a proposal for a grant that the shire supported, and Ian Castle (Marg's late husband) and a team of ‘geriatric builders’ from the club built the current shelter and storage shed under the supervision of a professional builder, John Winter. Ian's team built the lot apart from the roof that had to be put on by a licensed plumber. Lots of great stories about that but no space here to recount them!

We have in the past hired out ‘our’ shed and its facilities, and are doing so again in a couple of weeks' time. If you hear of anyone interested in hiring the shed it's a way of assisting the club by way of the hiring charge. The hire charge is \$500 for a full day and \$250 for a half-day, plus an equivalent bond. This includes use of all the equipment and ‘stuff’ that can support a sit-down meal with all crockery and cutlery, glass-ware and the rest for about 80 people.

## Sponsors

Over the years the WHRPC has been very fortunate to have some very generous sponsors. So please ‘give back’, for example, by patronising the Hanging Rock Café.

## WHRPC Contact Information

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