
PORCUPINE PRESS

TRUTH, GRIT & GOLD

EDITION 4: SPRING IS IN THE AIR

BEHIND THE SCENES

EXCITING PROGRESS AT PORCUPINE VILLAGE

After a long, wet and frosty winter, we're delighted to welcome the fresh colours and warmer days of spring.

Winter certainly tested us! With muddy conditions and plenty of frosty mornings, our dedicated team worked tirelessly to keep the project moving forward. Despite the challenges, significant progress has been made throughout the village, bringing us another step closer to opening our gates.

Winter progress around the Village

Landscaping works continue across the village. If you've driven past recently or visited the Golden Nugget Restaurant, you may have noticed some exciting changes taking shape at the front of Porcupine Village.

Our new ticket booth is now in place, and construction of the impressive entry gate is well underway. This handcrafted gate has been created by our talented blacksmith, Les Hough, whose traditional craftsmanship perfectly captures the spirit and heritage of the 1850s goldfields.

Behind the scenes at Porcupine Village

While the team has been hard at work transforming the outside of the village, there's been just as much excitement happening behind the scenes.

Our team has been carefully selecting unique gifts and locally inspired products to create a warm and welcoming country-style gift shop. From keepsakes and handcrafted treasures to souvenirs, there will be something special for visitors of all ages.

We've also been building our collection of beautiful hire items for weddings, baby showers and special functions. With rustic décor and country charm, these pieces will help create memorable celebrations in the unique setting of Porcupine Village.

These additions are another exciting step towards welcoming visitors to Porcupine Village later this year, and we look forward to sharing more progress with you in the coming months.

Every week brings us closer to welcoming you to experience Porcupine Village.

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- *Behind the Scenes* • *Looking Ahead* • *We're Finalists!* • *From Goldfield to Today*
 - *What's Cooking* • *Village Events* • *Maldon News* • *Sunday Sessions.*
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PORCUPINE VILLAGE JOURNAL

Our latest news

Looking Ahead

Spring is shaping up to be one of our busiest seasons yet as work continues across the village. We're excited to share more progress with you over the coming months and look forward to welcoming everyone to Porcupine Village very soon.



Frosty morning at the Village.



Awards: We're Finalists!

We are incredibly proud and excited to announce that Golden Nugget Restaurant, Maldon has been named a Finalist in the 2026 Victoria & Tasmania Restaurant & Catering Hostplus Awards for Excellence.

We have been recognised in the category of:

Victoria & Tasmania – Tourism Restaurant

Victoria & Tasmania – Contemporary Australian Restaurant (Informal)

This nomination is a testament to the dedication and passion of our entire team, who work tirelessly to create memorable dining experiences for every guest who visits us.

To our wonderful customers, locals, visitors and supporters – thank you. Your continued encouragement and support have made this achievement possible, and we are truly grateful.

We look forward to celebrating with our fellow finalists and are honoured to be recognised among the best tourism restaurants in Victoria and Tasmania.

Thank you for being part of our journey!

PORCUPINE VILLAGE JOURNAL

From Goldfield to Today – honoring men then and now.

In 1851, the goldfields around Maldon were alive with hope, hard work and determination. Men from all walks of life travelled across Australia and from around the world, leaving behind families and familiar comforts in search of gold and a better future.

Their days were long and physically demanding, spent digging deep shafts, carrying heavy loads and enduring scorching summers, icy winters and uncertain fortunes. Success was never guaranteed, but resilience, mateship and perseverance became the true treasures of the goldfields.

Today, while life looks very different, the qualities of courage, kindness, strength and community remain just as important. November 19th, International Men's Day is celebrated to recognise the positive contributions men and boys make to their families, workplaces and communities. It is also a time to encourage conversations about men's health, wellbeing and supporting one another.

As we reflect on the determination of the gold miners of 1851, we also celebrate the men of today – honouring their achievements, recognising their challenges and thanking them for the role they play in building strong communities.

Men wore their entire fortune

Many miners stitched gold nuggets into their belts, hats or clothing to keep them safe from thieves.

Some even slept with their boots on, just in case someone tried to steal their hard-earned gold during the night.

They worked hard . . . and played hard

After weeks of digging, miners looked forward to a night at the local hotel. Music, dancing, storytelling, card games and a hearty meal helped lift spirits after long days of back-breaking work.

Tea was the favourite drink

Forget coffee! Strong billy tea was the drink of choice. Brewed over an open fire, it accompanied almost every meal and provided comfort after a long day of digging.

Everyone had a nickname

Few miners used their full names. Nicknames like "Bluey", "Lofty", "Tiny" (often for the biggest bloke!) or "Yorkie" were common around campfires.



Lunchtime around the fire, with a bit of story-telling.

GOLDEN NUGGET R E S T A U R A N T

What's cooking at the Golden Nugget

— CHRISTMAS —

YES, IT'S COMING

Start thinking about Christmas Functions

– get in early book a place now.

Only 115 days until Christmas!

17 Fridays (from the September 1).

Limited dates are still available.

If you're planning a **Staff Christmas Party,**

Family Celebration or an

End-of-Year Get-together, now is the

perfect time to secure your booking

at the Golden Nugget Restaurant.

**BOOKINGS ARE FILLING
QUICKLY, SO DON'T MISS OUT.**

December 19 – Lunch only – \$49

Christmas package

2-Course Meal – Roast and alternative

drop plum pudding & Pavlova.

Limited indoor seating – booking essential.

— GRAND FINAL EVE —

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Whether you're travelling through or celebrating

with family and friends, enjoy a great meal in a
relaxed country atmosphere.

Bookings are welcome.

November 14 – Private Function

No dinner service.

— SPRING MENU —

Coming in October our fresh menu
with some new additions.

Our chefs have been busy creating some
delicious new additions while keeping
your favourite country classics.

Whether you're stopping by for lunch,
dinner or simply coffee and cake,
there's something new waiting for you.

**Be sure to visit and discover your
new favourite dish.**



What's cooking at the Golden Nugget

— HOMEMADE SWEET TREATS —

One of the highlights of dining at the Golden Nugget Restaurant is the delicious selection of homemade desserts, lovingly created by Jan Mulholland.

Every week, Jan bakes everything from scratch, filling the kitchen with the irresistible aroma of fresh cakes, puddings and sweet treats.

From our popular Apple & Rhubarb Crumble Cake to our warm Sticky Date Pudding served with

rich butterscotch sauce, there's always something tempting waiting in our cake cabinet.

Whether you're joining us for lunch, dinner or simply calling in for coffee, why not complete your meal with one of Jan's homemade creations?

There's always a new favourite to discover, and every dessert is made with the same country hospitality and care that makes the Golden Nugget so special.



— FATHER'S DAY LUNCH —

A Thought for Father's Day

The men of the goldfields taught us that true strength wasn't measured by the weight of the gold they found, but by the friendships they built, the families they worked to support, and the resilience they showed through life's challenges.

This Father's Day, we celebrate all fathers, grandfathers, sons, brothers and mates.

Just like the miners of the goldfields, it's okay to lean on your mates, share a story over a cuppa, and

remember that asking for help is a sign of strength, not weakness.

"Strong men don't carry every burden alone, they share the load."

Celebrate Dad with a relaxing Father's Day lunch at the Golden Nugget. Treat Dad to a delicious country-style roast, great company and warm hospitality.

Bookings are recommended.

**Adults Carvery \$40 Children 12 & Under
Nugget & Chips with Dixie Cup Ice Cream \$15.**

PORCUPINE VILLAGE EVENTS

Plan your next event at Golden Nugget Restaurant

Weddings, Birthdays, Baby Showers,
Corporate Events or Workshops.

Looking for a unique and unforgettable venue for your next event? Porcupine Village is the perfect destination for:

- Weddings,
- Intimate Gatherings,
- Work Functions,
- Baby Showers and more.

With stunning historic charms, modern amenities and flexible spaces, we cater to events all sizes and styles.



Charming Golden Nugget Restaurant:

A cosy yet versatile space featuring an intimate dining area, a large alfresco zone with an open fireplace – perfect for 10-100 guests.

Tailored to your needs:

Whether you're planning a grand celebration or a casual get-together, we offer customisable setups, catering options and professional service to bring your vision to life.

Let's help you create a memorable and seamless event at Porcupine Village.

Contact us today to start planning your next Function on 03 4417 5900.



MALDON EVENTS

Maldon Market is open on the following weekends:

- September 13th
- October 11th
- November 8th

25th Sept **AFL Grand Final Public Holiday**

17 & 18 Oct **Tarrengower Hill Climb**

18 Oct **Maldon Baringhup Show**

31 Oct – **Maldon Folk Festival**

2 Nov
A long weekend of folk, bluegrass, dance, interactive workshops and more. Historical, quirky facts in the goldfields.



The Maldon Market Day.



Maldon Fok Festival – The Bushwackers.



Mount Tarrengower Hillclimb.

SUNDAY SESSIONS LIVE GIG LIST

Every Sunday the Golden Nugget Restaurant host our Sunday Sessions.
Featuring delicious eats, live entertainment, Happy Hour from 2-3pm and Free Entry!

SEPT

6TH

The Martini Set

13TH

Deuce

20TH

Matt Basic

27TH

TBC

OCT

4TH

The Martini Set

11TH

Oscar La Dell

18TH

Karlo Arcinue

25TH

Alluvium

NOV

1ST

The Martini Set

8TH

Indi Gilmore

15TH

Shrek & the Minion

22ND

Quantum Psychics Duo

28TH

The Drongo and the Crow

Can you help Prickles find his friend Nugget Ned?

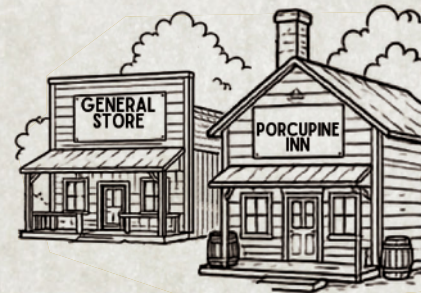
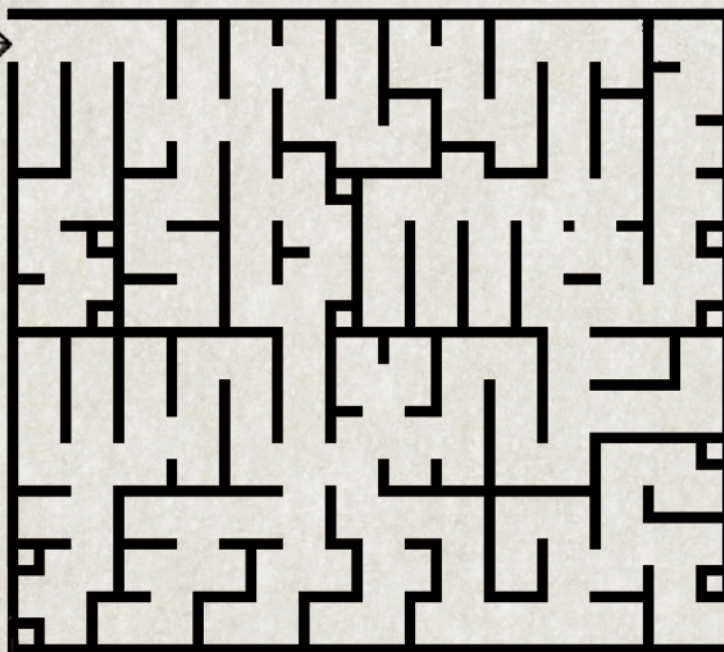


FUN FACTS

Echidnas and Underground Mining Tunnels:

While the miners were busy sweating and digging with picks and shovels, echidnas were already the undisputed “ecosystem engineers” of the Australian bush. They have a surprising connection to underground tunnels

The Original Tunnel Diggers: Long before human miners dug deep shafts looking for gold, echidnas were using their incredibly powerful claws and backward-facing hind feet to tunnel into the earth.



Disappearing Acts: If a gold miner startled an echidna on the goldfields, the echidna wouldn't run away. Instead, it would dig straight down on the spot, completely disappearing underground in less than a minute.



EST. 1851

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