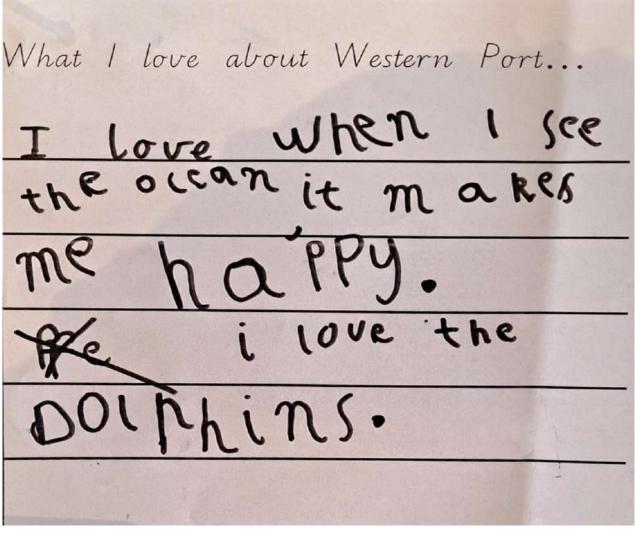


Issue 88 December 2024 to January 2025

www.bridgemag.com.au



By children of Westernport Primaries, Westernport Writers Festival at Balnarring Hall, and shown at Across The Waters in Cowes.

Photo supplied by WPPC.

Made possible by the customers of Balnarring & District



Made possible by...



A big THANKS to our Hero co-GOLD SPONSORS!

Hello Everyone!

We have reached another end-of-year/New-year Season – it feels like 2024 has flashed by!! If you plan to gather together some holiday reading, look no further than this 88th edition of the Bridge containing 88 pages of information about all sorts of celebrations, gatherings, reports on what's been happening, and what's coming up!

I've been doing a lot of YouTube watching lately – I have walked around Kyoto and through Nepal, and cycled through

France, Italy and Spain (all three, several times!), but the most inspiring programs have been about Happiness... One speaker was saying that we need to be aware of three things in order to be stable in happiness – Identity, Belonging and Purpose. He expanded on these: *Identity*, 'Who am I?', is about knowing yourself as a Being of Peace, Love and Happiness (your natural nature) who is here to express these in the world. *Belonging* is about having a sense of where you feel 'at home' – within yourself, maybe in a family, club, or in the wider world as a member of our diverse human family. *Purpose* is about giving, with a generous heart, your wisdom and kindness and skills, etc, to others on their path through life. You do, of course get to do things in your own unique way! Maybe have a think about this? Give it a



try? See if your happiness meter rises!! ©
Another helpful reminder I have received recently is to use the words 'I choose to...' E.g., 'I choose to do that now.' I am finding it disempowers any twinges of anxiety around activities – very freeing! I feel it is worth sharing – I hope it helps someone else. © Our HUGEST THANKS to all who have contributed to and supported the Bridge during 2024 – our wonderful sponsors, contributors, distributors, and Galaxy Printing, our printers!! You are all amazing and wonderful! To you, and to the whole community, we wish you a safe and happy December and January! Love, Jen & Ali xx

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

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Our wonderful community! You!

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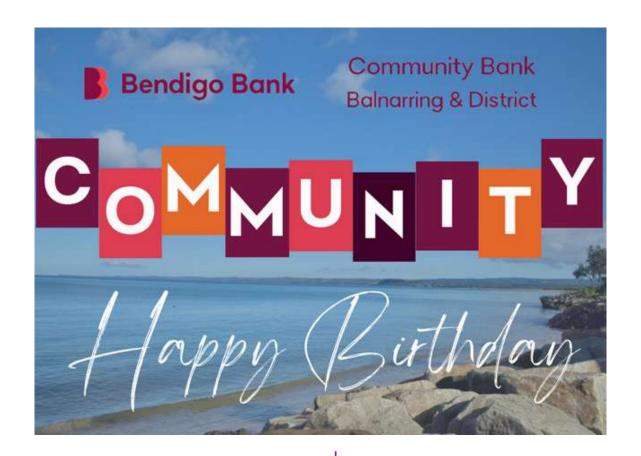
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You get peace of mind with our reliable, evidence-informed advice.

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Hello!

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

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

Tag us enjoying your birthday gift! Facebook @communitybankbalnarringanddistrict Instagram @communitybankbalnarring

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





Community Bank **Balnarring & District**

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

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

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

Happy Birthday!

December

2nd Melissa MacGowan

4th Stephanie Alyssa

6th Karina Armstrong

7th Maggie Dick

9th Viv Murphy

9th Noah McLean

14th Jamel Farmer

15th Nicole Wheaton

18th Emily Jean Henderson

19th Mark Raynes

20th Louis MacGowan

20th Flo MacGowan

31st Paul Dillon



January

8th Steve Sayle

9th Bronwyn Dick

9th Celia Sexton

16th Garry McKellar

19th Casey Dawson

24th Karen Saker

31st Leo Haylock

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

December 2024 January 2025
Inspirational Angel Cards for the Community:
Positive Flexible

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

Who do you appreciate in our community and why?

Email submissions of appreciation, & birthdays in our community, to:

info@bridgemag.com.au or

Post to: The Bridge, PO Box 248, Balnarring 3926

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

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

How healthy is your home loan?



Book in for a home loan health check today!

All over Australia, homeowners are saving money with a free Bendigo Bank home loan health check.

We'll give your home loan a full check-up, making sure the loan you have is still right for you and your current needs. We'll look at your interest rate, your term, your repayment options, and if relevant, your equity.

Then if we can add value to what you already have, we'll talk you through:

- our competitive rates
- 100% offset on fixed or variable loans
- how LVR (your loan to value ratio) works
- · and of course, our fantastic customer service

Everyone's welcome

Whether you're an existing customer or you're new to Bendigo Bank, we're here to help you get the most out of your home loan.

So don't delay!

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



Community Bank · Balnarring & District 5983 5543





Message from Cr. David Gill, Coolart Ward.

Thank you to all who took part in the Council Election process.

I appreciate the trust given to me in being elected your Coolart Ward Councillor.

It is a great privilege to represent you for the next four years, on the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council.

I will try to ensure good governance through accountability and transparency.

As in the past I will listen with an open mind to your ideas and concerns and when informed will vigorously debate the issues.

My intention is to ensure that the many Coolart Ward communities are well supported.

Putting your hand up and being open to scrutiny and questioning takes selfbelief and a willingness to work on behalf of your community; all council candidates should be congratulated for their efforts.

Regards,

David.

WILDLIFE RESCUE Contacts

Koala rescue Jenny Bryant 0417 395 883
WHOMP (Wildlife Help On Mornington Peninsula) 0417 380 687
Klarissa Gaunaut 0488 494 667



P.O. Box 463, BALNARRING, 3926

bal.beachca@gmail.com

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2025 Annual General Meeting of the Balnarring Beach Community
Association Inc. will be held at the Westernport Yacht Club, Foreshore Road,
Balnarring Beach,

on Saturday 1st February, 2025

Registration from 10:00 am Meeting Commences 10:30am

BALNARRING BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AGM AGENDA:

- Attendance and apologies
- Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting held on the 20th January, 2024
- Reports Treasurer's report
 Chairman's report
- General Business
- Election of Office Bearers and Committee for 2025

If you wish to present a motion to be considered by the Meeting, submit the proposed motion to the secretary in writing either by email at bal.beachca@gmail.com or to P.O. Box 463, Balnarring 3926 to be received two weeks prior to the AGM.

BALNARRING BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

NOMINEES NEEDED

Dear Balnarring Beach Community

Our Balnarring Beach Community Association is looking for members to be part of our Committee.

A few members are resigning and we need new people to take their positions so that our Association can remain viable.

As you know, the BBCA provides a valuable link between residents and the Council and also is a place to voice any local concerns.

Our Association is an advocate for those causes that concern us locally and we also meet socially occasionally so that our members can connect with each other.

If you are interested, please send in your nomination before our AGM on 1st February 2025 – we really need YOU!!!

You do have to be a paid-up member, so please join up first. Membership is \$15 per person.

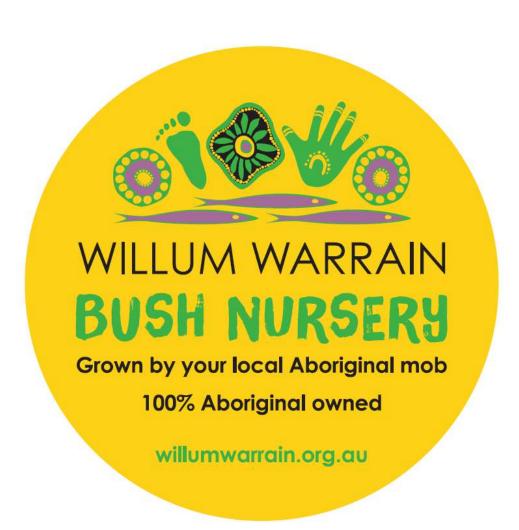
Contact our Treasurer at tunzyk@gmail.com to receive a membership form.

CANDIDATES FOR BBCA COMMITTEE 2025

THE CUT OFF DATE FOR NOMINATIONS IS SATURDAY JANUARY 18TH2025

OFFICE BEARERS	NAME (PRINT)	SIGNATURE	SECONDED BY A MEMBER (PRINT NAME)
CHAIRPERSON			
SECRETARY			
TREASURER			
GENERAL			
COMMITTEE			

NOMINEE'S ADDRESS & PHONE NO:	
	••



Open 9am-4pm Weekdays

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

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

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

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

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

Western Port Uniting Church Parish



(consisting of Balnarring, Crib Point and Hastings congregations)

Regular Service Times and Locations.

- December 2024 and January 2025
Balnarring 10.45 am Crib Point 9.00 am Hastings 10.45 am

Church Locations:

Balnarring - 10 Balnarring Beach Road, Balnarring.

Crib Point - 382 Stony Point Road, Crib Point.

Hastings - Corner Marine Parade and Hodgins Road, Hastings.

Christmas – New Year Services

- December 24th Christmas Eve Carols and Readings Hastings at 9.30 pm
- December 25th Christmas Day Crib Point at 9.00 am and Balnarring at 9.45 am
- 29th December Regular Services as above with Communion.
- 5th January 2025 Parish Service with Scripture Union Family Mission participation at Balnarring at 10.45 am. This is the only service in the Parish this day.

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

Parish Contacts

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

Our New Website – westernport.ucavictas.org.au

Check out our new website. It has the latest information about exciting events in the Parish churches.

Parish Opportunity Shop - 149 Disney Street Crib Point

Regular Op Shop - trading times: -

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

The Shop will be closed from 21st December 2024, reopening on Thursday 2nd January 2025.

Volunteering opportunities exist for those wishing to contribute to a community group. Please call in or email colinwatt80@gmail.com to obtain a Volunteer Application Form.

Clean, presentable, and saleable donations are accepted during these hours - Thanks.



ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH FLINDERS

ANNUAL FETE - SATURDAY, JANUARY 18th 2025

Come along and enjoy a traditional country fete at St. John's Anglican Church, King Street Flinders from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Delicious morning teas

Stalls selling fresh vegies, cakes, craft, jams and preserves

White Elephant and book stall

Sausage sizzle and pancakes!

Children's activities

Magnificent classic car display

Spinning wheel

Raffle

and

Live Music

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

SERVICE TIMES

Sung Services with Eucharist

St. John's Flinders: Sunday 8.30am St. Mark's Balnarring: Sunday 10.30am

Said Service with Eucharist

St. Mark's: Thursday 10.00am

Fridays@4.30pm

for under 18s in the community, with snacks (during term time)

Third Friday of month at St. Mark's hall 4.30pm We're working on an major art mural right now!

Morning Prayer Times

St. Mark's: Tuesdays 9am St. John's: Wednesdays 9am

ALL ARE WARMLY WELCOME TO ANY SERVICE!

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS AT:

https://flindersbalnarringanglican.org with more details of our parish

Parish Priest: Keiron Jones vicar.flinderswithbalnarring@gmail.com

Cover up to avoid Buruli ulcer, spring gardeners

By Michelle de la Coeur

I have a Buruli ulcer on my arm, an infection caused by the bacteria *Mycobacterium ulcerans*.

The bacteria causes a persistent open wound and I wanted to warn as many people as possible about it as we head out into the garden and bush this spring and summer.

Here is what happened to me, what to look for and what to do at the earliest possible time – and ways to be safe in the garden and outdoors

The Mornington Peninsula is a hot spot for the Buruli ulcer, yet not enough people know about it.

A sore appeared on my arm in May. It came about eight days after I had a flu vaccination. Although the scab-like sore was the size of a 5-cent coin, it wasn't painful. I thought it was a reaction to the injection and so did my doctor.

Over a few days, the sore developed a one-centimetre-wide red ring around it. Then the redness grew quite large. Antibiotics reduced the extent of the infection from about the size of my palm back to the ring around the sore.

When it still hadn't healed, I returned to the doctor and was put on more antibiotics, but the sore became worse. The doctor sent me to Frankston Hospital where they took a sample for a culture, which confirmed it was the Buruli ulcer.

I am now (early October) on another dose of antibiotics specifically targeting *Mycobacterium ulcerans* (often just named *M. Ulcerans*).

One theory is the bacteria was already on my skin and entered where I had my flu injection, causing the ulcer. However, no one knows for sure.

The average incubation period of Buruli ulcer – the time it takes for an infection to develop – is between four and five months (with a range of one to nine months).

This is a photo of what it first looked like in case you see a similar mark on your skin. Don't worry, I haven't included a photo of what it looks like now!



The Victorian government advice is: symptoms of the infection include spots that look like insect bites, ulcers, painful lumps, limb swelling and redness of the skin. It is sometimes accompanied by severe pain and fever.

My advice is ask your doctor for a swab straight away. Early diagnosis and treatment is vital.

What to do

State government advice to reduce the risk of contracting Buruli ulcer includes:

When outdoors, cover up by wearing long, loose fitting clothing as mosquitoes can bite through tight clothing.

Use insect repellents containing picaridin or DEET on all exposed skin, BUT check the repellent label before applying to children – spraying or rubbing repellent on children's clothes is recommended, avoiding their skin, especially their hands.

Remove stagnant water around the home or a campsite where mosquitoes can breed.

Fit windows with mosquito netting or screens.

Promptly wash and dress new scratches or cuts.

Wash exposed skin contaminated by soil or water after outdoor activities.

Buruli ulcer general information

The bacteria that causes Buruli ulcer originally came from the Buruli region of Uganda in Africa, is now found throughout the world, and is common (endemic) in Mexico, South America, Africa, China, Japan, Southeast Asia, Papua New Guinea and Australia.

In Australia, it's sometimes called Bairnsdale ulcer, Daintree ulcer or Mossman ulcer.

Australian scientists led by Peter MacCallum (1885–1974) first succeeded in culturing the organism from lesions of patients from the Bairnsdale region of Gippsland, Victoria, in the late 1930s.

The organism produces a unique toxin – mycolactone – that damages the skin. Early diagnosis and treatment are crucial, says the World Health Organization.

In January 2024, researchers at the Doherty Institute in Melbourne, part of WHO's Buruli ulcer investigation program, categorically confirmed mosquitoes as the primary vectors transmitting *M. ulcerans* from the environment to people. The findings were published in *Nature Microbiology*.

The "Beating Buruli in Victoria" project team focused on the Mornington Peninsula, "a seaside region outside of Melbourne with one of the highest incidences of Buruli ulcer in the world".

The team trapped and tested more than 65,000 mosquitoes between 2016 and 2021.

"Thanks to genome sequencing, we discovered that the genetic make-up of the bacteria *M. ulcerans* in mosquitoes was identical to that found in Buruli ulcer patients in the

study area," said Dr Peter Mee, research scientist at Agriculture Victoria and one of the lead authors of the paper.

Professor Paul Johnson of Austin Health said: "This research is significant because we can all take simple actions, like applying insect repellent and removing stagnant water around the house, to protect the community and reduce the risk of Buruli ulcer."

In 2023 in Victoria, 363 cases were reported, the highest number since the infection emerged in 2004.

I've done a lot of reading about *M. ulcerans* in recent months. The Doherty Institute-led research and findings are very interesting, but I don't think I caught it from mosquitoes.

I read it can incubate for many months. It kills skin cells, blood vessels and fat cells. There are still many unknowns.

Here's some more information for those who are interested (and there's plenty more on the internet):

www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/buruli-ulcer-(mycobacterium-ulcerans-infection)

www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/HealthyLiving/Buruli-ulcer

WILDLIFE RESCUE Contacts

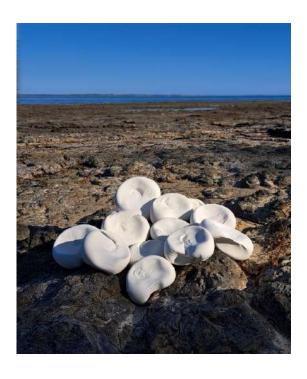
Koala rescue Jenny Bryant 0417 395 883

WHOMP (Wildlife Help On Mornington Peninsula) 0417 380 687

> Klarissa Gaunaut 0488 494 667

MUCH TO LOOK FORWARD TO AT FLINDERS FRINGE Flinders Fringe Festival, February 21st to 23rd 2025

As part of the wonderful programs in FLINDERS FRINGE next year, a series of works known as **ACROSS THE WATERS** will include the 'listening stones', a sculptural installation by Jo Lane. They will be at the centre of deep listening circles with Dr Laura Brearley at the helm. The 'listening stones' are a sculptural work of stones with ears.





They are ears of those that hear our local environment and fought and fight to save it and continue to advocate for this wonderful area. Local individuals who rally to protect Western Port area, the place where we, and unique marine life, flora and fauna, live.

While this is not unique to the Mornington Peninsula, our community is the only one that is ours ... our ears to our place.



ACROSS THE WATERS at FLINDERS FRINGE has been proudly supported with a Creative Grant from Mornington Peninsula Council.

More about ACROSS THE WATERS in our next edition ...



WELCOME TO OUR NEW HEAD COACH AIDAN WIGGINS!



"LET'S PLAY TENNIS!"

Wonderful news! Aidan with his wife and young daughter are settling in Balnarring from the UK this November and we are fortunate that he has chosen to bring his extensive coaching experience to our Balnarring Tennis Club! Very exciting!

Aidan is keen to develop junior competition, be involved in selecting teams, support junior development on and off the court and watch the kids play in Saturday Junior Competition. Aidan wants to continue offering Cardio Tennis, an energetic fitness programme for players of all levels as well as Holiday Programs, Private Coaching, Junior Group/Private Coaching, Squad level Coaching and Social tennis.

Aidan believes in fostering a strong community atmosphere and is eager to get to know members both competitively and socially.

Balnarring Tennis Club will keep the community updated on all things coaching on our *Website, Facebook and Instagram* so make sure you follow us.



BALNARRING TENNIS CLUB

FEEL LIKE A GOOD HIT OF SOCIAL TENNIS?

DO YOU HAVE A COUPLE OF HOURS SPARE

MONDAY, TUESDAY OR THURSDAY MORNINGS?

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

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

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

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

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

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SOON WE PLAY ALL YEAR ROUND



Contributor is Margaret Rees 0408 271 059





ARTHURS SEAT STATE PARK (WONGA) UNDER THREAT

NO "EAGLE" CHAIRLIFT EXPANSION!!!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

The billionaire owners of "The Eagle" have put a proposal before the State Minister for Planning, Sonya Kilkenny to double the size of the premises at the foot and summit of Arthurs Seat, add an 8 storey tower, a second restaurant, lit up over-road pedestrian bridge and roller coaster toboggan ride up and down the slope.

It is a State Park for Wildlife. Animals are already being frightened out of the park onto nearby roads and properties. Collisions with kangaroos are on the rise. The existing "Eagle" has already created enough intrusion and negative impacts on the State Park and taken up all flat ground that were used for family picnics with buildings or car parking. Any additional expansion is excessive and must be rejected.

This excessive, inappropriate development proposal will further impact native habitats, interrupt wildlife movement, disturb the peace and quiet of neighbouring residents with screaming toboggan riders, increase traffic congestion which has already reached dangerous levels around Arthurs Seat, heighten fire risks and the ability to escape, and replace the natural amenity loved by locals and visitors alike, with a theme park.

Details and plans can be seen on Save Our Seat Website and Facebook page.

The application has bypassed consultation with the community and Mornington Peninsula Shire Council using a new loophole for projects over \$25 million.

We are appealing to peninsula residents, neighbours to the Park, wildlife carers, environmentalists and visitors who enjoy the natural amenity of Arthurs Seat State Wildlife Park to join our protest.

Put the environment and wildlife before greed and profit.

The community and local Council must have a voice, not just billionaires.

URGENT ACTION

Please help by signing the Petition on Save Our Seat Website, so we can alert the Minister the community says NO.

Phone, write to or email Sonya Kilkenny Minister for Planning:

<u>Carrum Electoral Office</u> 9773 2727 <u>Sonya.kilkenny@parliament.vic.gov.au</u>

Ministerial Office, 9658 4301 Reception.kilkenny@transport.vic.gov.au

Red Hill Op Shop

Summer on the Hill

The **Red Hill Op Shop** is looking forward to a fabulous summer and all the fun activities that go with terrific weather and lazy days at the beach. We love having our regulars call in for a leisurely browse; and we also welcome the many visitors who come to the Op shop during the holidays.

With the silly season, come extra opportunities to entertain at home. If you are looking for additional glasses and plateware for those guests, and unexpected guests who arrive, don't forget we are well stocked with cutlery, plates and serving dishes in the Bric a Brac section at a fraction of the shop price.

Christmas decorations are now in the shop and look spectacular. Perfect for adding a bit of sparkle to everyone's celebrations! And the prices are a fraction of retail.

The Sports section has wet suits and all sorts of cricket gear – again, perfect timing. Toys are always a focus at this time of the year, and our bookshelves are groaning under the weight of some wonderful summer reading.

We all wish to thank all of our customers who support the Red Hill Op Shop.

We are grateful for the wonderful donations we receive and we appreciate the many kind comments we get regarding our shop.

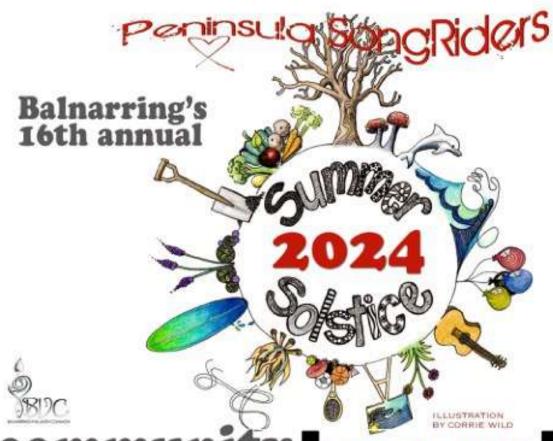
We wish you and your families all the very best for a wonderful Christmas and an exceptionally happy and healthy 2025.

The Peninsula Home Hospice and its many services are the main beneficiary of our efforts and we support local initiatives and sports clubs.

We are located at 33 Mechanics Road Red Hill South and are open 10.00 am – 1.00 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

Follow us on www.facebook.com/redhillopshop or email us at <a href="priced-niced-

Kerri, on behalf of the President, Committee and Volunteers of the Red Hill Op Shop



community PICNIC

SUNDAY DEC 22 2-70m free special guest artist!

FUN ALL AGES - LIVE MUSIC - BYO PICNIC "CIVIC COURT RESERVE" - FRANKSTON-FLINDERS RD

PHIL CEBERANO

PHIL CEBERANO

YEAR'S RICEOUT

EVE

WESTERNPORT YACHT CLUB 7PM



SAT JAN 11 ARTIST TBA

SAT JAN 25 NICKY BOMBA'S BUSTAMENTO

*SAT MARCH 1

GEOFF ACHISON & TOM WATERS (UK)



TICKETS PRE-BOOKED ONLINE & @ DOOR/VENUE IF AVAILABLE, 1 FORESHORE RD. BALNARRING BEACH



LANDSCAPE DESIGN

COASTAL GARDENS | URBAN GARDENS | NATURE PLAY

Designing gardens in the city and on the peninsula for over 30 years

Contact Helen for a consultation

0413 755 448









AS REAL AS IT GETS





GATES OPEN 11AM

On Thursday 2 January, the VIC Caravans Family Race Day is as real as it gets! There's something for everyone with endless hospitally and diring options, live entertainment, FREE activities for the kids and up-close racing action. Get out there this summer and take the pressure down on a day where your only lob is to relax.

SHUTTLE BUSES

Heading to the cup? TAC shuttle buses will be available to help get you home safely. If you plan on having a drink, a tax irideshare or bus home is your best bet. Make your plans today. If we all get home safely, everyone wins. Learn more: https://country.racinq.com/tac

General Admission

Tables and Roped Areas

160 ° 1100









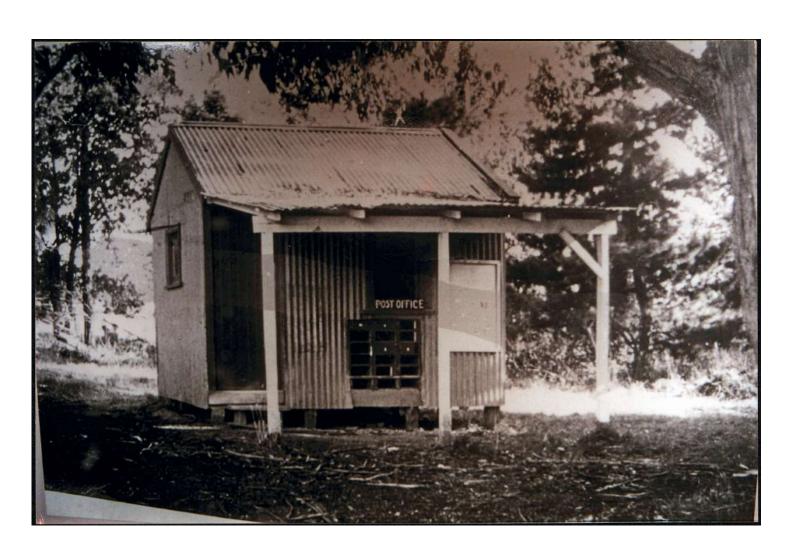




The 97th

RED HILL SHOW

Saturday 8th March 2025



WHAT WAS THIS BUILDING?

This small building played an important role in the lives of the people of Merricks North from 1931 until 1966.

It was built by voluntary labour on the corner of the Bittern-Dromana Road, opposite Fenton Hall. Mrs Margaret Overgaard was the first person in charge and the last person was Mr M Holmes.

The building was home to the Merricks North Post Office.

In the 1930s James Fenton MHR lived in the vicinity and he found the trip to Merricks to collect his heavy load of parliamentary mail from the post office there too tiring a trip. He successfully persuaded the local residents that much would be gained by having their own post office.

From the archives of the Balnarring & District Historical Society

PENINSULA SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

4 - 10 JANUARY 2025







4 JAN	Young Mannheim Symphonists	St John's Flinders
4 JAN	Love and Life: Jacqueline Porter and ARCO	Flinders Civic Hall
5 JAN	ARCO: The Sunrise	St John's Flinders
5 JAN	Georgina Lewis: Life in Light Years	St John's Flinders
6 JAN	Twilight Jazz at Montalto: Tarryn Stokes & Band	Montalto
7 JAN	Stephanie Arnold	Peninsula Hot Springs
7 JAN	Gryphon Baryton Trio	Main Ridge Estate
8 JAN	Family Day: Ensemble Offspring & Stephanie Arnold	Balnarring Reserve
8 JAN	Ensemble Liaison	Moorooduc Estate
8 JAN	Ensemble Offspring & Stephanie Arnold	Peninsula Hot Springs
9 JAN	Kiazma Piano Duo	Port Phillip Estate
10 JAN	Baroque by Candlelight: Latitude 37	St John's Flinders

Book tickets now: www.peninsulafestival.com.au













Lovechild Original Mandala Art

Blessed to reside by both sea & country for 40 plus years, Jill is a self-taught artist specialising in fine line mandala art by freehand design.

Inspired by the beauty of Mornington Peninsula & the folks she meets along the way, each artwork begins with the simplicity of a circle & weaves the mandala to life.

The mandala art journey has blossomed from paper & canvas to many & varied mediums.

Hand painted denim jackets, hats, tote bags, terracotta pots, crystal grids, greeting cards, grazing boards, tiered serving stands, mandala feathers, picnic baskets, cheese & wine boards & more.

Each piece is an original, one-off artwork & may be personalised for all occasions on request.

Both beginner & advanced workshops are offered November through May.

Learn to design & create your own mandala art. All art supplies are included & a grazing platter to share.

Thank you for reading & supporting Australian art & artists.

Workshop Beginner

Saturday 9th February 2025 Saturday 8th March 2025 9.30am Balnarring Beach Rotunda \$80.00pp Investment includes

- *3-hour workshop
- *All art supplies included
- *Grazing platter to share
- *Opportunity to win an original hand-painted mandala

See poster on next page



LEARN HOW TO DESIGN & CREATE
YOUR OWN MANDALA ART.
\$80 INVESTMENT INCLUDES

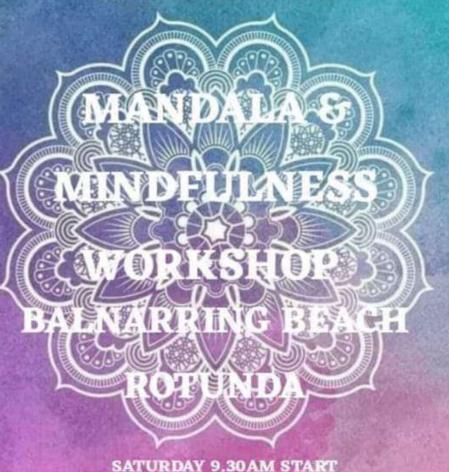
☆3 HOUR WORKSHOP

☆ALL ART SUPPLIES

☆GRAZING PLATTER TO SHARE

☆CHANCE TO WIN AN ORIGINAL

HANDPAINTED MANDALA



9TH NOVEMBER 2024 8TH FEBRUARY 2025

INTERNATIONAL 8TH MARCH 2025 WOMENS DAY

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES
lovechildoriginal@gmail.com
0408 477 468

LOVE CHILD ORIGINAL MANDALA ART FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM



Help us put a roof over the arena and secure the future of Merricks Station Grounds as an equestrian facility for the Mornington Peninsula

RAISE THE ROOF

 Special recognition and benefits for donors including named recognition, life membership, signage and more

All donations are tax deductible



\$1.2m

\$352,000 already raised!

Opportunities for Business Sponsorship

- Electrical work: Installation of power
- Plumbing: Connecting water and installation of irrigation
- Water tanks: Provision of tanks with a 150,000 litre capacity



Donate Here

To sponsor or learn more contact geegeejennym@gmail.com

MERRICKS/RED HILL STATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT ASKS:-

CAN YOU PLEASE HELP "RAISE THE ROOF" AT MERRICKS STATION GROUNDS?

Merricks Station Grounds is an equestrian facility which provides a safe sanctuary for horse riders to pursue their sport and passion, train and develop their skills and their relationship with their horse. The facilities comprise 3 sand arenas, 2 turf areas, a round yard, cross country training course, horse day yards and clubrooms – all developed from volunteer efforts of club members and friends with minimal financial assistance from the Shire. The site of the Grounds was formerly the Merricks railway station and stockyards which fell into neglect following the closure of the Bittern-Red Hill railway line in 1952. Rescued from wilderness by individual families cutting trails through the blackberry and pittosporum thickets for their children to ride their ponies, the Grounds have evolved to become a vibrant home to 3 equestrian clubs – Merricks Saddle Club, Peninsula Quarter Horse Association and Merricks Pony Club and many individual horse riders.

In 2019 the Shire obtained a matching Commonwealth grant to implement projects identified in the 2015 masterplan. One project, a feasibility study for the development of a roof over the large fenced arena, was fast tracked and the resultant recommendation for the construction of such a facility lead to the change of scope of the projects to include a covered arena. However, the administrative machinations took time, Covid struck and the resultant delays lead to massive increases in the construction costs of the projects. Significantly, the cost of the arena roof blew out from \$1M to \$2.2M and the Shire was not prepared to fund the resultant \$1.2M budget overrun.

This was a major disappointment to the equestrian community of the Shire, particularly the clubs and riders based there. However, the

Council stated their support for the project "provided full community funding could be obtained". The funds from the grants were spent on significant infrastructure upgrades to the public toilet facility, the float parking area, horse day yards, the competition arena and the development of a community relaxation area adjacent to the equestrian facilities. Almost all the upgrades highlight the need for a modern training facility as indicated by the many private roofed or indoor equestrian facilities being developed throughout the Shire.

The volunteer Grounds Committee of Management, which manages and operates the Grounds on behalf of the Shire, is determined to develop our facility into one of relevance for today and into the future. A roofed arena provides flexibility and certainty without the restraints imposed by unsafe and unsuitable weather conditions. The cost for such a structure, 38m x 88m, is \$1.2M. The combined efforts of the Clubs and CoM has raised \$352,000 with a target construction date of January, 2026.

Tax deductible donations can be made through the **Australian Sports Foundation, Raise the Roof Merricks** and all donations will be recognized in the Honour Board at the Grounds. Substantial donations in excess of \$100,000- will attract special benefits.

Sponsorship opportunities for businesses interested in making substantial contributions are available and should be followed up with Jenny Moore, Chairperson, Merricks/Red Hill Station Grounds CoM Inc, email geegeejennym@gmail.com

A roofed arena would be a tremendous asset which will increase utilization of Merricks Station Grounds and cement its future as an equestrian facility. Please help make our goal a reality.

Australian equestrian competitors have always shone on the world stage and their development starts at the grass roots level such as Merricks Station Grounds.

OPEN STUDIO WEEKENDS AND ART CLASSES IN SOMERS

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

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

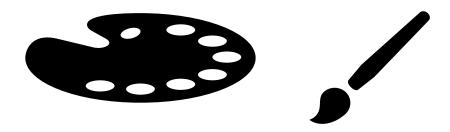
Monique has many years of experience teaching, and will also be running some fabulous and fun

DRAWING AND PAINTING WORKSHOPS FOR TERRIFIED BEGINNERS AND OTHERS!

For more information contact Monique at:

Email: moniquemorey7@gmail.com

@moniquemoreyart



The Embroiderers Guild of Victoria Flinders Branch

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

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

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

We meet at:

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

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

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 50 members with ages ranging from 65 to 97.

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

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



Members at our Grand Final Eve meeting in footy colours.



Members enjoying morning tea and a chat.

Our October speaker was one of our own members, Malcolm Gordon, who spoke eloquently about our home turf - the Mornington Peninsula. Malcolm has penned a fascinating book tracing the history of the peninsula entitled <u>A Never Ending Journey - The Story of Victoria's Mornington Peninsula</u>. A retired geography teacher, Malcolm took four years to research his book and visited many of the places he writes about and spoke to a number of the people he encountered.

The first meeting for 2025 will be on Friday, 31st January, which will be followed by our annual picnic at Coolart with partners.

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

Somers Ladies Probus Club

Come and join our happy group of women at Somers Ladies Probus! We would love to attract some new members to our monthly meetings. Our November meeting saw our members get into the Melbourne Cup spirit by wearing their very attractive hats. A cup sweep was well received and there were some happy winners.



Our guest speaker for November was Fred Harrison CEO of IGA Ritchies, who spoke about the history of Ritchies on the Peninsula. Fred was a very engaging presenter and answered all the ladies' questions regarding the revamped Balnarring Store.

Fred Harrison with Speaker Seeker, Maree Orlando. Thank you, Maree for providing us with a range of great speakers this year.

Through our club and its regular activities which focus on enjoyment, physical well-being, connection with the community, and member support, we address Probus objectives of Fellowship, Friendship and Funl

Plans are already underway for more interesting and entertaining speakers, activities and outings in 2025.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Stone Pavilion, Somers at 10 am on the first Friday of each month.

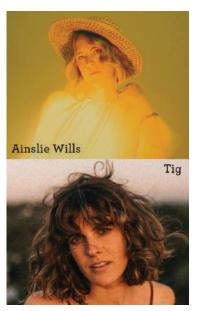
The first meeting in 2025 will be on Friday 7th February. Contact Lis (0407 713 211) or June (5983 5321) for more information.

MOTH to showcase local artists

Music on the Hill, the community music event which recently celebrated ten years of bringing singer-songwriters and bands to Peninsula audiences, plans to showcase local artists for its 2025 shows.

The Mornington Peninsula is blessed with so much musical talent and MOTH is committed to giving local artists opportunities to support their national and international headline acts.

The volunteer-run promoter/presenter recently recieved a Music Victoria Award nomination for Best Small Venue and they regularly sell out their monthly shows despite the recent challenges facing the music industry.



Music on the Hill founder and curator Robin Griffiths put this down to the loyal, listening MOTH audiences. "Artists love our respectful audiences which is why we consistantly attract top touring and recording acts such as Sweet Talk and Steph Strings."

Award-winning artist **Ainsie Wills** will play a rare solo show on Saturday 7 December. She will be supported by dynamic local singer-songwriter **Tig**. Robin said that they are fortunate to have Ainslie play at MOTH as she is more accustomed to playing much larger venues. "She's had millions of Spotify streams - if you like Angie McMahon, you'll love Ainslie Wills."

While MOTH is currently based at The Shed Theatre at The Pig and Whistle in Main Ridge, they will be trying

out other local venues including the new Flinders Civic Hall on Friday 3 January

with the increasingly popular singer-songwriter **Steph Strings** supported by local artist **Rae Santos**.

Other artists appearing at MOTH in early 2025 are multi-award-winner Matt Joe Gow, UK duo Dan Webster & Emily Lawler and Melbourne's Sweet Talk.

MOTH promises to feature many more local acts throughout 2025. More info. and bookings at musiconthehill.com.au.



Win a double pass to Ainsie Wills w/ Tig at MOTH

For a chance to win a double pass to the MOTH Ainslie Wills and Tig show on Saturday 7 December at The Shed Theatre, The Pig and Whistle, Main Ridge - send an email with the heading 'Ainslie Wills' to info@musicothehill.com.au before 9am on 29 November.

Supported by Mornington Peninsula Shire.



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

First Saturday of the month (Sept-May)

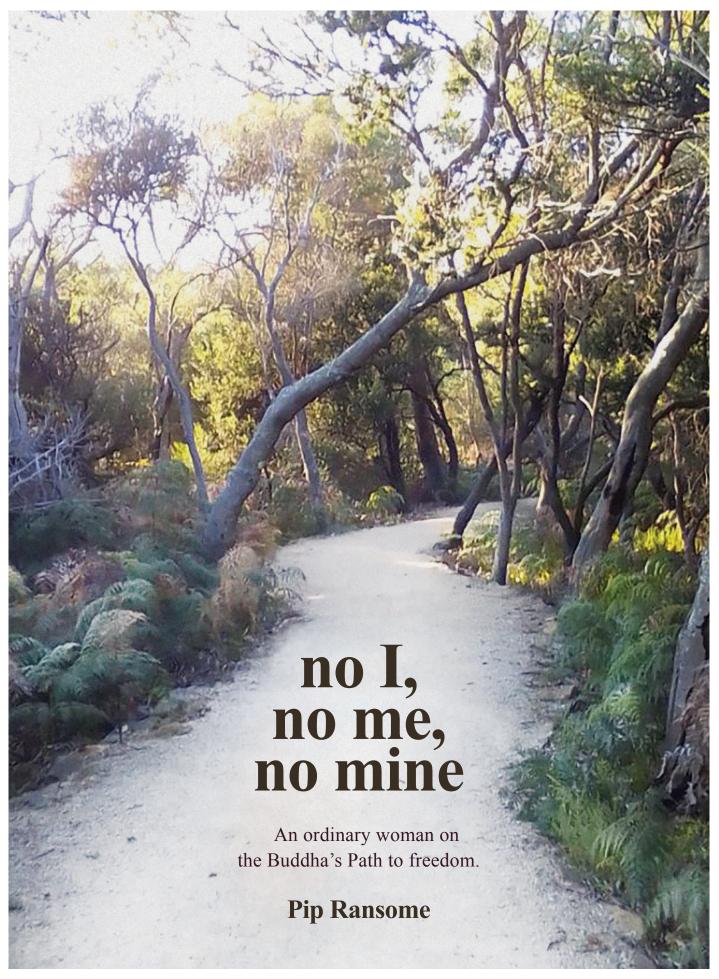
2024-25 Market Dates

2nd Nov 1st Mar 7th Dec 5th Apr 4th Jan 3rd May

1st Feb

8am - 1pm Red Hill Recreation Reserve 184 Arthurs Seat Rd, Red Hill

hillandridgemarket.com.au





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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Balnarring Pre-School Report

December! How did that happen? It's been all systems go here at Balnarring Kinder. With end of year picnics and celebrations, exciting visits from Prep teachers, Karen and Ann putting hours in hours writing prep transition statements, school visits, excursions, baby chicks, tired but happy kids, emotional parents who are saying goodbye to kinder and beautiful sunny days spent outside!



One of the above-mentioned excursions was to the Cranbourne Botanical Gardens! The bus ride may have been the most exciting part, but the time spent at the gardens is also worth mentioning. I was lucky enough to be a parent helper on the day and was very

impressed with how adaptable and resilient the kids were on a hot day in an unfamiliar environment with lots of walking! We were very fortunate to have the gardens' Aboriginal Learning Officer, Jaffa Richardson, take us on a guided tour of parts of the gardens and

experience a workshop with her about tools and everyday items that were invented by the First People. The kids were captivated and took in lots of information. A great day was had by all and a few of them even had a little nap on the bus on the way home.







Another big highlight this term has been The Little Long Walk. You may have seen dozens and dozens of children holding up signs and traffic in the Balnarring Village a few weeks back, all in the name of reconciliation. In 2004, former Aboriginal AFL player Michael Long, started the long walk from Melbourne to Canberra in an attempt to gain attention from the Australian Government and to have First Nations voices heard, and First Nations

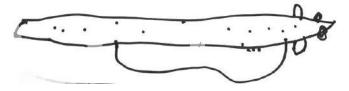
issues put back on the national agenda. He was joined by supporters and allies along the way and for the last 20 years, 'Long Walk' events are held annually to continue Michael Long's commitment to reconciliation. For the last few years, Balnarring kinder has hosted a 'Little Long Walk' and has been joined by Balnarring Primary School and St. Josephs Primary School.

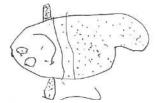


This year we were joined by Little Long Walk representatives, Jack Peris and Janaya Serra as well as Councillor David Gill. We walked through Balnarring Primary School where we were cheered on by the older year levels and walked through a smoking ceremony led by Jaeden Williams. We then stopped traffic and weaved in and out of the shops in the Balnarring Village enjoying

lots of cheers and applause. The day ended at the Balnarring Village Common with entertainment by Culture Evolve and Brothers In Arms. A great success.

As I've mentioned in previous articles, we have been working on and basing learning around our next Boonwurrung book, *Journey of the Iilk*. The giant rainbow eel trap is complete and the book is set to launch at Womindjeka 2025.





I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our 2024 Committee which has been led brilliantly and smoothly by President, Bec Watson. As a member of the committee, I see how much time, effort, brain power, problem-solving and energy is put into the running of this award-winning, proud and community-minded organisation and it is a huge credit to the committee and the staff who work collaboratively to ensure Balnarring Kinder remains the special place that it always has been.

To Jill, Ann, Karen, and their amazing educators, Suzy, Kim, Miriam, Lisa D, Lisa M and Erin, on behalf of the committee, Thankyou for turning up and supporting, listening, playing, sharing, laughing and teaching our beautiful kids who love, adore and trust you. You are making a huge positive impact on their lives and they will forever remember you as their Kinder teachers.

Thankyou also to the families of Balnarring Kinder. To the 'stay & play' helpers, the PMP champions, the amazing grandparents who do the drop-offs and pick-ups (we see you) and all parents. Great job!

Have a safe, happy, warm and festive summer and holiday season.

Minna Harrison – Historian, Balnarring Kinder Committee



Are you a young person on the Mornington Peninsula aged 5-21 with a passion for theatre and the performing arts?

Dreamhouse Theatre Company—Mornington Peninsula's leading not-for-profit youth theatre company—offers engaging acting and performance workshops for young people aged 5-21. Our programs are created by industry professionals with extensive experience in the performing arts, providing a nurturing space for creativity and growth.

Term 1 for 2025 begins Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th February.

At Dreamhouse, we're committed to inclusivity, where all young people are encouraged to voice their ideas in a safe, welcoming, and creative environment. Our sessions focus on theatre games, improvisation, text exploration, and developing skills in devising, writing, voice, and movement—all while having fun!

We offer a friendly space for young people of all genders and abilities to find their voice and build confidence.

Dreamhouse Ensemble (Ages 12-21) Begins Wednesday 5th February 2025.

The Dreamhouse Ensemble is ideal for teens and young adults passionate about theatre. Participants dive deep into acting techniques, improvisation, and text work while forming strong connections with peers. It's more than skill-building—it's about becoming part of a creative community. The Dreamhouse Ensemble offers a unique space for growth on stage and beyond.

When: Wednesdays, 4-6pm

Where: The Southern Peninsula Arts Centre, Rosebud SC Theatre, 245 Eastbourne

Road, Rosebud, VIC 3939.

Little Big Dreamers (Ages 5-12) Begins Tuesday 4th February 2025

For younger creatives, the Little Big Dreamers program is the perfect place to explore their imaginations, build confidence, and experience the magic of theatre. Through drama games, storytelling, and interactive play, children develop essential communication and teamwork skills in a fun and supportive environment.

When: Tuesdays, 4-5:45pm

Where: Red Hill Mechanics Hall, 19-23 Mechanics Road, Red Hill, VIC 3937

We can't wait to see you there!

Fee Structure: \$15 per week – Full-time and \$10 per week – Concession

Scholarships Available

We believe all young people should have access to the performing arts. Part or full scholarships are available to eligible young people facing financial, social, or other barriers to participation.

For more information, please email: dhtheatreco@gmail.com

Approach all things and all beings with a face of kindness.

Dogen Zenji

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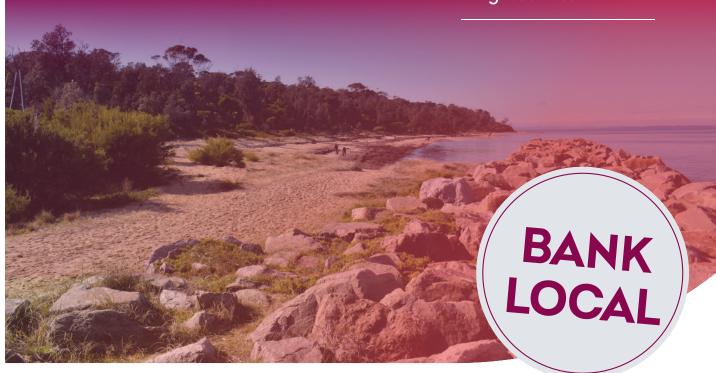
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GENUINE HAWAIIAN SHIRTS MADE WITH ALOHA BY RJC HAWAII SINCE 1953

www.thatsmybusiness.com.au

The same genuine Hawaiian made shirts that could be found at Tulum Store from November 2016 till October 2022, are now available online at

www.thatsmybusiness.com.au

Aloha Australia is the exclusive RJC Hawaii supplier to Australia, great variety of designs and personalised service.

With shirt names inspired by Hawaii's streets and beach side towns, to being named after people in our community, there is the feel of Hawaii for all wearers. You can look as stylish as Jimmy from Balnarring Post Office in "The Jimmy", or Charlie from Koonya General Store Sorrento in "The Charlie " or the man who probably owns more Hawaiian shirts than Magnum PI, 3AW's Tom Elliott in "The Tom Elliott"

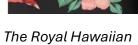
There is a style and colour for all Hawaiian shirt wearers, to see more go to the website.

www.thatsmybusiness.com.au

Mahalo

Catherine







The Jimmy

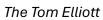


Aloha Australia



The Wailua







The Charlie



The Mikala

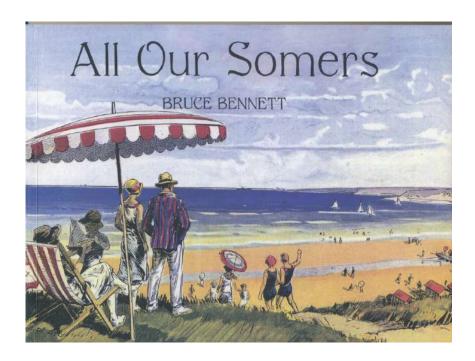


The Kalakaua Happy Hour



Downtown Honolulu

AGAIN AVAILABLE



at: Community Bank, Balnarring, Balnarring Newsagency.

Somers General Friends of Coolart shop, (Coolart, Somers)

Petersen's Bookshop Hastings;

Peninsula Mapping (19 Star Point Place, Hastings)

Balnarring Historical Society (ph. 5983 5326)

\$20

Bruce Bennett's well-researched and very readable history of the coastal village of Somers introduces you to the events, influences and, above all the people, who shaped this unique community.

reprint sponsored by

Community Bank Balnarring & District



published by



an INVITATION

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

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

Bring your questions.

Bring your stories.

Ph. 5983 5236

(Balnarring & District Historical Society)

Paul's Art and Frame

... closed on 28th September 2023. But hold those tears!

Paul has re-opened in Hastings...

at 19 Star Point Place on Frankston-Flinders Rd Hastings

Telephone: 0439 718 281

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

Friends of Woolleys Beach

Join us!

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

<u>Unfortunately many of the native plant communities of the reserve are under threat</u> from invasive weeds, which left unchecked can replace these important ecosystems.

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

When? First Sunday of each month from 9:00am – 11:00am. Check Facebook for updates – 'Woolleys Beach Friends Group'

How? We will target Bluebell Creeper and invasive species within the reserve. Please bring your own gardening gloves, hat and safety glasses. Tools and Hi-Viz vests provided. Sign In and Acknowledge Job Safety required.

Many thanks to our ranger Arne Matthesius for all his work over the years!

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

THANK YOU!



Crib Point **Community Market**

CHRISTMAS MARKET

DECEMBER 14TH

9AM - 1PM

Handmade Goods, Up-Cycled Items, Plants, Gifts, Community Stalls Coffee Van, Devonshire Tea & BBQ,

Cribby Koala Treasure Hunt and much more....

Inside and Outside Stalls **Available**

Stall Fees Paid on the Day



Pantastic stalls inside and out.

7 Park Rd Crib Point, 3919 Ph:(03)5983 9888

Email: market@cpch.org.au Website: www.cpch.org.au

NEWSLETTER – December 2024



Good grief, another year almost gone. It's been a busy year again at the Community House, what with the Quilt Show, the Art Show, the Markets and of course we've just had the Senior's High Tea. What a great day that was. The theme was 'School Days' and everyone was to wear a piece of school uniform. We even had 7 school teachers that taught here at Crib Point Primary School join us. A

very big thank you to the Students from St Joseph's Catholic Primary school and Padua Tyabb who served the tea and coffee. They did a wonderful job and all our guests loved it.





On a very sad note, Sue Smith, who was my partner in crime and part of the community house for over 20 years, passed away in October. During her time here Sue was a volunteer, Committee member, a member of the Cackle and Craft group and my assistant. Sue and her husband

moved to Hervey Bay 2 years ago to be with their daughter Brooke and were enjoying life up there. There will be a memorial here at the community house very soon. Keep an eye out for our Facebook page for details.

We has a very successful August Art Attack Art Show supported by many local businesses. Please support those who support us. You can find a list of the businesses on the website https://augustartattack.com as well as a list of winner and special mentions. Winners include, Mary Ann Fox, Sue King, Rob Broersen, Luke



Tyrell. Secondary Schools - Kimberly Rose Nixon, Callum Riddell, Kalani Love. Primary Schools - Eliza Phillips, Guy Richards.



We will be joining with the Crib Point Cricket Club again this year for the Mum's Supporting Families in Need Toy Drive. You can drop your donations off at the Community House Monday to Thursday 9am to 3pm, Friday 9am to 12noon or at our Market on Saturday 14th December. They really need our help this year as they got flooded and lost \$90,000.00 in

donations. Please contact them or check out their website, https://www.msfin.org.au/for any other donations they need.

Don't forget our Christmas **Market** on Saturday 14th December. There will be your favourite stalls full of unique Christmas presents for you to cross off your list and of course, the Cribby Koala Treasure hunt for the kids and don't forget to enter our Christmas raffle for a chance to win one of the Christmas Hamper and other prizes. If we're lucky, the big fellow in the red suit will be making a visit too. Keep an eye on out Facebook

page for when we expect him. If you are interested in a stall, please email Michelle at market@cpch.org.au All stall fees are paid on the day. Of course the will be on again on 11th January too.

The Community House will be closing on Friday 13th December for the School Holidays and will resume on Monday 27th January. The Term 1 program will be distributed from 20th January, so keep an eye out for it. It will also be on our website.

The Committee, Staff and volunteers wish you all a Wonderful Christmas and a Safe & Happy New Year and look forward to welcoming you back in 2025.







TUREE WEEKENDS ONLY!

Sat 30th Nov to Sun 15th Dec 9am - 3pm

Pre-order your tree on https://www.trybooking.com/CWNPD or so to avoid disappointment!



5ft trees \$80 6ft trees \$90

Collect from Balnarring Community Hall



Scouts in 2025?

ONE WEEKEND

A recent weekend saw all four Sections of 1st Balnarring Scout Group outdoors on adventure.

- Our Joey Scouts (aged 5-7) enjoyed their first camp: DIY burgers, a night walk (some seriously large kangaroos), a campfire, a commando course, and other games and activities
- Our Cub Scouts (aged 8-10) tackled Fantastic Race a day of clues that took them all over Melbourne, from Cheltenham to the CBD to Williamstown by train, bus, tram, and ferry
- Our Scouts (aged 11-14) tackled Fantastic Race the overnight version - where highlights included the boat trip to Williamstown, camping at Riddells Creek, and a game of Where's Wally in the Melbourne CBD
- Another group of Scouts hiked alone at Wilsons Promontory 42 kms of great walking
- Our Venturer Scouts (aged 15-17) helped out at the Joey Scouts' camp: cooking, hiking, singing around the campfire

Is it time to check out if local Scouting is for you and your child?

1st Balnarring Scout Group, meeting at St Mark's, offers four Sections:

- Joey Scouts aged 5-7 (Tuesdays 5.30-6.30 pm)
- Cub Scouts aged 8-10 (Wednesdays 6.30-8 pm)
- Scouts aged 11-14 (Tuesdays 7-9 pm)
- and Venturer Scouts aged 15-17 (Tuesdays 7-9 pm)

Scouting welcomes all. Is 2025 your year to try Scouts?

What we do ...

Highlights of 2024 have included:

- Joey Scouts our very first meetings, a camp at Tuerong
- Cub Scouts camping, geocaching, cycling, creative skills
- Scouts caving, canoeing, camping, hiking, and preparing for the 25th Australian Jamboree in Queensland in January
- Venturers hiking, camping, and the national Venturer camp last January (with expeditions including a week Scuba diving in Fiji)

Weekly meetings, at St Mark's or nearby, and occasional weekends.

As you'll see, much of the program is outdoors (off-screens).

Scouting is a broad program that aims to develop young people in all dimensions (physically, mentally, socially, etc) unlike many activities which focus on the one aspect, like physical development.

The national Resilience Survey found Scouts have many advantages compared with their peers.

(See more at https://scouts.com.au/blog/2020/05/29/the-scouting-effect-scouting-builds-resilience-for-life/)

British studies show that Scouting is linked to stronger mental health decades later.

UNESCO describes Scouting as the world's largest provider of non-formal education.

It's a program enjoyed by 57 million young people today, and more than 2 billion in the past 100 years.

For young people, Scouting is fun, friends and adventure.

But it's really about learning: to grow in confidence, to care for self and others, and to learn life skills that will be useful for decades.

1st Balnarring also welcomes adults who'd like to inquire about volunteering.

Being a Leader is an awesome hobby.

You learn new skills, confidence, increase your local network, and share great adventures with young people.

Financially it's a cheap hobby, and you give as much time as you prefer. If you're a parent, former Scout, student or just interested in volunteering with young people, check us out.

All inquiries to gl.1stbalnarring@scoutsvictoria.com.au



1st Balnarring Joey Scouts join global Scouting.



Joey Scouts tackle the swinging bridge on the commando course.



Indi is a proud new
Joey Scout – after
completing the
commando course
with a recently
broken arm. 56



Joey Scouts tackle a bouldering wall.



Cub Scouts cross to Williamson on Fantastic Race.



Cub Scouts learning on Fantastic Race.



Cub Scouts on Fantastic Race.



Cub Scouts on Fantastic Race.







Scouts hike Wilsons Prom.



Scouts return from their two-day Fantastic Race.



Resilience Survey Key Findings

Scouts Australia partnered with Resilient Youth Australia to conduct the Scouts Australia Resilience Survey to investigate the impact of Scouting on the resilience of its youth members.

A sample of current youth members aged 8-18 years old across all States and Territories took part in the survey. Their results were benchmarked against the Australian norm dataset of 48,671 young people aged 8-18 years.

Through this survey, we have found that Scouts have an overall better life satisfaction than their non-Scouting peers, and that the longer they stay in Scouts, the more resilient they are likely to become.

Scouts are more likely to enjoy school (75.6% v 69.4%)





Scouts are more likely to read for fun (60% v 45.9%)



Scouts are more likely to hold more hope for a positive future than non-Scouts (78.8% v 69.4%)

Scouts are more likely to forgive others who are mean to them (72% v 65.7%)





Scouts are more likely to report they have adults who set good examples for them (93.4% v 86.6%)



Scouts are more likely to trust others (81.5% v 68.5%)



Scouts have an overall better life satisfaction than their peers (87.7% v 82.5%)

Scouts have a healthier mental state than non-Scouts (62.1% v 49.1%)



A Scout's values are more likely to be more positive than non-Scouts (68.7% v 57.7%)





Scouts are more likely to get along with people who are different to them (86% v 80.8%)



Scouts are more likely to feel they can talk about things that are upsetting them (58.5% v 52%)

Scouts are more likely to feel good about themselves (81.8% v 70%)





Scouts are more likely to have a better healthy body image than non-Scouts (63.5% v 51.9%)



Scouts are more likely to give time to help others (81.3% v 73.2%)



Scouts have better social skills than non scouts (76.1% v 70.5%)



Scouts are more likely to be selected to help with tasks at school (66.6% v 54.5%)

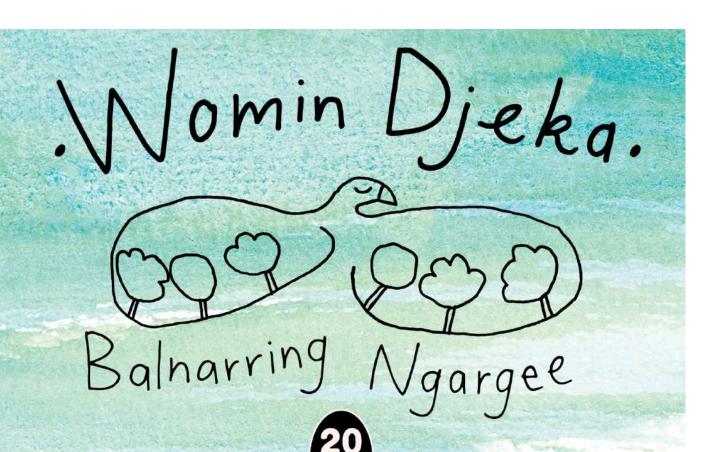


Scouts are more likely to know they can solve a problem when others want to quit (66.8% v 58.7%)



Scouts are more likely to feel they make a positive contribution to their community than non-Scouts (58.8% v 43.4%)

58







NAOMI DIANE WALA CONNECTIONS

PLUS MORE TO BE

ANNOUNCED

MITCH TAMBO



Family Friendly

Community Festival

SATURDAY 01 MARCH

EMU PLAINS RESERVE

Coolart Road, Balnarring

Presented by Balnarring Preschool

ENTERTAINMENT - FOOD STALLS - CRAFT STALLS CULTURAL WORKSHOPS - CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES



Honouring & Celebrating First Peoples Cultures

Q Womir

Womin Djeka Balnarring

We acknowledge Boon Wurrung peoples as the traditional custodians of the land on which the festival is being held and recognise the continuous relationships they have with the land, waterways, sky, creatures and plants. We recognise the strength of First Peoples in maintaining their cultures over thousands of years. We pay our respects to Elders: past and present. We welcome and acknowledge all First Peoples from across Australia.



Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee will be held on Saturday the 1st of March 2025!

With the coming of this beautiful spring weather, your Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee organising committee have been very busy preparing your 8th festival!

Returning to Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee in 2025 is the incredible Emcee Shelley Ware. Shelley is the host of the web-show "Colour of Your Jumper" and hosts her own Facebook show "Ware2Now?" sharing everyday people's stories and is well known as part of the ground breaking NITV-SBS football program Marngrook. Shelley is also a well sought after Master of Ceremonies and a regular keynote presenter to corporations and events. Shelley is also a teacher and



Shelley Ware Artist Supplied

is passionate about embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander History and culture into classrooms and the national curriculum. We were thrilled that Shelley is back with us at Emu Plains to present our 2025 line up!



Wala Connections Ngargee Dance Group is a collective of First Nations young women living on the lands of the Kulin Nation who will be performing on our stage. The program is ran under the cultural guidance of Senior Boon Wurrung Elder, Professor N'arwee't Carolyn Briggs OAM with the support of other First Nations dancers and

creatives. Ngargee Dance Program is an opportunity for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls and women to connect to culture and Country, learn Boon Wurrung language and stories and develop their cultural and creative expression through the teaching of First Nations dancers and artists. 'Ngargee' (pronounced Nar- ghee) means 'Ceremony' in the language of the Boonwurrung People of the Kulin Nation, and N'arwee't gave us this word to use for this event.



Disa bracteata photo courtesy MP Landcare Group

As one of the many stake holder groups at the Emu Plains reserve, several of our committee members participated in a working bee recently to eradicate the South African Weed Orchid at the reserve. Disa bracteata is an invasive species in Australia and thankfully not yet common on the Peninsula. It is a tuberous geophyte that grows to around 30cm. This specimen was found in the Biolink behind the Balnarring Preschool and promptly dug out with all its bulbs, bagged and carefully disposed of by the Mornington Peninsula Landcare team. Make sure you visit them and many other community environmental organisations in our Caring for Country area at the Ngargee. You could collect a koala food tree from the Koala Conservation Group, learn how to

conserve our beautiful foreshores with the Balnarring

Beach and Merricks Beach Foreshore Committees or care for the sea with the Dolphin Research Institute. At our last festival we had a wonderful treasure hunt in the Caring for Country area which led to



Photo: Michaela George

lovely engagement between the stalls and community and everyone enjoyed learning some Boon Wurrung words. We are planning another activity this year – a little hint... brush up on your knowledge of the lilk!

ALA CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF

Mornington Peninsula Koala Conservation.
Photo archive Womindieka Balnarrina Naaraee



Photo: Michaela George

Back at Womin Djeka Balnarring
Ngargee are Willum Warrain. We
love filling our gardens with their
Indigenous seedlings grown by Mob.
We also love that the Willum Warrain
team often pass on Cultural
knowledge about these plants and
how they are used traditionally.
Nairm Marr Djambana will also be
returning, did you know about their



Photo: Michaela George

catering service of high quality Indigenous inspired food? Hopefully they will have their new collection of bush herbs and spices for sale.

We would like to send a huge THANK YOU to the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, our major sponsor this year. We are so happy to have you on board to support our main stage performances and cultural workshops. As a result, we are so very excited to welcome back Mitch Tambo to our stage as our headlining act!

Mitch has let us know he has a special surprise planned, stay tuned and you might *hear* it here *first*...

You may also notice the fresh new look for our flyer — thanks to &TR www.andTR.studio who are a small studio based in Rye. Thanks so much for donating your time and expertise, we love it! We are currently looking for space for large advertising boards. Please let us know if you have a visible space to donate for our advertising. Volunteers make this event happen and it is now time to call for your help. One major change for us this year is that going forward we require all our volunteers to have a current Working with Children's Check. This is to ensure we are doing all we can to provide a safe environment for children attending the event. So, if you haven't got a Working with Children's Check or yours

expires before the Festival you have plenty of time to apply for one (or renew it) via the Services Victoria Website

https://www.service.vic.gov.au/services/working-with-children. There is no cost for a volunteer check. If you are applying for a new WWCC you can list Womin Djeka Balnarring Ngargee as the organisation you volunteer for and use Balnarring Kindergarten's address and phone number (2 Civic Crt, Balnarring (03) 5983 5803) for the Organisations details. If you are keen to help out again, please follow this link to register your interest: https://forms.gle/cdmgYZuXiMKgXEsK7.

We have many roles that we need help with, including set up/pack up, Children's Area, Bundjil's Nest, Volunteers Table, Information Tent, Merchandise, Entry, Evaluations, Cultural

Workshops. More roles may be required as we continue planning.



Above: Photo archives of Womindjeka Balnarring Ngargee

Our email is: womindjeka.balnarring.ngargee@gmail.com.









Balnarring CFA News



Know Your Risk.

As we head into the warmer and drier months of Summer, it's time again to start considering making or revising your BUSHFIRE PLAN.

For advice on a bushfire plan, please contact your local CFA brigade.



Please note: the fire Danger Rating System doesn't predict that a fire will happen, it predicts how dangerous a fire could be if one started.

Remember, leaving early is always the safest option.

- When the Fire Danger Rating is Severe or Extreme, leaving the night before or early in the morning is the safest option for your survival.
- Bushfires can occur suddenly and without warning.
- Sheltering in an unprepared house without active defence is extremely dangerous. The safest option is always to leave the day before or early in the morning.
- Disruptions to services such as power and water are common during bushfires.
 Expect interruptions to your NBN, electricity, telephones, mobile phones or mains water.
- CFA cannot guarantee a fire truck will come to your home to protect you during a bushfire.
- Older people, children and people with a disability should not remain in a bushfire-prone area during dangerous fire weather or a bushfire.
- Never wait to receive a warning, you may not get an official warning about a bushfire before it's too late.

You must plan your own survival.

BBQ Safety

Every year, CFA firefighters are called to attend fires caused by barbecues. These fires are mostly preventable. While barbecues are a fantastic way to gather with friends and family, there are a few things you need to do to stay safe.

Before you fire up the barbecue:

- Check the LP gas cylinder before you turn it on. A cylinder must not be refilled
 if it hasn't been tested for more than 10 years or if the cylinder has been
 damaged. The best way to ensure this is to use a reputable cylinder exchange
 service.
- Be aware all newly manufactured barbecues and cylinders are fitted with a new, safer design connection to prevent gas from being released if the connection is not properly fitted.
- Check the hose to make sure it has not deteriorated.
- Check the connections to make sure they are tight and that the O rings are in good condition and have not cracked or split.
- Check for gas leaks by spraying soapy water on the connections and hoses. Bubbles will appear if there is a leak when you turn on the gas.
- Use your barbecue in a clear space and ensure there is adequate clearance from walls, fences, and other property.
- Never use a barbecue indoors or in a confined space. Besides the fire risk, there is also a risk of carbon monoxide poisoning from using an LPG barbecue indoors.
- Cook with properly designed barbecue utensils and wear an apron to protect yourself from hot fat.
- Remove excess fat from the barbecue after each use to prevent fat fires.
- Do not use barbecues in windy conditions as the burners may blow out, risking a gas leak.

If a fire occurs, turn off the gas at the cylinder or meter, but only if safe to do so. In most cases this should allow the fire to extinguish itself.

If the fire doesn't go out by itself, use a hose from a safe distance or a fire extinguisher to extinguish the fire.

If you're unable to extinguish the fire safely, call Triple Zero (000).

News

Several members from Balnarring Fire Brigade recently competed in the Victorian Police & Emargency Services Games. James & Nigel did particularly well in achieving

Gold, 2 x Silver and Bronze in rowing. James set a new competition best in the 500m rowing sprint. Well done to everyone that competed.

Turn-Outs

18 Sep	Car Crash: Bittern-Dromana Rd/Tubbarubba Rd, Merricks North (assisted by Bittern & Red Hill).
20 Sep	Fire: Stanmore Ave, Somers (assist Somers).
6 Oct	Fire (tyre and aerosol cans) : Balnarring Primary School (assisted by Bittern & Somers).
9 Oct	Car Crash: Hurley Crt, Balnarring (assisted by Somers).
12 Oct	Car Crash : Stanleys Rd/Warrawee Rd, Balnarring (assisted by Dromana Rescue & Somers).
19 Oct	Car Crash: Balnarring Rd, Balnarring (assisted by Bittern & Somers).
25 Oct	Fire (burn-off spreading) : Myers Rd, Merricks North (assisted by Moorooduc & Red Hill).
2 Nov	Car Crash/Breakdown : Frankston-Flinders Rd, Balnarring (assisted by Bittern).
3 Nov	Fire (burn-off spreading) : Bulldog Creek Rd, Merricks North (assisted by Moorooduc & Red Hill).
9 Nov	Fire (Gas Bottle): Merricks North (assisted by Red Hill).



Santa

Balnarring CFA will again be escorting the Jolly Big Fellow around town on our annual **Christmas Eve Santa Run**. Check our FB page for his times and locations.

Byron SEDGWICK

M: 0419 313 413

E: byron@ianreid.com.au

Lieutenant - Balnarring CFA

Community Engagement Officer

Station Ph No: 5983 5379



Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy & Safe New Year!



Greetings from Save Westernport. You may recall earlier this year, the Federal Environment Minister, Tanya Plibersek used the Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act to reject an application by the Port of Hastings to locate a wind farm assembly terminal at the Old Tyabb Reclamation Area, on a piece of reclaimed land between Esso and BlueScope. The purpose of the staging area, known as the <u>Victorian Renewable</u> <u>Energy Terminal</u>, or V-RET, is to assemble the components of wind turbines and towers for installation at various offshore locations in Bass Strait.

See what's proposed: https://youtu.be/uYUxSFm_oE0?feature=shared

Minister Plibersek decided that the plans, if carried out, would cause unacceptable damage to Westernport Bay's fragile protected wetlands. She said, "Large areas of the Westernport Ramsar wetlands would be destroyed and reduced and... Irreversible damage would be caused to the habitat of native species, waterbirds and migratory birds and the ecological character of the Ramsar wetlands."

The State's windfarms are pivotal to the government's renewables future, reductions in greenhouse emissions and actions on climate change. Although Save Westernport supports the Victorian government's efforts towards renewable energy, like many others we agreed with the Minister's decision, and we question the unavoidable impacts of constructing and operating the V-RET. For example, how will they minimise the mobilisation and disbursement of sediment from the seabed caused by the vast increase in shipping movements in Westernport over the many years it'll take to establish Victoria's offshore windfarms? The project is a critical part of the Victorian government's renewable energy goals that exist to support a cleaner, safer environment, but it makes no sense to compromise the environment to achieve it.

After much negotiation between the Federal and state Labor governments, the VRET is again back on the table. The Port of Hastings has made significant modifications to its original engineering design and scale to reduce its impacts in the hope of the plans being better received by federal authorities. When the EES assessment begins in 2025, each aspect of the Port's proposal will be judged against specific environmental, social and economic criteria.

Save Westernport hopes these revised plans will make more environmental sense. At a recent briefing about the V-RET, Port officials preparing the updated EES reports said they expect the new plans will require 70% less dredging and 30% less land reclamation than estimated in the original report. They also stated that 21 additional technical studies are now underway, with more to come before the EES assessment begins.

With the **Port of Hastings under new administration**, they seem to be taking their responsibility for community consultation more seriously. This contrasts starkly with the Port's unfortunate lack of community engagement during the EES for the AGL gas import proposal back in 2020, when community involvement seemed like an inconvenient afterthought.

As the Port continues to revise the project, it's clear they're working hard to communicate with groups in the community. In preparation for the EES, the Port of Hastings has invited Save Westernport and other local groups to participate in their Community Reference Group (CRG), to monitor the assessment of the Renewable Energy Terminal. We hope to represent the wider community on the CRG, and report back about the EES, including how you can engage through the opportunities for public comment. For example, the draft scoping requirements for the EES will be released soon, and the Port of Hastings will be holding public information sessions about the project. We encourage everyone who cares about our environment to consider the implications of the project, and get involved as the EES assessment unfolds. To receive our regular newsletter updates, please email secretary@savewesternport.org or sign up on our website https://savewesternport.org/

In July this year the Port of Hastings called for public comments on their <u>Port Development</u> <u>Strategy</u>. Save Westernport responded with a detailed submission, stating in part that, "Increasing the Port's involvement in the community must be both effective and transparent to win back 'social license' and a positive public profile following the AGL EES, when the Port lost a lot of community acceptance. The community has a much greater awareness of the Port and will be looking closely".

We said, "The protection of Westernport Bay across both its Ramsar and Biosphere boundaries is critical. All the port's operations must be overlayed by this consideration and this needs to be clearly articulated in the next iteration of the [Port's Development Strategy]. Both existing port users and potential port development must also address this operating environment, front and centre."

We know that Westernport Bay has long been the target of environmentally destructive industrial proposals. Save Westernport remains committed to protecting the Bay, and we're still uncertain whether Westernport is a suitable location for large projects like the V-RET. We'll be reserving judgment about the plan, until it can be shown that the planning, construction and long-term operation of the Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal can meet the most stringent environmental protection measures. It will be important to share information and work together to address any significant concerns that may arise with the revised plan for the VRET.

EPA Air Quality Monitoring Station Installed in Hastings

We were pleased when EPA Vic recently announced that an air quality monitoring station has finally been set up in Hastings. Due to Esso's regular practice of flaring toxic emissions over the residential areas of Hastings and Westernport's protected wetlands, Save Westernport, endorsed by the Port of Hastings and the Council's Hastings Coastal Advisory Group, has sought EPA air quality monitoring for nearly 5 years.

However we question its location on the far side of the highway to the west, rather than near existing industry in the Port. We also regret their decision to only monitor for particulate matter, while Esso's flaring of Sulfur Dioxide, Nitric Oxide and other toxic pollutants will continue over Hastings unchecked. When asked about this, EPA Vic replied that they have no plans to expand the Hastings monitoring station.

Mornington Peninsula residents can now access real-time air quality information from the equipment on EPA AirWatch: http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/epaairwatch

EPA release

https://www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-epa/news-media-and-updates/media-releases-and-news/new-epa-air-monitoring-station-in-hastings

The other major project on the horizon for Westernport with the potential to significantly impact the ecosystems of our Bay is an enormous new fossil fuels project that we've mentioned before...

The Hydrogen Energy Supply Chain (HESC)

Save Westernport and groups including WPPC, Environment Victoria and Friends of the Earth have opposed HESC since it was first introduced in 2018, when the Victorian Planning Minister fast-tracked his approval of the pilot (test) stage. In essence, this is a Japanese project that aims to produce hydrogen from brown coal in the Latrobe Valley, and transport it to Hastings where it would be liquified and stored on an unprecedented, enormous scale, before shipping it to Japan as a so-called 'clean fuel'. None of the hydrogen produced would remain in Victoria.

The proposed scale of the project in the Port of Hastings is beyond comprehension. It includes: constructing 20 massive liquifiers, and 20 enormous storage tanks capable of holding 200,000 cubic meters of liquified hydrogen. It would require massive ships capable of transporting 160,000 cubic meters of the commodity at a temperature of minus 250 degrees out of Westernport and across the equator to Japan. Such a thing has never before been attempted anywhere in the world - they want us to be their guinea pigs.

There are so many problems with this project, including threats to the environment from the extent of dredging to accommodate the experimental ocean-going hydrogen tankers, and to community safety from the risk of fire and explosion. There's the huge amount of energy needed to make, store and transport the hydrogen, and new emissions from the continued production of coal, and the enormous expense of developing CarbonNet, the Victorian and federal Govt funded 'Carbon Capture and Storage' project that's trying to prove up on a technology that has failed wherever it's been attempted at scale worldwide — all these risks are here in Victoria, with the so-called clean energy benefit of hydrogen for Japan!! No wonder Environment Victoria said **HESC** is a *zombie* project.

Save Westernport has just released a detailed briefing paper which outlines the project and examines the key issues. It can be viewed here. Please have a look. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GK97zSxvD_YJ6pg1XhB8RG2n61Fl3v6J/view?usp=drivesdk

Save Westernport is working hard with other groups to get this project shelved before it can go any further, and we'll continue to express our vehement opposition, by lobbying state and federal members of Parliament, and through valuable collaborations with the community, and with the creators of projects like Across The Waters.

We hope you'll join us in support.

Save Westernport and ACROSS THE WATERS

Across the Waters is an inspiration to all who love and cherish this special place. Together, we have unity and strength in better protecting and nourishing Warn Marin (Western Port).

Through this special Art project, we are forging new relationships and new understandings, combining art and science, and listening and learning in new ways from one and other, going from strength to strength because of these relationships and the wonderful people who live around the shores of our Ramsar wetlands.

We look forward to participating more fully in the project when it comes to the Flinders Fringe from 21st-23rd February 2025.

Visit https://savewesternport.org/ or Save Westernport on Facebook



Photo 1: the proposed. Site of the V-RET in the Port of Hastings (The Old Tyabb Reclamation Area (OTRA) site)



Photo 2: Part of *ACROSS THE WATERS* at Berninneit Cultural Centre at Cowes on Saturday 9th November 2024. Jo Lane's 'listening stones'', Kate Gorringe-Smith's 'Wall of Wings' and Carmel Wallace's 'INSCRIPTION'.



Photo 3: Uncle Ron Murray plays the didgeridoo to the "listening stones' for ACROSS THE WATERS at Cowes, November 2024.

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

with Neil Adams

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

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

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

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

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

@Warrawee Wholistic87 Warrawee Rd. Balnarring, Vicwww.warraweewholistic.com



A Celebration of Community

Coolart's fifth annual picnic day was held on the Sunday before Melbourne Cup day and wow-did Coolart shine!

The sun shone on the near 1500 visitors to the site, with something for both young and old being the order of the day.

There was the (now) legendary Gnome Hunt, Becky Bubbles, Sunflower seed sowing and Face painting by fairy Emma to keep the children engaged. While brilliant music by both Owen Thomas and the Big hats and the fabulous Stetson family entertained those settled in on bean bags strewn around the main lawn. Whilst most families bought their own picnic lunches along, there were food options provided by the Flying Calamari Brothers and Soulful Vegan Food. Smart Brothers Brewery were on hand for some thirst quenching and South East Water provided a Hydration Station to keep everyone hydrated.

Parks Victoria agreed to the opening of the ground floor of the homestead for the public to wander at leisure and enjoy the display by Balnarring Historical Society with historical photos and publications for sale about the local history of Coolart and Somers — there is so much history of Coolart to learn!

Petersens Bookshop were set up to sell books by local authors and those

The Friends of Coolart Committee had styled the foyer of the homestead to replicate (as close as possible) the Grimwade era of the house and its furnishings.

focusing on the natural environment.

The Friends of Coolart shop was well-stocked with both seedlings from the Community Garden and a variety of native plants. These were extremely popular with visitors.

Thank you to everyone who supported this wonderful event particularly our Balnarring Community Bank and the Mornington Peninsula Shire. A huge thanks to the volunteers assisting on the day – we could not put on an event of this size without them.

If you would like to become a Friend of Coolart, please contact us. Also, if you have any suggestions or recommendations for future events and the picnic, drop us a line at info@coolart.org.au



Photo: Mark Pringle







Photo: Cheryl Lee

Combined Probus Club of Balnarring

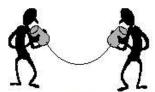
Our Club welcomes couples and singles to enjoy the friendship and fellowship of like-minded people.

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

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

Membership Enquiries to: balnarringcomprobus@gmail.com





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WARRAWEE

87 Warrawee Rd. Balnarring Contact Jane 0411399212

sweetleafbotanical.com.au warraweewholistic.com



87 Warrawee Rd Balnarring

www.warraweewholistic.com





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\$20 OFF initial 60 or 90

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min appointment!

Book online at www.balnarringpodiatry.com.au or call 0438 174 179



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

She specialises in:

- Seniors massage
- Remedial massage
- Reiki
- Relaxation/therapeutic massage

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Jane McDonell Natural Therapist

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

For bookings contact Jane on 0411 399 212



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

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

Contact: 0418638589 / neiladams0@gmail.com



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

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

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

BALNARRING BOOMERANG BAGS

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

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

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

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

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

A few reasons.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

Marnee and Cheryl

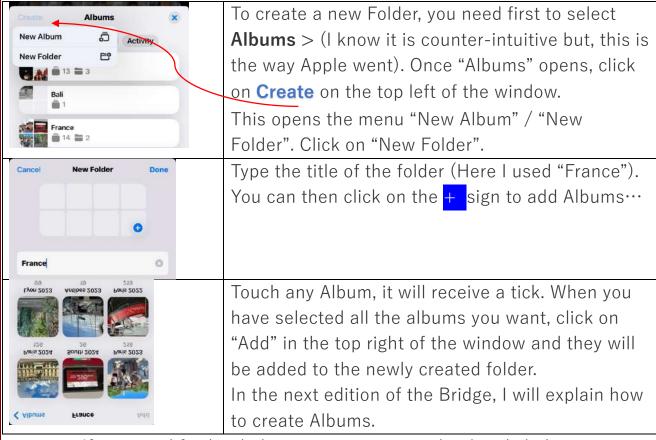
balnarringboomerangbags@gmail.com

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



Pat The Mac: Organising your photos on iOS

The Photos app has become more user-friendly in its last few iterations. A big change of interface happened in this latest release of iOS18. All these improvements are for the best but some of you may have become disorientated. Despite the changes, some basic steps need to be understood that help classifying photos efficiently. Apple provides two types of "recipients" to organise your photos: the **Folder** and the **Album**. The former is intended to contain the latter(s). Photos are grouped in Albums, which can in turn be placed in Folders. Photos cannot be stored in Folders directly. Let me try to illustrate their respective use with an example: Let's say that you have many pictures of holidays spent in different countries. You may create folders that pertain to each country. Then you create albums that contain pictures taken at different locations during the trips and you move the albums into the relevant country folder. I'll use an iPhone with iOS18 to explain the procedure: Let's see below how to create the containers:



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

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



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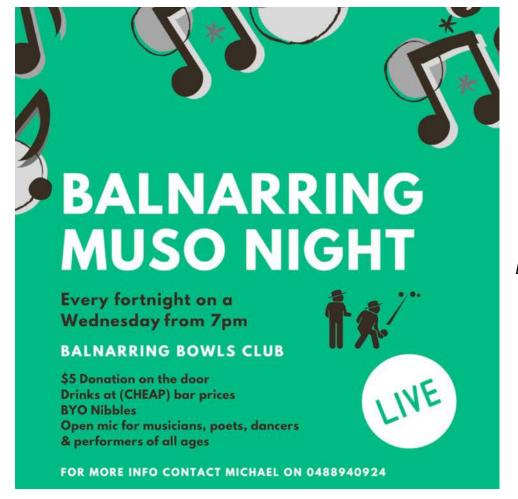
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For Muso Night dates
over Dec and Jan,
please check out:

Balnarring Muso Night
on Facebook.

Working Bee at Balnarring Beach: All Welcome!

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

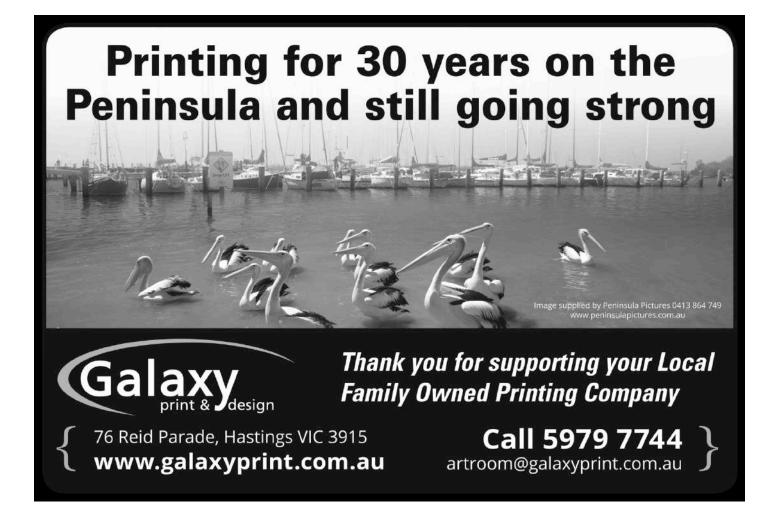
Our hard-working group meets at 10 am on the <u>last Sunday</u> of the month (excepting December and January) at the rotunda next to the beach store at Balnarring Beach.

Our Working bee will be in recess for December and January.

But we would like to thank all who participated over the year and wish you all a safe and happy break.

Back in February for the next one.

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





CONTRIBUTING TO THE BRIDGE

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

GUIDELINES FOR THE BRIDGE CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Deadlines for submissions are as follows:

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

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

The primary focus of The Bridge is to promote free community events. Volunteer organisations are encouraged to submit up to one page per issue and will not be charged. All entries that create income, including employment and housing, count as adverts. Personal words from individuals are also free to enter. Businesses holding events, workshops, etc. in the coming months are encouraged to contribute.

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

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Email: info@bridgemag.com.au