THE BRIDGE

Bi-monthly community magazine for Balnarring, Bittern, Crib Point, Flinders, French Island, Main Ridge, Merricks, Pt. Leo, Red Hill, Shoreham, Somers and Tuerong

Issue 59 February – March 2020 **www.bridgemag.com.au**

Happy race-goers at the Balnarring race track. Read about the Racing Club's 'Caring for the Community' Program on page 8.

Made possible by the customers of Balnarring & District **Community Bank®** Branch

Bendigo Bank

– BALNARRING –
Dental Centre
Ph 5983 5348
www.balnarringdentist.com.au

BALNARRING PICNIC RACING CLUB

THE GRAND HOTEL MORNINGTON LIVE

Grand Hotel Mornington
124 Main Street
Ph: 5975 2001
www.Grand.net.au

Huge Thanks to our fantastic HERO SPONSORS!!

Hello Everyone!

A devasting start to 2020 with bushfires everywhere, including our wonderful French Island. We want to acknowledge the huge efforts that have been made in our community towards helping communities affected directly by the devastating fires: from donations of money, and goods which have been trucked to specific townships, to our fire fighters helping on the front line...

Local retailers, truck hire businesses, helpers to collect/sort/pack goods into boxes – with one little girl beautifully decorating a box with messages of love – are just some of those caring, generous people in our community.

There will be many other instances we haven't heard about, but everything that locals have contributed to easing the suffering brought about by this unimaginable force of nature, is a testament to the wonder of the human spirit when adversity hits hard for members of our human (and fauna) family...

In this edition of the *Bridge* you will find website information for some of the charities who will go on working directly with the affected communities, native fauna and farm and pet animals... These charities will go on needing our support – thank you Eva from Balnarring Preschool for providing this access information.

A big thank you to the Balnarring Beach Community Association for their Hero Sponsorship support for more than a year. And a big thanks to Balnarring Dental for returning as a Hero Sponsor. Thankyou to Dr Tiv for offering to jump in and support The Bridge!

We wish everyone a wonderful February and March.

Jen and Ali xx

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land, the Boon Wurrung and Bunurong language groups of the Kulin Nation. We would like to pay our respects to their elders, past, present and future.

CONTENTS

Birthdays/Angel Card	3
How to Contribute	47
What's On	*back page*

The Bridge Magazine
www.bridgemag.com.au
Email: info@bridgemag.com.au
Address: PO Box 248 Balnarring VIC 3926

The Bridge volunteers:

Editorial & layout team:
Ali Hoelzer, Jenny Atherton

Website: John Ashton (Ikoniq)
Accounts: Lesley McMillan
Subscriptions: Robyn Agg

Distribution team:
Robyn Agg, Thomas Hoelzer,
Chris Newell, Celia Sexton, Faye Poll,
Marty Nelson-Williams,
David and Diana
@Balnarring Post Office,
Ed & Meg Pawlik, Sarah Bingle

Content:
Our wonderful community! You!

Happy Birthday!

February

4th Jason
6th Matt Wood
9th Jasmine Wigley
9th Julia Merrington
11th Terry Mulcahy
12th Christian O'Toole
13th Bec Davis
13th We remember Jane Featherston
18th Deirdre McLean
19th Jo Treweek
20th Daryl Gordon
25th Suzi Callender
26th Neil Adams
27th Grant Bradbury
27th Dr Tiv Nirmalaan

March

3rd Ronnie Little
5th Adam Harris
7th Audrey Russo
7th Hope Ryan
8th Harry Mussel
14th Crystal Fieldhouse
17th Paul Olson
19th Danni Josephine
21st Frank De Backer
22nd Steve Haylock
25th Jeff Fortuyn
27th Sophie Douglas
28th Mimi De Backer
28th Vince Cafici

February and March 2020
Inspirational Angel Cards for the Community

Authentic
Nourish

How can you weave these things into your day to uplift and relax you?

Source: Newly published Inspirational Angel Cards, by Simon Bunyevich, Somers.

Who do you appreciate in our community and why?
Email submissions of appreciation, & birthdays in our community, to: info@bridgemag.com.au or
Post to: The Bridge, PO Box 248, Balnarring 3926

Would you like to receive a digital copy of The BRIDGE in your email inbox?
Email info@bridgemag.com.au "subscribe" in the subject line.

Want to contribute to The Bridge? For deadline reminders, email info@bridgemag.com.au with "deadline reminders" in the subject line.

Community Leader Award

Christine and John Barren

Thank you for your enormous contribution to our communities through your music outreach program, which has seen local residents enjoy many wonderful Recital Series at St Johns and now St Marks since 2005.
The weekly Music Playgroups at St Johns and St Marks are a much-loved and valuable addition to the lives of local parents and children as they introduce them to the joy of music.
We also thank you for your continued and enthusiastic advocacy for our Community Bank branch. Such support is vital to our ongoing success as we work to support wonderful people like yourselves to make our communities even better places in which to live.

Greg Hood
Branch Manager
December 2019

Bendigo Bank
Bigger than a bank.

bendigobank.com.au

Balnarring & District Community Bank Branch

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879. 1203503 - 1203502 (511936_v4) (1/12/2019)

Young Leader Award

Nat Clarke

As a member of Point Leo Surf Life Saving Club, Nat has shown great leadership, character and community spirit in his extensive involvement in the club.

Nat is a great competitor for the club in life saving surf sports and is an inspiration to his peers. He is part of the water safety team at club carnivals and for the Boxing Day Swim Classic.

As an activity team leader in the Nipper Water Safety and Surf Education Program, Nat has inspired and assisted younger club members to aspire to become part of the amazing group at Point Leo helping to keep the public safe.

Congratulations on being such a wonderful role model and an invaluable and committed member of your club Nat.

Greg Hood
Branch Manager
February/March 2020

Bendigo Bank
Bigger than a bank.

bendigobank.com.au

Balnarring & District Community Bank Branch

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879. 1203503 - 1203502 (517137_v4) (7/01/2020)

Young Leader Award

Point Leo Surf Life Saving Club Youth Leadership Group

As members of the Point Leo Surf Life Saving Club's Youth Leadership Group, Zali Cargill, Bridget Barnes, Hamish Wynn-Pope, Ella Lausson and Bodhi Woods have shown great leadership, character and community spirit through their extensive involvement in the club.
As Bronze Camp and SRC instructors, assistants with IRB courses, First Aid providers at the Boxing Day Swim Classic, Nipper Program activity leaders or Patrol Vice-Captains, these young people are an important part of the amazing group at Point Leo that helps to keep the public safe.
Congratulations to Zali, Bridget, Hamish, Ella and Bodhi for being such wonderful role models and invaluable and committed members of their club.

Greg Hood
Branch Manager
February/March 2020

Bendigo Bank
Bigger than a bank.

bendigobank.com.au

Balnarring & District Community Bank Branch

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879. 1203503 - 1203502 (517467_v2) (9/01/2020)

THE GRAND
HOTEL MORNINGTON

BISTRO DINING

GRAND LIVE

MAIN BAR

A MODERN LOCAL MEETING PLACE

WITH A GRAND & COLOURFUL PAST

Housed in a heritage listed building and regarded as an icon on the Mornington Peninsula, The Grand Hotel is a Mornington focal point for dining, socialising and entertainment.

Located right in the heart of Mornington's popular seaside Main Street precinct.

DINING | SPORTS BAR | LIVE ENTERTAINMENT | CRUZE NIGHTCLUB | PRIVATE FUNCTIONS

www.grand.net.au

124 MAIN STREET,
MORNINGTON

5975 2001

OPEN DAILY
8AM TILL LATE

BALNARRING PICNIC RACING CLUB

Racing so far….

The Balnarring Picnic Racing Club has had a successful start to the season with great attendance for the first three meetings.

Our focus this season has been the club's **Caring for the Community program**. So far, we've had the privilege to partner with Disabled Surfriders Association Mornington Peninsula (DSAMP), Willum Warrain Aboriginal Association and Abacus Learning Centre.

The club continues to rally behind Abacus's efforts to raise $500,000 towards the construction of its new autism centre. You can support Abacus by visiting www.gofundme.com abacus autism

The club is still encouraging local charity and community groups to participate in the program. For more information, eligibility and nominations, email secretary@balnarringraces.com.au

BALNARRING PICNIC RACING CLUB

We would also like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who supported the club on our Family Day on January 12th. **A total of $5000 from gate proceeds was donated to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal.**

With three race meetings left for the season, come along and enjoy traditional picnic Racing and an abundance of activities for the whole family's enjoyment.
The highlights of the remainder of the season (at the time of the *Bridge* going to Press) include the Balnarring Cup on Australia Day, Labour Day weekend races on March 8th and the Easter Saturday, April 11th featuring the much-anticipated Fashion on the Field.

You can book your marquee, picnic benches, roped-off areas and more online at balnarringraces.com for the above dates.

Why did I start Balnarring Dental

Do you know why I started my own dental practice? Why I thought I could do this better than anyone else? Why I'd want to take on the burden and responsibility of running my own business as well as being a medical professional? Many people have asked me this question over the years and I'm finally ready to share this with my beloved community here in Balnarring.

Many of you may not know this, but I wanted to be a dental surgeon since I was in year 10. Before that, I wanted to be a fighter pilot like Maverick in TopGun (I'm super excited about the new movie that's about to come out this year) but my requirement for needing glasses ruled that out for me. That, and the threat from my mother that "there was no way I'd be risking my life in a fighter plane every day". I had always wanted to be in the medical field (if I couldn't be a fighter pilot) and was always good with my hands. However, I didn't think I had enough of an ego to be a medical surgeon. I didn't know if I could handle the consequences of life and death surgery. So in year 10 I did some work experience with a dentist. And this changed my life. I saw a profession where I could be involved in medicine, change people's lives within a short period of time and be involved in surgery that had a reduced risk of including life and death choices. I had found my home.

When I started studying at the University of Melbourne, it was like I found the place I belonged. Maybe in my next article I'll recant the stories that occurred at university that helped me become who I am today.

So why didn't I just want to work for someone else? Well I did to start with. Armed with my new qualification and a gusto to change the world, I started working at a public dental community centre first. During that time, there was a 3 year waiting list for public patients to see a dentist and I was adamant that I was going to bring it down to 6 months. I worked hard, worked during my lunch break, saw anyone that was in pain as soon as I could. Within a week, I got tapped on the shoulder by the other staff at the centre. I was "working too hard", I was "making the others look bad", I was seen as a threat of potentially ruining their easy lifestyle. They pressured me and I was young.

I then worked at a private practice. It was great, as everyone there worked hard. It was a place that saw patients very quickly. No one had appointments for longer than 30 minutes, and it's the norm in dental practices. I worked there for a few years until I noticed 2 very important things. It was one of those things that after you see it, you couldn't unsee it and it started eating away at my soul. Firstly, I noticed that most of the emergency patients we were seeing were our own patients. Every dentist at that clinic saw at least 8-10 patients a day of their own patients that had an emergency toothache or breakage. It struck me that many dentists are too afraid to be honest with their patients about the state of their teeth/gums out of fear that they would be perceived by patients as though they we were 'ripping them off'. So my colleague dentists would only tell patients about their immediate problem and not about all the other things happening in their mouths. This sadly leads to inevitable progression of diseases in the mouth, with little focus on prevention, and hence more emergency appointments.

Secondly, I noticed when the dentists needed work done on their own teeth, they would use a different set of materials and techniques than they'd use on their patients. They justified it as "these materials cost more" and "these procedures take longer, so no patient would want to pay more for this level of quality". It ate me away knowing that my colleagues would want higher quality fillings in their own mouths compared to that of their patients. For example, we know that every time we refill a tooth, the hole gets bigger. Do this just a few times and soon the tooth does not have enough structure to support a filling anymore. So dentists choose materials that would last 10-30 years, while patients were only given the option of having materials that would last only 2-8 years.

Also, they used something called 'rubber dam' to get fillings done in their own mouths, but not for their patients. What is a rubber dam you ask? Well, have you ever gone up to a mirror and breathed on it? Did you notice that you fogged the mirror up? Well, that "fog" is the moisture on your breath that is laying down a film of water on the glass. So every time you breath, moisture is covering your teeth, tongue, cheeks and gums. Now, imagine breathing on that mirror constantly and then trying to glue something on it. How well do you think it would stick with a layer of water under it? This is what happens when a filling is done without 'rubber dam'. Often as a shortcut, dentists use cotton rolls or other inferior techniques on patients. The moisture and humidity from the mouth add a layer of moisture over the entire bonding surface and so the bond is weak and fails prematurely. Every dentist, worth their weight, knows that this moisture has to be removed so that the bond can be durable. This is why we use rubber dam for our own fillings.

So, I realised that I was part of a system that was not compatible with my own set of values and morals. I wanted to be honest with my patients, explain to them the true condition of their mouth and discuss ways of preventing major issues in the future. Majority of dental diseases are entirely preventable and that is what I want for each and every one of my patients. Ethically I also couldn't provide different quality of work for myself than for my patients. So, I looked around for other dental practices, I worked at five different clinics at once, observed others, and asked questions on several online forums. Sadly, I came to the realisation and conclusion that these two major issues were true almost everywhere in dentistry, so I decided to run my own dental practice. A place where we could give our patients all the information that they needed to make proper informed decisions about their dental care, where dental prevention is central to patient care, and also where patients get exactly the same quality of dental care that dentists would have done on themselves. Out of these principals the Balnarring Dental Centre was born.

It hasn't been an easy journey. Bucking the trend is always fraught with headaches and drama. Some people may not understand why we are so different to others. They may see dentistry as a commodity, they may not value dental prevention or have the belief that a dental crown is the same as any crown done by any dentist. However, when you analyse that statement properly, it sounds absurd. It's like saying that the home-made pasta from a fine Italian restaurant is the same as that from a 3-minute Mac and Cheese packet. They can not be compared, and it really comes down to each person's individual values. So, to all my loyal patients who have supported the Balnarring Dental Centre over the last 12 years, thank you for helping my visions come true and allowing me to practice the highest level of dentistry I can. To all the members of the community that I am yet to meet, if your values align with mine and you wish to experience this style of dentistry, we are only a phone call away and we are always happy to accept new patients.

Yours Faithfully,
Dr Tiv (Dr Thivagar Nirmalann)

Ph: 59835348
Balnarring Dental Centre
19 Balnarring Rd, Balnarring, 3926

BALNARRING BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

PO Box 463, Balnarring, Victoria 3926
Bal.beachca@gmail.com

The Annual General Meeting of the BBCA was held on Saturday 11th January at the Westernport Yacht Club. Although our attendance was slightly down this year, those that attended were treated to very informative talks from our Guest Speakers.

Firstly, Cr Sam Hearn the new Mayor of the Mornington Peninsula Shire was able to join us during his very busy schedule and expressed his willingness to assist local organisations with any of their issues, along with our Cr David Gill (immediate past Mayor) who was also in attendance.

We were also very lucky to have Captain Graeme Briggs from the CFA who talked of the current fire situation in East Gippsland and also how to react should fire threaten us here in Balnarring Beach. Most important is to leave when first warned, or else if it is too late and you have to go to the beach make sure you have adequate protection such as woollen blankets for protection against radiant heat. Captain Briggs has asked me to pass on the contact details for the CFA for any members who wish to ask questions or would like a site visit:
BalnarringCFA@bigpond.com or 5983 5348

We were then treated to a very interesting and informative talk by Marine Biologist Sacha Guggenheimer . Sacha spent several years in W.A investigating acoustic communication and population dynamics of Australia's humpback, southern right, and pygmy blue whale populations in the Indian and Southern oceans. She was a photographer & filmmaker on the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ningaloo Reef. Sacha is now living in Balnarring Beach and is passionate about the importance of our Westernport Bay and Ramsar wetlands, underwater seagrass beds, saltmarshes and mangroves. For those of you who are interested in learning about various flora and fauna that you do not recognise there is an app that you can download called "iNaturalist" which will help you identify a specimen if you take a photo on the app.

Suze Kepert from the Rangers office talked to us about local indigenous fire retardant plants and she brought along samples to show which she handed out to those present. She is happy to advise anyone who is interested in the best indigenous plants for our area and where to obtain them from local nurseries.

Heather Montague
President

Caring for our environment, our community, our future: EXTINCTION REBELLION MEETING IN BALNARRING

On Tuesday 14th January, around 100 concerned locals met at Balnarring Hall with Mornington Peninsula members of the Extinction Rebellion group.

A concise presentation was given with scientific data regarding the Climate Emergency including global ecological tipping points (e.g. sea ice melting, flying insect populations down by 70% and climate refugees world-wide, including Australia).

The group was told about Extinction Rebellion's key principles, values and demands as well as the importance of a regenerative and connected community. Historically, non-violent civil disruption/protests have proven to be the most effective way to create social change, particularly when 3.5% of the population hit the streets.

"It's time to declare a climate and ecological emergency."

To find out more, visit www.ausrebellion.earth
Or, on Facebook www.facebook.com/xrvictoria

Update from Save Westernport

It seems strange this year to say Happy New Year, but we hope you have all managed to stay safe during the horror of the recent fire emergency. It also seems like everyone knows of someone who's been impacted, and our own community has been called on to receive Australia's first Climate refugees. If the recent weeks have taught us anything, surely it's that decisive and immediate action is needed to protect our endangered wildlife and habitat.

With the worst of the summer's fires still burning out of control, and French Island threatened by a significant bushfire just last weekend, the mood we're witnessing at our Save Westernport stalls at markets around the Peninsula is one of deep concern. Hundreds of people have shared their concerns by signing our Pledge to Boycott AGL if they continue forcing us to accept their dangerous gas processing plant in the fragile protected wetlands in Westernport Bay.

Back on the 1st December 2019 we gathered with our Save Westernport supporters in Somers to launch our summer campaign to Put AGL On Notice. People vowed to dump AGL as their energy provider if it continues with the Environment Effects Statement (EES) that is currently under way.

We have come to realise that the EES process, while appearing to be lengthy and thorough, is more like window dressing - virtually every project ever evaluated under its rules has been approved. Deep-pocketed corporations and project developers hide behind the clever use of science and statistics - joining governments in their use of the EES process to avoid all reasonable discussion. In response to our request for information about the proposal it is common to hear official statements like, 'We don't want to circumvent the EES.' In other words, No Comment, Case Closed.

Save Westernport has always opposed AGL's gas processing facility because Westernport is a Ramsar listed wetland of critical importance to the survival of threatened and endangered migratory birds like the Fairy Tern and Far Eastern Curlew.

But there is so much about Westernport Bay, and its Ramsar wetlands that we don't know. And the EES process does not require that we find out. In the event that AGL's proposal is approved, we will be blind to the possible consequences. This amounts to the opposite of wetlands protection. Westernport Bay's Ramsar wetlands are currently the subject of a special Parliamentary Committee on the management of Victoria's Ramsar sites. The Committee formed after an Auditor General's report determined that special protection measures required by Victoria's Ramsar wetlands were not being met. In November 2019 Save Westernport made a submission and attended the Public Hearing on Victoria's Ramsar sites.

Our submission stated that
- big gaps still exist in knowledge of species populations, including critically endangered species and the effect of tidal influences on water movement in the bay.
- there is an urgent need for projects proposed in Ramsar Sites to be adequately assessed.
- Recently proposed changes to EPA regulations would expose Ramsar Sites to further degradation.
- Current evaluations under the EES process and the EPBC Act show little or no evidence of limiting projects that degrade wetlands.
- Westernport is currently subject to a high-level industrial threat. It needs urgent protection and we only have one chance to get this right.

As signatories of the Ramsar covenant, we have an opportunity and a responsibility to demonstrate exceptional care for our wetlands, and to encourage other signatories to do the same. Perhaps Victoria is adequately protecting the state's other Ramsar sites, but if Westernport Bay is the test, it seems the state's environmental protection laws and regulations are failing: that a massive new fossil fuel terminal is proposed in the middle of sensitive, world renowned wetlands seems not just misguided - but criminal. AGL's plan should never have left the drawing board. Instead, senior bureaucrats, scientists and planners are actively working on assessing the gas terminal project. Those clever minds and long hours (that we're paying for) should be used to help build a better future - not keep us stuck in the past.

With fires still burning out of control, and people struggling to make sense of the irreconcilable loss of life and habitat that this season's catastrophic fires unleashed, surely the time for risk assessments and attempts to 'balance competing interests' of corporate industry and our natural environment are long gone. Either we protect our Ramsar wetlands or we don't. Trying to decide the level of threat they can withstand misses the point entirely. Let's not threaten them at all.

Westernport & Peninsula Protection Council

Volunteers needed to snorkel or dive in Westernport

And report their dives.

They can report if their dive area is free of marine pests or report any infestations.

WPPC have just received a grant for marine pest monitoring under Bluescope pier as part of the Kawasaki Brown Hydrogen exports out of Hastings. We have a quote from a professional company that has done marine-pest work in Victoria. Part of the project is a citizen science project to encourage the community to look out for marine pests.

We need citizen scientists to report their dives or snokels to us and let us know if they have seen Northern Pacific Seastar or Undaria or not.

For information www.wppcinc.org Register dives on wppcweb@gmail.com

To report marine pests please use http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/pests-diseases-and-weeds/marine-pests/reporting-marine-pests please let them know that you are part of our citizen science project.

Shannon Hurley Marine Campaigner for VNPA spoke at our Westernport and Peninsula Protection Council AGM on 12th January. **We were lucky to hear about the threat of key marine-pests in Westernport, including what to look for and how to avoid and report Infestations.** Shannon worked for Parks Victoria undertaking marine planning, monitoring and education, including undertaking the first marine pest monitoring in the waters of Wilsons Prom National Park. She also worked for the Australian Marine Conservation Society to protect the Great Barrier Reef and is a keen scuba diver and passionate about shark conservation and promoting sustainable seafood choices.

Please send this form letter or similar.
You can find it on our website WPPCInc.org
The State Minister for Agriculture
Responsible for marine pest issues:
Hon Jaclyn Symes
Jaclyn.Symes@parliament.vic.gov.au
January 2020

Marine Pest Monitoring for Westernport

Westernport community volunteer environment groups Save Westernport and Westernport and Peninsula Protection Council has received a grant for marine pest monitoring in Westernport Bay. In a separate effort, eight environmental groups have requested monitoring as part of the Kawasaki Coal to Hydrogen Export Trial. The trial costs $500 million dollars but marine pest monitoring has been refused. Please can you demand that some of ***that*** money be spent on marine pest monitoring? We don't want DEWLP to shoulder the costs, as too many cuts have happened in the biodiversity area over decades and this has to stop.

Westernport Bay currently has no known infestations of Northern Pacific Seastar and Japanese Kelp and we do not want to see empty ships from Japan full of ballast water enter Westernport Bay. While ballast water is exchanged at sea, if one seastar remains in the hull it can produce thousands of larvae. Japanese woodchip ships and has been partially responsible for the decimating of fish stocks in Port Phillip Bay. We request the trial site is monitored for years for marine pests. We trust no full-blown project is likely due to its lack of a business case.

Kawasaki, J Power and Iwatani have proposed to export hydrogen gas from Hastings made from Loy Yang's brown coal. This involves: partially burning brown coal at Loy Yang, sequestrating emissions near The Ninety Mile Beach, trucking of hydrogen gas to Hastings, converting it to liquid in a new plant by freezing to below -250^{0}C, shipping it to Japan and converting it back to gas in Japan. This has been credibly ridiculed.

The trial is costing $50 million dollars each from both your State government and the Federal government. It is another subsidy for the coal industry. Latrobe Valley deserves a sustainable job creation boost, not one that is likely to be another failed project.

Westernport Bay is worth billions every year in its healthy state, and is too precious to lose.

We urge you, Hon Jaclyn Symes to demand marine pest monitoring in Westernport Bay out of the Coal to Hydrogen Trial's existing budget.

Yours sincerely,

.....

How can we help those affected by the bushfires?

Please visit the websites of any of the following organisations to find the best ways to help at this time:

Foodbank: www.foodbank.org.au/donate-funds-australia/?state=au

Red Cross: fundraise.redcross.org.au/drr

National Indigenous Australians Agency: www.indigenous.gov.au/ news-and-media/announcements/2020-bushfire-emergency-response-grant-assist-indigenous-australians

Salvation Army: bit.ly/2T6nMgR

Wildlife Victoria: www.wildlifevictoria.org.au/ ?view=article&id=145:helping-wildlife-during-bushfires&catid=11:wildlife-information

WIRES Wild Life Rescue (NSW wildlife only): www.wires.org.au/donate/emergency-fund

Country Fire Authority, Victoria: www.cfa.vic.gov.au/home

NSW Rural Fire Service: linktr.ee/nswrfs

Alternatively, please contact any organisation you regulary do business with or otherwise support to see how you can help in their efforts.

This may also be a good time to **speak with your children about the fires and how they are feeling**. Provide reassurance and stability whilst remaining transparent to engender trust.

Children have much strength and insight they can bring to families and the wider community – ask your children how they wish to contribute to the healing and rebuilding process.

You may like to read the following article published by **The New Daily** to help with your conversation and support strategies:

How to talk to your children about Australia's bushfires, available online at **https://thenewdaily.com.au/news/national/2020/01/10/children-bushfires-guide/**

In solidarity,
Balnarring Preschool

Balnarring Bowls and Social Club Inc.

Our popular Bare Foot Bowls has re-commenced and is on every Friday evening.

Corner Stradbroke and Bruce Streets, Balnarring commencing at 4:30pm and going until dark.

Light (BBQ) meals. Bowls instruction. Discounts on membership.

A family event. Information: Harold 0417 347 552

Balnarring Primary School

WELCOME TO ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR!

On Wednesday 29th January our classroom doors opened to welcome 391 students to the 2020 school year.

Suntanned parents and children ventured into every room, ready to reconnect with 'old' friends, buddy up with new ones and commence that essential relationship with the 2020 classroom teacher.

I am so privileged to be able to visit classes at this time of the year as children excitedly share their holiday stories and eagerly engage in tasks and activities that enable them to get to know both their teacher and 2020 classmates better.

We have 16 grades to visit this year.
Two foundation classes, one Foundation/Year 1 class, two Year 1 classes, two Year 2 classes, a Year 2/3 class, two Year 3 classes, two Year 4 classes, two Year 5 classes and two Year 6 classes. Specialist programs will again be offered in Physical Education, Science, Japanese and Performing Arts.

Three new teachers have joined the staff, all with their own interests and skills, keen to engage with the Balnarring Learning Community.
The school also welcomed 30 new families.

Just as our new staff, families and students begin their relationship with the school I would like to invite members of the wider Balnarring Community to also join us.

If you have time to volunteer your skills, we would love to hear from you.

- you may love reading and be keen to support children as they begin to read
- you may love maths and would like to help children recall number facts
- You may have a particular skill or interest you would be keen to share at a lunchtime club
- You may be interested in supporting computer tasks in the junior classes
- You may be interested in keeping our library in order
- You may like working in garden beds…….

We have a number of volunteers from the community who look forward to their weekly visits. Please contact me at the school on 5931 4444 if you would like more information on how you too can join our team and participate in this very rewarding work with our children.

We look forward to another very happy and successful school year – *perhaps with you on board.*

Sandy O'Meara
Assistant Principal,

Balnarring Primary School.

Balnarring Fire Brigade News

How closely have you been following the media coverage of the wild fires in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia? They started over two months ago and will remain a constant threat for many weeks to come. Several of our members have been involved in the suppression and management of these fires.

The number and magnitude of these fires is unprecedented. Never has there been such a concerted effort to save lives and property and extinguish fires through interstate and international fire fighters, aircraft of all shapes, sizes and configurations, military services deployment, municipal resources commitment, allocation of government equipment and personnel, the co-ordination of emergency management agencies, and community assistance. Also the sterling hard work of locals, many of whom have lost their possessions and livelihood with an uncertain future, is not to be underrated. In some cases their work has essentially been the protection of assets and community infrastructure amidst this wide spread devastation.

One remarkable and fortunate aspect of these fires is the amazingly low number of fatalities considering the incredible speed, unbelievable ferociousness and complete destruction of structures and vegetation so graphically screened into our homes. Whilst no deaths is the desired result there unfortunately has been loss of life which is most regrettable.

This astounding achievement of so few deaths can be attributed to a number of factors that have been constantly emphasised by the emergency management agencies. The availability of current and accurate information on fire conditions provided via the media by the fire authorities and community meetings is of little use if ignored by the general public during these times of crisis. Being prepared for emergencies helps you and your family to take well planned and considered actions to move to a safe place before the fire arrives.

The critical message is to be well prepared and leave early. Have a departure kit of personal possessions and survival supplies such as food, water, medication, communications equipment with chargers, clothing, blankets and contact information already packed in your vehicle. Use a safe route to a known established designated community centre. Driving through a fire is fraught with danger due to poor visibility, radiated heat which causes anxiety, disorientation and road closures due to fallen trees where accidents occur.

Preparing an emergency plan will help you feel more confident, be in control of the situation and able to positively cope when an emergency strikes. For the next few weeks, regularly monitor several fire information sources to receive reliable reports of fire conditions in your area, enabling you to enhance your survival.

Give the brigade a call to obtain further emergency planning information on 03 5983 5379 or call into the fire station on a Sunday morning.

Heed the warnings, be prepared and stay safe.

BALNARRING AND RED HILL WARD NEWS

David Gill – Red Hill ward Councillor

After much community input the Balnarring Township Structure Plan was recently adopted. It will help guide land use development, urban design and road safety decisions for the next 15 years.

The 'Common' near Balnarring Hall is a great success. It is a unique place for enjoying community get-togethers including the recent carols and music events or a family picnic.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council is supporting both the 'Save our Koala' campaign and a bio-link between the Balnarring Common and Merricks Creek at Balnarring Beach.

Council is developing plans for two pedestrian crossings, one near the skate-park and another near St. Mark's Church in Balnarring Road, in conjunction with a federal grant.

In budget news:

- Balnarring footy and cricket oval is to have a surface and drainage makeover with $50,000 for stage 1 in this year's budget
- An upgrade is planned for Balnarring Pre-school - $65,000 included for the design stage
- A playground renewal for Robertson Park at Balnarring Beach - $80,000 budgeted to complete the project

Also there are plans for a Scout Hall in Balnarring, a bus-shelter at Balnarring Beach and discussions about drainage and formalizing the VicRoads carpark on road reserve at St Mark's Church.

Our dangerous intersections including the 'five ways' and Warrawee / Frankston-Flinders Roads are controlled by Vic Roads but are a top priority in Council Road Safety advocacy to the State Government.

In other Council news

- Road safety campaigning including safer speed limits on our rural roads and at intersections has recently seen State Government recognition and action on 40 of our dangerous rural roads.
  We are still left with 330 kms of dirt roads, most of them with a dangerous de facto speed limit of 100kph.

- Council is taking action on climate change with a commitment to 100% renewable energy, reducing single use plastics, a smoke free environment policy and a net zero carbon omissions target by 2040.
- Legitimate farmers are recognised by a 65% discount on their rates and alternatively those involved in conservation works on properties over two hectares receive a 25% discount, both in recognition of their contribution in protecting the green wedge. The Rural Living Rate surcharge is being reviewed in order to provide existing conservation incentives for Green Wedge properties under two hectares.
- The party house local law, a first in Victoria, has dramatically reduced neighbourhood amenity complaints by licensing and fining owners who do not prevent their premises from causing disturbances.

There is much more happening and still much more to do.
Your views are important and the Council now has a much improved consultation process that starts early and helps ensure that decisions have your input.

Regards, David.

ikoniq
we do
websites

Our flexible, modular Content Management System allows us to build your site to meet the demands of your business.

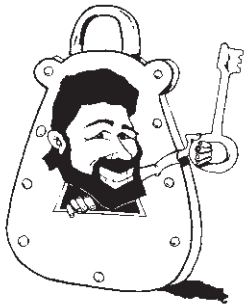
Our intuitive design lets you manage your content without the need for geek-speak.

No Rocket Science degree required!

All sites are produced for traditional desktop delivery PLUS mobile devices.

p: 0400 455 197
e: info@ikoniq.com.au
w: ikoniq.com.au

PHIL'S LOCK SERVICE
BALNARRING



- Locks Keyed Alike
- Dead Locks
- Window Locks
- Keys Cut
- Mobile Service
- Polite Service
- Flyscreens Repaired

0427 820 444

Your Local Locksmith
Servicing the Mornington Peninsula

The 92nd RED HILL SHOW

Saturday, 7th March, 2020

Labour Day Weekend | 8.30am to 5pm

Red Hill Show Grounds - Arthurs Seat Rd, Red Hill

For info visit: www.redhillshow.com.au

Mornington Peninsula Paddock – Celeb Chef Michael Cole on stage – Local exhibitors & producers – Cider Show
Australian Mountainboarders – Animals Galore – Fly Dogs – Sheep Shearing – Working Dogs – Woodchop – Music
Wildlife Encounters – Roaming performers – Tractors – Art & Craft Stalls – Carnival Rides and much more...

Admission: Family ticket (2 adults, 3 children 6-17 years) $60; Adults $20; Children 6-17 years $10
5 years & under free; Students/Pensioners $10. Free parking. All most all RIDES FREE with entry!

Major sponsors: Mornington Peninsula Shire, Hillview Quarries, MP News Group, Grand Hotel Mornington, Hastings Mowers
Our Vans RV Rosebud, Mornington Toyota, Mornington Mazda, Balnarring Bendigo Bank, Swan St Sales & Peninsula Grammar

Create your show experience!

CREATE YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE AT THE RED HILL SHOW

For a true taste of the Peninsula, you can't go past the Red Hill Show. With its focus on agriculture and horticulture, the 92nd annual show at the Red Hill Showgrounds on Saturday, March 7 — Labour Day weekend — will feature the best craft, food, wine, beer and cider the Peninsula has to offer, as well as entertainment for all ages.

The Mornington Peninsula Paddock, sponsored by MPP, will be a chance to meet producers from across the region, and foodie Richard Cornish and chef Michael Cole will hold discussions on local produce, pasta making, sausage-making and much more. There will be cider tastings and demonstrations, and novice cooks are invited to submit their best apple pie for a chance to take home $500.

The program is jam packed full of exhibits, demonstrations, workshops, music and rides. Once you enter the showgrounds all the Pavilions, entertainment and almost all kids rides are FREE. Create your own show experience!

Start planting your radishes, pruning the roses and grooming the alpacas because entries are open and show ribbons are up for grabs. For entries and inquiries, phone 5989 2357, email info@redhillshow.com.au, visit the website redhillshow.com.au or follow the Red Hill Show on Facebook and Instagram.

info@redhillshow.com.au
www.redhillshow.com.au

I can't . . .

I'm not . . .I always . . .

How do your inner conversations go - do they cheer you on or stop you?

Come with me on a journey to understanding how changing the way you talk to yourself affects your decisions, actions and your life.

You can!

Lesley McMillan Life Coaching
0499 240 041
Sessions at Warrawee Wholistic, Balnarring

www.lesleymcmillanlifecoaching.com

SWEET LEAF BOTANICAL
Medicinal Herb Workshops

Join us for our informative and fun herbal workshops in the extensive apothecary garden at Warrawee in Balnarring. Herbal medicine is people's medicine.

Adaptogens

Bring vitality and energy into your life with
Tulsi, Ashwaganda, and **Astragalus**

Sunday 1st March 2.00 – 4.00 **$65**

Grow your own herbal apothecary garden

A herb walk through the rambling old garden at Warrawee. Learn which herbs are helpful for first aid, immune support, and general good health. Harvesting, tincture making, seeds and plants to take home.

Sunday 5th April 1.00 – 3.00 **$65**

Elderberry Immune Tonic

Make a delicious herbal tonic to support the immune system during the cold and flu season. Suitable for all the family.

Sunday 3rd May 1.00 – 3.00 **$65**

@ Warrawee Wholistic 87 Warrawee Rd Balnarring.
www.warraweewholistic.com
www.sweetleafbotanical.com.au

Contact Jane 0411 399 212

Reflections from Roger Richards, Somers

Bush fires – heart-breaking stories – when is it right to discuss the reasons, and actions needed?

We continue to hear the heart-breaking stories of loss of life and property. Our daughters' families have been evacuated from their Gippsland homes and they are thankfully safe - but it is early January.
Is it the right time to ponder about society's actions? If not - when is? Memories are raw now - but so are our emotions. Why is there such a divide as to whether we should face the realities of Climate Change or not?

Hazard Reduction - fine - look at this carefully and scientifically but do not allow it to avoid the big issue – human-induced Climate Change brought on by greenhouse gas emissions. Bruce Pascoe in his acclaimed book *Dark Emu* (Magabala Books, 2018) points out that aboriginal fire management was much more complex than previously reported. But things were different 230 years ago: limited infrastructure, much smaller human population, much greater wildlife population and many more wooded areas. Protection of expensive fences, outbuildings, hay and farm equipment is impeding our use of controlled burns. Fire has become a threat rather than a tool. Pascoe sees that a crucial difference between the use of fire prior to the colonial period and since is the intensity of the available tool loads. The Aboriginals were adept at using the wind direction for back burning. Burns were part of the spiritual communication with the land. With colonisation occurred the disappearance of the yam daisy, and the replacement of the deep rooted wallaby and kangaroo grasses by pasture grasses. The perennial native grasses with their massive root systems are able to sequester carbon and help reduce greenhouse gases. There is much to be learned and no doubt changed, but do not leave it in the hands of politicians and their backers, funders and lobbyists.

Tragic loss of human life due to bush fires is with us daily as are the stories of bravery and resilience. Many people have lost their livelihoods. Belatedly the federal government is responding - thankfully. Stories of huge stock losses - numbers mounting by the hour.

What about the wild animals and their valuable habitats. Remember these very animals evolved through eons of floods, droughts and bush fires. But what is different now and what should we do? Many of our small bird species are way down on numbers reported in the 1980s. Their available habitat is so much less now. We hear stories of flying foxes and koalas falling from trees due to the heat. Some frog species are losing valuable breeding habitat. It is good to hear scientists in discussion:

<u>On Twitter</u>: *It isn't just large mammals and birds being decimated by these Australian fires. East Gippsland is the only home to the endangered Martin's Toadlet (Uperoleia martini), with current fires already claiming important breeding sites.*
<u>Reply</u>: *Based on my personal observations with related species U. mayonyi, I would be greatly surprised if the fires benefited U. martini (you know, as long as it rains one day in the future...).*
It is good to hear scientists in discussion. I hope the second guy is right.

THE COAST
REAL ESTATE

Our commitment to serve you

We are passionate real estate experts who love our community and the coastal environment we live in. We know how important your home or investment is to you and we're ready to serve you and achieve the best result. Our guidance and grounded local insight will give you all the support and confidence you need every step of the way.

We walk, talk and live our values by:

- Caring about people, our local community and the environment
- Being passionate about property and loving where we live and work
- Serving you with purpose and understanding as a dedicated team
- Sharing our in-depth knowledge of local market prices and trends
- Offering respectful communication and competency in marketing and negotiating
- Using results-based strategies to give you a competitive advantage
- Constantly employing best practises to get things done properly, the first time
- Making a meaningful contribution to support the wellbeing of the community

Our team is working for you

Good people are the heart and soul of any successful business. Our experienced team bring a personalised and professional approach to you with reliability, integrity, highly valued advice and trustworthiness. We have a culture of collaboration that builds on our proven systems, strategies and customer service and genuinely helps you. We take pride in being able to serve you and we'll go the extra mile to meet and exceed your expectations.

thecoast.com.au

The Coast Real Estate - Shop 27a Balnarring Village
Phone 03 5983 1980 - Email hotproperties@thecoast.com.au

An Old Salt's Way to a Brighter Future – by David L Wright

It's a brisk 7 degree morning, a day before the winter solstice. The full moon throws a muted glow across the sky from behind storm clouds building in the west. It's 6:35 am, well before sunrise, as I arrive at the lookout and gaze out towards The Island. I focus downward, past the shallow reef, to the white foam that moves across the water. My eyes settle on the changing depths of darkness highlighted by the lines of the forming waves. I feel for the wind's direction bouncing around me as it deflects through the trees. Pointing my face into the light and drizzly North Westerly, I'm startled by a voice, "we need more light". A break in concentration triggers me to take the steep steps down to beach and assess things from the reef. I watch my feet land safely on each black and slippery tread till I reach the firm sand below. With a quickened pace I make my way towards the point, scanning the horizon. Shifting gusts sweep along the beach as I return to the chilling wind. A squally shower batters a glassy wave and crumbles the now broken swell. In an instant, I make the call "not today". I head for home thinking of the joy of yesterday's uncrowded four-to-five-foot perfection. I pause for a moment and quietly say out loud, "how lucky are we".

With enthusiastic intent I head to my office and write these words, and take another deep dive of discovery- "How can we all be motivated to make greater connections with ourselves, others, nature and the future?" Like an ocean swell, can we create movements of positive change? Can we combat the ever-growing tide of challenges? Our 21st century life reveals that the safe and just space for humanity is nearing a tipping point. The shortfall of social foundations and the overshooting of the environmental ceiling are rapidly causing stress, breakdown and death; both human and non-human populations and systems are affected. Spiritual, social and environmental challenges have risen to record epidemic proportions. Urgent, responsible and generative human intervention is paramount. To steer interventions and reverse this downward spiral, we need a fresh set of guiding principles. It's imperative to redefine community and global cultures, to foster the birth of everyday leadership, to encourage prosocial and altruistic action. It's crucial we follow the universal principles resonating across communities, cities and nations. One such principle can be summed up in five words: *wellbeing and vitality for all*. From a moment of reflection amid the big blue and green open spaces, or during our busy days, why not take one small step towards "being well – doing good", gently moving toward safe-guarding our planet and all of nature's greatest miracles for generations to come.

Neighbours to the Rescue

A CFA unit is as good as compulsory in small country centres but early settlers faced fire outbreaks without any such unit to come to their assistance. Neighbour helped neighbour. This was the time before motor vehicles and men rode to the fire outbreaks on horseback. Fire-fighting equipment was basic – wet sacks, beaters, rakes, green boughs of trees.

Georgina Oswin gives a graphic account in her diary of a fire in the year 1901. The Oswins had a farm, 'Newstead', along Merricks Road in what is today's Merricks North.
February Thursday 7th: . . . fearful morning with heat. Turned to Hot Wind about nine o'clock. Willie burning around the [hay]stack [creating a firebreak to try to save it]. Bush fire in the paddock. Dick went to Tonkins. Everything burnt black up there except the buildings. Peacock and Bob there helping. The wind changed about 5. They had a terrible time with the fire, saving the stack then the fire got away across the paddocks, burned the posts and got into Fooks [neighbours' farm]. Mrs Tullis in a dreadful way, shed tears, said they would be burned out. Fire in Shands and one in Callanans. It reached Coles and burnt some of his grass paddocks. Moyles came and they helped with fire. Mr and Mrs Tullis came over after dark. Grand sight, fires from our paddock round to Coles. It rained a little but not enough to put the fires out. Boys not in till Two O'clock. I went out and stayed till one, could not sleep. Dick got hit in the eye with a chip. Graham worked well.
Friday 8th: Fires nearly out. One in Hodgins today. Dada and Boy been down to it. Shands got a good deal of fence burned around the orchard and the dividing fence between them and us. Nice and cool today, wind from the south . . . most of the fruit blown off apple trees.

Elsie Cole of 'Larnoo', the Coles's property along the Merricks coast, described how on hot summer days with a north wind blowing people watched for that ominous, tell-tale sign of smoke. There was no telephone to summon help and at the first sign of smoke everyone from many miles around would ride off to help. All on horseback; some coming long distances. She remembers running to open the gates at the back of her house as about sixty men swept though across their paddocks towards Point Leo when a wind change steered the fire in another direction.
It was a great relief to the community when the first Balnarring Bush Fire Brigade was started about a century ago.

- ***Ilma Hackett***
Balnarring & District Historical Society

Bundjil Nest Project Update

In November the community gathered for the annual picnic in Robertson Park. The community experienced an informative Smoking ceremony before the children displayed their work. Many children, with their teachers, flew down to Bundjil's Nest proudly carrying the waangs (Boon Wurrung word for black raven) they had made when working with artist Emma Davies.

The waang sculptures were then revealed. The sculptures were created by Emma from recycled plastic planks donated by REPLAS. The planks were made from the soft plastics collected by the community in July and August.

One sculpture is now permantley in Robertson Park, reminding us to care for the waterways, with another placed along the creek track.

Stay tuned for what Bundjil Nest Project team have in store for 2020.

Womindjeka Balnarring Ngargee
14th March 2020 10am -8:30pm

The festival is fast approching. An amazing program of musicians has been planned (see the flyer) and many culture workshops: ochre painting; yadaki meditation; bush tucker walks; weaving; wood burning; spear throwing; cooking…

Welcome to Country 11:30am

At 12pm the Balnarring Preschool will be launching the second story written by N'Arwwe't Carolyn Briggs – Barraeemal. The book has been illustrated by the 2019 bubups (children).

The Children's area is available until 5pm with story telling , creating, artists, and The Connies.

Sunday morning join us for Wayapa and breakfast.

Are you interested in being involved? We would love to see you participate on the day or even offer some volunteer hours. If you are interested in volunteering please contact us via email womindjeka.balnarring.ngargee@gmail.com

Keep up to date with the program by following us on facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Bundjil2018/

Womin Djeka festival

presents

The Enemy Within: Suicide prevention and wellbeing education with Joe Williams

February 7th February

Doors open 7pm

Session commences at 7:30

Yadaki meditation after the session

Joe is a proud Wiradjuri/Wolgalu, First Nations Aboriginal man born in Cowra, raised in Wagga NSW, Australia. Joe played in the National Rugby League for South Sydney Rabbitohs, Penrith Panthers and Canterbury Bulldogs before switching Joe to professional Boxing in 2009. Joe is a 2x WBF World Jnr Welterweight champion and recently won the WBC Asia Continental Title.

Although forging a successful professional sporting career, Joe battled the majority of his life with suicidal ideation and Bi Polar Disorder. After a suicide attempt in 2012, Joe felt his purpose was to help people who struggle with mental illness. Through customised workshops Joe talks of dealing with adversities, struggles, resilience, addiction, connection, emotional wellbeing & healing trauma in schools, communities, correctional services, sporting clubs and workplaces.

Joe was awarded the Wagga Wagga Citizen of the Year in 2015 for his committed work within the community mental health and suicide prevention sectors and was named a finalist in the National Indigenous Human Rights Awards. In 2018 Joe was awarded Suicide Prevention Australia's highest honour, a LiFE Award for his excellence in communities within the suicide prevention sector and in 2019 was named a dual winner of the Australian Mental Health Prize.

Now a published author, Joe's autobiography 'Defying The Enemy Within' shares not only his life's story but offers practical tools anyone can implement in their lives to improve and maintain their emotional wellbeing. Joe also contributed to the book 'Transformation; Turning Tragedy into Triumph' and features in the global documentary 'Suicide: The Ripple Effect'.

For more information please refer to the facebook page. **But for now SAVE THE DATE**

BUNDJIL'S NEST PRESENTS

THIS IS AN **ALCOHOL & DOG FREE EVENT**

Womin Djeka.

Balnarring Ngargee

SATURDAY 14TH MARCH 10AM - 8PM

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL · FAMILY FRIENDLY · ENTRY BY DONATION

HONORING AND CELEBRATING INDIGENOUS CULTURES

BALNARRING BEACH, ROBERTSONS PARK AND CAMPING RESERVE

ENTERTAINMENT · FOOD STALLS · CRAFT STALLS
CULTURAL WORKSHOPS · CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

FEATURING THE TALENTS OF

BENNY WALKER · KEY HOO

NOLA LAUCH BAND · CARISSA WATTS

MARTY WILLIAMS · INDIGENOUS HIP HOP PROJECT · MAYLENE

CULTURE EVOLVES · PIRRITU (BRETT LEE) · ROBBIE BUNDLE

CAMPING AVAILABLE // OFF STREET PARKING AVAILABLE

SUNDAY 15TH MARCH 8am - 11am
Wayapa Session & Community Breakfast

We acknowledge the festival is held on the land of the Boon Wurrung language group of the Kulin Nations. We acknowledge all First Peoples across Australia. We pay our respects to all Elders: past and present, and thank them for sharing their stories and Knowledge.

VICTORIA State Government

BLUESCOPE STEEL

Proudly sponsored by Balnarring & District Community Bank

Bendigo Bank

MORNINGTON PENINSULA Shire

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT:

womindjeka.balnarring.ngargee@gmail.com facebook.com/Bundjil2018 instagram.com/womindjekabalnarring

Pat The Mac Tips : Were you born before computers?

Were you born before computers? If yes, how long before? Please don't tell me, but think how you encountered a computer for the first time. How did you learn how to use them? Are you comfortable with that knowledge? Do GB, GHz, RAM, SSD, make sense?

If you are not sure, I'll share a little secret with you. If you use an Apple computer such an iMac, a MacBook Air or a MacBook Pro and you are not confident that you use them at their best level, you can improve your knowledge for a minimum amount of money. This year, in February and March 2020, I'll be giving a course comprising eight sessions at the U3A Frankston. This course will cover the Apple macOS. It starts at the very beginning, the basic concepts all the way to the higher level... During the course, I cover the use of most of the Apple basic applications, such as Finder, Photos, Image capture, Text Edit, Preview, etc... and the bases of Word, Excel, etc...

The costs involve a membership to U3A Frankston and a participation for the course... I guarantee you that with $50, you will have enough change for several coffees.

So, if you are curious and interested to improve your computer knowledge, why not give a go to these sessions. The course starts on Friday 7 February 2020 until Friday 27 March 2020. Each session is from 09:30 until 11:00.

Go to this web site : http://u3af.org.au/ and join me to juggle with your macOS.

If you have any question, contact

Pat The Mac on 0419 330 497 or by email via pat@patthemac.com

Apple Mac® assistance

Learn about

- The new Mac OSX, iOS, iCloud
- Skype, Share Photos or Videos on the Internet
- Improve your home WIFI
- Connect Video recorder, PVR, Digital TV

and/or training at your own location anywhere on the Mornington Peninsula (Mordialloc to Portsea). Hourly rate $75.00 Call or email

Pat the Mac

M 0419 330 497

E patthemac@me.com

THE SCHOOL PROJECT/ MELBOURNE PERIOD PROJECT

MPP cares for the homeless, by providing sanitary products, help and support, incl basic school supplies for children homeless or in refuges.
Either jump online to any store, eg Officeworks, order whatever you can and have it sent straight to us at the warehouse.

HIGH DEMAND

School items: Backpacks, lunch boxes and drink bottles, red pens and calculators, exercise books and everything in between.

Diaries,notebooks,

NEW: small value cards (eg Coles vouchers $10 - $20), movie tickets (for very hot days)

Thongs,sunglasses, caps and visors, small sunscreen tubes

SANITARY ITEMS are always required: Regular Pads **&**Tampons, Super Pads & Tampons, Small hand sanitiser bottles under 50ml and Liners, "hotel" size soaps /shampoos etc

NOTE: MPP are also providing period packs for bushfire Survivors

DELIVER to Barb Rimington (5983 2245)
OR Send your donation to
The School Project, 4/345 Plummer Street, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207
Or donate directly: **Melbourne Homeless Collective** BSB: 063027, ACC: 10118955 Commonwealth Bank of Australia

For more information contact Barb or check out MPP Website: http://wwww.MelbournePeriodProject.org.au/Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/PeriodProjectMelbourne

RACHEL SNOW & TIM McMILLAN

SAT 29 FEB

6-9 PM TIX $20/25 @ DOOR

STEVE COUSINS

SAT 28 MARCH

6-9 PM TIX $20/25 @ DOOR

WESTERNPORT YACHT CLUB 1 FORESHORE RD. BALNARRING BEACH
TIX : TRYBOOKING.COM OR VICKI @ BEAUTIFUL BALNARRING LAUNDRETTE

Somers Ladies Probus Club

Welcome to all for 2020. We hope that it will be safe, healthy and prosperous for all. We will begin our year on Friday 7th February and invite ladies looking for interesting activities, outings, thought-provoking speakers and new friends to join us.

Probus is all about Friendship, Fellowship and Fun in retirement.

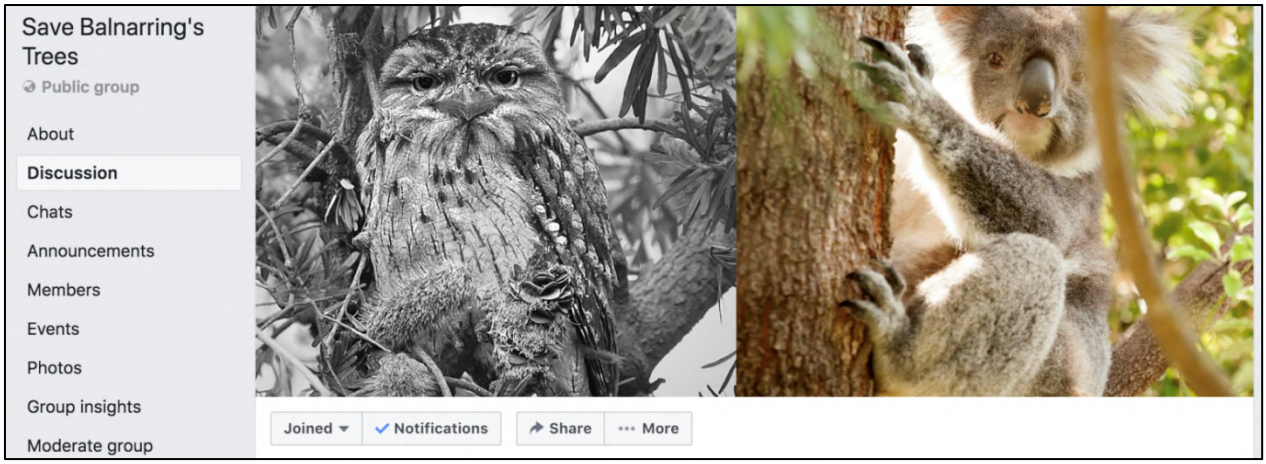
Retired and semi-retired ladies are very welcome to join us at our monthly meetings at the Stone Pavilion, Somers at 10am on the first Friday of each month.

There were many happy faces at our Christmas Lunch at The Heritage where we enjoyed a delicious meal in comfortable surroundings.

Contact Veronica on 5983 2952 or June on 5983 5321 for more information.

SAVE BALNARRING'S TREES

Concerned about our village wildlife habitat disappearing?
Join our Facebook discussion page "Save Balnarring's Trees".



Red Hill Op Shop

Think of us …

The Red Hill Op Shop President, Committee and Volunteer Members are looking forward to another successful year of recycling and rehousing donated goods and being able to support the local community with donations of cash, clothing and requested items in 2020.

Please think of us if you are needing specific items, e.g. glasses, plates, homewares. We **always** have a wide range of men's and women's clothing, kitchenware, Manchester, kids' clothing and toys as well as books for all ages. It's so satisfying when a customer comes into the shop and says 'that's exactly what I was looking for' and they are paying a fraction of the price of new.

The books section is extensive, and our volunteers take their role very seriously. Books presented for sale are in good order, well sorted and cover all genres. Turnover is brisk, so regular visits may be required!

The work carried out each week by our volunteers who cart, sort and price the donations is extraordinary; and they have a canny eye for quality, clean clothing. The items on the hangers are all in good order and well-presented, which helps give you confidence in your purchase. And the price point helps too… so inexpensive. There is nothing like saying "I only paid so many $ for this item!!!!!!" Bragging rights for weeks!

All monies raised by the Red Hill Op Shop are directed to the Peninsula Home Hospice and other local non-profits. This year our attention also turns to some of the organisations assisting with bushfire recovery. Through your visits we have the ability to assist Victorians who have been impacted by the dreadful fires in East Gippsland and who will be needing ongoing help and support in the coming months.

We thank you for your continued interest … and we look forward to seeing you soon!

We are located at 33 Mechanics Road, RED HILL and are open Wed and Fri 10am- 4pm and Sat 10am – 1pm. Email us at redhillopshop@gmail.com or message us through our Facebook page www.facebook.com/redhillopshop

Balnarring Bowls and Social Club Inc.

Our popular Bare Foot Bowls has re-commenced and is on every Friday evening.

Corner Stradbroke and Bruce Streets, Balnarring commencing at 4:30pm and going until dark.

Light (BBQ) meals. Bowls instruction. Discounts on membership.

A family event. Information: Harold 0417 347 552

BALNARRING MEN'S PROBUS CLUB

Our Club meets at the Balnarring Community Hall on the last Friday of each month (excluding December) commencing at 9:30 am.

These meetings provide an opportunity for retired and semi-retired local men to engage in a variety of activities in a congenial environment which encourages fellowship and fun.

Regular features include photographic exhibitions and outings, musical interludes and guest speakers who are invariably a source of information and entertainment.

Following recess over Christmas/New Year, we will be hearing stories from three of our members at our January meeting prior to recommencing our regular speaker program.

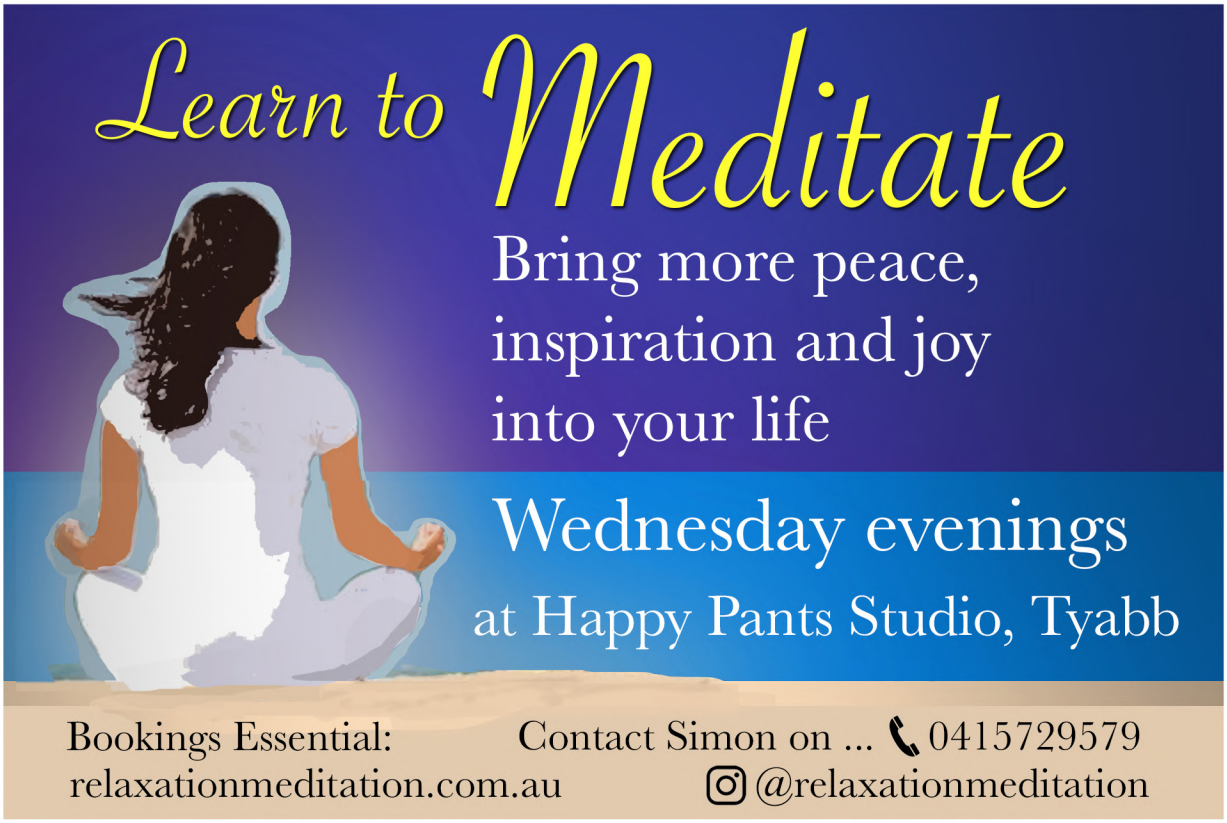
An early highlight in 2020 will be our very popular Long Trip which this year will explore South Australia's Riverland region in late March.

Around 40 members and guests will travel to the Barmera Country Club from where they will visit a number of local attractions in the area.

Our club also hosts a variety of other activities including book groups, photography, cycling, chess, cinema, dine-outs, money matters and a renowned choir.

New members and visitors are always welcome.

For further information please contact Roger James on 0400 837 884 or check out our website by typing 'Balnarring Men's Probus' into your browser.



Crib Point Community House inc.
7 Park Rd, Crib Point 3919
Reg No. A0005121C ABN:13 567 174 223
Office: 59839888 Melways Ref: 195/B2

PROGRAM FOR TERM 1 2020

BOOKINGS BEGIN ON Tuesday 27th January

OFFICE HOURS MON to THURS 9AM - 3PM, FRI 9AM - 12 NOON

MARKET - 2nd Sat of month

email - market@cpch.org.au

www.cpch.org.au
info@cpch.org.au

MONDAY

Yoga, Café Chat, Playgroup, Judy's Craft, Wills & POA

Ladies Woodwork, Meditation,

TUESDAY

Easy Walking, Jivin' Joeys, iPad & iPhone, Meditation, Café Chat, Salsa for Fun, Sheer Art Attack

WEDNESDAY

Material Girls, Square Dancing, Family Tree Circle, Anxiety Support group, Overlocker w'shop, Kid'sDancing,

THURSDAY

Cackle n Craft, Present Yourself to Advantage,

Knitters 'n' Hookers, Sewing for Beginners, Yoga

FRIDAY

Stitchin' Sisters Patchwork, Op Shop & Como House trips

SATURDAY

Photo Scrapbooking, Decoupage Workshop, Community Market

PHONE: 59839888 **Like us on Facebook**

Crib Point Community House
7 Park Rd, Crib Point
Ph: 59839888
It's easy when you know how

Email: info@cpch.org.au
Website: www.cpch.org.au
facebook.com/Crib Point CommunityHouse

February 2020

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to all our volunteers, crafters and the community for their support of our charity work in 2019. We raised money through our market for the drought & fire appeals, collecting food, making scarves & beanies for farmers, beanies for the Alana & Madeline foundation, dressings for Cambodian women with breast cancer & laundry bags for Defence Force personnel. Proceeds of our December & January markets and Community donations totalling $3637 was donated to the bush fire appeal. It's heartwarming to see how communities come together to help others in times of crisis.

CRAFT WEEKEND

It's on again, our very popular Craft Weekend. This year it's at the Presentation Family Centre at Balnarring Beach. Friday 4th to Sunday 6th September. $200 includes meals, accommodation & workshops. You'll have to be pretty quick as we don't have many places left. Phone 59839888 or email info@cpch.org.au QUICK!

From the Co-ordinator's desk

It's been a terrible start to 2020 with the bush fires on top of the drought that's still affecting the farmers. We continue to do what we can to help those affected. Our crafter had a craft day and made pouches, wraps,& mittens for wildlife. This would not be possible without the wonderful volunteers, donations and of course the Community support. THANK YOU.
*This term all the usual classes and groups return with a few new ones. An important one is the **Wills & Power of Attorney** talk by Peninsula Community Legal Service.*
*Have fun while getting fit with **Salsa for Fun** Get help with your **iPad or iPhone.** Learn **Decoupage** and how to cover a pot, just like the one's at our market. **Present Yourself to Advantage** is for Mums wanting to return to work. A new **Anxiety Support Group** aims to help support you in a safe, supportive and confidential environment. **Café Chat** returns to Café 202 on 3rd February. We will also be continuing our outreach chats at Red Hill, Bittern & Balanrring. Keep up to date on our Facebook page & Website.*
We have something for everyone but if you have some ideas or would like to share your knowledge & skills, we'd love to hear from you so drop in for a chat. We'd love to hear from you.

Mary

MARKET NEWS

Market dates this term are 8th Feb, 14 March & 11th April. The March market will be our 4th Birthday so come and help us celebrate.

BBQ FUNDRAISER

Here's an opportunity for your not for profit group to make some much needed funds. Run the sausage sizzle at the market. All you are the supplies and volunteers. Interested?
Email: market@cpch.org.au

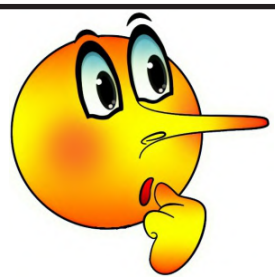
MARKET DATES This term

2nd Saturday of the month 9am-1pm
8th February, 14th March & 11th April

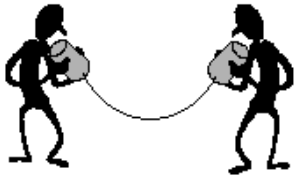
BUS TRIPS

OP SHOP: Friday 21st February 9am -4pm
Cost: $20 bus, Lunch extra. Mornington Op shops & shopping & lunch in Mornington.

COMO HOUSE:
Friday 20th March 8:30am - 4pm, Cost: $32/35. Tour this beautiful historic house and gardens & learn the history of Como House. Lunch extra.



The biggest lie I tell myself is 'I don' tneed to write that down, I'll remember it'



Reconnecting Couples
New Communication Program

Learn new skills in talking, listening, resolving conflicts and choosing effective communication styles.

NOW available in Balnarring

Phone: Chris Newell 0412 269 995
Email: chrisnewelltherapy@hotmail.com

YOUR DREAMS ON BUDGET ON TIME

croftwootton
CONSTRUCTION

The local builder & renovator you can trust.

Nick Wootton

Call 0431 170 880 now! www.croftwootton.com.au

Combined Probus Club of Balnarring

New members are very welcome.

We meet at the Balnarring Community Hall, Frankston/Flinders Rd. Balnarring, on the 3rd Friday of the month at 10.00am.

Meetings consist of short general business, morning tea and speaker or other organised activity.

Interest groups include gardening, walking, book club, cinema, film discussion, photography, singing for fun, cards, scrabble, backgammon, dine out, travel.

We arrange interesting outings, also spring and autumn trips away.

Please contact Patsy Wilson on: 5983 9949

or Email: grapatwilson@bigpond.com

PATON Estate Agents Pty. Ltd.

Ian Johnson

Licensed Estate Agent

Ph: 0490 042 458

WILDLIFE RESCUE Contacts

@Koala rescue
Jenny Bryant
0417 395 883

@WHOMP
(Wildlife Help On Mornington Peninsula)
0417 380 687

@Klarissa Gaunaut
0488 494 667

Have you visited the friendly Op.Shop in Crib Point?

Westernport
Op Shop
149 Disney St,
Crib Point
0467 377 844

OPEN
Tues, Wed,
Thurs, Friday
10.00 - 3.30
Saturday
9.30 – 1.00

TICCUNDEROCC CONSULTING

Want to make your home a better fit?

Want to adapt your house to your needs without major renovation?

Looking at a new house, what are the strengths and drawbacks?

Retired Architect offering assessment and design ideas.

Celia Sexton RAIA celiann@bigpond.com 0427858378

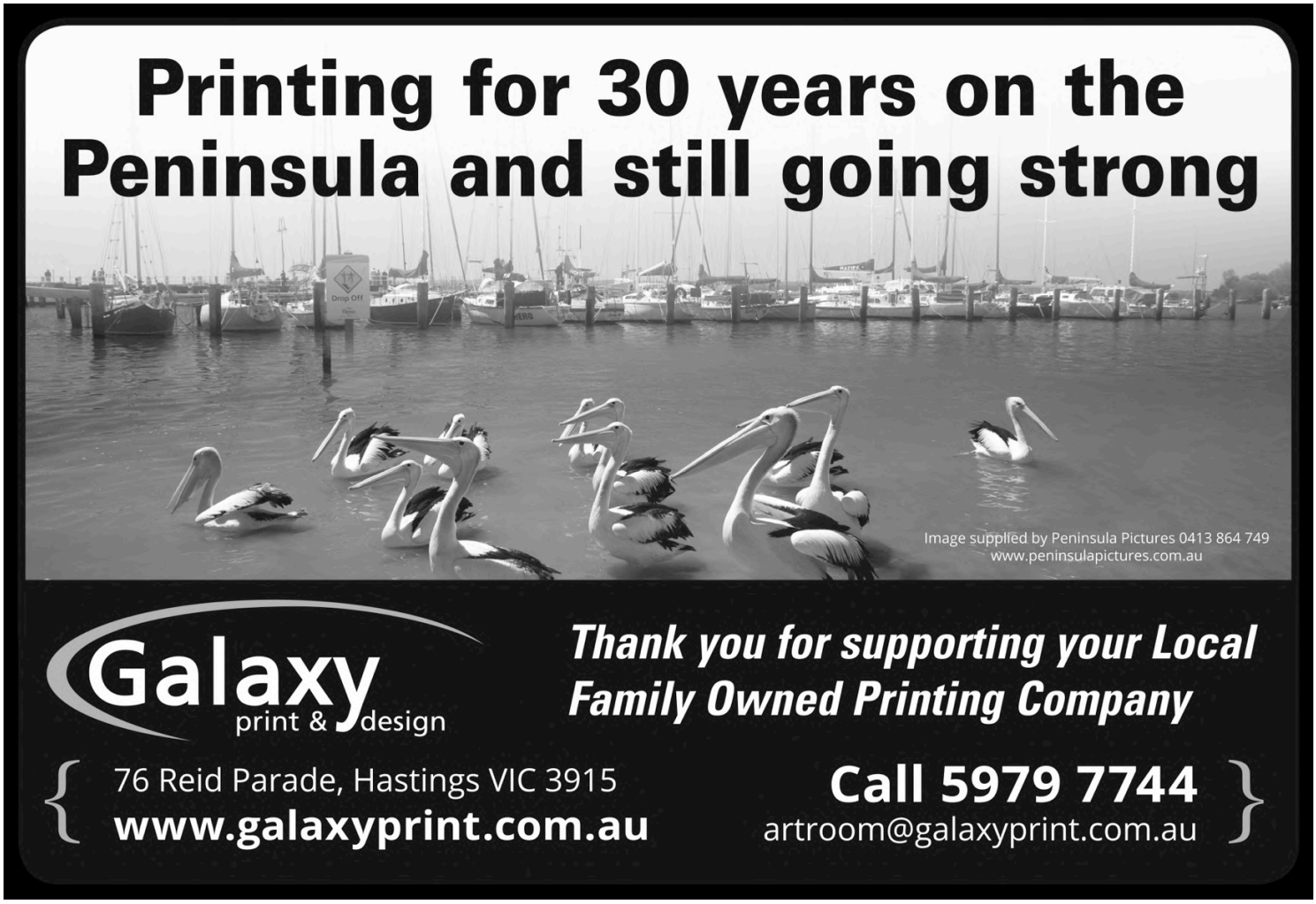
BALNARRING LADIES PROBUS

If you are a retired or semi-retired lady looking for good company and interesting activities, come along to Balnarring Ladies Probus.

We have Stimulating Speakers, Book Group, Scrabble, Café Group, Craft Group, Films, Walking Group, Convivial Luncheons, Outings and Shopping Trips, as well as a regular monthly Newsletter to keep you up to date with events.

Join us as our guest for any meeting at:
Balnarring Hall No. 2 (opposite the shops)
10am on the **4th Wednesday** of the month
You will be made very welcome.

Just come along or get further information from Adele on 0419 522 513.



Working Bee at Balnarring Beach: All Welcome!

A dedicated group of Balnarring Beach ratepayers and members of the Foreshore Committee are inviting anyone with a heart for the environment to take part in our monthly working bee.

Our hard-working group meets on the last Sunday of the month at 10 am at the rotunda next to the beach store at Balnarring Beach.

The next 2 working bees are on Sundays,
February 23rd and March 29th at 10am.
We usually work till 12 noon and enjoy a free cup of coffee or a drink afterwards at the Balnarring Beach shop.
It is always a great opportunity to have a chat.
Paul, our Ranger always has some important work for us to do, be that weeding or planting freshly cleared terrain with new plants. Some of these plants are propagated and raised over many months in our nursery.
If you can make it please bring **gloves** and wear **sturdy footwear**.
We hope to see many of you there.
Cheerio and many thanks to all who attend.
Rupert Steiner, for the Balnarring Beach Foreshore Committee working bee.

Balnarring Musos Open Mike Nights February and March

Wednesdays
February 12th and 26th
March 11th and 25th

at Balnarring Hall

Doors open at 7pm; music starts at 8pm and ends at 11pm.
Tea and coffee available, or (over18s) bring a bevvie to enjoy.

Come along and have a ball!!

A huge thank you to all who continue to donate
at the door to help us to pay our way
and support musical endeavour within our community.
Thank you to all who help set up and pack up.
It's a big job and the help is appreciated.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE BRIDGE

The Bridge is a bi-monthly independent community magazine for Balnarring and surrounding areas. The views expressed within are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Editor, Community or any organisation. Financial contributions are welcomed and a form to fill in is within this issue should you wish to contribute a donation.

GUIDELINES FOR THE BRIDGE CONTRIBUTIONS

The contributor's name must appear with the article and contact information is recommended. If emailing, please use A4 page format with 1.5cm margins, 14 point font size and single spacing. Headings with a font of 18. Send as a Word or Pages format file to info@bridgemag.com.au or PO Box 248 Balnarring VIC 3926. Ideally, file sizes no bigger than 1.5MB please.

Deadlines for submissions are as follows:

January 10th (February/March issue)
March 10th (April/May issue)
May 10th (June/July issue)
July 10th (August/September issue)
September 10th (October/November issue)
November 10th (December/January issue)

Our number of pages is limited so "first come, first served". Submissions for multiple issues must be made each issue unless otherwise agreed. Acronyms to be written in full at first mention followed by the acronym in brackets, e.g. "Community Centre (C.C.)".

The primary focus of The Bridge is to promote free community events. Volunteer organisations are encouraged to submit up to one page per month and will not be charged. All entries that create income, including employment and housing, count as adverts. **"What's On" entries are Free with a paid advert, or a small fee applies for income-creating entries otherwise.** Personal words from individuals are also free to enter. Businesses holding events, workshops, etc. in the coming months are encouraged to contribute.

Content that speaks negatively of any individual or group will not be published. Groups should comment on their own activities only, unless in appreciation. The editorial review team reserve the right to edit and/or refuse contributions where necessary. Copyright on images used remains the responsibility of the contributor, and photographers must be credited.

Please contact us for ad rates or visit our website www.bridgemag.com.au.
Please send queries regarding fees to info@bridgemag.com.au

THE BRIDGE

WHAT'S ON – EVENTS in February and March 2020

Date	Time	What	Where
February			
Fri 7th	7.30pm	Womin Djeka: The Enemy Within	Balnarring Hall
Sat 8th	9am-1pm	Crib Point Community Market	7 Park Rd, Crib Point
Wed 12th	8-11pm	Balnarring Musos: Open Mike Night	Balnarring Hall
Fri 21st	10am	Combined Probus Club of Balnarring	Balnarring Hall
Sun 23rd	10am	Balnarring Beach Working Bee	Rotunda
Wed 26th	10am	Balnarring Ladies Probus Club	Balnarring Hall
Wed 26th	8-11pm	Balnarring Musos: Open Mike Night	Balnarring Hall
Fri 28th	9.30am	Balnarring Men's Probus Club	Balnarring Hall
Sat 29th	6-9pm	SongRiders: Rachel Snow & Tim McMillan	WP Yacht Club
March			
Sun 1st	2-4pm	Adaptogens: Tulsi, Ashwaganda, Astragalus	Warrawee, Balnarring
Sat 7th	8.30am-5pm	Red Hill Show	RH Show Grounds
Sun 8th	----	Balnarring Picnic Races	Balnarring Race Track
Wed 11th	8-11pm	Balnarring Musos: Open Mike Night	Balnarring Hall
Sat 14th	10am-8.30pm 9am-1pm	Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee Festival Crib Point Community Market	Balnarring Beach Park 7 Park Rd, Crib Point
Fri 20th	10am	Combined Probus Club of Balnarring	Balnarring Hall
Wed 25th	10am 8-11pm	Balnarring Ladies Probus Club Balnarring Musos Open Mike Night	Balnarring Hall Balnarring Hall
Fri 27th	9.30am	Balnarring Men's Probus Club	Balnarring Hall
Sat 28th	6-9pm	Peninsula SongRiders: Steve Cousins	WP Yacht Club
Sun 29th	10am	Balnarring Beach Working Bee	Rotunda

For more information on these events and regular local classes,
See details inside the latest edition

www.bridgemag.com.au