



# 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 84 April May 2024

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



*Balnarring Preschool: In Term 4 last year, local artist Cath De Boise painted for us 3 large flags: the Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags. The kids then painted their own smaller versions of the flags which are displayed around the larger flags' borders. They look amazing!*

*Keep an eye out for these flags which will be displayed on the Kinder fence in the coming weeks.*

Made possible by the customers of  
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**B** Bendigo Bank

Made possible by...

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*Deep Gratitude to our fantastic co-GOLD SPONSORS!!*

## Hello Everyone!

We extend a very warm welcome to Ernestine, who is the 2024 *Bridge Young Editor* at Balnarring Primary School. We welcome you to the team, Ernestine! We very much look forward to your contributions during the year! Have fun with the Kids Pages – let your creativity go wild! 😊

There are autumn leaves falling, while plants in garden pots are still producing baby Cherry tomatoes that are ripening – does everything seem a bit bonkers to you? It does to me! But I suppose we all need to accommodate change in everything all the time and this is just another situation where ‘normal’ doesn’t look like it used to! Fortunately, we are an adaptable species. I tell myself a lot to just float and observe and enjoy!

We are now into the twelfth year of *The Bridge* and still the breadth and depth of our community and its activities are a joy to experience every second month as entries roll in. As always, the inbox for this edition was full of treasures to be shared with you all.

We acknowledge and send our HUGE HEARTFELT THANKS to our wonderful Gold Co-Sponsors, Coast Real Estate and Balnarring and District Community Bank, without whom it would be a pretty much impossible job to find the funds for each edition to cover printing and website costs. (Please see page 5 for a treat from our Bendigo Bank!)

Please keep the wonderful news/ads/info/dates/reports/poems etc coming in for 2024! Our best wishes to you all for happiness, peace and creativity each day of April and May.

Love, Jen and Ali xx [info@bridgemag.com.au](mailto:info@bridgemag.com.au)

### 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!





# The Norris's saved \$5,772 last year on their home loan!\*

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**How much could you save? Call Mark and Heidi our branch home loan specialists on 5983 5543 to find out more.**

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\*Amount saved was annual payments reduction on an owner-occupier home loan when repayments dropped by \$481 a month from lower interest rate and loan restructure. Actual savings will depend on individual circumstances. All loans are subject to the bank's normal lending criteria. Fees, charges, terms and conditions apply and are subject to change. Credit provided by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 Australian Credit Licence 237879. A1963171 OUT\_35879885, 12/03/2024

# Happy Birthday!

## April

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



## May

3<sup>rd</sup> Barb Rimington  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sarah Toose  
3<sup>rd</sup> Jodee Hopkins  
4<sup>th</sup> Willow Roach  
17<sup>th</sup> Quinnah Heffernan  
21<sup>st</sup> Renae Haylock  
21<sup>st</sup> Peter McLean  
23<sup>rd</sup> Stewart MacGowan  
25<sup>th</sup> Hannah Lewis  
27<sup>th</sup> Gina Tritt Buntine  
30<sup>th</sup> Amy Sayle

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

April May 2024

*Inspirational Angel Cards for the Community:*

**Resilience Generosity**

How can you weave these into your day to support and empower you?

Source: 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?**

Email [info@bridgemag.com.au](mailto:info@bridgemag.com.au) "subscribe" in the subject line.

**Want to contribute to The Bridge?** For deadline reminders, email

[info@bridgemag.com.au](mailto:info@bridgemag.com.au) with "deadline reminders" in the subject line.





Hello!

To show our appreciation for the support you have given your community by banking with Community Bank Balnarring & District, we'd like to say thank you and send our warmest birthday wishes.

To celebrate have a coffee or shop at any one of our love local partners.

Tag us enjoying your birthday gift!

Facebook @communitybankbalnarringanddistrict

Instagram @communitybankbalnarring

\*Love Local Partners can be found on our website or look for the Love Local decal in our partners windows



**Bendigo Bank**

Community Bank  
Balnarring & District

**Community members celebrating a birthday can visit the Community Bank Balnarring & District branch (proof of D.O.B required) and our staff will present them with a birthday card. The birthday card includes a \$6 LoveLocal card which recipients can use at any participating business.**

**Terms, conditions and a list of participating businesses can be located on our webpage:**

**<https://www.bendigobank.com.au/branch/vic/community-bank-balnarring-district/love-local/>**



Peninsula SongRiders  
presents

# SUNSET SESSIONS APRIL & MAY

AT THE WESTERNPORT YACHT CLUB, BALNARRING BEACH



27TH  
APRIL

## PHIL CEBERANO AND BIGFOOT

BY POPULAR DEMAND, THE SUPER CHARISMATIC  
PHIL CEBERANO & HIS ROCK-SOUL-FUNK BAND  
MATES ANDY SYLVIO AND SCOTT THORNBURN  
(BIGFOOT) ARE BACK TO PLAY FOR A SECOND  
TIME!!!

SCAN CODE FOR TIX  
\$35 PRESALE, \$40 DOOR  
TICKETS (IF AVAILABLE)



24TH  
MAY

## CHRIS ON DRUMS ALBUM LAUNCH

PENINSULA SONGRIDERS WAS BORN NEARLY 20  
YEARS AGO. AT THE HEART OF THE FIRE THAT CAME  
FROM THE SPARK AT THE START, WAS A COMMUNITY  
MINDED MAN, BROTHER CHRIS HAYLOCK.  
CELEBRATING BY PLAYING HIS MUSIC, THIS WILL BE A  
JOYOUS NIGHT OF THE MAGIC.

SCAN CODE FOR TIX  
\$30 PRESALE, \$35 DOOR  
TICKETS (IF AVAILABLE)



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An aerial map of Australia is the background, overlaid with a soft, abstract watercolor wash in shades of orange, red, and green. The text is white and centered.

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## News from your elected advocate for Red Hill Ward, Cr. David Gill.

- I am advocating for a new method of charging for the use of **Community Halls** to replace the high cost of hourly fees.  
There would be a new yearly or half yearly license fee structure for regular volunteer groups and not-for-profit organisations.  
This would help cut costs and administrative time for our hardworking volunteers.
- Recently Pt Leo residents were successful in applying to extend the residential boundary for **Green Waste Bins**.  
This user pays service is mainly restricted to high density residential areas for outsourced contract cost reasons. New areas are considered.
- At the next **Council election** Red Hill Ward has been renamed “Coolart” and the boundary increased in size from 50% to 60% of the Shire.  
There will be eleven wards with one councillor elected in each ward.  
The Local Government Minister has made the changes without real consultation on any aspect having appointed a panel instead of using the previous independent Victorian Electoral Commission.
- **Western Port Yacht Club** has received a Council Capital Works Grant to assist with community use of their building. These grants are available to improve your local infrastructure needs with up to \$50,000 available and other grants are available for minor community led initiatives.
- Council has a **wildlife protection** virtual ‘fence’ on either side of a part of Jetty Road, Rosebud. I am looking for your suggestions on where to best put future protections to prevent accidents between cars and wildlife.
- As part of the Mornington Peninsula Shire’s Towards Zero Road Safety Strategy that aims to improve **road safety** across the Peninsula, an investigation of resident concerns has occurred in Balnarring Beach.  
Two treatments that are proposed within the 40-speed zone are a raised

- safety platform near the exit from the foreshore car park in Library Rd and speed cushions at the existing chicane central island just south of Fethers Rd in Balnarring Beach Rd.

The Shire has recently completed the detailed design and sent out a resident's mail-out for feedback.

The project is receiving quotations under the Local Minor Civil Works Panel, incorporating changes in the plans based on community feedback. Anticipated construction is set for mid-2024.



Proposed treatments to reduce vehicle speed.

- **Community Development** - is it about just roads, rubbish and rates?

Should Council drop Kindergartens, Emergency Housing for the homeless, Green Wedge protections, Wildlife Management, drought-proofing the Peninsula, promotion of our local music industry, land and asset strategies for small business, industry and local communities, Foreshore Management, dog regulation enforcement on state government land, community initiative grants, historic building protection, climate change issues like foreshore erosion and much more?

Council makes mistakes but consults more than any other level of government. It is constantly trying to fill gaps left by State and Federal Government cost shifting that affects our community.

What sort of municipality do we want to live in?

- **Transparency** is an issue with bureaucracies. My remedy, when in doubt is to release information and not hold back. The Local Government Act already covers the few obvious reasons for confidentiality including tenders for contract works and personal information about residents.
- A further reminder about your **budget** input which can be sent to the Council's website or directly to me. This is the main way to influence budget outcomes.

Please contact me about any local matters or concerns.

[david.gill@mornpen.vic.gov.au](mailto:david.gill@mornpen.vic.gov.au)

Regards,  
David.



Now taking bookings for a new  
**“Kid’s Karate Beginner’s Class”**  
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Hastings U3A is a not for profit organisation run entirely by volunteers for the benefit of people aged 50 years plus who are semi or fully retired. Whilst we are based in Hastings we do offer several activities in Somers and Bittern.

#### PETANQUE at Garden Square SOMERS

Join this fun group and quickly become skilled in the art of Petanque. We are very fortunate to have a Tutor who is a qualified coach and referee and will soon have you playing this fun and friendly game.

#### CYCLING from BITTERN

Get fit with our friendly group of cyclists as they explore the trails around Bittern. From time to time away days are arranged and our group gets to explore Point Nepean, Phillip Island, Camur to Dandenong trail etc. Whilst cycling is our aim our rides always conclude with coffee and conversation. E cyclists welcome.

#### PICKLEBALL at BITTERN

New for 2024 - pickleball the fastest growing sport in Australia. We play for fun and exercise. Beginners are welcome, advice and direction available from our more experienced players.

Hastings U3A offers more than 40 courses/activities ranging from foreign languages, arts/crafts discussion groups, sports and exercise, social groups and so much more. Full details can be found on our website: [u3ahastings.org.au](http://u3ahastings.org.au)

Alternatively you may visit our office at Hastings Hall, 3 High St, Hastings (next to library) open 10am to 12 noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday (closed school and public holidays).

Annual membership is \$60 which offers free access to all our courses and activities (subject to availability)

Join today.

## From our BPS correspondent – Ernestine

# Balnarring PS and The Balnarring Way

Lately, the students of our school are being educated on “The Balnarring Way”. Now, this idea has been with us for over a decade, in fact, it is what our school pledge revolves around. However, the teachers wished and decided to reimagine as well as improve it, because they desired to shape their pupils into good and well-mannered citizens during their schooling and through into adulthood.

Our pledge does remain the same, consisting of four promises, however now we are following through with those promises with clear actions. Each term we will delve into the depths of a separate section. This term, we are applying our focus to the red line, (see other page) though as the year carries on, we will work our way down, eventually reaching the blue.

I will next state what the values of “The Balnarring Way” are, and how our students are achieving them.

**The first is to respect and care for ourselves.** Our children do this by participating in saw-sharpening activities such as mindfulness colouring and yoga, during our House Activities. Another way they show this is by taking responsibility for their own learning and actions, as well as speaking up when they are uncomfortable or frightened by another.

**The second is to respect and care for others.** The kids do this by respecting personal space bubbles, being patient, tolerant and kind, along with including everyone in their games and checking on the wellbeing of their classmates.

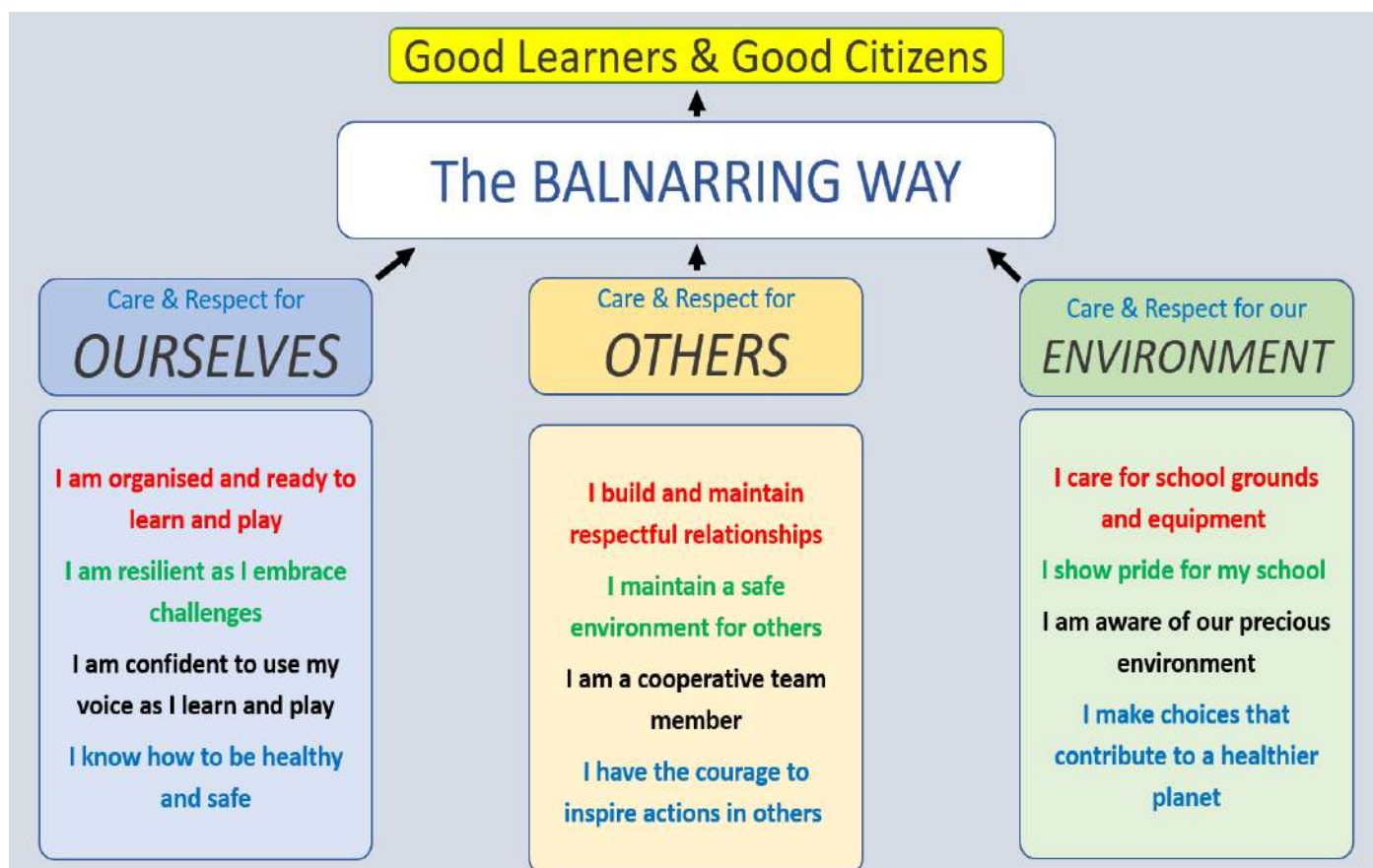
**The third is to respect and care for the environment,** the Balnarring Primary School students never litter, they collect rubbish, and they are always given the opportunity to join our schools B.E.A.T program. (Balnarring Environmental Action Team).

**The final is to do your best.** Everyone; the staff, the students, all of them I can safely say are doing their best and giving everything they do a red hot go both inside and outside of the school grounds. Even when they dislike a subject, they are always showing effort, every day.

So how do students at BPS show The Balnarring Way ...

- I pick up rubbish when walking home from school
- I include others in my games and check on their well-being
- I make sure I am focussed on my learning

When combining all these skills they have learnt, the children appear joyful, healthy, focussed, and engaged.



The Balnarring Way isn't just to promote good students and learners, but good citizens too. Perhaps you can think about how you could demonstrate The Balnarring Way at home, your school or workplace, sports club and out in the community. What ideas do you have?

Our Balnarring Way		
Respect and Care for Ourselves	Respect and Care for Others	Respect and Care for the Environment.





# Balnarring CFA News



## **FIRE DANGER PERIOD**

Fire restrictions are, at the time of writing, still in force and heavy penalties can apply. Please check the CFA Danger Period Restrictions or Mornpen website for more information.

**NO**

**burning off without a permit.**

<https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-bans-ratings-and-restrictions/can-i-or-cant-i>

## **SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES.**

As Daylight Savings finishes it is also a great time to consider the effectiveness of any Smoke Alarms installed. Ideally the detector should be located between living areas and bedrooms.

It is recommended that interconnected photoelectric smoke alarms with a 10 year lithium battery be installed. 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.

The three most common causes of house fires are -

- faulty electrical wiring and appliances;
- leaving cooking appliances unattended;
- heating related fires.

The main causes of wood fuelled heating house fires are -

- dirty, blocked or faulty chimneys and flues;
- faulty wood combustion heaters;
- burning logs rolling out of unguarded fireplaces;
- disposal of hot ashes.



## Turn-Outs

Thankfully, it's been a relatively quiet Summer for us with very few fires and other turn-outs and that is without doubt credit to our whole community.

- 27 Jan      **Fire:** campfire at Merricks Beach (assisted by Bittern & Somers Brigades).
- 11 Feb      **Car Crash:** Dunns Creek Rd (assist Red Hill Brigade).
- 22 Feb      **Fire:** Wood Bushland Reserve (assisted by numerous WPG brigades).
- 4 Mar      **Car Crash:** Balnarring Rd (assisted by Bittern & Somers Brigades).
- 4 Mar      **Powerlines Sparking:** Fauconshawe St (assisted by Somers Brigade).
- 6 Mar      **Fire:** burn-off in backyard in Azure Ave (assisted by Somers Brigade).
- 9 Mar      **Car Crash:** Balnarring & Myers Rds (assisted by Bittern Brigade).
- 17 Mar      **Car Crash:** Tubbarubba Rd Gully (assisted by Bittern, Red Hill, Dromana Rescue Brigades & Air Ambulance).

## News

We've had several members from our brigade and Westernport Group on deployment in the west of our state to assist with large scale bushfires.

## Volunteers

Our new members have hit the ground and are now turning out to jobs but we can always do with more (especially women). So, if you're interested in helping the community, please feel free to pop into the station at our regular training times.

Training: Monday evenings from 7:30pm - 9:30pm.

Training and Maintenance: Sunday mornings from 9:30am - 12pm.

## Juniors

We are in discussions with some of our neighbouring brigades to recommence a Junior Brigade. If anyone has kids that would like to participate, we would love to hear from you so we can gauge the level of interest.

Byron SEDGWICK

M: 0419 313 413

E: byron@ianreid.com.au

Lieutenant – Balnarring CFA

Community Engagement Officer

Station Ph No: 5983 5379



## Balnarring Pre-School Report



Balnarring Kinder is off to a flying start with our four groups now attending full time hours after a staggered start to ensure students and teachers develop strong and stable relationships and help kids settle into their kinder year.

The Kinder invited families to join each other at the Balnarring Common for a Welcome to Country by friend of the kinder and Yalukit William man of the Boonwurrung, Jaeden Williams. Jaeden taught us about the Law of Bundjil which asks everyone who is on Boon Wurrung Country to keep two promises; to care for the Land and to care for the Bubups (children). It's always a pleasure to be in Jaeden's company and have him visit our kinder community.

The Welcome to Country evening was also the unveiling of the three new flags the kids worked on in Term 4 last year. Local artist Cath De Boise painted for us 3 large flags: the Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait



Islander flags. Kids then painted their own smaller versions of the flags which are displayed around the larger flag's borders. They look amazing! Keep an eye out for these flags which will be displayed on the Kinder fence in the coming weeks.





The Ngarnga Biik (beach/bush kinder) days have endured all the seasons within the first 2 months of the year with wind, rain and sun and the kids have adapted to all conditions with resilience and ease and are becoming comfortable in the beach and bush spaces they will be learning on and from for 2024.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank everyone who attended, donated and volunteered at the Womindjeka Festival. The festival committee worked tirelessly in the lead up to the day and it was an all-round success with musical performances, cultural workshops, food trucks, lots of free kids activities and more on offer.



The fundraising team have been busily planning events for the year to raise much needed funds for our Kinder. On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, come along to Balnarring Bowls Club to take part in our annual easter raffle alongside all the fantastic raffles and draws the Bowls Club have on offer. In previous years it's been a great night for families to socialise and get to know one another in a relaxed setting. The Bowls Club are always supportive of us and happy to host us.

I look forward to sharing more kinder news with you during 2024.

Minna Harrison, Historian – Balnarring Pre-School Committee.



***Thank you Womin Djeka  
Balnarring Ngargee!***



What a spectacular day!  
The 7<sup>th</sup> Womin Djeka  
Balnarring Ngargee was our  
best yet!  
It felt like we have settled into  
our bigger space now and we  
were thrilled with how the  
festival looked, sounded and  
was enjoyed. On behalf of  
the organising committee, we  
all hope you had an incredible  
day and **THANK YOU SO  
MUCH** for joining us! We are  
also thrilled to say **THANK  
YOU** for the generosity of  
your time and for your  
donations. This year was our  
most challenging by far to  
source funding for this  
community event, and there

was a moment where we didn't think we would make  
it. But then, **THANK YOU** to our community who  
heard our call for help, who bought our merchandise  
and books, who donated generously and for the







organisations who came on board with sponsorship. We truly could not have

done it without you!

We want to know what you thought!! What was the best thing about Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee 2023? What did you learn? What would make this festival even better? Let us know. Hopefully you got our feedback form at the festival, if not, drop us a line on email: [womindjeka.balnarring.ngargee@gmail.com](mailto:womindjeka.balnarring.ngargee@gmail.com) or follow this link: <https://forms.gle/6J738FfFMzBgm7dU9>

Let's share our experiences. Tag us in photos on our Facebook or Instagram pages *#womindjekabalnarring*. We are just starting to collate our formal evaluation of the event. Please enjoy a few snippets of some feedback received so far, and our favourite photos. *"It was my first Wominjeka Festival & I thoroughly enjoyed it. So family orientated, with so many activities for young children to participate in. Fun to see them all dancing and having fun with a lot of the entertainment going on."* *"Loved the community connecting", "It had such a beautiful feel", "...it was a great well organised event again this year"* *"Everyone was helpful, willing and friendly"* *"...congratulations to the organisers who worked so hard to bring this festive – educational- joyous celebration of Country to so many wonderful people..."* We have many people and organisations to thank for



making this day what it was. Thank you to our incredible sponsors who gave us the funds to make this festival happen: Mornington Peninsula Shire, Bendigo Bank, Westernport Bluescope, Ross Trust, Growing Child, Bay West real estate, Exxonmobil Australia,





Balnarring Race Club, Radial Timber, Phase Two, South East Water and the support from the Emu Plains committee and the grounds team. Thank you to the many people who gave donations before and on the day. Thank you to the local businesses for your donations, many



of which were in the incredible raffle: Peninsula Hot Springs, The Enchanted Adventure Garden, Dogs Country Club and We Love Dogs boarding kennels, Torello Farm, Ed's Hastings, Heritage Balnarring, Paul Mercurio, Food On The Hill, Angie Cleave, Paringa Estate, Lynton Alen, Karen Gibbs and Jala Jala Treats. Thank you to the local shire councillors. Thank you incredible volunteers who gave your time to



make this festival happen! Thank you Balnarring Preschool, Balnarring Primary, St Joeys Primary and Brotherhood of St Lawrence for giving your time to the Bundjil Nest Project. Thank you to the schools who contributed to the Bundjil Nest Schools Project: it is fabulous to see this project growing. Thank you to the performers who delighted us with their music and dance and our incredible Emcee who kept the event running smoothly. Thank you to all the workshop presenters who taught us. Thank you to

the organisations who Care for Country and for Community. Food and market stall holders, we hope you all had a fabulous day. Importantly, thank you to the Boon Wurrung Elders for your guidance and support. Thank you to the committee for organising this event. You are enthusiastic and supportive and it is incredible to see this event come together. If you are excited by the commitment to reconciliation that this festival demonstrates and want to contribute to its creation, the committee would be thrilled to welcome you. Email us at [womindjeka.balnarring.ngargee@gmail.com](mailto:womindjeka.balnarring.ngargee@gmail.com).





# **Save Westernport AGM for members & friends**

**Coolart Homestead & Wetlands  
Auditorium**

**20th April, 2-4pm**

## **Following the AGM:**

- ✦ **‘An engaging Q&A session:  
Westernport Bay~What Does the Future Hold?’**
- ✦ **Enjoy the recent short film:  
‘Jump Into Westernport’**
- ✦ **‘Be inspired by the creative collaboration  
of local artists Jo Lane and Laura Brearley:  
‘Across the Waters’**
- ✦ **Join us for a scrumptious afternoon tea**
  - Become a member of Save Westernport or renew your annual membership subscription.
  - Nominate for the SWP Steering Committee!
  - Forms available on our website.

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

**Bookings essential -**



# MEDITATION and MINDFULNESS at BALNARRING

A WEEKLY GROUP

Offered by Jacqui Winstanley who has over 30 years of experience practising and teaching buddhist methods for wellbeing. An opportunity to learn and practice with others, to make friendships as we meditate together

**Suitable for beginners and experienced meditators.**

Meditation and mindfulness have been proven beneficial for health of mind and body, memory, focus, sleep, calmness and creativity, and for exploring your own exciting inner journey.

**ALL WELCOME.**

Tuesday during school terms at 1.30 - 3.00pm  
Balnarring Hall (Rear Room),  
3035 Frankston Flinders Rd, Balnarring VIC 3926



Gold coin donation.



To register your interest email [buddhataalk9@gmail.com](mailto:buddhataalk9@gmail.com)  
[buddhataalk.com.au](http://buddhataalk.com.au) offers a clear, concise overview of the Buddha's teachings.

With Thanks to the Balnarring Community Hub Team for their support. Photo- Elaine Larsson



# COOLART COMMUNITY GARDEN PRESENTS

**PENNY WOODWARD**

Garlic: knowing, sowing, growing, curing  
tickets \$10

THE OBSERVATORY - COOLART  
WETLANDS & HOMESTEAD



**14 APRIL  
2PM**

2022





## **Western Port Uniting Church Parish** (consisting of Balnarring, Crib Point and Hastings congregations)

### **Service Locations and Times for April and May 2024**

Balnarring 10.45 am      Crib Point 9.00 am      Hastings 10.45 am

#### **Church Locations:**

Balnarring - 10 Balnarring Beach Road, Balnarring.

Crib Point - 382 Stony Point Road, Crib Point.

Hastings - Corner Marine Parade and Hodgins Road, Hastings.

You are most welcome to join us via our Sunday Zoom Worship service conducted at 10.45 am. Use this Parish link <https://zoom.us/j/6688830489> to participate in the service.

If you wish to contact a Uniting Church or confirm our service arrangements, please phone a Parish Contact as listed below.

#### **Parish Contacts**

Parish Minister:	Rev. Nigel McBrien	0456 298 267
Parish Chairperson:	Margaret Baker	0400 096 669
Parish Secretary:	Colin Watt	0427 379 815

#### **Parish Opportunity Shop - 149 Disney Street Crib Point**

Our Op Shop trading hours are: -

Tuesday to Friday – 10.00 am to 3.30 pm. Saturday 9.30 am to 1.00 pm.

Donations are accepted, with thanks during these hours but not electrical appliances.

If you would like to volunteer, please call into the Op Shop for an Application Form.

#### **Western Port Craft Expo – Saturday 20th April – 10.00 am to 4.00 pm**

Hastings Community Hub, 1973 Frankston – Flinders Road Hastings.

Adults \$5 School children \$2. Enquiries – 03 5979 1237 or [www.wpcraftexpo.com](http://www.wpcraftexpo.com)

This year's Western Port Craft Expo will be a wonderful celebration of the best craftwork on the Peninsula. Come and enjoy a lovely day of beautiful craft and talk to the people who create such delightful handicraft.

#### **Parish Encouragement Message**

Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous fall. Psalms 55:22

## open path meditation



Open Path is run by Bill Genat and Kathryn Shain. We offer meditation and Dharma teaching sessions, workshops and retreats from our unique teaching space located within Shoreham's beautiful natural bushland and beach setting.

### **The following sessions are offered through June 2024:**

- **Peaceful Living in a Chaotic World** - a two-hour session, twice-a-month, on a Saturday morning:

These sessions explore practices that enable us to live a more easeful life in the midst of the seeming chaos of the surrounding world. Using very gentle meditative movements (mostly done lying on the floor), with practice, a deeper sense of inner calm becomes readily available. These sessions include other meditative and contemplative practices and, collaborative learning through shared experience and discussion.

- **Finding Sanctuary in the Natural State** - one and two-day retreats monthly on a Saturday and/or Sunday:

These retreats provide time for a deeper exploration of cultivating refuge/sanctuary in daily life. We explore specific practices for enhancing our interconnectedness, interbeing and alignment with the natural world. Gentle movement work, calm abiding practice and contemplative walking practice are explored alongside other complementary teachings from the Buddhist tradition.

- **Cultivating Naturalness - a nine-day residential retreat in Shoreham: Saturday May 11 to Sunday May 19, 2024.**

Details of all the workshops and retreats, along with further details about Open Path, can be found at: [www.openpathmeditation.com.au](http://www.openpathmeditation.com.au)  
email: [contact@openpathmeditation.com.au](mailto:contact@openpathmeditation.com.au)

## **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. We can all make even a modest contribution to restoring the balance by growing native plants in our garden. The size of the garden doesn't matter - even a few pots will do, and just one native plant is better than none.

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.

And I have to dispel a myth – growing natives plants doesn't mean you set and forget. They'll still need some pruning, and shaping, a little watering until they really establish and like all of us, a bit of nourishing. This will ensure they'll thrive rather than just survive.

Finding nurseries which stock native plants can be a bit of a lottery, but once a year there's the opportunity to browse the lolly shop of native plants when the Mornington Peninsula district group of the Australian Plants Society (APS) holds its annual Plant Sale at The Briars: Saturday 27 April, 10am to 3.30pm, free entry. Nurseries specialising in both indigenous and native plants are on hand to offer advice on growing and looking after native plants, there's free workshops on pruning and maintenance, and books on gardening with natives.

And if you'd like to find out more about what APS do, visit our website <https://apsmorningtonpeninsula.org>

Jenny Bolger Ph: 0428 284 974

*Australian Native*

# Plant Sale

**The Briars Nepean Hwy Mt Martha**

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024 10am to 3.30pm**

*Professional advice available from the growers*

**FREE  
ENTRY**



**Free talks on**  
Pruning & maintenance  
Propagating plants

**Book  
Sales**

-----

**Kids  
Corner**

**Australian Plants Society Mornington Peninsula Inc**  
For further details 0428 284 974



# Why do Kids Grind their Teeth at Night?

It is normal to be worried when you notice your child grinding their teeth while sleeping.

The continual clenching and grinding of teeth can lead to jaw discomfort and gradual tooth damage. In this journal, we will delve into the factors contributing to sleep bruxism in children.

This is a common occurrence in children, studies show that nearly half of all children may experience clenching and grinding of teeth during night and these habits can begin as soon as baby teeth emerge! This often occurs unconsciously, with over 80% of individuals not even being aware that they grind their teeth while asleep. So, detecting this behavior in children is challenging unless they share a bedroom with a sibling or caregiver who hears the grinding sounds. You may also first notice that the teeth get shorter in your child.

Clenching and grinding increase the risk of:

- Fractured teeth
- Sensitivity of teeth
- Temporomandibular joint disorder (TMJ) Jaw Joint Issues
- Eating disorders
- Sleep problems - for the child and for others sharing the bedroom
- Mental health disorders like depression and anxiety

## Infants

When babies start getting their first teeth around 6 to 12 months, they might explore the sensation of their new teeth by grinding them. This is often a response to the discomfort of teething. While it is a common habit, and babies may outgrow it, providing a cold teething ring may help them alleviate the issue.

## Stress and Anxiety

This is evidence indicating a connection between feeling anxious and clenching and grinding. Additionally, commonly prescribed medications such as antidepressants may also contribute to tooth grinding in children and teenagers. Talk to your child about what may be occurring in their life, it may be exam stress, moving houses or schools or a new addition to the family.

## Enlarged Tonsils

There is a connection made between teeth grinding and enlarged tonsils which is strongly linked to upper airway obstruction. Your child may snore, breathe through their mouth, or have nightmares. Removing tonsils has been shown to lessen teeth grinding in some children.

## Sleep Quality

Problems with sleep, like loud noises and bright lights, as well as not getting enough sleep (less than 8 hours), are closely linked to teeth grinding during sleep. In this case, establishing a bedtime routine will allow your child to feel secure at bedtime.

## The good news?

Although common, because your child is growing so quickly, this phenomenon mostly occurs in children below the age of 11 and many outgrow it by adolescent years. However, it is cause for concern when teeth grinding causes severe tooth wear, pain or trouble sleeping. If clenching and grinding are coupled together with enlarged tonsils, chronic snoring, psychological problems, or wear of permanent teeth, further evaluation may be necessary. Visit the friendly dentists at Balnarring Dental Centre for further advice!

Dr Will ☺

Balnarring Dental Centre

Ph: 59835348

# FROM THE ARCHIVES – COOLART LAGOON

By Graham Pizzey, Naturalist and first Warden at Coolart.

Just before World War 2, the late Mr Tom Luxton decided to raise an earth wall across an extensive shallow gully on Coolart. A pond already existed here, filling a hole from which clay had been taken for bricks for the original “Coolart’ homestead.

The new wall was scarcely complete before rain began to fill. Within weeks, the famed 5 hectare Coolart Lagoon was in existence. Weeping willows and Louisiana swamp cypresses were planted and swamp paperbarks suckered thickly from the disturbed roots of trees already present.

Soon the first white ibises began to roost, although in those years the species was not abundant round Westernport. In a double sense, the lagoon came of age in 1961, when the birds first nested. Numbers built steadily during the 1960s, reaching the supposed maximum carrying capacity of about 1,200 breeding birds in 1969. By then the establishment of the white ibis as a resident on Mornington Peninsula was complete; Coolart played an important part in this colonization.

With the ibis of course came many other birds, though in smaller numbers. These days, the ibis’ splendid relative, the royal spoonbill, breeds at Coolart, as do little pied cormorants, swamphens, Australian coots and dusky moorhens, among others.

Coolart lagoon is celebrated for the regular breeding of small numbers of blue-billed ducks, the males conspicuous for their rich brown and black plumage, set off by a large scooped blue bill. Among other waterfowl black swans, black duck, chestnut teal and grey teal nest around the lagoon, often in nest boxes. From early August through until Christmas each year, the air is full of the coming and going of ibis, cormorants and spoonbills with nesting material or running a constant shuttle with food for their young. In late afternoon, numbers always increase as roosting birds, non-breeding birds return to the lagoon to roost. Cormorants - black, pied and little pied, make up the bulk of these but numbers of straw necked ibis come in too. In these noisy companies of waterbirds, songbirds still raise their voices. Visitors to the lagoon seldom go far without seeing grey fantails, brown thornbirds, blue wrens, yellow robins or white-browed scrubwrens. A flock of varied sitellas often works its way through the willows on either side of the walk to Mr. Luxton’s viewing point over the lagoon.

Tom Luxton had Coolart declared as a Sanctuary for Native Game by an act of Parliament in 1937. Graham Pizzey served as the first Warden of Coolart following the state government’s purchase of the property in



1977. International World Wetlands Day is celebrated annually on February 2nd. On World Wetlands Day, WHO celebrates the vital role of wetlands in safeguarding human health and wellbeing amid the changing climate. Wetlands including marshes, swamps and floodplains are nature's buffer against climate change.



*Friends of Coolart is a volunteer organisation that works to preserve and enhance the environmental, cultural and educational values of Coolart Wetlands and Homestead for the public benefit.*

*The work carried out by the Friends of Coolart complements Parks Victoria's management of the reserve and adds value to both the essential qualities of the property and the visitor experience.*

*For more information or enquiries:*

*Mail: PO Box 183, Somers VIC 3927*

*Email: [info@coolart.org.au](mailto:info@coolart.org.au)*

*Web: [www.coolart.org.au](http://www.coolart.org.au)*

*Facebook: [/friendsofcoolart](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofcoolart)*

## Friends of Woolleys Beach

### Join us!

*Why?* The Crib Point Stony Point Foreshore Reserve is one of the few remaining places along the Western Port coastline that has many species of plants, birds and animals. It is a significant area within the **Western Port Biosphere** and thus has global importance for the conservation of nature under the RAMSAR wetland convention and for developing the science of sustainable land use under the UNESCO man and biosphere program.

Unfortunately many of the plant communities of the reserve are under threat from weeds, which left unchecked can replace these important ecosystems.

*Where?* Woolleys Beach North carpark near Crib Point jetty  
(Just a short walk opposite the Victorian Maritime Centre at 220 The Esplanade, Crib Point).

*When?* First Sunday of the month from 9:00am – 11:00am.

*How?* We will target Bluebell creeper found in a specific area of the foreshore reserve. This will be done by hand weeding young plants and cutting larger ones with loppers.

**Bring your own safety glasses and gardening gloves.**

Tools and Hi-Viz vests provided. Sign In and Acknowledge Job Safety required.

**Register:** [ranger@cribpointstonypointforeshore.com.au](mailto:ranger@cribpointstonypointforeshore.com.au)

**Further info:** <https://cribpointstonypointforeshore.com.au/>

***THANK YOU!***





**Crib Point Action Group Inc.**  
Seeking to advance the social, environmental  
and economic interests of the Crib Point Community

CPAG is a group of local volunteers that started in 2006 with a focus to work with the community to address issues and build on their vision for the future of Crib Point.

Initially - Worked tirelessly over 6 years to stop the construction of the Boral Bitumen Transport and Storage Facility on the foreshore near Crib Point Jetty – organising community protests, writing submissions, attending and presenting at Planning Panel hearings. Boral eventually shelved plans for the development at Crib Point.

Since that time members of CPAG have:

- Completed a series of plaques recognising the contribution of prominent families in Crib Point. These are on display opposite Café 202
- Made submissions representing the community to Mornington Peninsula Shire Council on the Crib Point Township Plan
- Made submissions on behalf of the community expressing our views on the Coastal Villages and Neighbourhoods Strategy
- Worked with the community of Crib Point and the Mornington Peninsula in the fight against AGL's proposed gas import jetty and pipeline project
- Commissioned local artist Philip Philippou to take on the project of the murals at Crib Point Cellars and amenities area in Arthur Petersen Reserve
- Liaised with MP Shire to undertake refurbishment of the streetscape in front of the Australia Post office and Café 202 on Stony Point Road
- Made submissions to MP Shire, local members of parliament and VicRoads to improve road safety seeking the installation of new traffic lights at the intersection of Disney Street and Stony Point Road in Crib Point

As with all volunteer committees, we are always looking for people willing to put in some time to help their community. If you are interested, please contact us.

We meet on the first Wednesday of every second month at 7:00pm at  
Crib Point Community House – located at 7 Park Road, Crib Point.  
Upcoming meetings will be held on 3 April 2024 and 5 June 2024.

Contact Cecelia Witton at [info@cribpointonline.org](mailto:info@cribpointonline.org)

**Please scan this QR code to fill in the 2024 Crib Point Community Survey  
or visit [www.cribpointonline.org/](http://www.cribpointonline.org/)**







Hi there!

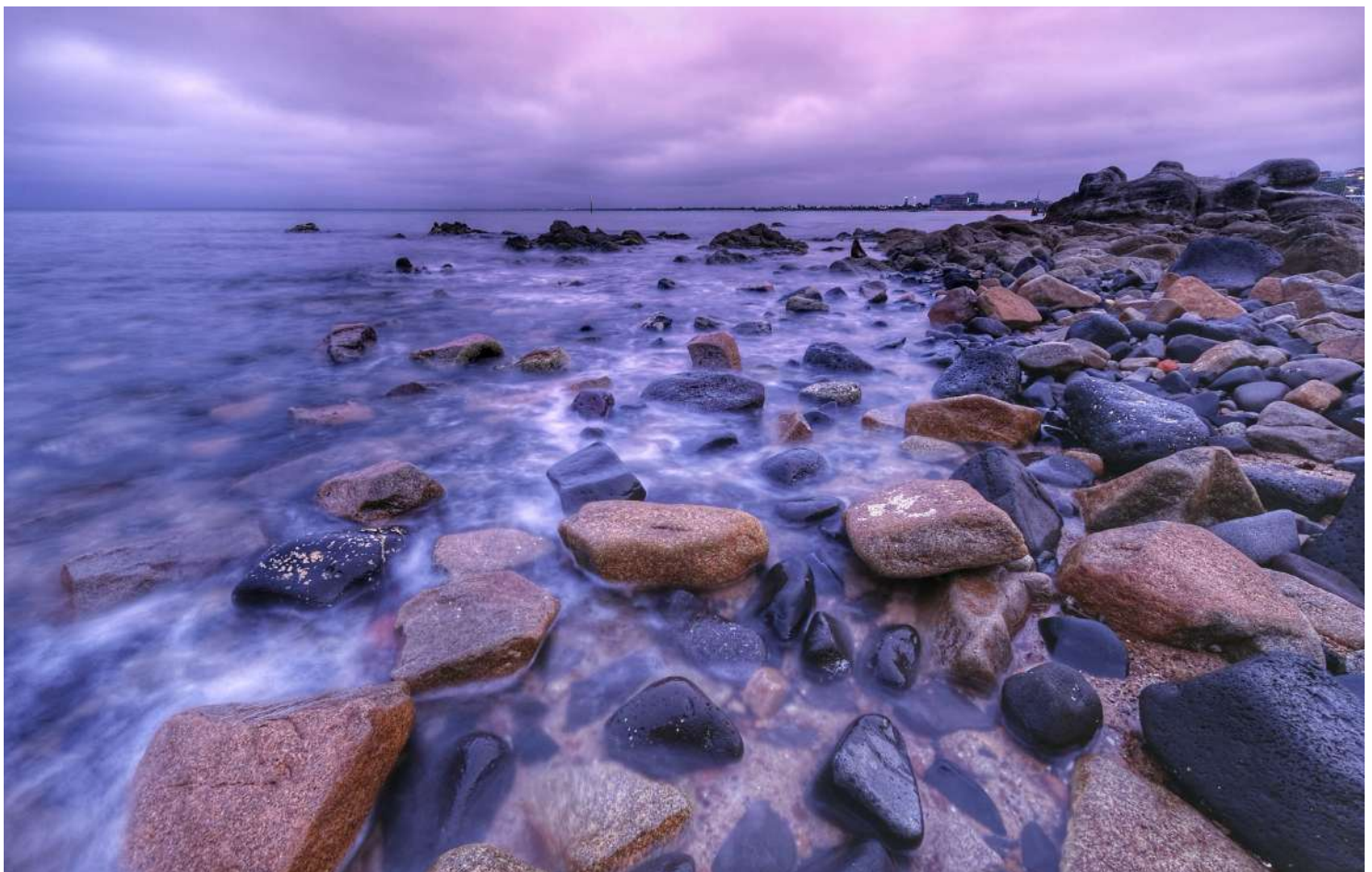
My name is José Zandveld.

I'm a local photographer sharing images of the area I grew up in,  
the beautiful Mornington Peninsula.

I am passionate about our amazing surroundings and enjoy capturing  
inspiring moments they produce.

I offer prints for sale as well as doing family and pet portraiture, small  
intimate weddings, sporting events and business photos for websites.

You can follow my pages on:  
Facebook or Instagram under Right Spot Photography  
and contact me on 0411 685 476.



# THE COAST

REAL ESTATE

AFFINITY SERVICE TRUST

Fundamental values embedded in everything we do.

## THINKING OF SELLING, BUYING or RENTING?

Your real estate goals deserve a partner, a dedicated team who reliably deliver seamless, timely and prosperous outcomes.

We warmly welcome the opportunity to be that partner, bringing you the insider's know-how, The Coast Advantage.

thecoast.com.au • 5983 1980  
Property Sales & Management



# HRF Guided Walks for 2024

@Habitat Restoration Fund invites you to save dates for guided walks showcasing our works on private properties on the Mornington Peninsula.

**23rd March** 2024 Shoreham Hinterland Property

**1st June** Flinders Property

**31st August** Shoreham Hinterland Property 2

Details to come: Follow us on **Instagram, FB** or  
[www.hrfund.org](http://www.hrfund.org)



Aussie Animals  
Need (Safe) Homes  
Too!



Please Note: Private bush sites



No dogs/pets



No toilets available

## Paul's Art and Frame

... closed on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023.  
But hold those tears!

Paul has re-opened in Hastings...

at 19 Star Point Place  
on Frankston-Flinders Rd  
Hastings

Telephone: 0439 718 281

So, you can continue to get all your art and crafts materials, custom framing and laminating, precut frames, maps (overseas and Hema), paper carry bags, candles, cards, and other treasures from Paul - Easy!!



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# BALNARRING BOOMERANG BAGS

Our Boomerang Bag group has been meeting together and sewing bags since 2017. Since then, we've sewn over 7 000 bags for shoppers and dozens of headphone bags, chair bags, BEAT bags and costumes for Balnarring Primary School.

The school were very generous in allowing us to work out of 'The Shack' (a freestanding portable building in the school grounds).

You may be familiar with our Boomerang Bag stand in Ritchies IGA. You may even own a Boomerang Bag or two yourself. You may ask '*Are they still sewing bags?*'

YES!!!! We are still sewing bags from recycled fabric received from St Marks Op Shop and general donations.

Now that the state government has banned single-use plastic bags, you may be wondering *why* we continue to sew bags.

A few reasons.....

1. People still forget to take a bag into the supermarket (though they don't forget their wallet or their phone).
2. Fabric bags are so much stronger than the brown paper bags that have replaced the plastic bags.
3. Fabric bags assist in keeping unwanted fabric from ending up in landfill.
4. Fabric bags look FABULOUS!!!!
5. The sewing of these bags has helped strengthen community ties with Balnarring PS.
6. Sewing sessions have introduced and fostered many new friendships.
7. Boomerang Bags is part of a huge global initiative raising awareness of the plastic problem.
8. Balnarring Boomerang Bags has made donations to a number of local charities and organisations eg.
  - Willum Warrain
  - Sikh Volunteers Kitchen
  - Jenny Bryant's animal shelter
  - Balnarring Primary School

Our two main outlets are Ritchies IGA and the Tulum Store.

We are always looking for new volunteers who would like to sew bags (machines provided), cut fabric, iron or simply meet for a chat and a cuppa.

Join our group of about 6-8 regular sewers and meet in The Shack at Balnarring Primary School on Thursdays from about 1:30pm (finishing in time for school pick-up).

Or... you may prefer to pick up some pre-cut kits and sew in the comfort of your own home.

(Balnarring Boomerang Bags will also pay for your sewing machine to be serviced by the wonderful Rick Wise.)

Marnee and Cheryl

[balnarringboomerangbags@gmail.com](mailto:balnarringboomerangbags@gmail.com)

<https://facebook.com/groups/BoomerangBagsBalnarring/>



## THE INDIAN HAWKER

In the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century many of the farms were visited by tradespeople delivering their merchandise. Bread was often delivered, as was meat. ‘Bob the Baker’ or ‘Bill the Butcher’ was a regular visitor in his horse and cart. There were also hawkers who came around perhaps a couple of times a year to display and sell their wares.

Frances (Forbes) Queale was a child in Merricks in the 1920s. Her parents had a dairy farm on the corner of Stanleys and Merricks Roads. She recalled:

“A travelling draper, a baker and a butcher called, in their horse and cart. Another kind of draper who visited the district in a covered wagon pulled by a large, slow, old horse was an Indian who wore a colourful turban wound around his head. He looked a bit scary but mum told us [her and her two brothers] not to be afraid of him. He always asked if he could camp for the night in our yard. He really was a kind old man and displayed beautiful linen to Mum. She often bought things from him.”

The exotic Indian or Afghan hawkers made an indelible impression on the minds of the district’s youngsters. Betsy (VanSuylen) Cook whose parents had a farm along Stumpy Gully Road also had stories about the Indian hawkers. “There was a swarthy, dark-eyed, turbaned man who came around visiting the various farms from time to time. He had a horse-drawn wagon from which he ran his business. He was what was termed a draper, selling fabrics, threads and such. He was always invited to a meal by my father’s family. One time they were having cold meats. The table was spread with the usual fare for a meal, including a container of jam. The hawker, probably thinking it was chutney, spread it on his meat to the amusement of the children. Their parents’ warning frowns stifled any laughter.

The youngest of the children were somewhat intimidated by this stranger, who would come into the farm leading his horse. On one of his visits, as he turned into the driveway of the farm, my Aunt Elizabeth who was a small girl at the time, was nearer to the gate than to the house. She ran off in fright, calling for her mother. The hawker ran after her, calling out, ‘Missy. Missy. I won’t hurt you.’ Being pursued only made the child more terrified and she ran all the harder. He really was a kind old man and he was upset that he had scared her. He didn’t mean to, it was just because he was different. All the same they must have looked forward to his visits because he brought all sorts of things they couldn’t get elsewhere.”

The women on the farms did indeed look forward to the hawker turning into the driveway. His array of goods included pieces of fine fabric, buttons and bootlaces, pins and needles, threads and ribbons. His visit was a welcome one.

*Ilma Hackett*

*Balnarring & District Historical Society*





A hawker displays his wares at “Gleneira” in Flinders.  
Photograph: courtesy Flinders District Historical Society

## WILL YOU HELP?

Our local Historical Society *urgently* needs  
new people.

The Balnarring & ***District*** Historical Society  
covers not just *Balnarring* but also  
*Merricks*  
*Merricks Beach*  
*Somers*  
*and Balnarring Beach*

All that is needed is a curiosity about  
the area in which you live.

Why not give us a try?

Email: [balhist4@gmail.com](mailto:balhist4@gmail.com) or phone: 5983 5326  
to learn more.

## BALNARRING MEN'S PROBUS CLUB

---

Our Club was founded in 1985 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. We currently have 60 members with ages ranging from 65 to 97.

We meet at the **Balnarring Bowls & Social Club** on the last Friday of each month, except December, commencing at 10:00 am. Our regular features include photographic exhibitions, morning tea and guest speakers who are invariably a source of information and entertainment. Meetings will usually be followed by a light lunch at the club.

The Club also hosts a variety of activities including a book group, bridge, wine appreciation, photography, gardening, cycling, outings and dine-outs.

The Garden group run an annual Tomato Tasting and after much tasting awarded the perpetual trophy to Faye Gerdson presented by Barry Gordon.



Our annual long trip this year will be to the RACV Goldfields Resort in Creswick. The five day trip in April, using private cars, will be centred around discovering Ballarat and the Central Goldfields.

Our speaker at our February meeting was Simon Brooks, our local Mayor, who gave us an excellent insight to how our council works and the challenges it faces. Simon answered many questions from an appreciative audience.

Due to Good Friday falling on our normal meeting date our AGM has been shifted to Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March and will be followed by a club BBQ

New members are always welcomed. For further information please contact our President **Dennis Paskins** on 0409 480 306 or check out our website by typing "Balnarring Men's Probus" into your web browser.



# Somers Ladies Probus Club

Our 2024 Probus year began with a Garden Gathering at **Elizabeth Hatton's** home, Green Hedges, where there was lots of happy chatter as we caught up with friends. Several members contributed to make the delicious lunch.



Our recent AGM saw the election of our committee for 2024-2025., with new President Lis Maude. We look forward to another year of activities including Mah Jong, Canasta, Music, Knit and Natter, Fireside Films, a regular Happy Hour, a Lunch Group and a range of outings.



Somers Ladies Probus Club usually meets on the first Friday of each month at 10 am at the Stone Pavilion, Camphill Rd. Somers.

Probus is about Friendship, Fellowship and Fun - with the emphasis on FUN! Our Club provides opportunities to engage in a variety of activities in a friendly environment and over 38 years has provided support and assistance to members.

New members are always welcome and we invite ladies to contact June (5983 5321) or Lis (0407 713 211) for more information.



Pilates Matwork  
Lomi Lomi Hawaiian Massage  
One-to-One Postural Pilates  
Stretch and Release Class

with Neil Adams

Pilates Matwork: Small group classes to improve core strength, coordination, and flexibility

Lomi Lomi Hawaiian Massage: Relaxation, rejuvenation and healing through the experience of Lomi Lomi Hawaiian massage

One-to-One Postural Pilates: based on Pilates principles and designed to address specific postural concerns of individual clients

Stretch and Release class: A 45-minute session of gentle stretching to limber and relax your entire body

Please call Neil on 0418 638 589  
for class times and more information

@Warrawee Wholistic  
87 Warrawee Rd. Balnarring, Vic  
[www.warraweewholistic.com](http://www.warraweewholistic.com)

# Crib Point Community Market

**CELEBRATING LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS**



We are celebrating the many wonderful groups that are involved in our community. Sporting groups and schools, emergency services, social interest as well as the many not-for-profit welfare and wellbeing groups that help keep this town a wonderful place to be.

**Inside and Outside Stalls Available**  
**Stall Fees Paid on the Day**

Lots of Stalls Inside and Out Handmade Goods,  
Up-Cycled Items, Plants, Gifts, Community Stalls,  
Coffee Van, Devonshire Tea & BBQ,  
Cribby Koala Treasure Hunt and much more....



**7 Park Rd Crib Point, 3919**

Ph:(03)5983 9888

Email: [market@cpch.org.au](mailto:market@cpch.org.au)

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





What a busy start to the year we've had. Barb and her team have been very busy organising our Quilt and Craft Show. Unfortunately, by the time you all read this it will have been done and dusted. I'm sorry if you missed out on a great show. Check out our website for pictures and the lucky winners.

We had a great bus trip to Melbourne Museum for the Titanic exhibition, thanks to the Hastings Bendigo Bank for their sponsorship. Everyone loved it and we highly recommend you see it before it finishes. There'll be another Op shop trip in Term 2 and we'll sail across the bay to Queenscliff to do some sightseeing and of course visit a couple of Op shops while we are there. Keep an eye out for our program for all the details.



Our new Playgroup has begun but there's plenty of room for more Mums and kids. Come along and join in the fun and support one another. Our Carer's group has been slow to start but we're going to persist because we know there are carers out there, paid and unpaid, who are very much in need of a break and support. We believe we need to care for the carers so they can continue to do their tireless work.

The Men's group is going well, so if you're at a loose end and would like to meet a Few Bored Blokes, then come and join this group on Wednesday mornings 10am to 12noon. What about a Games morning or afternoon? You know we're always after ideas for classes and groups, after all, it's your Community House. If you have any ideas, just give us a call, email or drop in and have a chat. As usual, keep an eye out on our website, [cpch.org.au](http://cpch.org.au) for all the information about Term 2 classes and more.

The Community Café will now be known as **Margie's Community Café** in memory of Marg Binney, a local volunteer who was always one of the first to put her hand up. Marg was one of Julie's wonderful band of volunteers who cooked up a variety of delicious food for our Community Lunches last year. Our first café for the year was enjoyed by about 30 people and our next one is on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Bookings are essential.



Our next market on Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup> will be a **Community Support Market**. We will be celebrating the many wonderful groups that are involved in our community. Sporting groups and schools, emergency services, social interest as well as the many not-for-profit welfare and wellbeing groups that help make this town a wonderful place to be. Some of the groups will have stalls and activities at the market and you can get information about the different groups. There will also be a visit by the CFA's Capt Koala and the SES's Paddy Platypus.



We will also have our Biggest Morning Tea at our May 11<sup>th</sup> market. All money raised from our Devonshire Tea and the BBQ will go to the Cancer Council of Victoria. Come along and join in the fun and help raise much needed money for Cancer research. This is also Mother's Day eve and you're sure to find lots of great last minute gifts that Mum will love. When the kids do the Cribby Koala Treasure Hunt they will go into the FREE draw to win a present for Mum.

If you are interested in having a stall, or if your community group would like to raise some money doing the BBQ, email Michelle at [market@cpch.org.au](mailto:market@cpch.org.au)

Remember, this is YOUR Community House so don't be a stranger, pop into the Community House and have a cuppa or join us when our Café Chat returns on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May at Café 202. The cuppa is on us. Keep up to date on our website [www.cpch.org.au](http://www.cpch.org.au), Facebook and Instagram.

EVERYDAY I WAKE UP  
AND THINK – HOW ON EARTH  
DID I BECOME THIS MUCH  
LIKE MY MOTHER?



Crib Point  
Community Market  
**FUNDRAISING  
OPPORTUNITY  
COMMUNITY GROUPS**

**COMMUNITY BBQ**



**at the**



**MARKET**

**2nd Saturday of every month**

**9am to 1pm**

**Enquiries to Crib Point Community House  
on 59839888 or email Michelle at  
[market@cpch.org.au](mailto:market@cpch.org.au)**

## ***Combined Probus Club of Balnarring***

Our Club welcomes couples and singles to enjoy the friendship and fellowship of like-minded people.

We meet at the Balnarring Hall on the third Friday of each month at 10.00am. Our meetings consist of a brief coverage of the business of the previous meeting, morning tea, then a Speaker or other organised activity.

We organise day trips and a four-day Spring and Autumn trip. Our interest groups include Theatre Lovers, Book Club, Singing for Fun, Gardening, Cards: Hand & Foot, and "500", Scrabble, Walking, Dine Out, Cinema, Movie discussion group, Camera Crew, Backgammon, Bocce, Carpet Bowls, and a Book Exchange.

Membership Enquiries to: [balnarringcomprobust@gmail.com](mailto:balnarringcomprobust@gmail.com)

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## **Open 9am-4pm Weekdays**

Willum Warrain is a 100% Aboriginal community-owned bush nursery specialising in local indigenous plants from the Mornington Peninsula. Many of the plants we sell have cultural uses and meanings for Aboriginal peoples in South East Australia.

We are the only Aboriginal-run nursery retail and wholesale nursery south of Melbourne open to the public. We are very keen to take on larger orders (with warning) from businesses and agencies seeking to achieve Reconciliation Action Plan goals and meet procurement targets.

We really appreciate the support of friends, allies and corporate clients who have been so keen to support our local Aboriginal mob developing this important social enterprise, creating employment opportunities for our Aboriginal community.

You can drop in weekdays throughout the school term and purchase plants. – we are currently growing over 100 species. Please see our exciting range of top 5 Deadly Plants (murnong, lomandra, chocolate lily, appleberry, karkalla) and our top 5 wetland and top 5 bush flower selections.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to heal country. For more information, please visit -

[www.willumwarrain.org.au/willum-warrain-aboriginal-bush-nursery](http://www.willumwarrain.org.au/willum-warrain-aboriginal-bush-nursery)

## Friends of Daangean Report

The first waterwatch for 2024 occurred on Thursday January 25<sup>th</sup> with a team of four, and a pleasant day weatherwise. Swimmers making the most of the warmth enjoyed themselves in the Devilbend quarry, even though there are “No Swimming” signs displayed. It’s a shame they leave their rubbish behind, which ParksVic have to clean up. Discarded bait bags, soft drink bottles and a cardboard carton around the fishing platforms littered the water at the fishing platform. When waterwatch is carried out one of the requirements is a bit of a scout around for rubbish and the variety thereof. On this occasion we found a discarded inflatable canoe looking craft, which probably had a hole in it, so it was just left for someone else to deal with.

The water levels at both water bodies is falling with the Devilbend water more turbid than usual with no obvious reason for it that we could see. The other test sites had their usual turbidity readings of <9, except for the catch drain water where Devilbend Ck flows into it during winter. The water here is always murky due to the clay bottom and sides.

Mosquito fish were rife in both dams and there’s no apparent way of dealing with them. And they don’t eat mosquitoes but they do chew the fins of other fish, so



Site 2 Western Tip

the tiny galaxias would have no hope against them. These fish don't appear to inhabit the catch drain anywhere, maybe because of turbidity and it dries out in many sections during the dry.

The birds about this day at Bittern Reservoir were the resident swans amid coots, while on the water tower nervous little pied and little black cormorants dried their wings. And coots were on the water and resting on the quarry banks at Devilbend.

Tuesday February 20<sup>th</sup> comprised a team of three; one gallivanting about the country and one taken ill while en route. The water levels at both dams were noticeably down from January. Collection site 1 near the fishing platforms didn't require climbing on the seat to reach deeper water this time. No rubbish about this month at either the quarry or around the fishing platforms, so Parks Vic have been on the job. With the water level drop access to the Western Tip the second DB site had become a pathway of sticky mud, and judging by the big boot prints it didn't prevent access to others who more than likely shouldn't be in there. And to make their way in easier they've chopped off the Burgan to low stumps beside the track thereby creating tripping hazards for the unwary.

The receding water at the Bittern site revealed a muddy shoreline with lots of wader bird tracks and big dog paw prints.

At DB site 1 some lovely fairy wrens flitted about seemingly unconcerned by our presence and coots drifted about on the water. While at Bittern the distant resident swans were accompanied by coots and cormorants were on the water tower, and a reed warbler was spotted in the cumbungi below the dam wall.

Water readings were consistent with previous tests, and DB water had its normal turbidity reading of <9, which is clear.





**In the thick of it**

FOD began the bush maintenance weed sweep for the year on Saturday March 2 with seven of us on the job. Judging by the sea of regrowth of pitto seedlings a team of 77 for seven days would do well to clear them all!! We haven't been in this area for some time as we had been progressively working our way north, now we're back to start again. Some of the regrowth seedlings are mature enough to bear fruit, so they must go before they produce a new forest.

A DEECA grant permitted us to buy two battery operated pruning saws which performed well on the larger pittos.

The bush was extremely dry and even the very small pittos wouldn't pull out and merely broke off. The larger pittos with drooping leaves showed a sign of the dry and no matter how plaintive they looked it wasn't enough to save them. Head high gahnia and bracken made the push through a supreme effort. We were far enough into the bush to be clear of the drifting Derril Rd dust, and the scrub was clean from it too. One crimson rosella was the only sign of birdlife, and a patch of tall 56



A swathe of vegetation removed from the vicinity of the Woodland Break entrance leaves the way open to the off-road hooligans when the rain returns. They repeatedly trash many sections beside Derril, Hodgins and Graydens Rds.

At Woodland Break there was no sign of the fire, reported to be in Woods Reserve, and threatened Devilbend on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.



**The girls after work**

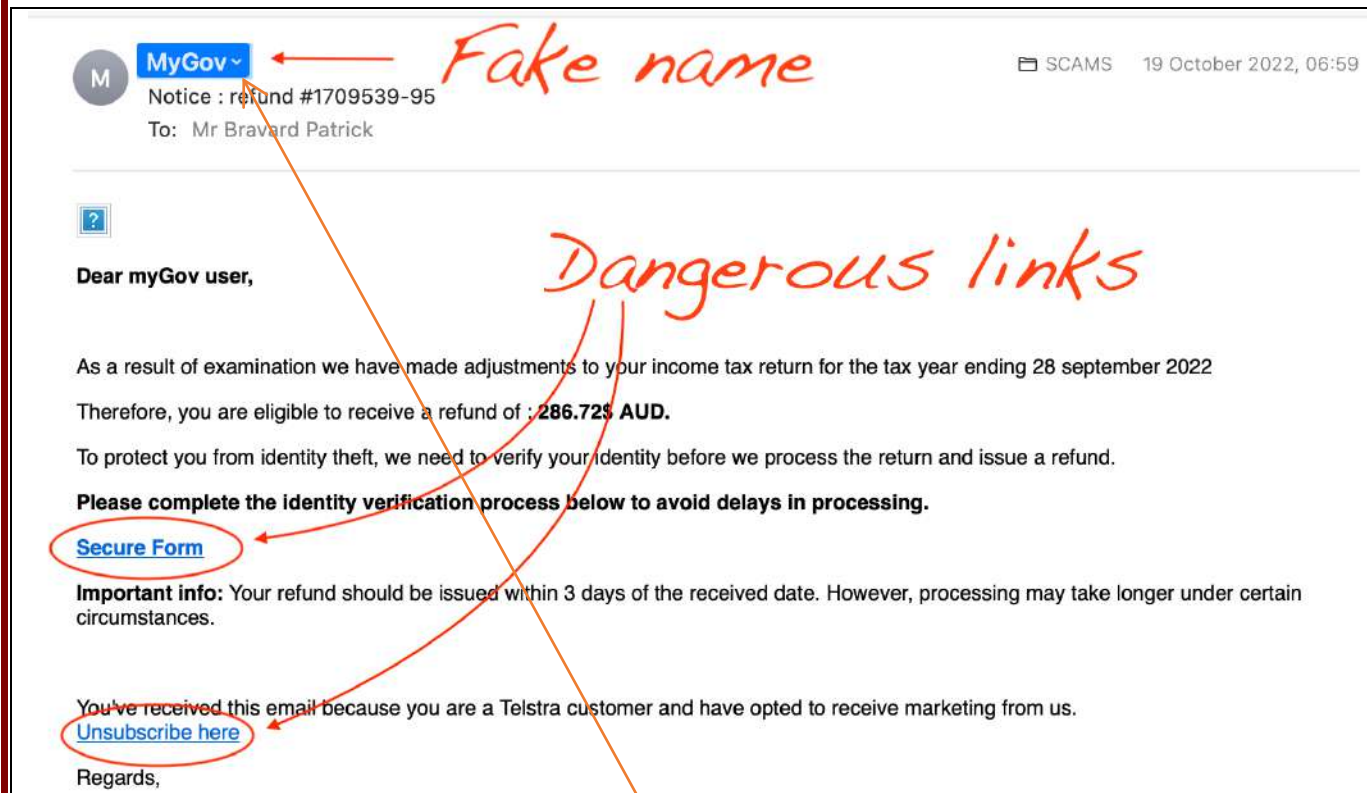
Marnie Fitzsimons

FOD Co-ordinator

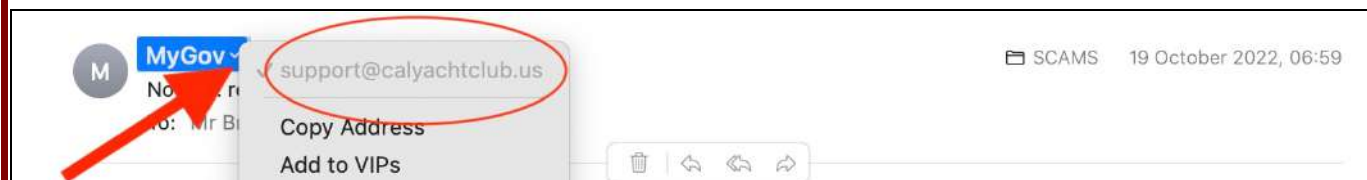
[devilbendfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:devilbendfoundation@gmail.com)

## Pat The Mac: Phishing emails

From time to time, you may receive an email that looks suspicious. It may be from an organisation that you relate to or from a long-lost friend. Usually, this email will ask you to click on a link to enter some details or to display a photo or a video that you ought to see. See the example below:



Firstly, **do not click on any link!** Second, to confirm this is a phishing email, you can click on the little down arrow “v” next to the sender’s email address:



As you can see in the example above, the sender email address has nothing to do with MyGov. Your next step is to delete the email since it does not bring you any good news. You may wonder what the difference between Spam and Phishing email is. Spam is simply unsolicited advertising. If it exhibits “unsubscribe” at the bottom, do not click on it, simply delete the email. Phishing is a fraud attempt. It tries to make you click on a link to direct you to a fake website to obtain personal details or banking information.

If you need further help, contact me using the details below.

Pat The Mac on 0419 330 497 or by email via [pat@patthemacs.com](mailto:pat@patthemacs.com)





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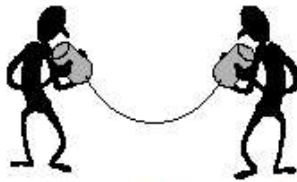
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FOR MORE INFO CONTACT MICHAEL ON 0488940924

For Muso Night dates over April and May, please check out: *Balnarring Muso Night* on Facebook.



## ***OP SHOP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!***

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St. Mark's Op Shop in Balnarring would love to have a few more volunteers to join their team. The shop is modern, full of great items for sale, and is beautifully organised.

The shop has also been supporting some of the most needy in our community this year: the homeless, refugees and asylum seekers, and those who needed warm clothing throughout winter.

If you would like to be a volunteer, please contact Keiron Jones at [vicar.flinderswithbalnarring@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.flinderswithbalnarring@gmail.com).

(Our parish also has the fabulous St. John's op shop in Flinders!)

## ***WILDLIFE RESCUE Contacts***

@Koala rescue

Jenny Bryant

0417 395 883

@WHOMP

(Wildlife Help On  
Mornington Peninsula)

0417 380 687

@Klarissa Gaunaut

0488 494 667

## 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 at 10 am on the last Sunday of the month (excepting December and January) at the rotunda next to the beach store at Balnarring Beach.

**Our next 2 working bees are on:**

**Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup> at 10am at the rotunda.**

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

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.*

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# 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.

## **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 issue and will not be charged.**

All entries that create income, including employment and housing, count as adverts.

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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