



HAMILTON PARK CO.LTD

Winter 2025



KEEPING YOU UPDATED ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY

www.hamiltonpark.org.au

hpboard@hamiltonpark.org.au

**Hamilton Park Co-Operative 26 Kurrajong Lane,
Glenrowan 3675**



ENTREPRENEUR SAM

Young Sam Briggs has turned his love of pets into a small enterprise. Two years ago, to earn pocket money, Sam launched a dog walking service for Hamilton Park residents. He offered regular walks for family pets, building clients by word of mouth in the area. Sam's initiative arose simply from seeing busy pet owners who needed help to exercise their fur babies. By walking dogs after school and weekends, he both earns money and provides a useful service. Sam's dog walking business may have begun as a way to earn money, but has now become a community asset and it exemplifies the Hamilton Park tradition of community spirit and initiative in helping one another. Sam's love of animals and sense of duty is clearly demonstrated, as he strolls through the parklands with the fur babies in his care.

Well done Sam

Our Playground.

Recently, when walking through our community area, I met Marcus, Madz, Maeve, Maggie and their fur baby. The family, have recently moved to Hamilton Park and were enjoying a beautiful brisk winter's morning at our playground with it's beautiful bush surroundings .

The Playground is the fruition of a dream, to provide a facility and meeting area for our families. Well done to all, who have, and are still working on this project. Residents continue to support the project by donating cans and bottles to raise funds for extra facilities at the site.



NATIVE VEGETATION GROUP

The Native Vegetation Group (NVG) is a volunteer group in Hamilton Park. We work to **protect and enhance native vegetation** on the 14 hectares of Common Land. This includes both the bushland and native grasslands.

The aim is threefold: to ensure a healthy native habitat for local native wildlife (birds, reptiles, invertebrates and small mammals), minimise the risk of bushfire and provide amenity value to residents.

WEED AND RABBIT CONTROL AREA OUR MAJOR ACTIVITIES.

Thanks to a fantastic effort, we are pleased to report no open rabbit burrows on Common Land at the end of Autumn.

Other activities include:

- *Cool burns for cultural, fire hazard reduction and native plant enhancement outcomes
- *Nestboxes—Turquoise parrots and Squirrel gliders - annual inspections and maintenance
- *Follow-up eucalypt seedling removal after the Trust For Nature eco-thinning project 2021
- *Field events such as birdwatching, native plant and wildlife walk & talks. Suggestions welcome
- *Identification of uncommon native plant species – the list is growing! 4 critically endangered species are still reasonably common in Hamilton Park. Orchids, lilies and other small plants are easily overlooked but need our help in protection from rabbits and weeds.

The group meets for an hour each week to carry out various activities. This is currently 9am Friday mornings with up to 7 active members and usually 3-4 present each week. Anyone interested is always welcome to join in.

A monthly report of activities and nature highlights is prepared for the Board. These reports summarise the variety of activities we do and illustrate the monthly range of flowering natives or other points of interest.

Residents can assist with tip offs of any threats you notice while out and about around the Common Land e.g. locations of rabbit burrows or any weeds or other issues of concern.

Contacts to have a chat with:

Derek Pendervingh	NVG representative on the Board and an active NVG member	0400 867 087
Margaret Butt	NVG Coordinator, reports & communications	0467 304 755

**Margaret dabbling
Phalaris before removing
seedheads (background)
Fog Grass in foreground**



**Lucas and Ian checking Squirrel
Glider nest boxes .**



**NVG Members are pictured carrying out care
and protection of our common area.**



**Greg and Derek closing
rabbit burrows.**

**Peter igniting a cool burn
in grassland .**



Glen with head high

Kikuya that had invaded the bushland.



**Heath, Peter and Glen examining plant species
to log into COVRAM App conservation value
and management record.**





Working Bee: We are planning a working bee for Saturday 16th August, commencing at 8am with a sausage and a drink afterwards from 11am Please come along and meet other likeminded residents.

Bring your rakes and shovels so we can clean-up and get ready for Spring.



Fund Raising:

We are still collecting bottles and cans, for the playground. So far this has contributed more than \$3000 to this project since we started. The next stage of the playground is to add some shade sails, we are currently seeking grants, as these are expensive items to purchase and install.



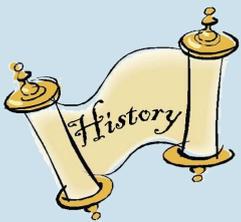
Defibrillator:

We have received grants to allow us to purchase our own unit and intend to have it installed at our community area in the next month, along with signage at Kurrajong Lane and Henley roads. After we have it installed we will organise a training day for those interested and will distribute a flyer on how to use this important piece of equipment for our community.



HP water system:

Recent problems with a broken water main have again highlighted the need for a plan “B” if you use HP water for your toilet. While we always try to restore the supply quickly, sometimes it is not possible because of the complexity of the repair. If you are effected investigate what you can do to work around these random interruptions to the water supply which are so disruptive to households .



EARLY DAYS: The Hamilton’s incorporated some names from their past into the street names, when developing Hamilton Park. “Avoca” was the name of the home in Benalla, where Doug (born 1917) spent his early years. “Henley” was the name of their farm at Markwood (originally the area from the Ovens River below and they subsequently added Henley Ridge—also developed by the Hamilton’s) The Rubaiyat of “Omar “ was a favourite poem of the Hamilton’s. The names of Kingfisher, Kurrajong and Mistletoe were named after an obvious feature in the lane area. “Wirrinya” was taken from an aboriginal dictionary available at the time meaning ‘sleeping place’

(Source: Hamilton Park History Book 1971-2021)



We extend a warm welcome to new residents: Aurnyn and Belinda (Mistletoe), Mitchell (Orchard Drive), Jo-Anne (Kingfisher) ,and Marcus, Madz, Murphy, Maeve, Maggie and their fur babies (Orchard Drive).

We hope that you enjoy life in our unique community.

For Your Calendar:



Garden Club: The last Monday in the month.



Monthly Luncheon: The 3rd Thursday in the month.



Dear residents, I hope you have enjoyed our Winter 2025 Newsletter. As we find ways to cope with the cold wintery conditions, remember the community book share, provides us with plenty of reading material, as we endeavour to keep warm and snug.

I extend our appreciation to the staff at the office of Tim McCurdy, who once again have printed our newsletter. Also thank you to the residents, who help deliver our newsletter. It is a great team effort.

From the Editor

Dianne

Hamilton Park Pruning Pile 2025



The Pruning Pile is now open on weekends until the end of September. An initiative this year was to close the pruning pile for a period to enable a burn and this was attempted but was unsuccessful due to weather conditions. However the volunteers were able to burn the melaleuca pile from last year. Thank you for all involved. It is now anticipated that another burn will be attempted in late October/ early November

REMEMBER:

***No large stumps, billets of timber, logs, yuccas or succulents, THEY DO NOT BURN.**

***Billets and logs of suitable timber may be left near the gate for residents who can use them as firewood.**

***No metal or masonry objects are to be dumped.**

***No garden soil.**

***Prunings should be thrown toward the pile centre and not dumped on the driveway.**

***This facility is only for the residents of Hamilton Park and Grants Estate.**

*Any questions, please contact Peter Janas **0432 324 661**



Garden Corner: Cold Play

At this time of year, your garden can look and feel a little ho-hum. But don't let the chilly season stand in your way. Rather than wait for spring to add some blooms to your backyard, beat the winter blues with pots of colour and plant-now species to brighten garden beds and borders. Winter-flowering annuals like pansies, violas and primulas are perfect for dotting around the garden. Plant them in drifts in garden beds or mass plant in pots for splashes of seasonal colour. A coloured medium-sized pot full of pansies is a welcoming sight by the front or back door of your home.

If you want Australian natives some popular suggestions are Pigface (*Carpobrotus*) and Grevillea "Bronze Rambler" are attractive groundcovers with interesting foliage and colourful flowers. These are great for rockeries or steep embankments. Other superb choices are Dwarf banksias.

Also two timeless winter blooms are hellebores and clivias. They're both tough, flower profusely and are ideal for shaded areas.



Vale: Mervyn Francis WHEELER 24/06/1931—11/06/2025

The community extends its deepest sympathy to Doreen, Ian and family on the loss of Merv.

Merv and his late wife Val adopted our community, when they moved to live with Ian and Doreen several years ago. Merv, in his gentle manner was a guiding light, sharing his wisdom to his family and the people he met. He was a familiar face at Hamilton Park functions and often accompanied Ian on dam inspections and displayed a keen interest in the development of the playground.

We were privileged to be part of Merv's journey through life, and will miss the little chats, that we had with him. He is now reunited with Val, his partner of 72 years.

Wandering Cats in Hamilton Park

Cats have been noted roaming through others' properties and the common land in Hamilton Park.

Just a reminder, Rural City of Wangaratta by-laws state that cat owners must confine their cats to their properties at all times.

Even the sweetest and most well fed moggies are instinctive killers and their natural instincts can wreak havoc on the native bird, lizard and small mammal (mainly nocturnal) populations we are fortunate to have here in the park.



Ever tried a dump Meal? It is an uncooked meal with all ingredients packed into a container/ sealed bag, frozen, and just "dumped" in the slow cooker, when ready to cook a meal.

Try this one: Ginger—Peach Chicken Freeze 1 kg chicken(thighs/breasts), 375g peach slices, a sliced red onion, 2tbsp soy sauce, 1 tbsp freshly grated ginger, 2tsp ground coriander. Cook: High for 4-5 hours Serve with rice. (source CWA cookbook)