

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

Issue 90 April and May 2025

www.bridgemag.com.au



Made possible by the customers of Balnarring & District



Western Port Biosphere: Participants from the junior ranger program at Pt Leo learn about aquatic invertebrates through bug dipping. Photo: Western Port Biosphere Foundation.

Huge Thanks to Community Bank - Balnarring and District for their fantastic support.

Hello Everyone!

Welcome to your April-May edition of the Bridge! We hope everyone is enjoying life in your own unique way... and remember, "Compassion is not complete if it does not include oneself" (Allan Lokos). It seems so easy to forget to support ourselves in this way – being gentle, kind and generous to ourselves, as well as others ©

This is another big edition, packed with what's happening, what has happened and what's coming up for us to enjoy. We are always delighted with the variety – a reflection of course of our wonderful community. If we could put all entries in the first 20 pages, we would! Sadly, in the physical world of magazines, it's not possible – location in the magazine is in no way a reflection on importance – everyone's entry is important!

Have you been wondering about the Bridge production process??

Every second month Ali sends out an email reminder to all past contributors early in the preceding month— the deadline for receiving entries is the 10th of the preceding month—i.e. for the April-May edition, we needed entries to be in by the 10th March. All our deadline dates are listed on the last page of this edition. We are very grateful for our contributors getting their entries in to Ali's laptop in good time. She then forwards them to Jen's laptop and the Bridge construction is done on her couch! Once complete, Jen sends it to Ali who does some technical magic things, and forwards it to our friends at Galaxy Printing in Hastings. The wonder of technology!

Once printed, Ali gets a phone call from Galaxy and she picks up the boxes of about 800 booklets and 12 venue copies (A4 size with colour cover) and, in Jen's carport, sorts them into boxes for the distribution team. Bridges are distributed to 40 locations from Flinders to Red Hill to Crib Point, including Shoreham, Balnarring & Somers. Once sorted, the distribution team get an email from Ali to come and pick up their boxes. We try to get all Bridges out to locations by the 1st. Ali then creates the online version for the Website.

If anyone is interested in joining the distribution team, the Crib Point run is available – 3 venues plus The General in Somers. Contact Ali to let her know on info@bridgemag.com.au Wishing you all an Auspicious April and Magnificent May © With our love, Jen and Ali xx

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

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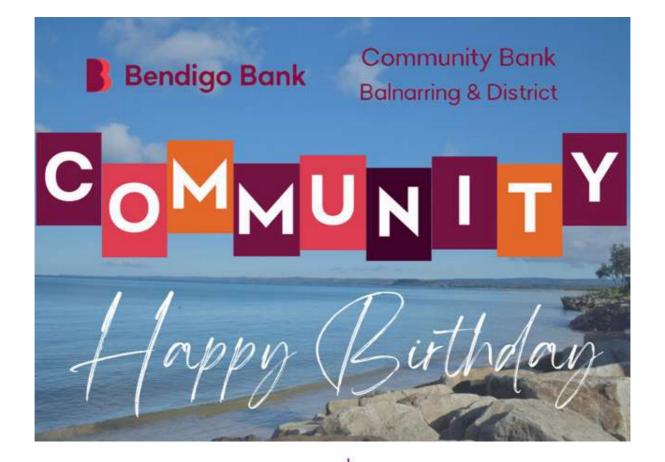
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Our wonderful community! You!



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





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/

Happy Birthday!

April

2nd Elizabeth Shannon

4th Kerry Fortuyn

6th Jenny Taylor

9th Kirra DiConza

10th Marina McLean

10th Winnie Gibson

12th Nick Fenton

12th Elise Cooper

12th Jamie Roach

13th Tia Mustey

15th Joey De Backer

17th Eve Whitelaw

17th Rob Westle

19th David Buntine

22nd Michael Gibson

22nd Alex McLean

22nd Mollie Nelson William

24th Andrew Dowey

26th Fiona Hammond

29th Jack Gosling

29th Courtney Gibson



3rd Barb Rimington

3rd Sarah Toose

3rd Jodee Hopkins

4th Willow Roach

17th Quinnah Heffernan

21st Renae Haylock

21st Peter McLean

23rd Stewart MacGowan

25th Hannah Lewis

27th Gina Tritt Buntine

30th Amy Sayle



April May 2025

Inspirational Angel Cards for the Community:

Adventurous Loving

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

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.



How healthy is your home loan?

With the current cost of living, there's never been a better time to review your home loan.

We'll look at your rate, term, repayments, and equity, giving your loan a full check-up to make sure it's still right for you and your current needs.

Enquire online at bendigobank.com.au/healthcheck or visit your nearest branch.



Community Bank · Balnarring & District



Somers Chamber Music Society Inc. presents

Back by popular demand The Alari Quartet

Lynda Latu - violin 1 Jessica Leigh - violin 2 Sandra Ionescu - viola Sarah Wang - cello







Sunday 13 April 2025 at 2.30pm.
St John's Anglican Church, King Street, Flinders.
Doors open at 2pm

Program

Haydn String Quartet No.3, Op.33 'The Bird' Elena Kats Chernin Blue Silence

<u>Interval</u>

Grieg String Quartet No.1, Op.27

Tickets \$55 including post-concert refreshments

HTTPS://www.trybooking.com/CZUVY

Student tickets \$25 - pay at door (cash only)

More information contact our President on 0407 754 774



Somers Chamber Music Society acknowledges the support of Balnarring Community Bank



News from your elected advocate for Coolart Ward, Cr. David Gill.

- I recently attended the launch of the new, child friendly **bike jumps** in R.W. Stone Recreation Reserve. Built patiently by our young 'engineers' and riders it is being enjoyed by many enthusiasts. A great initiative on a grassed area and a reminder that Somers has many young families needing recreation choices.
- A reminder to lock your cars and house doors. Most break-ins utilise unlocked doors
 to gain quick entry and are gone immediately after taking visible car keys and wallets.
- Want your opinion heard on a planning permit application? Your local Community Association or Councillor can assist but be quick as notice periods are short. Not all applications require a yellow notice to be placed at the property. The State Government controls planning and has restricted your rights to have your say including taking away appeal rights for some types of applications. There are catch 22's for first time applicants or objectors so seek guidance as a check of the Planning Scheme doesn't reveal previous decisions that may hinge on interpretations of even one word.
- Sadly we will continue to lose our **koala's** and other wildlife because of a lack of a Management Plan and a wildlife hospital. Our wildlife carers do a magnificent job but they are overwhelmed.
- Looking for something a little different?
 The Angel Archers Club based at Emu Plains (entry at the Balnarring Racecourse) offers a fun, archery activity for most ages. For more information phone 0417 115 160.
- The multi-purpose **trail** between Merricks Store and Balnarring is back on the agenda but needs your pressure to make it happen. Trails on the Western Port side have been discussed for years but don't make the budget cut.
- Despite reluctance from authorities the Shire **Arts and Culture** Advisory Committee is back on track. Perhaps a surprise that more people are involved in the Arts in the wider sense than sporting activities, but with little of the funding.

Welcome your feedback and comments about issues of importance to you.

Regards,

David. david.gill@mornpen.vic.gov.au

2025 SCHEDULE



YOGA WITH EUGENIE

SATURDAYS 9.00 - 10.30 AM TUESDAYS 9.00 - 11 AM

SUGGESTED DONATION \$20 MORE INFO: EUGENIE 0429 092 331

MEDITATION

MONDAYS 7.30 - 8.30 PM

MORE INFO: SIMON 0415 729 579

SALSA DANCE

WEDNESDAYS SESSION 1: 6.30-7.30 PM WEDNESDAYS SESSION 2: 7.30-8.30 PM

> SUGGESTED DONATION \$20 MORE INFO: SIMON 0415 729 579

AFRICAN PERCUSSION

MONDAYS 6.30-7.30 PM THURSDAYS 5 -6 PM

MORE INFO: PETER 0432 043 547

YOGA WITH JAN

THURSDAYS 9.15AM-10.30AM

SUGGESTED DONATION \$20 MORE INFO: JAN 0405 609 157 **OIGONG**

BUDDHIST MEDITATION

WEDNESDAYS 1.30-3PM

GOLD COIN DONATION

MORE INFO: JUDITH 0408 632 714

THURSDAYS 6.15PM-7.30PM

SUGGESTED DONATION \$10

MORE INFO: ANDREW 0406 399 850

BALNARRING PLAYGROUP

aSALTBUSH

FRIDAYS

MORE INFO: KIRSTEN 0421 564 439

WOMEN'S MUSICAL JAM SATURDAYS (FORTNIGHTLY) 3PM-5PM

FREE

ACTING FOR YOUTH MORE INFO: JACKIE 0480 173 357

8-12YOS SATURDAY 11AM-12NOON 13-18 YOS FRIDAY 4.30- 5.30PM

> SUGGESTED DONATION \$20 MORE INFO: JO 0409976454

BALNARRING COMMUNITY HUB COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEETING 1ST TUESDAY MONTHLY 6PM-7.30PM

MORE INFO: BALNARRINGHUB@GMAIL.COM



Contact us:

185 High Street, Hastings, VIC 3915

② 5979 2762 **②** wportcomsupport.org.au

⊘ info@wportcomsupport.org.au

Opening hours:

Monday-Friday 10am-4pm

Western Port Community Support

Western Port Community Support (WPCS) is a not-for-profit organisation that provides a free, confidential, and independent support service to individuals and families who are experiencing a short-term crisis within the Western Port community.

Information. Support. Referral.

WPCS endeavours to link you to the right person, service or group who will provide you with free or low-cost assistance to meet your needs. WPCS is managed by an impartial and independent Board of Management and Executive Officer, supported by the program Case Workers, Volunteer Co-ordinator and Office Administrator. All staff and volunteers help WPCS clients.

Our volunteers all have different life experiences and unique skill sets, but they share the same enthusiasm and willingness to be a part of a dedicated team and to help the Western Port community.

WPCS can offer their services thanks to generous community donations, fundraising efforts, Local and Federal Government grants, philanthropic and business valued benefactors.

Support services

- Emergency relief and material aid
- Fresh food program
- Utility bill support
- Family and Housing Support Programs
- Education Support Program
- Financial counselling
- NILS (No Interest Loan Scheme)
- Tax Help Program (July to October annually)
- Christmas Giving Program
- Hosted outreach services
- Volunteering

Information and referral

- Drug and alcohol counselling
- Family and personal issues
- Support services and support groups
- Employment



Peninsula SongRiders proudly presents







TICKETS ONLINE @ TRYBOOKING.COM & @ DOOR/VENUE IF STILL AVAILABLE WESTERNPORT YACHT CLUB - 1 FORESHORE RD BALNARRING BEACH

Walking and sitting meditation

Second Saturday of every month 10.30am to 12.00pm

Coolart Wetlands &
Homestead
40 Lord Somers Road, Somers

Meet at information centre BYO outdoor chair & cushion

All welcome





Balnarring CFA News



FIRE DANGER PERIOD

Fire restrictions are still in force and heavy penalties can apply.

NO BURNING OFF

without a permit.

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

ONLY WORKING 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 3 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	We've been a bit busy!!
15 Jan	Fire: Balnarring Rd, Balnarring (assisted by Bittern).
21 Jan	Fire: Gregory Ave, Somers (assist Somers).
21 Jan	Gas Leak: Balnarring Rd, Balnarring (assisted by Bittern & Somers).
21 Jan	Alarm: Russell St (assisted by Bittern & Somers).
26 Jan	Fire: Surf St, Merricks Beach (assisted by Bittern & Somers).
27 Jan	Fire: Pacific Drv, Balnarring (assisted by Bittern & Somers).
29 Jan	Fire: Hunts Rd, Bittern St (assist Hastings).
30 Jan	Gas Leak: Seabreeze Ave, Balnarring (assisted by Bittern & Somers).
1 Feb	Alarm: Western Pde, Point Leo (assist Shoreham).
2 Feb	Fire: Collins Rd, Dromana (assist Dromana).
2 Feb	Fire: Luton Ave, Red Hill (assist Red Hill).
2 Feb	Fire: Nepean Hwy, Mt Martha (assist Mt Martha).
4 Feb	Alarm: Balnarring Rd, Balnarring (assisted by Bittern & Somers).
5 Feb	Fire: Red Hill Rd, Merricks North (assisted by Moorooduc & Red Hill).
7 Feb	Alarm: South Cres, Somers (assist Somers).
11 Feb	Person Trapped: Balnarring Rd, Balnarring (assisted by Somers).
16 Feb	Fire: Melaleuca Crt, Merricks North (assisted by Bittern & Red Hill).
18 Feb	Person Trapped : Wattle Crt, Balnarring (assisted by Somers & Dromana).
26 Jan	Fire : Coolart Rd, Balnarring (assisted by Bittern, Crib Point & Hastings).
24 Feb	Alarm: Russell St Balnarring (assist Bittern & Somers).
24 Feb	Alarm: Balnarring Rd, Balnarring (assisted by Bittern & Somers).
1 Mar	Fire: Surf St, Merricks Beach (assisted by Bittern & Somers).
8 Mar	Rescue: Eatons Cutting, Dromana (assist Dromana).
8 Mar	Fire: Fulton Rd, Mt Eliza (assist Mt Eliza).
9 Mar	Car Crash : Frankston-Flinders Rd, Merricks (assisted by Red Hill, Dromana & Air Ambulance).
9 Mar	Car Crash: Stanleys Rd, Balnarring (assisted by Somers).
11 Mar	Car Crash : Merricks Rd, Merricks North (assisted by Red Hill, Dromana & Air Ambulance).

News

Again, we have had several members from our brigade and Westernport Group on deployment throughout the state to assist with large scale bushfires.

We've also had members volunteer their time to undertake planned fuel burns across our state to help reduce the likelihood and potential impact of fires in those areas.

WPG Cup

We had a successful inaugural Westernport Group Barefoot Bowls Cup. Nick (from Somers) nearly managed to pull off a miraculous comeback but Daniel (from Balnarring) managed to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat. Well done to everyone who attended.

It's not all about attending emergency events. We have monthly social activities so please come along and join the team and experience the fun and social events.

Volunteers

We have had 2 new members join and start their training but we could always use more. 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.

Byron SEDGWICK

M: 0419 313 413

E: byron@ianreid.com.au

Lieutenant – Balnarring CFA

Community Engagement Officer

Station Ph No: 5983 5379





Balnarring PreSchool Report

What a wonderful start to the year Balnarring Preschool students, educational leaders and community are having. Everyone was excited to start their 2025 Preschool year meeting many new friends, exploring the grounds and becoming apart of the preschool community.

There are many exciting things happening at the preschool this term including the removal of the old tired vegetable gardens to make way for a new and much improved space to grow learn and harvest from raised garden beds. Thank you to all the staff and families of the preschool who were able to help with the dismantling and removal at the recent working bee. Many hands make light work and I know it was very appreciated. Will update you in the future how the new space is coming along.

There are also some new residents at the preschool that the children are loving to watch grow. The preschool welcomed at the beginning of the term six chicks to the coop. Many learning experiences and excitement checking in as the weeks pass.





We have our first fundraising event of the year coming up and hope to see lots of the preschool community families enjoying the evening together playing 'Barefoot Bowls' and joining in with the wider community at the Balnarring Bowls Club on Friday 28th March 4.00pm -7.00pm. Come along and introduce yourself to the other families within the Balnarring preschool community.

What a successful and outstanding event we were part of at Emu Plains on the 1st of March for the 8th Womin Djeka Festival. Thank you to everyone who were part of making this incredible event possible and all the many hours and hard work to make it happen. It was so exciting to see so many from our community and many from afar come together to be apart of this important day. To come together to learn, respect, experience and meet many talented individuals from the First Nations communities that care for this land and are sharing their stories and knowledge. The sun was shinning the children and families smiling, laughing and dancing. Everyone coming

together in many different ways but most importantly together as a community.

A huge effort from the organising committee and preschool educators and community to get our amazing lilk trap artwork across to the festival space. Carefully moved from the preschool via volunteer and loaded onto the truck and driven down to find its place hanging from the trees above. A huge highlight to see it hanging among the trees and the community around it creating and making lilk (eel).

















The children and educators have been working incredibly hard to make sure it's looking just as it should. The weaving and vibrant colours make it unbelievably eye catching. The piece designed with the preschool and artist Bronwyn Razem as part of the learning with the new N'arwee't Carolyn Briggs AM, PhD story gifted to the preschool

to create such a beautiful book. The educators and children worked throughout the 2024 year on the book with many hours, lots of learning, observing, art, drawing and photographs included.

The new book 'The Journey of the lilk' was officially launched and celebrated at the Womin Djeka festival through the large art installation and activities creating individual lilk (eel).

Jaclyn Noakes, Historian Balnarring Preschool Committee

From our BPS correspondent – Viv

A Sporting Start at BPS

It feels like the year of 2025 has just started, but Balnarring Primary School is already off to an astonishing start, with students having competed in swimming sports and house activities.

House Activities

For those who are curious about what house activities are, I'll give you a quick rundown; Balnarring Primary School organises students into 4 houses such as Larnoo (red), Warrawee (blue), Coolart (yellow) and Hurley (green). Every term, on a Friday or two, House Activities are timetabled, and students are encouraged to wear the colour of their house.

On these afternoons, students from year 1 to year 6 are provided with fun and engaging games by the house captains and teachers. The role of house captain is a very important and popular position in leadership. Each house has 2 captains and a vice captain.



Year 6 student, Harvey G from 6B was interviewed by your correspondent about house activities, and he said this "I admired the house captains since they were so supportive and helpful". On the other hand, another student Lani from 5A loved the games Octopus and Tail Tag and was proud of giving them a red-hot go.



Swimming Sports

District swimming sports has been another wonderful and successful highlight to this outstanding start to this year. At Crib Point Pool, Balnarring Primary School representatives swam against other schools from the Mornington Peninsula. 18 out of 26 students made it to the next level; our relay teams were particularly successful.



I got a chance to interview a couple of competitors after the event and this is what they exclaimed about the day. Ruby from 5A thought the highlight was swimming and having fun with her teammates. While Sonny from 6A liked competing and was also passionate about cheering on his friends.





Overall, swimming sports and house activities have introduced a very active start to the year for Balnarring Primary School, right around the corner is the Summer Lightning Premierships and the students are looking forward to competing in Basketball, Tennis, Cricket and Softball.



Australian Garden Project

Creating tranquil native gardens around Saltbush Houses, providing guests with a place of sanctuary and connection to the natural world.

Become a Volunteer

There are jobs for the novice, the experienced gardener and everyone in between. From weeding to planting, mulching and propagating, all that's needed is plenty of enthusiasm and good will.

You are most welcome to join our regular volunteer sessions or for part of the session, or if that is too big a commitment, chat to us about how you can become involved in a less formal way on specific projects.

Regular volunteer sessions - Tuesday and Fridays 10am - 1pm

Additionally, there will be some ad hoc sessions and 3 working bees for larger projects throughout 2025.

For more information call 5983 1819 or email info@saltbushbb.org.au

Saltbush Balnarring Beach is a registered charity, operating for 35 years, providing respite breaks for individuals and families experiencing hardship. To learn more about its community impact, please visit our website https://saltbushbalnarringbeach.org.au





At the Western Port Biosphere Foundation, we have secured funding for new projects and continue to advocate for the protection and sustainability of this unique and valuable region. Here is an overview of our latest initiatives and how you can get involved:

We recently partnered with the Victorian National Parks Association and Save Western Port for a water-based event that brought together the four local councils surrounding Western Port, local MPs, and marine experts. The event focused on accelerating the development of an overarching plan for Western Port that balances environmental conservation with the region's economic future. There was strong support for a strategic plan, and if you'd like to learn more and show your support, visit: www.actforwesternportbay.au

The Victorian Government has selected Hastings as the preferred site for a renewable energy terminal to support offshore wind. Our CEO, Mel Barker, is a representative on the Community Reference Group, and we've made several submissions to Commonwealth and State Governments about the proposal. We'll continue to provide scientific input and review environmental impact assessments—and we'll let you know when there are opportunities for community input.

We're also heading to the Victorian Parliament for a Landcare showcase, where we'll highlight the international significance of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and discuss local environmental issues, opportunities, and actions with MPs.

Education remains central to our work in fostering the next generation of environmental stewards. We're thrilled to announce a new partnership with the Mornington Peninsula Foundation, supported by The Sentinel Foundation, to pilot *Learning with Nature for Optimal Outcomes*. This year-long immersive environmental program will be offered to two primary schools within the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, giving students meaningful, hands-on learning experiences in nature. In addition to this program, our long-standing fee for service education offerings continues to grow. We have limited spots available for Term 2—if your school is interested, contact Lucy Kyriacou at

Our Engaging Families and Communities with the Magic of the Western Port UNESCO Biosphere Reserve program, sponsored by Bendigo Bank Hastings, continues to bring environmental education and awareness to local events. Recent activities include the Point Leo Junior Ranger Programs, which inspire young conservationists through hands-on learning; the Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee Festival, which celebrates culture and environmental stewardship; and Currents of Practice for World Wetlands Day at Coolart Wetlands, which fosters appreciation for vital wetland ecosystems. We are grateful for the continued support of the Hastings branch of Bendigo Bank as we strengthen our community's connection to Western Port's natural environment.



We're also proud to be an official 1% for the Planet environmental partner. This means businesses can support the Biosphere Foundation by pledging just 1% of their sales toward conservation efforts. Aligning with a local charity like ours is a strategic investment in sustainability, brand reputation, and community engagement. Consumers are increasingly drawn to businesses that prioritise environmental responsibility—partnering with us is a tangible way to demonstrate that commitment. If you're interested, learn more www.biosphere.org.au/1-per-cent-for-the-planet/.

Whether you're a local business looking to make a positive impact, an educator passionate about environmental learning, or a community member eager to get involved—you can play a vital role in protecting this unique region. For more information or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.biosphere.org.au or find us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.



Western Port Biosphere

Left: Participants from the junior ranger program at Pt Leo learn about aquatic invertebrates through bug dipping.
Photo: From the Western Port Biosphere Foundation.

Below: *Cyanotype drying, close up*. Photo: From the Western Port

Biosphere Foundation.



Friends of Woolleys Beach

Woolleys Beach and Jacks Beach are important areas of the Crib Point Stony Point Foreshore Reserve located in a significant area within the Western Port Biosphere with global importance for the conservation of nature under the RAMSAR wetland convention.

This unique reserve is used by locals and visitors alike for recreation, walks, bike riding, fishing, birdwatching or kayaking. Local primary schools visit the foreshore reserve on a regular basis to learn about the coastal environment including mangroves and seagrass beds.

Unfortunately, our beautiful open woodland is under threat from invasive weeds, which left unchecked can replace these important ecosystems. Together with our new ranger Glenn Brooks-MacMillan, our volunteers seek to restore the balance in our reserve by identifying and appreciating the exciting plant communities and working to remove introduced weeds.

One common invasive weed is the dreaded Bluebell Creeper (*billardiera heterophylla*). This native evergreen climber from Western Australia can be found around the Crib Point and Bittern area where it is grows unchecked. The seeds are taken by birds into the bush where this vigorous climber takes over the understory and shades out our native groundcovers.



Woolleys Beach

In 2024, the Crib Point Stony Point Foreshore Committee of Management received a grant from Coastcare Victoria to employ contractors to remove Bluebell Creeper from the reserve, while our Friends of Woolleys Beach group worked on this patch as well.

We will revisit this site during the year to make sure any surviving climbers are removed and see how the native grasses and vegetation have recovered.

We are planning more activities, planting and working bees in our foreshore reserve in 2025. If you are interested to learn more, please check our Facebook page for updates and join our group. Please bring gardening gloves and hat. All are welcome and no experience needed.

Where? Woolleys Beach North carpark next to Crib Point jetty (Opposite the Victorian Maritime Centre at 220 The Esplanade, Crib Point).

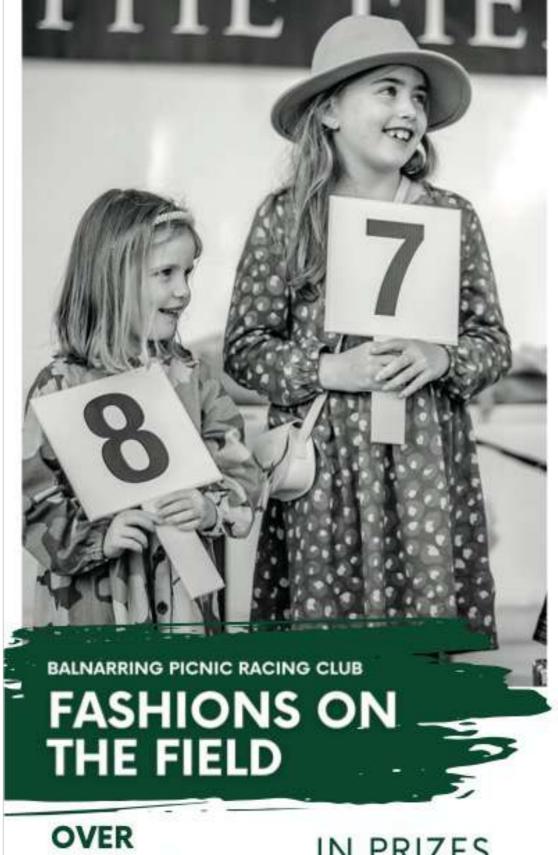
When? First Sunday of every month from 9:00am – 11:00am. Check Facebook for updates and join our group – 'Woolleys Beach Friends Group'

Many thanks to all our fantastic volunteers at Woolleys Beach!

Contact: <u>ranger@cribpointstonypointforeshore.com.au</u> Further info: <u>https://cribpointstonypointforeshore.com.au/</u>



Friends of Woolleys Beach volunteers



\$6,000 TO BE WON!

SATURDAY 12TH APRIL 2025









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.

Wednesday 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 buddhatalk9@gmail.com buddhatalk.com.au offers a clear,concise overview of the Buddha's teachings.

With Thanksto the Balnarring Community Hub Team for their support. Photo- Elaine Larsonn

Australian Folk Legends at MOTH

Australian folk icons **Enda Kenny** and **Mandy Connell** will perform a double-header show at MOTH on Friday, April 4, at The Shed Theatre, The Pig and Whistle, Main Ridge.

Enda, an Irish-born songwriter, has gained international recognition for his evocative songs that reflect his life in Australia. With ten albums and numerous songwriting awards, his music blends memorable storytelling with humor and depth.

Mandy Connell, a gifted singer and guitarist, captivates audiences with her powerful stage presence and deep passion for the folk genre. Renowned for her writing and mesmerizing performances, she brings a unique energy to every show. Enda and Mandy will be supported by Peninsula-based artist **Gab Hester**.

The May MOTH show features renowned musician **Eliza Hull**, known for her ability to captivate audiences at major venues like the Sydney Opera House, Hamer Hall and NYE on the Hill.

Eliza's performances have made her a prominent figure in the Australian music scene. She will be supported by local artists **Inanna Indigo**

Eliza Hull

Inanna Indigo

and **Mathilde Anne**. The performance takes place on Friday, May 2, at The Shed Theatre, The Pig and Whistle, Main Ridge.

Free Inclusive Songwriting Workshop

Additionally, Eliza Hull will host a free inclusive songwriting workshop on May 2, from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Dromana Community Hall. This inclusive workshop is open to all abilities, where participants can collaborate on writing lyrics, creating melodies, and structuring songs. Limited spots are available, and each attendee will receive a free ticket to Eliza's evening performance.

Bookings for the workshop are available at https://www.trybooking.com/CZQKX or at

musiconthehill.com.au. The workshop is supported by the Mornington Peninsula Shire through their 2025 Music Plan.

For more info on any of the above please email info@musiconthehill.com.au. Bookings for all MOTH shows at musiconthehill.com.au.





Mathilde Anne

CURRENTS OF PRACTICE:

A NEW CHAPTER FOR WORLD WETLANDS DAY AT COOLART HOMESTEAD & WETLANDS



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended, contributed, and shared their reflections on Currents of Practice at Coolart Homestead & Wetlands. Your engagement, feedback, and conversations have been invaluable in shaping this event, reinforcing the power of art to foster deeper connections with place, ecology, and community.

Held over three days, January 31 - February 2 Currents of Practice marked World Wetlands Day 2025 with a multidisciplinary exhibition and public program exploring the role of creative practice in environmental awareness. Curated by Rosa Mar Tato Ortega, the project was proudly supported by the Mornington Peninsula Shire Creative Grant and delivered in partnership with Friends of Coolart and Westernport Biosphere.

Twelve artists responded to Coolart's historic homestead and Ramsar-listed wetlands through sculpture, drawing, printmaking, collage, poetry, textiles, photography, installation, and performance. Featuring works by Dominic White, Jo Lane, Tim Growcott, Zac Millen-Sigley, David Regan, Anna Farago, Liam McLachlan, Bri Horne, Kate Gorringe-Smith, Eddy Carroll, Alasdair MacKinnon, and Rosa Mar Tato Ortega, the exhibition explored materiality, site, and environmental narratives, amplifying the role of art in ecological engagement.



Image; Bri Horne

The weekend saw Currents of Practice activate Coolart's unique spaces—from the Observatory, which hosted a compelling Q&A led by broadcaster Tracee Hutchison, to outdoor installations engaging directly with the landscape.

Westernport Biosphere's bugdipping activity and BirdLife Mornington Peninsula's interactive display further enriched the program, fostering discussions on biodiversity and conservation.



Image: Liam McLachlan

A significant moment came with the purchase and donation of 'Bird', a sculptural work by Liam McLachlan, standing at 2.2m high, I.7m long, with a 3.5m wingspan. Now housed in the Rangers' office, Bird will continue to engage visitors, school groups, and Somers Camp participants—sparking conversations around sustainability, recycled materials, and art's role in environmental storytelling.

As a pilot event, Currents of Practice highlighted both the possibilities and challenges of using Coolart Homestead as an exhibition space. While access limitations and conservation requirements shaped this inaugural edition, the overwhelming success of the event has set the stage for a longer-running program in 2026.

Now set to become an annual event at Coolart Wetlands on Westernport Bay—our internationally recognised Ramsar-listed site—Currents of Practice will continue to bring artists, scientists, and community members together each year on February 2, creating an evolving platform for dialogue, reflection, and action.

For updates, follow @currents.of.practice on Instagram. We're also working to keep everyone informed beyond social media—stay tuned for a limited print publication and an e-book documenting the exhibition, both available soon.

For further information e: rossatato@gmail.com



Image: Bri Horne



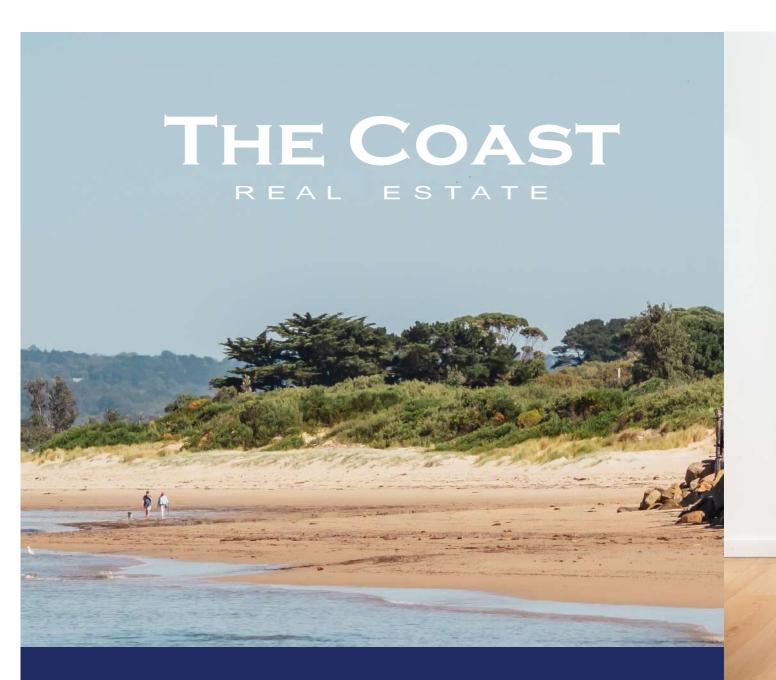
Image: Amanda Stuart



Image; Rosa Mar Tato Ortega



Image; Liam McLaughlan



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Western Port Singers



Photo by Andy Meszaros

Western Port Singers provides a friendly and relaxed environment for singers of differing abilities to come together and participate in the joy of singing in harmony.

They rehearse at Balnarring Uniting Church hall on Tuesdays, 2:30 to 4.30pm.

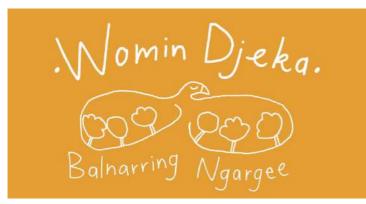
Preparations are underway for the annual concert to be held Sunday, 15th June. This year, the concert will be raising funds for Westernport Community Support.

Bookings, and further details, will be available from 1st May, via the website: westernportsingers.com.au

For enquiries contact Jan Brandon: westernportsingers@gmail.com

Turn off the news.
Go outside. Breathe.
We were not meant to carry the burden of the entire world.

Cottage Whimsy





The woven iilk trap. Photo: Lisahunter

Thank you Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee!

What a spectacular day!



Mitch Tambo performing Photo: Lisahunter



AUSLAN Interpreter Photo: Lisahunter

The 8th Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee was our best yet! I'm sure I said that last year, but I mean it *AGAIN*!! What a wonderful day. Everything ran smoothly, the weather was perfect, the main stage was full of incredible

sounds, the
workshops enabled
so many people to
learn with and from
First Peoples,
children were happily
making, the market
lane and Caring for



Wala Connections Ngargee dancers Photo: Lisahunter

Country zones were buzzing and YOU were incredible. On behalf of the whole organising committee, THANK YOU SO MUCH for joining us! And THANK YOU for the generosity of your time and for your donations.



Wala Connections Ngargee Dancers Photo: Lisahunte

We want to know what you thought!! What was the best thing about Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee 2025? 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 or follow this link: https://forms.gle/NvNeDJ8wC1VqL7ic6

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. Did you get a chance to hear the interviews and LIVE broadcast onsite with RPP? Catch up HERE:

https://megaphone.link/LCRUI4162137990 and tune into them on 98.7FM.

We have many people and organisations to thank for making this day what it was. Thank you to our incredible major sponsors who gave us the funds to make this

festival happen: Mornington Peninsula Shire, Vic Health, Bendigo Bank and Ross Trust. We really appreciate the enduring relationships we have with our major sponsors and we thank them for the certainty of being able to present this event in its 8th year. Thank you to our hugely valued sponsors **Balnarring** Preschool, Prestige in home



Crib Point School Project. Photo: Lisahunter

care, The Coast Real Estate, Growing Child, South East Water, Mornington Peninsula Magazine, RPP and Torello **Farm**. It is because of these companies that we can run this event. A huge thank you to the incredibly talented graphic designer and creative sponsor &TR who brought us a fresh, exciting new look and also to Fresh Pict, the graphic designer behind our original artwork and every book! We also want to thank Greenlink Web Solutions who have generously hosted our website for many years. We would also like to thank the **Emu Plains** committee and grounds team for their support to the festival. Thank you to the many people who gave donations before and on the day. Thank you to the local Mornington Peninsula Shire councillors who came to understand what this event is all about. Thank you to each and every one of you incredible volunteers who gave your time to make this festival happen! Thank you to the Bundjil Nest Project team. 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







Angie Cleaver Art Workshops: possum skin burning, community art in progress, community art completed. Photos Lisahunter, Kate Rennie

and our incredible Emcee, Lily, who kept the event running smoothly after stepping in at the very last minute. 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.

Momin Djeka. Balnarring Ngargee































NOON GUDGIN (THANK YOU)

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY

Mornington Peninsula APS is holding its annual PLANT SALE

Saturday 26th April 10 am until 3.30pm at the Briars, on the Event Lawn

Specialist native plant growers
Book sales
Talks
Half price membership offer



AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY
MORNINGTON PENINSULA
INVITES YOU TO REGISTER FOR...

2 & 3 AUGUST 2025 MORNINGTON PENINSULA

fjcrogers@apsvic.org.au epacrids2025@gmail.com









Australian Plants Society Mornington Peninsula invites you to register for the 2025 biennial seminar

SATURDAY

2ND AUGUST

Speakers

Book / Plant sales

Fabric, Photographic and Botanical art displays

Dinner in Mornington

SUNDAY

3RD AUGUST

Bus Excursions

Langwarrin Reserve

George Pentland Gardens

Bunarong Park

Devilbend Natural Features Reserve



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For more information:

openpathmeditation.com.au

contact@openpathmeditation.com.au

`Processing Emotions may be the Missing Link to Your Physical Health

Along with lifestyle factors such as nutrition and exercise, if we don't process our emotions on a regular basis, we will literally make ourselves sick. *Real* healing from physical symptoms involves clearing out accumulated emotional energy that has been stuck in our body.

Although it is equally important to question and change certain *thought* patterns that generate particular emotions, the focus of this article is on the emotional component of creating health.

The foundational principle is that Everything in the universe is *Energy*, including emotions. The physical body is made up of energy or particles that vibrate at a rate that is visible to the human eye. Emotions comprise particles that are vibrating at a faster rate and cannot be seen by the human eye. When we experience an emotion, we feel it as *energy moving* in our body. For example, we might be thinking about a past experience where we were betrayed. These thoughts may generate a feeling of anger flaring up in our body. The energy of anger can feel like tightness, heaviness and heat in our jaw, abdomen and chest. If anger were a colour we might feel it as red. If it were a shape, it might feel like it had jagged edges or a solid block of energy etc. Anxiety can feel like butterflies or movement in our stomach, tightness and heat in the chest and throat. If anxiety were a colour we might feel it as blue or purple. How we experience an emotion is individual, there is no right or wrong.

All emotions are acceptable and part of the human experience. In fact, in order to feel emotions such as joy, peace, love, excitement, contentment we need to allow ourselves to also feel the more challenging emotions such as fear, anger, resentment, frustration, sadness, guilt, shame, disappointment, despair. What is important is how we deal with our emotions. Most of us have learned to deny, suppress or repress our uncomfortable emotions. We may have been shamed, criticized, punished, or told we were weak or silly to feel our emotions. Another strategy we have learned is to distract ourselves to avoid feeling what is going on in our body. Many of us are not even connected with our body and how it feels, especially if we have experienced trauma. This means that we have been accumulating emotional energy in our body for years, including when we were young and didn't have the capability to process

emotions effectively. This is how Energy blocks are formed in our body. But the good news is we *can* clear out the back log of emotional energy.

Humans are designed to process our emotions by simply being with them and feeling the physical sensations wherever they are most significant or intense in our body. Eventually, the sensations become less intense and the feeling changes. This way the emotional energy flows through our body and out. Science has shown that when fully felt in the moment they arise, physiological sensations of an emotion generally last around one and a half minutes. When the emotional energy moves out of the body we go back into a more centred, relaxed and harmonized state. The energy in our body is able to flow again, our organs, glands and systems in our body are more aligned with health. The human body has a built-in capacity to heal itself when given the right conditions, including energy flow.

There are easy step-by-step processes we can use every day to feel our emotions. I would recommend, however, that some people start to learn to do this with the presence of a counsellor or therapist. This includes people who feel fearful, unsure or overwhelmed about processing emotions as well as people who are experiencing emotions that feel very painful. If you have experienced trauma where your nervous system is in a heightened state and easily triggered into fight, flight or freeze, it will be important to learn tools to calm and reset your nervous system first. We need to feel safe in the body before we feel able to connect with our body and feel into the sensations.

As a Holistic Counsellor and Energy Healing Practitioner, I have never met anyone who doesn't have a level of old stuck emotional energy in their body. It's very normal. We can start shifting this energy out of our body one bit at a time in a safe space and at an appropriate time. It is not always convenient to feel the sensations in our body in the exact moment we experience an emotional reaction. Ideally, we can make some time to check in with ourselves at the end of the day and connect with our body to feel what is there. Also, if you feel there is a big back log of stuck emotion, there are safe, fast and powerful techniques that work with high frequency energy to help shift old stuck emotional energy out of the body. For example, energy healing techniques, including hands-on healing practices. This helps to clear out energy blocks, a bit like cleaning out the water pipes, and fast tracks the healing process.

Kerryn Reichelt: Holistic Counselling and Energy Healing MOB: 0438 002 724 Warrawee Wholistic

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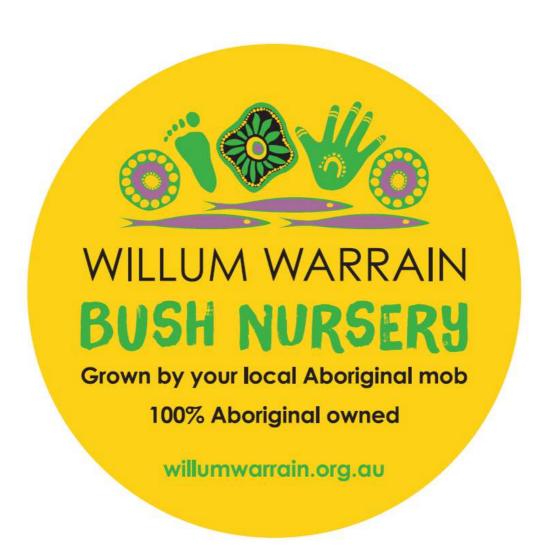
For more info https://startx39.com

https://lifewave.com/kerrynholistichealing

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9ZDydn44IM

https://thisisitinfo.com/testimonies

For Enquiries call Kerryn (Lifewave Independent Brand Partner)
0438002724



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 -



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Shop 4, Balnarring Village 3050 Frankston Flinders Road Balnarring VIC 3926

Contact us: 03 5983 1980 | thecoast.com.au



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 66 to 98.

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, film reviews, outings and dine-outs.

The Garden group, which includes spouses, run an annual Tomato Tasting Competition and after much tasting by the tasting panel awarded the perpetual trophy to Faye Gerdsen for the second year in a row.



The judging panel at work



The Winner!

Our annual long trip this year will be to the RACV Resort in Cobram. The five day trip in April, using private cars, will be centred around discovering silo art, wineries and many Murray River attractions.

Our speaker at our February meeting was Roger Standen, who gave an excellent talk with photos titled "Wildlife on a Working Cattle Station" based on his visits to Cunya Station in very remote outback W.A.

Our AGM is on the 28th March and will be followed by a club BBQ. Due to our April meeting falling on Anzac Day it has been moved to Thursday, 24th April with a speaker to be advised.

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.

45

Somers Ladies Probus Club

Our 2025 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 2025-2026, with new President Jan Camm. We look forward to another year of interesting activities including Mah Jong, Canasta, Music, Knit and Natter, Fireside Films, a regular Happy Hour, a Lunch Group and a range of outings.



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 39 years has provided entertainment, support
and assistance to members.

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

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





PARTNERING AGAINST PESTS 2025

a Landcare approach

The Mornington Peninsula Landcare Network is delivering a series of informative workshops to empower the community to control invasive pests. Come learn best practice techniques & clever approaches that will save you time, effort & money. Scan the QR code or go to the website below for your free tickets,

22 February
How to Control Rabbits





16 March Sensitive Weeding





30 MarchWeed Lookalike Identification





9 March Weed Management Planning





23 March
Feral Management Planning





26 April
Fund & Promote Your Program





For more information go to:

https://mplandcare.org.au/partnering-to-tackle-pests-on-the-mornington-peninsula-a-landcare-approach/OR EMAIL: facilitator@mplandcare.org.au



Western Port Uniting Church Parish



(consisting of Balnarring, Crib Point and Hastings congregations)

Service Locations and Times for April and May 2025 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.

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 Website: Go to westernport.ucavictas.org.au for more detailed information about our Parish.

Easter Services

Good Friday 18th April – 9.30 am at Balnarring

9.30 am at Hastings

10.30 am at Hastings UC - Ecumenical Service -

Stations of the Cross.

Easter Sunday 20th April – 6.00 am Dawn Service at Balnarring Beach – combined

Uniting Church and St Marks Anglican Service.

9.00 am – Crib Point

10.45 am – Balnarring and Hastings.

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 12th April – 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Hastings Community Hub, 1973 Frankston – Flinders Road Hastings.

Adults \$5 School children \$2. Enquiries – 0459 791 116 or www.wpcraftexpo.com This year's Craft Competition is 'Make something from Men's Ties" – more details on our website. 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 Isaiah 41:10 (NIV)

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Prayer

Yield not to temptation, For yielding is sin; Each victory will help you, Some other to win; Fight valiantly onward, Good passions subdue; Look ever to Jesus, He will carry you through.

Anglican Parish of St. John's Flinders with St. Mark's Balnarring

https://flindersbalnarringanglican.org

SERVICES

Sung Services with Eucharist St. John's Flinders: Sunday 8.30am

St. Mark's Balnarring: Sunday 10.30am

Said Service with Eucharist St. Mark's: Thursday 10.00am

Morning Prayer

St. Mark's: Tuesdays 9.00am

St. John's: Wednesdays 9.00am

<u>Sundays@9.30am</u> Godly Play for children

First Sunday of the month at St. Mark's 9.30am

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Please see website for details

Informal Conversations with refreshments

First Sunday of month, 4pm alternating b/n St. Mark's & St. John's

Fridays@4.30pm gathering for young people, with snacks
Third Friday of month at St.
Mark's, 4.30pm

Men's Group

Last Saturday of month alternating b/n St. Mark's & St. John's, 8am

Doing Justice Group

Third Sunday of month at St. Mark's hall, 5pm

Exercise Class

Fridays at St. John's hall, 8.30am

Craft Group

Fridays at St. John's hall, 1.00pm

EASTER SERVICES

See website for Holy Week Activities (Sunday 13 April – Thursday 17 April)

GOOD FRIDAY

8.30am at St. John's

10.30am at St. Mark's

EASTER SUNDAY

6.00am Watching the dawn rise at Balnarring Beach, with informal service

This is a combined Anglican / Uniting Church service – all welcome regardless of faith tradition or affiliation

(If you would like to be baptised on Easter Sunday at Balnarring Beach, please email vicar.flinderswithbalnarring@gmail.com)

8.30am Easter Service at St. John's

10.30am at St. John's - Children's Service with Easter Egg Hunt

10.30am Easter Service at St. Mark's with Easter Egg Hunt

BALNARRING AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BECOME A MEMBER

Our society is currently seeking new members and Committee members.

I trust that Bridge readers enjoy reading the regular articles published about diverse local history issues researched and prepared by our Information and Research Officer, Ilma Hackett.

Our current Treasurer Ian Wisken can be credited with the founding of the Society. Whilst researching the history of the original Balnarring State School for the new primary school, which was under construction in 1989, Ian saw the possibilities for a group of people interested in local history to form a society. So, shortly after the official opening of the Balnarring Primary School in May 1990, Ian called a public meeting, resulting in the formation of the Society. Later redevelopment of the Balnarring Hall provided the Society with a permanent home for its collection and meetings.

Our Annual General Meeting and Committee Meetings are held at the hall with the latter currently held at 1.30 p.m. bimonthly from February with the December meeting traditionally being a Xmas lunch and meeting. The Committee has recently discussed meeting times and would consider change if this encouraged increased Committee membership.

Membership is currently \$20 per annum. Members receive regular copies of "Snippets", an interesting assortment of history stories provided by past and present residents of the area.

Our History Room at the Balnarring Hall is open from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Mondays (except Public Holidays) so drop in and have a look at our extensive collection of documents and photos. A number of local history publications, most prepared by our members, are available for sale.

So please, if you have an interest in the important tasks of collecting, preserving and communicating local history, especially to younger generations, please join us.

If you require further information please contact our Secretary, Rick Daly by phone, 0419591161 or email balhist4@gmail.com

WILDLIFE RESCUE Contacts

Koala rescue Jenny Bryant 0417 395 883

WHOMP (Wildlife Help On Mornington Peninsula) 0417 380 687

> Klarissa Gaunaut 0488 494 667







Aloha Australia

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GENUINE HAWAIIAN SHIRTS MADE WITH ALOHA BY RJC HAWAII SINCE 1953

www.thatsmybusiness.com.au

I was hoping to be able to share news of opening a shop in Rye as advertised in the Feb/March Bridge Mag, however unfortunately negotiations fell through.

I will keep looking for a potential store but for now the online store at www.thatsmybusiness.com.au

is always open with an easy online shopping page.

For updates and news, you can follow Aloha Australia on Instagram



Coming soon... something for locals, made by locals



Catherine



Royal Hawaiian – *Black*



Pink



Blue



"The Jimmy"

Jimmy from

Balnarring Post Office



"The Tom Elliott"

3AW's Tom Elliott



"The Charlie"

Charlie from

Koonya General Store

Sorrento

New Designs







Hoihi Uluniu Ave Velzyland

Hastings



We now have a new venue at: Bittern Memorial Centre Hendersons Road, Bittern



Why not join us at Bittern for the following courses: Pickleball,

Table Tennis (Mondays), Table Tennis (Fridays), French Beginners,

French Intermediate, French Advanced,
Scrabble, Rummikub and Board games, Mahjong,
Dancing for Fun and Fitness,
Exercise to Music (Beginners), Ageless Grace,
Tai Chi, Yoga,

Acrylic Art, Watercolours,

For full details of many other courses/activities at different venues in and around Western Port see our website: <u>u3ahastings.org.au</u>
Enrol online - only \$60 membership per year



BALNARRING TENNIS CLUB

FEEL LIKE A GOOD HIT OF SOCIAL TENNIS?

DO YOU HAVE A COUPLE OF HOURS SPARE

MONDAY, TUESDAY OR THURSDAY MORNINGS?

Our group of men and women enjoy playing doubles together every Monday and Thursday between 8.45am and approximately 11.30am. Players are of different levels but all sets are great fun and good exercise in a very friendly atmosphere.

Tuesday mornings ladies play from 9am to 11am and enjoy a coffee/tea together afterwards in the clubhouse.

Members pay \$2 each time you play to cover cost of balls and coffee/tea. Let your friends, family, neighbours know that if they are not members they can play social tennis at a casual cost of \$7 each time.

To parents of all junior club members we would love you to join the social tennis at the casual rate whenever you play.

You are most welcome to visit our social tennis to see how flexible and fun it is. Racquets are available to borrow if needed.

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SOON WE PLAY ALL YEAR ROUND



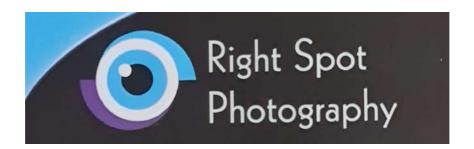
Contributor is Margaret Rees

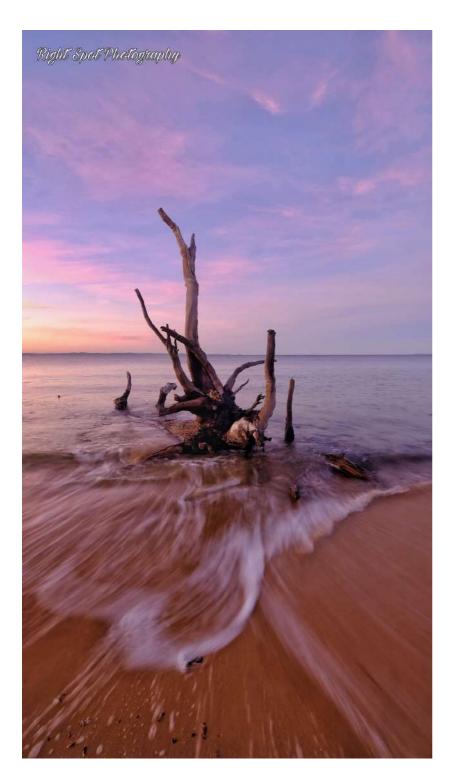
0408 271 059



Locally grown produce, delicious foods, vintage, artisan products and captivating music and art

First Saturday of the month (Sep-May)
8am - 1pm | 184 Arthurs Seat Road, Red Hill
www.hillandridgemarket.com.au





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.

OPEN STUDIO WEEKENDS AND ART CLASSES IN SOMERS

Monique Morey is a local Somers artist and is excited to welcome you to her OPEN STUDIO WEEKENDS IN 2025. (MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER).

Pop in and meet Monique for inspiration, to chat about her art classes, or to see her latest paintings of local landscapes and seascapes that will be available to purchase.

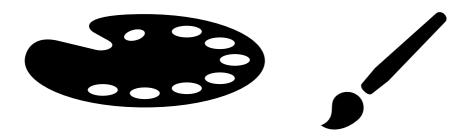
Monique has many years of experience teaching, and will also be running some fabulous and fun

DRAWING AND PAINTING WORKSHOPS FOR TERRIFIED BEGINNERS AND OTHERS!

For more information contact Monique at:

Email: moniquemorey7@gmail.com

@moniquemoreyart



The Embroiderers Guild of Victoria Flinders Branch

The EGV Flinders Branch is a friendly, enthusiastic group of embroiderers & textile artists with all levels of skill. We welcome all stitchers of any level & those on holiday in the area to join us.

Meetings: Guild members & other visitors are welcome to join us every 1st, 3rd & 5th Monday of the month at the St. John's Anglican Church Hall.

We meet from 10am until 4pm for a full day of stitching.

We meet at:

St. John's Anglican Church Hall King Street, Flinders, 3929

For more information, visit our website at www.embroiderersguild.org/branches-locations



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Erika has over 16 years experience as a massage therapist and carefully tailors each treatment to reduce chronic pain and improve mobility.

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Jane McDonell Natural Therapist

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- Herbal Medicine Consults and Workshops
- Lomi Lomi Massage
- Tai Chi Classes

For bookings contact Jane on 0411 399 212



Neil Adams has over 40 years experience working practically and creatively with various forms of human movement and physiology.

- Small Pilates Matwork classes,
- One-to-One Postural Pilates,
- Whole Body Stretch classes
- Lomi Lomi Hawaiian Massage.

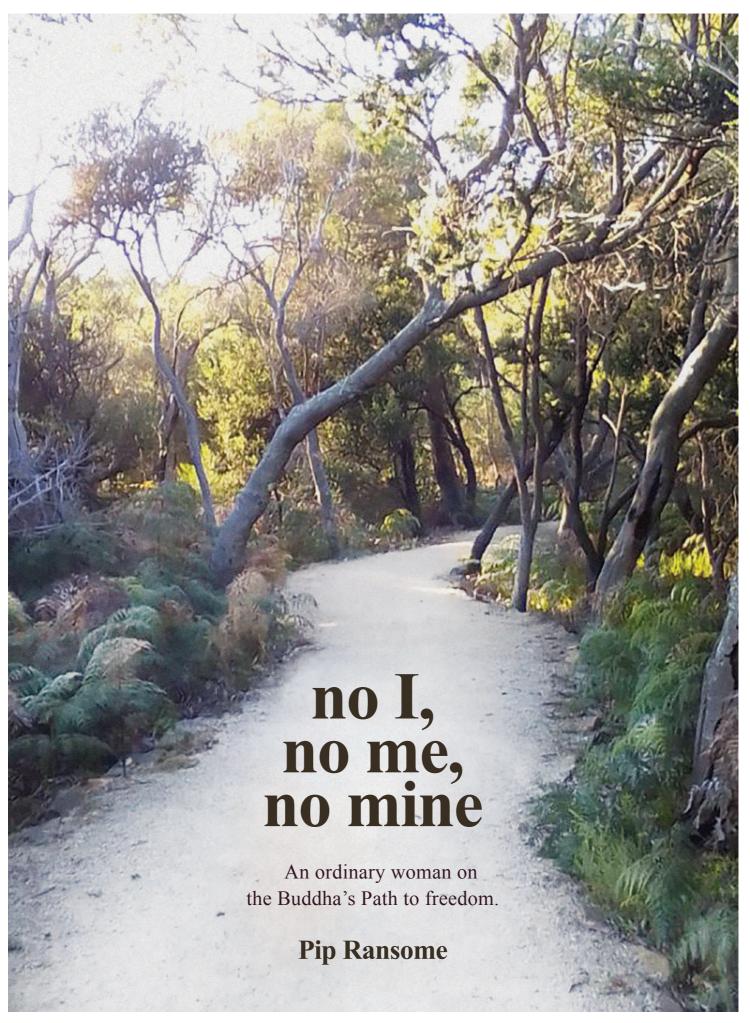
Contact: 0418638589 / neiladams0@gmail.com



Elizabeth Brew provides a personalised, wholistic approach to treat the cause of pain, not just the symptoms. She is particularly experienced with older clients.

Karen Buckingham uses subtle touch and movement supporting the body's natural process of change and repair. She is particularly talented at working with babies, toddlers, children and women (pre and post pregnancy).

Book online at www.thepeninsulaosteopath.com or call 0483 812 165





"no I, no me, no mine" by Pip Ransome

This book is the story of an ordinary modern-day woman's journey from a typical Western way of living based on 'I, me and mine' to a gentler, more aware, integrated and peaceful way of living as 'no I, no me and no mine': a way of living in harmony with our environment. The Buddha calls a complete understood experience of living in this way 'enlightenment', and describes it as 'true and lasting happiness' and 'the end of suffering'.

Written by local resident Pip Ransome, the book tells of her own experience: early life, marriage and travels, work-life, meeting her teacher, Buddhist nun the late Venerable Ayya Khema, and how following the Buddha's step-by-step instructions gradually eased the hurts, disappointments, losses – the suffering – inherent in our daily lives, replacing it with a growing freedom and joy. She relates the ups and downs of each stage, including a fascinating account of her years living and working with the Indigenous Yorta-Yorta people of northern Victoria.

Meeting Ayya Khema is a highlight of the story. Pip's account of practising the Buddha's path under Ayya Khema's direction, given verbatim from meditation notes written directly after daily meditations, is a precious example of how to reach stream-entry, the safety and security of the first of the Buddha's 4 stages of enlightenment, which like Pip, you can experience, here and now.

'It's hard to put this treasure down. It promises to inspire, inform and encourage our practice' Oliver C.

To purchase the book, email <u>buddhatalk9@gmail.com</u> The cost is \$20 plus postage.

In 1993 Pip Ransome was authorised to teach meditation and the Buddha-Dhamma by highly-esteemed Buddhist nun Venerable Ayya Khema. While maintaining her own practice, she has taught, quietly and with diligence, for 30 years. She now enjoys a secluded life in a seaside village on the Mornington Peninsula, Victoria.



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WILDLIFE RESCUE Contacts

Koala rescue Jenny Bryant 0417 395 883

WHOMP (Wildlife Help On Mornington Peninsula) 0417 380 687

> Klarissa Gaunaut 0488 494 667

Crib Point Community Market





12th

April



Local Community Groups will join us with activities for the kids, lots of information about what they do and how they can help you

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,
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7 Park Rd Crib Point, 3919

Ph:(03)5983 9888

Email: market@cpch.org.au

Website: www.cpch.org.au



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Raise a cuppa to a cancer free future

Devonshire Tea and the BBQ money go to the Cancer Council Vic.

Cribby Koala Treasure Hunt and a FREE lucky draw for the kids to win a present for Mum.

Mother's Day

You'll be spoilt for choices.
Jewellery, candles, skin care, quilts and more.

Lots of stalls <u>inside and out</u>, Handmade goods, Up-cycled items, vegetables, plants, ^{**}gifts, Coffee van, Devonshire tea, BBQ and hot jam donuts.

Crib Point Community House
7 Park Rd, Crib Point
E: market@cpch.org.au
Stall payment at market

NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2025



Can you believe we are nearing the end of Term 1? How time flies when you're having fun, well, when you're really busy too. This term has been full of activities including our regular classes, Elder Law and Wills talk, Senior Safe Driver workshop and of course our monthly Community Market.

Don't miss the market on Saturday 12th April. It's our **Community Expo Market** where local Community Groups join us with activities for the kids, lots of information about what they do and how they can help you. If you are interested in having a stall, please email Michelle at market@cpch.org.au to book a stall. Payments for stalls are taken on the day of the market

The **Biggest Morning Tea** will be held at our May10th Market with all proceeds from the BBQ and the Devonshire Tea going to the Cancer Council of Victoria. Join us and RAISE A CUPPA TO A CANCER FREE FUTURE. There will also be a FREE luck draw for the kids to win a present for Mum for Mother's Day.

We still have vacancies for our **Craft weekend** which is at the Lord Somers Camp in Somers from Friday 30th May to Sunday 1st June and costs \$230 per person. This includes accommodation and meals. You can do your UFOs or whatever project you are working on. Whatever your craft, it will be a great weekend filled with craft, wine, laughs, more wine and lots of fun. Come on ladies, you deserve a girls weekend away. For more information give us a call on 5983 9888.

I'm just beginning the Term 2 **Program** but I can tell you that **Pilates** on Thursday nights will return with Neil Adams, the Tuesday mornings session didn't go ahead but we'll try again this term so if you are interested, give us a call. There will be a new Dance Exercise class on Tuesday nights. There'll also be a **Greeting Card** workshop, and of course the Trips, not sure what or where yet but keep an eye on out website for more info. We have the RSPCA's **Healthy Pet Day** again but no booking info so check the website, www.cpch.org.au and Facebook or give us a call on 59839888 for more information.

Life doesn't come with a manual.



It comes with Mothers



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To sponsor or learn more contact geegeejennym@gmail.com





an INVITATION

To visit the **History Room**in the **Balnarring Hall** on a Monday morning
10.00 a.m. to 12 noon.

What you will find: photos, maps, documents, books and objects relating to our district's past.

Bring your questions.

Bring your stories.

Ph. 5983 5236

(Balnarring & District Historical Society)

Paul's Art and Frame

... closed on 28th 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!!



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: balnarringcomprobus@gmail.com



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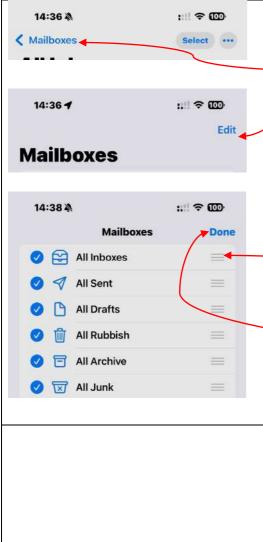
87 Warrawee Rd. Balnarring Contact Jane 0411399212

sweetleafbotanical.com.au warraweewholistic.com

Pat The Mac: Setting up Apple Mail effectively.

If you use and iPad or an iPhone, I recommend using Apple Mail for your emailing. It is a very sturdy and efficient email client. If you use more than one email addresses, I suggest that you set up Mail as explained below to simplify your email workflow.

Each device, iPad, iPhone and computer need to be configured independently.



Flagged

- Open your Mail app on iOS (iPad or iPhone). You can then modify the configuration by pressing Mailboxes
- 2) When the Mailboxes pane opens, click on Edit
- 3) In the list of Mailboxes, select every mailbox that starts with "All"

 You can change the order in which they will display by pressing on == and moving the mailbox up or down.

When you are finished, click on Done

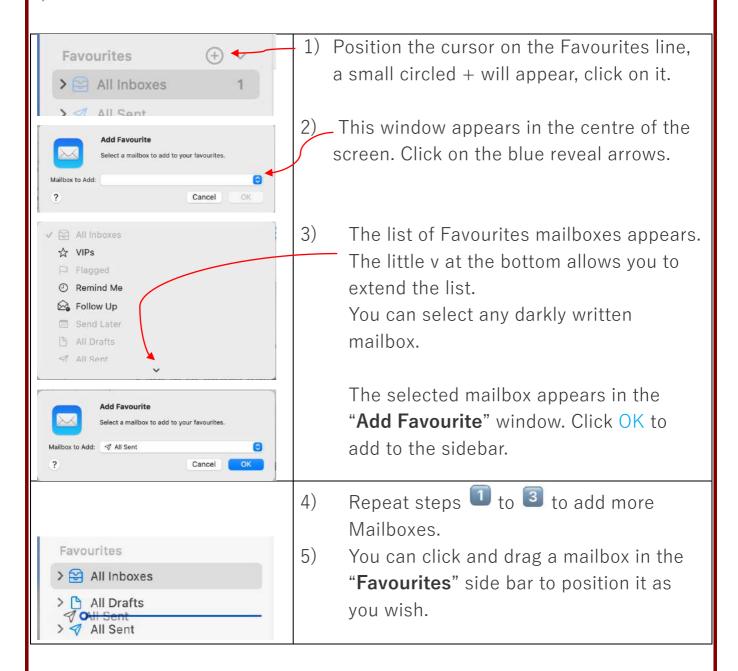
4) You probably noticed that there are far more Favourite Mailboxes proposed and you are welcome to add more... However, that may clutter your workflow. One that may be worth adding to the list is the "Flagged" since it is another global Mailbox that will list any flagged Mail. To do that repeat the steps and above, then tick the "Flagged" Mailbox

On the next page, I explain how to do the same settings for macOS, for your laptop or desktop.

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

Pat The Mac: Setting Apple Mail effectively. (continued)

Follow this procedure to achieve the same organisation on macOS. It will allow you to set up your computer the same way as your iPhone or iPad. To begin, you must open Mail on your computer. You should see the Sidebar in the Mail window. If it's not visible press simultaneously on: $^{\times}$ \$\mathbb{S}\$ (Control Command S).



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

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



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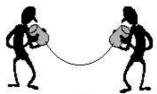
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For Muso Night dates

over April and May,

please check out:

Balnarring Muso Night

on Facebook.

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 <u>last Sunday</u> 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 27th and Sunday May 26th 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.

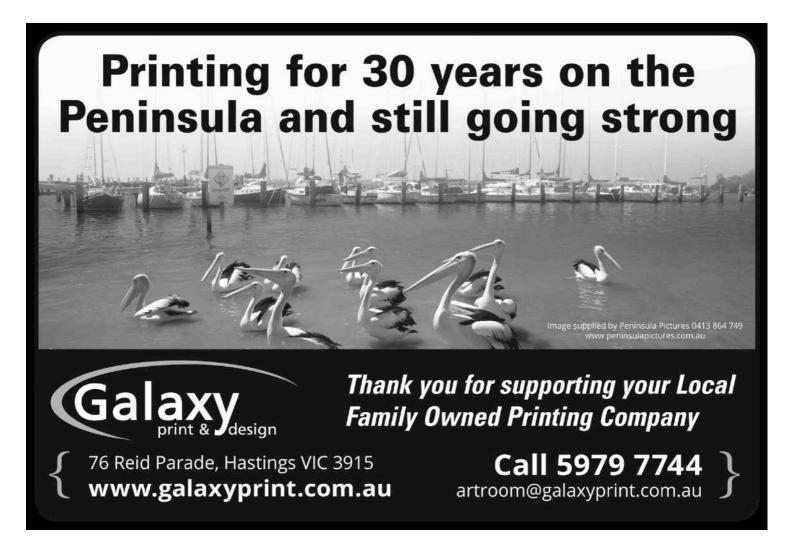
Paul, our Ranger always has some important work for us to do, be that weeding or planting freshly cleared terrain with new plants. Some of these plants are propagated and raised over many months in our nursery.

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.





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 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 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.

Website: www.bridgemag.com.au
Email: info@bridgemag.com.au