



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 66 April May 2021

www.bridgemag.com.au

**HOLDING
GROUND**

23 APRIL – 14 MAY
AN ONLINE GROUP EXHIBITION FUNDRAISER
#SAVEARTHURSEAT #NOQUARRY

IMAGE: Joanne Matt Acacia dealbata 2009,
hoop pine, beeswax & acrylic, 100 x 100 cm (detail)

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REAL ESTATE

Heartfelt Thanks to the Bridge's wonderful new co-'GOLD' SPONSORS!!

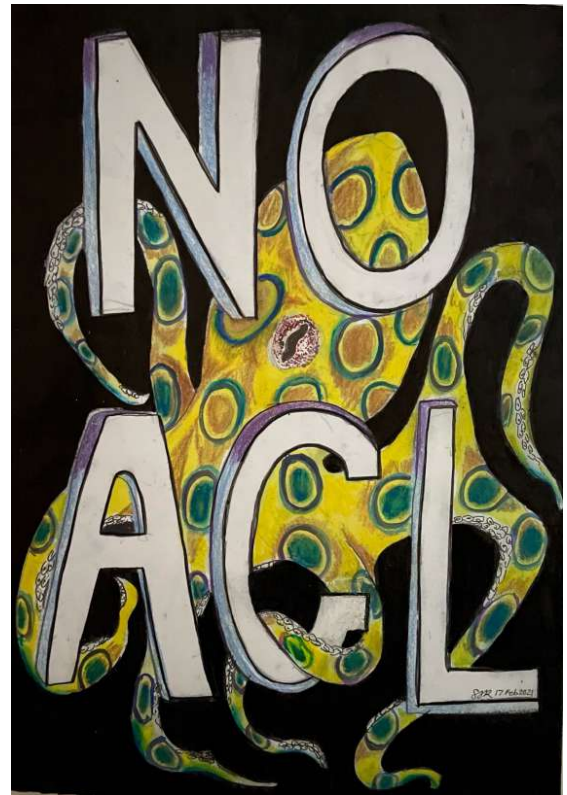
Hello Everyone!

With Autumn underway, we think of our friends up north going through floods and storms – and realise how privileged we are to live where we do with our gorgeous environment and connected community, who can now enjoy freedoms without lockdowns.

A message of love to those in our community who have recently lost a loved one, or have other challenges. May strength, hope and love fill your lives again soon.

Wonderful messages from our beautiful community once again in this edition. Thank you to everyone who contributed, you're all legends.

Ali and Jen xx



'No AGL' artwork by Sue King

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

CONTENTS

Birthdays/Angel Card	3
How to Contribute	last page

The Bridge Magazine
www.bridgemag.com.au

Email: info@bridgemag.com.au

Address: PO Box 248 Balnarring VIC 3926

The Bridge volunteers:

Editorial & layout team:

Ali Hoelzer, Jenny Atherton

Website: John Ashton (Ikoniq)

Accounts: Lesley McMillan

Subscriptions: Robyn Agg

Distribution team:

Robyn Agg, Thomas Hoelzer,

Chris Newell, Celia Sexton,

Faye Poll,

David and Diana

@Balnarring Post Office,

Ed & Meg Pawlik,

Sarah Bingle

Content:

Our wonderful community! You!

April

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



May

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

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

April and May 2021 Inspirational Angel Cards for the Community

Adventure Insight

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

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

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

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

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

The Coast Real Estate - Community Spirit initiative

WINNERS

David Wright of The Coast Real Estate with the winners Jenny Taylor and Karen Anderson who received \$500 each and donated their prize money to Balnarring Musos Night and Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee respectively. Congratulations Jenny and Karen!!



David presenting Jenny with her prize at Musos Night, held at Balnarring Bowls and Social Club.

David congratulating Karen.



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 **Bendigo Bank**

**News from your
elected advocate
for Red Hill Ward.**



What happened to our local ...



- **native bees?** Once plentiful, now seldom seen mainly because of broad spectrum spraying.
- **wombats** and **emus?** All gone, shot because they were considered pests.
- our beautiful **bandicoots?** Very difficult to find, often victims of poisoning
- **koalas?** Diminishing because of loss of habitat, dogs, koala proof fencing...
- Small **native birds?** Disappearing because of introduced birds and colonising noisy miners
- **sugar gliders, feather tail gliders, growling grass frogs, the legless lizards** and many other indigenous species?
- **Kangaroos?** They are also being shot by the hundreds due to Government permits issued and large culling programs on the Peninsula. Are they next to be a threatened species as we limit their natural territory and remove them from farmland?

The Peninsula is at risk of losing its unique character as we develop and bring suburbia with us.

What are you doing to ensure that our endangered wildlife survives?

- You may have noticed signs at the old Ting Tong Restaurant premises near the Bendigo Bank stating that the COVID19-delayed 'trial community hub' is operating. The '**Pop-in Hub**' is available for community use. Come along to see what it is all about!



- It would be a shame if Council cancels the **Mobile Library** bus service. We need more community services in Red Hill ward, not less!

- There is an application for a large, **illuminated sign** at Balnarring Shopping Village from a new business. Your feedback on these types of proposals is welcome.

- The much-needed Frankston-Flinders Road **safety crossing** and other road works at Balnarring are still held up by the State Government. Local State Government MP Chris Brayne must be concerned that long-available Federal money is still unused for this State Government controlled project.

- Please talk to me if you are having problems receiving permits for **community events**. The COVID restrictions can be daunting. Council should be helping with the groundwork for local economic recovery and also for the health and wellbeing recovery of our community.

- My aim is to have 24/7 availability of life saving **defibrillators**. Clubs, groups and neighbourhoods should be considering locations. Close proximity is vital to maximise success. Grants from Council and State agencies are possible. Please contact me for more information.



- **Council budget:** Please keep sending your requests and views for consideration. If the official process seems difficult just send me a few dot points. It is very competitive but with persistence, good projects and ideas can be achieved.

- The State Government is attempting to offload ultimate responsibility for **crowd land** foreshore, including beaches, to ratepayers. This is a cost cutting exercise without any thought given to Council ability to raise the required funds.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council already spends about \$6m on foreshore maintenance. Volunteer Committees of Management spend countless hours working on their local areas. The Government appears to want to avoid the costs of sea level rise, erosion control and other major works.

Always pleased to receive your feedback.

Stay safe.

Regards,

David

davidgill@mornpen.vic.gov.au



Update from Save Westernport

The past months of campaigning have been very full, with our efforts focused on Minister Wynne and the decision-makers responsible for determining whether or not AGL's needless gas import proposal and 56km pipeline will go ahead at Crib Point.

By the time you read this, it's likely the Minister's recommendation on AGL's Environment Effects Statement for their the AGL proposal will be known. Unless Mr Wynne decides that AGL's plans must be scrapped, his announcement will mark just the beginning of our real action to make sure Westernport is never used as AGL's gas factory.

The Minister's recommendation will be based on the findings of the Panel that oversaw the EES hearing late last year.

However the AGL proposal remains just that, and would still need to seek

- EPA Works Approval (for the release of chlorinated water)
- Pipeline License including Environmental Management and Safety Management Plans
- Consent under the Marine and Coastal Act for both the jetty and pipeline
- Indigenous Cultural Heritage Management Plans for both the jetty and pipeline
- Planning Scheme Amendment to allow the transfer of Public Land to 'Port Use'
- Pipeline Approval and Ramsar considerations under the Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation EPBC Act
- Permits under the Commonwealth Flora and Fauna Guarantee for removal of listed species as well as
- Considerations of whether the gas plant should be classified 'a Major Hazard Facility'

In addition, the AGL corporation still has to make their final investment decision, or FID, about the Crib Point project. After posting enormous losses in the past year, confirming the company's failure to act decisively on transitioning to clean sustainable energy options, the AGL board has called an urgent meeting to discuss the company's future direction, including possible demergers.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dI4dhVuD2MOoxEKI0wHvWSwECy3M4fXw/view?usp=drivesdk>

Growing Opposition

Save Westernport has been writing to Members of Parliament to express the extent of growing opposition and risks associated with the AGL proposal. The Mornington Peninsula Shire Council has been working hard to stop AGL in Westernport, producing these wonderful videos <https://youtu.be/-ivFRdWaACw>

This video by photographer Julian Meehan shows Councillors and Community in steadfast opposition <https://www.dropbox.com/s/8tc9I4j006n6eI2/No%20AGL%20protest%20woolleys%20beach%2028-2-2021%20.mp4?dl=0>

Members of the Melbourne based environmental lobby group Lighter Footprints who appeared in the Council's video also published an Open letter to Minister Wynne

<https://lighterfootprints.org/no-agl/>



As well as publishing their own powerful Open Letter to Minister Wynne in the AGE last week, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council also wrote to the AGL Board calling for them to abandon the Crib Point project in recognition of the corporation's own ambitious sustainability and social license goals.

The Council's ad in The AGE can be viewed here

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bh76JkdAOT3G_I3McqCl8Ey0szsyXCC9/view?usp=drivesdk

Save Westernport supports the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council Mayor Despi O'Connor's letter to AGL Boardmembers . Read here

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gTNX1Sea8pVjWdKXNmDqRYGmTXVoJa_x/view?usp=drivesdk

We were also surprised to hear the announcement last month that Liberal National Coalition also opposes the Crib Point proposal, as reported here in the Australian Financial Review <https://drive.google.com/file/d/16-723v1SsEe1h5GbYAvkXWNuFi-4gBfD/view?usp=drivesdk>

The EPA

At the conclusion of the EES hearings last year the EPA hit AGL with a notice to ‘please explain’, requesting detailed information about AGL’s application to dump chlorinated wastewater from industry into Westernport Bay.

The EPA’s request for further information, known as a Section 22, was a clear sign that the information and conclusions that AGL tried to pass off during the EES had not “passed muster”. This phrase was used by Vic Treasurer Tim Pallas in 2018 when explaining that the project would only be approved if it met the highest standards of the EES

A statement from one of the more than 6000 submissions made against AGL’s plans last year said: *‘There is so much we do not know about how this cold chlorinated wastewater will affect marine life in Westernport. The impact modelling completed by AGL is not comprehensive and in some cases totally inappropriate. Furthermore, current Victorian laws prohibit the discharge of wastewater in high conservation value areas like Westernport Bay’.*

Victorian National Parks Association, which teamed up with SWP and Env Vic in the EES hearing last year, released a beautiful video that expresses why this risky project must not go ahead.

Watch VNPAs video here: <https://vimeo.com/522059145/f14da7c6e1>

#Wetsuitsforwesternport

Thousands of messages against AGL in Westernport reached government and corporate decision-makers last month after members of Save Westernport, the Surf rider Foundation of Mornington Peninsula, Environment Victoria and Westernport Peninsula Protection Council set out in their hundreds across the Peninsula and beyond to collect messages from residents and visitors against AGL proposal in Westernport Bay. People posted photos of themselves wearing #wetsuitsforwesternport to make sure Minister Wynne considers the community’s overwhelming rejection of AGL’s unpopular gas factory in Westernport Bay in his assessment of the project.

The most notable difference from our early efforts collecting signatures is that people didn’t need to be asked to sign, and they didn’t often need to have the threat explained. They lined up to fill out our postcards to Minister Wynne as quickly as we could supply them. The members of this community love Westernport and have kept themselves informed of the risks of the _{project}. They remain hugely engaged in making sure that AGL’s plans are never approved.

People dressed in wetsuits and colourful beach gear later travelled to the steps of Parliament to deliver these messages to of concern. Though the Minister was nowhere to be seen, Andy Meddick from the Animal Justice Party and Greens MP Ellen Sandell were on the scene to accept the messages delivered in their thousands, about threats to marine life, to human safety, and to the region’s tourism economy, on behalf of the Victorian Parliament.

This statement of opposition and concern was powerfully expressed by 12yo Balnarring student Leroy Spender who invited Minister Wynne to visit Westernport Bay to see for himself what is at risk if the project is approved. Watch Leroy at 9:45, during this recording of all the speakers:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_dyji0gwq0_ECHkxg7BI6ufpSaJ1-16F/view?usp=drivesdk

Representatives from Environment Victoria, Save Westernport and the Surfrider Foundation told the gathered media that no social license exists for AGL's attempt to degrade and exploit our beloved marine environment to install new fossil fuel infrastructure in the iconic wetlands of Westernport Bay. "Our communities reject AGL's needless proposal, and we'll fight it at every stage".

The AGL project would provide few jobs and cause serious air, light, noise and water pollution, impacting marine life and migratory birds. It would also present fire hazards, damage the regional tourism economy and negatively impact property values. The soul gain would be to AGL's bottom line but with the local demand for gas dropping, not even tanking global prices could make this project worthwhile.

Of all the hugely negative impacts, the project would prolong our debilitating dependence on gas, though the world's most respected climate scientists have warned we must avoid, in no uncertain terms.

It's essential that Westernport's remarkable, regenerating wetlands are protected from unsuitable industrial proposals once and for all.

Put simply, we know that AGL's project is the wrong project, in the wrong location, at the wrong time!

For more information about AGL's gas import proposal and pipeline, visit <https://savewesternport.org/>

Save Westernport's AGM

The Save Westernport Steering Committee thanks our members and supporters who attended our first Annual General Meeting last week. We were very grateful to Claire Dougall from Strategic Planning at Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, Jeannine Wilson from the Westernport chapter of Extinction Rebellion and Penelope Gebhardt from Silverleaf Artbox for speaking at our AGM.

A report of the Silverleaf Artbox's successful Art Is In Our Nature fundraiser, which raised money for our participation and legal representation at the EES hearing last year, can be read in last October's issue of the Balnarring Bridge <http://bridgemag.com.au/files/download/0bf5deb743534c8>

Extinction Rebellion protested outside AGL headquarters this week, below.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=3553927774832276>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=3553856524839401>

Pictures from Sunday March 7 #WetsuitsForWesternport day of action in the Peninsula:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/n73gup1gr2qyxn4/AACvNQe2eq6W0o-x4-NSnamJa?dl=0> (credit Julian Meehan)

Weds March 10 delivering the messages to Minister Wynne at Parliament, at our "Pavement Paddle Out".



Pictures here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/x4g0rpv5be4dr0f/AAB1eF0htjei56RE-CtVFSDWa?dl=0> (credit Julian Meehan)

-Julia Stockigt



The Hon. Richard Wynne MP
 Minister for Planning
 Tenancy 2, Ground Floor
 188-196 Gertrude Street
 FITZROY VIC 3065

Dear Minister,

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council opposition - Proposed AGL and APA Gas Import Jetty and Pipeline Project, Crib Point

On behalf of the Mornington Peninsula Shire, our community and the many community groups and businesses who have countersigned this letter, I am expressing our opposition to the proposed AGL and APA Gas Import Jetty and Pipeline Project at Crib Point.

Our collective position has always been that the project poses a significant risk to the environment, economy and local amenity of Crib Point. The project threatens to over industrialise the area, all for unproven economic and resource gains.

In August 2020, the Council voted to oppose the project in its submission to the Victorian Government, to inform the Environmental Effects Statement. In September 2020, a Shire poll asked our residents if they supported the proposed **AGL and APA Gas Import Jetty and Pipeline project. 93 per cent of respondents said no.** Council's key areas of concern relate to:

- Climate change and unsatisfactory accounting of gas emissions and offsets
- Marine ecology and biodiversity including impacts on the unique, world-renowned Western Port Bay Ramsar wetlands and UNESCO biosphere, critical habitats for endangered migratory birds, iconic native marine and terrestrial wildlife including: Humpback and Southern Right Whales, Australian fur seals, Little Penguins and the Southern Brown Bandicoot
- Terrestrial ecology and biodiversity – potentially losing more than 15 hectares of native vegetation, including globally endangered native flora and fauna and groundwater, with potential impacts on dependent ecosystems and aquifers
- Negative impacts on our unique local and regional tourism economy.

Strong community sentiment expressed to us over last year, supported by those countersigning this letter – and the tens of thousands of people they represent, sends an unequivocal message. **We do not want the AGL and APA Gas Import Jetty and Pipeline project at Crib Point.**

We trust these considerations will inform your project deliberations.

Yours sincerely

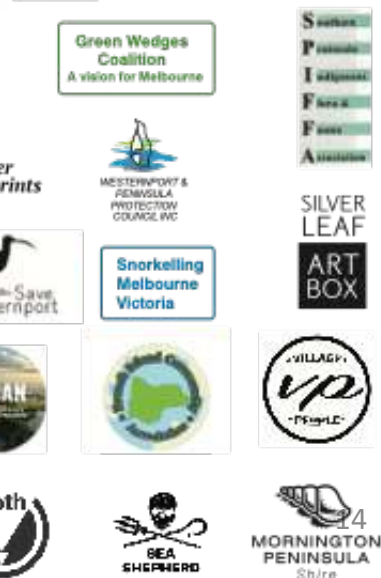
Councillor Despi O'Connor, Mayor

NO AGL

Write to State and Federal members of parliament urging them to say no to AGL!

For templates and addresses, visit:

mornpen.vic.gov.au/AGL





2021 Festival – MARCH 13th Balnarring Beach, Robertson Park

THANK YOU

The festival was a huge success and as usual, it came with rain!



The day started off with a Welcome to Country by Pabinata Carolyn Briggs AM followed by a smoking ceremony and traditional dances. It was an amazing powerful beginning of the festival.



The workshops provided a variety of experiences and learning.



Weaving and yarning with Rachel, Boomerang painting with Willum Warrain

Ans I am Miss Soul with Nartarsha

A few weeks before the festival we were unsure how we were going to meet budget however due to the sponsors and generosity of community we did meet budget. (Thank goodness)

Valued sponsors were:



Also special thanks to

- The performers, particularly those who performed in the rain. The feedback about the line up has been extremely positive.

Kee'Ahn

- All workshop presenters who were very generous in sharing of their cultures and knowledge.
- All the volunteers that assisted with set up, running the day and pack up.
- Everyone who came along on the day.





This festival was an amazing achievement by a small group of people – congratulations to the committee and thank you.

Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee SAVE the date – 19th March 2022

If you are interested in joining the committee please contact us via email womindjekabalnarringngargee@gmail.com. The next committee meeting will be 6th May at Balnarring Preschool 7pm

For more information [Womin djeka Balnarring Ngargee - community festival | Facebook](#)

Photographers: Delia, Lindsey and Mel



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Western Port Uniting Church Parish

(consisting of Balnarring, Crib Point and Hastings congregations)

Service Locations and Times for April and May - each Sunday (except as indicated below)

Balnarring 10.45 am Crib Point 9.00 am Hastings 10.45 am

Easter Services

Maundy Thursday	1st April	Crib Point	7.00 pm
Good Friday	2nd April	Balnarring	9.00 am
		Crib Point	No Service
		Hastings	9.00 am
Easter Sunday	4th April	Balnarring Beach	6.00 am
		Dawn Service with Anglicans	
		Balnarring	10.45 am
		Crib Point	9.00 am
		Hastings	10.45 am

Parish Service

Sunday May 30th - at Hastings UC - commencing at 10.45 am.
this is the only service in the Parish on this day

Church Locations:

Balnarring - 10 Balnarring Beach Road, Balnarring.

Crib Point - 382 Stony Point Road, Crib Point.

Hastings - Cnr Marine Parade and Hodgins Road, Hastings.

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

Trading Times - Tuesday to Friday 10.00 am to 3.30 pm and
Saturday 9.30 am to 1.00 pm.

Diary Dates:

Saturday 10th April

Western Port Craft Expo - Hastings Community Hub - 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

The Western Port Craft Expo is a celebration and exhibition of the best craftwork in Western Port and on the Mornington Peninsula and it showcases the fine products of craft artisans at work and allows attendees to view craft demonstrations, and for some crafts, listen to craft talks and demonstrations and to register for workshops in various crafts.

Commencing after Easter "Jesus The Game Changer"

a morning gathering with a BYO lunch to follow.

A series of studies which establishes the historicity of Jesus, and, to a certain extent, the Gospels as accurate source material for His life and teaching. It also shows the centrality of Jesus' place in the narrative of human history.

Contact Rev. Nigel for starting date and locations.

HOLDING GROUND

#SAVEARTHURSEAT #NOQUARRY

23 APRIL – 14 MAY

AN ONLINE GROUP EXHIBITION FUNDRAISER

Featuring over 70 renowned contemporary artists
Curated by Penelope Gebhardt

SAVE ARTHURS SEAT | 70+ ARTISTS | ONLINE EXHIBITION

Help raise urgent funds for the Peninsula Preservation Group's campaign to Save Arthurs Seat/Wonga from the Ross Trust (owner of Hillview Quarries). The Trust plans to initiate the biggest mine the Peninsula has ever seen, destroying up to 94 acres of pristine bushland and removing millions of tonnes of granite in the heart of Mornington Peninsula. All proceeds donated to the cause.

IMAGE: Joanne Mott Acacia dealbata 2009, hoop pine, beeswax & acrylic, 100 x 100 cm (detail)

Karina ARMSTRONG
Rosalind ATKINS
Tessa BLAZEY
Louise BLYTON
GW BOT
Ben CARROLL
Eddy CARROLL
Warren COOKE
Steve COX
Baden CROFT
Philip DAVEY
Yvette DE LACEY
Michelle DE LA COEUR
Rox DE LUCA
Rachel DERUM
Graeme DRENDEL
Lesley DUXBURY
Kate ELLIS
Sarah FAULKNER
Kevin FOLEY
Belinda FOX
David FRAZER
Amos GEBHARDT
James GEURTS

Bronwen GIBBS
Marion HARPER
Siri HAYES
Euan HENG
Sarah HEYWARD
Emma HOMFRAY
Kate HUDSON
Alix HUNTER
Jennifer JOSEPH
Sally JOUBERT
Martin KING
Barbie KJAR
David LARWILL
Minaal LAWN
Hannah LEWIS
Maria LIEBERMAN
Jordan MARANI
Rick MATEAR
Roma MCLAUGHLIN
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Harry NANKIN
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Jim PAVLIDIS
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Jennifer RIDDLE
Ebony RUSSELL
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Pip RYAN
Gwen SCOTT
Tiel SEIVL-KEEVERS
Liz SHREEVE
Catherine Hull SINCLAIR
Ken SMITH
Tai SNAITH
Matthew STANTON
Sarah TOMASETTI
Kate TUCKER
Judith VAN HEEREN
vayu
Rosie WEISS
Dianna WELLS
Stephen WICKHAM
Deborah WILLIAMS
Neil WILLIAMS
John WOLSELEY
Greg WOOD

HOLDING GROUND

ONLINE EXHIBITION:

www.silverleaf-artbox.com.au

Viewing of artworks can be arranged by appointment

PH: +61 422 132 525

E: info@silverleaf-artbox.com.au

EXHIBITION PARTNERS:

SILVER LEAF ART BOX
3361 Frankston-Flinders Road,
Merricks, VIC 3916

MERRICKS GENERAL WINE STORE
3460 Frankston-Flinders Road,
Merricks, VIC 3916

MONTALTO
33 Shoreham Road,
Red Hill South, VIC 3937

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Arthurs
Seat

WHY ARTISTS ARE HOLDING GROUND

#SAVEARTHURSEAT #NOQUARRY

Curated by Penelope Gebhardt

23 APRIL - 14 MAY

The work of more than 70 renowned artists comes together in Holding Ground, an online art exhibition to raise funds and awareness of the campaign to Save Arthurs Seat. The exhibition, curated by Penelope Gebhardt, will run from April 23 to May 14.

The Save Arthurs Seat campaign seeks to stop the Ross Trust, owner of Hillview Quarries, from building a massive new quarry at Wonga / Arthurs Seat, in Mornington Peninsula on the traditional lands of the Boon Wurrung people.



Ms Gebhardt said “This exhibition presents a unique opportunity to take powerful action to protect vital bushland on the Peninsula by making a donation or acquiring an art work by a leading contemporary artist.”

Ms Gebhardt added “The generosity and passion of the artists I approached to be involved and support the cause has been inspiring. I’ve discovered that many have a personal link to the area and I’ve been fortunate to hear some of their stories. There is an ever-growing movement of people who are committed to the protection of this precious place.”

The Ross Trust, and the company it owns, Hillview Quarries, plan to initiate the biggest mine the Peninsula has ever seen. Ironically, the Ross Trust is a charitable organisation which, according to its own website, aims to “ensure Victoria’s biodiversity is conserved, protected and valued.” Up to 94 acres of pristine bushland, equivalent to 21 MCG’s, or the size of the Melbourne Royal Botanic Gardens – will be destroyed, replaced by a hole 190 metres deep. Millions of tonnes of granite will be blasted from the Port Phillip Bay-facing side of Arthurs Seat, leaving a highly visible open wound in the landscape.

A recent State Government report (2019) identified 15 sites in Victoria for granite extraction to meet the needs of the state – Mornington Peninsula is not one of them. Furthermore, these sites do not require large-scale clearing of native bushland.

The area slated for the quarry provides essential habitat for flora and fauna including koalas and other mammals, birds, insect life and plants – a large number of which are regionally significant and threatened species. The State and Federal governments have invested millions of dollars over time to establish a biolink connecting both private and government owned bushland across the Peninsula, and the proposed quarry site is a vital part of that link. Only 18% of bushland remains on the Peninsula and only a very small fraction of this is old growth forest. We cannot afford to lose more.

Ms Gebhardt said “The funds raised from HOLDING GROUND will go towards expanding the community campaign to convince the Ross Trust / Hillview Quarries to withdraw their proposal. If the EES (Environmental Effects Statement) is released, funds will be used to pay experts to assess it and provide a legal representative to put forward the opposing case at the hearings.”

HOLDING GROUND features an exciting selection of local, Melbourne and interstate artists working across disciplines including; sculpture, painting, drawing, jewellery, ceramics, textiles, photography, digital art and printmaking. The works are connected thematically in varying ways to the natural world.



Balnarring based printmaker Hannah Lewis has hiked into the area near the proposed quarry site at Arthurs Seat/Wonga to acquaint herself with the landscape.

In response she has created a linocut depicting a cape – an article of clothing, highly decorated with imagery of the colourful native flowers that grow there. The cape is an embodiment of the artist's sensate experience of that specific environment and joins several other works in a clothing-based series the artist is currently working on.

Ms Lewis said "How did we become so deeply disconnected to the land? The cape is a metaphor for nature wrapping us in all her beauty, restoring and healing us."



Recently returned to Australia from The Hague, Belinda Fox's major work *What goes around II* was a finalist in the 2021 Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery's National Works on Paper Prize. Here the artist has used the digital print medium to create a macro experience of her work – it's much larger than her comparatively small drawings. Fox's choice of medium speaks to the concepts she explores about seeking balance in an unstable virtual world where desire and reality is untethered. Embedded in this beautiful and perpetually swirling wave are undercurrents, abstract forms and references to art history.

Award winning printmaker David Frazer's remarkable 8-plate etching *The tangled wood (composition I)* eschews the human figure usually present in his work, instead drawing the viewer's attention to the idiosyncratic character of trees. It took the artist 6 intensive months to create this etching, which is based on the landscape at Mount Alexander, Victoria. Like ancient serpents, the trunks and boughs of trees in the foreground twist and turn. Acute textural and tonal details of desiccated bark, smooth branches, rock and plant material delineate form as the trees rise in their gnarly beauty towards the sky.

ONLINE EXHIBITION:

www.silverleaf-artbox.com.au

Viewing of artworks can be arranged by appointment

ENQUIRIES:

E: info@silverleaf-artbox.com.au

Ph: +61 422 132 525

Images (from top left): DAVID FRAZER: *The tangled wood (composition I)*, 2018, etching, 80 x 120 cm, edition 40. HANNAH LEWIS: *Wonga cape* 2021, hand-coloured linocut, 15 x 28 cm, edition 6. BELINDA FOX: *What goes around II*, 2019, digital pigment print, 150 x 198 cm, edition 8.

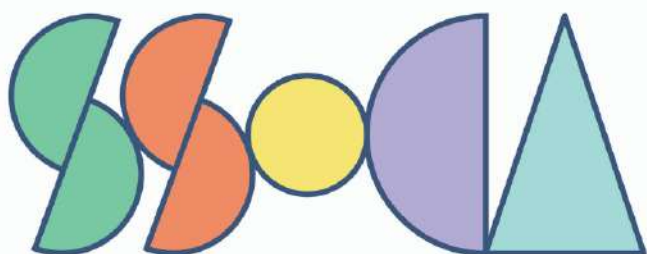


Our Community

Pop In Hub

A Community Space in the heart of Balnarring Village Shopping Centre is to open soon. A small group of community members met up with in in early March to chat about possibilities for Shop 27 (ex balnarring Hardware), with a focus on connecting community, sustainability, alternative non-commercial activities and bringing people together. Some of the possibilities for the space include workshops, exhibition space, gathering space, performances, community kitchen, Yoga, Qigong, Kirtan, meditation, dance, choir, conscious cinema, story telling and film screenings. Initially, an installation of “Tracery” ... collection of nets woven from reclaimed fabric by local artist Amanda Nelson is on displaying open social gatherings will commence soon. With the space available until at least June, we are excited to offer a calendar of community events in the coming months and invite everyone to get involved. For more info, please email info@bridgemag.com.au Councillor David Gill and the teams at the Mornington Peninsula Shire have been major supporters of the community Pop in Hub and together with Balnarring Village Common currently managing the space, are hoping to secure interest in a long term space suitable for ongoing community use - a Community House. Show your support by stopping by or joining our Facebook page (Balnarring Village Common). Events Calendar to be announced soon... watch this space





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of Creative Arts

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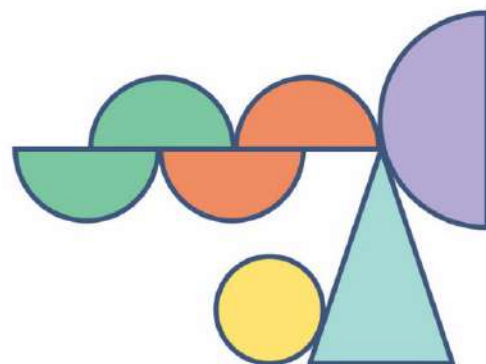


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COMING SOON
FOR ADULTS!**

TERM THREE CLASSES

PRE-SCHOOLER

SESSIONS STARTING



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Lots to be thankful for at Balnarring Primary...

As term one, 2021 draws to an end, staff and students thankfully reflect on the time they have shared together **on-site**.

Apart from three '*remote and flexible learning*' days, our students have had the opportunity to discuss new concepts during explicit teaching sessions, to work co-operatively with their peers on a range of tasks and to receive immediate feedback from both their teachers and classmates.

Throughout the term some children have also received extra tuition from our 'Reading Tutors', Erin and Susan. These additional staff were funded by the Department of Education to support children whose learning may have been impacted by the disruption caused by COVID-19. These children have met with Erin or Susan daily and we are thankful for the support provided by these tutors.

Recently we received a call from the Secretary of the Balnarring Senior Citizens Club. Sadly, the club was folding but before doing so they wanted to make a donation to the Tutoring Program in the form of a money voucher to purchase 'good fit' books for the students to enjoy reading and enhance their confidence.

We sincerely thank the members of the Balnarring Senior Citizens Club, both past and present, for their thoughtful donation.

And, finally, we all thank our passionate science teacher Mr David Keystone. David has guided the science and sustainability programs at our school for the past 15 years. He retired at the end of term.

David has had a huge impact on our students and indeed their families. Many exhibits in our bi-annual Science Fairs have been created, researched or built by keen family members including mum and/or dad! A number of past students have gone on to pursue careers in the sciences or sustainability fields thanks to David.

The Balnarring Primary School Learning Community – staff, students and families – will be forever grateful for David's commitment, work ethic and 'generosity of time' to share his scientific knowledge with us all.

We all wish you a happy '*curious*' retirement David!

Thank you!

Sandy O'Meara

Assistant Principal

Balnarring Primary School



David Keystone

Discovering native gardens during a 5km limit

During the time last year when we were limited to a 5km radius of home, and encouraged to get out and about for an hour's exercise, I discovered some beautiful native gardens in and around Balnarring. And I was so encouraged to think that there's lots of people out there who love native plants and who are keen to either mix and match with exotics or go completely down the native and indigenous planting route.

Often gardeners are put off by native plants getting out of hand and looking straggly – like any plant in the garden, they're not just "set and forget". They respond well to pruning and general maintenance. But when to prune, what plants do well in clay soils, what will attract birds to the garden, do acacias die off quickly – so many questions for both the newcomer to native plants, and those of us who are still experimenting and learning along the way.

The continued survival of Australian native flora is the aim of the Australian Plants Society (APS) as it recognises the close relationship Australian native flora has with the native fauna in providing habitat, food, protection and a myriad of other benefits. The survival of one assists in the survival of the other.

Locally, the Mornington Peninsula district group of the APS, has around 70 members who enjoy growing and learning about native plants. And every one of them is keen to share their knowledge and experience – gardening is not a competitive sport!

If you're interested in developing your knowledge of gardening with native plants, our group is holding a course commencing on 28 April for three weeks. Entitled "Make a Garden with Native Plants", the course aims to help gardeners (or budding gardeners) establish and maintain a native garden. The course will be held at the Bentons Square Community Centre from 7.00 – 9.30pm, and will include a visit to a local native garden on Saturday 15 May. The cost is \$60.

As part of our Society's purpose in promoting interest in growing and propagating Australian plants in home gardens and public places, each year our group runs a Plant Sale at Seawinds Gardens at Arthurs Seat. It's an opportunity to see a wide range of native and indigenous plants from both local and regional growers. Native nurseries are not so prevalent these days, so it's also a chance to pick the brains of the experts.

The Plant Sale is being held on Saturday 1 May 2021 from 10.00am – 3.30pm, Seawinds Gardens, Purves Road, Arthurs Seat – free entry.

We're always keen to welcome new members to our group, and if you'd like to find out more, I'm happy to have a chat. Autumn is a great time of year to be out in the garden, so starting planning and planting its future now!

Jenny Bolger

Secretary, Australian Plants Society Mornington Peninsula

<https://apsmorningtonpeninsula.org/about/>

Ph: 0428 284 974

Australian Plants Society Mornington Peninsula

Make a garden 

with

Australian Native Plants

**A course to help you establish
a successful native garden**

28 April, 5 & 12 May 2021
7pm to 9:30pm

\$60 for notes, soil test
and garden visit (Saturday 15 May)

Bentons Square Community Centre, Mornington

Enquiries to 0402 842 494

**Australian Plants Society
Mornington Peninsula**



Plant Sale

Saturday 1 May 2021
10.00am – 3.30pm

Seawinds, Purves Rd, Arthurs Seat State Park,
Featuring local and regional growers of native
plants

Enquiries to 0428 284 974

Friends of Daangean

On February 27th the wonderful FOD weeding team turned out for the first working bee for 2021. Although small in number we were joined by Jack, a sprightly youth, compared to the rest of us. With his energy we achieved a great deal, even though Julie and I spent a lot of time attending to badly cut pittos from a previous occasion, which were re-sprouting with multiple branches (pollarding).



Jamie the pitto poser



The wandering beetle

The morning was extremely pleasant weatherwise and it was a joy to be amid the trees and birds, though somewhat marred by the discovery of absolutely hundreds of pitto seedlings at the two and four leaf stage. They were in thick patches and obviously the young of previously downed

trees that were berry laden. Some boneseed was evident as were many gorse seedlings. The ground was hard and dry, and the enemy's roots tenacious. Many of the tiny ones were inclined to break rather than come away. My word, how determined they were to beat us, but to no avail. Dogwood was coming

into flower and a bracken-wandering beetle caught my eye. And afterwards, how nice to partake of a cuppa and Julie's beaut carrot muffins.

The Waterwatch crew have had two sessions by the water, January 19th and February 23rd. As usual the water is in good condition although with high turbidity in the catch drain at the Devilbend Ck exit, which of course is now dry. The level is starting to go down after being quite high previously. It took a long time for Melbourne Water to give us the green light to begin again and we wondered what changes, if any, might have occurred, but all seemed much the same as usual.

Very few birds were on the water at Devilbend and Bittern reservoirs. A couple of swans at Devilbend and a similar number of coots, and at Bittern a family of swans were on the far shoreline, while a bunch of dirty fronted little pied cormorants sat on the water tower; goodness knows what they'd been up to.

Today, Friday March 12th, some of the Waterwatch team had a practice run in catching and identifying macro-invertebrates at Devilbend. We set up on the footpath near the fishing platforms where it was flat ground.



The view from our office

The water was mirror-like and there was clear reflection of the platform. Melbourne Water run training days in this activity but due to the plague we were unable to attend the one due last spring, so today we took ourselves out with hopeful hearts. Two crew members were unable to attend but we muddled along in a reasonable manner identifying the critters caught in the big net then tipped in the bucket of water standing nearby. From the bucket, the water was tipped into two trays and over them we stood with our teaspoons at the ready as the bugs etc.

needed capturing and placing into ice block trays so we could look at them. There was a healthy population of freshwater shrimp (Decapoda), which was extremely active and some leapt from the trays. Once on the dry surface of the table they were easy to pick up and return to the




Possibly an aquatic caterpillar

water. The other little blokes of interest were the caddisfly nymphs (Trichoptera) encased in various house styles. When disturbed they looked like pieces of stick, or grass, until the little head and legs appeared at one end and off they went with their awkward swimming style. A couple of unidentified critters were photographed for future ID. One looked like a caterpillar and the other looked like a little round jellyfish thing. It was amazing how much life was in the water we collected, but you had to stand and look for a while to get your eye in. We're out again when the rest of the team can participate.

All good fun!

Marnie Fitzsimons; marniefitz1@gmail.com.au

FOD Co-ordinator






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“Talk to the Animals”

Balnarring

The property in Balnarring provides NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) participants access to 6.5 acres of unique biodiversity. Participants are able to sit in quiet spaces amongst the extensive tree plantings, wander around the wetlands, harvest the Australian and South African native flowers and walk and sit in open paddocks where four miniature donkeys, trained for therapy, provide comfort and enjoyment to people who are affected by mental and physical illness. The property is known as a **SAFE PLACE**.

Exposing humans to nature and a natural environment has the potential to de-stress humans, improve mental health, improve cognitive functioning and learning; reduce destructive repetitive behaviour and increase receptivity for behavioural change and restorative opportunities.

Biophilia hypothesis is based on the idea that humans possess an innate tendency to seek connections with nature and other forms of life. The term *biophilia* was used by German-born American psychoanalyst Erich Fromm in *The Anatomy of Human Destructiveness* (1973), which described biophilia as “the passionate love of life and of all that is alive.”

The term was later used by American biologist Edward O. Wilson in his work *Biophilia* (1984), which proposed that the tendency of humans to focus on and to affiliate with nature and other life-forms has, in part, a genetic basis.

The Benefits of a Natural Environment

Today's competitive lifestyles are impacting in high proportions on society. Physical and mental illness have dramatically increased. Many of the illnesses suffered by people of all ages are ultimately caused by stress. We can achieve improved mental health through the incorporation of ecology if access to flora and fauna is available in **SAFE PLACE** environments.

People need to understand how we function physiologically, both individually and culturally, away from the stress-oriented imbalance of modern society.

Animal involvement

The physical act of touching an animal calms both the human and the animal through oxytocin being released in the body through activation of touch receptors in the skin. This release of oxytocin provides a calm and connection reaction, including changes in behaviour as well as lowered blood pressure and pulse rate.

Animals represent reality; they eat, play and show emotions as they maintain a safe psychological presence. Animals offer friendship through non-verbal cues which can be an easier form of communication than typical human verbal communication.

The physical features of miniature donkeys, their long ears and the small size of the body, allow them to support some specific therapeutic interventions. Donkeys have

a natural protective disposition toward humans. This disposition induces a deep interaction between human and donkey, causing relaxation due to the donkey breathing and sharing body warmth.

Animals can provide a secure base and a source of comfort during times of anxiety. Donkeys naturally respect the human need for personal space. This special aspect of donkeys is useful in all cases of fear.

Learn more at the website: www.donkeylovetherapy.com.au

Document prepared by

Michelle Lowe
Diversional Therapist
Social and Emotional Wellbeing Centre
2925 Frankston Flinders Road Balnarring 3926
michellelyndenlowe@gmail.com
0432 019 529



Red Hill Op Shop

More time to browse and look for treasures!!!!

Just wanted to share some terrific news with you ... The **Red Hill Op Shop** has extended its hours of operation and will include Wednesday afternoons.

(Another step in the process of us getting back to normal!)

Our new hours of operation will be:

Wed 10am – 4pm

Fri 10 am – 1pm

Sat 10am – 1pm

We wish you all the best and look forward to seeing you visit us at the Red Hill Op Shop soon. When you do, you help us to raise funds for local initiatives and reduce landfill!

Great outcomes in our special part of the world!

Proudly supporting Peninsula Home Hospice and other local nonprofits.

We are located at 33 Mechanics Road, RED HILL.

Email us at redhillopshop@gmail.com or

Message us through our Facebook page www.facebook.com/redhillopshop

LIFE COACHING

At Warrawee

What a mix of emotions we're all feeling as we leave lockdown behind and begin to rebuild our lives. After months of living that smaller, suppressed and somewhat colourless life, have you vowed to now grab life with both hands and live a richer, more colourful life?

- **IT'S TIME TO LEARN THE KEYS TO LIVING A BIGGER BRIGHTER LIFE**
- **GET CRACKING ON SOMETHING THAT'S BEEN ON YOUR WISH LIST FOR YEARS**
- **SORT OUT YOUR PRIORITIES**
- **WORK OUT WHO YOU REALLY ARE**
- **DISCOVER YOUR PURPOSE AND LIVE TO IT**

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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 80 members.

We meet at Balnarring Hall on the last Friday morning of each month (excluding December) commencing at 9:30 am for about two hours. Our regular features include photographic exhibitions, musical interludes, morning tea and guest speakers who are invariably a source of information and entertainment.

The Club also hosts a variety of activities including book groups, bridge, wine appreciation, investment, photography, choir, gardening, outings and dine-outs. During COVID-19, most of the groups continued in some form to provide our members with some much-needed contact and stimulation. Hopefully we will be able to organize day outings and dine-outs later in the year.

Our regular newsletter has also been upgraded to provide members with innovative and interesting articles and items during the lockdown period. We also have a regular contact program to ensure that our members' welfare is being addressed.

We are looking forward to a resumption of our full program as soon as the restrictions are finally lifted but, in the meantime, we will continue with as many activities as possible.

Our next meeting will be held on Friday, the 26th March commencing at 9.30am in the Balnarring Hall and will incorporate our AGM. Instead of a speaker our choir will entertain us. After the meeting we invite our partners to join us for our Annual Coolart Picnic starting at 12 noon.

New members are always welcomed.

For further information please contact Daryl Cowen on 0439 100 546 or check out our website by typing "Balnarring Men's Probus" into your browser.



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A 4-week workshop designed to have you feeling great from the inside out.

April 11th, 18th, 25th, May 2nd

- small class with one-on-one guidance
- introduction to yoga: physical practice, pranayama, meditation, philosophy
- perfect for beginners or those seeking deeper mindfulness

Yoga for everybody and every body.

Time: Sundays, 4-6pm

Dates: April 11th, 18th, 25th, May 2nd

Venue: Warrawee Wholistic – 87 Warrawee Road, Balnarring, VIC 3926

Cost: \$185 (x4 classes, 8 hours total – GST inc.)

To book by April 8th, please contact: yogawithkarolina@outlook.com

EASTER EGG HUNT

At Rain, Hayne &
Shine Farm



490 Stumpy Gully Road
Balnarring, 3926



Friday 2nd April 11:30 and 2:30

Saturday 3rd April 11:30 and 2:30

Sunday 4th April 11:30 and 2:30

All Participants receive some easter eggs.

Can you find the **Golden Egg** which includes
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- 1 and 2 year olds
- 3 and 4 year olds
- 5 years and over

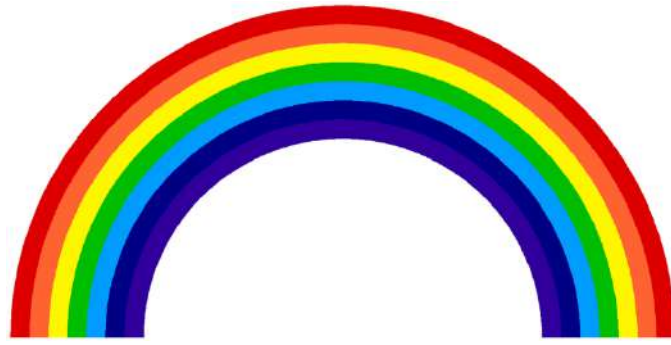
We reserve the right to combine age groups if insufficient numbers.

TO BOOK: go to trybooking.com.au and search 'Rain, Hayne and Shine Farm'

For enquiries: email info@rhsfarm.com.au or ring 59831691



Take a FREE family Easter photo at our Easter display.



Rain, Hayne & Shine Farm

490 Stumpy Gully Road, Balnarring 3926

During EASTER School holidays (April 2nd to April 18th) we are featuring

PIG RUNS

Daily Pig Racing at 11am and 2pm.



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PONY RIDES: \$5 HORSE RIDES: \$10

FREE Hay Ride

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Children 2yrs and over \$13

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EASTER EGG HUNT 2nd, 3rd and 4th APRIL - see trybooking.com.au for more information.

Take a FREE family Easter photo at our Easter display.

For enquiries: email info@rhsfarm.com.au or ring 5983 1691

Why are my gums receding?

Gum recession is one of the most common dental conditions and yet it is largely preventable. When the gums recede, the teeth appear longer, and the roots of the teeth become exposed. Sadly, for most people this can contribute to experiencing sensitivity when having something cold to eat or drink, or when getting dental work done. In these situations, you may find some relief from using a sensitive toothpaste or having professional desensitizer applied to your teeth/gums by a dental professional. Many patients ask us if we can make the gums grow back up again and unfortunately gums cannot grow back again once they have receded. However, you can prevent the gums from receding further and causing more damage. Some people have a misconception that gum recession just happens with age and it's something they just have to live with. I can tell you I have many wonderful local patients in their 80s and 90s who have very healthy gums with little gum recession. So, age is not a major contributing factor and you can do things to also have healthy gums and bones as you age. If you do nothing, however, there is a high chance the gums will continue to recede further down the roots of your teeth, together with the bone that lies underneath. This, in turn, leads onto teeth getting loose, and early tooth loss.

Ways to prevent gum recession:

1. Gentle Brushing
2. Regular Dental Hygiene Appointments
3. Investigate & manage possible teeth clenching/grinding

Gentle Brushing

Always remember that brushing harder does not clean your teeth better! Using a medium or a firm brush may feel like it's cleaning your teeth better, but it is most likely causing your gums to recede. Gums need gentle care with a soft toothbrush and correct brushing technique. They are a biological tissue, not dirty bathroom tiles or dirty dishes. Putting too much force on them causes them to recede permanently. Using an electric toothbrush is fine too because they usually have soft bristles, however you must watch you are not pressing too hard while you brush. Only apply gentle pressure and if unsure look out for an electric toothbrush that has a pressure sensor, which lights up and warns you if you are pressing too hard. You can buy brushes like these at places like chemist warehouse, pharmacies, and supermarkets.

Regular Dental Hygiene Appointments

One of the other major reasons for gums receding is due to having bacteria (plaque and calculus) nesting around them. Once the bacteria have hardened up and become calcified (calculus), you can no longer brush it off safely at home. Dental hygienists are specifically trained in carefully removing these bacteria and treating gum problems. Dentists can do this too, but they often have other procedures they prefer instead, so tend to rush this procedure at most practices. Dental hygienists at the Balnarring Dental Centre allocate 60

minutes to you for this procedure to ensure they are thorough and gentle. They will measure your gums and take clinical photos to track your gum levels. Most importantly, if you are scared of this procedure due to experiencing sensitivity with 'scale and cleans' in the past just let them know as they have special tools & techniques to help with this that are completely painless. By having bacteria removed from around the gums frequently, e.g., 3-6 monthly, you give your gums the best chance to stay healthy, preventing gum recession, gum disease and loss of bone. If you are wondering about those magnificent patients I told you about in their 80s and 90s, this is what they do to keep their gums healthy and it clearly worked for them.

Investigate & Manage Possible Teeth Clenching/Grinding

A habit such as teeth clenching or teeth grinding is less frequently spoken about when it comes to gum recession. However, it is a common contributing factor because this habit puts pressure on the teeth, which travels down to the roots of the teeth where the gums sit. It's a bit like when you're about to have a fall and you put your arm out as you hit the floor. The damage is often caused to the shoulder not the hand. The same principles apply with teeth clenching/grinding where the damage is caused further down at the gumline. Most people struggle to control this habit on their own, particularly if it happens at night. Many people are unaware they even have this habit. If you're not sure or are suspicious you may be clenching/grinding your teeth speak to the dentists or dental hygienists at the Balnarring Dental Centre about it at your next checkup. They usually check for signs of this anyway. It may save your gums and teeth in the long run. If you are a new patient, we would be happy to welcome you and even do a complimentary consultation for our local community members to check your jaws and facial muscles for teeth clenching/grinding. It's quick, simple and painless.

I hope these three simple steps to prevent gum recession are helpful and if you have any questions please feel free to call our clinic in Balnarring on phone: 5983 5348 or visit our website.

Warm Regards,

Darina Nirmalann

Principal Dental Hygienist

Balnarring Dental Centre





Balnarring Fire Brigade News

Thankfully, a prolonged period of dry, warm, windy weather is most likely behind us. However, there is still the possibility of the occasional day when fire danger substantially increases, so please maintain your fire awareness as we progress through autumn and towards winter. It is pleasing to report that no major fires occurred in this area, this summer. The Western Port communities are to be congratulated on this excellent achievement.

Be alert to the termination of the CFA's Fire Danger Period for the Mornington Peninsula Shire. The date and conditions will be publicised in the local newspaper and promoted on the Shire's website. Also on this website is the Shire's open air fire restrictions which apply outside the CFA's Fire Danger Period. Conditions such as burning off day and time, types of material to be burnt and fire size must be complied with. For more detailed burning off by-laws information, check out the website or contact the Shire's Municipal Fire Prevention Officer on 5950 1050.

Here's a summary of the Brigade's activities during the past year.

- ✓ training of seventeen new members - a fantastic increase in membership
- ✓ completion of our building program and concreting around our buildings
- ✓ maintenance of all fire fighting hose - pressure testing and repairs
- ✓ replacement of 4 mobile phones and mounting brackets - in all our appliances
- ✓ replacing home smoke alarm detector batteries
- ✓ weekly driving of all our appliances
- ✓ weekly inspections of protective clothing and operational equipment
- ✓ upgrading the fire station computer system and network
- ✓ continuance of specialist skills and incident management training in compliance with COVID conditions
- ✓ publication of Balnarring Fire Brigade News in The Bridge Community magazine. Thanks to the editorial staff for this excellent community service.

The CFA has produced a number of brilliantly written and illustrated Community Engagement publications on a range of topics for community education purposes. They include:

- Are You Burning Off Safely?
- Defending and Leaving
- Warning and Emergency Information

- Home Fire Safety Book
- Smoke Alarm Ideographic - using symbols and graphical characters.

These are available on request from the fire station.

Did you know?

in Victoria

- annually, more than 3,000 house fires occur - that's eight per day.
- on average, fifteen (15) deaths are house fire related each year.
- the three most common causes of house fires are:-
 - faulty electrical wiring and appliances
 - leaving cooking appliances unattended and
 - heating related fires
- the main causes of wood fuelled heating house fires are:-
 - dirty or faulty chimneys and flues
 - faulty wood combustion heaters
 - burning logs rolling out of unguarded fire places
 - disposal of hot ashes
- all residential properties must have at least one smoke alarm installed on each level. Smoke alarms must meet Australian Standard AS3786.

Smoke alarms save lives. They provide early notification of a fire, improving occupants chances of surviving a house fire and early safe escape from the building.

Smoke alarm installation requirements are:-

on the ceiling at least 30 cm from the wall,
must be between each sleeping area and the rest of the house,
should be inside any room where an occupant sleeps with the door closed.

A smoke alarm maintenance schedule is highly recommended.

- monthly - test by pressing the test button until you hear a loud alert tone.
- annually - vacuum or dust your smoke alarm to remove accumulated dust and dirt
- change your smoke alarm alkaline battery at the end of daylight savings time.
- after ten (10) years replace all smoke alarms including the hard wired type.

Please contact the brigade on 5983 5379 or Balnarring CFA@bigpond.com about any of your winter fire household concerns.



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Balnarring Beach Community Association

BBCA has been busy in the first few months of 2021. We have submitted our written rejection of the proposed Crib Point Gas Off-loading facility, as well as delivering our position to the representative panel.

The proposed State Government initiative on Foreshore amalgamation is of high concern to us and we have made our position clear, expressing our values of the uniqueness of our seaside village and fear of being gobbled up in a bigger system that at its heart focuses on budgets and spreadsheets.

We have plans afoot to once again participate in the Womin Djeka Festival and hope that you managed to pick up some of our very own green tomato chutney and herb samples, grown and nurtured in our Community Garden.

We are always on the lookout for Balnarring Beach folk interested in being part of our Committee, so please put your hand up.



August Art Attack

Save the Date

**Friday 27th
Saturday 28th
Sunday 29th
August**

Crib Point Community House

More information

Website: AugustArtAttack.Com

Facebook: August Art Attack

Email: AugustArtAttack@outlook.com

CRIB POINT COMMUNITY MARKET

2nd SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

From 9am. to 1pm.

Lots of Stalls Inside and Out

Eco-Products, Coffee Van,

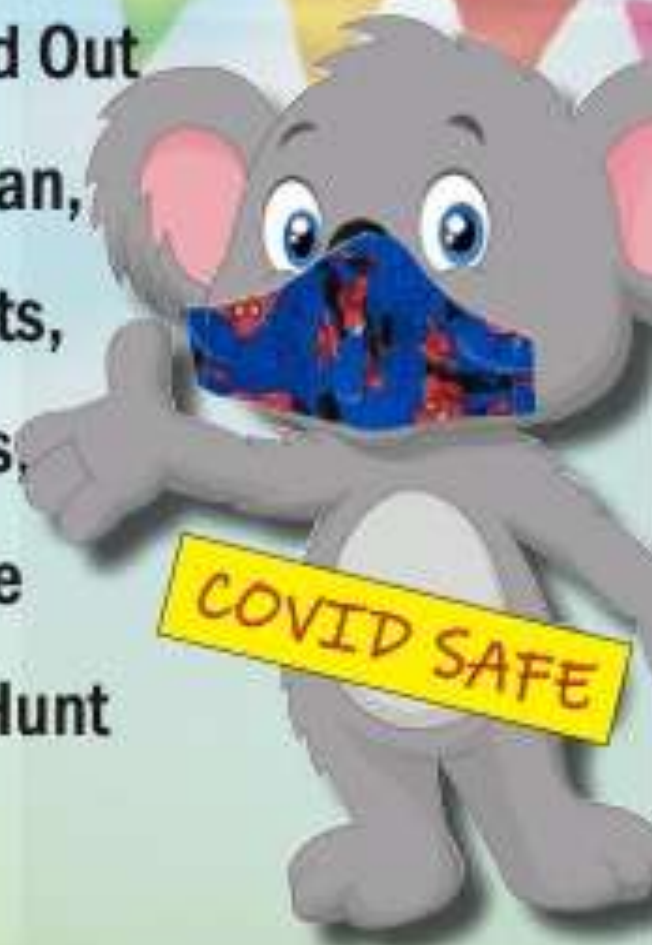
Up-Cycled Goods, Plants,

Gifts, Community Stalls,

Fun for the Kids with the

Cribby Koala Treasure Hunt

and much more....



Join Us For A Fun Day!

7 Park Rd Crib Point 3919

P:5983 9888 • E:market@cpch.org.au

W: www.cpch.org.au

Crib Point Community Market

2020 calendar



Crib Point Community Market is held on the second Saturday of the Month, 9am – 1pm. It is held at Crib Point Community House at 7 Park Street, Crib Point. Visit our website at <http://www.cpch.org.au/> or visit our Facebook page for updates.

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

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

2021	2nd Saturday of the Month
JANUARY	Saturday 9th
FEBRUARY	Saturday 13th
MARCH	Saturday 13th
APRIL	Saturday 10th
MAY	Saturday 8th
JUNE	Saturday 12th
JULY	Saturday 10th
AUGUST	Saturday 14th
SEPTEMBER	Saturday 11th
OCTOBER	Saturday 9th
NOVEMBER	Saturday 13th
DECEMBER	Saturday 11th



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

PROGRAM FOR TERM 2 2021

BOOKINGS BEGIN ON Monday 19th April

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

MARKET - 2nd Sat of month

email - market@cpch.org.au

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

MONDAY

Yoga, Café Chat,
 Judy's Craft,
 Ladies Woodwork,
 Meditation,



WEDNESDAY

Material Girls, Square
 Dancing,



FRIDAY

Stitchin' Sisters Patchwork,
 Op Shop & Como House trips



TUESDAY

Easy Walking, Jivin' Joeys,
 Meditation, Gentle Exercise,
 Family Tree Circle,
 Sheer Art Attack

THURSDAY

Cackle n Craft,
 Knitters 'n' Hookers,
 Yoga



SATURDAY

Photo Scrapbooking,
 Community Market

*More classes to be confirmed including Subsidies & More.
 Check out our website for up to date information*

PHONE: 59839888



Like us on Facebook



Crib Point Community Garden Inc.

Established 2006



**Our friendly group meets on
Wednesday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon**

Garden Market : 2nd Saturday of the month 9-12
Fresh produce, preserves, garden gloves and accessories &
more

Grow Learn Share Eat
Organic gardening principles followed
All ages and abilities welcome

Visit us on Wednesday or Saturday 9-12
at 7 Park Road Crib Point
(behind the Community House)

Further information email: thecrib3919@gmail.com



PRESS RELEASE – March 11th 2021

The St Johns Fete has been a tradition in Flinders for over 80 years with the first fete opened by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne Sir Arthur Coles in 1939...so it continued this year in spite of Covid, with an online fete in January and on Saturday 6th March we held a Flinders Fake or Fortune Fete with valuations by well-known valuers Warren Joel and Paul Sumner in the style of the BBC Antiques Road Show, plus some wonderful stalls. Fortune hunters brought their paintings, jewellery, furniture and other objets d'art to be assessed as to their fake or fortune status and also in the grounds was a marvellous White Elephant, artwork and book stall, home made bikkie and jam stalls plus a wonderful plant stall for autumn planting. A silent Auction helped raise funds for St John's Church and to other local charities which we have supported for many years. Anglicare Rosebud– supporting the homelessness on the Peninsula, Brotherhood of St. Laurence, Asylum Seekers Resource Centre Dandenong, Western Port Community Support caring for the marginalised and disadvantaged.

We couldn't have done it without the wonderful army of volunteers who sorted, baked and preserved for weeks to ensure a successful day. We also had the generous support of many sponsors and donors who have so kindly helped us with our much needed fundraising. Our thanks go to our sponsors: Balnarring and District Community Bank Branch - Bendigo Bank, Flinders Community Association, Flinders District Lions Club Southern Buoy Framers and Pier Provider plus local raffle donors Montalto, Flinders General Store, Vescape, Flinders Hotel and so many more!

Mary Iles, St John's Flinders Fete Committee
Email stjohnsfete21@gmail.com
Mobile 0418358587





All photos by Mary Iles.

Melbourne Period Project

FOR THE HOMELESS and families

**WINTER is nearly upon us; homeless numbers are increasing.
Please get the knitting needles out!**

***Melbourne Period Project* have prioritised the following for collection:**

- **NEW sleeping bags**
- **Mittens / gloves, scarves, beanies**
- **School supplies**
- **women's NEW nighties**

Donate directly: Melbourne Homeless Collective

BSB: 063027, ACC: 10118955 Commonwealth Bank of Australia

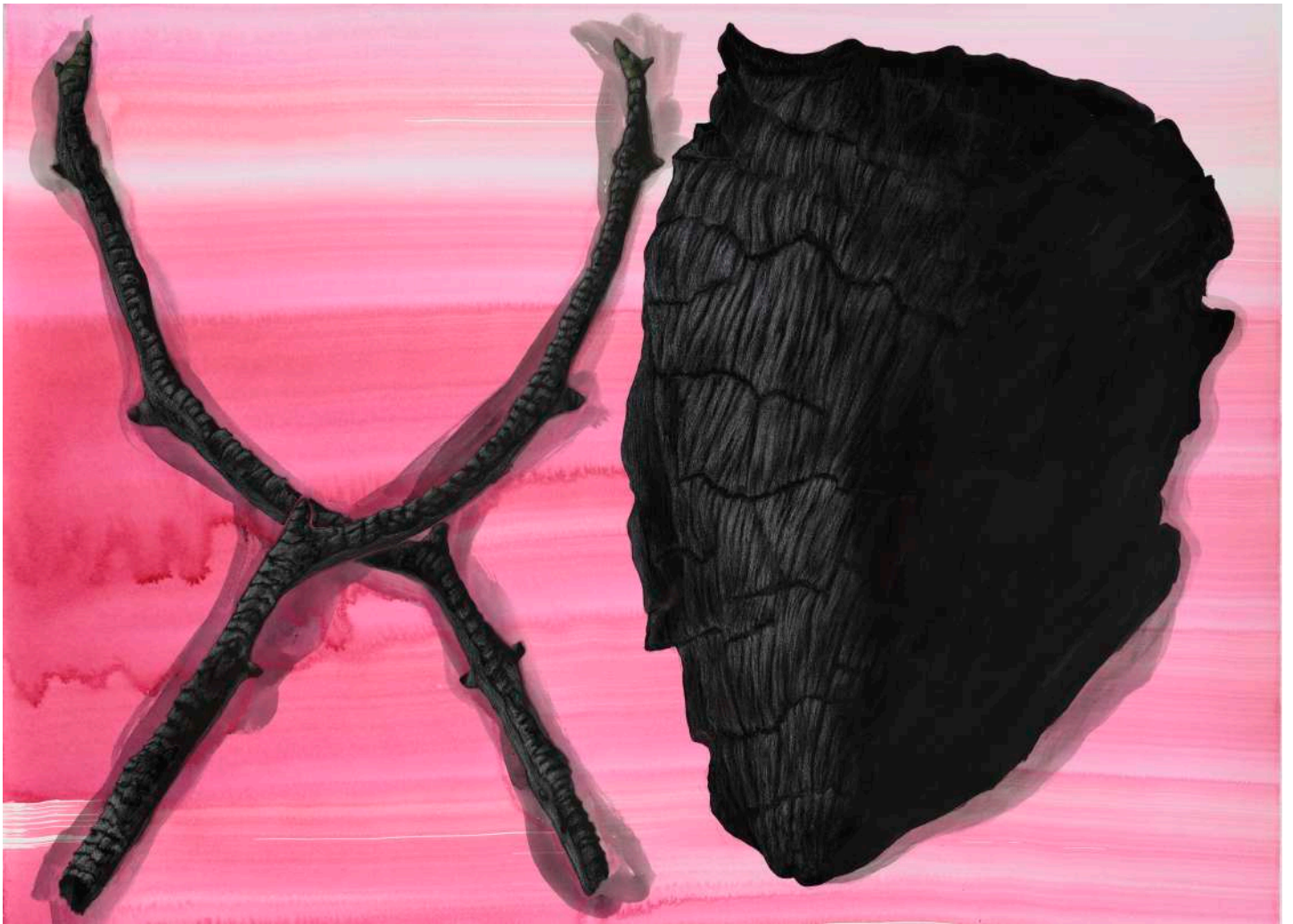
For more information contact me (**Barb Rimington 5983 2245**) or check out :

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

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/PeriodProjectMelbourne>

Twitter: @PeriodProjMelb;

Instagram: @MelbournePeriodProject



ROSIE WEISS

Do you still love me?
(asked the earth)

22 May - 13 June 2021

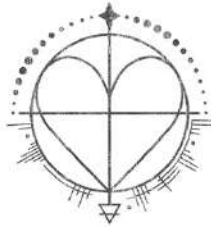
OPENING EVENT | FRIDAY 21 MAY | 6 - 8 PM
with live music by Jack Cross

open weekends 11am - 4pm or by appointment

SILVER LEAF ART BOX

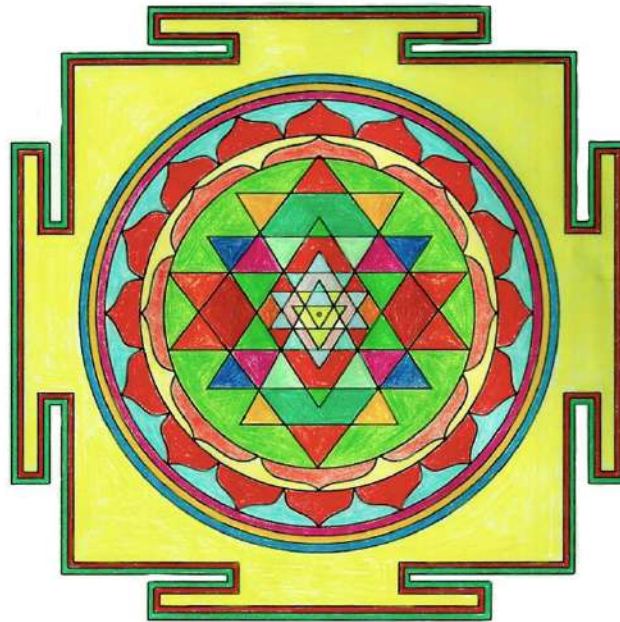


Silver Leaf Art Box | 3361 Frankston-Flinders Rd, Merricks | www.silverleaf-artbox.com.au
Image: *Do you still love me? (asked the earth)* 2020, pencil, Chinese & pigmented ink on Arches paper, 76 x 56 cm



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Candy van Rood

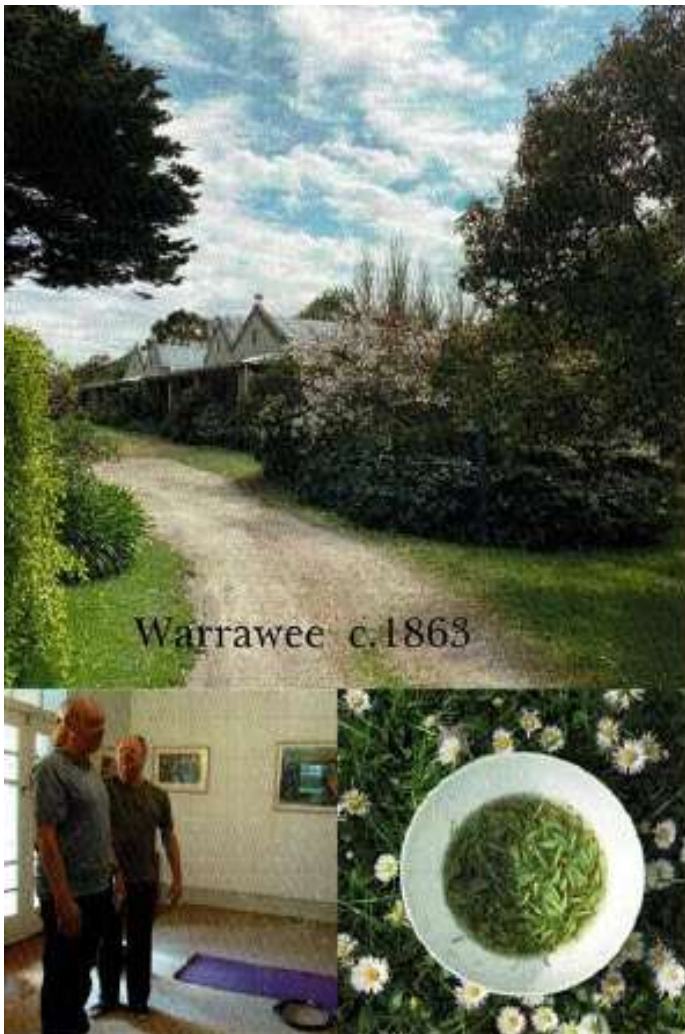
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Somers Ladies Probus Club

Let's trust that life is beginning to become normal again!
Probus is all about Friendship, Fellowship and Fun in retirement.

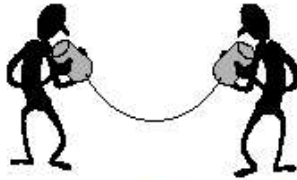
During the Covid Lockdown we have seen how important a sense of belonging in a community is to many people. Our club has worked to keep our members in touch and provide contact and support over the past year. If you need to feel part of a community, consider joining our friendly group.

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

At our May meeting we will celebrate our 34rd anniversary!
Contact Elizabeth on 5983 5898 or June on 5983 5321 for more information.



The 2021-2022 Committee of the Somers Ladies Probus Club.



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Sat 9.30-3.30

CHAOS and CONFUSION at GALLIPOLI

Private Spensley John Hintze was an unmarried, twenty-two years old farmer from Bittern when he enlisted in the Great War in 1914. He was one of the many Australians who were landed at first light on the beach at Gallipoli on April 25th, 1915. Later in the day, and in the days that were to come, no-one could locate him. He was first reported wounded, then wounded and missing, and finally killed in action. The reports were conflicting.

His parents, desperate for news of their son, wrote away to the authorities. A letter on their behalf was sent, in August 1916, to Sergeant Piper of the 5th Australian Infantry the unit to which Private Hintze had been assigned. The letter stated they had been informed he was reported *wounded and missing on 27/4/15*.

Sergeant Piper replied and his letter hints at the state of chaos and confusion on the beaches that morning:

I deeply regret to state that the following is the only information I could get as to the fate of our brave comrade.

As you already know we landed at dawn on 25/4/15. Well, we lost our Platoon Officer shortly after, this left me in charge, we managed to keep together until about midday when owing to the dense nature of the country and the very heavy fire that we faced, we became separated and by 6 p.m. I only had two of my own platoon with me and the others being made up of stragglers from all battalions but I could not be quite sure as to when I saw the last of Pte. Hintze. I think it was just after midday.

We formed up on the 27th inst. and it was my duty then to call the roll of our platoon and endeavour to find out what had become of our lost comrades.

I could not get any certain information about Pte. Hintze. One of the men (since killed) thought he saw him on a Naval cutter, going off to one of the Hospital ships, so I reported him wounded but it was found later that he was mistaken, so as there was no certain information as to his fate, I reported him missing but I regret to say that he must surely have been killed, as we have heard nothing of him since.

“Ben”, as he was known to the boys, was a very popular fellow and was very well to the front when I saw him last but unfortunately, like most of our best men, he undoubtedly lost his life in fighting for the honor and freedom of those we all love so dearly at home.

I deeply regret to say that I think this is all I could get of his fate at the time when he fell. Trusting this little news will enlighten my late brave comrade’s people,

I am yours sincerely Geo. T. Piper, Sergeant.

Hintze had landed safely on the morning of the 25th, had been seen *marching and getting into position* but by the afternoon he couldn’t be located.

Was he wounded, put on a hospital ship and sent back to Egypt as some informants thought or did he go out with a small party to capture the guns on a far ridge and *none of them ever returned . . .*’ as another informant stated?

How many other letters did Sergeant Piper have to write to anxious parents 'back home' when he had no real answers and could offer little hope?

Pte. S.J. Hintze is one name on the World War I Honour Board that hangs in the Balnarring Hall. His is just one of the seven names with a star alongside that indicates he did not return. Remember them on Anzac Day.

*- Ilma Hackett
Balnarring & District Historical Society.*

The History Room at the Balnarring Hall has re-opened.
Each Monday, 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon.

Please phone 5983 5326 if you would like to visit or to make an alternate time.



Pat The Mac tips : Don't be a Stefan!

Article in The Guardian published on Wed 13 Jan 2021 05.54 AEDT

Stefan Thomas has just two chances left to get his hands on his \$240m (£175m) fortune.

Thomas is a San Francisco-based computer programmer, and a decade ago he was given 7,002 bitcoins as a reward for making a video explaining how the cryptocurrency works.

At the time he was paid, they were worth \$2-\$6 each. He stashed them away in his “digital wallet” and forgot about them.

Now each bitcoin is worth \$34,000, and the contents of his wallet are valued at \$240m. But Thomas has forgotten the password that will unlock his fortune.

German-born Thomas has already entered the wrong password eight times, and if he guesses wrong two more times his hard drive, which contains his private keys to the bitcoin, will be encrypted – and he'll never see the money.

I guess we all struggle with passwords, “computer-savvy” or not. The secret is **NOT TO RELY ON YOUR MEMORY**. Use a password manager. If you are using Apple iDevices or computers, you are half way there. They have on board a program called “keychain” that stores passwords for you. It needs to be enabled in the iCloud settings. This program is very basic and works in the background; it is hardly noticeable. But it is quite limited.

If you need to store more diverse “secret” information, such as passport photos, credit card numbers, bank account logins, the combination for your safe, etc... you may need more complete password managers. They are available in the AppStore. I name only two here: **Lastpass** and **1Password**. Personally I use **1Password**. It allows one to create Vaults. Each vault holds different passwords, let's say for your business and your personal, or yours and your spouse's. Each vault comprises categories such as : Logins, Secure Notes, Credit Cards, Identities, Documents, Bank Accounts, Databases, Driver Licenses, Email Accounts, Memberships, Passports, Software Licenses, Wireless routers. And best of all, in each each of these entries, you can store the photo of the document. I found this invaluable when shopping OS and being asked to produce my passport to obtain a rebate on the GST... I just pop out my iPhone, open the app and show the photo of my document...

Of course all these password managers can also create much more complicated and secure passwords, since you do not have to remember them. The only password that you must memorise is the one to open the application... And this one you must not forget... Otherwise you may end up like Stefan!

If you need help on this topic, use the details below to contact me
Pat The Mac on 0419 330 497 or by email via pat@patthemacs.com



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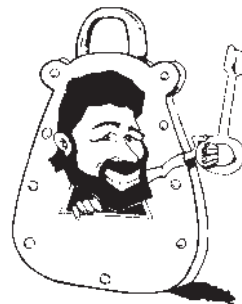
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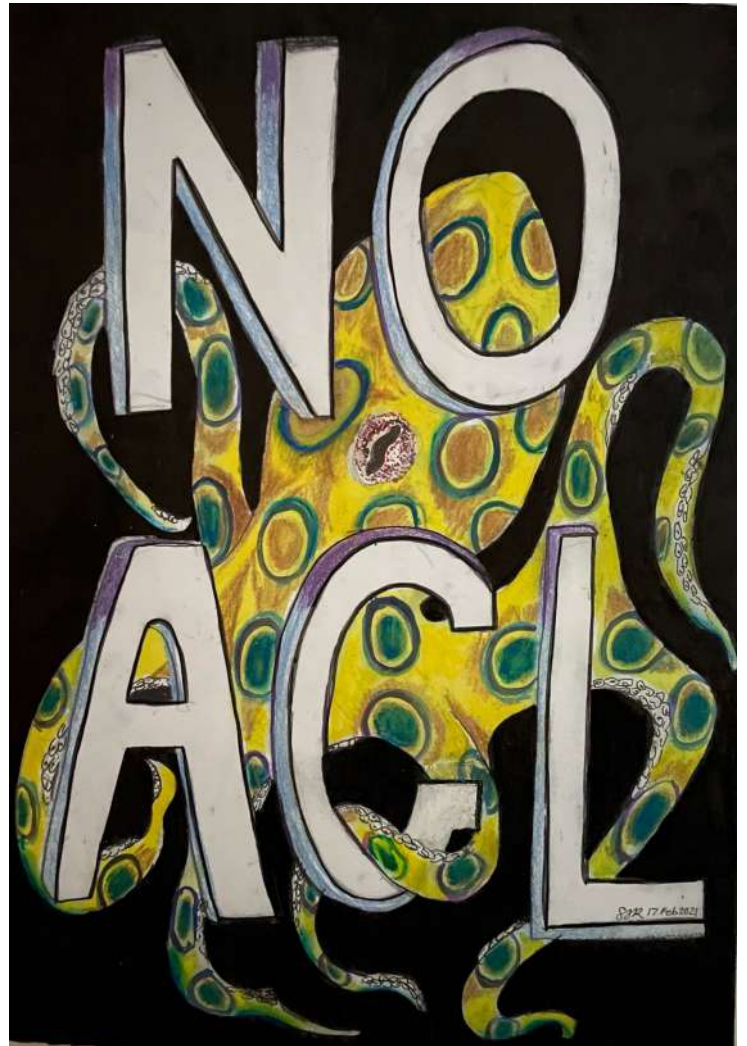
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Artwork by Sue King

BALNARRING LADIES PROBUS

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

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

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

For further information from Adele on 0419 522 513.

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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

Combined Probus Club of Balnarring

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

This will be reviewed on a monthly basis.

Please contact Patsy Wilson on 5983 9949 or 0419 009 784

Email grapattwilson@bigpond.com

Working Bee at Balnarring Beach: All Welcome!

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

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

**The next 2 working bees are on:
SATURDAY April 24th (due to ANZAC Day)
and Sunday May 30th, 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.

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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Here we come 2021

BALNARRING MUSO NIGHT

**Every fortnight on a
Wednesday in 2021 from 7pm**



BALNARRING BOWLS CLUB

**\$5 Donation on the door
Drinks at (CHEAP) bar prices
BYO Nibbles
Open mic for musicians, poets, dancers
& performers of all ages**

LIVE

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT MICHAEL ON 0488940924

**April 7th and 21st
May 5th and 19th**

*Check out Balnarring Muso Night Facebook page
for all the latest info - ed*



KEEP

3926

KOALiTY

THE BRIDGE

CONTRIBUTING TO THE BRIDGE

The Bridge is a bi-monthly independent community magazine for Balnarring and surrounding areas. The views expressed within are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Editor, Community or any organisation. Financial contributions are welcomed.

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