



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 60 April – May 2020

www.bridgemag.com.au



Rosy Hyacinth Orchids spotted by the wonderful Friends of Daangean.



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Hello Everyone!

We trust you're all well and safe in this new (and hopefully temporary) way of living in the world...

This edition of the Bridge has been put together as coronavirus news has unfolded, so public events have been postponed or cancelled. At the same time, new and pertinent articles came through, so thank you everyone for your contributions.

We decided to go to a digital-only format for this edition to eliminate any risk that sharing paper copies in the community might have. Please forward this to anyone you can think of – especially anyone who might be isolated and looking to connect with community at this time.

As we are digital-only our reach might not be as far as usual, and our costs are reduced, there will be no charge for advertisers for this edition or the next one – please feel free to advertise your business for free with us during the pandemic. Equally, we'd love to hear all your ideas and poems, see your drawings and other artwork in the next edition. Let's uplift each other 😊

Please take care and reach out if there's anything you need.

Jen and Ali xo

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

CONTENTS

Birthdays/Angel Card	3
How to Contribute	back page

The Bridge Magazine
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Content:
Our wonderful community! You!

Happy Birthday!

April

2nd Elizabeth Shannon
4th Kerry Fortuyn
6th Jenny Taylor
9th Kirra DiConza
10th Marina McLean
12th Nick Fenton
12th Elise Cooper
12th Jamie Roach
15th Joey De Backer
17th Eve Whitelaw
17th Rob Westle
19th David Buntine
22nd Michael Gibson
22nd Alex McLean
22nd Mollie Nelson Williams
24th Andrew Dowey
26th Fiona Hammond
29th Jack Gosling



May

3rd Barb Rimington
3rd Sarah Toose
3rd Jodee Hopkins
4th Willow Roach
17th Quinnah Heffernan
21st Renae Haylock
21st Peter McLean
27st Gina Tritt Buntine
30th Amy Sayle

To add a name to community birthdays,
email info@bridgemag.com.au

April and May 2020
Inspirational Angel Cards for the Community

Happiness Treasure

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

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

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

Would you like to receive a digital copy of The BRIDGE in your email inbox?

Email info@bridgemag.com.au "subscribe" in the subject line.

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

David Gill Red Hill – Ward Councillor

Caring for our Community during Coronavirus

The situation is changing every day:

For the latest advice about the delivery of essential services please contact Council at morn.pen.vic.gov.au or phone 5950 1000.

For Health issues contact the Department of Health and Human Services dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus or if showing symptoms phone the hotline on 1800 675 398

Key points to bear in mind are:

- Protect yourself and others; check neighbours, the vulnerable and the socially isolated.
- Ensuring our community stays connected and receives all needed essential services.
- Please follow hygiene, social distancing and self-isolating advice of the government
- Support local businesses, consider buying online if necessary. Check to see what goods and services are available online or can be ordered and delivered by phone.

Council is preparing home care packages and many council employees are involved in helping to ensure they are delivered to the most in need.

Take care.

Best wishes,
David

Email: david.gill@mornpen.vic.gov.au

Balnarring Preschool

It's hard to believe that Term 1 is already over!

It has been a time of transition for our 3 and 4 year-old groups, starting slowly with fewer hours to now being involved in full sessions. The children have adapted beautifully under the care and guidance of our teaching team, and are excited to see what the year will bring.

New friendships have formed, new routines have been established and expectations have been set to create a safe, welcoming and nurturing learning environment for our children. They have already been introduced to Boon Wurrung perspectives through use of language in everyday conversations, and it is great to hear them referring to Bundjil - wedge tailed eagle; and Waang - black raven, as they chat amongst themselves. They will also remind each other to sit on their moom – bottom – and to be kind to the other bubups – children. We have been given permission to use the language by the elders.

Our first working bee of the year has happened and was a great success, so thank you to Weelam group parents for weeding, building, painting, raking, sweeping and general cleaning. The grounds are looking fantastic and I know our children appreciate it.

For our 4-year old groups, beach/bush kinder is already a highlight of their week. From finding and covering oneself in bush paint from berries; to performing burial ceremonies for penguins who we think may have encountered a not-so-friendly shark; to finding climbing trees and drawing maps in the sand, beach/bush days are an absolute favourite!

We cannot wait to see what Term 2 brings!

Melanie Shannon
Reggie's Mum (Weelam Group)
Balnarring Pre school



Community Spirit Award

Kayne Barton

Kayne epitomises community spirit at the Balnarring Cricket Club.

Kayne is always ready to lend a hand and often without being asked. Kayne covers all things cricket from being on the committee, marking the lines on the ground, assisting with merchandise and social media to cooking the barbeque.

Kayne was a valued and committed member of the Norm Jardine U18 Shield team this season, always supporting and encouraging his team mates. Kayne is a positive, caring young man, thoughtful of others and a very deserving recipient of the community spirit award.

Greg Hood
Branch Manager
March 2020



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Community Spirit Award

Charlie Robinson-Cay

Charlie has a real passion for cricket and is a valued member of the Balnarring Cricket Club.

Charlie generously offered to take on the role of coaching an under 12 team this season. Charlie showed great commitment and leadership, running weekly training, helping set up the ground on game day, umpiring and mentoring the kids.

Congratulations on your leadership and community spirit Charlie.

Greg Hood
Branch Manager
March 2020

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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

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)

Electric toothbrushes: electric toothbrush handle and base

Oral care: toothpaste tubes and caps, floss containers, toothbrushes, electric toothbrush heads

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)

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 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

THIS YEAR MOTHER'S DAY CLASSIC IS GOING VIRTUAL.

Thank you to
our community
for helping us to
raise **\$18,000**
in 2019.

HAVE FUN AND GET ACTIVE FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

The Mother's Day Classic Virtual 2020 event has now launched!

*In light of the WHO's pandemic declaration and the government ban on mass public gatherings of more than 500 people, the Mother's Day Classic Foundation has made the decision that all MDC events in 2020 will be held **virtually** rather than physically.*

The MDC Virtual 2020 program will include inspiring community and fundraising content, fun photo competitions, fitness videos and dancing competitions. There will be a series of exclusive wellness tips and tutorials, pilates and yoga classes, sponsor prizes and giveaways and a fun kids activity zone – something for everyone! You'll be part of a virtual online community, ensuring that the Mother's Day Classic family remains connected in these uncertain times. We challenge participants to walk or run 4km - anytime, anywhere, in your living room, at the local park or even in your backyard - on or before Mother's Day 2020.

For more information and registration go to www.mothersdayclassic.com.au

Follow us on Facebook: Balnarring/Somers Mother's Day Classic



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Helpful Information about Coronavirus – COVID-19 from Dr Tiv, Balnarring Dental Centre

Let me preface this by saying that I'm not a medical GP and that is where the best advice will come from regarding the Coronavirus. My intention for writing this is that because my Balnarring community has come to my aid on numerous occasions, I feel a debt to help inform and protect you all in these trying times.

So let's start with some basic facts.

What is a VIRUS? A virus is a collection of genetic material (DNA or RNA) inside a protein shell. There is some debate as to whether a virus is alive or not. It can mutate and evolve, but it cannot replicate without using other living cells. It is the ultimate trickster – it tricks living cells to make more of the virus.

Why does it matter if a virus is made out of DNA or RNA? Viruses carry their genetic information as either DNA or RNA. DNA is quite stable. It is designed to self-repair. DNA needs to be turned into RNA before it can be made to construct tools for viruses. If a virus is made of RNA, it has already skipped a step and as RNA does not self-repair, the RNA can change and evolve faster. It means that RNA viruses can jump from animals to humans (species to species) faster. Avian flu and Swine flu were both RNA viruses.

What is the Coronavirus? Well the actual name for this virus is 'severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2', abbreviated as SARS-CoV-2. The disease/sickness that it causes is COVID-19. The COVID comes from **CO**rona**VI**rus **D**isease. The number **19** refers to the fact that the disease was first detected in 2019, though the outbreak occurred in 2020. Coronaviruses contain RNA and are spherical. Under a microscope, the viruses appear to be surrounded by a spiky array that looks like a crown (corona), hence the name 'coronavirus'. It uses these spikes to get into living cells, then tricks those cells to make more viruses. Coronaviruses attack the lungs. They don't make you bleed, they don't make you puke, they go straight for your lungs and try and destroy them. This is why we look out for coughing and people that are finding it hard to breathe.

The important message:

The virus can enter your system through your mouth, nose and eyes. It is spread by those with COVID-19 onto surfaces and onto other people. The most likely way you will be infected, is by infecting yourself after touching a contaminated surface.

Can't we all just get the virus and be done with all this? Technically, yes (if you are willing to accept the risk that 2% of our population may not survive which could include your family and friends), but practically the death rate will be higher. This is due to the fact that the health system will be overwhelmed if everyone gets sick at once. In addition, those that have other health issues unrelated to COVID-19 may suffer as there simply will not be enough hospital beds, equipment, machinery and doctors to look after everyone. This is what is happening in Italy at the moment.

Let's break down the areas that transmission can occur so it's easier to prevent contamination:

EYES: Don't touch your eyes. Don't rub them, do not use contacts for a while (wearing glasses may give you slight additional protection), don't use your unwashed hands to get eyelashes out of them. Also consider what makeup you are using and if it could be a source of contamination. Did you stick your finger in the makeup? If so, avoid using that makeup until the pandemic is over. If you cry, don't wipe away your tears with your hands unless you have just washed your hands.

NOSE: Don't touch your nose. Don't pick it (ewhhh!). Definitely don't flick it (double ewhhh!). Don't wipe your nose with your hands – use a tissue instead and immediately dispose of the tissue in a bin.

MOUTH: This is my area of expertise.

- Really, the biggest take home message is don't put your hands or non-washed objects in your mouth AND reduce/eliminate the inflammation in your gums (I'll make a sub-category on this one).
- Don't lick your fingers to turn pages or count money.
- Don't kiss people on the cheek.
- Definitely, don't kiss people on their unwashed cheek then on the mouth.
- Don't chew pens or other objects.
- Put the toilet seat cover/lid down when you flush the toilet (guys, the ladies have won this one – keeping the cover up can transmit the viruses in faeces up to several metres).
- Wash your hands before and after you brush and floss your teeth.

Astute readers may see a pattern here: The source of almost all these potential infection risks is your HANDS! This is why every organisation is telling us to wash our hands and stop shaking hands. As medical professionals we know that most people have a very limited idea of cross infection control (I know this every time I see someone handle money with a gloved hand then proceed to handle food with that same gloved hand - yuck). So by reducing the virus load on your hands, there is a lower risk you will pass the infection into your nose, mouth and eyes. So how do you reduce the bacterial load on your hands efficiently? Wash your hands of course. Some of you may think that hand sanitiser is better, but I hope with a little bit of further education you may see the holes in that thinking.

Remember, how we learnt that viruses are contained in a protein shell? Soap (yes just basic soap) destroys that shell. It doesn't just destroy it – it annihilates it!

What is soap? you ask. I'm glad you asked. It is a simple and amazing chemical compound all at the same time. It's cheap yet very effective at what it does. Soap is a common phrase for what chemists call 'amphiphiles.'

One end of the molecule loves water and the other end loves fats and proteins. So when you use soap (amphiphiles) and water, one end sticks to the virus shell and the other end sticks to water and literally rips those blasted viruses apart! Want to kill viruses?

Then soap and water is your best weapon. Those viruses that are not ripped apart straight away are washed clean off your hands and go down the drain (good riddance). Now, if you're looking out for product labels, the most common soap is 'sodium laureth sulfate' (SLS) - it's a detergent that's often mixed with other chemicals to both clean our hands and not damage our skin. I know SLS gets a bad wrap by some groups, but it is advised to have in your soaps and in your toothpaste during this pandemic. Now the fact is that most people don't wash their hands enough or long enough or thoroughly enough. To wash your hands properly, you need a bit of water first, then soap, then rub all your hands' surfaces for 20 seconds (sing Happy Birthday to yourself or Happy Deathday to the viruses TWICE) before you rinse it all off. During that 20 seconds get the soap everywhere – lather your fingers, thumbs, back of your hands, the webbing of your hand, under your fingernails. Also make mental triggers for you to do it more often – maybe every time you enter or leave a building.

Hand sanitiser is good if you can't get to a sink easily, and it will kill most of the virus on your hands, but it leaves the RNA molecules and destroyed virus particles on your hands. There is a small chance these leftover molecules can still cause illnesses, especially if they build up because you haven't washed your hands in a while. So save hand sanitiser for emergency situations when you can't get to a sink, or before and after you have touched your phone or money, and use soap and water as your primary weapon. So don't pay hundreds of dollars for hand sanitiser – someone is just profiteering from your fear. Also, to make sanitiser work properly after you have rubbed it in for 20 seconds you need to not touch anything for another 20 seconds (that Happy Birthday/Death Day song 4 TIMES).

The other way to reduce the virus load on your hands is to keep them to yourself. This is why, reluctantly I must advise you to stop shaking hands and touching surfaces. Again, the issue is not the hand shaking itself, but the fact that we know that most people don't have the ability to track every single surface their hands have touched before they touch their eyes, mouth or nose. I love hand shaking, it builds human interaction, but for the time being we'll need to hold off. My subconscious fear is that we as a society will start becoming more distant from each other, so my rationale to myself is that when a vaccine comes out, I am 100% starting the handshaking trend again!

What are the sources of Virus that people don't think about?

PHONES: We use our phones all the time and in a lot of situations (I'm sure a lot of you use it in the bathroom and in bed). So these handy dandy little devices are loaded with bacteria and viruses. You should really wash your hands every time you use your phone or find a way to sanitise it.

This is a scary thought as research has shown people touch their phones hundreds of times a day. So, the best advice is to limit the number of times you check your phone. It's like asking people to cut their right hand off, but it really is a hotspot for virus and bacteria.

MONEY: Everyone loves money, but think of how many times it has passed from person to person. How many people didn't wash their hands before they handled it? How many people licked their finger before counting the money? Money (both notes and coins) are a hotbed of bacteria and viruses. You **MUST** wash your hands after you touch money – no questions or arguments on that one. Maybe start using your debit cards more.

FINGERNAILS: Sorry ladies (and gentlemen), but the area under fingernails hardly ever gets washed and can be a safe haven for viruses to hang out. Then when you make food for your family and loved ones, you are spreading the virus to them and contaminating them. I know it's hard to consider, but it may be time to trim those nails shorter so they can be scrubbed properly. If you are keen on still having them, then using a special brush to clean under them will help somewhat, but not completely.

Now if you are a nail biter, this is a great time to stop the habit – it may save your life or the life of a loved one. Again, if you insist you must bite your nails, definitely wash them properly first. While you're at it, maybe you could salt and pepper them too for some added flavour 🐼.

MAKEUP: There are several lip balms and makeups that require you to dip your finger into a jar and then apply it to your face and lips. Avoid these for now at all costs. Unless you have washed your hands every time you use them, they will also be a hotbed of bacteria and viruses. You will then be applying them directly to your lips. Rather, use lip balms that come in sticks so you don't need to touch the balm itself. Same with other makeup. If you are in a pinch, we have a small stock of natural SPF lip balm that we will hand out complimentary at the Balnarring Dental Centre.

MASKS: This is a hot topic. Masks are not good at protecting healthy people. Why? you ask. It's because most people aren't trained on cross-infection control and proper use of masks. Most people with masks will end up contaminating themselves with them. It's just like the American statistic that most gun-related shootings are to the gun owner themselves. Masks will collect viruses and then you will bring them home and contaminate yourself and family with them. There are two sides to masks and there is a high chance you will cross contaminate and increase your chances of infection. The best advice I can give you, is that a mask is safest when given to a sick person to contain the virus within the mask. If the person is already sick it doesn't matter what side they touch, as long as they don't leave the mask lying around, there will be minimal harm. So masks should be best left to professionals and to sick people. We are struggling with a shortage of masks at the moment. Their prices have increased almost 10,000%. It's crazy out there! What's even crazier, is that the majority of people who buy them for self-use, will cause themselves more harm.

Even through this trying time, we at the Balnarring Dental Centre will try our best to help our community. If you are sick or have a sick family member at home we will give you a mask free of charge so you can limit the distribution of the virus. This may be limited due to our resources and the quantities we have available, but if we can, we will. The best thing to do is to e-mail or send us a message on Facebook and we will organise a time to meet you in the car park to provide this service.

Conversely, if you have masks that you have bought and want to donate them to us for distribution then we can effectively do that for you.

GUM DISEASE:

Gum disease and poor oral hygiene increase your risk for certain respiratory diseases such as pneumonia and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Gum disease also leaves open wounds and inflammation in the mouth that can increase chance of infection.

Research has shown that respiratory diseases are high in those with silent gum disease.

We are offering complimentary screenings for gum disease with every dental check-up at the Balnarring Dental Centre so you can reduce your risks for respiratory diseases, particularly during this pandemic. Flossing daily will help reduce gum disease and don't be afraid if your gums bleed for the first few days while flossing. This inflammatory bleeding should stop with continuous flossing. It is important you have the right flossing technique and if you have any questions or queries or would like to be shown how to floss correctly, we would be happy to show you during your visit. As mentioned previously, also ensure you wash your hands with soap before and after flossing/brushing your teeth.

VACCINATIONS:

What about vaccines? you ask. Well, that is an interesting question. To anyone who was trying to talk people out of vaccination, this is what the result would be. This is the fear and devastation that would occur with ALL viruses if everyone stopped getting vaccinations. It's terrifying, isn't it? I personally get vaccinated for everything. I would also encourage as many people as possible to get vaccinated for the flu this year as well. It will have limited effect on the coronavirus but what it will do is reduce the extra burden on the already stretched health care system so they don't need to deal with flu sufferers as well.

It will reduce the amount of false positive isolations for those that get sick with the common flu. It may also help save your life and your loved ones as the flu has been associated with plenty of deaths itself. A vaccine for SARS-CoV-2 may take up to 18 months before being available. I am hoping it'll be much sooner, but we need to plan for the worst case scenario. At the moment we need to do all we can so that our health care system does not get overwhelmed. If it does, the young, the elderly and everyone in-between will see the real impact of this virus.

So what is the TL:DR? (TL:DR is an internet phrase that means “Too Long: Didn’t Read” and asks for a summary)

- (1) Do not touch your nose, mouth, or eyes
- (2) Phones, money, makeup and long nails are cesspools of viruses and bacteria
- (3) Improper use of masks in healthy people can increase their chance of infection. If someone is sick, they should be isolated and wear a mask to reduce spread
- (4) Gum disease leaves open wounds and inflammation in the mouth that can increase the chance of infection. Research has shown that respiratory diseases are high in those people with silent gum disease
- (5) The Balnarring Dental Centre will help the community in any way we can. We have enacted screening processes with our staff and patients to keep everyone as safe as possible. We will also distribute masks and other supplies, if we have them, to our patients.

HAPPY DEATHDAY SONG – Lyrics

*(it makes me feel good singing this as
I wash my hands)*

Happy death day to you,
Happy death day to you,
Happy death day dear blasted Coronavirus
Happy death day to you (good riddance)!
(Sing this twice while you wash your hands)

Dr Tiv

Balnarring Dental Centre

Tel: 5983 5348

19 Balnarring Rd, Balnarring

www.balnarringdentist.com.au



**** Please pass this on to anyone you know who may be interested**

Today I met Ed. He wants to back and support setting up NOW, before we are in COVID lockdown, a network / group of people locally to support each other. Firstly by setting up a register of skills / talent (eg admin, communication, IT, connections, medical, whatever) which can then look to sharing surplus of goods and services, providing supplies, even in house triage of medical concerns of those living within this community.

To register an interest or talent, please email
Balnarringregisteroftalent@gmail.com

***“Gratitude turns what we have into enough.”
– Aesop***

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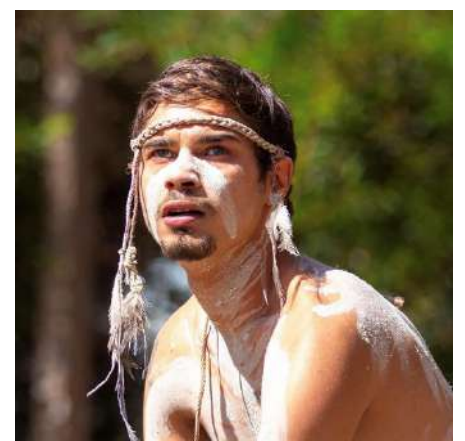
Under difficult times the festival went ahead. The committee thanks the community, performers and presenters for their participation.



The crowd enthusiastically explored the workshops, enjoying conversations and sharing the experience. N'Arwee't Carolyn Briggs welcomed guests to Boon Wurrung Country and explained the significance of a smoking ceremony. John Wayne Parsons sang N'Arwee't onto the stage singing a song in language.

Then N'Arwee't launched Barraeemal, the second of her stories illustrated by the children at Balnarring Preschool, copies of the book will be available from the preschool in April for \$30.

The entertainment continued with Robbie Bundle, Brett Lee, Cultural Evolves (Brent),



Indigenous Hip Hop Project, Carissa Watts, and Benny Walker, Lauren Sheree, Marty Williams, and Key Hoo.



This year we welcomed Funky Farm to the festival. Children had the opportunity to hold snakes, and pat a wombat while learning about the native wildlife.

Jim displayed his nesting boxes while the children heard a story written by Landcare about the importance of old tree hollows and nesting boxes.

Lionel was as popular as ever as he shared his knowledge of the plants and took people through a yadaki meditation.



Mandy shared her knowledge of the marine environment with small groups of people and Reade cooked up some weeds while sharing his knowledge.

Many children burnt or painted patterns into a boomerang with Mick Harding or the Willum Warrain crew. Nola had a big crowd weaving with grasses.



Baluk Arts shared some ochre painting opportunities and taught people how to make feather flowers and Sharon from Cooee Café, had some delicious sweets for people to make and sample, some of which were made with bush foods such as lemon myrtle.



The children were kept busy searching for waang and making a Boon Wurrung word from the letters they collected. They whittled clap sticks, and created with clay and natural items. Sticks were added to Bundjil's nest that contained inspirational messages to the land and the children. The Connies once again shared stories and humour with the children. Parks Victoria set up a very interesting display of animals and shared their knowledge.



In the wellbeing area Uma ran an intimate yoga session.

On Sunday Jacara ran a Wayapa session before we all enjoyed a delicious breakfast.



Thank you to the hard-working committee and volunteers who made the festival run so smoothly.



Thank you to the following sponsors for their financial support: Victorian Government Multi-cultural event funding, Bendigo Bank, Mornington Peninsula Shire, Hillview Quarries, Blue Scope, Bundjil Nest Project, Balnarring Races and Bittern Market.



***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.

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



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mornington peninsula qigong

One on one sessions available

**Thomas Hoelzer 0429373067
mornpenqigong@gmail.com**

qigong

Chi Kung

Ch'i Kung

Qi Gong

Update from SAVE WESTERNPORT

Save Westernport's members and supporters, like everyone else, are doing our best to adapt to the enormous changes that have suddenly become necessary to protect our collective health. Based on the most recent recommendations, Environment Victoria and SWP decided to postpone the People Sign Rally at Somers Beach on Sunday March 29. Our plan to spell out this community's sustained opposition to AGL's gas import terminal in an enormous collective sign will proceed at a later date when it's safe again for everyone.

Rather than congregate in person, we've started holding meetings online with a series of webinars jointly hosted by Save Westernport and Environment Victoria. This has given us an opportunity to all share our ideas and discuss the vision to permanently protect Westernport from the threats of heavy industrialisation and pollution. In the next issue of The Bridge there will be an overview of our Webinar, and in the meantime you can contact us at Savewesternport.org to join us as we learn how to use this platform to increase our community communications and hold meetings in this new way as required.

Council Meet at Balnarring, Illegal Removal of Bush at proposed AGL Site

On March 10 the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council (MPSC) meeting chaired by our new Mayor Sam Hearn was held at Balnarring Community Hall. Members of SWP attended to ask Council about the illegal removal of 2ha of native vegetation adjacent to Crib Point jetty in February 2020. Although the Port of Hastings Development Authority, (PoHDA) claim this was nothing more than routine fire management, the cleared area appears to align exactly with the proposed site of AGL's jetty-side odorisation plant.

Permission for clearing is required under Clause 52.17 (Native Vegetation) of the Council's Planning scheme, however the Shire's Planning representative confirmed that no permits were issued, and inquiries are being made into the illegal removal of the vegetation from the jetty site. SWP is determined to follow up this matter because no one has attempted to explain why vegetation on the north side of the jetty was cleared, but nothing on the south was even touched. The proposed AGL facility would process gas from the Floating Storage Regasification Unit (FSRU) if AGL's gas import proposal ever gains approval. Though the Port continues to deny it, the clearing at the jetty looks like preparation for the AGL proposal, though it has never been approved and is still under environmental assessment in Victoria.

In a previous statement to the community, a representative from "the Port of Hastings Development Authority" (PoHDA) conceded that while the clearing was done by "qualified arborists", the extent of the vegetation removal "exceeded their expectations" and was now being investigated. A resident who watched the removal operation said he'd previously seen echidnas and other native wildlife at the site, adding he was surprised to see that work continued, though heavy rain fell throughout the day. This local resident stated he saw no one from the Port on site to oversee the operation or direct which significant habitat trees should be saved. Almost every living thing on that site was destroyed as a result, in an unnecessary act of destruction that PoHDA now admit was a mistake. Members of Save Westernport and of the local community are saddened and appalled that such environmental vandalism could occur on the boundary of Westernport's

Ramsar site within weeks of the fires that caused the loss of so much native habitat in Victoria and NSW. Even if it was unrelated to the AGL proposal as PoHDA claims, the incident last month reveals how vigilant we must continually be against the knee-jerk overreactions to the season's catastrophic fires, to prevent the indiscriminate and irreversible destruction of native habitat.

Members of SWP have now raised the matter with Nepean MLA Chris Brayne, who reported it to Minister for Ports, Melissa Horne. Although a representative of PoHDA assured us that all necessary permits had been obtained from both DELWP and the Shire prior to the work, their offer to forward us the details has not been upheld, even after contacting PoHDA to remind them. SWP and our supporters call on government bodies charged with the responsibility of managing State land to behave with the accountability and professionalism that their positions require. If PoHDA cannot adequately oversee the routine operations of their maintenance contractors, how can they possibly ask this community to have confidence in them or in their ability to safely manage the potentially dangerous floating gas processing plant that AGL hopes to operate at Crib Point jetty ?

SWP Secretary Receives Mayoral Commendation

During the Council meeting Mayor Hearn and former Mayor Councillor Gill presented local community members with Mayoral Commendations for their work in respective organisations. SWP Secretary Julia Stockigt received a Mayoral Commendation on behalf of Save Westernport "for your grass roots efforts to save the Marine Environment, including the internationally recognised Ramsar listed wetlands of Western Port Bay. Your influence in raising awareness, advocacy and support for our unique environment and encouragement of responsible economic development sets a great example for other to follow. The Council and Community value your dedication."

Julia thanks the Mayor and Councillors for the honour of this commendation from the Shire. It recognises SWP's important work to protect beautiful Westernport Bay and rewards everyone's involvement in the campaign. It should give us all a strong incentive to maintain the rage and continue the good fight, knowing that MPSC is behind us.

Julie Lyford from Groundswell Gloucester

On Tuesday February 18th 2020, Save Westernport members and supporters warmly welcomed Julie Lyford OAM who came to Crib Point to share her experience and encouragement of our NO AGL campaign. Julie is the Chairperson of Groundswell Gloucester, the community group instrumental in stopping AGL's 2016 coal seam gas project (fracking) in Gloucester NSW. In 2019 Julie was also involved in the ground-breaking legal decision against the Rocky Hill coal mine proposal in the Gloucester valley that stopped the mine on environmental grounds. Julie is the former Mayor of Gloucester and was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2015, for services to the Environment, Community and Local Government.

In her presentation Julie told us it took 10 years to stop AGL from "fracking" their precious valley, but the Gloucester community never gave up the fight. Julie's advice was to tell AGL "If they don't drop their dangerous, floating gas factory proposal in this UNESCO Biosphere and Ramsar eco-system in Westernport Bay, you'll do everything in your community's combined power to seriously impact their bottom line and ensure the AGL brand suffers!"

Save Westernport thanks Julie for coming from Gloucester to Crib Point to share her story of fighting dangerous industrial developments.
Visit Groundswell Gloucester here. <https://www.groundswellgloucester.com/>
"The Town That Said No To AGL" details the riveting story of the peoples' battle against government and corporations. Launched at NSW Parliament House in 2018, this great book can be ordered here. <https://thetownthatsaidnotoagl.com/>

"AGL's Proposed Crib Point Import Gas Terminal Shows How Broken Gas Market Is" Says Premier Andrews

SWP welcomed the Premier's recent comments about the absurdity of AGL importing gas, and are happy to see AGL's entire rationale for a gas import terminal—the "imminent gas shortage" that AGL is forever predicting—destroyed by the govt's new plans for a gas reserve in Victoria. By keeping enough gas, everyone will see that AGL's gas import plan is as absurd as it is unnecessary. The government and AGL must dump the project now in favour of action to support the inevitable transition to sustainable energy.
We call on Premier Andrews and Minister Wynne to reject AGL's Environment Effects Statement for an FSRU in Victoria. As soon as the EES goes on display in a month or so, be sure to look online for our resources and information so affected community members can make a meaningful contribution to this important process of environmental review. Although COVID-19 is causing a temporary break to all our in-person protests and actions, Save Westernport is engaging more strongly than ever in the fight against AGL in Westernport. We're exploring new ways to express our outrage together, and to tell AGL they must listen to this community and drop their plans to import gas in our beautiful Bay.

Pic, Save Westernport collects 100s of Pledges to dump AGL at the Red Hill Show in March



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A Book Review by Roger Richards

The Future We Choose

Christiana Figueres and Tom Rivett-Carnac

Manilla Press

***We have two choices of our future. We must choose now.
A practical, optimistic and empowering call to arms.***

Some books have the power to change the world for better or worse. ***The Future We Choose*** is such. Although it was written before the coronavirus pandemic, its message is now loud and clear. It is acclaimed by many, including Richard Branson, Ban Ki-Moon, Naomi Klein and Arnold Schwarzenegger. ***The time to read it is now.***

This book is an outcome of the Paris Climate Agreement 2015. It is full of heart, positivity and solutions. It should ignite the environmental movement in the way that Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* did in 1962. It lights the pathway to achieving the Paris aspirational target of 1.5 deg Celsius, guiding us to a clearly visualised habitable low-emissions destiny instead of an over-heated dystopian death dive to which we are now directed.

In the ***Achievable 2050 Vision***, city temperatures are lowered, abundant trees are planted, and rainwater is collected, supplemented by localised desalination. Zero emission transportation – buses, trains and electric shared cars, have replaced petrol and diesel vehicles. Self-sustaining homes and buildings are electrified by solar, wind or other renewable sources connected to smart grids. Sparingly-used but costly air travel still exists, but is powered by biofuel. Jobs and food production by regenerative farming are local. Governments recognise and accept the scientific causes of climatic events. Refugees are treated humanely, better housed, fed, educated and given jobs. Their health is well managed and clean water is available. Priorities have moved from a mindset of over-consumption, competition and greedy self-interest towards concern for humanity and restoring ecosystems.

To reach this vision we must change our collective mindset by individually looking inside ourselves. We must cast off designed obsolescence and become more connected to nature. We can no longer extract resources boundlessly and discard them wantonly. Three mindsets are deemed fundamental. The authors call them ***Stubborn Optimism, Endless Abundance and Radical Regeneration***. We direct ourselves beyond defeatism to optimism, beyond extraction towards regeneration, beyond linear towards circular economics, beyond individual benefit towards the common good.

Stubborn Optimism mindset is having steadfast confidence in our ability to solve big challenges. It is critical to transformation. Impossible is not a fact. It is an attitude. The recently appointed Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention on Climate

Change, Christina Figueres, was able to get 195 nations to adopt the Paris Agreement unanimously. Optimism had been the starting point of the journey. With optimism we rise to the next level of our abilities.

Endless Abundance mindset requires not allowing competition to dominate decision making. Avoid fear of scarcity where it does not exist. Collaboration not competition is needed when it does. In the face of disasters, members of a community tend to come together - we rise to the occasion. We have dramatically fewer insects, birds and mammals than before and far less forest cover. We are approaching the scientifically established maximum CO2 that the atmosphere can contain – its carbon budget. A fair outcome is not viable as long as we pursue it from a mindset of scarcity.

Radical Regenerative mindset involves the restorative ability of organisms, species and bio-systems when pressure is removed. Nature tends to return to health. Often it needs intentional human intervention, such as adding mushroom spores during reforestation or using innovative coral farming techniques in barrier reefs. We must acknowledge and internalise the fact that our lives and physical survival depend directly on nature. A regenerative mindset must be pursued intentionally and consistently.

The authors give us *Ten Actions* to achieve our vision:

- 1. *Let Go of the Old World***
- 2. *Face Your Grief but Hold a Vision of the Future***
- 3. *Defend the Truth***
- 4. *See Yourself as a Citizen Not as a Consumer***
- 5. *Move Beyond Fossil Fuels***
- 6. *Reforest the Earth***
- 7. *Invest in a Clean Economy***
- 8. *Use Technology Responsibly***
- 9. *Build Gender Equality***
- 10. *Engage in Politics***

Careful reading of this section of the book helps us carry out these actions. It is so vital as climate change is unlike any other challenge that humanity has had to face. We have no template for the kind of political, economic and societal transformation needed now.

What You Can Do Right Now is the final chapter: *Right Now, Today or Tomorrow, This Week, This Month, This Year, Before 2030, Before 2050*. It is so important to follow this pathway. Despair ends. Tactics begin. Share your personal plan. Be consistent. Sustain your efforts for the first year and into the future.

The Future We Choose is available as:-

Hardback -978-1-838-770-82-2, Paperback -978-1-786-580-36-8, ebook – 978-1

Australian Native Plants in Your Garden

Why do I grow Australian plants in my garden? What would be the benefits from you doing the same?

The most important reasons are these: as these plants have evolved on this continent through millennia they have developed symbiotic relationships with insects and other animals. Native plants provide food, shelter and nesting sites for Australian birds, small animals and reptiles, native bees and other beneficial insects. All of them, in turn, pay for these 'services' by assisting in crucial pollination, feeding on harmful pests and even providing varying amounts of fresh manure. In other words, plants depend on the fauna and vice versa.

Virgin stands of native trees, shrubs and grasses are constantly being uprooted to make space for roads and buildings, robbing the native fauna of food and home. This is your opportunity (duty?) to make a modest contribution to restoring the balance - by growing native plants in your garden. The size of your available area does not matter. Even a few pots will do. Just one native plant is better than none.

And there is such a spectacular range of plants to choose from: from low growing, dainty alpine plants to *Eucalyptus regens* – the Mountain Ash. Plus there are ferns, orchids, small shrubs, medium shrubs, plants suitable for hedging and topiary plus a massive variety of trees.

Whatever your concept of a garden may be there will be plants to meet your requirements. If you prefer a formal, clipped display there are innumerable plants that will lend themselves to this treatment. You may wish to plant a cottage garden full of plants that have contrasting shapes, heights, leaf colour. Or a bush-type garden. There is an infinite range of plants for all tastes and requirements. I say infinite because new plants are still being discovered and many hybrids and cultivars continually being engendered.

A persistent myth which I wish to dispel: It is not true that native plants do not require any attention whatsoever. It is true that indigenous species, especially, originating in your immediate neighbourhood or region, have evolved to thrive under local conditions as far as soil, rainfall, seasonal variations etc. are concerned. These will be very easy to cultivate. Others, endemic to other parts of our vast country, have other needs and as gardeners we must meet their demands, if not totally, at least half way. By and large, most native plants are quite adaptable; care taken in preparing the ground before

planting and watering while they settle-in will ensure that they can cope on their own from then on.

One common requirement for most Australian natives is the need for good drainage. Here on the peninsula this is not a problem in most areas; sandy soils provide very good percolation - too good in fact, in some circumstances, allowing water to disappear very quickly from the root area. Whatever your local soil condition, the structure of the soil – from sandy to clay – can be modified to approach the particular plant's requirement.

You will all have seen native plants in the wild, some looking rather scraggy, undernourished, weather-beaten, nibbled-at by insects or wallabies and overall unkempt. These same species can be 'improved', that is, 'cultivated' to conform to our own aesthetic by pruning, shaping, watering and nourishing. This will ensure that your plants will thrive, not merely survive.

At the Australian Plants Society, Mornington Peninsula Group, we meet once a month and exchange notes on our successes or otherwise while cultivating Australian plants. We invite regular speakers, usually experts with long experience plus deep knowledge of all aspects of our flora. Most of us joined the group as beginners. No knowledge is required to be part of our group.

Details of our activities, including a course for gardeners new to natives being held in May, can be found at our website <https://apsmorningtonpeninsula.org>

Ruben Buttigieg

morningtonpeninsula@apsvic.org.au

***Due to the coronavirus, it is unclear if this event will proceed.
For the latest update please see <https://apsmorningtonpeninsula.org>
Secretary 0428 284 974***

Australian Plants Society Mornington Peninsula



Saturday 2 May 2020

10.00am – 3.30pm

Seawinds, Arthurs Seat Park, Purves Rd,

Featuring local growers of native plants

Enquiries to 0428 284 974

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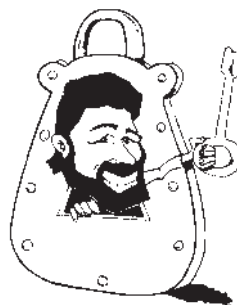
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WESTERNPORT YACHT CLUB 1 FORESHORE RD. BALNARRING BEACH
TIX : TRYBOOKING.COM OR VICKI @ BEAUTIFUL BALNARRING LAUNDRETTE

Update from BPS - It was certainly an abrupt end to our first term together. Balnarring Primary appreciates the kind words and support of all those within its 'learning community' - *students, staff, parents and friends* - as together we work to prepare and plan for the transition to 'remote learning' if needed.

We wish everyone in both our learning and wider community all the very best, stay healthy. We look forward to being back in our school where we can again offer...

Student choice at lunchtime.

The children at **Balnarring Primary School** have plenty of choice when it comes to lunchtime activities.

The expansive grounds provide lots of space for those interested in physical activities. The oval hosts cricket, football and soccer matches; the hard courts are for netball, basketball (*and more cricket!*) and the synthetic turf courts provide for many bat tennis and 4 square competitions!

Some students choose to spend time refining their gymnastic skills on the playground equipment and others play imaginative games in the sandpits or treed areas, where they build an assortment of elaborate cubbies.

Foundation and Year 1 students have their own bus and boat play area with a water pump and movable river bed rocks.

And our central courtyard provides for quieter activities such as looking at one another's footy cards or a bey blade challenge!

In addition to the activities prompted by the outdoor environment staff kindly volunteer to run various lunchtime clubs with a specific focus.

Clubs include the....

- Japanese Club
- Beat Club (*Environment Action Team*)
- Lego Club
- Rock Band
- Speed Stackers Club
- Drawing Club
- Gardening Club
- Choir
- Craft Club
- Chess Club
- Running Club



Sandy O'Meara
Acting Principal,
Balnarring Primary School.



Kid's Page



Hey there! I'm Rylee, your new Bridge journalist for 2020, and I LOVE to read. I play the piano and like doing art and craft. I am a scout and can be quite the drama queen sometimes.

This year I'll attempt to make the kid section as fun as possible, while still giving you plenty of new things to learn! I am also going to try and create a monthly drawing contest. So until we meet again, have fun, and enjoy The Bridge!

Joke of the Month!

What do you call a girl with a
frog on her head?

Answer: Lily!

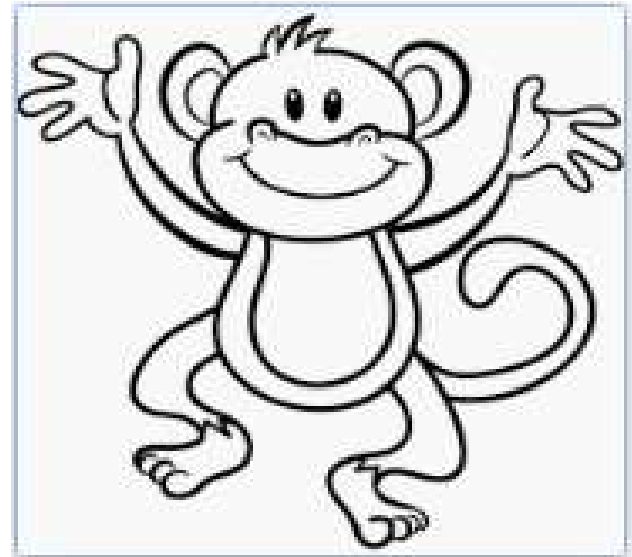
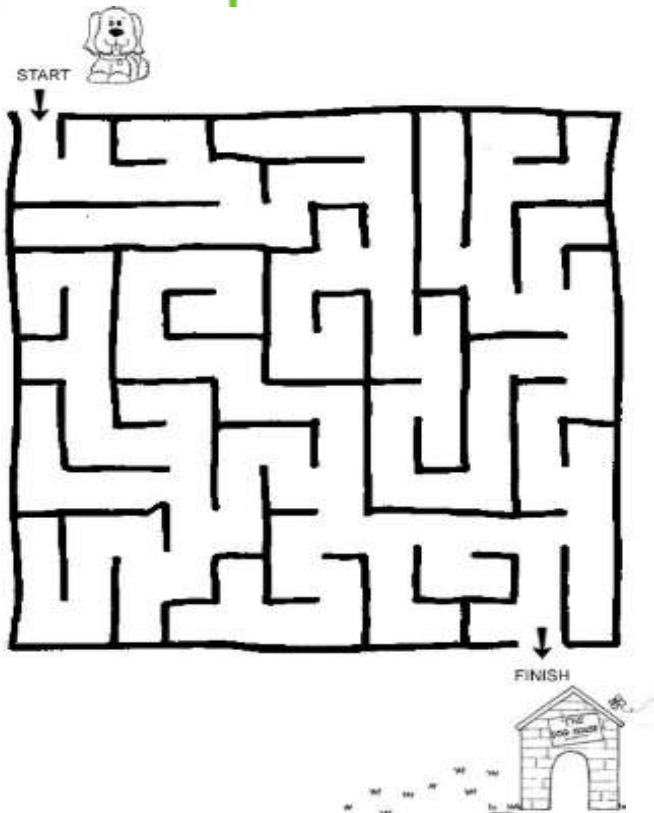




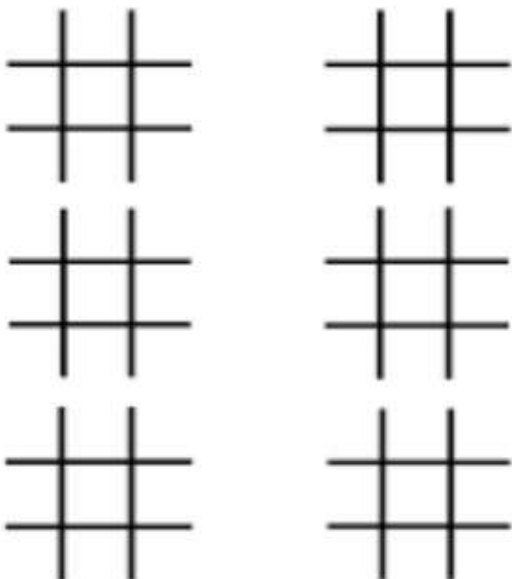
Game page



Colour me in!



TIC TAC TOE



Play with a friend!



Back to School Word Search

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

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BUS
GYM
LUNCH





Balnarring Fire Brigade News

Wow, what a summer of fire! We can now put it behind us; however, spare a thought for the many residents, communities, businesses and agencies so dramatically affected by these devastating fires. They have to commence recovery activities that may last for years as they return to some normality - if that is at all possible. What welcome relief for our fire brigades - well done to all our members.

Thankfully, this part of the state was spared such dire tragedy. So, a big thank you to all who took action to prepare their property to minimise the threat of fire, paid attention to the public fire emergency advice, established a fire plan for their property and planned their family evacuation in a safe and timely manner. Keep this information handy, as no doubt, along with the findings from the fire investigations currently underway, it will help to improve your survival chances for next year.

Now for autumn and winter when fire can be just as threatening and distressing from a different perspective, especially when life and property is involved. This is the safest time to burn off large heaps of accumulated vegetation. With damp, cool conditions, green grass all around and reduced chance of spot fire ignitions, burn offs are easier to safely manage. But remember, the responsibility for your fire rests with you. Importantly, make sure an adult person is in attendance at all times, constantly monitor weather conditions and register your burn off on 1800 668 511.

Let's focus on home fires for the next few paragraphs. With the approaching cooler wintery conditions fire heat is used for a range of household purposes such as personal warmth and comfort, clothes drying and appliance use. The fire risk is ever present in a home. By taking a few simple actions, the risk of fire can be reduced.

First up, make sure there are operational smoke alarms installed in your home. All Victorian residential properties, by law, must have at least one working smoke alarm fitted on each level of the building. Ideally the detector should be located between living areas and bedrooms. Fire Services recommend photoelectric smoke alarms with a 10 year lithium battery in a secure chamber. These smoke alarms should be tested monthly, cleaned annually and the whole unit fully replaced every ten years. If other types of alarms are fitted, change the batteries once a year, preferably at the end of daylight savings.

Other life saving activities include:-

- ✓ prepare a home fire escape plan in consultation with all family members and regularly practice evacuating your home using different scenarios
- ✓ familiarise all family members with the two quickest ways out of every room
- ✓ know how to leave from upstairs if your home is multi-storey
- ✓ practice evacuation - get down low and go - check doors for heat before opening - stop, drop and roll, and call the fire brigade on 000, and
- ✓ establish an agreed safe meeting place outside the home - a driveway entrance or letter box.

The next Balnarring Fire Brigade News will provide some general home fire safety hints.
Don't miss it!

Friends of Daangean

In Woodland Break the FOD team began the new year in February. Everyone knows this is a Leap Year. Somewhere I heard, or read, custom has it that on the 29th it is acceptable for a woman to propose to a man, so taking that as correct I proposed to Jamie amid the pittos (away from his wife's ears of course). He justifiably refused and presented me with his weeding gloves, which I was instructed to return. In days of yore it seems the custom was to present the denied lady a pair of gloves, but she was usually allowed to keep them.



Julie & Jamie resting after the morning toil

The first bush maintenance session for 2020 was well attended with team of eight. Alisson from Parks Vic joined us with her new chainsaw and made a mighty gap in the bigger stuff that was beginning to get beyond

our loppers and hand saws. A large part of the morning was spent scouting around to deal with very badly cut trees that were sprouting many stems. These were either done by contractors not pulling their weight or lax volunteers somewhere down the track. Consequently, in places it didn't appear much had been done. Clusters of pittos at the two and four leaf stage were obvious around the sites where there had been mature fruiting trees. A flowering stand of big gorse bushes was a bit beyond us although the seedlings were fair game, but not without gloves because even when small they still prickle. And a few blackberry plants were also evident.

Some round, pale fungi were in the bush and flowers evident were the tiny Bottle Daisies and Hyacinth Orchids, which were generally towards their final stages. Large Tongue Orchid leaves showed in various places but it will be a long time

before these ones flower judging by the leaf size. In early February two Large Tongue Orchids were flowering on the catch drain bank, and down near the shoreline were Austral Ladies Tresses.



Rosy Hyacinth Orchid

The trek in to the work site is becoming longer so we must be having a positive effect on clearing the bush of unwanted weeds. However, I feel it will be a long time before there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

Except for one occasion the Waterwatch team continued with the monthly water quality testing. We didn't do January as our co-ordinator decided the weather wasn't suitable due to the heavy pall of smoke over the reserves. February 18th Waterwatch day was windy and intermittently raining so after we collected the


water samples we did the testing under cover at Devilbend picnic ground. Not many birds evident on either water bodies; a few distant swans and coots were about, and on Bittern a small number of ducks bobbed around among the coots. Water levels in both dams have dropped but not drastically so. Depending on rainfall it will be interesting to see how levels respond over winter.

For turtle fans the Daangean turtle project - citizen science is off and running. For information on how to become involved you can contact the Daangean turtle project - citizen science coordinator Hansi Wegner at hansiwegner@gmail.com or devilbendfoundation@gmail.com and your details will be passed on. The first nest of the season has successfully hatched with more to come.

Marnie Fitzsimons

Friends of Daangean co-ordinator

marniefitz1@gmail.com



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THE SCHOOL PROJECT/ MELBOURNE PERIOD PROJECT

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

HIGH DEMAND

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

Diaries, notebooks,

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

Thongs, sunglasses, caps and visors, small sunscreen tubes

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

NOTE: MPP are also providing period packs for bushfire Survivors

DELIVER to Barb Rimington (5983 2245)

OR Send your donation to

The School Project, 4/345 Plummer Street, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207

Or donate directly: Melbourne Homeless Collective BSB: 063027, ACC: 10118955 Commonwealth Bank of Australia

For more information contact Barb or check out MPP Website:

<http://www.MelbournePeriodProject.org.au/Facebook>:

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Book Review

Sand Talk by Tyson Yunkaporta

Have you read this book? Is it yet another one telling us about how to redesign the world? How we need to adapt to the new social and economic environment? Not only on climate change -do we need to change every aspect of our society? Not at all. This book just gets you thinking. I hope you like it.

Tyson Yunkaporta uses ***sand talk***, which honours the Aboriginal custom of drawing images on the ground to bring clarity to complexity. Take the big picture of history, education, money, power, bring in indigenous knowledge and be challenged to think differently to save the world. It starts 'Sometimes I wonder if echidnas suffer from the same delusion that many humans have, that their species is the intelligent centre of the universe'. Now that is provocative? Aren't we just that? say all Christians, Moslems and Jews.

I like Tyson and this book right from the start. And what about his community 'Too much work and education, no good, you finish up like brother Ty.' My new 'friend' Ty classifies himself as something of a short haired Gaul (read the book to get the context) sort of semi civilised. Great - along with Greta (my number one goddess) and Elon (my number one god) - he looks like he is shaping up to be my number two God.

Anyway Tyson builds every chapter on oral culture exchanges with diverse people who make him feel uncomfortable. It is a brave book using *umpan* methodology (do I have to explain? - cutting, carving and making), i.e. ***writing***, anyway highly visual. How else can you bring out the challenges we must face? This book purposely does not travel in a straight line.

(Aside - the most stimulating writer I ever read was Henry Miller - he did not travel in a straight line either.)

This book offers Aboriginal cosmology, look for patterns, he talks about sustainability (how I hate how that word is used by real estate agents and politicians.) Let's see what Tyson does with that word. He uses dialogue and reflection in a provocative call from a marginal view point. I hope you want to read this stimulating book. Radical but reasonable -- but you, the reader, have to grapple with solutions; that is what he hopes for. Through Dreaming and songlines we learn that rocks are to be respected.

Roger Richards

Somers

HELLO! If you are self-isolating, I can help.

My name is

.....

I live locally at

.....

My phone number is

.....

If you are self-isolating due to COVID-19 I can help with:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picking up shopping | <input type="checkbox"/> Posting mail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A friendly phone call | <input type="checkbox"/> Urgent supplies |

Just call or text me and I'll do my best to help you (for free!)

Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness. Avoid physical contact (2m distance). Wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep.

#ViralKindness



SAVE BALNARRING'S TREES

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

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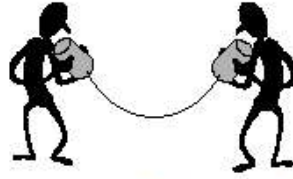


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Combined Probus Club of Balnarring

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 grapattwilson@bigpond.com

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Due to the Coronavirus, opening hours may vary - Ed.

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BALNARRING LADIES PROBUS

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

...ed or semi-retired lady looking for good company and interesting activities,
... along to Balnarring Ladies Probus.
We have Stimulating Speakers, ... Café Group, Craft Group, Films,
Walking Group, Convivial Luncheons, ... 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 **4th Wednesday** of the month
You will be made very welcome.

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

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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 1st Sunday of the month at 10 am at the rotunda next to the Balnarring Beach.

The next 2 working bees are on Sun.

We usually work till 12 noon and enjoy a free cup of coffee or a drink afterwards at the Balnarring Beach shop.

It is always a great opportunity to have a chat.

Paul, our Ranger always has some important work for us to do, be that weeding or planting freshly cleared terrain with new plants. Some of these plants are propagated and raised over many months in our nursery.

If you can make it please bring **gloves** and wear **sturdy footwear**.

We hope to see many of you there.

Cheerio and many thanks to all who attend.

Rupert Steiner, for the Balnarring Beach Foreshore Committee working bee.

Balnarring Muso Night ONLINE!



Muso night online went well with few technical hitches. We had over 200 views so many people were able to enjoy it.

We will be doing it every Wednesday night at 8pm and sharing it on the Balnarring Muso Night Facebook page.

It's a great way to stay in touch
and stay home all at the same time!!

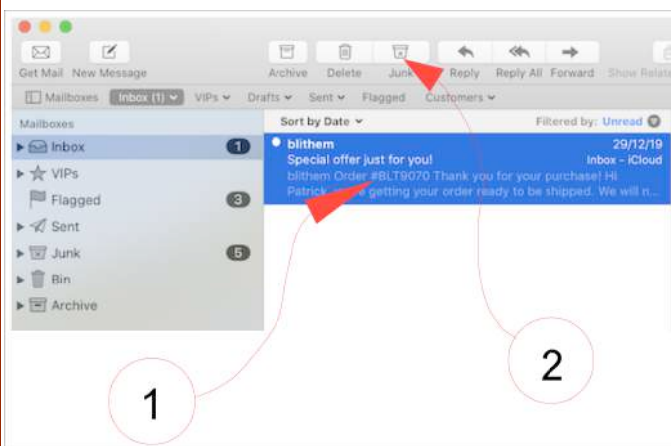
Pat The Mac Tips : Unsubscribe or not?

Today, when you opened your email, you found some news or answers you were expecting... But amongst the emails there maybe a few in which you are not interested whatsoever, unsolicited advertising. They are called SPAM. Very often spams contain an "[unsubscribe](#)" link. You may be tempted to click on that link in the hope this company will stop sending you advertising... And you would be wrong!

If the email pertains to a reputable company that you deal with regularly and you wish to stop getting their advertising, by all means Unsubscribe...

However if you don't know the company, do not click on the [unsubscribe](#) link because, in doing so, you are going to reveal that you exist and multiply the spams received, not only from that company but also by others.

Here is the reason why : your email address was probably purchased on the "black web" by a hacker. This hacker is sending emails to all the addresses he acquired, not knowing how many are valid in the batch he purchased. The minute you unsubscribe, you are telling him that your address is valid, so he can resell it at a premium to other hackers. And you will be spammed even more. So the best course of action is shown below. This will tell your email system not to accept anymore email from that very company and it will put it in the bin at the same time. The spammer will never know you existed and he will not have a reason to resell your address to another spammer.



1) Select the email by clicking on it once.

2) When the email is blue, click on the Junk button.

Whatever the method proposed to unsubscribe, resist them all. The result is always the same...

I wish you very happy emailing in 2020 with a minimum of spams.

If you have any question, contact
Pat The Mac on 0419 330 497 or by email via pat@patthemacs.com



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due to the Coronavirus

FRUIT PICKING TIME

Summer time. Summer fruits: cherries, peaches, apricots, plums. Summer harvest.

Before the 1970s Balnarring was an area of orchards rather than vineyards. For the orchardists summer was a busy time gathering in the fruit as it ripened. Many local people, including the housewives and young people, became fruit pickers for as long as the season lasted. Some quit other jobs as the rate for picking fruit was so much better. Excellent money could be earned cherry picking and many looked forward to the beginning of the season and the extra income they could earn.

One young lass of the 1940s recalls : "The rate was £1 per day. Over a week a good picker could earn £6, a small fortune. Cherry picking was a family affair. My two brothers, my mother and me, we all went. The older ladies, the 'Mums' made it more of a social occasion. They didn't climb ladders, only picked about half the quantity of fruit the young people picked and earned about 10/- (ten shillings) a day. They picked, ate cherries and had a good talk. You could eat as many cherries as you wanted but after the first couple of days you soon got sick of them." The family picked at *Cherrydale*.

This orchard covered forty acres of land on the corner of Balnarring Road and Bittern Dromana Road. It was owned by Ron Nobelius, known locally as Nobby. The Nobelius family grew mainly cherries but had other fruit trees as well - apples, pears, plums and peaches. It was a busy time for all, lasting until all the fruit had been picked, packed and sent off to market. Then at the end of the season Nobby rewarded and thanked his pickers by holding a picnic quite often at nearby Balnarring Beach.

Ilma Hackett
(Balnarring & District Historical Society)



NOTE: this article was written prior to Coronavirus restrictions, Ed.

DAVID GILL – RED HILL WARD COUNCILLOR
MORNINGTON PENINSULA SHIRE COUNCIL (MPSC)

Community Hub Trial

After recent discussions with the management of Balnarring Village Shopping Centre I have received a generous offer to use the large vacant 'Ting Tong' restaurant site for Council and community use on the following basis:

- No rent
- Agreement for a period of up to 18 months
- Council to consider a community house / community hub program and will invite public input and participation.

This will be a trial to help evaluate needs in the villages of Red Hill Ward.

Consideration will also be given to having Council officers available on site for everyday inquiries which at present usually means travel to offices at Mornington (Town Planning) Hastings (Community Services) or Rosebud (Engineering, traffic, maintenance, finance and natural systems – environment) for any face to face contact.

There are thirteen Community Houses in the Shire but sadly none in the Red Hill Ward. These hubs help bring communities together. People can meet in a friendly space and services can be provided to meet community needs.

Red Hill Ward takes up to 50% of the Shire in area, has one Councillor with one vote. I believe that we should have these facilities that are taken for granted in other wards.

This hasn't happened because of other budget priorities by the majority of Councillors in more highly populated Wards. This includes three Councillors in Briars Ward and three Councillors in Seawinds Ward.

My aim, if the trial proves successful, is to have Community hubs (not just halls) in Balnarring, Red Hill and Flinders.

While I believe that our villages do not require all of the facilities and infrastructure of suburbia we still have the elderly, young families and others who should have better access to services.

In other local news:

- MPSC has decided to advocate for a wildlife hospital on the Peninsula preferably at 'Highfield Farm' in Greens bush National Park.
- Council has also decided to instigate Shire emblems to highlight our locally endangered flora and fauna.
- Federal funding is still not released to allow the State government to progress pedestrian crossings around Balnarring Village. Council is offering to do the design work to have this urgent project ready to start as soon as the money is made available.
- Balnarring pre-school building refurbishment is in the budget for planning and design. Public and stakeholder consultation is underway.
- The Somers 'way finding' project is in the planning stage with a Community Committee having input into trials connecting reserves and facilities to improve walkability around Somers.
- Camp Hill Road footpath to Somers Primary School is budgeted to be completed this year.
- MPSC is advocating to remove planning rules that allow vegetation clearance on most residential blocks without the need for a planning permit. This is due to the detrimental effect on indigenous vegetation, bio-diversity and neighbourhood character. The intention is to remove those provisions that are not related to bushfire danger.
For further details see the Agenda and Minutes of the March 16th, 2020 Planning Services Committee meeting on the Shire website.

Regards,
David.

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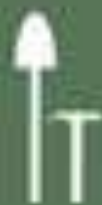
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Somers Ladies Probus Club

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

Somers Ladies Probus invite retired and semi-retired ladies looking for interesting activities, outings, thought-provoking speakers and new friends to join us at our monthly meetings at the Stone Pavilion, Somers at 10am on the first Friday of each month.

At our May meeting we will celebrate our 33rd anniversary !

Contact Elizabeth on 5983 5898 or June on 5983 5321 for more information.



The 2020-2021 Committee of the Somers Ladies Probus Club.



PRESS RELEASE FROM FLINDERS LIONS – 19th March 2020

FLINDERS MOTORING HERITAGE

Sunday 12 April 2020

Flinders Village

Cook Street, Flinders, Flinders, Vic 3929

We have had to postpone this fun event due to the Covid-19 preventative measures that need to be undertaken by event organisers. We hope to be able to reschedule in the spring.

CONTACT DETAILS

MARY ILES

EVENT COORDINATOR

0418358587

<https://www.flindersmotoringheritage.com.au/>

We'll be back

The Red Hill Op Shop members wish to thank its many customers and supporters for the kind messages they've received over the past testing and trying weeks. As they keep saying, we are all in this together; and when the danger passes, **we will** come through the other end!

And just a heads up, when the shop reopens, it will be with a great flourish and you're all invited! Exciting times ahead!

We are also very grateful to our donors for the respect shown to us by limiting their donations at this time. As soon as we get back on track, we will be advising our supporters immediately and we can resume the recycling and re homing of the quality donations we receive.

In the meantime, please give a thought to our main beneficiary, the Peninsula Home Hospice (PHH) which, unlike other businesses, is not able to just shut down. Their important work is ongoing and they provide much appreciated support twenty-four hours a day to individuals with terminal illnesses and their families. However, all of their fundraising is on hold at present, including our own contributions, and this situation may go on for many months to come. If you would like to donate to PHH directly, any amount, no matter how small, would be greatly appreciated. And you know you will be helping them continue their valuable contribution to the Peninsula. Log on to their website at www.peninsulahospice.com.au and hit the Donate button!

We miss you all and we do look forward to seeing you back with us in the very near future. Stay well, look after yourselves and your loved ones more so than ever!

We are located at 33 Mechanics Road, RED HILL. In the meantime, email us at redhillshop@gmail.com or message us through our Facebook page www.facebook.com/redhillshop

Take care everyone and we look forward to hearing from you for the next edition of The Bridge!

**All entries are free during the pandemic.
Submissions to info@bridgemag.com.au**

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 or PO Box 248 Balnarring VIC 3926. Ideally, file sizes no bigger than 1.5MB please.

Deadlines for submissions are as follows:

January 10th (February/March issue)

March 10th (April/May issue)

May 10th (June/July issue)

July 10th (August/September issue)

September 10th (October/November issue)

November 10th (December/January issue)

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

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

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

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