

Boronia & The Basin

March 2022 Issue 308

COMMUNITY NEWS



Centre Pages

Est. 1994

Delivering to Boronia, The Basin and surrounding areas

PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST NATIONS LAND OF THE WURUNDJERI PEOPLE

Black for our people. Red for ochre and earth. Yellow for the sun, the giver of life.

Harold Thomas designed the flag in 1970 - see story on page 5



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Elections

What's the point?

Well, it's obvious for most in our community, it's elections that give us the representation at each level of government - they are our voices. Or are they?

I'm a committed supporter of representative government: one voter - one vote. You don't get fairer than that. What I don't support is the tribal team-sport approach that drives our political system. I'm not opposed to parties. It's natural and usually desirable for like-minded people to club together for the development of their philosophy and the planning of strategy.

I even like politicians, having met many of diverse persuasions. I have found them, with a few exceptions, to be honest, good natured and dedicated to their task - at least when away from the glare of public and media scrutiny. It's when politicians are being political; that is, when they are chasing votes, that their lesser natures are most likely to rule their actions. That's when smiles become sneers and strategy becomes a brawl. Reasoned debate is replaced by traded insults.

Perhaps the time has come to change this toxic culture, starting with the practice of crossing the floor to vote as conscience dictates. This should not be seen as betraying a political leader but as a proper and normal use of political representation.

With a few bumps along the way, we could end up with politicians voting for the people who elected them: one voter - one vote.

The Westminster system of two centuries ago was revolutionary in its day, especially for the 7% of the populace who got a vote for the first time, and it has served us well, but is it the appropriate model for us today?

John Mortimore

WRITERS & REVIEWERS WANTED

We are looking for people who would be interested in writing an occasional story or review.

For more info email contact@bbcن.οrg.au



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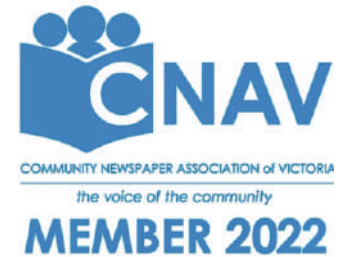
We welcome all contributions from our community but can not guarantee publication. We reserve the right to edit material. Email is preferred but not essential. Articles or letters that have no contact details, are abusive in nature, or contain racial or other vilification will not be published. Submissions should be kept to 800 words maximum.

This community newspaper is run by volunteers. We aim to provide the people of Boronia and The Basin with an effective medium of communication, information and expression, and to promote community identity, cooperation and pride.

If you would like to help, do get in touch, we will be very pleased to hear from you.

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WALKING
THE
NEWS

If you are willing to take on one of these permanent Round Vacancies, on a once a month basis, please do get in touch:

THE BASIN:

- 1) Lachlan Road, Mercia Avenue (part), Bayview Crescent area - 116 papers
- 2) Stuart Street, Verbena Ave, Carnarvon Ave area - 185 papers

BORONIA:

- 1) Maryborough Road, between Woodvale and Rankin Roads - 110 papers
- 2) Herbert St, Devenish St (part) - 175 papers
- 3) Springfield & Stradbroke Road area - 190 papers

A BIG THANK YOU TO MURRAY SMITH FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DELIVERING, NOW RETIRED FROM HIS WALKING.



The Basin
Community House

It's been quite a while since we have promoted our fabulous House due to uncertainty with COVID. We are off to a flying start with many of our classes full in Term 1. Photography,

Canva and our book club are all full. We still have spaces available in I pads, Basic Computers, Yoga, cardmaking and patchwork.

If you haven't been to visit, please just pop in for a look around and have a chat to our friendly volunteers as to how you can connect in our local community. We would appreciate some help in our garden and cooking for community sessions.

We have some free classes such as our drop in open classroom for computer Tech Support on Mondays. Check our facebook page for free events over the coming months.

Our Charity Group are looking for new members who can knit or sew. These goods are proudly donated to local charities, hospitals and women's refuges. If you have any spare wool that you could donate it would be greatly appreciated. This is a fun social group that meets monthly and they would love to have you as part of their team.

We are proud to manage The Basin Progress Hall, The Basin Senior Citizens Hall and The Boronia Progress Hall for community events on behalf of Knox City Council. Call the House for more details on 9761 0209

Please like us on facebook to keep up to date with House activities and to access our term program.

We look forward to seeing you.

"It's YOUR Community House, come and be PART of it"

Heather McTaggart - House Manager

Page 3 Bird

ARCTIC JAEGER (STERCORARIUS PARASITICUS)

Photo credits - Arctic Jaeger - Kim Wormald
- Olive-backed Oriole - Garry McKenzie

We have discussed Cuckoo's in these articles, some time ago now, but just to refresh your memory they are birds who lay their eggs in other bird's nests and the host species raises them. In a similar vein there are seabirds called Jaegers who don't catch their own food; why would you when you can get someone else to do all the hard work for you, and it's the Arctic Jaeger (pronounced yagger) whom I will discuss this month.



Arctic Jaegers, as the name implies, breed in the Arctic but migrate to all southern continents. Our birds here in Victoria arrive around October-November and depart late April. They are truly one of the world's great travellers. Pizzey and Knight suggest that while present they remain in one locality and are normally sedentary.

I have seen these birds in Port Phillip Bay as well as Westernport Bay, but are normally found offshore, often in the shipping lanes and out over the Continental shelf where the ocean floor drops away quite dramatically. I have done two pelagic trips chasing seabirds off Port Fairy out to the shelf and have seen them on both occasions, far out to sea.

I often bang on about many bird species which are confusing to identify, this bird is another one of those. Arctic Jaeger's can be dark morph variety or pale morph, breeding plumage to non-breeding plumage is also slightly different, and juvenile birds are somewhat different again. Also throw into the mix the Pomarine Jaeger who is a very similar looking bird and has similar traits and you can easily become confused. Although the Pomarine Jaeger is probably unlikely to be found in Port Phillip or Westernport, though they are occasionally. Yep, it can be confusing believe me, though out on the pelagic trips the man who runs them, Neil Macumber, is an expert who takes the guesswork out of identification, makes life simple; if Neil says it's an Arctic Jaeger, put it down as an Arctic Jaeger.

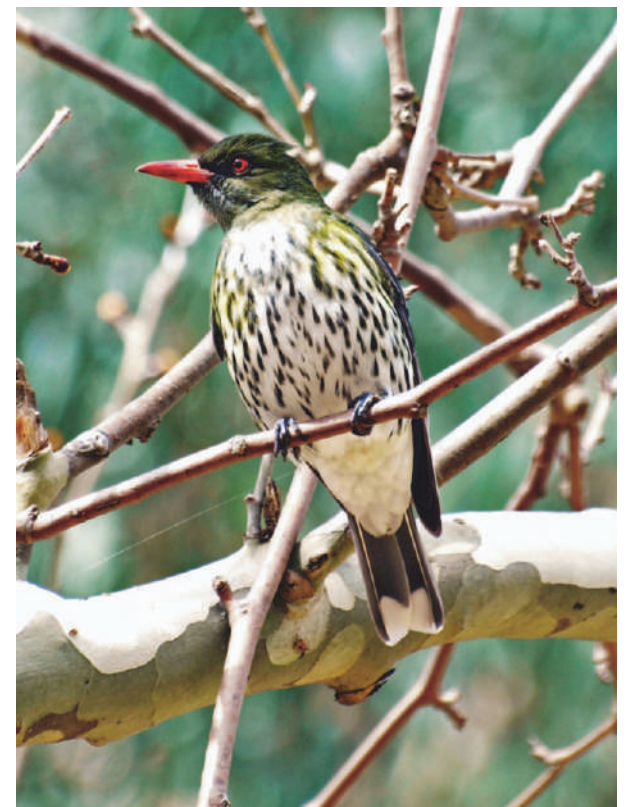
An expert at harassing other birds, especially Terns and Gulls, they will pursue a bird relentlessly until it disgorges it's food in mid air, and will usually catch the prize even before it hits

the water. It's flight is described as Falcon like, check out Kim's amazing photo of an Arctic Jaeger chasing a Silver Gull, a picture tells a thousand words, you get the idea of how they operate. Extremely effective is the best way to describe it. Note Kim's photo of the Jaeger harassing the Gull



is a pale morph and the single bird shot is of a dark morph. Check out Kim's incredible photography at her Lirra- Lirra website.

And on the subject of great photography, Garry recently sent me a photo of an Olive-backed Oriole, which once again highlights how spectacular birds look when you get a close-up view. Garry's photo is really showing what an "ordinary" looking bird way up there in the canopy really looks like. We will hopefully see more of Garry's photos in the future.



I hope everyone who reads these articles realises there will be a 3 hour examination to sit soon on birds, so brush up on your skills, or alternatively come along to one of our field trips, we have many people with loads of knowledge on not only birds but native plants, mammals and anything to do with the natural world. Happy birding, until next month.....

Des Palmer Arc_up_welding@live.com.au



SUNDAY 6 MARCH

Australians are urged to get in early and sign up for the country's largest community-based environmental event, Clean Up Australia Day, as the environment feels the effects of a COVID-19 hangover.

The opening of volunteer registrations comes after lockdowns and changed habits fuelled a significant increase in household waste. The last two years have seen significant increases in single-use plastics, alongside unprecedented numbers of face masks, takeaway coffee cups and food packaging littering our footpaths, parks and beaches.

Clean Up Australia Chairman, Pip Kiernan, says it's more important than ever to protect Australia's unique environment by stepping up on Clean Up Australia Day.

The environmental organisation is encouraging volunteers to sign up early to show their commitment to improving the environment. Registration is easy, and all community-based participants receive a free Clean Up kit containing

gloves and bags and other resources, with packs for individuals, families or groups available.

"Clean Up Australia Day is the opportunity to do some good - to roll up our sleeves, get out there and take action." Ms Kiernan said. "Signing up now means you're making a pledge to protect Australia's environment. Together, we can make a meaningful, long-lasting difference to the parks, beaches, rivers and pathways near us."

If you can't join a Clean Up, Ms Kiernan urges Aussies to make a donation to Clean Up Australia. 100% of funds raised through donations are allocated to the provision of educational resources and clean up materials provided free of charge to community, school and youth groups across the nation, all year round.

To register or donate, please visit [cleanup.org.au](https://www.cleanup.org.au)

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY - SUNDAY 6 MARCH 2022

SUNDAY 06TH MARCH 10:00 BLIND CREEK BILLABONG

LOCATION

JACOBUS WALK, FERNTREE GULLY VIC, AUSTRALIA

Site Type: Public Bushland

Meeting Point: Jacobus Walk Melway 64H11

Site Supervisor: David Rimmer - contact link at:

<https://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/fundraisers/fayrimmer/blind-creek-billabong>



NATIONAL CLOSE THE GAP DAY, 17 MARCH 2022

(3rd Thursday in March every year)

The "Close the Gap" campaign is the result of the Australian public's overwhelming support for improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Close the Gap Day on 17 March is hosted by ANTar (Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation).

Schools, Businesses and Organisations are invited to host a local event to bring people together to share information, and most importantly, to take meaningful action in support of achieving health equality for First Nations Peoples by 2032. Find information at the ANTaR website: antar.org.au

The campaign for Indigenous Health Equality is a highly regarded movement that has shaped government policy. It is led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and supported by mainstream health and advocacy organisations from around the country.

Everyone deserves the right to a healthy future and the opportunities this affords. Many of Australia's First Peoples are denied the same access to healthcare that non-Indigenous Australians take for granted. The gap in health and life expectancy between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians is widening.

With events ranging from workplace morning teas, sports days, school events and public events in hospitals and offices around the country — tens of thousands of people take part each year to make a difference.

LOCAL ACTIONS CAN CREATE LASTING CHANGE AND FORM PART OF THE GENERATION THAT CLOSES THE GAP.



THE BASIN TIME CAPSULE

In February 1967 a time capsule was sealed, placed in a cairn and a tree was planted opposite The Basin Progress Hall. It was to be opened 50 years later, in 2017 however the years and people had forgotten about this time capsule. In 2021 a local resident read the book by local historian Rick Coxhill *Fire on the Hill Flowers in the Valley* and in the book it revealed the long lost time capsule and the date it was buried, its location and the date to be opened. The local resident went to The Heritage Collection at the State Library to seek concrete evidence about the time capsule. So, the library brought in from a warehouse out of town the 1967 *Free Press* newspaper and an article was found proving the time capsule's existence and the name of the 12 y.o. boy Allan Toole who placed the contents in it.

So, on Sunday 30th January a small group came together to do a preliminary investigation to locate the time capsule to make sure it would be easy to access on the official opening of the capsule at a community event. It took separate evenings and many hours of hard work to carefully take away brick by brick for us to finally locate the time capsule. Present was Barbara Stephens a member of the Knox Historical Society, Rick Coxhill a local historian and Jude Dwight the local councilor and others who assisted in the recovery. After many hours of work the time capsule was located. The cairn and plaque will be restored to its original location.

A COMMUNITY PICNIC IS TO BE HELD ON 27TH FEBRUARY FROM 5.30 PM TO CELEBRATE THIS DISCOVERY OF THE TIME CAPSULE, SHOW THE CAPSULE AND ITS CONTENTS FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY. WELL DONE THE BASIN TIME CAPSULE RECOVERY TEAM.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY at The Basin took place on Sunday 6 February. There was a special reason for this because a time capsule had been buried in 1967, had been lost in time and had just been located in The Basin. There were plans to show its contents at a special picnic at The Basin Triangle in late February so the town needed to be spruced up for this occasion.

The cleanup crowd ranged from a 3 y.o. to an 88 year old, singles, full time workers and retirees,

joined by representatives from the local CFA, the Knox Historical Society, the Knox Environmental Society and local council. Thirty plus bags of rubbish were collected in the areas around and including The Basin Triangle and halfway up the road up to Sassafras. It was a real community spirit with laughter and lively conversation. Local business generously donated goods for the volunteers including The Basin Pantry, The Basin Bakery and Wilson's Milk Bar and The Acorn Bar

and Restaurant.

As a wonderful finish, The Acorn Bar and Restaurant opened up their doors and invited everyone in for a free light and delicious lunch and drinks. A local blues group was formed especially for this occasion: The Valley Blues with Bob Telford on drums, Justin Cox (from Radio Eastern 98.1) and Phil Mcguire on guitar.

Information from Lynette Hayhurst

Aboriginal Flag free for all Australians

THE HON KEN WYATT AM MP, MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Black for our people. Red for ochre and earth. Yellow for the sun, giver of life.

Indigenous artist Harold Thomas said that in designing the Aboriginal Flag, he was representing Aboriginal people, and our spiritual, timeless connection to the land.

When he raised the flag in 1971 at a land rights rally in Victoria Square/Tarntanyangga, Adelaide, on then National Aborigines Day, it immediately resonated with our people.

Every time over the past 50 years that the Aboriginal Flag has flown, it has grown in significance and meaning for our people.

Today, the Aboriginal Flag remains the most powerful symbol of our culture and people – proudly flown by Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians alike.

So when copyright issues restricting its use became known, I knew that it was imperative that our Government acted.

While flying the flag was open to everyone, licensing agreements required anyone wanting to reproduce the flag, in any medium, to seek permission and pay fees.

A number of organisations decided to stop using



MR HAROLD THOMAS WITH THE FLAG THAT HE DESIGNED.
PHOTO FROM THE ABC BTN WEBSITE

the flag and many others were inadvertently breaching copyright laws, unaware of the arrangements in place.

It became evident over time that our Government would need to play an ongoing role and, with Mr. Thomas's agreement, discussions turned into negotiations to secure the copyright.

To do this, we also had to discharge the three existing licence arrangements, which included estimating the potential revenue over the life of the contracts and reaching agreement with the licensees on appropriate compensation for them giving up their exclusive rights.

This has been a long road navigating the complexities of copyright and contract law and trying to value something that is priceless to our nation.

But the result has been worth the wait.

The Aboriginal Flag is now freely available to be used, reproduced, communicated and shared by all Australians.

It will now be managed in a similar manner to the Australian National Flag, where its use is free, but must be presented in a respectful and dignified way.

Now that the Commonwealth holds the copyright, it belongs to everyone, and no one can take it away.

Harold speaks with great pride about how much his design has been embraced and we all look forward to honouring the Flag and its place in our society.

I was 20 when the Aboriginal Flag emerged in the fight for land rights. And when I joined in the marches at the time, I felt a sense of pride with the Flag in my hand.



I am reminded of all the moments over the subsequent decades where Mr. Thomas' work was present.

The Aboriginal Flag evokes 65,000+ years of continuous connection with our land.

It speaks to us, and speaks of us.

It gives us strength and represents our pride.

It is a symbol that can now be celebrated and shared by all Australians – growing in strength and meaning for generations to come.

Building a better Boronia

HAVE YOUR SAY

Boronia Big Flix Festival

Free family fun with classic kids' movies, fun activities and pre-show entertainment.

Saturday 19 March Alice in Wonderland
Saturday 26 March Brave
Saturday 2 April Night at the Museum

257 Dorset Rd, Boronia
 Entry from 6.30pm for 8.00pm start
 Chairs provided
 Bookings essential, visit knox.vic.gov.au/bigflix

Erica Avenue upgrades

Designs for planned street upgrades to Erica Avenue are being finalised based on your feedback.

Work is expected to start in April. For project updates, visit knox.vic.gov.au/boronia

Shared pathway linking Tormore Reserve to Albert Avenue

Tell us what you think of our designs for a shared path to link Tormore Reserve and Albert Avenue. The proposed green corridor will offer better access for cyclists and walkers as well as providing more homes for native wildlife.

Visit knox.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay for more details or look out for our pop up booths in Dorset Square and Tormore Reserve.

All of these projects are made possible through funding from the Victorian Government.

We are working on lots of exciting initiatives to renew Boronia. Visit our webpage knox.vic.gov.au/boronia



A reader's response to "Perspectives" in our previous issue

Thank you, Arthur Shelley, for your succinct, deep and clear thinking about avoidable human conflicts. Like you, and doubtless countless others, I have wrestled with the concept of conflict resolution over many years. While every conflict is unique, I believe that at the heart of every achievable solution there is a universally fundamental starting point, the values of the parties in conflict.

Conflict resolution theory posits that the first step is to seek agreement from the parties that they would like to have the conflict sufficiently resolved for them to get on with their roles. For example, take the case of two employees whose dislike of each other is so intense that it impedes their job effectiveness. Enter leadership, in this case the relevant manager. Her first job is to ask if the parties would prefer to be able to work together as required by their job specifications. In my experience both will say yes. From that point traditional conflict resolution process applies. This includes the parties listening, without interruption, to the gripes of the other. There is an opportunity to seek clarification. Each party is asked to paraphrase what they think they heard.

The mediator then invites discussion on common ground. Finally, the parties confirm what they agree on for a professional working relationship in the workplace. This is a powerful process. I recall one example where two of my employees in serious conflict became good friends. If there is no mutual agreement to try to find a workable basis for less stressful and more productive outcomes, the leader, or independent mediator, must make sure the parties understand that the continued, dysfunctional conflict cannot be allowed to continue.

This example of a widely used conflict resolution process illustrates the power of helping the parties realise they have more in common than they realised. The basis for such mutual understanding is inevitably shared values. So, in reality, the starting point in conflict resolution is not getting an agreement to negotiate, but a sufficient degree of deeply held shared values, which includes, at the outset, being willing to at least try to understand the views of the other party.

Consider now the situation where extreme and emotionally driven discord arises, where finding a workable basis of reconciliation is very difficult. This can occur at the family, neighbour and workplace level, as well as within and between countries.

An extreme conflict example is the polarisation of American politics, where a losing presidential candidate's ego cannot accept the democratic verdict. Instead, he uses his widespread charismatic appeal to peddle a monstrous big lie that he had won because of claimed corruption of the voting process. No matter that dozens of appeals through the court process found no such evidence. It is feared that democracy itself is under a death sentence in America. The longer this hole is dug deeper and deeper the more difficult it will be to escape it.

What leadership is needed to restore faith in the USA democratic process, or for that matter any intense family, community or workplace situation? Think about how sad it is, as another example, of family members dying estranged. I believe the only truly effective way forward is to help participants self-identify common values, and then build on that foundation. Small steps and patience must not give way to impatience driven short cuts. And that leads into the most basic and primary value - to always treat others with respect and dignity, irrespective of the provocation. That this is counselling perfection is no reason not to strive for it.

Gerry Mak, Retired CEO, Boronia

RUBBISH TRUCK FIRES

PLUS A GUIDE FOR THE DISPOSAL OF OLD BATTERIES & EMPTY AEROSOL CAN CANS

Last year, Knox had several, avoidable fires in their recycling collection trucks. The fires were caused by batteries, partially full aerosol cans or household chemicals igniting.

When any of the above items are tightly compacted within the back of a truck, fires can easily be ignited. Fires in rubbish trucks can cost a lot in terms of replacing the trucks and calling out emergency services. They also cause delays to waste services and, safety issues for Council's



contractor staff.

• Batteries can be taken to special locations for free recycling such as ALDI, OfficeWorks, Battery World, Woolworths & Bunnings.

• Aerosol cans can only go into the recycling bin if they are completely empty. Remember to separate the lid of the can from the body, which is likely to be made of plastic and not aluminium.

• Most household chemicals can be brought to a 'Detox Your Home' event run by Sustainability Victoria. Knox's Detox Your Home day is coming on Sunday, 15 May 2022 and you can register your attendance for free via this website: <https://www.knox.vic.gov.au/our-services/bins->



Recycled waste fire

rubbish-and-recycling/detox-your-home

• To find out where other tricky items can be recycled, please go to: <https://recyclingnearyou.com.au/>

To remind yourself of what goes in your recycling bin, visit our website <https://knox.vic.gov.au/recycling>, and to find out where these items can be disposed of safely

If you would like to learn more please come and visit us at one of these upcoming, free events:

- Knox Festival - Saturday, 5 March 2022 - 10am-10pm - Wally Tew Reserve, Ferntree Gully
- Orana Neighbourhood House Workshop - Wednesday, 16 March 2022 - 7-9pm
- Easter Fun Day - Saturday, 9 April 2022 - 10am-2pm - Millers Homestead, Boronia
- Coonara Neighbourhood House Workshop - Wednesday, 27 April 2022 - 6.30-8.30pm

WASTE EDUCATION TEAM - KNOX CITY COUNCIL

SILL SITTING IS BACK



"There's no other railway experience like sitting on an open-side carriage sill as Puffing Billy winds through the Dandenong Ranges. This is great for tourism and local businesses in the region."

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events,
Martin Pakula



Knox Festival returns for 2022 - Sat 5 March 10 am - 10 pm Wally Tew Reserve ...more info on page 14




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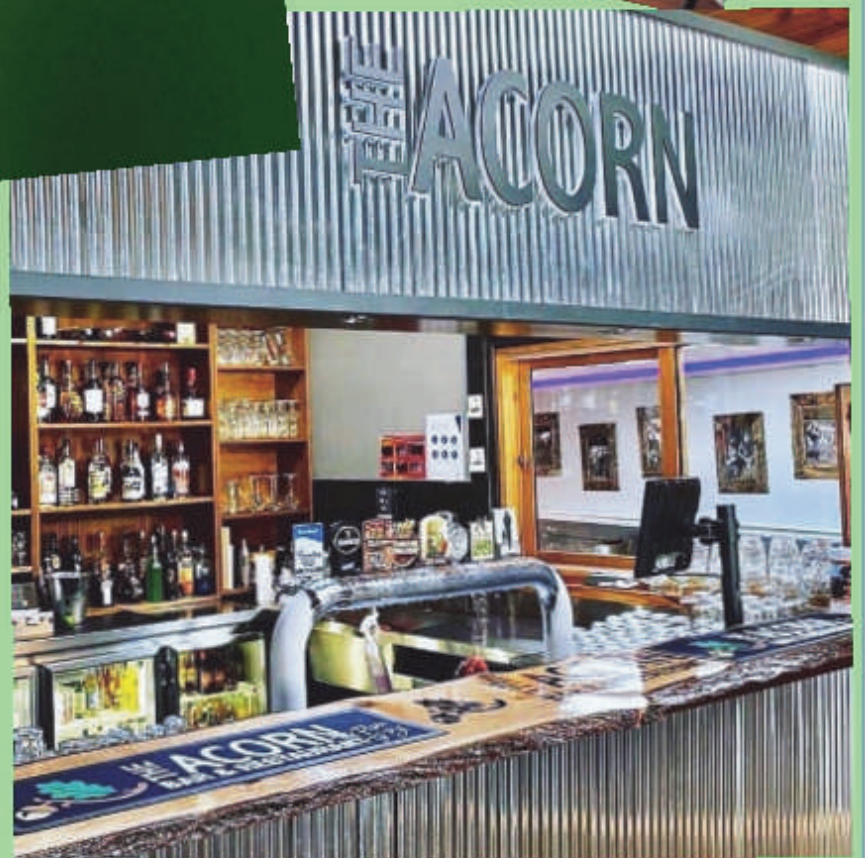
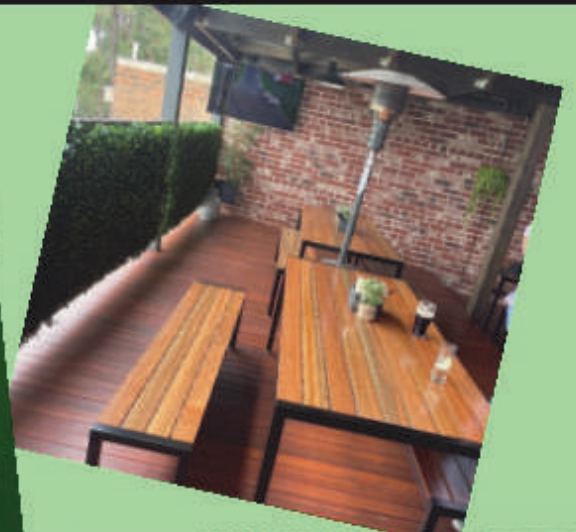
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 CONTINUED SUPPORT.
 TONY, LISA & THE TEAM AT
 THE ACORN BAR &
 RESTAURANT



BORONIA RAILWAY STATION HISTORY

Part 1

The Boronia Station has been in the social media in recent months regarding the upgrading that will soon be taking place in and around the station's vicinity.

It got me thinking about its history. After a quick google and a check of Wikipedia it became apparent that there was very little information since the station was opened back in 1920.

The railway line from Ringwood to Belgrave has been in place since 1889. In the early days of settlement there were few stations along this line. There was a station at Ringwood and the next station was upper Ferntree Gully.

This history I have put together uses information from newspaper articles gleaned through Trove digitalised newspapers and the Knox Historical Society.

From The Reporter (Box Hill) 10/07/1914

Local Boronia residents started agitating for a station as early as 1914. Unfortunately this article is hard to read, and the names of residents are impossible to decipher.

From The Reporter (Box Hill) February 1915

An outdoor meeting held on Saturday afternoon was attended by over 100 people who met with Mr W S Keast M.L.A., resolved to again approach and request the Railway Commissioners "that a station be erected midway between Bayswater and Lower Fern Tree Gully" (Lower Fern Tree Gully is now Ferntree Gully). There was land aplenty, and no great expense required to clear the land, as some of the work had been done before the railway authorities had changed their minds regarding the site and gone on to build a station at Lower Fern Tree Gully. Ever since that time 14 years ago, the local residents have been pegging. It was pointed out that in the last 2 to 3 years, hundreds of acres had been subdivided, and over 200 blocks had been sold for orchards or homes sites.

From The Reporter (Box Hill) 14/11/1919

After four more years, success at last. The report notes that arrangements are now completed for the erection of the Boronia Railway station, and



work is expected to commence shortly. The railway commission in July undertook to provide a resident to attend to the duties at the station until such time as the traffic warranted the appointment of a permanent official. An appointment had now been made and the Boronia Progress association is making an appeal for funds to defray the expense

From The Reporter 2/07/1920

The New Boronia Railway Station

There was an official opening ceremony of the new Boronia railway Station, situated midway between Bayswater and Lower Fern Tree Gully stations. It "was the occasion of much festivity on the part of the local residents interested in this most important facility granted to the district, on Saturday afternoon, June 19. Now all trains stop at Boronia, which is a great convenience to those living in that locality." Even though heavy showers fell early in the afternoon it did not dampen the enthusiasm of some 200 residents that attended. A large marquee had been erected for the proceedings. The Progress association President Mr G Ward presided. "The President of Fern Tree Gully shire council (Cr. J. T. Mahony) declared the station open amid much enthusiasm." Speeches of congratulations were made by Mr Frank Groves M.L.A., Hon. A. E. Chandler MLC. and Mr. McConchie, representing the railway commission.

Cr Chandler mentioned, in the course of his address, that it was the first station in Victoria where the residents had to pay the salary of the station master. "It was contended that the commissioners should give them some idea as to what was a payable proposition with regard to the revenue derived by the station, and as they wanted a further sum of between £80 to £40 to

complete the first year's estimates for the station master's salary, he appealed to those using the siding for donations."

It was also noted that Boronia had the unique distinction of having the best platform in the suburban area, it being constructed of concrete.

From the Knox Historical Society researcher Ray Peace

The Victorian railways was wary of providing for the station, given that Boronia then only had 50 residents and imposed a levy of £2 a week on local landholders for provision of a station caretaker. Fortunately, in its first twelve months of operations, Boronia station brought in £953 in revenue and had more than 10,000 outgoing passengers and so the levy was scrapped.

To put this amount of the levy into perspective the average factory worker in 1920 earned £200 per year.



THE FIRST ELECTRIC TRAIN - 1925/6

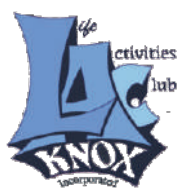
The Knox Historical Society has been a great help putting together this insight into the Boronia Railways history.

I would like to put it out there to the residents if you have any further memories or photos relating to the opening and early years, the researchers at the Historical Society would love to hear from you and especially if anyone has photos of the grand opening.

THE SOCIETY CAN BE CONTACTED ON 9758 6722 THEIR ADDRESS IS 3 OLIVEBANK ROAD FERNTREE GULLY, THEY ARE ONLY OPEN ON SELECTED DAYS. I CAN RECOMMEND A VISIT, YOU CAN WHILE AWAY A FEW HOURS MEANDERING THROUGH THE MUSEUM.

To be continued ...

Sari Cuce



If you couldn't join us at the Tim Neville Arboretum for our "Picnic in the Park", there's another chance on March 17th. Bring your dinner and drinks, you might also prefer to bring a chair. We meet at 5pm, and are home before dark. Your choice, fish and chips, salads, sandwiches, take-away, bbq. something, ???

It's a nice friendly, sociable evening. Maybe meet someone new?

Now, what else for March? The Garden Group will visit Como House in South Yarra. The Evening Dine out will be at Caesar's Rest. in Upper Ferntree Gully.

Men are meeting at 11am for Coffee at the Bees Knees Café at Mountain Gate. The girls too, are meeting for their Coffee and Chat and both of these are monthly meetings.

If you would like to walk, the Bush Walkers go every Thursday, the Sunday Walkers are checking the Ringwood East Link Trail, while the Friday walkers go on the 2nd. and 4th. Friday, first to Willison, then on the 25th. they'll be in Warburton. Car pooling is available for non-drivers.

For more information about meetings, receiving a newsletter, activities, how to join, etc. contact Carol, 0419 870 639



Ferntree Gully Friends of Red Cross will be sitting doing Red Cross Calling during March at Ferntree Gully Plaza and also at Boronia Junction (our thanks to the Owners and Managers of these Centres).

We will also be holding our Red Cross Stall with cakes and other goodies on Saturday April 30th at Ferntree Plaza, Upper Ferntree Gully from 9am till 1.30pm.

Basin Theatre – Ready to Rock Again

The Basin theatre group has long proud history as part of our local community. Formed in 1954, by Edna Chandler, as a way to pass the quiet evenings of the Dandenong's with a few friends. It has continued to grow and develop over the years, with many productions winning local and state awards.

The first production by these friends and theatre lovers was put on at The Basin Progress Hall and rehearsals took place in the main room of Edna's house with kitchen stage right and bedrooms stage left. Meanwhile her husband Fergus was out in the shed making the sets and props.

As The Basin Progress Hall was a community hall, everything had to be loaded in and out of cars for every production so that it could be vacant for the next community group. The seating was borrowed from the Salvation Army Home, which was at the time a home for young offenders. In return, the dress rehearsals were held in front of this 'captive audience' who were tough critics. However if they liked the play, it was usually a winner.

In 1973, after years of fundraising, The Basin Theatre Group moved into their current home in Doongalla Road, The Basin. This purpose-built theatre was the first in the Commonwealth to be constructed without any government help, a credit to the commitment of the members. Having a theatre which was purpose built allows for greater flexibility with stage arrangements and

with graduated seating all audience members get the full theatre experience. Its membership is now 140 strong and although still having a family feel, it continues to welcome new members. In the early years, the plays were all produced, directed and acted by group members, as was the case with other amateur theatre groups in the area. Nowadays, there is much more interaction between groups in the area and open auditions



held for each production.

From the beginning The Basin Theatre Group has been committed to producing a variety of quality plays and have not been afraid to try ones which are a little outside the standard offering. In their 60th year, the dramatic play 'The Woman in Black' received the award for Best Production at the Victorian Drama League awards as well as 5 other awards for the same play. Their 2017 award winning Comedy, 'Australia day' was one that took

aim at our hallowed institution - the committee. The powerful production 'Burkes Company' in 2018 about the tragic Burke and Wills expedition, left the audience deeply moved and some even brought to tears.

As with all local businesses during the last two years, Covid has made running events very difficult. After many postponements, the theatre is eager and ready to go again with 6 productions scheduled for 2022. Season 1, (Feb 24-March 6) 'Photograph 51' is a drama about the truth behind the discovery of the DNA double helix and the challenges faced by the woman who provided the key to the discovery. Season 2, (April/May) 'It's now or never' is a riotous comedy about an Elvis fanatic who kidnaps Elvis himself. Season 3, (June) 'The lady in the Van', a joint production with the Highway 1 company, tells the true story about an old woman who ended up parking her Bedford Van outside a man's house for 15 years.

The Basin Theatre Group is a not-for-profit organisation which, since its beginning over 65 years ago, has donated annually to many local charities. For such quality theatre in

our own back yards the price of tickets is very reasonable. All patrons also receive a complimentary welcome drink on arrival. So why not come along and lose yourself for a few hours?

All the information you need can be found on their website:

<https://www.thebasintheatre.org.au> or visit The Basin Theatre home page on Facebook.

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Carrot & Orange Smoothie - Yum!

Start your day with a vibrant orange and carrot smoothie for breakfast. With added oats and ginger, it will give you vitamin C and count towards your 5-a-day.

Ingredients

2 medium carrots, peeled and roughly chopped or grated depending on your blender

2 oranges, peeled

2cm piece of ginger, grated

2 tbsp oats

100g ice

Method

Tip all the ingredients into a blender or smoothie maker and blitz until smooth, adding 150ml water if it's too thick - alter the consistency to your liking.



Music Together Program

For Pre-School Children and their Parents/Carers.

Sessions facilitated by a qualified Music Therapist



Including:

Singing, dancing, instrument playing and relaxation

Term 1: 11/2/22 - 8/4/22

At Boronia Rd, UC, cnr. Boronia Rd & Zeising Cr

Time: Fridays - 9.30-10.15am followed by BYO morning tea

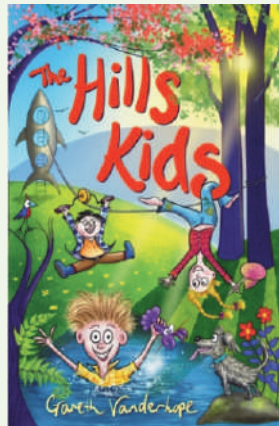
Cost: \$10/week Enq. Sue - ph: 0402 079 432

Complete the crossword. Look at the pictures for clues.

S		N		
W		T		R
R			E	
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		E		

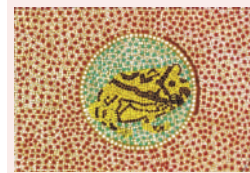
THE HILLS KIDS - NEW 8-12 YEAR OLD KIDS BOOK

British Academy Award-winning film sound designer Gareth Vanderhope grew up in the Dandenong Ranges in the 1970s and is known for his passion for the natural world through soundscapes. His free-spirited childhood, coupled with an eclectic community and connection with the forest environment, have inspired the wacky and exciting themes in The Hills Kids - the first book in a series for children aged 8 to 12.



Local historian Yvonne De Lacy also spoke at the launch. In an impassioned speech beside the babbling Sassafras Creek, she commented, "This book - Hills Kids - highlights the natural environment and the effect on children, how it nurtures their imagination and their growth and their curiosity as they grow up." She reflected upon the 1970s, the era that inspired the book, noting that post-war migration saw an influx of different nationalities to the Dandenongs and that many wonderful adventures occurred as people sought a common culture to share together.

Tiddalik the Frog: The Flood Maker



Long ago in the Dreamtime, Tiddalik, the largest frog ever known, awoke one morning with a huge thirst. He started to drink and drank until there was no fresh water

left in the world. Soon creatures everywhere were dying and trees were wilting because of the lack of moisture.

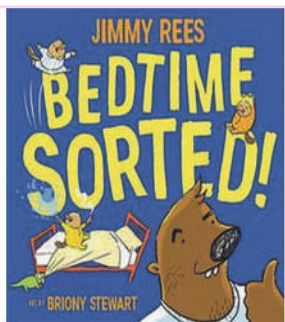
All the animals pondered about their terrible plight until a wise old wombat suggested that if Tiddalik could be made to laugh then maybe all the water would flow out of his mouth. This was a good idea the animals agreed.

The animals gathered by Tiddalik's resting place and tried for a long time to make him laugh, but it was in vain. The kookaburra told his funniest story, the kangaroo jumped over the emu and the lizard waddled up and down on two legs making his stomach stick out but Tiddalik was not amused.

Then when the animals were in despair, Nabunum the eel who was driven from his favourite creek by the drought slid up to the unresponsive frog and began to dance. As the dance got faster Nabunum wriggled and twisted himself into all sorts of knots and shapes to the amusement of Tiddalik. Tiddalik's eyes lit up and burst out laughing. As he laughed the water gushed out from his mouth and flowed away to replenish the lakes, swamps and rivers again.

Michael J Connolly

Munda-gutta Kulliwari Dreamtime Kullilla-Art
www.kullillaart.com.au



Bedtime Sorted

by Jimmy Rees

Who said bedtime was hard? Dad's got bedtime sorted! Lenny and the twins have a bath without water spilling over, brush their teeth without toothpaste spraying onto the mirror, and go to sleep straight after their story. Perfect! Dad can finally settle down to his dinner.

But then -My pyjamas don't match!! I'm too cold! I'm too hot! The window is making funny noises!! I'm not tired! From one of Australia's best-loved comedians and children's entertainers Jimmy Rees comes a story about the bedtime excuses that families everywhere will know all too well.

PUBLISHED
Affirm Press, July 2021

ISBN
9781922419064

FORMAT
Hardcover



Q. JOY IS A NEW GRANDMA AND WROTE IN SUGGESTING THERE ARE LOTS OF NEW TERMS FOR OLD IDEAS - AND THIS IS ABSOLUTELY THE CASE! SHE WONDERED 'IF SAFE CO-SLEEPING IS WHERE YOU LET YOUR BABY SLEEP WITH YOU?'

The reality of having a baby is that you will have broken sleep. It doesn't mean you are doing anything wrong, or that you need to 'fix' them, it is biologically normal for infants to wake multiple times in their first year and beyond, and is actually a protective mechanism for them. It is our job as parents to meet our children's needs in the night-time just as we do during the day. But it can be HARD!!

A. There has been a public health message that sharing a sleep space with your child is dangerous and will lead to you suffocating them. This is an important message for some families who due to their circumstances put them at higher risk, but does not need to be a blanket message for all families. Research shows that if the 'safe sleep seven' principles are followed, the risk of SIDS is greatly reduced, and the proximity to their caregiver actually regulates the infants breathing. The biggest danger with the blanket messaging that co-sleeping is risky is that it can lead parents to fall asleep with their baby on a rocking chair or couch in an attempt to avoid 'co-sleeping'. This is still considered co-sleeping, but

is much, much less safe, with a higher likelihood that the infant will fall between crevices and cushions and suffocate. My thought is that even if your preference is for your infant to sleep in their cot, it is safer to prepare your sleep space to be safe to share on those nights where you are just so exhausted you physically can't get up again to put them back in their cot so you can all get a little more sleep!

So, what are the safe sleep seven guidelines?

1. Neither caregiver in the sleep space smokes, either in the home or outside, and this needs to begin in pregnancy.
2. Both caregivers in the sleep space are sober - not under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or drowsy medications
3. The mother is breastfeeding - research shows that a breastfeeding mother naturally adopts the 'cuddle curl' with her knees bent, and her arm tucked under her head or pillow or curled around the baby's head. This naturally protects the baby, the mother can't roll over onto bub as her legs are bent, and another caregiver in the bed can't roll onto bub, as the mother's knees and elbow/arm is protecting them. By four months of age any responsible adult can safely bedshare with the infant.
4. The infant is healthy and was born at full term (greater than 37 weeks gestation)
5. The baby is placed on their back to sleep. This advice is consistent for putting babies to

sleep in all sleep environments

6. The baby is lightly dressed, and not swaddled. Your body temperature will help to regulate their temperature, and having them over dressed may lead to overheating, and greater risk of SIDS.

7. The infant is sleeping on a safe surface - the mattress is firm, there are no cracks or crevices for them to get stuck in, there are no loose cords nearby, no big drops they could fall down. The blanket covers only up to the mother and babies waists, not brought up over the baby's head. On cooler nights I wear a hoody to bed to keep me warm, and also allow for easy breastfeeding access.

I hope this has taken some of the stress or guilt out of co-sleeping for you, and helps you to make an informed choice.

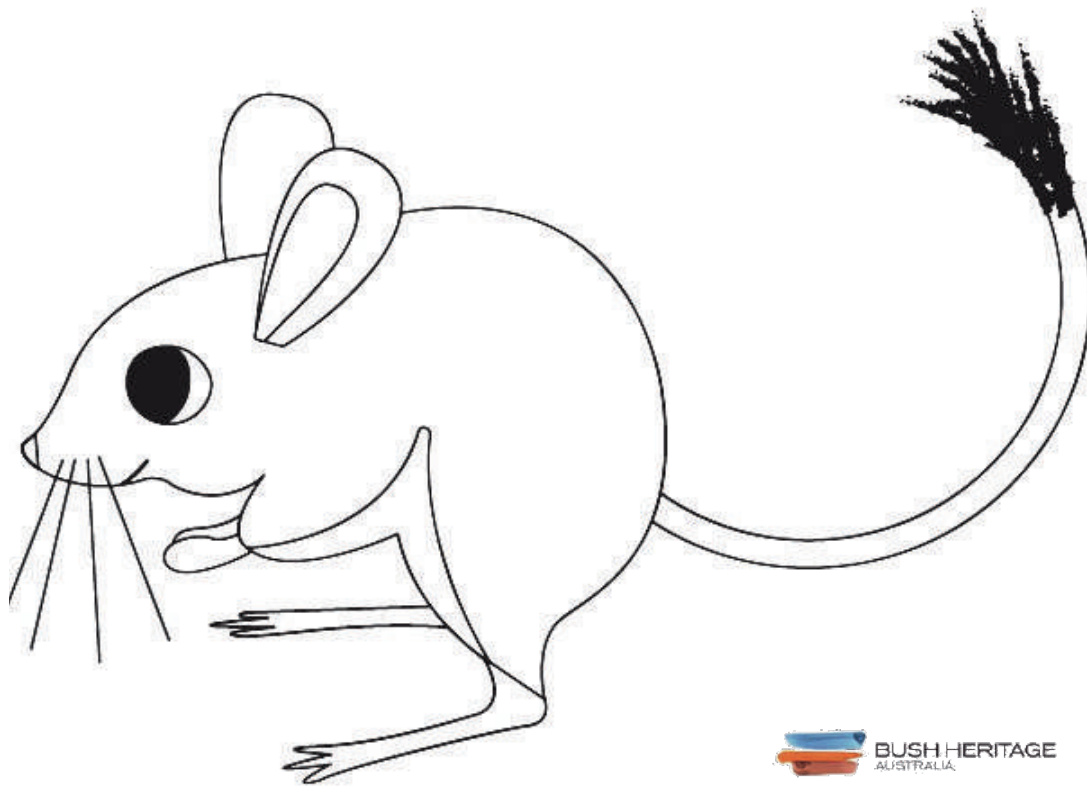
Whilst I was contemplating if co-sleeping was right for our family, I sought lots of resources and found the websites of Dr. James McKenna and La Leche League International very useful. I revisited them whilst writing this piece, and the image is from the first website listed below.

www.cosleeping.nd.edu

www.llli.org/the-safe-sleep-seven/



Hh is for Hopping Mouse



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BABY REFRESHER COURSE for grandparents

- * asking, 'How can I help?' is truly appreciated
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- * back to sleep even for naps
- * no bottles in crib
- * avoid electronic toys
- * adding cereal to bottle won't help baby sleep longer
- * no honey before 1yr of age
- * no blankets in crib
- * baby-wearing is awesome

What has to be broken before you can use it?

an egs

What begins with T, finishes with T, and has T in it?

A teapot





Jackson Taylor,
Local State MP,
Bayswater

In some good news the \$250 Power Saving Bonus has been extended until 30 June.

This has been a very popular one! Last year we started giving \$250 payments to Victorians doing it tough to help with their energy bills. And now, we've extended the deadline for applications. The extension will provide support for eligible households who have yet to receive the payment. Households receiving payments through a range of different concession types may be eligible. For more go to compare.energy.vic.gov.au or call 1800 000 832

I wanted to briefly provide an update on our support for our healthcare system. The Premier recently announced a big boost to support the ongoing Omicron response where an additional \$1.4 billion was committed for more ambo's, more respiratory clinics, more PPE and more care where it's needed. The surge allowance for frontline doctors, nurses and ambo's has been extended too. The State Government will continue to support frontline workers and our healthcare system to support care for locals and every Victorian.

Quick Updates on local issues and State Government funded projects:

- There are now 17 projects underway or delivered as part of the Boronia Revitalisation Program, including nearly 50 grants for upgrades to business facades across the CBD (over \$300,000 in total) including the business pictured, work to



Boronia Re-vitalisation launch

brighten up the arcades, the Boronia Big Flix Festival due to start in March and construction of a new streetscape in Erica Ave in the coming months;

- \$14,000 for minor upgrades at Colchester Park Pre-School;
- Planning work on the major expansion of Angliss Hospital nearly finalised;
- Great to meet new Principal David Orlandi at The Basin Primary;
- Work is set to start on the new Senior Learning Building at St Bernadette's Primary;
- Final designs continuing to progress on the new Knox library at Knox Shopping Centre;
- Subsidised solar panels, batteries and reverse cycle AC's are still available for eligible households, go to solar.vic.gov.au for more and

start saving on your power bills;

- Subsidised three year old kinder now in Knox

Also, a quick reminder that if you are looking for a new job, looking to upskill or want to change career? Free TAFE offers great career options across Victoria. Whether you're interested in vet nursing, construction, or education - you can find your future at TAFE with 60 free courses, by going to freetafe.vic.gov.au

I wanted to also remember, that on the 22nd of April 2020 four heroes would never return home. That date forever devastatingly etched in the hearts of all Victorians as a day of significant loss and tragedy. That day and every day we remember Leading Senior Constable Lynette Taylor, Senior Constable Kevin King, Constable Josh Prestney and Constable Glen Humphris. It was a privilege and an honour to pay respect to their service as all Victorians continue to mourn the loss of each of these four heroes in blue taken too soon and in the line of duty at a State Memorial recently. Nobody should go to work and not return, everyone deserves to come home safe. That these four Police officers did, whilst keeping us safe, is devastating. These four heroes truly are the best of us. As are their Police and Emergency Services family. Thank you for your service.

As always, that's all for now, until next time - stay well!

You can call my office on 9738 0577, email me at Jackson.Taylor@parliament.vic.gov.au or pop into the office at Mountain High Centre, Bayswater. And for any further you can search 'Jackson Taylor MP' for more and to follow me on Facebook.

Grants for local clubs now open

The Leisure Minor Capital Works Grant Scheme (LMCWGS) provides funding of up to \$10,000 to local leisure and sporting organisations who wish to undertake facility improvement projects on land owned or managed by Council.

We are pleased to advise that the funding ratio for the LMCWGS for 2022 has increased from 50:50 to 75:25. This means that Council will now fund 75% of the project.

We encourage clubs and organisations who have been impacted by COVID-19 to apply for the grant in 2022.

Applications are now open and close on 15 March 2022. See our knox.vic.gov.au for more information.

To discuss your project and to check your eligibility, please contact the Leisure Contracts and Project Officer, Rhonda Snijders at Knox Council.

This new product uses approximately 95%

REDCycle soft plastics, with the remaining 5% using other recycled materials. So for example, in 20kgs of pavement pour, there will be approximately 19kgs of soft plastic. Using the standard weight of the plastic bag, this equates to approximately 4,750 pieces of soft plastic that have been diverted from landfill.

New recycled footpaths - Knox

We have successfully trialled it in our new footpaths along Bergins Rd, Rowville. It will be also be used for new footpaths along Napoleon Rd and Burwood Highway, and hopefully more projects in the future.



We are excited to introduce recycled products into our roads and pavement programs as part of

our commitment to sustainability and reducing our carbon footprint.



At Knox Over50s we are a very friendly and sociable group who normally meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month from January to November. We provide guest speakers, day and overnight trips, a book club, visits to Boronia Cinema, coffee mornings, regular lunches at different locations around Knox and morning melodies.

We were able to hold our first meeting of 2022 at Club Kilsyth on Tuesday, 25th January.

Our first speaker of the year was Club member, Dorothy Black, who read extracts from her autobiography. We were absolutely fascinated by tales of her early life in England and amazing variety of travel destinations.

In February we heard from Wendy Miles, a representative of BetterHealth Services.

Our March meeting will be our Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday the 22nd.

At this stage, we envisage holding all of our 2022 meetings

at Club Kilsyth.

In the meantime, our Club trip to Bright was the highlight for March and Committee members are working with increasing optimism on the return to our other regular activities, as listed above. Weather permitting, we are now able to continue with walks around Lewis Park on the third Monday of each month.

Upcoming plans for special events include a trip to the Bendigo Art Gallery in May to see "Graceland - The Home of Elvis Presley"; and later in the year, "Gems of Jazz" in August and "Some Enchanted Evening" in October.

We have a monthly newsletter (Knox Natters Matter) which will keep you up to date with the many fun social activities available.

If you feel you may be interested in joining our group, please contact Jill (on 9801 4363) for further information.

We look forward to hearing from you or, more importantly, seeing you in the near future.



THE GULLY MARKET
OPEN EVERY WEEKEND
OUR GULLY MARKET FEATURE WILL NOW BE IN APRIL

Farewell, 2021- Our Covid Stories

Our committee members work hard in seeking creative ideas to enhance our newspaper in order to promote pride and equity in our community.

A few of us were sitting in the library back in November and thought that we could each share a small personal story of our experiences as we emerged from the Covid lockdowns. It's not important how big or small the story, but rather a matter of the thoughts, feelings and actions of ourselves and of those who support and love us.

To start with, I am happy that I could share some of my story with the community.

2021 is probably the hardest year in my life but was also the most productive time as well. Although I had a list of resolutions ahead for the year, it turned out to be harder to keep myself on track with those predetermined goals. Some things were right out of my control. My best friend suffered from severe mental health issues, my loved one had much physical pain, and I had to really fight to secure a job while keep on working on my CPA qualification. The jobs I applied for just turned me down again and again; I had committed 70 or more hours per week to study for improving myself.

However, I do feel pity for organisations that do

not consider not-for-profit work as valid experience. I made every effort to improve my professional skills and knowledge as a voluntary treasurer. I am very proud of being part of the volunteer team that is passionate and strongly committed to improving our community.

It is not really easy for me to share these things with others. However, I believe that there are hundreds like me who also have their dreams, struggling to cope with Covid effects, while meanwhile working hard to achieve their life and family goals. I hope I am allowed to say here I am as proud of all of these others as of myself, because we have overcome so many setbacks and pains to stand in front of 2022.

Having said that, I believe my own 2022 will be great or at least a bit better than 2021. I will keep on applying for jobs that I desire. I will also pick up my German language again. I'll probably run the Melbourne Marathon; I did similar runs back in my home country, nearly seven years ago now. If anyone is interested, you are welcome to join me. Contact me at: contact@bbc.org.au

Last but not least, I want to say that I feel grateful for the opportunity to work with our lovely committee members and our many Volunteers. I hope you all keep enjoying your own volunteer work and make the best of your 2022!

Treasurer of BBCN Evelyn Li



Purple Day, 26 March, is a global initiative dedicated to raising epilepsy awareness,

dispelling myths, and increasing support to those affected. Founded in 2008 by nine-year-old Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia, Canada, the Purple Day concept was born out of Cassidy's own struggles with epilepsy, her motivation to get people talking about the condition, and her desire to let those impacted by seizures know that they are not alone. Cassidy named the day 'Purple Day' after the internationally recognised colour for epilepsy, lavender.

Since that time, Purple Day has grown into a much loved and supported national awareness day with thousands of people across Australia rallying their private, academic and corporate communities to raise much needed awareness and funds for those affected by epilepsy.

This Purple Day, we ask our supporters to stand together with us and help us achieve our goals. Whether it be through joining a community fundraiser, hosting your own event, purchasing merchandise, or encouraging your school or community organisation to get involved, every little bit counts.

For some ideas on how you can get involved, visit www.epilepsy.org.au



Harmony Week includes 21st March, which is the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Harmony Day is intended to celebrate the cohesive and inclusive nature of Australia and promote a tolerant and culturally diverse society. Initially celebrated in 1999, Harmony Day coincides with the UN's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which was established in 1966 with the aim of eradicating racism and racially-fuelled hate crime.

Harmony Day is represented by an orange ribbon, and participants are encouraged to wear orange due to connotations of social communication, freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect. Australia prides itself on being a multi-cultural society, with figures showing that nearly half of all Australians were born overseas, with the country seeing a high volume of migration every year. On top of this, more than 70 Indigenous languages are spoken in Australia and it has a very rich tribal heritage.

The continuing message of Harmony Day is 'Everybody Belongs' and its annual observance aims to encourage inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural background, and celebrate core Australian values.

ABS stats from 2016 indicate that 29% of the population of Boronia were born overseas, and it is 14% for The Basin.

We welcome, encourage and invite those born overseas to share their personal stories and reflections with all of our readers. Please email us at: contact@bbc.org.au

William Matthews Funerals

45 Cave Hill Rd, Lilydale

24 HOUR SERVICE - ALL AREAS

Despite the current COVID-19 outbreak and restrictions we can still hold funerals within the Government Guidelines

Live streaming of funerals is available to accommodate those unable to attend.



Before you decide call
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9739 6868

www.williammatthewsfunerals.com.au
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED N.F.D.A. Member



**Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Australia**

The team at Big Brothers Big Sisters Australia (BBBS) are well aware that the mental wellbeing of many young people in the district of Boronia and surrounding suburbs has been severely impacted, and this will continue well after the pandemic is over.

In 2021, Headspace's mental health services in Melbourne's outer east reported an estimated 50 per cent rise in referrals for young people who have been admitted to an emergency department because of a mental health crisis.

In Melbourne's outer east, Headspace's mental health service for young people, reported in 2021 having seen an estimated 50 per cent rise in referrals for young people who have been admitted to a hospital emergency department because of a mental health crisis.

Many young people are waiting longer to seek



support because of the pandemic. Many are in crisis by the time they reach out.

Research has shown that mentoring and the establishment of a one-on-one relationship with a positive adult role model, is one of the most effective ways to support the wellbeing of young people.

The early intervention and preventative approach of targeting young people who are at risk of disengaging from the community not only has a profound, lifelong impact on the individual, but it

also contributes to improved outcomes for the wider community.

With over 40 years providing long term mentoring in Australia, Big Brothers Big Sisters has a long history of establishing and supporting mentoring relationships which have made a real difference in the lives of young people.

BBBS is part of the world's largest volunteer supported mentoring networks operating out of 14 countries. The long-term, intensive, one-to-one mentoring programs are designed to respond to the individual needs of young people aged between 7 and 17 years.

In 2021, supporter of BBBS and local Member for Bayswater, Jackson Taylor expressed interest in bringing the program to the Boronia community. We are now delighted to announce that we have received funding from the Victorian State Government to make this happen.

BBBS is now recruiting Volunteers to become mentors for local young people. volunteers receive full training and support from our professional staff. Plus a potentially life changing friendship!

KNOX FESTIVAL CELEBRATES COMMUNITY LIFE

THE LARGEST ANNUAL EVENT ON THE KNOX EVENTS CALENDAR IS BACK WITH THE RETURN OF THE KNOX FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY 5 MARCH AT WALLY TEW RESERVE IN FERNTREE GULLY.

The daytime program, from 10am to 5pm, will feature stage performances, arts play, kids' activities, amusements, stalls, food vendors, roving performers and interactive workshops.

A highlight of this year's event will be the extended twilight program from 5pm to 10pm, featuring live music, amusements, food trucks and a fireworks finale.

Knox City Council Mayor, Cr Susan Laukens said it was fantastic to once again be able to come together as a community for the major event.

"I invite everyone to come along and enjoy the Knox Festival, a free community event for the people of

Knox and beyond to come together and celebrate community life," she said.

Family activities include interactive workshops, thrilling rides, arts play, amazing stage programs and 'come and try' spaces for children to have a go at cricket, football, netball, tennis and soccer.

The community stage will feature a range of our local performers, multicultural organisations, school groups and other creative organisations.

There will also be a canopy stage featuring a jam-packed program of singer-songwriters, buskers, folk bands and other awesome music.

A food court will be located right next to the canopy stage, while a global kitchen will offer delightful dishes presented by our local multicultural groups.

The Knox Festival is on Saturday 5 March from



10am-10pm at Wally Tew Reserve in Ferntree Gully.

This is a COVIDSafe event in line with current Victorian rules for outdoor events.

Follow Knox Arts and Events on Facebook and Instagram for more information and exciting program updates.

**Nick
WAKELING MP**
STATE MEMBER FOR FERNTREE GULLY



Unit 4, 91 Dorset Road, Ferntree Gully 3156 nick.wakeling@parliament.vic.gov.au
03 9758 6011 nickwakeling.com.au /NickWakeling

IN SEARCH OF THE REFOUND - the 1938 Kyeema Disaster

The Kyeema disaster in 1938 when a DC-10 passenger plane slammed into Mount Dandenong on an unusually foggy day in October was at the time Australia's worst civil aviation accident. Responsible for the death of eighteen passengers and crew, it would result in important safety recommendations that would reshape Australian domestic air services with the creation of the Civil Aviation Authority. The new body would be given increased resources and policing powers, making it increasingly safer for the nascent aviation industry.

The crash site itself left a scar on the Western face of the mountain due to the impact and the resulting fires. But Mother Nature is a wonderful thing and she and time both heal. So well in fact, that 40 years later it was discovered that the record-keeping was not as detailed or accurate as expected and the exact location of the original site had been lost.

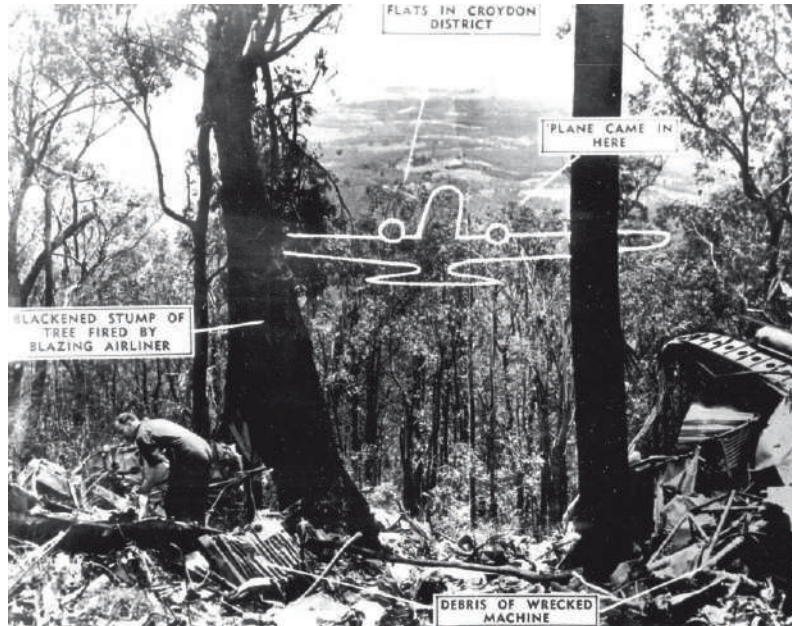
In the early 1970s questions were being asked and were unable to be answered by the Department of Civil



Aviation's Investigation Branch due to incomplete records of the crash. A team led by

Macarthur Job was tasked with righting these discrepancies.

Thanks to leaf litter build-up, bush fires and regrowth over the years the mountain wasn't eager to give up its secrets too easily. So, using original search material documents, local knowledge in the guise of ex Forestry Commission workers and archive photos from The Herald and The Sun newspapers taken of the crash site, the team were able to determine the point of impact in the form of two trees still standing, matching the old photos, and a unique stump that confirmed some of the original but vague bearings from the 1938 report. They even unearthed molten aluminium chunks and various



small items left behind from 40 years previous, such as bolts, seat springs and an engine valve.

With the original site mystery solved, a stone memorial was erected to celebrate the 40th anniversary not long after, and still stands today, with an additional plaque added in 2003 identifying the eighteen victims.

An accident such as that, if it happened today (albeit in clearer conditions) I would be able to witness and hear from my backyard in Boronia.

On this realization, I decided to see if I would still be able to find some traces of the crash another forty years after the original rediscovery.

Having some spare time during my summer break, I made my way up the mountain nice and early to beat the heavy holiday tourist traffic, which I did but unfortunately caught all the early morning holiday cyclists instead.

The site, thanks to the previous expedition was easy to find, the memorial cairn is located only a stone throw from the Bourke's Lookout carpark. Opposite the memorial is a very informative notice board packed with interesting data on the crash and subsequent studies.

Behind the memorial cairn is a well-worn and winding skinny track. I followed this down the steep incline before I checked my bearings and realized I had descended too far. My inappropriate footwear trying hard to keep a hold on whatever rock I could find purchase on, what, to my mind was a 45-degree angle. Thank goodness for the saplings that I grabbed hold of to stop the snowball effect of me wiping out whatever lay below me.

This of course meant the hard slog back up again. That's when I noticed something just off the path. Two round pine poles jutting out of the ground.

I recognized it as the "Kyeema" Crash Site sign I had seen in my research but hadn't to this point been able to find. I had mistakenly assumed it was part of the notice board display up higher.

The wooden sign that virtually pinpointed the site had been removed for repair, taken as a souvenir or vandalized, I don't know, but the posts remained with bolts intact leading me to think the latter.

Getting my bearings and using photos on my phone from the book *The Kyeema Disaster* by the aforementioned Macarthur Job, I found myself staring straight at one of the trees used to pinpoint the original crash site.

I found two of the three landmarks from the crash identified in the 1978 expedition. Though they had been worn down by age and decay, there was still enough left to make a match and positively identify them. I was quite proud of myself. Knowing that in a few short years even these last remaining pieces of evidence will vanish into the ground, at least I had had a chance to touch an important piece of local and national history.

There is one lingering question I couldn't find an



answer to. If all the tall buildings in the city have red flashing lights to warn aircraft, why doesn't the towers on Mount Dandenong?

DOES ANYONE KNOW?

Danny Nolan

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Sports upgrades all underway

Some of the biggest commitments I made during the last election were sports upgrades across Knox to improve facilities and help our sports clubs build a stronger community.

Excitingly, all these projects are now either complete or underway.



One of the first projects to be completed in Boronia was new floodlights at Tormore Reserve (picture),

home of Boronia Hawks Football Netball Club and Boronia Cricket Club. These have been used for a couple of seasons now and I've had some great feedback on how they've helped improve women's participation by allowing football games to be played after the men on Saturday.

Just a bit further up Boronia Rd, at Boronia Bowls Club (pictured), I was pleased to have helped secure \$15,000 to assist in upgrading their deck which has allowed disabled and elderly members

to access the club more easily.

The deck has been put to great use this summer with barefoot bowls events and BBQs being held every Friday evening. If you haven't been already, it's well worth the visit.

One of the largest projects in the area that I committed to is the new Knox Netball Centre, which will soon be completed.

COVID has caused some delays, but progress has still been made on building two new indoor courts, seating for 300 spectators, an extra 180 car parks and a general facelift.

On an average weekend, the centre in Ferntree Gully hosts over 6,000 players, including from teams in The Basin and Boronia.

I secured \$4m of federal funding to kickstart the upgrades and the state government and Knox Council are also making significant contributions with council managing the construction.

In addition to this, other sports that are now underway or complete include:

- Lighting upgrades at Ferntree Gully Bowls - complete.
- Female changerooms at Rowville Knights Football Club - complete.
- New pavilion at Lakesfield Reserve, Rowville - complete.



• New community hub and pavilion at Fairpark Reserve, Ferntree Gully - construction underway.

• Lighting upgrades at Carrington Park, Knoxfield - complete.

I will always fight for better local sporting facilities because I believe they benefit the entire local community.

Now that we're out of lockdown it's been great to get down and finally see all these upgrades being put to good use.

The Queen's Jubilee Tree Planting Grants

Non-profit community groups are invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EoI) in obtaining funding under Planting Trees for The Queen's Jubilee, a new program to celebrate The Queen's Jubilee in 2022.

Non-profit community groups are eligible to apply for grants between \$2,500 and \$20,000 for a tree planting commemoration. Up to 10 fully funded projects are available in our electorate of Aston.

The eligibility guidelines and EoI form for this program can be found via: <https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs>

Submitted EoI forms will then be analysed by a local consultative committee which I will chair. Please note that submission of an EoI is only for the consultative panels consideration and is not an application to the program.

If your submission is identified as a priority project which appears to meet the program guidelines, you will then be invited to submit a formal application for funding to the Department of Industry Business Hub, for their approval.

Please take note of the dates which have been set for processing from my office as they are different to the dates on the Business Hub site. We like to be "first in", so our projects are prioritised first.

• Expressions of Interest must be received by my office by 5pm 4 March 2022

• All applicants will be informed by my office before 11 March 2022

• Priority applicants will be supplied with a link & required to submit a formal application through the Business Hub by 25 March 2022

If your project involves using a Knox Council site, you may wish to discuss it with the Council first.

Should you have any enquiries regarding your eligibility to the program you are encouraged to call 13 28 46. My office will be happy to assist with any queries on the EoI process.

Alan TUDGE MP
Federal Member for Aston

f tudgeMP e alan.tudge.mp@aph.gov.au
9887 3890 www.alantudge.com.au

Real Action For Knox

SCAMWATCH - Remote Access Scams

Remote access scams try to convince you that you have a computer or internet problem and that you need to buy new software to fix the problem.

How this scam works

The scammer will phone you and pretend to be a staff member from a large telecommunications or computer company, such as Telstra, the NBN or Microsoft. Alternatively they may claim to be from a technical support service provider.

They will tell you that your computer has been sending error messages or that it has a virus. They may mention problems with your internet connection or your phone line and say this has affected your computer's recent performance. They may claim that your broadband connection has been hacked.

The caller will request remote access to your computer to 'find out what the problem is'.

The scammer may try to talk you into buying unnecessary software or a service to 'fix' the computer, or they may ask you for your personal details and your bank or credit card details.

The scammer may initially sound professional and knowledgeable—however they will be very persistent and may become abusive if you don't do what they ask.

You don't have to be a Telstra or Microsoft customer to be called by these scammers. You don't even have to own a computer!

Protect yourself

* Never give an unsolicited caller remote access to your computer.

* Never give your personal, credit card or online account details over the phone unless you made the call and the phone number came from a trusted source.

* If you receive a phone call out of the blue about your computer and remote access is requested – hang up – even if they mention a well-known company such as Telstra.

* Remember that you can still receive scam calls even if you have a private number or have listed your number on the Australian Government's Do Not Call Register. Scammers can obtain your number fraudulently.

* Make sure your computer is protected with regularly updated anti-virus and anti-spyware software, and a good firewall. Research first and only purchase software from a source that you know and trust.

If you have fallen victim to a scam or you receive a lot of unsolicited emails and phone calls consider changing your email address and phone numbers.

HAVE YOU BEEN SCAMMED?

If you have given remote access to your computer, or you fear that your computer has been hacked, seek help or advice from a qualified and reputable computer technician.

If you think you have provided your account details to a scammer, contact your bank or financial institution immediately.

We encourage you to report scams to the ACCC via the report a scam page. This helps us to warn people about current scams, monitor trends and disrupt scams where possible.

We also provide guidance on protecting yourself from scams and where to get help.

Spread the word to your friends and family to protect them.



Maggie Hawkes, has been awarded the honour of being the "Knox City Volunteer of the Year 2022".

This is in recognition of her outstanding dedication to serving the Knox community for many years.



Maggie was nominated for the award by her sister Lois Bannister. Some may see retirement as a time to kick back and relax, but Maggie has actively worked to make the world a better place. Many local organisations have benefited from her enthusiasm, her energy and her fundraising efforts, including Heathmont Bush Care, Friends of Sassasfras Creek, Habitat for Humanity, the Epilepsy Foundation and Vision Australia. Maggie is an active member of Boronia Lions Club, and serves as Vice Treasurer of the Knox branch of Victorian Masters Athletics. She has also volunteered in the emergency department of Angliss Hospital, providing comfort and support for patients.

This sheer diversity and breadth of Maggie's volunteering efforts is nothing short of outstanding. She can be a proud bearer of the "Knox City Volunteer of the Year 2022".

Maggie is also a member of the Committee of Management of this newspaper. She says,

"VOLUNTEERING HAS BEEN THE GENESIS OF MY LIFE. I REALLY HOPE THAT MY AWARD WILL INSPIRE OTHER FOLK TO START GETTING INVOLVED WITH THE MANY WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES ALL AROUND IN OUR COMMUNITY."

The wetlands will replace the unsafe, man-made dam that is currently on site and result in a better overall environmental outcome and improve the health of local waterways, including Blind Creek.

"Our priority is to create a wetlands environment that will support future populations of wetland birds – including the Blue-billed Duck – and is a place where they can thrive," Ms Forrest said.

"Once the new Knoxfield wetlands are complete, we want to see the population of wetland bird species in the area continue to grow."

For more information, visit: www.development.vic.gov.au/projects/knoxfield

Bradley Green, Senior Media Advisor, Development Victoria

Blue-billed Duck sightings reinforce need for new wetlands at Knoxfield

Recent sightings of two new Blue-billed Duck families at Development Victoria's Knoxfield site reinforces the need to replace the existing dam with a vibrant new wetlands system to ensure a safe breeding environment for these birds and other species.

The ducklings' presence was reported by the community last month and confirmed by ecologists working on behalf of Development Victoria, who continue to actively monitor their progress.

This is the second time since the Knoxfield development was announced and formal monitoring commenced, where there has been evidence of the ducks breeding at the existing dam on site.

Development Victoria's Group Head of Property

LAKE KNOX



Development, Penny Forrest said the ecologists are actively monitoring the ducks and, as a result, no works are planned which could impact any potential breeding.

"We plan to undertake a staged construction of the new wetlands to ensure these works don't impact the ducks and other species – especially during their breeding season," Ms Forrest said.

– especially during their breeding season," Ms Forrest said.

"We want to give the Blue-billed Duck and other species the best opportunity to thrive on site."

The new wetlands has been designed by a team of expert consultants, including ecologists, with the aim of providing improved safe breeding habitat for the ducks and other species - and also to be enjoyed by the local community.

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The Basin 50 YEAR TIME CAPSULE Display
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You are invited to share in a byo everything picnic
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see p.4 for more information



THE BAYSWATER SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

is situated at 790 Mountain Highway, Bayswater. The club can be contacted by phone on 97205795. The club is looking to add to its membership and former members of the Bellbird Club will be most welcome to attend.

Come along for bit of fun and a laugh with a happy group of over 50s.

Club activities include

Tuesdays: Cards (canasta) from 12.30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursdays: Bingo from 12.30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Fridays: Carpet Bowls from 1 p.m. until 3.30 p.m.

Other activities include:

Monthly movie days at the club.

Day trips and excursions.

A monthly light lunch day.

The hall is for hire, has a good stage and full kitchen facilities.

The Centre is home to a monthly Makers market.

Operating under the auspices of the Knox Council, the Club helps out with local charity organisations.

If you are over 50 and looking to join a group of friendly people then you will find a warm welcome awaiting you.



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CRAFT GROUP...

Meets from 11.30am each Friday at the church. Bring your lunch and your own craft project - although working on ANY craft is optional! You are welcome to drop in for a cuppa and a chat. The kettle is always on.

MUSIC GROUP FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS AND THEIR CARERS...

Is held each Friday from 9.30am during school terms.

Please call Sue on 0402 079 432 for more information.

OUR NEXT MAKERS AND GROWERS MARKET...

will be held on Saturday, 2nd April.

To book a stall or make enquiries contact irenesmith2@bigpond.com

For more information about us check out www.facebook.com/BoroniaRdUnitingChurch, our Facebook page, or phone the church office on 9762 6732.

TRULY TOUGH

What does it mean to be truly tough - truly resilient? Toughness isn't about showing people you can rule over them, or that you are the best at everything! True toughness comes with having a positive attitude when things don't go well, acceptance of our lot, adjustment to the situation and getting on with it. All of us at times face tough times, some more than others. Right now, we are all facing tough times - do we feel positive about our future? Are we accepting the situation we find ourselves in? Are we adjusting well to the current situation and moving on? Tough questions!!

Who could be a better example of being truly tough than our 2022 Australian of the Year - Dylan Alcott! Dylan was born in Melbourne on 4 December 1990, with a tumour wrapped around his spinal cord, which was successfully removed when he was three weeks old but left him a paraplegic needing a wheelchair. He began his school life in America, then attended Brighton Grammar School from Year 6. He went on to

the University of Melbourne and became a teacher. Other achievements have been mostly sporting - swimming at state level, and wheelchair basketball and tennis at world level winning a number of gold medals. Also, he was awarded the Graham Kennedy Award for Most Popular New Talent, and gives promotional lectures. He started life with seemingly limited prospects, and experienced consistent bullying, but that has not stopped him! He has self-belief, self-acceptance, and has done more than adjust to his situation, he has triumphed over it!

Speaking of true toughness, in his second letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 11, the apostle, Paul talks of his experiences during the tough times of his life - shipwreck, being stoned and beaten, continual imprisonment. He continues though: "...I learned that in whatsoever state I am, to be content." And in his letter to the Philippines Chapter 4, Paul says: "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength!" Very comforting!

Beth Butler

WORLD TURMOIL IS FULFILLING BIBLE PROPHECY

Jesus said that before his second coming - "Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And great earthquakes shall in in divers places and famines and pestilences ... Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth" - Luke 21

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Spacious Family home in premier location

This tastefully renovated 4 bedroom or 3 and a study home is situated on a generous 710 Sqm block. The practical floor plan includes formal lounge, a large family room separated by an on trend kitchen featuring stainless steel appliances. The master bedroom boasts a full ensuite and a walk in wardrobe. Ducted heating as well as several air condition units add to the comfort as do the quality floor coverings and the spacious enclosed entertaining area.

14/49 Democrat Drive, The Basin
Sold \$765,000

month we achieved a great result. I could not recommend him highly enough to anyone else who is looking to sell, buy or rent property in the future.

Steve Kruger