



# 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 63 October – November 2020

[www.bridgemag.com.au](http://www.bridgemag.com.au)

## art IS IN OUR nature



IMAGE: JUAN FORD

*Silhouette 1, 2020, oil on linen, 51 x 41 cm (detail)*

#SAVEWESTERNPORT #NOAGLGAS  
A GROUP EXHIBITION FUNDRAISER  
**3-25 OCTOBER**



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## *Hello Everyone!*

Happy Birthday to *The Bridge*!! It is now 8 years old!

The end of lockdown in sight, the sun on our doorstep and blossoms for Spring, there are some reasons to be optimistic now.

We hope the community is happy, healthy and financially sound. If you need a hand in any way, please let us know, we're in this together.

It's lovely to be receiving community News from you all and being able to share it – 68 pages for this bumper edition! Thank you to everyone for keeping our sense of community going 😊

Until the next edition, enjoy the warm weather and be safe and happy.

Ali & Jenny xx



*Manchurian Pear blossom in Jen's garden.*

### **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.

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The Bridge Magazine  
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Our wonderful community! You!



# ***APPRECIATION***

## ***Cath and Co at Tulum Café and Store***

The person we most appreciate, especially now during endless...  
lockdowns, is Cath, the owner 'chief Poobah' of Tulum Store,  
Balnarring Beach.

She not only provides the essentials (good coffee, croissants and cakes,  
amongst those!), but she also provides heart and soul  
to this local community.

As she invents it, we are her 'Fammunity'!

*Lawrence*

## ***Daffodils***

On my door step were two bundles of DAFFODILS this morning

Where from? Well a local person grows them and distributes them  
to those Balnarring citizens who live alone.

Thank you Bill.

*Harold*

Big thanks to David Gill for all the time and effort he puts in  
to representing the views of our community to council.

Great work David! Kicking goals there mate!

## ***Marmalade***

Thanks to the wonderful person who has  
been busy making marmalade which has been  
distributed to those requiring home deliveries from the  
Balnarring Pharmacy... DELICIOUS!! And much appreciated!



## ***October***

1<sup>st</sup> Tim Stout  
5<sup>th</sup> Meagan Lambon  
7<sup>th</sup> Tess Weller  
9<sup>th</sup> Ghyll Marie  
Janet Watt  
10<sup>th</sup> Megan Trevaskis  
11<sup>th</sup> Belinda Eden  
16<sup>th</sup> Karsten (Harry) Poll  
17<sup>th</sup> Shelley Iles  
25<sup>th</sup> Sean Thomas  
31<sup>st</sup> Gus Angwin

## ***November***

The Bridge is 8 years old!!  
10<sup>th</sup> Maree Parker  
11<sup>th</sup> Paul Ryan  
12<sup>th</sup> Harper Roach-Heffernan  
16<sup>th</sup> Susie Lawrence  
17<sup>th</sup> Rebecca Edwards  
21<sup>st</sup> Keryn Morehu  
23<sup>rd</sup> Mark Smith  
26<sup>th</sup> Lilly Cooke  
30<sup>th</sup> Vicki Grant

*To add a name to community birthdays, email [info@bridgemag.com.au](mailto:info@bridgemag.com.au)*

## ***October and November 2020 Inspirational Angel Cards for the Community***

### ***Relax Replenish***

How can you weave these things into your  
day to uplift and support 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](mailto: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?**

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## Is a filling a filling or do I have a choice?

Traditionally dentistry was extremely limited in how a tooth could be treated. Many of us still remember when the only choice was to take the tooth out or have an amalgam filling. Options were limited and so were the techniques that were used. It was not anyone's fault because it was simply the only options available at the time. So how about now?

Dentistry has come a long way and modern dental techniques have evolved to give you a lot of choice. Depending on your values and budget the filling could last from only a few years to 30 years! Every dentist is different, with their own sets of beliefs, clinical experiences, ethical and moral standards. Just like all artists create different masterpieces so are dentists in how they perform their fillings and how they relate to you. One thing is certain, some dentists still perform fillings just as they did 10-20 years ago and so they may not even know to give you the options that lead to very different outcomes. Most of the time the conversation goes something like this:

Dentist: "You have a hole in one of your molars. You need a filling."

Patient: "Ok doc, if you say so."

Dentist: "The filling will take 40mins to do. Let's go out to the receptionist so she can book you in."

The patient takes the dentist's word for it because they can't see their tooth that far back. The patient often doesn't know what material will be used for the filling or that they ever had a choice on that matter. They also don't know how the filling will be done. For instance, will there be anesthetic, will the rubber dam (rubber raincoat) be used to prolong the lifespan of the filling, will antimicrobial agents be used to kill bacteria and inhibit the enzymes in the tooth that break down the glue that holds the filling in place? Fair enough, some patients might not even want to know this much information. However, at the end of the day it is important you make an informed decision as it is your tooth and your health!

Dentists are now recommended to practice 'Shared Decision Making' with their patients. It is an interactive process that focusses on achieving a shared understanding of treatment goals. In this process a patient's values and preferences are incorporated into the decision making process. So in other words, you have a choice! A 'filling' is not a 'filling' and you have a voice in what material your fillings are made from and the way in which it is done! If the only information you are given is 'you need a filling' you can ask what material will be used and what the options are. If only one option is presented to you it may mean that this particular dentist only has the technical ability to do a traditional white plastic filling and not the more modern techniques.

In case this concept is new to you and you have only ever had this one option presented to you, here is some more information for you to ponder on:

Filling options range in what type of material the filling is made from. For example, there's the straightforward white plastic (composite resin) fillings and there's 3D scanned & milled porcelain fillings, also referred to as 'inlays' and these can even be made of gold too!

The difference lies in the strength of the material and how much load it can take under the pressure of our strong jaws. The filling needs to withstand the chewing forces of eating three meals a day, every day, not to mention snacks, chewing gum and clenching/grinding of teeth. The difference in materials also lies in something dentists refer to as 'shrinkage on polymerisation' which in simple terms means how much the filling shrinks after it dries. Compare the volume of a fresh young leaf on a tree to a dried up leaf on the ground. As things dry they tend to shrink, and the same goes for some filling materials such as the most commonly used white plastic 'composite resin' filling material. So what's the problem? The problem lies in the fact that as it shrinks it creates microscopic gaps between the filling and tooth. Bacteria and food debris love to nest themselves in these crevices within teeth and overtime develop into holes/decay underneath or around plastic fillings. Sadly this means the fillings will need to be replaced over and over as time goes on. Each time they are replaced they usually get bigger and bigger, until one day there's hardly any tooth left to hold the filling at all. So the material chosen for the filling does matter as they're not all the same.

Dr Tiv and the team of associate dentists at Balnarring Dental are skilled in all of these filling materials and techniques, and would be more than happy to answer your questions or give you a complimentary consultation. You don't need to feel embarrassed and it's never too late!

We hope that this little bit of advice empowers you to take charge of your dental health and never be ashamed to ask your dentist questions. You have a voice and at Balnarring Dental we are happy to listen!

Written by: Darina Nirmalann

(Oral Health Therapist at the Balnarring Dental Centre & PhD candidate at the University of Melbourne)

**Balnarring Dental Centre**

**Ph: 5983 5348**



## Update From Save Westernport

In July, energy giant AGL and pipeline company APA released an Environmental Effects Statement (EES), detailing their damaging and highly unnecessary plans to import gas into Westernport Bay. Save Westernport's comprehensive submission on AGL's EES reports drew on the work of many of our committed volunteers. It can be viewed on [our website here...](#)

AGL vowed to uphold 'transparency' in all their undertakings with our community, so the shocking discovery that dozens of alarming details have been withheld has angered the community. After 2 years of AGL's "community consultation sessions" this Information has only surfaced due to hundreds of hours spent reading 11,000 pages of AGL's EES reports.

The most concerning news is AGL plans in [EES Technical report L](#) for a Planning Scheme Amendment (see p.9-11) that would permanently restrict public access to Woolleys Beach Foreshore Reserve, a scenic and much loved local amenity. The quiet, shady public reserve is a popular place for a BBQ, to launch the kayak, or walk the dog. In regular use by young and old, it's one of just a few places on the Peninsula's extensive Westernport coastline where the bush meets the beach, and easy vehicle and disability access to the foreshore is available.

For years the Woolleys Beach Foreshore Committee has regularly maintained the site, weeding and conducting biodiversity studies of its significant indigenous vegetation. AGL claims to have consulted with the group, but committee members stated that they have not heard from AGL about plans to close the reserve and seek its re-classification for port related use.

Other concerning EES discoveries include

- The project would bring more than 900 trucks a year to Crib Point, through Bittern, Hastings and along Coolart Rd. A further fleet would deliver flammable LNG treatment chemicals to the site at Woolleys Beach, in a known bushfire zone.
- AGL claims "residents may experience reduced satisfaction with their residential amenity..and are likely to be exposed to excessive noise during the pipeline construction."
- Noise from the proposed LNG pumping station at Woolleys Beach would exceed 100dB
- The proposed FSRU would operate 24 hours a day for the next twenty years. AGL claims "Operational noise would affect people's enjoyment of public spaces like Woolleys Beach Reserve, HMAS Otama Lookout Beach, the Victorian Maritime Centre, and boating, fishing and kayaking." AGL is seeking to close beaches on both sides of the Crib Point jetty.
- AGL is seeking to permanently close Woolleys Beach Foreshore Reserve to the public.
- 20m tall nitrogen storage tanks, toxic chemical storage and an LNG pumping station would be built onshore. The project would create only 40 permanent jobs.
- Residents of Crib Point and surrounds would experience "disturbance to the enjoyment of their environment" from the imposing visual appearance. The proposed FSRU is 300m-long, and 17-storeys tall, and would produce 25 tonnes of oily sludge per month and 40 tonnes of dead filtered marine organisms per day from the seawater intake ports. No waste management plan has been devised.



- Pipeline construction in Hastings would “restrict access to businesses during construction, impeding staff and suppliers, and deterring potential customers, affecting the business overall” creating “a less pleasant environment for staff and customers due to dust & noise.”
- Pipeline construction could take 18-27 months and its impacts “would be particularly bad during seismic pressure testing and rock-breaking when works continue after hours”.
- The project’s many threats to the environment and local amenity could result in negative health and economic effects for the community.
- The EES report states that more than 1000 homes would be directly affected, exposing at least a quarter of our community to noise, dust, increased heavy vehicles, obstructed street access, traffic delays and detours for up to 3 years.
- The affected area would include The Bays Aged Care facility, Hastings Primary School, Hastings Cove Retirement Village and Warrangine Park.
- AGL and APA claim they can make it better, managing the inevitable disruptions “by providing movie tickets, temporary alternative accommodation, supplying earplugs, advance warning, and enabling residents to make complaints.”

AGL’s EES reports have been widely criticised for their countless errors, omissions and inconsistencies. The flawed and inadequate methods of environmental modelling used in these reports has led some people to wonder whether the government ordered EES process is a mere formality? Or perhaps the great drop in gas demand and overwhelming rejection of the project by local communities and Shire Councils has led AGL to question whether expected gains they were counting on at Crib Point might come at too high a cost to the company and its reputation.

Record numbers of submissions, all opposing AGL’s EES reports were received from thousands of groups and individuals, including [Australian Doctors for the Environment](#), the Westernport Biosphere and the [Mornington Peninsula Shire Council](#). Submissions & Tabled docs can be viewed on the IAC website here <https://engage.vic.gov.au/crib-point-IAC>

The next stage of the EES will be the the Public Hearings, overseen by a five member Panel appointed by Minister Wynne to advise him about the EES for AGL’s proposal. The Hearings are due to start on October 12. They can be viewed via video link due to COVID-19 restrictions and will continue every day except Fridays until mid December. This will be the first EES ever to be held remotely, despite concerns that such a complex EES would be allowed to operate as an untested, experimental process. On September 17 the Directions Hearing was held to discuss how the Panel Hearings will operate. A report of the Directions Hearing is available on the Save Westernport [website here](#).

At the Directions Hearing, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council’s legal team requested an adjournment, on the grounds that expert witnesses are currently unable to carry out the necessary site inspections, due to current Stage 4 Lockdown restrictions. Expert witnesses will be required to give evidence and undergo cross examination during the Hearings. Panel Chair, Kathy Mitchell seemed reluctant to allow the Hearings to be adjourned or rescheduled, even though proceeding prior to site visits would compromise the evidence of expert witnesses, and raise questions of procedural fairness. In contrast,

Ms Mitchell confirmed that after the Hearings conclude in December, the Panel has requested a prolonged period of deliberation to allow for an extended Christmas break. This will mean the Panel's findings won't be delivered to the Minister until mid February.

The other significant outcome at the Directions Hearing was the enormous laundry list of [additional information](#) requested of AGL by the IAC Panel. A further list of requests [was tabled by MPSC](#), confirming how inadequate AGL's EES reports have been.

The Information requested includes tidal and weather conditions during fieldwork that should've been provided with AGL's initial reports. Data about greenhouse gas emissions, chlorine, noise, light and formaldehyde concerns, acid surface soil contamination, traffic conditions, the disposal of oily sludge, and the inadequacy of proposed mitigation strategies have also been requested along with the dozens of additional requests.

There are many problems with allowing the EES to proceed during Stage 4 lockdown. Save Westernport, Environment Victoria and Victoria National Parks Association wrote to Minister Wynne through our legal representatives at [Environmental Justice Australia](#) to state that we have been unable to visit the project site to make our own judgement of the potential impacts, or to engage in standard grassroots activities like holding supporter meetings to discuss the EES, to deliver leaflets and door-knock local residents and engage the community in the many issues relating to the EES.

Dozens of residents, our Local Members and the Mornington Peninsula Mayor also wrote to the Minister "urging him to consider postponement of the EES until public health restrictions were sufficiently eased to ensure the integrity of the process and fairness to all". Without explaining the reason for the apparent rush, Minister Wynne decided that the EES would proceed, despite Victoria facing the most challenging circumstances in generations, reflected by the declaration of a State of Disaster. This has made it extremely difficult to prepare for the Hearings and engage the expert witnesses and legal support needed to challenge the statements, assumptions and errors in the EES reports.

Last month Mornington Peninsula Shire [Council's unanimous vote](#) to oppose AGL's EES and their gas import plans made [National News](#), reflecting the growing rejection of fossil fuels projects that are no longer able to secure [financial backing](#) or insurance.

Mornington Peninsula's Mayor Sam Hearn said "If the State Government supports this project, it will be displaying a lack of genuine commitment to be truly visionary and take real action in transforming our energy sector and protecting the future of our nation and the world." Cerberus ward Councillor Kate Roper said: "We have a marine and coastal environment here that is truly special and we don't see any benefit in the further industrialisation of Crib Point. Western Port deserves better." Councillor for Red Hill David Gill said the state government should "finally listen to their community and scrap this project before serious damage is done to Western Port, tourism, the fishing industry and people living and working at Crib Point". [Westernport News, Emphatic NO to Gas Plan](#)

Perhaps the most important recent development has been the plummeting demand for gas. While AGL has tended to exaggerate imminent gas shortages, the COVID pandemic has

[drastically decreased gas demands](#). We know that gas is no transition fuel, and immediate divestment from fossil fuels are needed if we are to keep increasing temperatures below 1.5 degrees. But if a gas imports really ARE needed, then the AIE project in NSW, which is already approved, is located in an appropriate site in the industrialised [area of Port Kembla](#). The EES has exposed so many new issues that will need to be raised before the Panel. They need to hear from Community members, from Council, Save Westernport and from our legal team on the countless issues that would forever change the character of Westernport and the surrounding townships and places we love and call home unless we Stop AGL now! The EES reports reaffirm just how much AGL's industrial plans for Westernport are at odds with [the vision](#) for the Peninsula and surrounding areas for its future. **You can support our legal team and expert witnesses to take on AGL at the at the Hearings by contributing to our fundraising campaign.** This is a true community effort and every contribution, big and small makes a difference. The EES is our opportunity to tell the government that we reject AGL's plans. <https://savewesternport.org/donate/> Finally the Council elections are coming up in October, and two long-time supporters of Save Westernport have thrown their hats in the ring and are running for Council. Councillor for Red Hill, David Gill has been a friend of Save Westernport since we first formed. During his tenure as Mayor, Cr Gill instigated the Council's influential Climate Change declaration. Louise Page is also passionate about the environment, as former committee member Louise was President of Save Westernport. Louise will be standing in Watson Ward. We wish them both all the best. AGL's Annual General Meeting is on Oct 7. For info about the Action planned with Environment Victoria, sign up for our Newsletter, or become a member of Save Westernport, visit our website <https://savewesternport.org/> **SAVE WESTERNPORT!**

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AGL says they'll claim this Beach with a Planning Scheme Amendment see EES Tech Report L



Woolleys Beach. Photo: Dale Stohr

# art IS IN OUR nature

#SAVEWESTERNPORT #NOAGLGAS

**3 – 25 OCTOBER**



**54 ARTISTS | 1 EXHIBITION | 2 SITES | 1 PRECIOUS BAY**

Help raise urgently needed funds for Save Westernport Inc to mount the legal battle against AGL's controversial gas import proposal for Westernport. 100% of proceeds will be donated to the cause.

IMAGE: JUAN FORD

*Silhouette 1, 2020, oil on linen, 51 x 41 cm (detail)*

## A GROUP EXHIBITION FUNDRAISER

Featuring 54 renowned contemporary artists  
Curated by Penelope Gebhardt

Sue ANDERSON  
Karina ARMSTRONG  
Raymond ARNOLD  
Tessa BLAZEY  
GW BOT  
Andrew BROWNE  
Eddy CARROLL  
Ewen COATES  
Brett COLQUHOUN  
Warren COOKE  
Philip DAVEY  
Rox DE LUCA  
Rachel DERUM  
Juan FORD  
David FRAZER  
Amos GEBHARDT  
Kate GORRINGE-SMITH  
Brent HARRIS  
Katherine HATTAM  
Siri HAYES  
Christine HEALY  
Anna HOYLE  
Kate HUDSON  
Raafat ISHAK  
Martin KING  
David LARWILL  
Minaal LAWN

Hannah LEWIS  
Peter MCCONCHIE  
Vera MÖLLER  
Sophie PEREZ  
Rosslynd PIGGOTT  
Texta QUEEN  
Vicki RANDELL  
Geoffrey RICARDO  
Cameron ROBBINS  
Lisa ROET  
Gareth SANSOM  
Gwen SCOTT  
David SEQUEIRA  
Trisha SINGER  
James SMEATON  
Tai SNAITH  
Valerie SPARKS  
Kylie STILLMAN  
Emma STUART  
Mary TONKIN  
Judith VAN HEEREN  
Anselm VAN ROOD  
Gidja WALKER  
Rosie WEISS  
Christabel WIGLEY  
Neil WILLIAMS  
John WOLSELEY

### EXHIBITION VENUES:

#### ONLINE

[www.silverleaf-artbox.com.au](http://www.silverleaf-artbox.com.au)

#### MERRICKS GENERAL WINE STORE

3460 Frankston-Flinders Rd, Merricks VIC 3916

Open daily 9am – 5pm \* Ph +613 5989 8088

#### SILVER LEAF ART BOX

3361 Frankston-Flinders Rd, Merricks VIC 3916

Open daily 9am – 5pm \* Ph +61 422 132 525

\* Opening hours are subject to restrictions



MERRICKS GENERAL  
WINE STORE

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BOX



SOUTHERN BUOY

luui  
DESIGN + BRANDING

MONTALTO



The work of 54 acclaimed contemporary artists comes together in this exciting exhibition to raise awareness of the campaign to stop AGL's proposed gas import terminal from being approved at Crib Point, and to raise urgently needed funds for Save Westernport Inc to mount a legal challenge in partnership with Environment Victoria and the Victorian National Parks Association.

"I reached out to the broader art community and was struck by the incredibly generous response of artists. Many have personal connections to the Mornington Peninsula, and it has been heart-warming to hear their stories. Our community is passionate about this issue and the broader community is as well."

— PENELOPE GEBHARDT, CURATOR

This exhibition presents a unique opportunity to take powerful collective action for the health and longevity of Westernport by making a donation or acquiring an artwork by a leading contemporary artist to help reach the fundraising target of 100K by November. Donations are welcome and can be made on the 'Donate Now' button on the website. 100% of proceeds will be donated to the cause.



Featured in the 'In the Valley' exhibition at Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery last year, Capel Sound artist Rosie Weiss presents one of her powerful watercolour paintings in this exhibition. Weiss is an avid collector of the often strikingly anthropomorphic plant-based fragments that are the subject of her work. The remnant in this painting is from Crib Point, which Weiss visited after first hearing about the proposed gas terminal.

"This image of a dislodged plant fragment... is striding forward but burdened by a head bubble of pollution, as every living thing in Westernport Bay and out into Bass Strait would be contaminated by this floating industrial complex."

— ROSIE WEISS



Renowned German born artist Vera Möller has a scientific background in biology and microbiology and for many years has explored in her practice what she describes as the 'spectacular environment of Westernport'. Möller's paintings and sculptural works bring the underwater world that so few of us ever see – to the surface. The artist transcribes her impressions of the extraordinary flora and fauna in beautiful patterns, luminescence, colour and form. Möller generously contributes a hauntingly beautiful oil painting to this exhibition, created specifically for this project.

The Estate of David Larwill is generously supporting the cause with David Larwill's 'Man', a limited-edition bronze sculpture. Larwill was for many years a Somers local and is a highly acclaimed and much-loved artist known for his exuberant fresh style. Larwill was a founding member of the legendary artist's collective Roar Studios in Melbourne. Fiona Larwill, wife of the late artist states in reference to the proposed AGL project:

"David was very passionate about the environment, helping with many causes over the years... Having grown up and then eventually living on the Peninsula this would have angered him and he would have fought to stop this".

Co-hosted by Merricks General Wine Store and Silver Leaf Art Box, Merricks, the exhibition will flow across the 2 venues (subject to COVID-19 restrictions) and will go live on the website on Saturday October 3 at midday.

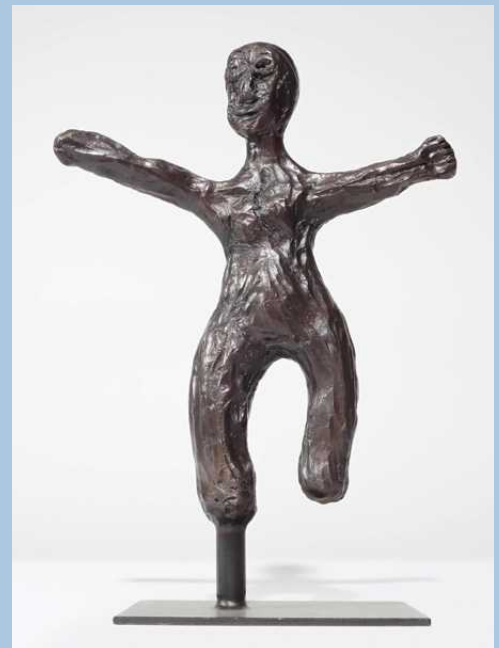
**For enquires please contact:**  
**0422 132 525**

#### **IMAGE DETAILS:**

ROSIE WEISS: *Crib Point*, 2018, Chinese and pigmented ink on Arches, 56 x 38 cm

VERA MÖLLER: *carafina*, 2020, oil on linen, 55 x 45.6 cm

DAVID LARWILL: *Man*, 2009, bronze, 32.5 x 23 x 5 cm, edition 6 & 1 A/P





## Let's sort it out

“What’s that?”

It was pitch-black and the rumble was getting closer!

Was I dreaming or was it real?

“D\*#n it, the rubbish truck” – or should I say, the ‘Recycling and Waste Collection Service’.

Whichever way you say it, it came down to the fact that my bins were still in the drive.

Hastily grabbing a dressing gown and in the process falling over the cat, I stumbled towards the laundry.

Sure enough there they were, waiting patiently for me to sort them:

- plastic - hard and soft;
- some lolly papers;
- ‘green waste’ – fortunately I’d put that in a green compostable bag;
- a collection of cardboard and some ‘local papers’;
- an assortment of tins; and
- a very nice Merlot – it was empty!

“Ah no, which was it – recycle or landfill day?” I was right for the green waste!

Gathering up my ‘environmental assortment’, I headed to the bins.

Dazzled by the twin headlights of ‘the monster’ as it turned into the street, I still had time.

I took a punt and decided it was ‘yellow day’!

After it was all over, and the cat had forgiven me, it was time for a coffee and then another round of environmental sorting.

Hopefully by next week I’ll be ready, for it would seem the monster’s never ending search for waste must be satisfied.

In case you’re wondering about its diet, here is some of what it really likes – goodness knows what happens to it after it’s consumed, but hopefully **it never ends up in the sea.**



For, according to a Google search, this is the approximated time for compounds to decompose in a marine environment:

- Paper towel: 2 - 4 weeks
- Apple core: 2 months
- General paper: 1 - 3 months
- Cardboard box: 2 months
- Wax coated milk cartons: 3 - 5 months
- Cotton cloth: 5 months
- Woollen gloves: 1 year
- Plywood: 1 - 3 years
- Plastic coated coffee cups: 5 years
- Plastic bags: 10 - 20 years
- Tin cans: 50 years or more
- Disposable nappies: 50 - 100 years
- Plastic bottles: 100 years
- Aluminium cans: 150 - 200 years
- Glass bottles: Undetermined



*Is this yours?*

So if picnicking along the foreshore or out boating, don't forget to take home your 'empties'.

For no matter how inconvenient this may be, it is up to us to sort it out.

#### Neil Daly

*(Neil, who is active in the Save Westernport campaign, lives in the Bass Coast Shire, so you'll notice some differences between rubbish collection there and what happens on this side of Westernport! – Ed.)*

An advertisement for Balnarring Dental Centre. It features a group of seven dental staff members (four women and three men) lying on their backs on a light-colored floor, arranged in a circle. They are all wearing blue scrubs and holding a green apple. They are all smiling at the camera. At the top of the image, there is a white banner with the text "YOUR GENTLE, LOCAL &amp; QUALITY DENTIST" in bold, black, sans-serif font. In the bottom left corner, there is a logo featuring a green apple and the text "-BALNARRING- DentalCentre". In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for "afterpay" with a blue and white icon, and the phone number "5983 5348" in a large, bold, black font.



*The FoD Office - by DB*

## ***Friends of Daangean***

Since the plague onset, the Friends of Daangean (FOD) volunteer activities have ground to a halt. A brief reprieve at the end of June allowed one day of weeding in Woodland Break, but no Waterwatch as Melbourne Water put the kybosh on any of that under their jurisdiction. Invasive plants show no respect for beautiful bushland, or covid-19 for that matter!

The annual combined groups' planting day was postponed from July to September due to lockdown, as was the August combined weeding day, usually done while boneseed is in flower as it's easy to see and recognize. Even now the planting day looks doubtful.

Viewing Zoom and Microsoft Teams meetings and workshops, although interesting, aren't quite the same as "getting into it" in reality.

I for one would dearly love to head for the hills to charge my battery while fuel prices are down and roads not quite free of traffic. Devilbend Natural Features Reserve, which includes Bittern Reservoir, has been discovered with a vengeance, judging by the number of vehicles in the carparks. Though I hasten to add I haven't been to either since July, just before stage 4 lockdown. Though I did have reason to pass the Langwarrin Flora & Fauna Reserve last week and the carpark was full. I did fancy an orchid walk while in the area but there was no parking.

I presume, and without doubt, Mother Nature is performing as per normal, probably better with the current pollution reduction. Perhaps there will be fewer baby magpies skittled on the roads this season. And maybe too, blue tongue lizards might be able to cross roads with relative safety but warming their tummies on the tarmac is still not wise should any be out early on some of the warm days we've had.

I've had a look through my copious photo folders to share with you some images taken at Devilbend and Bittern during weeding or water-watching days. Hopefully they bring a little cheer during these trying times.

*Marnie Fitzsimons* marniefitz1@gmail.com

FOD co-ordinator



# Friends of Daangean

*Common Bird Orchid  
by DB*



*Cumbungi reflections  
at Bittern*

*Female Early  
Nancys  
by DB*

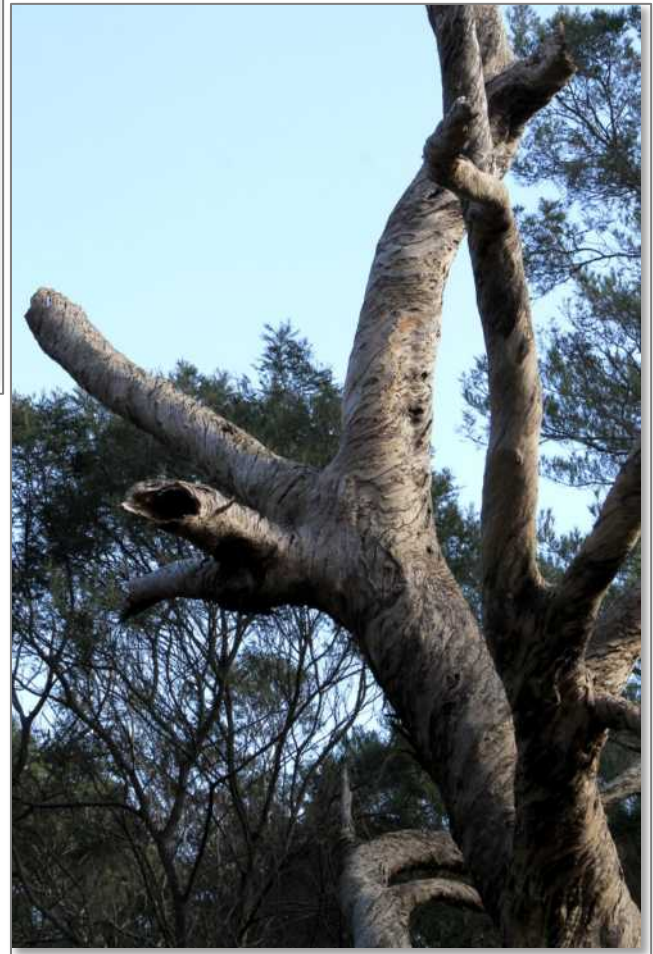






*Eggs & Bacon*  
by DB

## Friends of Daangean



*Lovely big  
Habitat tree -  
Bittern*

*Female Fairy Wren – Devilbend – when I stood still  
several hopped around my feet*





# Friends of Daangean

*Sleeping  
Freckled Ducks  
on Bittern shoreline  
when they visited  
in 2018*



*Sundew Flower (Harbinger of Spring)  
by DB*



*Wolf spider hole  
amid Sundews and  
Bird Orchid  
by DB*

## LOCAL NEWS FROM RED HILL WARD CR DAVID GILL

- Power for the stage at the **Balnarring Village Common** is connected and a cover for over the stage is in the Shire budget.
- Arrangements for a **community drop-in centre** in Balnarring Village are in place but the start has been delayed due to Covid-19.
- The State Government and Council are discussing the preliminary design for **road safety crossings on Frankston / Flinders Road** and hopefully Balnarring Road near the village. Thank you for the local advocacy that helped bring this project to fruition. 50km/h is also being considered to help with pedestrian safety around the village shopping centre.
- Council has budgeted \$40,000 for **St Marks Community carpark** to undergo a makeover. This neglected VicRoads land needs to have proper drainage.
- The Sandy Point Rd **golf driving range planning permit** refusal by Council has been taken to appeal at the State Planning Tribunal (VCAT).
- It is terrific to have so many local entries in the Victorian **Sustainable Communities** and Tidy Towns awards.
  - Somers Coolart Science Show and Balnarring Village Common have been selected in the well-being category final judging to be held late September.
- Looking forward to the start of the **Somers Community BMX and Mountain Bike Pump Track** and paths at Stones Reserve in Somers. Money is now in the Council budget for projects such as this. Our young people are desperate for informal activities especially as organised sport has been drastically affected by Covid-19.
- **A Heritage Study** for Red Hill Ward is underway. I value your knowledge and input on the hidden gems in Red Hill Ward. Please contact me with any feedback.
- Somers and Balnarring **tennis court lights** replaced and a new oven, heater and cooler at Balnarring.







- Council has given a start-up grant to the MornPen **Koala Conservation Group** to help protect Koalas on the Peninsula and \$5000 to assist the **Merricks Coolart Catchment Group** plans for a koala bio-link in Balnarring.

- As part of a package to assist the **recovery of live music** on the Peninsula, Council is funding the Peninsula live Music Network with \$28,000 and \$20,000 for the “Peninsula Chamber Musicians”.
- Year-round small **council grants** are handy for community projects that just need a little help. Recent local grants include:
  - Somers tennis club \$1000 for a scoreboard.
  - Balnarring tennis club \$994 for stackable chairs.
- Our trees in towns and villages will receive better **planning protection** after advocacy from the Shire Council. Exemptions that have allowed cutting down of trees without a permit on house blocks have been altered by the State Government. Town and village properties outside the declared bushfire prone area regulations and with existing vegetation protections will now need permits to cut down trees.
- I am looking for your feedback on **burning of green waste** for a council review of the local law.
- In this difficult time it would be great to see **spring highlights** from those spending extra time in their gardens. My cymbidium orchid back bulbs have finally flowered, brightening up my days while restricted at home. Please send your garden photos to my Facebook page or “The Bridge” or friends to help cheer us up.



Thank you to my wife Sandy O’Meara who has been very supportive of my role as local councillor over the last 4 years. Sandy is working at Balnarring Primary School. Teachers, health workers, supermarket staff and others are all doing their best to help during this present crisis.

Regards,  
David

For further information and feedback: Email: [davidgill4redhillward@gmail.com](mailto:davidgill4redhillward@gmail.com) Phone: 0435 260 384





**“COVID-19 crisis recovery is the outstanding issue facing us all. I want to ensure that Council listens and takes every opportunity to prioritise assistance for families, small businesses and community volunteer groups.”**

***Enthusiastic and energetic about representing and supporting our community***

- David brings strong advocacy on your behalf including protecting our Green Wedge, preserving village character and improving road safety.
- David tackles the hard issues and doesn't give up.
- David believes issues raised by you are important and deserve attention.
- David listens and acts on your behalf.

#### **ABOUT DAVID GILL**

- Born and raised on the Mornington Peninsula; 30 years in Red Hill Ward
- Married to Sandy O'Meara with adult children
- Shire Arts and Culture Chairperson
- Shire Disability Advisory Committee delegate
- A volunteer foreshore committee member over many years
- Member of St Marks, Balnarring 'Doing Justice' group
- Since the hardship to our community caused by Covid-19, has refused all remuneration for his Councillor role and has never claimed any expenses
- David is an independent candidate with no political affiliations.

**Email:** [davidgill4redhillward@gmail.com](mailto:davidgill4redhillward@gmail.com)    **Phone:** 0435 260 384

**Please see my Facebook page for plans to support the recovery:**  
[facebook.com/davidgillredhillward](https://facebook.com/davidgillredhillward)

**COUNCIL ELECTION POSTAL VOTING STARTS SOON AND CLOSSES ON  
FRIDAY OCTOBER 23rd.**

## WESTERNPORT & PENINSULA PROTECTION COUNCIL INC

View Westernport and Peninsula Protection Council's response to AGL's Crib Pt Gas /Import Jetty and Pipeline on our website or Facebook page.

We have engaged a panel expert on Fungus to talk about Phytophthera and Chytrid fungus at the EES panel hearing.



*Photographs of the wonderful ecology at Crib Point between the shore and the jetty*

<b>Transect 1</b> Seagrass in Woolleys Beach cove	<b>Transect 1</b> Halophila seagrass and epiphytic algae

Why does the proposed pipeline go through Watsons Inlet? It is A Shapiro site of Major Ecological Importance that has been marked out for protection by every level of government and internationally. This site includes The Tyabb Waterholes Area, now a spring-fed dam - a site of Aboriginal cultural importance. 'Tyabb' means waterhole or mud hole.

*Photo from The UNESCO Biosphere - Mouth of Watsons Creek.*



# ***Balnarring Primary School***

## **What a year this continues to be!**

As term three ended we thanked our amazing staff, wonderful students and dedicated parent body for their commitment to '*remote and flexible*' learning.

Acting on the advice of the Chief Health Officer back in July, kitchens and lounge rooms all around Balnarring, and outlying areas, quickly transitioned back into classrooms to begin a second round of *remote and flexible* learning.

Families sourced work plans from the school's chosen digital platform and children joined daily online teaching sessions hosted by their classroom teachers.

Using the chat feed children asked questions of their teachers and peers, as they would if in their classroom. Assigned tasks were completed and submitted for teachers to provide both feedback and feed forward tips.

Our students have successfully accepted the challenge - *although it has not been easy*. Many children have missed the daily contact with their friends and teachers that occur at school; in addition the closure of their favourite '*after-school*' arts and sporting activities has been hard.

Our students must be congratulated for their resilience at this time.

Some parents are concerned about the impact of this disrupted year on their children's learning but please be assured that teachers will work hard to 'fill any gaps' when children are back onsite. Teachers are skilled at differentiating the curriculum to meet the needs of individuals. Every student will be supported in their wellbeing, learning and transition needs.

We would though encourage those feeling concerned to acknowledge the wonderful opportunities that you have provided your children whilst they have been learning remotely. Many wellbeing and learning skills have undoubtedly been enhanced in family settings during this period.

As Term 4 approaches we look forward to welcoming our Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 students back onsite. At this stage they will return on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October.

Our three new baby budgies, currently in their nesting box in Bimblemeer, are looking forward to the return of some admiring students.

*(The ducks that have taken over the play equipment whilst the grounds are empty may not be quite as enthusiastic!)*

Take care everyone, stay well.

Sandy O'Meara

Acting Principal,  
Primary School





# Balnarring Village Common

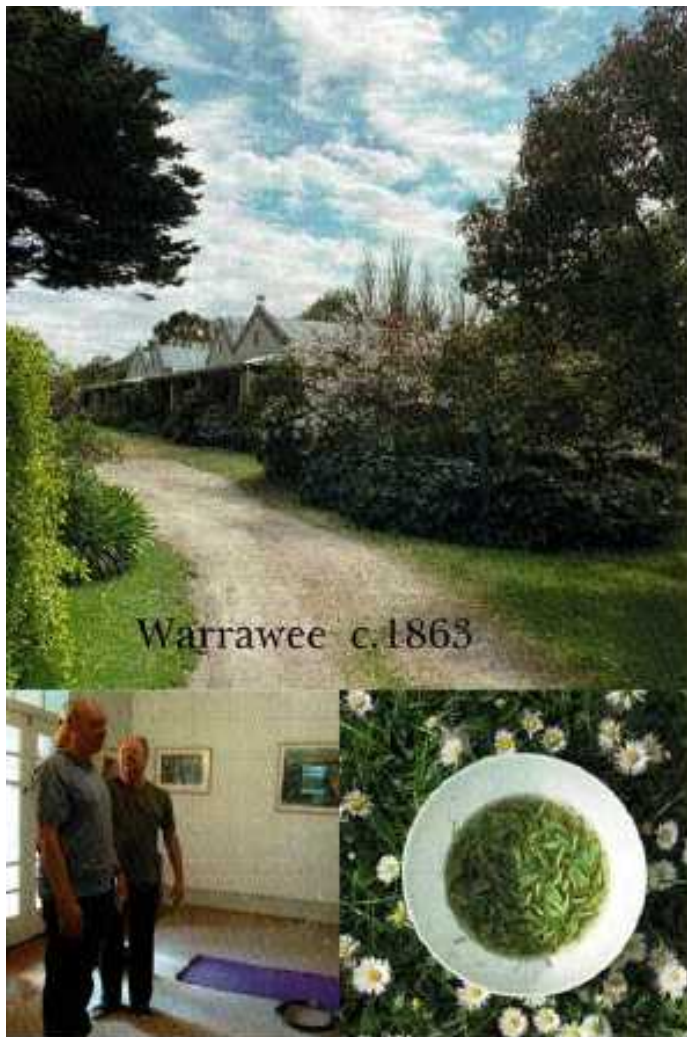
## ***AGM***

***Thursday October 15***

***7.00pm***

***Via zoom***

**RSVP Mandy 0421184613 for link**



## **Warrawee Wholistic**

*Warrawee* means "*resting place*" in the indigenous language of the area. Whether you are joining us for a class, workshop or treatment, you will enjoy the benefits of the peaceful and calming ambience of *Warrawee*. It is the perfect place to rest, restore and heal.

Mat Pilates and One to One Pilates  
Lomi Lomi and Remedial Massage

Pranic Healing

Acu Energetics and Meditation

Holistic Counselling

Tai Chi Yin Yoga

Herbal Products and Workshops

Accommodation

[www.warraweewholistic.com](http://www.warraweewholistic.com)

[www.sweetleafbotanical.com.au](http://www.sweetleafbotanical.com.au)

# *Sweetleaf Botanical*

Medicinal Plants

Seeds & Teas

Herbal Products



Checkout our online shop at  
[www.sweetleafbotanical.com.au](http://www.sweetleafbotanical.com.au)

Or Visit our Farmgate Shop

Warrawee Wholistic 87 Warrawee Rd Balnarring

Contact Jane 0411 399 212





## Koala Friendly Fencing

A koala friendly fence is one that koalas can easily climb over, through or under, allowing them to move freely around their habitat. The most common types of koala friendly fencing include post and rails and post and wire (no barbed wire).

Koala friendly fencing can greatly assist with koala movement and dispersal through back yards and residential areas. Some fence designs can trap a koala and leave it vulnerable to attack by domestic dogs, as well as restrict access to important food and shelter trees.

### ***Koala friendly fence designs:***

#### **Allow a koala an alternative route over a fence by:**

- Planting and retaining trees or sturdy shrubs near and along the fence line;
- Addition of a continuous series of flat boards at the top of the fence to allow a koala to walk along the fence without needing to come to the ground;
- Installation of timber posts or logs of at least 125mm diameter leaning against the top of the existing fence at an angle no greater than 60 degrees with the ground.

#### **Allow a koala to climb over the fence by using:**

- Fences made from materials that koalas can easily grip and climb, such as round timber posts or chain wire mesh.

#### **Allow a koala to move under or through the fence by using:**

- 300mm gaps between the ground and the bottom of solid fences;
- 300mm gaps between vertical slat fences will also allow koalas to safely move through the fence.

#### **How to modify an existing fence, wall or gate to make it koala friendly:**

Many existing fences, walls and gates cannot be climbed by koalas, such as those made of Colourbond, corrugated iron, brick, stone or vertical railings. These can be easily modified by simply fixing a timber post on each side of the fence. Make sure the posts are located opposite each other, measure a minimum of 10cm in diameter and extend up to 20cm above the fence. This will allow koalas to climb up, over and down the fence. If a post is placed on only one side, koalas will not be able to climb safely down the other side.





**BE THE CHANGE.**

**VOTE 1**  
**MELISSA**  
**GOFFIN**  
*for Red Hill Ward 2020*

**EVERY VOICE MATTERS**

\*Your ballot pack will be mailed to you between 6 and 8 October 2020.

We recommend posting your ballot early - voting closes at 6pm on Friday, 23 October

Authorised by Melissa Goffin, 87 Arthurs Seat Rd, Red Hill VIC 3937

✉ [hello@melissagoffin.com.au](mailto:hello@melissagoffin.com.au)   [@MelissaforMornPen](https://www.facebook.com/MelissaforMornPen)   [www.melissgoffin.com.au](http://www.melissgoffin.com.au)

I can remember those first afternoons, driving home from work along the Peninsula link to our new home on the Peninsula and passing the cow pastures along the way. My husband Martin and I immediately fell in love with the Peninsula - the beautiful, wide open spaces, the sense of community, the wonderful shops and restaurants and markets where we'd easily come to know the owners, staff and patrons. We couldn't imagine a better place to raise our young son who was joined a couple years later by our daughter. We bought our first home and commuted for a while. He, from his work as a Youth Project Officer at local Council near the city and me, from a public high school where I taught English and Media to high school students. We joined playgroups and attended daycares. We dreamed of starting our own business and began planning for how to make that happen.

We had no great resources but knew two fundamental things at the start. One was that we wanted to create something our children would be proud of. A business that put purpose above profit. Another was that we would remain inextricably linked to the Peninsula - ensuring that the business lived and breathed our wonderful community.

In 2013 we started our food business and began attending markets across the Peninsula - building a customer base, supplier relationships, our brand and our teams. I continued to teach - moving from teaching into Leadership - focused on implementing whole school educational philosophies and teaching leadership to our school leaders. My roles and my passion were increasingly about leadership - about how to build consensus, grow capacity and drive change. During this time I became the President of Victoria's English Teaching Association and a member of the national board.

In 2016 I decided to leave teaching to go all in to our restaurant as it opened in January of 2017. A move that was inspired by a quiet moment of clarity and a knowledge that despite all of the reasons why not, it was the next right step. At this same time I was one of three founding Organising Members of the Women's March on Melbourne. A grassroots women's advocacy march that saw thousands march in the city - joined by millions around the world. I continued this work and action across the next few years.

Over these last 5 years our drive has been on ethically growing our business and using it as our platform for improving our community and our world. At the start of 2018 our business became the first restaurant in Australia to achieve B Corp status. An ethical accreditation that sets rigorous standards for meeting criteria in environmental sustainability, community, people, financial and business transparency and one we're enormously proud of. We run ethical business forums where we engage other local business owners in conversations around how to be better stewards of our environment and our community. We work with local disability agencies in an effort to employ those in need. We actively promote and financially support countless local charities, schools and groups across our Red Hill ward, in particular. We partner with almost exclusively local businesses, ensuring that our dollars go back into our local community and support the families that live and work here.

In 2019 I was named Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year by Womens' Agenda for my focus on ethical business practices. Across these years our business has won numerous state and local awards and one that we're most proud of is the 'Best in World - Community' by B Corp. Where our commitments to local have been recognised as amongst the best in the world.

Our children are now both attending primary school and we have built a community of friends across our personal and professional lives on the Peninsula that continue to nurture us, inspire us and reinforce our love for our region.

Over these past few years I have come to understand the importance of our Shire and the priorities of our councillors in reinforcing the connections of our community and reflecting the values we hold. I think that we can do better in this regard. And I believe I have the skills to make a difference to the way we connect, the way we communicate and the way our community reflects us. I understand how to drive change. To bring people together and create improved outcomes. I know I can do this within our local government and for the betterment of all in our community.

I bring compassion, intellect, experience and passion to this role. I do not profess to be right all the time but I do claim to listen and learn. I live and work with integrity and a desire to do the best I can for the people who entrust me to do so. I thank you for the opportunity to be your voice in our community.

How to you can connect with and support Melissa:

**Email:** [hello@melissagoffin.com.au](mailto:hello@melissagoffin.com.au)

**Website:** [www.melissgoffin.com.au](http://www.melissgoffin.com.au)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/MelissaforMornPen>

Melissa Goffin

87 Arthurs Seat Rd

Red Hill VIC 3937

## ***Red Hill Op Shop: Let's keep in touch...***

The Red Hill Op Shop Volunteers are all eagerly awaiting the time when we can resume our recycling and selling of donated items at the Op Shop to fund and support the Peninsula Home Hospice and other local initiatives. The lock down has clearly shown to us just how much we miss the friendships and company of others in the community. We can't wait to get back into our shop and begin welcoming our loyal and regular shoppers. (Gosh, don't we all miss a bit of retail therapy!)

Communication opportunities, using social media and the internet, have proved to be so important over the past months and there are a couple of easy ways you can keep in touch and abreast of when and how the Op Shop will resume its operations.

We have an email group called the 'Friends of Red Hill Op Shop'. The Friends of the Op Shop receive short, concise updates when the Op Shop has its Sales, is extending its hours or when there are special events and offers available. To receive these emails, all you have to do is write to us and ask to be put on the list. All we need is a name and your email address and that's it! You will certainly be the first to know when we are gearing up to be operational again.

The other opportunity to keep up to date, and at the moment, have a bit of a smile is to follow our Facebook page. Our Facebook page enables us to share information quickly when there are special items in the shop or when something important or funny has happened! The number of people who share the Facebook information with their network has been a great boost to us, and we appreciate the people 'following us' and supporting our efforts in the community. We all like good news – so follow us and you'll be the first to know!

Let's keep in touch, and stay safe! And we'll see you soon.

**Email us at [redhillopshop@gmail.com](mailto:redhillopshop@gmail.com) or message us through our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/redhillopshop](https://www.facebook.com/redhillopshop)**





## The Vital Importance of the Women's Circle

---

Women's Circles come from an ancient practice. There is evidence of these circles being at the heart of societies and communities of thousands of years ago.

If you even speak of a women's circle, mostly you will see a glimmer of remembrance crossing a woman's face, so powerful is this archetype that it is embedded in our psyches and can bring up a longing to be part of such a circle again.

This is what I have noticed.

When women gather together, whether it is in a book circle, a meditation circle or an embroidery circle; each woman who is part of that circle will make it a priority in her life because she knows how deeply nourished she will be by the gathering with her sisters, the sharing of soul stories, the laughter and honesty that releases us from the constraints and routines of our everyday lives.

I am passionate about Sacred Women's Circles because I am aware like so many women, that our patriarchal imperative is bringing humankind, the Earth itself and many other species to their knees. It is simply not a long-term sustainable model. And it is women who will lead us out of the mess we find ourselves in. I won't go into details, there's no need to. Most people know this intrinsically.

*The Circle is an oasis where our hearts can open and be heard and felt. When women gather, feminine spirit is amplified and each woman is recharged, and reinforced by the elixir of this life-force.*

What people most need to hear is what is in their hearts. This voice is the most honest authority of who we are. In these current times we urgently need one another. We need to be heard, to share and to listen.

Women generally easily share intimacy and closeness by telling each other about their personal problems, but the whole idea of the Sacred Women's Circle is that it is not about the small stories of our personalities, it is about the large universal 'field' to which we all belong, our larger *Self*.

It is when we surrender to the bigger picture of our Oneness that a bigger sense of ourselves is held and will provide us with deeper awareness and evolution than a gossipy or co-dependent hierarchical group which a lot of us belong to by default within families, communities, schools and workplaces.

Some formal agreements are put in place in a Sacred Women's Circle; this is so that we are free from judgement, projections and competition. We are then free to evolve, grow, and awaken.

Women's circles are for the purpose of empowering one another; they are a place where we can hold each other deeply, share from the depth of our hearts, and bring healing and revelation to one another, our communities and the world.

*'The mystery of the divine feminine speaks to us from within her creation. She is not a distant god in heaven, but a presence that is here with us, needing our response. She is the divine returning to claim her creation, the real wonder of what it means to be alive. We have forgotten her, just as we have forgotten so much of what is sacred, and yet she is always part of us. But now she needs to be known again, not just as a myth, as a spiritual image, but as something that belongs to the blood and the breath. She can awaken us to an expectancy in the air, to an ancient memory coming alive in a new way. She can help us to give birth to the divine that is within us, to the oneness that is all around us. She can help us to remember our real nature.'*

from: 'The Return of the Feminine and World Soul'

by Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee

*Candy van Rood, Founder*

Earth Heart.Love

I am currently conducting online Women's Circles and am starting a new one on Tuesday afternoons, starting on 22nd September.

Read more about it here: [www.earthheart.love/8women-tues](http://www.earthheart.love/8women-tues)





EARTH HEART

TAROT  
ASTROLOGY  
MEDITATION  
REIKI HEALING  
COUNSELLING  
WOMEN'S CIRCLE



Candy van Rood  
0412494985

[www.earthheart.love](http://www.earthheart.love)



## Somers Ladies Probus Club

The last months during the Covid Lockdown have shown the importance of family, friends and community in our lives. We are fortunate to live in a community that is supportive and welcoming - particularly for our older members and for those living on their own, with family in Melbourne unable to visit.

Probus is all about Friendship, Fellowship and Fun in retirement - with the emphasis on FUN! Sadly with the current "Lockdown" all Probus activities have been cancelled but our committee have used this time to maintain contact with our members, to check on their well-being, as well planning a range of activities for our return. Having someone to chat with on the 'phone can sometimes make things easier. ZOOM has proved useful for meetings and we have a weekly newsletter to "keep in touch".

Somers Ladies Probus invites retired and semi-retired ladies to contact Elizabeth (5983 5898) or June (5983 5321) for more information.

## PANDEMIC PETALS

What is your inner blossom this spring?



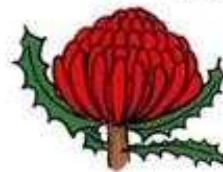
NUMBNUT  
GUMNUT

- What day is it?
- Vague
- Is it still 2020?



FULL-THROTTLE  
BLOOMIN' WATTLE

- Still blooming
- probably still baking sourdough



BLAH BLAH  
WARATAH.

- loud, random
- bit spikey



VERY SILLY  
LILLY PILLY

- anti-masks
- covid-conspiracist
- Did their own "research"



GOT-A-CRUSH  
BOTTLEBRUSH

- Exploring Love In The Time of Corona




CRANKY  
BANKY

- over it.

@JessHarwoodArt



# WIN A TERM OF DRAMA OR FILMMAKING CLASSES



A NEW CREATIVE ARTS SCHOOL IS OPENING ON THE  
MORNINGTON PENINSULA AND WE WANT TO HEAR  
FROM YOU!

COMPLETE THE SURVEY AT THE LINK BELOW TO GO IN  
THE RUNNING FOR A TERM OF FILMMAKING OR DRAMA  
CLASSES FOR A CHILD AGED 3-18

<https://tinyurl.com/creativeartsschoolsurvey>



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM ANYONE  
WHO KNOWS A CHILD!



ENQUIRIES - 0431 109 343

## **Balnarring Pre School**

Term 2, 2020, done and dusted... and not like any term of schooling we have experienced before. These times are unsettling, challenging and unique in their composition. Our children have taken it on-board like the resilient little souls that they are. They've acknowledged and accepted they aren't allowed to visit playgrounds, see their friends or extended family, celebrate birthdays with parties or visits to special places, go to school, kinder or daycare. It is a lot to process when you are 4 or 5 years old. But as a parent, I must say I'm incredibly proud of my boys (3yrs and 5yrs – both celebrated birthdays while in stage 4 lockdown) who have just realised this is how things are for now, and that it won't be forever.

While many of us haven't been in the preschool physically for months, our educators have continued to be exceptional with maintaining connections with the children and preschool families. Children have had the opportunity to participate in regular 'Zoom' sessions with their educators, in both small and larger group settings, sometimes for a story, an art activity, a science experiment or simply just a chat to catch up! Alongside this, they have received many personalised letters in the post (always a big hit to receive mail!), have been delivered special goodie bags with so many activities, ranging from craft to scavenger hunts; to adventure / discoveries diaries and feelings books; tasks to practise fine motor skills using scissors as well as letter recognition activities, focused on their names. We have continued to learn about our feelings, explored our safe people and places through creating a "Happiness Map". We are incredibly fortunate and grateful to have such a dedicated team teaching our children.

While we could look at this 'isolation' period negatively, and focus on all the things we couldn't do, there are so many positives for us - quality family time; working together around the house; so many family beach walks and adventuring within our 5km bubble; family sleepovers in the lounge room; staying up late for movie and popcorn nights; just enjoying a slower pace of life. Some days we felt we excelled – home kinder activities completed with enthusiasm, we baked together, conducted fun science experiments, built monster truck ramps in our sandpit, rode our bikes through giant puddles, sent letters to our cousins... but there were other days, where the boys were still in



pyjamas at 10am, having their second breakfast – it's all about balance. We need to be kind to ourselves in these times, take the pressure off, allow those slower days to happen and let go of the guilt for not ticking things off the list.

It does feel like there is a light at the end of the tunnel, albeit a long tunnel. Restrictions are easing off, very slowly, but easing all the same. Please take care, look after yourselves and your loved ones, and hopefully a new sort of normal will emerge soon.

*Melanie Shannon*

Reggie's Mum (Weelam Group)  
Balnarring Pre School



*Waang by Lily aged 5.*

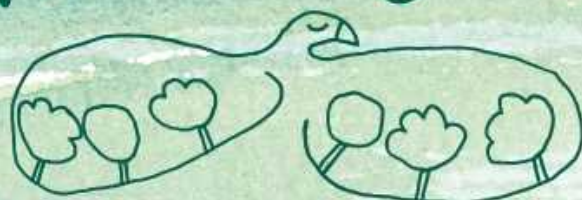
## **Message from the teaching team to all families**

On behalf of the Balnarring preschool teaching team we would like to congratulate all families on managing through these past months - we know it has been challenging, stressful and frustrating. But we also know that families have had time to BE with each other and encourage you to treasure these memories and the gift of time and remember these positive moments in the months to come. On behalf of the children we thank you for continuing to support, love, and guide your children while providing security and many fun experiences that they will take with them through their lives.

**WELL DONE EVERYONE**

BUNDJIL'S NEST  
PRESENTS

.Womin Djeka.



Balnarring Ngargee

13.03.2021

**SATURDAY 13TH MARCH 11AM - 7PM**

BALNARRING BEACH, ROBERTSONS PARK AND CAMPING RESERVE



# COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

HONORING AND CELEBRATING INDIGENOUS CULTURES

**ENTERTAINMENT • FOOD STALLS • CRAFT STALLS**

**CULTURAL WORKSHOPS • CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**

SO... ARE YOU COMING?

**FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT:**

✉ [womindjeka.balnarring.ngargee@gmail.com](mailto:womindjeka.balnarring.ngargee@gmail.com)    **f** [facebook.com/Bundjil2018/](https://facebook.com/Bundjil2018/)

**@** [instagram.com/womindjekabalnarring/](https://instagram.com/womindjekabalnarring/)

Please note that due to the current COVID-19 crisis, the format of this festival will comply with and reflect any Victorian Government restrictions that will be held in place at the time of the event.



# Coolart to Cerberus Biolink Project



## **Somers Revegetation Project 2021**

It is very exciting to inform you that the community of Somers has been asked to participate in a revegetation project to help koalas on the peninsula.

The Mornington Peninsula Koala Conservation and the Mornington Peninsula Shire are working together with community groups to provide a corridor for koalas to move safely around Somers.

The project will improve the area by increasing:

- Koala food trees: such as manna gum, swamp gum and narrow-leaved peppermint
- Canopy cover: to protect koalas from inclement weather and heat waves
- Patch sizes (larger habitats): to support breeding populations
- Native plants: to benefit all local wildlife not just koalas



Residents who own properties identified as an important corridor for koalas have been contacted and will be provided with free trees, site preparation works and habitat restoration support. We thank these landholders for playing a vital role in the project by planting koala food trees and provenance plants on their properties.

To support this project, volunteer on planting days or for more information contact:

Dirk Jansen - Mornington Peninsula Koala Conservation

✉ [mpkoalatreeplanting@outlook.com](mailto:mpkoalatreeplanting@outlook.com)

Paola Rivera - Biolink Coordinator

✉ [paolariveramelb@gmail.com](mailto:paolariveramelb@gmail.com)

Website: [www.mpkoalas.org.au](http://www.mpkoalas.org.au)

Facebook: Mornington Peninsula Koala Conservation

Insta: mp\_koalas





# ***THE SCHOOL PROJECT/ MELBOURNE PERIOD PROJECT***

**MPP Cares for the homeless, by providing sanitary products, help and support, including 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://www.MelbournePeriodProject.org.au/Facebook>:  
<http://www.facebook.com/PeriodProjectMelbourne>

# Recycle your hard-to-recycle plastics in Somers

Ever wondered how to dispose of those old pens, toothbrushes, dishwasher bottles and caps – that hard plastic that just goes in the bin – in a way that doesn't harm the environment?

Wonder no more! TerraCycle has arrived in Somers.

TerraCycle is a recycling company that specialises in hard-to-recycle materials. They're dedicated to getting rid of waste. Especially waste that can't or shouldn't go into household bins.

Local households can now access this innovative recycling solution: 9 Garden Square in Somers is a registered drop-off site, where you can now dispose of an array of plastics.

Not only is it free, convenient and environment friendly, it's making the most of community power. The average household can't call on TerraCycle, but by banding together to recycle in larger quantities we get the benefit of this specialised service.

## What you can drop off

1. Writing instruments: pens, felt tips, highlighters, markers, mechanical pencils, correction tape and fluid pots, fountain pens and ink cartridges (NO glue sticks, rubbers, rulers, pencils, scissors)
2. Electric toothbrushes: electric toothbrush handle and base
3. Oral care: toothpaste tubes and caps, floss containers, toothbrushes, electric toothbrush heads
4. Dish and air care: dishwashing liquid bottles (including caps), dishwashing tablets flexible packaging (including snap locks and zip locks), air freshener aerosol cans and spray bottles (including spray and trigger heads), plug-in air fresheners and refills (including plastic outer packaging), clip on car fresheners and refills (including plastic outer packaging)
5. Burt's Bees: Burt's Bees personal care, lip care and skincare packaging.  
\* Packaging need not be washed; however excess product should be removed.

## Where to drop off

Please only drop off the listed products at **9 Garden Square, Somers**. Driveway entry is on Florida Ave, at the Camp Hill Rd end, on the left just before you get to Garden Square. All listed items can be put in the big plastic tub under the carport. There will be posters in situ reminding folk of what can and can't be recycled.

## Like to know more?

You can visit the TerraCycle website [www.terracycle.com](http://www.terracycle.com) for more information about their programs. They have a range of free programs and, if you'd like to take part in others, Lou is happy to investigate. You can contact her at: [lou@heartandcentre.com.au](mailto:lou@heartandcentre.com.au)

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MORNINGTON PENINSULA  
MADE





# Kid's Page



Hello there everyone! How are you doing during iso? I hope you are staying positive and spending quality time with your family. Many of you have probably heard of AGL, but for those who haven't, AGL is a gas and electricity company who are plotting to destroy our pristine environment by building a massive floating gas plant in Western Port Bay. They plan to dump 180 Olympic swimming pools of chlorinated water into our beautiful bay EVERY SINGLE DAY! This is certainly not healthy for any of the poor ocean plants, fish, dolphins, crabs, penguins, seals, birds and whales that call the bay their home. Not to mention our wetlands which are known world wide for their environmental importance. But do AGL care? Just a tiny weeny bit? Obviously not. Perhaps they should invest in healthy, clean, renewable energy like solar, instead of hurting our planet! They are clearly an Awful Greedy Lot with no regard for the future. Join our community and make a stand against AGL and their evil plans – [savewesternport.org](http://savewesternport.org). That's all for now, so until next time,

See ya!

Thanks  
everyone  
For your  
great  
ideas!



***Joke of the Month  
Riddle Time!***

Turn me on my side and i am

**EVERYTHING**

Cut me in half and i am

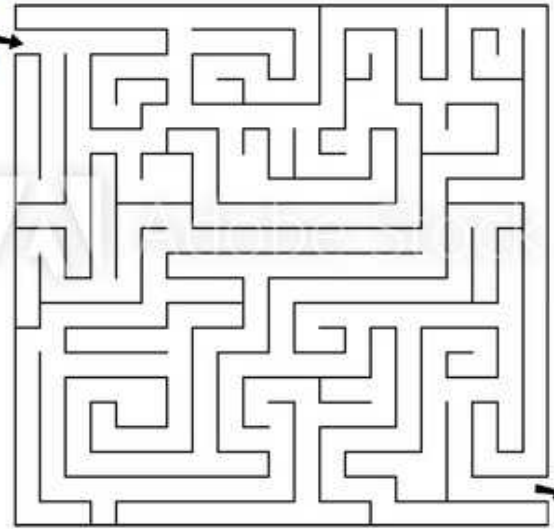
**NOTHING**

*What am i?*

Answer: the number 8



# Puzzle Page



## AGL...Out of here!

By Sebastien Lemire-Guevin

We live here on Westernport Bay  
 They say it is our time to do more than  
 pray  
 To get AGL out of here, let's keep our  
 water clear  
 not pollute our atmosphere  
 The time has come, we need our voices  
 To be heard  
 Like squawking birds we need to be  
 heard  
 The beating of our wings,  
 The beating  
 of hearts  
 It's the time to make a start  
 It's time to make a change  
 For the birds, the wildlife, the fish...  
 For the children  
 Do it now  
 It's not that strange  
 It's the change our planet needs  
 So it's time for you to take the lead  
 Hit AGL out of the league  
 AGL...get out of here!



## Happy Earth Day

T	Q	M	M	E	K	J	I	B	N	T	C	H	N	I
O	N	K	A	A	B	J	Z	T	B	B	L	F	O	R
W	C	E	Y	D	A	Y	X	B	J	C	I	Z	I	S
B	E	I	M	T	B	D	C	Y	N	C	M	E	T	Q
H	R	N	F	N	Q	I	S	O	E	X	A	E	U	A
V	E	C	O	L	O	G	Y	L	M	H	T	C	L	H
C	A	Z	M	Z	N	R	C	Q	A	P	E	L	L	T
O	M	V	O	E	O	Y	I	B	N	P	O	N	O	R
P	E	R	E	K	C	T	I	V	R	V	Q	S	P	A
O	C	R	D	E	A	T	N	W	N	C	P	W	T	E
C	G	X	R	Y	A	Q	K	G	K	E	C	Y	F	Y
E	R	N	V	T	J	V	Y	Z	W	U	B	B	U	Y
D	M	U	N	O	I	T	A	V	R	E	S	N	O	C
C	J	Z	Y	X	Y	G	R	E	N	E	B	U	Q	V
Y	O	G	L	V	X	P	B	S	A	V	Y	A	Z	I

CLIMATE  
 DAY  
 ENERGY  
 HABITAT  
 RECYCLE

COMPOST  
 EARTH  
 ENVIRONMENT  
 OZONE

CONSERVATION  
 ECOLOGY  
 GREEN  
 POLLUTION



## Balnarring Fire Brigade News

With Spring in the air, along with Coronavirus, it's been a frustrating few months not being able to get on with the many tasks the brigade has to do. Despite the restrictions, the brigade has attended a pole fire caused by a recent storm, a structure - cooking fire in Somers and the first grass and scrub fire at Main Ridge since the last Fire Brigade News. Little damage occurred at these incidents.

As the weather improves, enabling an extension of outdoor activities, this News highlights a broad range of farm fire safety practices in the lead-up to the approaching fire season.

### 1. Personal Safety during a Bushfire

Your safety is the first priority in any bushfire situation. When out and about on your property, you are at risk of death from exposure to radiant heat. Store in your farm vehicle a set of protective clothing such as overalls, gloves, hat and goggles. A fire extinguisher or knapsack will also come in handy if caught in a fire situation.

Develop a Plan that identifies cleared areas well away from heavily vegetated \ forested high risk zones. Mark safe travel routes and gateways leading to low risk areas such as a ploughed or heavily grazed paddock, a fine fuel reduced lane way or stock yards where you can shelter in a stationary vehicle until the fire has passed and smoke has cleared. Avoid water tanks and small dams as their water levels vary during the summer. As circumstances change on your farm, amend the Plan accordingly.

### 2. Preventing Haystack Fires

Our incident records show very few attendances at haystack fires over the past couple of years, so 'Well done, farmers!' and thanks for your efforts in effective fodder management.

This guide briefly explains some good farming techniques to prevent and deal with haystack fires. Signs of heating hay include: steam, condensation under roofs, charred and mouldy bales, unusual odours, sagging stacks and hot probes. Haystack fires can be minimized by baling hay at the correct moisture content level, separating damp bales from the stack, and protecting the stack from water, like rain, leaking roofs, spouts and runoff. Limit the size and construction of stacks to permit heat and moisture to escape.

External ignition sources comprise adjacent parked vehicles and machinery, embers from nearby burn offs, and sparks from metal cutting, grinding and welding. If possible, locate stacks well inside your property to prevent suspicious ignitions. Should these unfortunately occur, preserve the scene for fire investigation purposes. Try not to disturb pieces of evidence, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant.



Your hay is a valuable asset worth protecting, so create several stacks around your property, each surrounded by a wide fire break to prevent a fire burning into or away from your stack.

Heating hay is a real and dangerous situation. Stay safe and call the fire brigade on triple zero, 000, in the first instance to assist with pulling the stack apart. Equipment and water must be readily available to quell any sudden flare ups. It is extremely treacherous to walk \ crawl across the bales as internal combustion may cause them to collapse, resulting in entrapment.

### 3. Machinery and Equipment

Most farms use a wide variety of machines and equipment and nearly all are capable of starting a fire if not properly maintained, serviced and used correctly.

Check and clean machinery thoroughly before using for the first time in a season. Fit harvesters and large machines with an appropriate fire extinguisher \ knapsack - fully charged, and a shovel. Cease operations such as harvesting, metal welding, cutting and grinding and slashing on hot windy days. Regularly check machinery for straw or grass accumulation around moving parts and catalytic converters and overheating bearings.

Invest in a dedicated property fire truck ensuring workers know how to operate its associated equipment. Set up a quick fill pump trailer and fill points at large water sources around your property. Both units require staff training and testing prior to each summer season.

### 4. Stay Informed and Monitor Local Weather Conditions

Check the VicEmergency App for up-to-date Fire Danger Rating and Total Fire Ban information, as well as warnings and the locations of current fires in your area. Monitor local weather conditions and forecasts via the Bureau of Meteorology App particularly for severe wind warnings.

For each topic in this News edition, more detailed information is available from the CFA website and agricultural agencies, or contact the brigade on email, [BalnarringCFA@bigpond.com](mailto:BalnarringCFA@bigpond.com) or phone 5983 5379.

How about planning for your property summer cleanup program? With time on your side during this COVID-19 stay at home period, put this to good use. There is plenty of practical information available to assist you with this project by contacting the brigade.




# Open Air Burning Regulations

## October 2020 only

The Mornington Peninsula Shire Open Air Burning Local Law regulates burning off outside of restrictions have been removed to enable landowners to burn off for fire prevention purposes. During the month of October 2020 some open air burning restrictions have been removed to enable landowners to burn off for fire prevention purposes.

### I am on land of less than 1,500 square metres, can I burn off?

Yes, Open Air Burning is permitted only on Fridays and Saturdays between 9am and 4pm on land between 500 and 1500 square metres, provided that:

- your property is within the Mornington Peninsula Shire Bushfire Prone Area. Visit:  
 [mapshare.vic.gov.au/vicplan](https://mapshare.vic.gov.au/vicplan).
- for the purposes of fire prevention
- no more than 1 cubic metre of vegetation is burnt at any one time
- the fire is not within 10 metres of any neighbouring dwelling
- the General Fire Safety Provisions are followed at all times.

### I am on land of more than 1,500 square metres, can I burn off?

Yes, burn off is permitted as long as the fire is lit/remaining lit only on a Friday or a Saturday and not before 9am or after 4pm, provided that:

- no more than 10 cubic metres of vegetation is burnt at any one time
- the fire is not within 10 metres of any neighbouring dwelling
- the fire is lit or allowed to remain alight in accordance with Clause 61 – General Provisions


### I am on land of more than 40,000 square metres, can I burn off? (Bushfire Prone Area does not apply)

Yes, Open Air Burning is permitted provided that:

- no more than 100 cubic metres (e.g. 5m wide x 5m long x 4m high) of vegetation is burnt at any one time
- the fire is not within 100 metres of any neighbouring dwelling
- the fire is lit or allowed to remain alight in accordance with clause 61 – General Provisions.

### What are the General Fire Safety Provisions when I am burning off?

The following provisions must be followed, regardless of land size:

- Give notice to adjoining landowners/occupiers 24 hours prior to the burn
- Call at least two hours prior to the burn to log your fire with the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority  
 1800 668 511
- Establish a fire break of no less than 3 metres cleared of all flammable material
- Ensure the fire is supervised by an adult at all times
- Ensure there is sufficient fire protection equipment available on site at all times
- Ensure the vegetation to be burnt is dead and dry prior to lighting (no green waste)
- Ensure at the site of the fire, the wind speed does not exceed 20 kilometres per hour

For more information visit

 [mornpen.vic.gov.au/openairburning](https://mornpen.vic.gov.au/openairburning)

Coronavirus has had a significant impact on all of us, please consider the potential impacts of smoke on your neighbours if you must burn off or have no alternative to remove vegetation.

For more information about the Fire Prevention Program contact the Environment Protection Unit:

 5950 1050



## **Rain Hayne & Shine Farmyard, Balnarring**

We plan (subject to Government directions) to reopen the farm for the Summer Holidays commencing on 26<sup>th</sup> December and re-commence Mobile Farm visits for small groups in November.

Lock down has seen us work hard on the farm infrastructure so we can offer an improved experience to our visitors.

Spring has arrived so we have some beautiful lambs and goat kids. Hoping for emu chicks soon and piglets.

All the animals miss their visitors and Humphrey the donkey says a loud "Hee haw" to everyone and Charlie the cocky says "Hello". Star, one of our riding ponies, is on loan to our grandchildren and keeping fit for when reopening occurs.



*Free-ranging sheep  
mowing the lawn  
while the farm is closed.*





*Cute baby twin angora goats*



*Motherly Love*



## ART ATTACK - PROGRESSIVE ART

Our innovative Art Teacher Phil has been keeping some of his students busy through this challenging time.

They have been creating pieces of art by multiple artistes adding their layer to them progressively (much like a progressive dinner) and then contactlessly handing the work onto the next artist to add their interpretation completion. A novel idea hey?

Progressive Group Painting No: 5, by our wonderful Art Tutor Philip Philippou together with these talented ladies - Marilyn Robertson - top image, Sandy Harris - 2nd image, Sandy Chadwick - 3rd image, Pam Marshall - 4th image. Love this piece.







### SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT



Hey kids (and big kids) Smiley the Snake is feeling empty on our fence at Cribby Community House.

To fill Smiley up, just for fun, when you next plan to go out for a walk, on a bright strip of material, write (with a permanent marker) a short positive or thank you message. Then tie it to the fence in Smiley Snake's body.

A photo will be taken every so often to go on Facebook, so you can see Smiley fill up and keep everyone smiling.

### MASK FREE EVENTS

**VIRTUAL HIGH TEA** - Sadly we cannot have our annual Senior's High Tea this year. Sponsorship from the Hastings and District Community Bendigo Bank has enabled us to give out High Tea goodie bags to those who registered. Numbers were limited so if you have missed out, you can still attend our virtual high tea with your other half or a friend and your favourite cuppa & munchies. The 'Virtual High Tea' is on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 10:30am via Zoom.



**CAFÉ CHAT COVID STYLE** - Sue & I have been missing you all so much that we've decided to try a virtual café chat. It will be on Monday mornings at 11am, give you time for a sleep in. It will be a great time to catch up, have a laugh, share ideas and just have fun. It's all about keeping it positive and supporting each other.

If you would like to join in either of these events, phone on 59839888 or email [info@cpch.org.au](mailto:info@cpch.org.au) to get the link to join us. You will need to have the internet to join us either on your computer, or mobile phone or device.

**TERM 4 PROGRAM** - At the moment we are unable to open but when we can we will be easing in. To start off with our groups & classes will only be meeting to catch up with a cuppa until it is safe to resume as usual. Of course numbers will be limited and it will all depend on the COVID restrictions at that stage.

**MARKET** - We are unable to resume the market at this stage but plans are afoot to do our November & December market very differently, so watch our Facebook page for updates, hopefully very soon.



***Due to the coronavirus, please visit our Facebook page (Crib Point Community Market) for updates and event information.***

## **Crib Point Community Market – 2020 calendar**

Crib Point Community Market is held on the second Saturday of the Month, 9am – 1pm.

Each Market is held at Crib Point Community House at 7 Park Street, Crib Point.

Visit our website at <http://www.cpch.org.au/> or visit our Facebook page for updates.

Our markets are “not-for-profit” and all proceeds from the market/stall holder fees go to the Crib Point CFA and Crib Point Community House, which are returned to the local community through their various programs and services.

The spirit of Crib Point Community Market is one of community support and inclusion, promoting locally produced hand-crafted products, local produce, new and up-cycled products in a relaxed and social setting.

<b>2020</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each Month</b>
January	Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>
February	Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>
March	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>
April	Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>
May	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>
June	Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>
July	Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>
August	Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>
September	Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup>
October	Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup>
November	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>
December	Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup>



## **BALNARRING MEN'S PROBUS CLUB**

Our Club was founded thirty-five years ago to provide opportunities for retired and semi-retired local men to engage in a variety of activities in a congenial environment which encourages fellowship and fun.

Under normal circumstances, we meet at Balnarring Hall on the last Friday morning of each month (excluding December) commencing at 9:30 am.

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

The Club also hosts a variety of activities including book groups, chess, cycling, money matters (investment), gardening, outings and a renowned choir.

After a brief period when we were cautiously hoping to resume a more normal program of activities, these have now been put on hold once again.

However we have taken the opportunity to use modern technology to maintain contact with our members.

We have initiated a regular contact program to ensure that our members' welfare is being addressed.

In addition, a number of our interest groups have been holding virtual meetings using Zoom. These have included photography, investment and book groups which are continuing to provide our members with some much needed contact and stimulation.

We are looking forward to a resumption of our full program as soon as the latest restrictions are lifted.

New members are always welcomed. 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.

# THE COAST

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- 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



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## Pat The Mac reflections : The size of our Solar System.

This edition, no computer article but a reflection on our position in the universe. In fact we won't go that far, we will limit ourselves to the physical scale of just our solar system — only the Sun, its planets and debris, including our tiny island of life inside this solar system.

You may remember from your school years that the distance between our Sun and the Earth is labelled one Astronomical Unit (AU). Now imagine that we scale our solar system using  $1 \text{ AU} = 1 \text{ centimetre}$ . May I suggest that you draw this out on paper to help represent it in your mind. You will need to tape several sheets of paper together then start drawing : with the edge of the Sun on the left hand side of the paper, draw to its right a dot, 1 centimetre away, that represents the Earth. Mercury and Venus are closer to the Sun at 0.4 centimetre and 0.7 centimetre. Heading onward from Earth, we draw Mars at 1.5 centimetres, the main asteroid belt centred around 2.5 centimetres, Jupiter at 5 centimetres, Saturn at 9.5 centimetres, Uranus at 19 centimetres, and Neptune at 30 centimetres. Pluto can be placed at 40 centimetres.

The outer solar system is sparse, consisting of the Kuiper Belt region from 30 to 50 centimetres from the Sun, and you can even indicate some of the more interesting space rocks in the area to keep Pluto company — Haumea at 40 centimetres, Makemake at 45 centimetres, and Eris at 60 centimetres. Now you can finish by indicating the region of the scattered disk, a sparse body of energetically “spun up” icy asteroids, between 50 and 100 centimetres from the Sun. This gives you a complete scale model of our solar system in a region spanning 1 meter across.

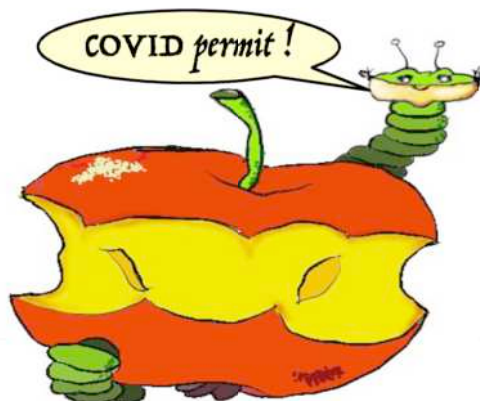
Now appreciate that on this scale, the inner edge of the Oort Cloud, the vast halo of 2 trillion comets on the solar system's perimeter, is 100 meters farther away than the edge of your diagram. The outer edge of the Oort Cloud, on this scale, is 1,000 metres away.

Yet, as human astronaut-explorers, we only have traveled as far away as the Moon, about  $1/389 \text{ AU}$ . On our scale  $1/389 \text{ centimetre}$  from Earth, which on this scale is about the size of a human red blood cell. That distance is imperceptibly close to our planet's “dot” on our scale drawing.

And yet the distances to the nearest stars are larger than our imagined scale of the Oort Cloud. And then come perhaps 400 billion stars scattered across the bright disk of our Milky Way Galaxy, 150,000 light-years across, and then a hundred billion more galaxies spread across a vast cosmos.

Next time you're out under the stars, look up and immerse yourself in the vastness of the universe. It is such a humbling experience for we humans I think.

If you wish to share your thoughts on this topic, use the details below to contact me  
**Pat The Mac** on 0419 330 497 or by email via [pat@patthemacs.com](mailto:pat@patthemacs.com)



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# Pat the Mac

**M** 0419 330 497

**E** [pat@patthemacs.com](mailto:pat@patthemacs.com)

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I'm sad to report that there have been many robberies in Balnarring. In the last week of September several cars were raided and one car was stolen in the Balnarring Beach Road area. Unfortunately an intruder entered a house to get car keys. Cars and utes are often targeted for tools, wallets, and as a getaway vehicle.

This has been happening for several years and is happening more and more frequently. With an under-resourced Police station locally, it's time for us, the community to consider how we can unite to protect ourselves.

Should we all be using old fashioned car steering locks? Hiding our car keys? Putting trackers on our cars?

Should we lobby council to put cameras on street light poles? Organise community funded patrols?

We'd love to hear all your ideas on how we can unite and return to the safe Balnarring that we all know and love.

Send your ideas to [info@bridgemag.com.au](mailto:info@bridgemag.com.au) and we'll publish them in the next edition. - Ali

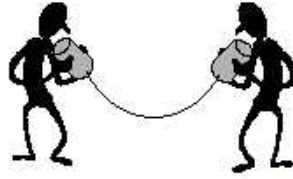
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Email: [chrisnewelltherapy@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisnewelltherapy@hotmail.com)



## SAVE BALNARRING'S TREES

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

Save Balnarring's Trees

Public group

About

Discussion

Chats

Announcements

Members

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## Combined Probus Club of Balnarring

With regret, due to the coronavirus, the meetings and Interest Groups of the Combined Probus Club of Balnarring will cease as of now.

This will be reviewed on a monthly basis.

Please contact Patsy Wilson on 5983 9949 or 0419 009 784

Email [grapatwilson@bigpond.com](mailto:grapatwilson@bigpond.com)

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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



## ***Western Port UC Op Shop***

The Western Port UC Op Shop at Crib Point closed on Saturday 18th July and will remain closed until the Coronavirus pandemic subsides to an acceptable level of risk for our volunteers and community.

Thanks to all our volunteers who have participated in the last few weeks of trading and all our wonderful donors who have contributed to our supply of good quality clothing and household items.

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

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

**See notice above!**

**OPEN TIMES:  
SEE NOTICE  
ABOVE**



## **BALNARRING LADIES PROBUS**

**Due to the Coronavirus, meetings are suspended until further notice.**

Interested or semi-retired lady looking for good company and interesting activities,  
please come along to Balnarring Ladies Probud.

We have Stimulating Speakers, Book Reviews, Café Group, Craft Group, Films,  
Walking Group, Convivial Luncheons, Outings, and more as well as a  
regular monthly Newsletter to keep you up to date.

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

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

## **Printing for 30 years on the Peninsula and still going strong**



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## 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.**

It looks as if we're all back to square one with isolation.  
So sadly we have to cancel the working bee on Balnarring Beach  
for at least August.  
But let's be positive and pencil in the October Working Bee for the 25<sup>th</sup> October  
and then if we're lucky, the 29<sup>th</sup> November. Let's hope for the best!  
Cheerio and stay well.

Rupert Steiner for the Balnarring Beach Foreshore Working Bee

If you can make it please bring **gloves** and wear **sturdy footwear**.  
We hope to see many of you there.  
Many thanks to all who attend.

## Balnarring Muso Night ONLINE!



*Musos is continuing to go live every Wednesday night on our Facebook page. We're getting many new musos joining in and it's still great fun for everyone involved.*

Muso's won't be going back to the hall until it is safe to have everyone there sharing kitchen facilities, tables, chairs and toilets - Ed



# NO

# AGL gas



No AGL Gas



#savewesternport

[savewesternport.org](http://savewesternport.org)



KEEP

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KOALiTY

# THE BRIDGE

## 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](mailto: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 10<sup>th</sup> (February/March issue)**

**March 10<sup>th</sup> (April/May issue)**

**May 10<sup>th</sup> (June/July issue)**

**July 10<sup>th</sup> (August/September issue)**

**September 10<sup>th</sup> (October/November issue)**

**November 10<sup>th</sup> (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.

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