

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

Issue 62 August - September 2020

www.bridgemag.com.au





Shoreline Vigil for our beloved Westernport
See more pictures inside. 'The Vigil for
Westernport' was organised by the angel
warriors of the Save Westernport campaign.
Wisdom and decency must prevail over the
plans of AGL to exploit this pristine
environment.

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Community Bank® Branch



Hello Everyone!

Thanks to everyone for another (!) great edition during the pandemic. With yet a further stage of lock down here, we are so appreciative of everyone helping the community to stay connected and entertained through The Bridge ©

PLEASE NOTE: this edition was produced prior to Stage 4 lockdowns being in place. Many services and offerings advertised may not be operating for the next 6 weeks during stage 4 – particularly where there is a need to be outside of the home. Please contact services / advertisers via email or phone for more information.

Since we've pressed pause on the printing during the pandemic, our email subscription list is growing, and we'd love for this to increase even more. Please pass this on to anyone you think might like a copy. We're happy to add emails to our list if anyone would like to receive copies regularly – details page 2.

We are conscious that some members of the community may be missing the printed copy and not realise we are online, so if you can, please let them know. We are intending to produce print copies again ASAP. In the meantime, all ads are free for local businesses and services, so feel free to contribute ©

We hope everyone is holding up ok, enjoying the pockets of sunshine and are hopeful for an optimistic future.

Ali and Jenny x

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

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The Bridge Magazine www.bridgemag.com.au Email: info@bridgemag.com.au

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Content:
Our wonderful community! You!

Happy Birthday!

August

4th Angie Roach

9th Georgia Murphy

11th Tash Miller

13th Nathan Wainwright

16th Rupert Steiner

18th Steve Weller

20th Bernie Dobson

24th Kurtis Murphy Zoe Robinson

27th Simone Fennell

30th Ava Cooke

30th Eva Haylock

30th Connie Smith

31st Jai Seales



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

September

1st Amber Haslem

3rd Stuart Pryde

4th Monica Colic

8th Paul Saunders

9th Marty Williams

13th Peter Allsop

13th Richard Hepworth

20th Bree Lovell

Pedro Fortuyn

21st Kate Wilson

21st Anna Rose McLean

22nd Lincoln Dee-Bradbury

Minnie Trigger

24th Sarah Park

26th Tricia Williams

28th Sarah D'Astoli

29th Shane Miller

29th Melanie McLean

29th Reade Smith

30th Pip Ransome

August and September 2020 Inspirational Angel Cards for the Community

Love Relax

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

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

Who do you appreciate in our community and why? Email submissions of appreciation, & birthdays in our community, to: <u>info@bridgemag.com.au</u> 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.



Our community sponsorship program

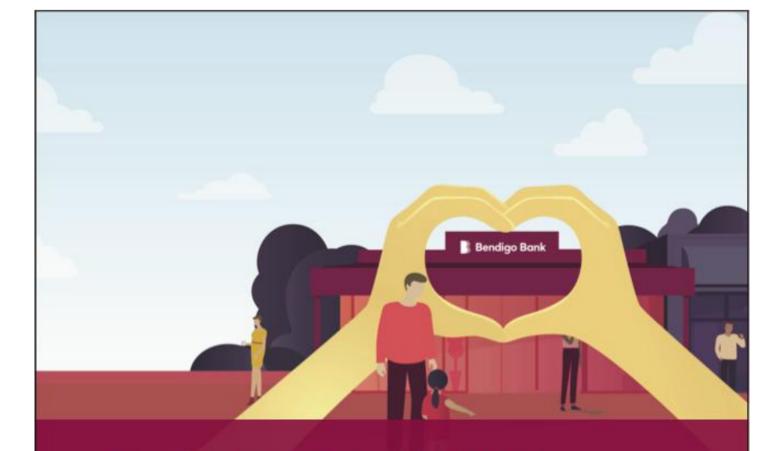
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bendigobank.com.au





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Balnarring Dental Centre

Modern Prevention

Traditionally, medicine and health, including our dental and oral health, as a profession has been about identifying disease and then finding a cure. This is logical as any research project must start with identifying a problem and then naturally finding a solution; health is no different. However, as the medical and dental world has developed with the utilisation of x-rays and medical imaging, and more experience with different diseases and people's background and history, we have become much better at identifying nasty bugs, viruses, genetic and auto-immune (when your body attacks itself) problems. We have become very good at figuring out what the problem is... but have we become any better at treating it? Have we become any better at preventing it?

Our cures have improved, with fewer side-effects and better long-term benefits for many. Our traditional antibiotics are incredibly efficient at killing many bacteria and fungi and we have some drugs that are okay at killing viruses, but we are actually still not very good with these... That's why there is such a strong push for vaccines, because without help to boost your immune system to fight against a virus, your body has to deal with it all alone, and for most who are healthy that's not a major issue with maybe a few days in bed, but for some, the flu can be debilitating and even, sadly, cause death.

Across the board, medical and dental spheres have become more appreciative of how complex the human body really is and how many factors can lead to many of our chronic diseases such as tooth decay, advanced gum disease, diabetes, asthma, heart disease, cancer, stroke and Alzheimer's, to name a few. We have only started to investigate how our genetics (your body's code) and environment (everything from how you developed in the womb, to as a baby, the foods you eat, your hygiene habits, education, family and social support) interplay. As we know, once you have any of these chronic diseases, management often becomes life-long. Someone who has developed high blood pressure will then likely need medication and follow up with their doctor for life; similar can be said with asthma, cancer, and the list goes on.

How do we prevent these chronic diseases in the first place? A trillion dollar question... based on the economic effects all these chronic diseases have on us as individuals, families and a society. Unfortunately there is no simple answer. Our genetic code is relatively fixed so research focuses on those external factors that can be influenced. There are a million of these factors; however, four of the most important are your diet, your sleep, your mental health and your physical health. What researchers have realised, and why preventive medicine is becoming a speciality almost in itself, is that each of these is very individual and needs to be tailored.

I'd suggest anyone reading here to do your own research, on yourself. Try to document (dot points) how different foods make you feel, how your exercise or work makes your body feel, what kind of sleep (hours and quality) makes you feel the best, what does your perfect day look like to make you fulfilled and happy. By feeling and being your best hopefully we can all look after each other and be a healthier and stronger community.

Dr Alex Khominsky

Balnarring Dental Centre

Ph: 5983 5348



Dr Alex

AGL Crib Point Gas Project Information Session

The AGL Crib Point Gas Import
Jetty & Pipeline Project is
proposed to increase the supply
of natural gas to southeastern
Australia. However there are
potential impacts on the protected
Western Port Ramsar site,
listed migratory species,
listed threatened species and
ecological communities.

The State Government has now put an Environmental Effects Statement on public exhibition until August 26 and we're encouraging all residents to have their say on this proposal.

For more information visit:

engage.vic.gov.au/crib-point-IAC

Council will adopt a position on the proposal at its August 17 planning meeting.

A free online community information session will then be held to outline Council's position and provide advice on how to make a submission.

Community information session: Wednesday 19 August 2020, 5-6pm

Go to the below link and follow the instructions.



Proposed Crib Point Gas Import Jetty & Pipeline Project



The following are responses to the questions raised by community members during Mornington Peninsula Shire's community information session held on 16 July 2020.

In the interests of providing information to the community, Council has sought responses from:

- the Victorian State Government Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) for questions regarding the Environment Effects Statement (EES) process and other matters concerning State Government, and
- AGL and APA Group (the project proponents) for questions regarding details of the proposed project and its associated potential impacts.

Please note, the views of these organisations have not been verified by Council, nor do they necessarily reflect the views of Council.

Questions & Answers

How can I get a copy of the Environmental Effects Statement?

<u>Council response:</u> The Project proponents are currently exhibiting the EES to the public

until 26 August 2020. To view and download the EES, visit www.gasimportprojectvictoria.com.au/environment-effects-

statement#view-the-ees. Alternatively, contact AGL to request a hard

copy of the EES free of charge by phone: 1800 039 600, via: https://www.gasimportprojectvictoria.com.au/order-ees or by emailing

AGLCommunity@agl.com.au

Who is APA?

Council response: APA Group is the joint proponent of the Project with AGL. To find out

more about APA Group and their involvement in the Project, please visit: www.apa.com.au/about-apa/our-projects/crib-point-to-pakenham-

pipeline/.

What are the Draft Evaluation Objectives and Scoping Requirements of the Environment Effects Statement?

Council response:

The Draft Evaluation Objectives provide the framework within which the EES will be assessed, whilst the Scoping Requirements are the range of matters that the EES must address. Both the Draft Evaluation Objectives and Scoping Requirements are determined by the Minister for Planning.

The Objectives identify desired outcomes in the context of potential project effects and legislation. During the development of the EES the proponent can consider refining the objectives and proposed evaluation framework, as well as develop specific assessment criteria to assist the evaluation of effects. The Minister may refine the evaluation objectives for the purposes of the Minister's assessment.

• •

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To see the full document, go to:

https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Building-Planning/Strategic-Planning/AGL-APA-Group-Crib-Point-Gas-Import-Jetty-and-Pipeline-Project?BestBetMatch=agl|d13b95b2-5146-4b00-9e3ea80c73739a64|4f05f368-ecaa-4a93-b749-7ad6c4867c1f|en-AU

Then scroll to the bottom and click on the link "<u>Community Questions & Answers</u>" and you will be taken to the complete document of 37 pages ☺

THE TIME IS <u>NOW</u>

The Environment Effects Statement on AGL's proposal to put a massive gas import terminal and processing plant in Westernport Bay is out now and submissions are due by midnight Wednesday 26 August.

Save Westernport and Environment Victoria encourage you to make a submission against the gas import proposal for Westernport Bay.

See next page for 'Help with the EES'

For more information on this inappropriate proposal, to view the Environmental Effects Statement, get help with your submission (see next page for info), become a Member or make a donation see www.savewesternport.org

Help With The EES

It's no surprise that some people have said they're feeling daunted by AGL's Environment Effects Statement – or EES— it's over 11,000 pages of technical information!

But don't be discouraged! That might be their strategy.

And besides, *Save Westernport* and *Environment Victoria* have made it much easier for you to add your voice, by holding online workshops next week on how to write a Deadly submission:

Thursday 6 August, 6:00-7:30pm

https://action.environmentvictoria.org.au/agl ees submission workshop 1 OR

Friday 7 August, 12:00-1:30pm

https://action.environmentvictoria.org.au/agl ees submission workshop 2

RSVP to one of the workshops above by following the link provided.

We're also planning a public forum for local people to discuss what this project means for the region, and to hear what our elected representatives think of it. Remember them? And what they said last year during the Federal election campaign? We do. Read about it here in the June 2019 issue of the Balnarring Bridge http://bridgemag.com.au/files/download/075caddd6b6bd91

We're still finalising the details, but if you're signed up to Save Westernport's newsletter then we can send you the AGL forum details ASAP. https://savewesternport.org/newsletter/

Or you can contact us at Savewesternport@gmail.com

Links to AGL's EES reports are available on our website here: https://savewesternport.org/stop-press-the-ees-has-arrived/



Westernport Skies The full arc Photo by Jen Atherton Somers beach July 2020

The Heart Stories Project

www.savewesternport.org

See About Us – Heart Stories Instagram - savewesternport

www.environmentvictoria.org.au

Instagram - environment_victoria

Contact hannahspaddock@gmail.com.au if you would like to tell your story about your love for Westernport Bay as part of the Save Westernport campaign

'People exploit what they have merely concluded to be of value, but they defend what they love.....The abstract impersonal, dispassionate language of science can, in fact ,help us to know certain things, and to know some things with certainty. It can help us, for instance, to know the value of species and species diversity. But it cannot replace, and it cannot become, the language of familiarity, reverence and affection by which things of value ultimately are protected.'

(Wendell Berry in Life is a miracle: An Essay Against Modern Superstition (2000))



Westernport Skies Showers over the Nobbies Photo by Jen Atherton Somers beach July 2020

A HEART STORY - MY CONNECTION TO WESTERNPORT

Westernport has held me for many moons. I have slept in many of the beautiful places around the Bay, from the shining jewel of French Island to the silent waters of Cannons Creek; at Cowes on Phillip Island, at Grantville, beside the wide tidal flats at Lang Lang, the peaceful Wooleys Beach and I now hear the murmur of the shore from my home in Somers.

I have walked the beach in moonlight and scooped fine fluorescent sand worms up with my hands.

I've watched the water spout of a whale resting in the stretch of water between my French Island home and Cowes on Phillip Island.

I have been tossed in the troughs and peaks of churning waves during ferry crossings in rough seas, and glided my kayak across the smooth waters of bays and inlets.

Bright hermit crabs have retreated under my exploration of rock pools, soldier crabs scurry into the mud, and wader birds dig long beaks in to extract them from internationally recognised migratory bird habitat.

I nursed my baby in Westernport as dolphins nurse their babies in the waters that lay ten minutes' walk from my home.

When working at a tourism facility on French Island, I met many hundreds of people, all in awe of the amazing unique place that Westernport is. I will remember forever, standing with an overseas visitor on top of a hill overlooking the stretch of bay from Hastings to Philip Island, right where AGL propose to put a huge gas factory; she spread her arms wide, lifted her head and began to twirl as she sang a long joyful 'ahhhhh'. Never had she seen such pristine wide space.

Large flocks of black swans feed and live in the shallows - it is told that the black swans Josephine held at Malmaison in France, the first black swans in Europe, were collected from Westernport by Baudin's expedition in the early 1800s.

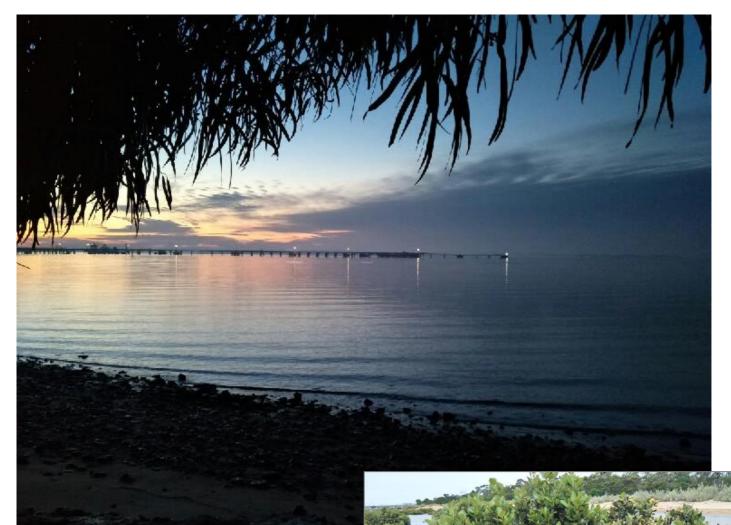
At the Visitor Information Centre in Hastings, thousands of visitors tell of their love of the area, amazed at their discovery of such a unique place. Locals, tourists and past residents tell stories of the fabulous fishing, the great twitching experiences, times past, passion for the great Westernport diving spots, "best in Victoria", observation of and interaction with marine mammals, surfing, swimming, paddling, playing, boating, walking, relaxing and enjoying this beautiful place.

I have read a history of William Thomas, Aboriginal Protectorate, and his observations of the Boonwurrung who he lived with 1839 - 1840. When reserves were proposed, the Boonwurrung people chose the area from Balnarring to Crib Point as their place. Unfortunately, the traditional owners were driven from this land, but locals know of middens and stone tools that have been found and survive till this day.

For decades, people have put in many volunteer hours to plant, weed, remove rubbish, educate, protect the bay from heavy industry and contribute to Westernport and its community. I am one of those many people who give time to protect and restore this unique and amazing place.

I want to go on exploring, learning and experiencing the beautiful unique environment that Westernport is. I am loath to imagine the damage that a 13 storey, third of a kilometre-long floating gas plant and subsequent ships importing the gas will do to wonderful Westernport.

Del Skinner



Above: Our pristine Westernport and the pier at Crib Point where AGL want to park their huge factory.

> Right: Mangrove at Crib Point, with the pier where AGL want to park their huge factory in the background (top left)

Save Westernport's Mid-Winter Shoreline Vigil

Hundreds of people took to their favourite beaches in Westernport at sunset on Saturday, June 20 for a socially distanced, mid-winter Shoreline Vigil to light a candle in a show of appreciation for Westernport's unique ecology, and solidarity against AGL.

From Flinders through Shoreham, Point Leo, Merricks, Balnarring, Somers, Crib Point, Hastings and around the Bay to French and Phillip Islands, and beyond, unknown numbers took part to symbolise their determination to stand by Westernport, and do whatever's necessary to protect it from the exploitation and degradation of new heavy industry, in particular AGL's gas proposal that would exacerbate the climate emergency and lead to decades more fossil fuel use.

"We're calling on AGL to live up to their own policy of sustainability and accountability by withdrawing their Environment Effects Statement (EES) that's due to go on display," said *Save Westernport* member Julia Stockigt. AGL knows these qualities matter to an informed public, and to the international market who are divesting en masse from last century's technology.

AGL has an excellent opportunity to show leadership in the inevitable energy transition that's accelerating on every front. Re-importing locally produced gas that's been sold offshore is absurd. Yet AGL proposes doing that at Crib Point, even as gas demand plummets and better options abound.

AGL's competitor VIVA Energy announced a similar project this week that would require no new gas pipeline. The industrial site in Geelong is near hazard facilities that LNG operations require, and the village of Crib Point can't supply.

AGL's project could spell disaster for local communities, for Westernport's internationally-recognised Ramsar wetlands, and to our climate. A few dozen jobs, that AGL admits would employ operators from other projects, could never offset the loss of amenity, precious peace and quiet that this project would cause.



Foreshore Vigil for Westernport

Saturday June 20, 2020

Thank you to the photographers who generously made their pics available to *Save Westernport*.





Save Westernport Shoreline Vigil. Somers Beach. Pic by Jo Byrne





Resident pods of Westernport's Burrunan Dolphins await delivery of AGL's Environment Effects Statement reports.

AGL claims "project will provide energy security to Westernport's sensitive Marine ecology".



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Save the Orange-Bellied Parrot



#savetheOBP (Orange bellied parrot) is a social media campaign launched by a group of Balnarring mums in support of #savewesternport.

By inviting people to draw and post their impression of this beautiful bird on social media using the hashtag #savetheOBP, we can draw attention to the International significance of Westernport and the threats facing its marine ecology, mangroves and remnant areas of critically endangered coastal saltmarsh.

In 1982 these qualities saw Westernport receive international accreditation as a Ramsar wetland of significance to the survival of migratory birds.

The Orange belied parrot is the only migratory parrot, and until recently it was believed to be almost non-existent in Westernport Bay. For millennia it has migrated across Bass Strait to breed in Southern Tasmania returning each year to sites along Victoria's coastline.

With as few as 50 adult Orange-bellied Parrots remaining in the wild, the Victorian government announced a four-year Mainland Release Trial, with the aim of establishing flocks of released parrots in suitable habitats in the wild.

Moonlit sanctuary in Westernport's Northern Arm was chosen as an ideal release site, and in May 2020, 13 hand-raised OBP chics were released into the wild. Moonlit sanctuary reports that all the fledgling chics have now flown away as hoped, with just one individual falling to predation by a butcher bird. Some of the released birds have been satellite tagged to help provide more information about where and when the parrots travel.

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Save the Orange-Bellied Parrot (page 2)



Due to depleted numbers, Orange bellied parrots face far greater threats as individuals than in a protective flock, becoming vulnerable to predators and even flying off course on their migrations, with too few adults remaining to retain and pass on the remnant knowledge and of their long migration routes. Disappearing wetlands are also a growing threat, one that must be reversed.

When the Victorian government identified Westernport as one of the sites suitable for their \$200,000 Mainland Release Trial, supporters of Save Westernport were shocked at the enormous contradiction of considering Westernport as a potential site for AGL's giant gas processing plant. The AGL proposal, now under review, would pollute the waters, degrading the Bay's local ecosystems and threatening endangered species.

Help Save Westernport as we continue to alert decision makers in Government to the inherent risks of heavy industry on this sensitive ecosystem. Create your Orange Bellied Parrot or make a submission against the AGL threat. For more information Visit https://savewesternport.org/

Or on facebook and Instagram

https://www.facebook.com/SaveWesternPort/

Birdlife Australia says: The Orange-bellied Parrot breeds only in the South West of Tasmania. After breeding has concluded, most of the population migrates across Bass Strait to spend the winter months on southern mainland Australia. ... They return to the breeding grounds in spring, with adults arriving a few weeks before the juveniles.

Save the Orange-Bellied Parrot (page 3)



From the Victorian Government media release below (on next page):

The aim of the project is "to increase the size of the birds' population in conjunction with increasing their survival in the wild."

This year's trial has seen 27 Orange-bellied Parrots released after being captively bred and prepared for the wild by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Zoos Victoria and Moonlit Sanctuary Wildlife Conservation Park.

More from the Balnarring Mums: We've contacted a list of galleries and bird groups. We need lots and lots of people to draw the OPB, post/share with #savewesternport and send to MPs. We want to get schools involved, and ask cafes to host an OBP drawing competition in their kids corner if they have one.





Save the Orange-Bellied Parrot (page 4)

From the Victorian Government media release:

16:35 Sat 1 Aug

× 2020-04-28 Orange Bellied Parrot Media .pdf





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Endangered Orange-Bellied Parrots Released

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change

28 April 2020

Environment

Media Release

Critically endangered Orange-bellied Parrots have been released into the wild, as part of an innovative trial funded by the Victorian Government to save the species from extinction.

With less than 50 adult Orange-bellied Parrots remaining in the wild, the four-year Mainland Release Trial aims to increase the size of the birds' population in conjunction with increasing their survival in the wild.

This year's trial has seen 27 Orange-bellied Parrots released after being captively bred and prepared for the wild by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Zoos Victoria and Moonlit Sanctuary Wildlife Conservation Park.

The release locations were the Spit Nature Conservation Reserve near Werribee's Western Treatment Plant and a private property in Pearcedale near North Western Port Coastal Reserve.

For the first time, some of the released birds have been satellite tagged to help provide more information about where and when the parrots travel.

The Orange-bellied Parrot is a migratory species, and each year makes a round trip across the rough oceans of the Bass Strait between south-west Tasmania and mainland Australia.

The Government has invested \$200,000 in the Mainland Release Trial, which aims to establish flocks of released parrots in suitable habitats in Victoria – to attract migrating birds to these sites and provide those migrants a better chance of surviving the autumn and winter period.

This year's release also coincides with the largest number of parrots migrating north from Tasmania for over a decade.

A successful breeding season, teamed with the largest ever release of juveniles at the breeding site, has resulted in over 100 Orange-Bellied Parrots believed to be flying north.

In another innovation, the independently funded Moonlit Sanctuary have undertaken pre-release training for the birds being released near North Western Port, with the hope of developing new techniques to support successful releases for this species.

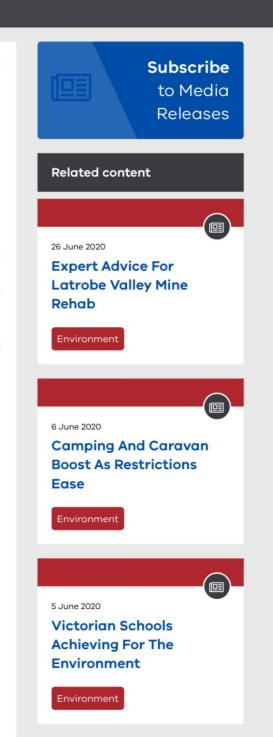
All staff involved have adhered to appropriate physical distancing and hygiene requirements to ensure safety.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy, the Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio

"This is another important and exciting step in a trial which has a real chance of saving these precious parrots from extinction."

"Thanks to improved techniques and innovation we're hopeful this year's release will be the most successful yet."

"Protecting this iconic species is one of many actions we're taking under Victoria's Biodiversity 2037 plan to make sure our wildlife and biodiversity survives and thrives."



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www.warraweewholistic.com

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at Warrawee Wholistic 87 Warrawee Rd Balnarring Contact Jane 0411 399 212



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Make an enquiry on 0418 319 064.

SELF CONTROL~COURAGE~ETIQUITTE



The kitchen gardener who's growing a free seed community



When Julie Bennett, the produce grower at the acclaimed Montalto Vineyard on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula, listened to a podcast, she didn't know she'd be inspired to launch a free seed revolution. Since then she's shared over 700 packets of saved seed and a community grant has allowed her to keep up with demand that's growing at an exponential rate.

Inspired by the story of Esiah Levy, a London-based father of two who had a passion for saving and sharing heirloom seeds before his untimely passing in 2016, Julie had both the resources and the passion to continue his legacy.

"I just finished the podcast and I looked across to my fridge and realised it was full of saved heirloom seed," she said. "It was during the pandemic when there was a shortage of seed and I felt I knew what I had to do."

Julie places as much emphasis on educating the community on how to save seed and pass it on as she does on sharing the seeds she has saved. It gives Australians the ability to take control of their own food system, not having to rely on supermarkets or chemical giants who have taken control of the world's food seed companies, and asks recipients to do the same.

"We no longer have a choice," Julie explains. "Supermarkets offer us a single variety of vegetables which have been bred to travel well, have uniformity and a long shelf life. And while heirloom varieties have been bred for flavour first and foremost, the most important thing about heirloom varieties is the diversity they provide which is essential to a healthy ecosystem.

"I want people to enjoy eating the vegetables and allow just one plant to go to seed so they, too, can share their own heirloom seeds with friends and family. Passing it on is growing a free seed community."

Julie posted her idea on social media, asking interested participants to send her a stamped, self-addressed envelope. She'd then return a small packet of seed, along with the variety's history and tips on how to get the best results with both growing and harvesting seed.

"I want to empower people by saving their own seed. It's easy, you don't need to buy fresh seed every year; it's better if you save it because then it's conditioned to where it's grown - it remembers and adapts," she said. "The pandemic highlighted the need to take control of our food. More and more people are wanting to connect back to their garden and wanting to know where their food comes from."

To join the revolution follow @seeds_are_free_au on Instagram and pop a stamped, self-addressed envelope in the post to Seeds are Free, PO Box 6, Bittern, Vic, 3918.



Come into Balnarring Laundrette for all your washing and drying needs.

Or, we can do it for you. And we can do your ironing as well.

I can even pick it up and deliver it back if you need.

Due to Covid 19 my service times are reduced,
but I will be here every week day between 9am and 12.30pm as a minimum.

Hope to see you soon, Vicki

LOCAL UPDATES

David Gill - Red Hill ward Councillor

I hope that everyone is remaining safe and well as we unfortunately go back into Stage 3 pandemic restrictions.

Mountain Bike / BMX track

This is a great new project coming from the Somers Community with the support of Council. It is aimed at providing enthusiastic young people with a bike track including jumps within a safe area at Stones Reserve.

There is a great love for BMX riding on the Peninsula with a Council jump arena, already at Red Hill being very popular.

A mountain bike competition track on the Arthurs Seat escarpment is the premier site in Victoria for both professional and "weekend" bikers. Council is developing a master plan to further enhance participation at this site.

There is a need to have more of these facilities in the right places, rather than have paths cut through protected bushland, as can unfortunately happen if fit for purpose facilities are not provided.

New community Space for Balnarring

For the first time community "drop in" centres are planned for Red Hill ward. A site has been chosen in Balnarring village shopping centre and others are being discussed for Red Hill and Flinders villages.

Often called "community houses" they aim to promote a friendly environment and provide space for community activities in less formal surroundings.

Looking forward to community input and opening as soon as Covid-19 emergency measures allow.

Road Safety Initiatives

Federal election commitment funds have started to come through for two pedestrian crossings at Balnarring Shopping Village. The first crossing will be near the playground and skate park on Frankston-Flinders Rd.

For more information and to have a say on the *Towards Zero 2020 - 2025 Road Safety Strategy* and Ride Safe Strategy visit the Council website at mornpen.vic.gov.au

Finally the terrible **parking conditions at St Marks Church** on Balnarring Road, a VicRoads responsibility, are being addressed with Council allocating \$40,000 for planning and design to alleviate drainage problems.

\$50,000 has been budgeted by Council for a **disability and service lift** for Westernport Yacht Club at Balnarring Beach.

As Chair of the **Shire Arts and Culture Community Advisory Committee** it has been heartbreaking to witness the effects of Covid 19 on this essential part of our community wellbeing and on those employed in this sector of our local economy.

- Council has developed a Music action plan to promote the Peninsula's Music industry
- Looking to develop an Art precinct at Fenton Hall in Merricks North
- Green Wedge Art competition to go ahead as soon as possible
- Funding support for Mornington Peninsula Music network, Peninsula's Chamber Musicians group, Spark Dance Company and the Summer Music Festival
- A garbage bin painting competition to help bring a bit of fun and encourage artists young and old.

Keep Victoria Beautiful - Sustainable Communities and Tidy Towns AwardsWell done to both Balnarring (Balnarring Village Common) and Somers (Coolart Science Show) for being regional finalists in the Social Wellbeing category.
They go onto the Victoria Wide Finals with judging in September.

- The next stage of the **Mornington Peninsula Heritage Study** Westernport and hinterland area, will initially involve specialised local groups to oversee the study and the public consultation process. Your knowledge and input will be appreciated in helping us to tell the story of our built form and environmental heritage.
- In disappointing news a **Balnarring Beach roadside Manna gum** near Tulum store will be removed for traffic safety reasons despite every avenue being explored to save this iconic tree.
- The Merricks Creek Catchment Landcare group have received a permit to remove unsuitable vegetation and restore indigenous flora in a koala bio-link between Balnarring Beach and the Civic precinct in Balnarring.

For up to date Covid 19 Council information please see the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council website at -mornpen.vic.gov.au or from the MPSC stands in shopping centres.

Unfortunately there will be delays in starting a few of our local Council projects due to the restrictions but the intention will be to have as many job-creating projects up and running as soon as possible.

Stay safe.

Regards, David

From David Gill, Red Hill Ward Councillor

There has been much recent debate about whether we should be considered regional or part of Melbourne.

I am a great supporter of the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council's (MPSC) advocacy to be recognised as a regional Shire and not part of Metropolitan Melbourne.

As a semi-rural Shire, 70 Kms distance from Melbourne, I believe that we do not belong in the suburban classification.

The many benefits of being recognised as regional are very important to businesses on the Peninsula.

I welcome the local business lobby group, The Committee for Mornington Peninsula, in their support of the Council's campaign to influence the State Government to change their mind on this issue.

Our essential Green Wedge on the Mornington Peninsula is threatened by this Metropolitan classification which means that we are also part of the Melbourne suburban Planning Scheme.

What suits suburban planning is slowly ruining our much admired coastal and hinterland villages and making it more difficult for farmers to survive on the land.

Without our farming community the temptation for non-productive housing in the Green Wedge and further sub-divisions becomes more likely in the future.

Mornington Peninsula provides a \$1.2 billion food bowl mainly servicing the fast growing City of Melbourne.

It is extremely short sighted that the State Government is putting this all in jeopardy by not considering the Mornington Peninsula as Regional.

The Mornington Peninsula is now in lockdown again, without a known case of corona virus at the time of lockdown, simply because we are classified as metropolitan. Our community and businesses are not treated fairly by this classification

I welcome your feedback.

Regards David

Cr David Gill Red Hill Ward Councillor Mornington Peninsula Shire

Mobile: <u>0437 129 016</u>

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

Balnarring Pre School

We sail on through, continuing in these uncharted waters, and just when we thought things were heading back towards some kind of normality, the boat has been rocked once more.

For the past month, children have been gradually coming back to preschool, some attending full time sessions again, others a few a week, some connecting from home through technology such as zoom. There has been great excitement when someone 'new' returns to the physical space as friends are reunited and relationships blossom. Drop off procedures have changed dramatically, as we (parents) no longer enter the building, instead we do a 'drive by - drop off' at the outside gate. Children excitedly exit the car, get their temperature taken by their educator and wave goodbye! It has been remarkable to see their confidence develop as these little people now just walk into preschool, join in games with their friends in the learning environment. We really do need to stop and appreciate how resilient our children have been, and are generally, in times of such uncertainty.

At Balnarring Preschool, we intentionally teach and take responsibility for reconciliation within all areas of the program, relationships with each other, the land and the creatures. Engaging with First People's knowledge and stories teaches us to respect all relationships and understand the importance of truth- telling and the history of this Country. (Weelam Group Newsletter, June 2020)

The children participated in Reconciliation Week through exploring the historical truths and realities of the 1967 referendum and the 1992 Mabo decision from the perspective of the First People. They explored their connections and relationships to Boon Wurrung Country through art works and created the Aboriginal Flag, giving meaning to the shapes and colours used.

Reconciliation Victoria HART AWARDS 2020: these awards recognise local government and community groups that are **H**elping **A**chieve **R**econciliation **T**ogether, and we at Balnarring Preschool feel very honoured to have been a recipient of this award for schools and early childhood for 2020. We thank N'Arwee't Carolyn Briggs and all the First Peoples who have supported us to learn and understand the importance of reconciliation.

As we head back to Preschool to begin Term 3, we need to recognise the incredible role our educators have played throughout these covid-19 times, ensuring our children feel connected, valued and safe even when they aren't physically attending the centre.

Stay safe everyone.

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

Reconciliation Week 2020 at Balnarring Preschool





Balnarring Preschool 'Drive by - Drop off' entry during COVID-19

FIRST KOALA VIDEO

Hi Everyone,

Just in case you haven't seen it on Facebook or Insta, here is the link to our first koala video we filmed recently -It is only around 6 minutes: https://youtu.be/NML6mtoXNVE Please share and enjoy.

I have also finally updated the recording from our Community Info Session via zoom on Wild Koala Day (3/5/2020). The link is here: https://youtu.be/H-NheXmO4RI The recording is around 55 minutes and covers our local koalas

in much more detail.

All the best, Dirk Jansen

President

Mornington Peninsula Koala Conservation 0422 522 622

MPkoalatreeplanting@outlook.com



BALNARRING BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

PO Box 463, Balnarring, Victoria 3926 bal.beachca@gmail.com



Due to recent developments with the COVID-19 virus and subsequent lockdowns and physical distancing, the Balnarring Beach Community Association has been unable to hold their regular meetings.

Even so we are still here for the community and welcome hearing from you.

We are still quite low on memberships so if anyone has not rejoined we would love you to do so.

The lending library that we have been trialling is closer to getting a new home so look out for a "Telephone Box" near the Tulum General Store! It will be available for the local residents and we hope that you will utilise it soon.

Also we are sure that regular walkers on the beach have noticed the new foreshore signs which have been erected by the Balnarring Foreshore Committee. It is great to see our community's suggestions come to fruition.

If you have any suggestions or matters that you would like us as a committee to look into on your behalf, please let us know, either by email: bal.beachca@gmail.com or write to us at P.O. Box 463, Balnarring 3926.

Tania Kaye

Treasurer, on behalf Balnarring Beach Community Association Inc.

Balnarring Primary School

What a year 2020 is proving to be...

The move to 'Remote and Flexible' learning in schools last term saw a huge transformation for staff, students, parents and carers.

In a very short space of time well-defined roles changed. Teachers connected with their students online, not sitting by their side to monitor their wellbeing and academic progress, parents supported their children with daily literacy and numeracy activities and not just the nightly prescribed homework tasks and students were sitting in 'kitchen classrooms' - without their peers.

Staff at Balnarring Primary School undertook many Professional Development sessions to learn new ways to connect with their students during this period. Both whole class and small group video conferences became the norm.

In homes, all around Balnarring, families engaged in a variety of activities together – new recipes were sourced and trialled in the kitchen, vegie gardens turned over and seedlings planted, board games retrieved from the back of shelves and fitness programs attempted in lounge rooms.

Many children logged into their work plans and supportive materials daily. Parents, carers and older siblings provided amazing support as literacy, numeracy, science, music, Japanese and Physical Education activities were successfully completed.

A number of our Year 6 leaders were proactive in sending video messages to younger students encouraging them to set up their work stations well, to act respectfully online, to make paper pots for seedlings, take up a musical instrument and to remain active. Other students have used this time to actively protect our wildlife. (See photo.)

Those supporting their children at home shared some delightful comments...

"It was stressful at times with a pre-schooler and two primary school children but we've treated it as a 'bonus' to enjoy each other's company."

"It was a lovey opportunity to observe my child's work habits; more organised than me!"

"I found that bribes work!"

"We went ok, although there were a couple of lounge room suspensions!"

We are once again heading into uncertain times as we await updates and information prior to the commencement of the new term. We know that the arrangements for term three will be based on the Chief Medical Officer's findings and views.

Staff at Balnarring Primary School look forward to having all students, their parents and our fabulous community classroom helpers back ON-SITE when it is safe for everyone on the Mornington Peninsula to return to their normal activities. Stay well everyone!

Sandy O'Meara
Acting Principal
Balnarring Primary School





Jane Reiseger

Jane Reiseger is an award winning Australian illustrator who specialises in collaborating with architects and designers on interior design projects. She has delivered large scale commissions both nationally and internationally. Jane has also illustrated two books, one of which was shortlisted for a 2019 CBCA (Children's Book Council of Australia) award.

Jane's work is playful, joyous and semi abstract. She is inspired by nature and kids (she is a mother herself) and these subjects feature in her work. Jane draws with copic texta and black pen on watercolour paper which, in large scale commissions, are scanned into a computer and printed in large format to create interior graphics.

Say hi to Jane or take a look at Jane's artwork by looking at her instagram page or website.

phone

0438 237 467

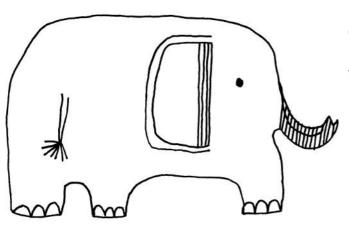
instagram @janereiseger

email

jane@janereiseger.com

website

janereiseger.com



















NEW ART SCHOOL IN BALNARRING

Michael Gray Art Studio 2925 Frankston-Flinders road Balnarring

Art classes starting now: drawing, painting and sculpture

Enquiries welcome 0400 119 344

Special offer: Free introductory session for any class

Artist Michael Gray has recently set up a studio in Balnarring from which a wide variety of art classes will be run.

Having moved to the Peninsula earlier this year from Guildford in Central Victoria, Michael is keen to start engaging with the community here, sharing what he enjoys most, making art.

Art has always been a guiding principle in my life. At school I loved drawing and making things so it seemed only a matter of time before I was at university studying drawing, painting and sculpture. Afterwards I travelled to London to do further study and upon returning, completed a teaching diploma at Melbourne University.

I exhibited in Melbourne with various galleries such as Libby Edwards in South Yarra and Smyrnios in Prahran whilst teaching art at Xavier College, Burke Hall. Then I made a tree change to Guildford, exhibiting in the Castlemaine State Festival and running studio courses.

A guiding principle has been the desire to see and understand things, whether it is the human form, still life or landscape. To sit in front of something and spend time looking and recreating, is to truly get to know it, to connect with it.

As a teacher this is what I try most to convey, the joy of observing and connecting with something and the reward of recreating that experience through making art. The added bonus of being in a class is joining with others in this activity and sharing the fun.

The studio is on a beautiful property at 2925 Frankston-Flinders road, Balnarring, with trees, flowers, water and animals. Here you will find the inspiration to connect with nature and make art.

Cheers *Michael Gray*0400 119 344

Recycle your hard-to-recycle plastics in Somers

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

Wonder no more! TerraCycle has arrived in Somers.

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

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

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

What you can drop off

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

Where to drop off

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

Like to know more?

You can visit the TerraCycle website www.terracycle.com for more information about their programs. They have a range of free programs and, if you'd like to take part in others, Lou is happy to investigate. You can contact her at:

39 lou@heartandcentre.com.au



It is Time for us to Completely Reassess our Whole Conservation Strategy on the Mornington Peninsula While we are Staying at Home in Virtual Lockdown

Land fragmentation, habitat destruction and degradation, together with loss of natural creeks and wetland swamps, have had a major impact since European settlement in the 1830s. Fences have been specifically built to stop kangaroo and wallaby access around properties. Nowadays a criss-cross of major and minor roads and the fast-moving traffic on them are major hazards for koalas and kangaroos and smaller animals.

Introduced predators and competitors on the Peninsula have drastically reduced the numbers of native birds, small mammals, amphibians and skinks.

The predator and competitor species we talk about mostly are foxes, rabbits, Indian Mynas (Common Mynas), *rattus rattus*, cats and introduced trout. For beach-nesting birds, strictly enforced regulatory controls are needed for racehorses in training and pet dogs.

Prey species include many small native birds, Bird eggs and chicks in tree nests and nesting hollows, and beach-nesting birds (Hooded Plovers and Red-capped Plovers). Common Longnecked Turtles and Southern Brown Bandicoot have been severely reduced in numbers by fox predation.

Species affected by competition for food by introduced recreation fish include diving water birds such as the 3 Grebe species and endangered Blue-billed Ducks.

It is thus vital that we manage all our reserves on the Mornington Peninsula primarily for conservation with controlled, non-invasive human activity permitted within guidelines.

For over 30 years since we have owned a house on the Peninsula and in that time I have seen the local extinction of the once common Grey-crowned Babbler. Koalas and many other species have declined rapidly. But we can have the future we choose if we desire it enough but we all must choose for it to eventuate.

The issue is that conservation grants are always inadequate, short term and never designed to solve the complete problem. If we are to get a satisfactory outcome, society must become educated and be willing to accept enforceable regulations. Without this, we will continue the slippery slope to local extinctions that we are currently on. My contention is that fox control per se (or any other conservation project) is an absolute waste of time and money unless you visualise clearly the ultimate outcome you wish to achieve and the date you intend to achieve it. You then must have government and all its agencies on board and the land managers and their written regulations on board for the long-term. And that means set in place for generations and generations. Adaptive management must take place when climatic or other unforeseen changes occur. And most importantly funding must be fully adequate but spent strictly in accord with the long-term critical pathway.

Roger Richards, Somers

Melbourne Period Project

FOR THE HOMELESS and families

WINTER is upon us, homeless numbers are increasing.

Please get the knitting needles out!

Melbourne Period Project has prioritised the following for collection:

NEW sleeping bags

Mittens / gloves, scarves, beanies

School supplies

NEW women's nighties

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

Donate directly to Melbourne Homeless Collective

BSB: 063 027, Account: 10118955 (CBA)

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 <u>Instagram</u>: MelbournePeriodProject



TAROT ASTROLOGY MEDITATION REIKI HEALING COUNSELING



Candy van Rood 0412494985

www.earthheart.love

Balnarring's Special Trees by Hannah Lewis

I have lived in Balnarring for 36 years and feel like I know its established trees like the back of my hand; the beautiful smooth trunked gum in Bruce St that shines pink in a good sunset, the magnificent manna gum near the fire trail, adjacent to the beach carpark at the end of Balnarring Beach Rd, the large regal banksias in the playground, opposite Tulum café, to name a few.

Sadly I, like others, have watched the demise of many magnificent old trees as the laws around tree removal around residential properties have changed. Every time I hear a chainsaw, I wince, grit my teeth, and wonder if it's one of 'my old friends'.

I have three trees in my life that I particularly cherish. One is the great wise elder of our neighbourhood, the manna gum at the end of Fethers Rd that is purported to be 100s of years old. Its gnarly trunk and stretching limbs hold so much memory of place. Sadly, the clearing around its trunk, to create a turning circle, and associated compacting of the soil place it at risk. Gums need humus, which acts as a natural mulch, to survive and thrive.

A few decades ago, I planted a manna gum behind our house. When we bought the old weatherboard beach shack in the 80s, there was nothing on the block but a messmate on the front fence line, a peach tree next to the garage (which is still going strong after two transplantings) and pine stumps around the perimeter. Over many years that manna gun grew into a tree for the local koalas and we would see one cradled in its branches at least once a week, for many years. With the removal of local habitat trees and reduced koala numbers, we would be lucky to see one once every 6 months now.

That tree grew alongside our three children and gives me joy every morning when I open the blind in our upstairs bedroom and look out into its branches that hide the roofs of neighbouring houses. I have an arborist look at it every few years and it is still healthy and thriving. I will shed more than a few tears if we ever have to cut it down.

My other favourite is a beautiful and graceful Japanese maple. This was given to me decades ago by my best friend of 50 years. It grew as a seedling from her grandfather's garden in Heidelberg. Her grandfather and his garden are long gone, but she gets to see his legacy whenever she comes to stay. This maple provides cooling shade for our house in Summer and a microclimate for my native orchids, ornamental cardamom and greenhood orchids underneath its canopy. We enjoy the display of its red and orange leaves in Autumn and its new green growth in Spring. In Winter its bare branches allow the sun to warm our hearts and bones through north facing windows.

If you have a story about your favourite tree in Balnarring, please share it with The Bridge and email a copy to me at hannahspaddock@gmail.com

Look out for 'Significant Tree' signs in our neighbourhood. The Merricks - Coolart Landcare Catchment group will be selecting one local tree on public land in Balnarring from the stories we receive, to have a sign placed near it. For information on the biolink go to their Facebook page below

See FACEBOOK

Merricks – Coolart Catchment Landcare Group
Save Balnarring's Trees

Balnarring's Special Trees



Hannah's 35+ year-old Manna Gum in her back garden.



Balnarring Fire Brigade News

The Coronavirus pandemic restrictions continue to curtail the brigade's regular activities. However, the brigade has maintained its operational efficiency and service delivery to the community by responding to six turnouts during the past two months. They consist of vehicles, a heater, a cooking appliance and protected premises. Several calls have been in support to adjoining brigades.

The Brigade is pleased to welcome ten new members who have commenced their general fire fighting training. Our annual community information letter distributed prior to Easter has been well received. Thanks to all who have contributed to our funds which has enabled concreting around the fire station and new building to be completed.

Gas Heaters

Gas heaters have been the focus of attention over the past few months due to the Energy Safe Victoria advertising campaign. They include central heating units, space heaters, wall units and gas log fires.

A faulty gas heater in your home can pollute your house with a dangerous carbon monoxide (CO) gas which is colourless and odourless. As high levels of CO gas can potentially cause unconsciousness or death, turn off your heater before going to bed or leaving the house.

To avoid this situation and keep your family safe, gas heaters should be professionally installed, serviced and tested for CO spillage by a qualified gasfitter at least every two years. If you suspect CO poisoning, open windows and doors, turn off the heater and exit the building for fresh air.

Get your gas heater serviced before using it again. Signs to look for include:- yellow or sooty flames (unless a log fire appliance), the pilot light goes out unexpectedly or pops when lighting, heat damage such as discolouration of walls or heater panels, overheating of the walls whilst the heater is operating and soot stains around the heater. Make sure the inspection includes the flue or chimney, all duct registers and the cold air return vent.

Possible symptoms of CO poisoning include tiredness, headaches, dizziness, nausea and confusion leading to chest pains. Obviously, a visit to your GP is advisable to assess this condition.

More detailed advice can be obtained from the Victorian Government Department of Health and Human Services.

Emergency Services Vehicles Flashing Lights

As a motorist, on seeing red and blue flashing lights and \ or hearing a siren operating on an emergency vehicle, what should you do? In summary, the onus is on the driver to give way by safely moving to the left or slow down to 40 kms per hour until safely past the incident.

Emergency or enforcement vehicles covered by this rule are: Police, Ambulance, Fire Brigade, Forest Fire Management Victoria and SES.

To give way safely you need to constantly be alert to approaching emergency vehicles. Remain calm and plan your move, then indicate your direction of travel towards the left. If there is no clear path ahead, slowly come to a stop and allow the emergency vehicle to pass rather than panic and potentially cause a collision. Do not drive past a red light or speed up as that could increase the chance of a crash.

When you see one emergency vehicle, it's possible there will be others responding to the same call. Keep your eyes and ears open for others once the first has passed.

Victorian road law now requires motorists to slow to 40 kms \ hr when passing stationary or slow moving emergency services vehicles with red and blue flashing lights operating. This speed must be maintained until safely pass the incident. This term is undefined in the law so keep in mind the incident may extend for some distance, such as a roadside fire or a burning off operation. This rule does not apply if the emergency vehicle is on the opposite side of the road. Traffic controllers directing traffic at these incidents must be obeyed in these circumstances.

In summary, be aware and observant at all times of the road conditions, not just for the presence of emergency vehicles but all road hazards and potential problems. By following these simple rules you could be helping to save a life by allowing emergency services to arrive quickly at a call for help.

A complete explanation of these road rules can be found on the VicRoads website.

Keeping Safe during this Coronavirus Pandemic

- ✓ Get up every morning and get out of your jarmies.
- ✓ Eat a hearty breakfast and set a goal for the day.
- ✓ Engage in physical exercise to improve your mental health go walking.
- ✓ Limit your media intake so much press and TV is negative occasionally tune out.
- ✓ Call for help if feeling lonely or unwell phone a friend it will do wonders for you.

Contact the brigade on 5983 5379 or <u>BalnarringCFA@bigpond.com</u> for any further information on fire related matters.

Balnarring and District Historical Society

FEEDING THE PODDY CALF

Old family photos are a wonderful insight into a bygone era. It isn't always the big events that give a view of history but the small things too.



This photograph dates from the 1930s. The location is a house paddock in what is now an urbanized area of Balnarring, along the Frankston – Flinders Road on the Hastings side of today's gym and the feed store. Then, that land was semirural, large lots that had been subdivided from a former farm.

The two youngsters are the children of Bert and Polly Neville. Ray Neville looks on while his sister, Joyce, feeds their poddy calf. How different are the children's clothes from those of today. The small boy wears above knee-length trousers, short socks and a hand-knit pullover over a shirt with, perhaps, a tie. The girl is wearing a dress and her hair is in a neat bob. The sheen of the fabric suggests it could have been velvet. Perhaps they were wearing their Sunday-best clothes. Were they visiting their grandparents after church or Sunday school and had been allowed to feed the calf as a treat?

A poddy calf was one that was being hand-reared. Most families kept a cow for milk and had a chook shed, a few fruit trees and a veggie patch.

Bert Neville, their father, was the blacksmith and their family home was a little further along the road from the smithy. Their grandparents, the Hartricks, lived on the adjacent lot.

The clothes the children are wearing, except for their footwear, would all have been made by their mother. Polly Neville was a skilled needlewoman. Ray's trousers might have been re-fashioned from an old pair belonging to his father and Joyce's dress re-made from an adult's garment. A sewing machine was an essential household item and households were as self sufficient as possible.

This was the era between the two world wars when times were tough. People had to be inventive and resourceful, making do with what they had. The two children are happily absorbed as they go about their task – feeding the calf from a bucket fashioned perhaps from an old kerosene tin.

There was an old saying, "Take care of the pennies and the pounds will take care of themselves".

Ilma Hackett
Balnarring & District Historical Society
Phone 5983 5326

Wendy Green ND

Naturopath and Nutritionist

Mob: 0427 131 256

Now at Warrawee Wholistic 87 Warrawee Rd Balnarring

Balnarring Bowls & Social Club

BRIDGING THIS GAP IN OUR LIVES ...

Balnarring Bowls & Social Club has been an integral hub of our Community since its opening in 1983. To say that bowling members, social members and regular visitors are looking forward to the reopening of their club is a huge understatement!

Known as "the friendly club", it caters to the mental and physical health of bowling members and provides a social meeting place, especially for families with Barefoot Bowls during daylight saving. Friday night is fun night with Kathy's raffles (prizes of meat trays, frozen chooks and wine!), Toby's wheel and the membership draw for \$\$\$.

During Pennant Season, members compete against teams from other peninsula clubs for mid-week and Saturday Pennant. Sure, it is fun – but the competition is fierce! Serious coaching and training for competitive bowlers to whom winning is not simply important, it's essential.

Even on non-bowling days the club opens at 4pm daily, welcoming everyone for a drink from the bar, a cuppa, a chat or a roll-up.

We have so much to look forward to!

Chairman Danny Wynd has been urging members to keep active during this period and suggests following in his footsteps with a daily walk. (Perhaps not the 5 kms he manages!) Bowlers are fit people and need to maintain fitness in order to win!

The Committee is planning a HUGE re-opening event for our members, our community and our sponsors. Of course we don't know when yet, but as soon as the date is confirmed, there will be plenty of notice and everyone is invited for family fun.

Balnarring & District Community Bank Branch has been the BB&SC major sponsor since the Bank opened in Balnarring 11 years ago. Our Community Bank contributed a massive \$16,000 for the new artificial surface on the top green. Its funding has assisted essential equipment in and around the club, Community Fun Days and Barefoot Bowls where local musicians have performed.

This has been a difficult time for people of all ages and we are blessed to have a supporting and sharing community. Talented locals like Tim Stout, with his "6 @ 6" every day, Marty Williams' "Sunday 5 @ 5" and Jenny and Bob haven't missed a beat with weekly Wednesday Balnarring musos sessions – all thanks to Zoom and Facebook.

We all do our best to support and applaud local businesses and thank them for strictly observing social distancing and hygiene. Thanks too to the brilliant chefs and cooks who have provided home-delivered food or take-away.

A big shout out to all sponsors and supporters for helping us **Bridge the COVID-19 gap!** Thanks.

Balnarring Bowls & Social Club Board and members look forward to welcoming our fantastic community back for fun and fitness.

Suzie Powell 0418 312 718



Friends of Daangean

On Saturday June 27th four of the Friends of Daangean bush maintenance team met for the first time since February. One was a new face and most welcome. It was a bit of a learning curve for him and I think he enjoyed himself. At this stage due to the corona virus restrictions unfortunately no sharing of morning tea. The bush was a pleasant worksite; mellow weather and a whispering breeze. Our new ranger, Sam, came equipped with a chainsaw and cut a mighty swathe throughout the pittos with many more to go. It must've been a new saw as it didn't falter as previous ones had. Masses of seedlings at the two to six leaf stages grew thickly at the sites of long gone parent trees, and larger youngster were easy to pull out due to damp ground. Now we're back in the lockdown phase the weeds will no doubt

Red Coral Fungus - MF

be very pleased.

Throughout the bush various fungi were evident; red coral fungus (left) appearing as small tongues of flame in patches on the forest floor. Also smaller yellow coral fungus, earth stars, small gilled fungi plus others attached to fallen sticks and bark. Nodding greenhoods and pink epacris were in flower too.

A rather sizeable convoy of vehicles parked in the bush this day

due to no car-pooling because of plague restrictions. As we gathered at the cars after our toil, suitably distanced of course, two young lads with bikes came up to

say a young kangaroo was caught in the fence further down the track on which we were parked. Their dad was down with it and sent the boys towards the chainsaw noise where they found us. Liz had wire cutters in her car so she and Sam headed off to the rescue. The boys returned a while later with their dad who showed us a photo on his phone of the unfortunate joey hanging



Nodding Greenhoods - MF

upside down by a back leg, with mum looking on in the background. All ended well; joey was taken to the vet in Hastings, given an anaesthetic, stitched up and

returned to Mum who was still hanging about.

Back at the lockup where the equipment is kept I was in the process of doing some tool cleaning and disturbed a bluetongue, which laid in the weak sun for a bit of warmth. A one sided conversation took place while I dealt with my task. I'd

taken some grapes to eat while out but had scoffed them all



Bluey - MF

before Bluey appeared, otherwise I would've offered one. In the distance, yellow-tailed black cockatoos called in the Devilbend pine trees where most likely they were getting stuck into the pinecones.

The annual planting day planned at the end of July is cancelled due to being confined to barracks again. It already was cancelled because of capping of numbers at 10 but now it also curtails weeding that was going to happen instead. The proposed 2000 trees will hopefully be planted in September.



Earth Star - MF

Marnie Fitzsimons
FOD Co-ordinator

Marniefitz1@gmail.com



Crib Point Community House 7 Park Rd, Crib Point Ph: 59839888 Email: info@cpch.org.au
Website: www.cpch.org.au
Eacebook: www.facebook.com/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Crib Point CommunityHouse

It's easy when you know how

July 2020

Welcome back-not yet!

We were excited to welcome everyone back for Term 3 but unfortunately, we will have to remain closed for now due to the new lock down restrictions. We have missed you all so much and have been working hard to make sure everything is safe for your return but we'll have to wait a little longer.

Most of the term 2 classes will go ahead when we reopen. In the mean time, watch for any update on our website or Facebook page. We also want to invite you to send us positive lock down stories & photos of items you've been making or cooking to share with the wider community. This way we can celebrate the positives and share the good vibes. Just make sure if any photo includes a person, that you have their permission to share it. Email them to info@cpch.org.au

So please stay at home and stay safe so we can welcome you back as soon as possible.

EVENTS

There are 3 events that we had planned for 2020, August Art Attack, Craft Weekend & Senior's High Tea. Unfortunately because of Covid19 we have had to make changes to these events. There are still uncertainties but we will soldier on and try our best to being these events to you.

AUGUST ART ATTACK

Of course, this won't be happening in August. The Art committee are looking at options & we hope that we can have it in late October. Watch this space as they say or follow this event on the August Art Attack Facebook page.

CRAFT WEEKEND

This has been postponed to 19th - 21st March 2021. We hope that restrictions will have been relaxed by then so we can all enjoy a weekend of friendship, laughs & of course crafts. We'll keep you up to date in the coming months.

SENIOR'S HIGH TEA

We are doing this in a very different way - Goodie Bags. With tea, coffee, biscuits, cake & more, enjoy a Morning Tea at home with a loved one or friend. More info on website newsletter.

BUS TRIPS

Unfortunately there won't be any bus trips for the rest of the year. Hopefully we can resume them in 2021

MARKET

As you know, we haven't had a market since March and we really don't know when we can resume. We may have to wait until finer weather so that most of our stalls can be outside. Rest assured, we will do all we can to start it up again as soon as possible.





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 3 2020

Unfortunately we are unable to open on 13th July due to the Lock Down. When we do reopen, most of these classes will be able to go ahead. In the mean time, if you have an queries, give us a call. While the office hours won't be the same, leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

Monday

Wellness Craft Lady's Woodwork Meditation & Spiritual Dev



www.cpch.org.au

info@cpch.org.au

Tuesday

Easy Walking Meditation with Candy Sheer Art Attack



Wednesday

Material Girls FamilyTree Circle Women's Wellness Lady's Woodwork



Thursday

Cackle 'n' Craft Knitters 'n' Hookers Meditation & Spiritual Dev Sewing for Beginners **Book Club**

Friday

Stitchin' Sisters Patchwork

Saturday

Photo Scrapbooking

PHONE: 59839888 Like us on Facebook





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

Crib Point Community Market – 2020 calendar

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

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

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

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

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

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



BALNARRING MEN'S PROBUS CLUB

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

New members are always welcomed. For further information please contact Roger James on 0400 837 884 or check out our website by typing -Balnarring Men's Probus" into your browser.

Friendship, Fellowship and Fun

Somers Ladies Probus Club

Well, here we are - back where we were several months ago! I trust that you, and your loved ones, are all well and keeping healthy and safe.

Although we wish to restart our meetings as soon as possible, this does not appear likely within the next few months. Our members' health and welfare are paramount.

My sincere thanks to members who have sent me news, cartoons and reports, for our weekly newsletter. It is important to maintain our contact during these difficult times. A simple phone call can lift the spirits of anyone feeling lonely or isolated.

My best wishes to you all and I look forward to catching up with everyone soon.

For more information, contact June on 5983 5321 or Veronica on 5983 2952. June Cowen,

Somers Ladies Probus Club

I received this via email: The Jetsons originally aired on TV in 1962/63!!



ST.JOSEPH'S - WHERE EVERYONE BELONGS, CONNECTS AND GROWS!

St Joseph's

Crib Point



ENROLMENTS OPEN

Ring 59839374 or email principal@sjcribpoint.catholic.edu.au for a tour or a chat about our wonderful school

All welcome



Womindjeka Balnarring Ngargee

The committee met in June welcoming three new members. After much discussion the decision was made to hold the festival in 2021!



(if everyting has settled down)

Festival Saturday 13th March 2021

Planning is now under way for the festival. If you feel you would like to be a part of planning for this event please contact Karen at womindjekabalnarringngargee@gmail.com

There is a role for eveyone tailored to individual skills and availability. We meet once a month and then fortnightly in the month leading up to the festival.

The day will planned with enertainment – singing and dancing, craft experiences, workshops, story telling, children's area, and conencting with country exceptiones.

Here is a reminder of what occurred at this yeas festival just before restrictions were put into place.





Indigenous Hip Hop Project dancers with community participation



Find the waangs competition

Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee 2020



Weaving with grasses



Activities with Baluk Arts



Creating the sticks for Bundjil's Nest

Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee 2020



Boomerang design and wood burning with Mick Harding



Yoga with Uma



Bush Tucker walks with Lionel Lauch from Living culture

THE COAST



Our commitment to serve you

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We walk, talk and live our values by:

- Caring about people, our local community and the environment
- Being passionate about property and loving where we live and work
- Serving you with purpose and understanding as a dedicated team
- Sharing our in-depth knowledge of local market prices and trends
- Offering respectful communication and competency in marketing and negotiating
- Using results-based strategies to give you a competitive advantage
- Constantly employing best practises to get things done properly, the first time
- Making a meaningful contribution to support the wellbeing of the community



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Good people are the heart and soul of any successful business. Our experienced team bring a personalised and professional approach to you with reliability, integrity, highly valued advice and trustworthiness. We have a culture of collaboration that builds on our proven systems, strategies and customer service and genuinely helps you. We take pride in being able to serve you and we'll go the extra mile to meet and exceed your expectations.

thecoast.com.au



Last month I thought we'd soon be able to travel interstate. Instead we're all in lockdown again!

If you're wondering when it will be safe to travel, there isn't any certainty. What we can do though, is book our dream vacation with the security of knowing that we won't be penalised if we have to make changes.

Many travel operators now offer a 'travel with confidence' policy. This means that if you book a cruise, flight or tour, and then find that restrictions are still in place, you can move the dates or retain a credit until you're ready to use it.

To find out more, or to plan your next escape, give me a call on 0405 505 245, or send an email to: info@tripassist.com.au.

Fiona Macdonell

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Learn about

- The new Mac OSX, iOS, iCloud
- Skype, Share Photos or Videos on the Internet
- Improve your home WIFI
- Connect Video recorder, PVR, Digital TV

and/or training at your own location anywhere on the Mornington Peninsula (Mordialloc to Portsea). Hourly rate \$75.00 Call or email

Pat the Mac

M 0419 330 497

patthemac@me.com

Pat The Mac tips: NBN and extending WIFI.

You are now connected to NBN \odot but the NBN technician installed the Modem/Router in a location where the WIFI does not reach all rooms of your house \odot \odot This means that you may not be able to read the iPad in your bedroom or enjoy streaming in your lounge room... \odot Do not fear, all is not lost.

To increase the reach of the WIFI network one can use a "Mesh system". Its components typically replace your modem and create a WIFI blanket coverage of your home. While it is "the complete solution" it is also quite expensive. If your budget does not extend that far, we can install network extenders instead. These come in different guises. Some extend the WIFI while others extend the Ethernet, and they can combined to achieve the perfect solution.

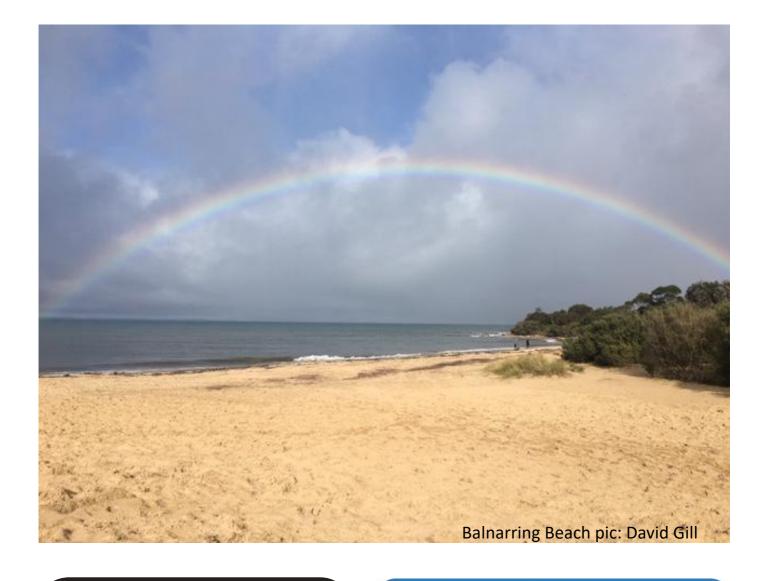
A WIFI extender, as its name indicates, amplify the WIFI from your Router/Modem to another location. Of course, the distance is critical and the presence of walls may diminish its effectiveness. The big advantage is that no cable is required from A to B. However you need to be aware that the effective speed received is about ten times slower that the network speed. In most case it won't matter but sometimes it can become a deal breaker.

The alternative is a pair of Ethernet extenders. This method allows carrying the Internet at maximum speed out of your Modem/Router utilising the electrical wiring. The big advantage of this method is that the transmission is not slowed down by walls. It is usually better suited for reaching the modern networked TV or an audio system.

A typical installation time is about an hour. Once connected you will wonder why it took you so long to have such a handy tool rescuing your digital life.

Picture	Explanation
120 111 112 113 113 114 115 115 115	A typical WIFI extender
	A typical pair of Ethernet extenders

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 <u>pat@patthemac.com</u>



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Red Hill Op Shop

Keeping focused on what's important ...

To all the friends and supporters of the Red Hill Op Shop, we trust that you are staying safe and looking after your near and dear ones as much as you can in these challenging times.

Regrettably, and no surprises here, the Red Hill Op Shop will remain closed for the foreseeable future. However, as soon as we are given the green light to reopen we will be making sure that EVERYONE knows the date, the hour and minute that we throw open the doors!!!! There will be much fuss and celebration when we can welcome our customers back to help us keep recycling, and raising money for the PHH and other community projects.

In the interim, we've made a few changes to some sections in the shop which we think will allow for better displays of goods, and a bit of painting is going on as well. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page (see bottom of page) for any changing details. Every week, our President provides our followers with some terrific humour that has to make you smile! We all need a laugh, and she's nailed it!

Stay well, stay safe and look out for each other.

Peninsula Home Hospice is providing its normal amazing level of support to people on the Peninsula and would welcome cash donations to maintain these services. The Op Shop is unable to offer any support to PHH at present, but if *you* can help, please go to www.peninsulahospice.com.au and click on Donate. They would be thrilled with anything you're able to give.

In the meantime, feel free to
Email us at redhillopshop@gmail.com
or message us through our Facebook page
www.facebook.com/redhillopshop

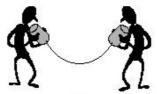
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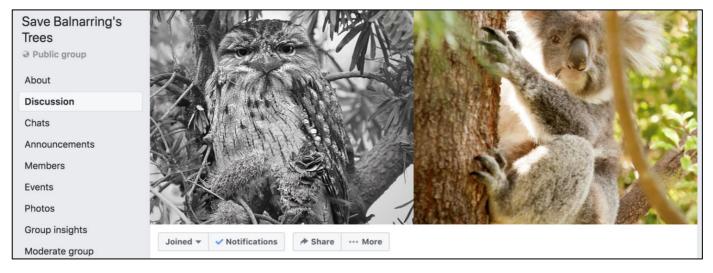
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SAVE BALNARRING'S TREES

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



TICCUNDEROCC CONSULTING

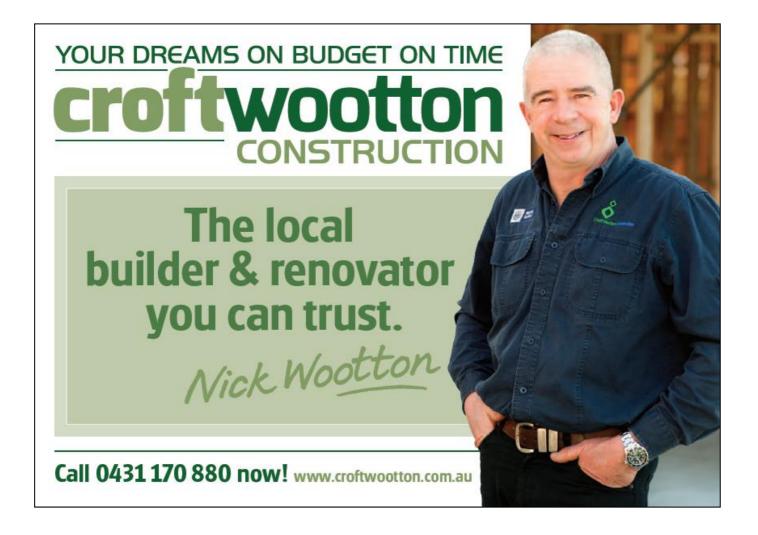
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Combined Probus Club of Balnarring

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

This will be reviewed on a monthly basis.

Please contact Patsy Wilson on 5983 9949 or 0419 009 784 Email grapatwilson@bigpond.com



Ian Johnson

Licensed Estate Agent

Ph: 0490 042 458



WILDLIFE RESCUE Contacts

@Koala rescue Jenny Bryant 0417 395 883

@WHOMP (Wildlife Help On Mornington Peninsula) 0417 380 687

@Klarissa Gaunaut 0488 494 667

Western Port UC Op Shop

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

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

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



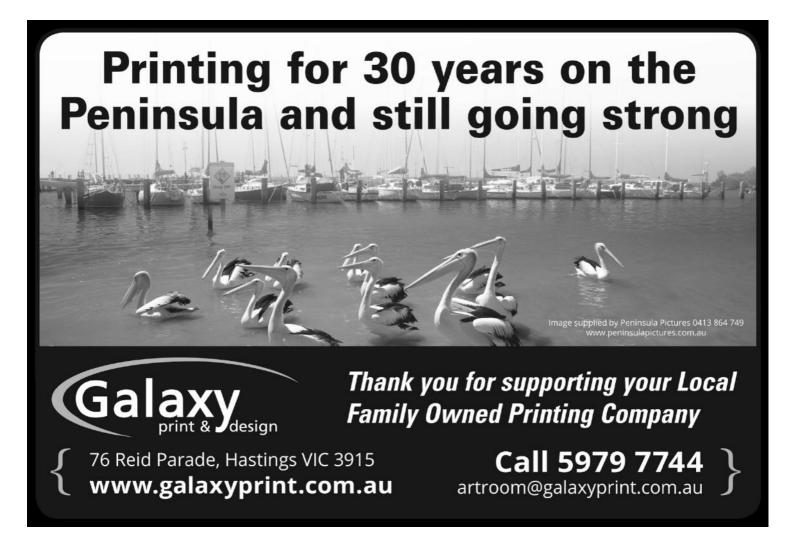
BALNARRING LADIES PROBUS

ad or semi-retired lady looking for good company and interesting activities,

Due to the Coronavirus, meetings are suspended until further notice. afé Group, Craft Group, Films,

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

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



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 <u>last Sunday</u> of the month at 10 am at the rotunda next to the beach store at Balnarring Beach.

It looks as if we're all back to square one with isolation.

So sadly we have to cancel the working bee on Balnarring Beach for at least August.

But let's be positive and pencil in the September Working Bee as a starter for the 27th September and hope for the best.

Cheerio and stay well.

Rupert Steiner for the Balnarring Beach Foreshore Working Bee

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

We hope to see many of you there.

Many thanks to all who attend.

Balnarring Muso Night ONLINE!



We are continuing with our weekly Musos on Zoom via the Balnarring Muso Night Facebook page.

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



No AGL Gas #savewesternport savewesternport.org



SEEP 3926 KOALITY



CONTRIBUTING TO THE BRIDGE

The Bridge is a bi-monthly independent community magazine for Balnarring and surrounding areas. The views expressed within are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Editor, Community or any organisation. Financial contributions are welcomed and a form to fill in is within this issue should you wish to contribute a donation.

GUIDELINES FOR THE BRIDGE CONTRIBUTIONS

The contributor's name must appear with the article and contact information is recommended. If emailing, please use A4 page format with 1.5cm margins, 14 point font size and single spacing. Headings with a font of 18. Send as a Word or Pages format file to info@bridgemag.com.au or PO Box 248 Balnarring VIC 3926. Ideally, file sizes no bigger than 1.5MB please.

Deadlines for submissions are as follows:

January 10th (February/March issue)
March 10th (April/May issue)
May 10th (June/July issue)
July 10th (August/September issue)
September 10th (October/November issue)
November 10th (December/January issue)

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

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

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