

PROPERTY HISTORY

- 1997** The property at 3491 Maintongoon Road, Bonnie Doon became immortalized in Australian Film History as the holiday house of the Kerrigan Family in the classic Australian comedy movie *The Castle*. Although only a small amount of filming was done at the property, it has become an defining icon for the township of Bonnie Doon. Filming was completed in 11 days.
- 2006** Purchased by Sydney Telstra communications technician Richard Moseley after he wangled the price down from \$195,000 to \$170,000. He then listed the property as a 'Rent-a-home' for \$150/night (*see attached advert in our fact sheet*).
- 2010** The Castle was put on the market with an asking price of \$195,000.00.
- 2011** A Currant Affair takes up the story of the sale of the Castle in the last week of January 2011.
- 2014** An application by land owner Vicki Cosentino was made to allow for the home to be demolished so two town houses could be built in its stead. She said her tenants of seven years had caused \$14,000 in property damage.
- 2017** The old house (not property) was sold for \$40,000 by Brad Teal Real Estate and removed by the new owner. Its location is currently unknown.

"A MAN'S HOME IS HIS CASTLE."

Small parts of the script were altered for the American audience.

These included:

Hey Hey its Saturday to
Funniest Home Videos

Camira's to Corollas

Rissole to Meatloaf

Two-stroke to Diesel

The Castle is a private property and for this reason it is asked that everyone act with the utmost of respect in choosing not so stop or take photographs of the property without permission from the owner.

ARTWORKZ TOURISM WEBSITE

www.esplash.me

Visit our website for local Visitor Information Centres.

Brochures have been produced by passionate volunteers to help promote our District.

Disclaimer: The authors have taken care to ensure this publication is correct, though please be aware that errors and omissions do occur.

Brochure 100

BONNIE DOON

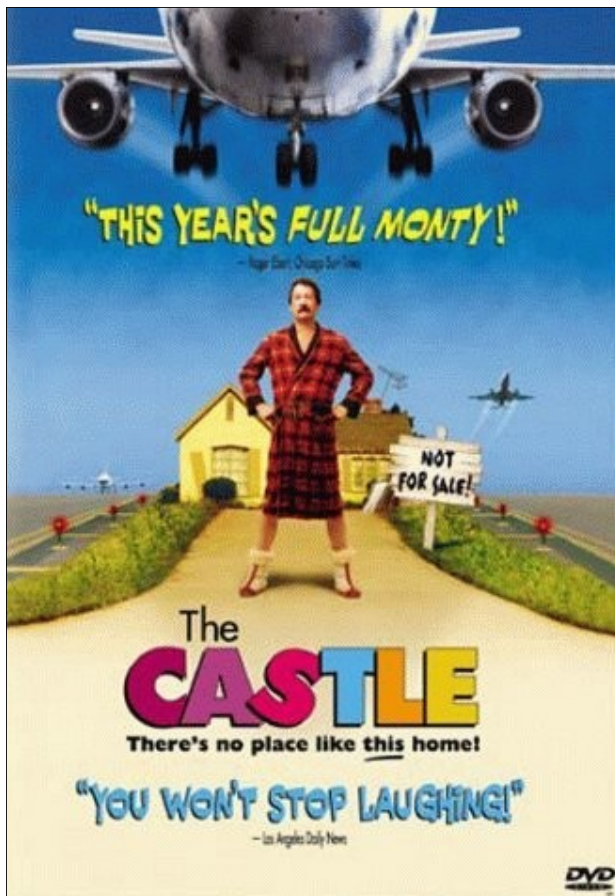
THE CASTLE



*Shadowed by over 30 Mountains and
on the banks of the beautiful Goulburn River
and Lake Eildon. This is our playground!*

In 1997 the Australian Movie House *Working Dog Studios* produced an Australian Movie called *The Castle* on a miserly budget of just \$19,000.00 and focused around just 11 days of filming. Though this did not stop the movie from quickly taking on cult movie status in Australia, bringing in over \$10,000,000.00 in Australian box office takings alone.

The movies storyline follows the Kerrigan family's David and Goliath legal battle with the Government and an airport corporation as they battle to save their dream house from a \$70,000.00 compulsory acquisition. Whilst the Melbourne house was built on a reclaimed toxic landfill, under high tension power lines beside



the main Melbourne Airport, it was more than the Kerrigan family could ever want or dream for! To them it was a little piece of heaven on earth, which they purchased for a bargain basement price!

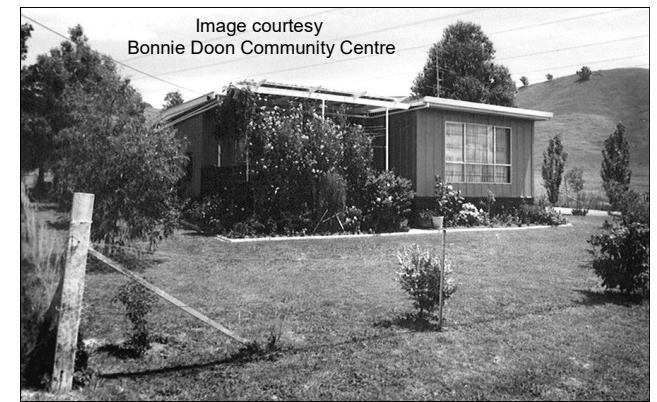
What makes this movie special for local Bonnie Doon residents is the movies portrayal of the Kerrigan's love for Bonnie Doon and how they would constantly drive to their Bonnie Doon holiday house for rest and relaxation. The Kerrigan's loved enjoying the spoils of the Bonnie Doon countryside, which included water sports, swimming, country living and the large high tension powerlines running beside the property!

During one movie scene the iconic muttering of "how's the serenity" was made in reference to the tranquillity and beauty of the Bonnie Doon lakeside district. Locals understand this all too well!

Lead actor Michael Caton was born in 1943 and has a long relationship with the Australian film industry, including *Skippy*, *Division-4*, *Homicide*, *The Sullivans*, *The Flying Doctors*, *Home and Away*, *Hey Dad*, *A country Practice*, *Blue Heelers*, *All Saints*, *Bad Cop Bad Cop* and *Packed to the Rafters*. Up until 2011 he had also played in six movies, including alongside Paul Hogan in the 2004 comedy *Strange Bedfellows*.

It was actor Eric Banner's first major movie role and marked the start of his highly successful acting career on the world stage.

Many commentators believe that the castle is the best Australian comedy ever made. Whether that is true or not, what is certain is that the movie has become a yard stick for other Australian comedies to measure themselves against.



MOVIE CAST & INFORMATION

Darryl Kerrigan - Michael Caton
Sal Kerrigan - Anne Tenney
Dale Kerrigan - Stephen Curry
Steve Kerrigan - Anthony Simcoe
Tracy Kerrigan - Sophie Lee
Wayne Kerrigan - Wayne Hope
Dennis Denuto - Tiriell Mora
Con Petropoulos - Eric Bana
Lawrence Hammill - Charles 'Bud' Tingwell

Director: Rob Sitch

Writers: Santo Cilauro, Tom Gleisner, Jane Kennedy & Rob Sitch

Cinematographer: Miriana Marusic

Executive Producer: Michael Hirsh

Producer: Debra Choate

Film Editor: Wayne Hyett

Production Design: Carrie Kennedy

Production Company: Working Dog Productions

Running Time: 82 minutes

Certification: Australia - M, USA -R