

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK: 16 - 22 MAY

THANK YOU

Society is enhanced by the generosity, will and actions of volunteers. Whether this be a formal commitment to an organisation over a long period, just randomly helping out a neighbour, or in a clean up after a natural disaster. Many organisations, for example CFA, SES and other community groups could not survive without volunteers.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK is a time to say a BIG thank you to all those volunteers who contribute to our communities and help those in need.

The State of Volunteering Victoria Report 2020 states that 2.3 million people volunteer in Victoria each year. It is estimated that collectively these volunteers generated over \$58 billion worth of benefits across Victoria.

This Community Newspaper is run entirely by volunteers in service to our community. Around one hundred people contribute as writers, editors, committee members, delivery walkers and drivers, collectively giving some 2000 hours of work per year to publish and deliver the 11 issues to your home.

- SCOUTS
- SES
- CFA
- CHURCHES
- FOOD BANKS
- SOCIAL CLUBS
- DOG WALKERS
- READING BUDDIES
- EMERGENCY RELIEF
- COMMUNITY HOUSES
- COMPANION PHONERS
- MIGRANT SUPPORTERS
- DISABILITY SUPPORTERS
- CHARITY EVENT SUPPORT
- SEEING EYE DOG PUPPY CARERS
- WHO WILL YOU PUT IN HERE?
- OP SHOPS
- MENTORS
- SPORTS CLUBS
- DAY CENTRES
- SERVICE CLUBS
- LEARNING CLUBS
- COMMUNITY MEALS
- VOLUNTEER DRIVERS
- FRIENDS OF ... GROUPS
- COMMUNITY VISITORS
- TELEPHONE SUPPORT LINES
- WHO SHOULD GO IN HERE?

MAY ALSO BRINGS US TO OUR NATIONAL SORRY DAY (26 MAY), AND TO NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK (27 MAY - 3 JUNE) - THE THEME IS "BE BRAVE, MAKE CHANGE".

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RESIGNATION

After some 300 issues over 30 years, I tendered my resignation from the role of Editor of Boronia and The Basin Community News at our recent AGM.

This does not mean I am finished with the paper. I will continue my editorials for as long as I am able, provide support where I can and work to get our photos and graphics up to a best possible standard.

I have enjoyed the role of Editor and will always be grateful for the support of many members of our diverse community, both professionally and personally.

My reason for resigning?

Simply put, it was past time. In fact, it had become time to move on about three years earlier when I became primary carer to my MND afflicted wife, the love of my life. For a time it seemed that the flexibility provided by Zoom would enable me to manage both roles, but that proved to be an illusion, as chronic sleep deprivation and grief took their inevitable toll. My colleagues made helpful and hopeful efforts, but in the end, despite their achievements, there was only one compelling course available.

Lessons to be learnt.

In an earlier editorial I talked about being prepared which included having an emergency plan if the existing plan went pear-shaped. I had not thought about the risks inherent in any cooperative enterprise. But there it was – a descent into chaos in the absence of a coherent protection plan. Instead, it was a determination to keep this paper alive in our community that led to its survival.

Despite the solo nature of some parts of the editing process, and putting the paper together electronically, it is a very team oriented process. Over time this process evolves.

When I began editing and designing the BBCN with a very enthusiastic team, the layout process created cut and pasted sheets of paper for a wholly hands on experience. Then, on a Tuesday morning, a cyclist (me) pedalled into the still dark Heathmont shopping centre, stopping beside a dark BMW (Paul McPherson). A few quiet words and the cyclist handed over a large paper wrapped object before pedalling away into the darkness. Job done! Two days later the printed papers arrived at Pauline Brown's.

Well done, team.

John Mortimore

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**JUNE DEADLINE
SUNDAY 15 MAY**

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All Ads through
bbcن.org.au/place-an-ad/

June Issue Distrib. 26 May

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 preferably should be kept to 800 words maximum.

This community newspaper is run totally 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. We welcome your response to published articles, and request that such responses be courteous and objective.

If you would like to help, do get in touch, we use many skills.

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The political policy of the BBCN is strictly non-partisan.



Boronia & The Basin Community News

Published by Boronia and The Basin
Community News Inc.
PO Box 141 Boronia 3155

www.bbcن.org.au
contact@bbcن.org.au

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BBCN is indexed on Eastern
Regional Libraries' Website,
www.erl.vic.gov.au

Search: Boronia and The Basin
Community News

Search: Boronia and The Basin Community News

Design, Typsetting & Graphics

BBCN

Printing by Newsprinters, Wodonga

BBCN WEBSITE: bbcن.org.au

BBCN EMAIL: contact@bbcن.org.au

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If you live outside Boronia and The Basin and want to receive your copy of the paper – or perhaps you would like to have copies sent regularly to someone else – the annual subscription, to cover postage, is \$26 for anywhere in Australia. Just send us a message at contact@bbcن.org.au. The paper can also be accessed online at bbcن.org.au.



WALKING
THE
NEWS

Currently we have three permanent paper delivery rounds and one temporary round.

The Basin - permanent rounds:

- 1) Lachlan Road, Mercia Avenue (part), Bayview Crescent area - 116 papers
- 2) Democrat Drive, Gravenstein Cres area - 118 papers

Boronia - permanent rounds:

- 1) Herbert St, Devenish St (part) - 175 papers

Boronia - temporary round:

- 1) Area between Interman and Daffodil Roads - 140 papers

Flu vaccinations at Knox

The flu vaccine costs \$29 per dose.

Flu vaccines are given each year to protect against the most common strains of influenza. Eligible people may receive the flu vaccine for free.

Eligibility for free vaccination

People may receive the free flu vaccine if they are:

- children from 6 months old up to 4 years 11 months
- seniors aged 65 years or older
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- pregnant women
- people (at least 6 months old) with medical conditions that may increase the risk of flu complications, such as:
 - * severe asthma (with frequent hospital visits),
 - * lung, heart or kidney disease
 - * low immunity
 - * diabetes
 - * chronic neurological conditions
 - * blood disorders

You may need to provide evidence to get the free flu vaccine.

Book a flu vaccination

Any Knox resident can book a flu vaccination.

Council is running dedicated flu-only sessions run from April to May 2022.

<https://www.gobookings.com/au/clients/system/>

Flu vaccinations in the workplace

Our Immunisation Services Team can visit your workplace to offer flu vaccines to reduce illness and absenteeism.

We also provide other specific vaccines such as Hepatitis A & B, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Page 3 Bird

PACIFIC BAZA

(Photo credits: Steve Murray, eBird Australia)

Do random thoughts ever just pop into your head? Happens to me all the time, now before you say it's an age thing, I'm going to fire back at you that it's been happening for a long time. If it was just recent, I would be very worried. The purpose of me pointing this out is that suddenly and for no discernible reason the other day I just sorta thought, yeah, I want to describe the Pacific Baza (pronounced Barza,) this month to all you good people who take the time to read my rants.

I have only ever seen one Pacific Baza, just inland from South West Rocks on the NSW coast. Listed as rare in NSW, extremely rare south of Illawarra, I was only alerted to his presence by a Spangled Drongo harassing it big time for prey it had in its talons. Any reference to or derogatory comments about the author being a Drongo will be ignored.

Being the only member of it's genus in Australia, many Baza species are found throughout the world, it is a very odd- looking bird compared to all our other birds of prey. The oddest thing being the small black crest on its head but combined with the large yellow eyes and striking dark brown bars across its chest gives a first impression that the last type of bird you would expect it to be would be a raptor. But don't let appearances put you off, this is a highly specialised raptor who is adept at finding its prey in the rainforest canopy.



Absolutely outstanding at finding prey like Treefrogs, Mantids and Stick insects in the canopy of Rainforests, they can be observed

plunging headlong into foliage to extricate their victims.

Raptors and birds of prey usually have an ability to detect the slightest difference in the colours of their prey. This enables them to pick

out animals which rely on that camouflage to survive. Works for most predators but not this one. Anecdotal evidence, still to be authenticated scientifically, suggests they may imitate calls of treefrogs to pinpoint their approximate location then home in for the kill.

Pacific Baza's are monogamous and pairs mate for life, though outside the breeding season they remain in close proximity to each other but live separately. (No comments on that situation from your correspondent.) They are also renowned for spectacular aerial courtship displays with pairs seemingly locked together in a fatal embrace descending to earth before separating at the last moment then steeply ascending high up into the sky again.

Pacific Baza's can be found all up the east coast of the continent from about the Victorian-NSW border up to Cape York and across to the western Kimberley and rarely exceed 250kms inland from the coast. Normally shy and unobtrusive and difficult to locate, oddly enough they are sometimes quite approachable around human habitation, except in breeding season when they are quite raucous and stand out like a sore toe.

If reading an article on a bird like the Pacific Baza finds you considering chucking your lot in here in this rat race and spending the rest of your time chasing birds like this, you're not the only one, believe me. Oh well, we can only dream, can't we. Next month we'll be having a look at the 2 types of Catbird we have in Australia, the Spotted Catbird and the Green Catbird. If you reckon our Red Wattlebird and Little Wattlebirds sound like maniacs, they've got nothing on these 2 guys. Au revoir, until we meet again, next month.

Des Palmer

Important information

- Children under 9 receiving the flu vaccine for the first time need 2 doses, at least 4 weeks apart.
- Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has advised that you can have the flu vaccine and COVID-19 vaccine on the same day.

We encourage you to provide feedback on our immunisation service.



© Steve Murray 2018

Need help?

Email:

health.services@knox.vic.gov.au
and we will get back to you.

Or call our Health Services team on 9298 8000.

READERS' LETTERS

Regarding Knox Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025.

Knox Council did not follow its Community Engagement Policy, and its Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan in using an unverifiable online survey open beyond Australia of 724 responses with 580 anonymous, over six months, for the 24-hr cat curfew.

Council has not produced any results from its rate-payer funded 2020 sunset-to-sunrise pilot.

Council has not produced any scientific evidence or statistics for its claims, lifting opinion pieces from websites. Cat trap requests is not a statistic. Council's own figures show that around 83% of nuisance cats are not registered, they are homeless cats.

Council did not advertise, or consult the community that it was considering 24-hrs before Council voted on the 28th of June 2021.

3288 responses followed call-outs on change.org petitions after the 24-hr curfew was announced after June 28th. Council has hidden the many dissenting views, and also claims the high response was due to its sms messaging.

Council now claims this July response as 'feedback' and 'support for a curfew' when many support a night curfew, but not a lifetime lockdown.

With 24-hrs, all benefit is removed from cat-owner registrations, whereas Knox dogs have an Order to run off-leash in over 300 parks, reserves and sportsfields, and cat-owner regos pay for the annual dogs' party 'Pets in the Park'.

February 2022 Meeting shows Council plans to charge rate-payers more for enforcement of 24-hrs.

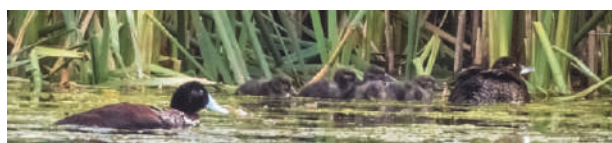
The Order states 'securely confined to the owner's premises at all times'. As written, this implies offence for a cat sitting in its unfenced front yard, or going to a vet.

June 2021 Meeting Agenda stated neighbours complaining about cats, not having to provide a statement and having their identities hidden.

Issues of community division, inequality, potential puppy-farm abuse, animal cruelty have arisen, and cage enclosures ruining gardens, trapping wildlife, and devaluing properties. The \$545 fines will impact the elderly, renters, and those struggling from the pandemic - when many adopted pets.

There is a current Victorian Ombudsman case, and now a Legislative Council e-petition 433 <https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/council/petitions/electronic-petitions/view-e-petitions/details/12/446>

Yours faithfully, Ashley Morgan - Shae



After listening to some of the Knox Council's online meetings it is my opinion that we don't need councillors. During the meetings I have listened to them congratulate each other on doing a great job and even in one incident praised a councillor on being articulate.

I can't think of one function that they perform that could not be delegated to the Shire CEO or employees. I did ask the council to let me know of any functions that they perform which could not be performed by shire employees - I never got an answer. For example, the Minister for Planning has delegated the function of approving building permits to councillors - this could be delegated to the CEO of a shire who then could be made accountable to the elected government of the day.

Too many levels of government?

We have a Federal Government for all of Australia. We elect a State Government to run the state, and the State Government has Regional Offices right across Victoria. The shires could come under the control of the relevant Regional Office which could then take into consideration the different needs of different localities.

It is also my opinion that as councillors create their own rules of governance and set the level of financial remuneration themselves surely this creates the possibility for corruption/conflict of interest within their ranks. After all they mostly campaign on the fact that they run a business or are a landlord in the area and are therefore the right person for the job!

I also believe that the Local Government Inspectorate is a toothless tiger. Apparently they can only investigate if a councillor has 'broken' one of their governance rules (see previous paragraph). By delegating the functions performed by councillors over to Shire employees it would make those employees accountable to the State Government.

I'm certainly not an expert on State Government but in my meagre capacity as a rate payer I firmly believe that councillors are superfluous to our needs and a waste of our money.

I would be interested in your views on this issue.

Yours sincerely, Anne Francis

EDITOR'S NOTE from The Local Government Inspectorate website:

The Inspectorate handles complaints related to breaches of the Local Government Act 1989 and plays an integral role in monitoring governance in councils across the state. To achieve this the Inspectorate has the broadest remit and powers under the Act to examine any matter related to council operations or investigate and prosecute offences.

Led by the Chief Municipal Inspector, the Inspectorate is responsive to issues which impact the sector and is focused on promoting best practice and encouraging the highest levels of accountability and transparency.

<https://www.lgi.vic.gov.au/integrity-agencies-and-what-they-do>

Thank you for the latest Boronia & The Basin Community News for April, 2022.

I note two notices for a session titled Reduce Your Food Waste to be held at Boronia Mall, Centre Stage. I will try and get there, however, I do have some comments to make.

In our household there is not a great amount of wasted food. The key areas are in fruit and bread. Taking fruit as an example, I have to buy three avocado pears to, hopefully get one edible pear. It is the same with some stone fruit, the display looks really good, but on cutting open a plum (for illustration) it will most likely be rotten from the stone outwards. That is often the case with apples as well. Oranges are, now mostly of such poor quality that they are no longer bought. What happened to the beautiful Valencia oranges we used to get? The same applies to grapes and bananas – most with the Panama disease that rots them from the inside, but the outer skin looks good. Open a punnet of raspberries and you regularly find damaged or mouldy berries hidden by the black absorbent pad in the bottom.

Back in the 1970s I was field testing cultivation machinery on an orchard north of Shepparton. The orchardist told me that the best quality fruit was sent to Sydney, second grade went to Brisbane and Melbourne sort of missed out.

I have been shopping for fruit and vegetables as far afield as Pelegrino's (now a lesser quality place called Ginnies) and at the Big Water Melon, both in High Street Road, Farmer Joe's in Boronia and Wantirna, a greengrocer in Heathmont and at Woolworths at Boronia Junction. Fruit from these shops can be rather fourth grade. I do not blame the shops, because they probably have no real choice. It is the same with cos lettuce and cherry tomatoes.

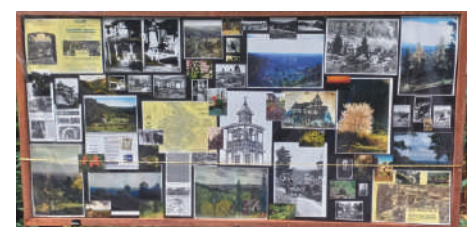
As for bread, I have had loaves of ciabatta bread that have become green with mould well before the use-by date on the packaging.

I also note that forty-five shops have received grants for improving their shop fronts – in the case of fruit and vegetables, it is the stock that requires drastic improvement.

Yours faithfully, Michael Allfrey.

UPDATE ON THE FERNDALE ARTICLE IN OUR APRIL ISSUE

Frances has now numbered all the photos and there is another board below with their explanations. She has done all this herself and has many memories of the old house.



*Thank you
- Lesley
Roberts*

Free

Flu vaccinations

Free flu vaccines are now available for eligible people including children aged six months to five years, seniors 65 years and older, pregnant women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and people with certain medical conditions.

Find out more knox.vic.gov.au/flu or phone **9298 8000**



knox
your city

Knox City Council's proposed 2022-23 budget invests in services and facilities to ensure Knox is a place where people and businesses can thrive.

Your feedback is welcome. Submissions close 29 May 2022
knox.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay



Registrations for 3 and 4 years kindergarten

NOW OPEN

Secure your place for 2023. Get started at knox.vic.gov.au/kindergarten or phone **9298 8000**

FReeZA - hands on event opportunities

- Join the Knox Live FReeZA Program; events by young people, for young people.
- Opportunities for 15 - 25 years to plan and manage live music and cultural events.
- Visit knox.vic.gov.au/freeza or phone **9729 7287**

Is an electric vehicle for me?

- Join this free webinar to learn more.
- Wednesday 15 June 2022 7pm - 8:30pm
- Register now evsinknox.eventbrite.com.au

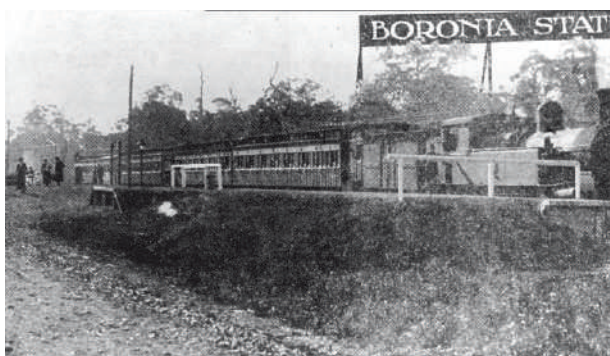
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Boronia Railway Station History

Part 2



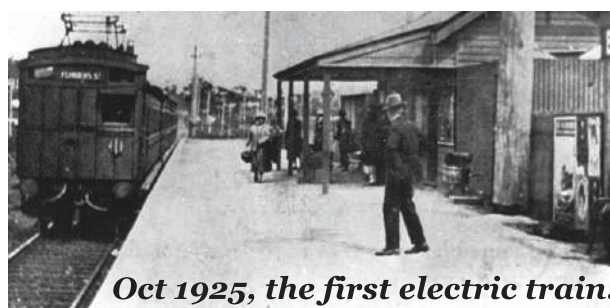
Station Opening June 1920

The Argus 30/12/1920 Inadequate accommodation at the Boronia Station

Fed Up writes as follows:- At the Boronia Railway station there are no conveniences of any description. Apparently, such unusual luxuries as tank for drinking water and sanitary purposes are considered as luxuries and the fact that it is impossible to obtain tickets at Prince's Bridge railway station, is surely no excuse for the discourteous abruptness with which inquiries are answered. Intended travellers are directed to apply on the opposite side under the clocks where upon they are told to apply at the Elizabeth Street entrance, and many miss their trains.

The Mountaineer September 1921

The railway station and the £6000 road are bringing our district into much prominence. The newly erected conveniences at the station are a great boon and the road when completed will give comfortable travelling between the Gully and Bayswater Road. We now have two stores and a church and a hall to follow soon.



Oct 1925, the first electric train.

The Knox Historical Society has been a great help putting together this insight into the Boronia Railways history. Ray Peace from the Society has supplied us with the photographs.

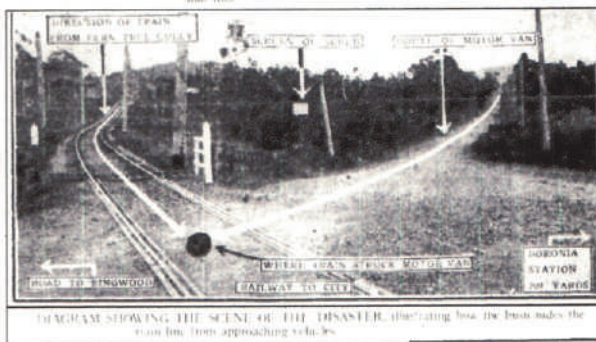
I would like to put it out there to our residents, if you have any further memories or photos relating to the opening and early years, the researchers at the Historical Society would love to hear from you, and especially if anyone has a photo of the grand opening.

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

Easter 1926 collision, 9 people killed.

This was the worst of its kind in Australia to that date. Nine people were killed and fifteen injured when a bus carrying picnickers returned home to the city after a day out at Ferntree Gully. The accident was also a watershed moment for the Scout movement who were praised for their courage and bravery.

It was reported that the reason the bus driver (who survived) didn't hear the train's whistle was because the passengers were singing too loud. The quiet little village of Boronia was thrust into the national spotlight, the ensuing inquest was more of an investigation of who was at fault; had the bus driver been drinking? Was the train driver going too fast or not paying attention? It was concluded that neither party was at fault. The Coroner Mr. Berriman expressed the opinion "that the crossing, upon which five roads converged, and at which portion of the rail track was hidden scrub, was very dangerous" There was no recommendation to install warning precautions.



The Mountaineer 1/5/1926

The line through Boronia was recently electrified and on holidays trains rush through in rapid succession crowded to the utmost.

The Age 7/11/1932 Boronia Railway Safe Blown Open

On Sunday at Boronia Railway station early in the morning thieves blew open the safe and stole about £3 in notes and silver. Entrance was gained by forcing the window of the office. A charge of gelignite was placed in the keyhole of the safe and the door blown open. A bicycle was also taken by the thieves, Ferntree Gully police are investigating.

through the museum.

There have been many additions and improvements since the beginning of Boronia Railway Station. This is just a snapshot of the early days and how the Station grew alongside the growth of the population of Boronia.

Just like the residents of early Boronia a hundred years ago, the way forward has not changed. We still have to lobby, and constantly encourage our members of Parliament and Local Councillors to work on our behalf to make our local facilities the best they can be.

Sari Cuce

The Argus 29th October 1934 Thieves at Railway Station

After having forced open the door of the Boronia Railway Station about 4.45am on Saturday, thieves removed the heavy safe from the office and wheeled it to the end of the platform in a barrow. They blew the safe open and obtained £2. The caretaker of the station was awakened by the sound of the explosion, but the thieves escaped.

The Herald 6/4/1937 Boronia Station Shelter

Railway commissioner replying to a complaint that an additional shelter was required by travellers, commissioner said present accommodation of a verandah, women's waiting room and an open shelter shed was considered adequate for the number of passengers using station.

The Herald 19/5/1943 Boronia Gloom

Sir I would like to endorse the remarks of "Boronia Cat" 12/5/1943 upon leaving railway station one is enveloped in impenetrable blackness and it is only the highly developed feline instincts that help to dodge the holes and sidestep the puddles that leads us along the path.

It is time something was done to relieve the situation even if it were only to restore the lamp at the railway crossing. Signed "Another Cat"



WE'D LIKE YOUR FEEDBACK

I enjoyed reading this: YES / NO

I'd like to know more about this: YES / NO

I enjoy articles about local history: YES / NO

I would like an article on:

.....

Take a photo of your response and send to us at: contact@bbcn.org.au

**FROM THE MAYOR,
CR SUSAN LAUKENS**

Speaking up for Knox

Last October, Council adopted its state and federal advocacy position to ensure our community has an elevated voice in the lead up to state and federal elections this year. All levels of government play a role in ensuring our community has access to education, jobs, housing, public transport, services and facilities, while safeguarding our future through adapting to climate change and reducing emissions. As Mayor, I've been meeting with our local state and federal Members of Parliament to discuss issues of importance to the community we all represent.

High on our priorities Council is seeking funding to provide extra kindergarten places, establish a new mental health service in Wantirna, build two social housing developments for women at risk of homelessness and upgrade some of our sporting infrastructure, including building a new hockey facility and improved recreation facilities at Lewis Park.

Meals on Wheels

Are you looking to volunteer in our community? Have you thought about volunteering your time to our Meals on Wheels program?

We are looking for more volunteers for this vital community service. Volunteers are needed to collect meals from Wantirna South to deliver to home of our older people around Knox. Bringing healthy meals to our residents is vital to ensuring that residents can stay at home, living independently. Your visit brings much joy to residents. Sometimes this visit is the only visit that some of our residents have. Many of our volunteers are students, retirees' unemployed working part-time or casually. Many have created

life- long friendships and connections.

For more information, please call 92988728 or register your interest online.

National Volunteers Week 16-22 May

A Massive thank you to all our volunteers in Knox!

This year's theme for Volunteers Week is Better Together. This is a wonderful time to celebrate the significant contribution volunteers make to our community. Volunteers in Knox contribute in so many different ways and roles, from sorting out donations at charity shops, to writing grant applications, coaching sporting teams, restoring bushland to driving our residents to important appointments. Our community could simply not operate without all our volunteers with their contribution of time, expertise, enthusiasm, and dedication to making a difference. Each year Knox volunteers provide over 81,000 volunteer hours in the Knox Community, that is worth \$3.4million in time. Amazing! So proud of our community that together we are making a better Knox.

[Some resources to access information

<https://www.volunteerforknox.com.au/>

<https://www.volunteeringvictoria.org.au/>

<https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/get-involved/nvw/>

<https://stateofvolunteering.org.au/executive-summary/>

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/volunteer-day/>

Building a Better Boronia

I'm a member of the Victoria Government's Suburban Revitalization Board. This is a community group of business leaders and Non-

for-Profit organizations, together with Jackson Taylor MP.

This collaborative partnership is working with Council to revitalize Boronia with Business façade upgrades and free pop-up event Saturdays at the Squares scheduled for every Saturday in April and May. I hear from some in our community that things are not changing, but can I please reassure you that three large scale murals are planned in strategic areas in Boronia. And I am looking forward to the Erica Ave streetscape renewal.



Things are certainly brighter in Boronia. Energy efficient LEDs have been installed at Dorset Square carpark to improve lighting for locals and businesses.

These works are a continuation of our street light replacement initiative, which is supported by our Climate Response Plan 2021-2031, which aims to reduce greenhouse emissions in our community to net zero by 2040.

In the coming months, we will be replacing around 500 street lights on main roads in Boronia with LEDs. This is a key initiative of the Boronia Revitalisation Project and is supported by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions. The switch will reduce up to 2,900 tonnes of greenhouse gases over the next 20 years.

Boronia Psychology
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- Sleep problems Relaxation skills
- Chronic pain and illness Learning and behaviour Difficulties
- Sexual abuse

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To find out more visit
knox.vic.gov.au/boronia-events
or phone 9298 8000

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 at 257 Dorset Road in early May.

**Feedback closes on
Friday 13 May 2022**



Love your clothes, hate fashion waste workshop

Free workshop to learn how to reduce clothing waste.

Tuesday 17 May
11:00am - 12:30pm
Boronia Mall, Dorset Square

For details visit knox.vic.gov.au/events

Saturdays at the Square

Free pop-up interactive playspace for children and families at Boronia Mall Forecourt each Saturday until 14 May.

Drop in anytime between 10:30am to 1:30pm to join in the fun.

Activities suitable for children 2 - 8 years.

For details visit knox.vic.gov.au/events

New LED streetlights

Work to replace around 500 street lights on Boronia main roads with energy saving LED lights is due to commence in coming months.



We are working on lots of exciting initiatives to renew Boronia. Many of these projects are made possible through funding from the Victorian Government. Visit our website knox.vic.gov.au/boronia

Knox City Council T 9298 8000



HISTORICAL FORCED ADOPTION

The forced adoptions were a dark time in Australia's history and it was incredibly cruel, unethical, immoral, shameful and illegal practice.

The Women's Hospital in Carlton, where I was sent to, was once an adoption agency which participated in this forced adoption era and all involved from the doctors, nurses, social workers, institutions, hospitals and the church all were witness to the shocking pain and loss of having our babies taken and our grief from this continues for a lifetime as our grief was denied.

We were subjected to a range of "conditions", being manipulation, secrecy, cruel words, brainwashed, no emotional support, dishonesty, not being informed of our legal rights, drugged to impair our decision making abilities and to also suppress our breast milk.

Sadly we have suffered enduring the effects from the practices forced upon us and the impacts from these practices still cause ongoing grief (silent grief), emotional abuse, guilt and shame. We were made to wear a ring on our finger to hide the shame of being unmarried. Although such practices and policies have now been condemned and no longer a part of our society, women and children continue to still suffer the pain and hurt from these effects of the forced adoptions.

Unmarried mothers were forced, pressured or coerced to give up their babies rather than bear the pain and shame of social stigma of pregnancy outside of marriage and such pregnancies were shrouded in secrecy and the mothers were hidden in homes for "unmarried

mothers', this is where I was sent, until their babies were born. An unmarried mother was stigmatised as a "fallen woman" and all involved told us that "our babies deserved better and deserved a proper home with two parents and that no man would marry a second-hand woman not fit to be a mother.

Within the homes we worked like slaves, were brainwashed, drugged, lied to, to ensure we didn't have time to think. The option of keeping our babies was never discussed and from the start they were intended for adoption – it was very strictly controlled by all involved. Many of these mothers, myself included did not get to see, cuddle or even hear their babies cry as they were taken away to another room straight after delivery with BFA "Born for adoption" written on their cot. While giving birth I had a white sheet put across me so that I would not see my baby. Our babies were not welcomed into this world with love or joy- so from the very start there was no attachment for the well-being of the baby.

The babies were illegitimate in the eyes of the community and illegitimacy was equivalent to criminality and we were also told from our sinfulness, born out of wedlock that this would be also etched on our babies minds.

After our babies were born we were told to forget about our sons and daughters, to forget the heartache, forget our time in the institutions and to get on with our lives, expected to live a life with approval in the community with denial to forget about it all- but how could we? We were fed into the system.

The past is the past and we cannot

change any of it, it is history and a dark one, and now we need to educate those unaware of these practices while also helping to create change and justice to right the wrongs from this forced adoption era for the many victims of what was a horrendous practice so this doesn't ever happen again. We have lived with the lies they told us for decades, now the lies become the TRUTH and we have been the cover-up of the forced adoptions designed to take our babies away and have suffered in silence for too far long and it is now in the open.

Between 1950s- mid 1980s it is estimated 250,000 babies in Australia were affected by this shameful practice and with the most adoptions occurring in 1972 there were 10,000 babies adopted.

We are now in the process of healing, healing can take weeks, months, years, even a whole lifetime and that's ok as we are healing in our own ways. I have suffered throughout these years emotionally and have always wondered about my baby boy and if he has lived a good life and what he has achieved throughout his life and even if he is still alive.

I am a survivor of the historical forced adoptions era and gave evidence at the Victorian Inquiry in December 2020. I have used my voice to support others in my situation.

I feel now that we can now talk openly without being judged.

Written by Nancy Johnson, Boronia.

WHAT IS CITIZEN SCIENCE?



Citizen science is where people participate and collaborate in scientific research in their local nature reserves and parks. There are countless citizen science projects driven by communities all around the world.

During 2021, the City Nature Challenge events held in Knox resulted in 400 different species of animals and plants being logged by our community as well as more than 1,000 observations being made in just four days! The community also observed 76 new species in areas not previously recorded in Knox.

In the lead up to the 2022 City Nature Challenge, a global event that involves finding and recording lots of plants and animal species, we are interested to hear about your experience with citizen science.

www.knox.vic.gov.au/whats-happening/news/what-citizen-science

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
Bill, Narelle or Melanie Matthews or Micah

9739 6868

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



Mother's Day Breakfast Heart Egg Toast

Ingredients

- 1 slice whole-wheat bread
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 large egg
- Salt, to taste
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste



Steps to Make It

Gather the ingredients.

Using a heart-shaped cookie cutter, cut out the center of the bread.

Heat a medium-sized frying pan to medium heat. Add the butter, and once it has melted, swirl to coat.

Add the bread to the pan and let it cook on that side until golden. Using a spatula, flip the bread over.

Crack the egg into the hole in the bread. Turn the heat to low, cover and cook for about 2 minutes or until the egg has been cooked through. You may also flip the bread over to finish cooking the egg on the other side. Toast up the cut-out bread piece in the pan as well and use it for dipping in the egg.

Sprinkle with salt and pepper to taste and serve immediately.

Enjoy!

Find these words in the puzzle!



ball



gift



bear



doll

j	d	o	l	l
b	e	a	r	k
m	n	p	q	s
h	g	i	f	t
b	a	l	l	c



Bilba the Bilby

Legend has it that Bilba the soft-furred sandhill rat was once a man and lived in a camp with his mate, Mayra, the wind, who was invisible. Bilba could hold conversations with Mayra but much as he wanted to, Bilba could

never see his friend. Bilba pleaded with Mayra to become like him so that he could see him as Bilba longed to see someone again. If he could only see Mayra, he would not wish for a better mullaya [mate]. Mayra, despite Bilba's pleas, was happy to stay as he was as Mayra could see Bilba - he was all right.

One day, after again pleading with his friend to make himself visible, Bilba decided not to go hunting with Mayra that day but he would stay in the camp. Mayra the wind then went off angrily without Bilba. Later that evening, Bilba suddenly heard a roaring in the distance such as he had never heard before. Bilba quickly went up to the sand-ridge behind his camp and made a hole in the soft ground and buried himself in it until the windstorm had passed. Up came the wind tearing on to the ridge, whirling round the camp. On and on he went round Bilba's hole; but he could not shift it, so howling with impotent rage as he went, Mayra passed on until his voice was only heard in the distance and at length, not at all. After a time, Bilba came out. He had been so safe and warm in his hole in the sand that he lived there ever afterwards; and there he took his wife to live.

To this day Bilba's tribe live in burrows in the sand. They still hear the voice of old Bilba's mate. For so angry was Mayra at Bilba's desire to see his face or leave him that he only howls and roars as he rushes past their camps. Never since has any of the tribes seen where he camps nor does anyone know except the six winds that blow and they tell the secret to none.

Michael J Connolly Dreamtime Kullilla-Art

<https://www.kullillaart.com.au/>

START READING TO YOUR BABY

early



birth - start with high contrast books



at 6 months - read simple books with 1 pic/page



at 1 year - a picture with a sentence or two is ideal



act super goofy and have funreading



around 3 months - read fun books



at 9 months - use facial expressions and hand motions



<https://www.healthiest-baby.com/>



This month I caught up with Jo, who is a babywearing consultant, Kangatrainer instructor, Kangatraining Kids instructor, Mum to two beautiful kids, and a florist extraordinaire!

What is a babywearing consultant?

Babywearing is the practice of wearing your baby or child in a specially designed carrier. A babywearing consultant is someone who is trained to educate parents and carers on how to use baby carriers in the safest, most optimal and



comfortable way for both baby and wearer.

What are the benefits of babywearing?

Babywearing has so many benefits, particularly in the 'fourth trimester'. It keeps baby close and secure, promotes increased bonding and attachment, whilst keeping their caregiver

hands free to get things done! Clinger mammals are animals that biologically have the need to cling on to their mothers until they are developed enough to slowly start exploring the world independently. Humans are clinger mammals and are naturally wired to stay close to their parents, and to frequently seek connection and comfort. In the newborn stage babywearing helps to regulate infants breathing, heart rate and temperature, and studies show that babies who are carried more, actually cry less. It also helps babies develop muscle strength and motor development when compared to those spending longer periods in a static environment such as a pram. Importantly it aids in a child's sociability, speech and language development as they observe and begin to mimic their parents interactions.

Babywearing also has many benefits beyond babyhood, such as allowing toddlers to find comfort when they are overwhelmed or tired, and continues to deepen the attachment between child and caregiver.

Babywearing isn't just great for our young ones, but in the postpartum period it releases endorphins for Mums (and all parents), leading to increased attachment and improving milk production which in turns help to support the breastfeeding journey, as well as reducing anxiety and depression.

What are some tips for safe babywearing and what is the optimal position for bub?

As babywearing educators we follow international babywearing guidelines which are outlined by the TICKS acronym.

Tight – Carriers should be tight enough to hug your baby close to you. Any loose or slack fabric will allow your baby to slump down which can

hinder their breathing.

In view – you should always be able to see baby's face.

Keep chin off chest – ensure baby's chin is not touching their chest as this restricts breathing.

Close enough to Kiss – your baby should be as close to your chin as comfortable, and you should be able to kiss them without straining your neck.



Supported spine – Baby's spine should be supported in the natural position for their age.

Optimal positioning supports the baby's hips in the 'frog squat'

or 'M position', which means that their knees are higher than their bottom, without their legs being overextended. Carriers that allow babies legs to hang straight down are not good for hip development. An optimal carrier will keep baby in an upright position, allowing their knees to be higher than their bum.

If you would like to know more about babywearing, what carriers are suited to you and your needs, or if you have a carrier that you can't make work for you or doesn't feel comfortable, contact Jo for a babywearing consultation [via email](mailto:hillsbabywearinggroup@gmail.com)

hillsbabywearinggroup@gmail.com
[Facebook Kangatraining Ferntree Gully and Surrounds](https://www.facebook.com/KangatrainingFerntreeGullyandSurrounds) or [Instagram @hillsbabywearinggroup](https://www.instagram.com/hillsbabywearinggroup) and [@kangaftg](https://www.instagram.com/kangaftg)

Ee

is for
Echidna



ECHIDNA FUN FACTS

1. They are egg laying mammals (feeding babies with milk).
2. They eat roughly 40,000 ants, termites, worms and insect larvae per day!
3. They have long sticky snouts and strong claws, BUT no teeth!
4. They can live for up 45 years in the wild.
5. Haste is not an echidna's strength, they waddle at 1 km/hr (max speed 2.3 is km/hr).



Alan TUDGE MP

Federal Member for Aston

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Real Action For Knox



Community sport is the lifeblood of the Boronia community and for over ten years, the leaders of Boronia Hawks Football Netball Club and Boronia Cricket Club have been pressing for an upgraded pavilion at Tormore Reserve to replace the 40-year-old club rooms.

To help with this, I was proud to recently announce \$5 million of federal funding to get a new pavilion built at Tormore, home of the Boronia Hawks Football and Netball Club and Boronia Cricket Club.



Both clubs have outgrown their facilities and this new pavilion will be a real asset to the entire Boronia community.

I will always fight for better local sports facilities in Knox, because I believe they benefit the entire community. They help keep people active and engaged and keep kids off the street and mentored by older people.

This is just another part of my plan that I've been working to deliver for Boronia and The Basin which includes:

- Additional parking at Boronia Station (beginning this year).
- Upgraded security at Boronia Station, Dorset Square and Boronia RSL (delivered).
- Funding for Dorset Rd extension (in planning).
- A new Knox Netball Centre (opening December).
- A Head to Health mental health clinic at Boronia Mall to provide free support to locals.

Each of these projects will make a big difference and improve our life as a community.



Tormore at night

KNOX FREE PLAY EVERY SUNDAY IN MAY

The outdoor public space at 257 Dorset Rd in Boronia will be transformed into a free playspace every Sunday in May (next to Police Station).

You can drop in anytime from 11am to 3pm and enjoy different activities each week.

Each Sunday will be themed as either Games play or Music and Arts play.

Games play: Dates: 1 May, 15 May, 29 May

Activities: Ideal for 5 to 15 years.

Music and Arts play: Dates: 8 May, 22 May

Activities: Ideal for 2 to 12 years.

Play Park 257 is made possible through funding from the Victorian Government.

No need to book. Site capacity limits may apply.

BECOME A KNOX NATURE STEWARD

The Nature Steward program runs a 10-week program that will introduce you to your local and wider Victorian ecosystems and natural places, including:

- Rocks and soils
- Fungi, plants, and animals
- Climate change and seasons
- Ways to care for Country and manage private property
- Being a citizen scientist, conservation volunteer, advocate for nature, or a nature guide
- How and where you can get outdoors and volunteer in your area

This program is open to anyone over the age of 18, however preference is currently given to residents of the council areas.

This program will teach you about your local environment, give you the opportunity to meet like-minded people, and find ways to get outdoors

and volunteer!

Autumn program

When: May 7 to July 16 (excluding Queen's Birthday long weekend)

- Saturday classes: 9.30 am to 12.30 pm
- Field sessions to follow approx. 1.00 pm to 4.30 pm on 14 May, 18 May, 25 June, and 9 July

Where: To be advised

Cost

- Knox Council resident environmental volunteer: \$45 flat rate
- Knox Council resident, non-environmental volunteer: \$175 flat rate
- Non-Knox Council resident: \$350 full fee, \$90 Concession*

* Conc.: healthcare cardholder, pensioner and full-time student

Find out more and register your interest

<https://www.outdoorsvictoria.org.au/nature-stewards/>

The Temple Society

TS President Mark Herrmann, in conversation with Arthur Shelley

The Temple Society is an independent, Progressive Christian community with German origins, although not affiliated with any church or denomination. Since the late 1950s, the Temple Society Australia (TSA) has quietly established itself and sought to play an active part in the local Boronia and Bayswater communities. The TSA vision is for a just, compassionate world in harmony with our environment, achieved through community connections.

TSA does not have ordained clergy, community elders work as a group of volunteers in leading the Templer community from a faith perspective. This brings a diversity of life experience to their religious and spiritual understanding. The key values of trust, acceptance and respect are reflected in this freedom of religious thought and communal purpose. Originally established in Wadi Street in Boronia in the 1950s, TSA now has its main centre in Elizabeth Street, Bayswater. The site incorporates a chapel, multi-purpose hall, sporting facilities and is surrounded by open green space. Adjacent to the site is their aged care facility (Tabulam & Templer Homes for the Aged).

“Intriguingly, few people have heard about the Temple Society, yet many know, or know of, one of our Templer members” says current President Mark Herrmann.

TSA community programs include a food relief service (CHAMPION), social, youth and welfare activities, an accredited after-hours German language school, a playgroup for preschool children and aged care facilities. It has been said that TSA cater to their congregation from the cradle to the grave. Social and cultural events are run throughout the year to which everyone is welcomed. The main public events include *Sommerfest* (March picnic festival), *Oktoberfest*, *Sonnwendfeier* (June winter solstice) and the



Adventsfeier Christmas fete. Whilst some staff are employed to run these programs, much of what is achieved is through volunteers, and a portion of the proceeds are donated to charitable organisations.

The embroidered heritage artwork *The Templer Journey: Fabric of Society* (pictured) hangs proudly in their Bayswater Chapel, lovingly created by many hands over an extended period. It depicts the historical story of the Temple Society. Starting with their planned migration from Germany to Palestine in 1868 to establish self-sustaining communities, their forced displacement by the British during World War II, and final resettlement, following initial internment in Australia. This impressive art piece tells of conviction, resilience, authenticity and cohesion of the community.

Built on tradition and firm faith foundations, the TSA community maintains a close connection with their sister community in Stuttgart, Germany. They value relationships here and there, always striving to treat others as you would like them to treat you. When asked about the Temple Society, Mark responds that he can explain from a faith, historical or

communal perspective, each being tightly linked with the others. Mark emphasises that it always seems to come back to community. That is, a strong sense of community pervades and is ever-present, even if a little difficult to specifically define. A community is the sum-total of its individuals, their values and their relationships with each other.

Acknowledging the first 150 years of the Temple Society (in 2011), bronze plaques were fitted at TSA community centres (Bayswater, Bentleigh and Sydney). Each showed a compass with the words: “Facing the future, reflecting the past”. While many members share a mutual history, their door is always open to anyone prepared to share their vision and work together with them. They are approachable, welcoming to new people and new ways of doing things.

Mark then smiles when he refers to his oft-quoted idiom: “Share in our community, for together we achieve.”

You can find out more about TSA at: <https://www.templesociety.org.au/>

Why not come along to one of TSA community events sometime soon?

Sarah Louise School of Dance

On Saturday 26th March, 17 girls from the Sarah Louise School of Dance in Boronia, finally performed their Solo Routines after two years of postponed and cancelled performances. Jazz, Tap, Classical Ballet and Lyrical routines once



again brought the stage to life!

The majority of the girls learnt their routines via Video Tutorial during the numerous Melbourne Lockdowns. Some girls even rehearsed in the park, when we weren't allowed to re-open. But time after time, their performance dates were postponed and cancelled.

It was lovely to see the sparkle back on stage again and an emotional night for parents who had waited two years to see their child's routine.

Congratulations to Abigail, Bethany, Breea, Chelsea, Ella, Emi, Evelyn, Hayley, Jacinta, Justine, Leah, Lucinda, Shelbi, Shelby, Simone, Tallulah and Yvette!



Nick WAKELING MP

STATE MEMBER FOR FERNTREE GULLY



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 nickwakeling.com.au
 /NickWakeling

Save Lake Knox



Lake Knox is situated on the 19.2-hectare Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) site which was formerly used as a horticultural research facility. The lake is the habitat of over 80 diverse wildlife species, including the endangered, Blue-Billed Duck.

Residents cherish Lake Knox as a unique pocket of biodiversity in their local area and have rallied with me to save the Lake.

The current proposal involves demolishing Lake Knox and constructing a wetland nearby, in which the water depth will be reduced by one-third. The Blue-Billed Duck requires a deep-water habitat, and the demolition of the lake will mean that Blue-Billed Duck will not return to the area. Currently, the lake

is a precious breeding habitat for the endangered species. For example, on 15 January 2022, five blue-billed ducklings were born at Lake Knox, to the delight of the local community.

The Knox Environment Society, First Friends of Dandenong Creek and Friends of Lake Knox Sanctuary amongst others, have been campaigning to save Lake Knox for many years. In addition, a petition to save Lake Knox on Change.org has received over 20,000 signatures and I also launched a localised petition to save Lake Knox on my website, which has received many signatures.

My commitment is to preserve Lake Knox and its precious flora and fauna as far as practicable.

I recently announced that I would:

- Establish an advisory committee including local representation to make recommendations about the future of Lake Knox and
- Consideration should be given to designating Lake Knox as a sanctuary as campaigned for by local residents.

Nick Wakeling MP, State Member for Ferntree Gully

Community rejection of State Government proposal to destroy Lake Knox

We as a collective of community groups, wish to join with the State Government in celebrating the arrival of the latest hatching of the threatened Blue-billed Duck at Lake Knox. Unfortunately, this is where our alignment with the government and Development Victoria ends.

The addition of 450 new dwellings into the current vacant public land, and the destruction of this deep water asset, will seal the fate of Blue-billed Ducks in Knox, displacing another threatened species for short term financial profit.

Their plan is scientifically questionable, and their ecological guarantees are unfounded. The State Government lacks expertise to replace habitat, and the project has no KPI or resourcing.

“No works are planned which could impact potential breeding”. The words of Penny Forrest of Development Victoria, demonstrate that there is a complete lack of understanding with regards to the needs of this threatened species, or perhaps this agency is unaware of their responsibilities under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, action plan No 174.

Dedicated citizen scientists have been monitoring Lake Knox for over 20 months. Their observations of species at Lake Knox now number 88, which include other significant species such as Eastern Long neck turtles, Pelican, Black swan and Hardhead duck. This data has been openly shared with all parties involved with the proposed development, including Melbourne Water, and added to various public databases.

So conclusive is the evidence obtained by the community and other interested ecologists, that the protection of Lake Knox had been endorsed by various organisations such as The Jane Goodall Institute Australia, Wildlife Victoria, Environment Victoria, Australian Conservation Foundation, Greenpeace Australia, Australian Wildlife Protection Council, For the Love of Wildlife, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, and the Australian Animal Protection Society.

It is difficult to see logic behind a development that will take from community rather than add? This denial of science, placing profit above the environment and habitat destruction of a Threatened species which has bred successfully at Lake Knox, is a stance that we the wider community need to call out.

22,000 people have signed a petition to stop this

habitat destruction; that number will continue to rise right throughout the year.

Croydon Conservation Society, First Friends of Dandenong Creek, Friends of Blind Creek Billabong, Friends of Glenfern Green Wedge, Friends of Lake Knox Sanctuary, Friends of Koolunga Native Reserve, Friends of Old Joes Creek, Greening Knox, Knox Environment Society.

For more information visit
www.savelakeknox.org

iNaturalist citizen scientist project:
<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/wildlife-of-lake-knox>



Boronia Bowls Club

5 Marie St.,
Boronia

MAJOR SPONSORS

Community Bank Ferntree Gully
Noel Jones Real Estate Wantirna
Chemist Discount Centre Boronia
Palandri Insurances Boronia
The Spectacle Site Boronia
Mackinnon Jacobs Lawyers Boronia
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CLUB SUPPORTERS

Jackson Taylor MP Bayswater
Nick Wakeling MP Ferntree Gully
Alan Tudge Federal MP Aston
Cr. Jude Dwight Chandler Ward



Functions and Club House Hire

Boronia Bowls Club provides the perfect facility for your next function.

Full bar and catering available, as well as ample seating both inside and outside on the extensive decking area, your upcoming get-together to celebrate all types of events is our speciality.

With a recently installed state-of-the-art sound and visual projection system for corporate presentations, Community use, film nights, social & entertainment events and training sessions, our club offers everything a function could require (as well as optional bowling) at very affordable rates.

Fully compliant for disabled accessibility.

Contact Val on 0490 841 065 to discuss your specific needs and to get a quote for your special event.

New members welcome – no fees for the first year – coaching available – call Patrick on 0459 999 261



AUTUMN FUN ON THE GREEN

Want to meet some new people?

Want something to do as a family?

Want somewhere to hang out with your mates?

Then why not come down to **Boronia Bowls Club** from 2-4pm on a Sunday afternoon starting May 1st and then every Sunday until June 19th for some **Autumn Fun on the Green!**

Never tried lawn bowls before?

No problem - all equipment provided and friendly members on hand to show you the basics of the sport.

Doesn't matter if you're single, a family or just a group of friends - you will all be made most welcome.

Just dress up warm, wear flat-soled shoes and bring some enthusiasm!

\$10 per adult. \$20 per family and children under 12 free. Fully vaccinated 16 & over please.

For further information phone Val 0490 841 065

UPDATE FOR KNOX WILDLIFE HABITAT CORRIDOR PLAN

Understanding our native wildlife and their habitats is important when planning for our future. We want to better understand where our native wildlife is and the areas connecting them to pockets of native vegetation in order to support the development of habitat corridors. These habitat corridors enable wildlife to move more easily between areas and access other populations of their species for mating.

Previous community contributions to Have Your Say and at face-to-face workshops are supporting and informing the Habitat Corridor Plan currently being drafted by a consultant. The wildlife habitat planning will:

- Increase vegetation
- Support wildlife

- Improve waterways

- Contribute to a network of habitat corridors across Knox City Council

What you can do to further support habitat corridors in Knox:

- Join a local Friends Group
- Join the Gardens for Wildlife program or sign up to be a Gardens for Wildlife Volunteer
- Join a local Friends Group
- Become a citizen scientist and contribute sightings of native and invasive flora and fauna on iNaturalist. For more information on how to use iNaturalist or contact the Biodiversity Team at Biodiversity@knox.vic.gov.au
- Upload sighting of invasive species in Knox to FeralScan. FeralScan is a free app which allows you to upload sightings of feral fox, rabbit, deer, and bird species to inform and notify our Biodiversity Team of their abundance and

distribution. These observations inform management actions. For more information on FeralScan or contact the Biodiversity Team at Biodiversity@knox.vic.gov.au

Through this research and planning, we aim to identify and provide priority actions for the management, protection and enhancement of habitat corridors across Knox.

PANDEMIC RECOVERY - FOOD AND EMERGENCY RELIEF GRANTS

Eligible service providers can apply for grants of up to \$10,000 to provide hot meals, food parcels or other emergency relief items to local residents in need.

Applications are now open and close 2 May 2022 at 4.00pm.

You will be asked to provide:

- details of the types of food or emergency relief items to be purchased
- the proposed budget

- how your service will be delivered

- expected number of recipients

For more information, please refer to the website or apply for a grant

<https://www.knox.vic.gov.au/our-council/grants/pandemic-recovery-food-and-emergency-relief-grant>

<https://knox-council.smartygrants.com.au/pandemic-recovery>

Boronia Veterinary Clinic & Animal Hospital

181 Boronia Road, Boronia
(cnr Langwith Ave)

Phone: 9762 3177

www.boroniavet.com.au

Serving the community for over 45 years

With over 20 veterinarians, we are one of the largest, privately owned, single site, general practice veterinary hospitals in Melbourne.

Our commitment is to provide diverse options to the entire community.

The clinic offers extended consulting hours, and our hospital provides round-the-clock care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Our existing clients enjoy a 24 hour service.



Jackson Taylor
State MP for Bayswater

We are well and truly into the colder months in Melbourne as we all start to rug up. But with colder weather comes the fact that local footy is back! And I was excited to be at The Basin Football Netball Club for their season launch where I announced \$170,000 of funding from the State Government for safety netting around parts of their ground to make it safer and a new coaches box facility to help make the work of volunteers easier. It's going to be a big year at the Bear Cave and for local footy across our community!

And in an Australian first, the State Government recently introduced the Victorian Sick Pay Guarantee. The pandemic laid bare the poor outcomes for those in insecure work. As for most Victorians, if you wake up feeling sick, you can take sick leave. But if you're a casual worker, you have to make the choice between a day's pay and looking after your health. It's a choice you shouldn't have to make. Workers in casual and insecure work in eligible industries will be able to access five days of sick pay per year as part of the 2 year pilot program which is fully funded by the Victorian Government. The Government is doing all the admin for the program and making payments directly to workers - meaning no extra paperwork for businesses. For more info go here - <https://www.vic.gov.au/sick-pay-guarantee>

The State Government also announced recently that they are providing wage subsidies of up to



\$20,000 to businesses who employ or increase the working hours of single parents. So, whether you're a single parent looking for work or an employer needing more staff, register with Jobs Victoria today.

More locally I am excited to say that works on the \$8.07 million upgrade at Fairhills High is about to kick off! It'll deliver a new STEAM centre, music hub, new foyer for the performing arts centre and landscaping across the school. Exciting times ahead at Fairhills.

Quick Updates on local issues and State Government funded projects:

- Announced that the Alchester Village intersection will become a fully signalised intersection after work by the Department of Transport to make it safer for locals and pedestrians

- Officially opened the new ovals and beautiful open space at Boronia Heights Primary

- \$1.5 billion to increase elective surgery to 125% of pre-pandemic levels to get more Victorians the care they need

- Construction has begun on the new St B's senior learning building

- Applications for home heating and cooling upgrades for eligible households still available here - heatingupgrades.vic.gov.au

- Providing all frontline police with conductive energy devices (tasers)

- Announced 10,000 extra Free TAFE places, go to freetafe.vic.gov.au for more

And lastly, I wanted to let you know about exciting news that the State Government is also providing a further \$4 million to provide more support to more students with disabilities at local schools. This is going to make a huge difference to so many kids! And on that note, this month's edition is to our amazing support staff and teams who support kids with disabilities at our schools locally - thank you!

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 anything further you can search 'Jackson Taylor MP' and follow me on Facebook.

ANNUAL DETOX DAY - SUNDAY 15 MAY

Cleaning out unwanted household chemicals from local sheds, cupboards and kitchen sinks is helping Knox's residents safely dispose of everyday household chemicals, making homes safer and protecting our environment.

Running for more than 27 years, Sustainability Victoria's Detox your Home events are a free and convenient service for Knox residents to safely dispose of unwanted household chemicals. Common products such as weedkiller, pesticides, cleaning chemicals, cosmetics, and cooking oil are all materials harmful to the environment and should not be placed in kerbside bins or poured down sinks.

Each Detox your Home event collects around 4 tonnes of hazardous chemicals, keeping them out of landfill and waterways and making homes safer.

Common chemicals collected at Detox your Home events include:

- Fuels and flammable liquids - turpentine,



methylated spirits, petrol, kerosene, diesel, paint thinners

- Garden - herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, pool chemicals, poisons

- Household - cleaners, bleach, ammonia, oven cleaner, solvents, cooking oil, cosmetics, fire extinguishers

- Car - wax, transmission fluid, body filler, brake fluid.

Detox your Home events are staffed by expert chemists who identify and sort the chemicals for

safe transport back to a licenced facility in Melbourne where they are processed for reuse or safe disposal. Chemicals collected are processed and recovered or recycled wherever possible. If they cannot be reused in any way, they are safely disposed of.

With community safety in mind, Detox your Home events are now drive-through and contactless, supported by a COVIDSafe plan. Registrations are essential.

Register for the upcoming Detox your Home municipality event at Sustainability Victoria's website:

www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/detoxyourhome

Event details

Date: Sunday, 15th May 2022

Time: 8am - 3pm

Cost: Free

Location: Knox Operations Centre, 14 Henderson Road, Knoxfield, VIC



The Ferntree Gully Friends of Red Cross wish to thank all those in the Community who gave so generously to the Red Cross Calling Flood Relief Fundraising over March in the Upper Ferntree Gully Plaza and Boronia Junction. As a result, the group raised a total of \$2,281.35 to go to the Flood Relief. Also we would like to thank the Managers and Owners of the

Plaza and Boronia Junction Shopping Complexes for their continued support for our group. It is much appreciated.

Please note that the group will be holding a stall on the 30th April at Ferntree Plaza Shopping Centre, Upper Ferntree Gully, 9am till 1pm all funds once again going towards the Flood Relief.

SOMETIMES - Mandy Mercuri

Sometimes I wish people knew how I feel,
 Sometimes I wish the pain wasn't so real.
 Sometimes I push through, so hard I am crying,
 Sometimes I breeze through without even trying.
 Sometimes my actions are dictated by "I should..."
 Sometimes my actions dampened, "I wish I could..."
 Sometimes I seek compassion, understanding to be heard,
 Sometimes I receive pity and hate every word.
 Sometimes I make plans, confident I can hold back the tide
 Sometimes I make excuses, am embarrassed and I hide
 Sometimes people see the real me, I feel emboldened, aflame
 Sometimes people see the real me and all I feel is the shame
 Sometimes I pretend so I will be accepted, the same
 Sometimes I pretend and, again, comes the shame
 Sometimes I see hope, it is lights me up with its spark,
 Sometimes I am hopeless, alone in the dark.
 Sometimes I don't know how I got to where I am - its chilling!
 Sometimes I don't know how to move forward - it's thrilling!
 Sometimes I advocate for those whose voices are soft
 Sometimes I hold my strength determinedly aloft
 Sometimes I am able, sometimes I am not
 Sometimes I make do, happy with all that I've got
 Sometimes I feel blessed when loved ones appear
 Sometimes I am terrified it will all disappear
 Sometimes I show up, oversharingly true
 Sometimes I know there is so much more I can do
 Sometimes I make mistakes and I grow, I learn
 Sometimes the mistakes repeatedly churn
 Sometimes I'm a row boat, madly paddling turbulent seas
 Sometimes I'm the yacht, calmly following the breeze

Sometimes, to save other people's feelings, I deceive
 Sometimes, to save my own feelings, these stories I believe
 Sometimes I am convinced I know just what they're all thinking
 Sometimes into despair and destruction I go sinking

Sometimes the bells are ringing
 Then the pendulum is swinging
 In this crazy pool of humanity all of us bathe
 Sometimes drowning, sometimes saved
 Sometimes on the edges, sometimes floating, adrift
 Sometimes the grateful observer, sometimes embroiled in the rift
 Labelling, change and confusion
 Certainty, hope, careless delusion

But.

There are a few, and they know who
 For whom I am certain...
 All of the time, you love and you care
 And when I cannot, you will be there

To everyone else,
 Look closely, please don't judge or assume.
 Just as the sun shines one day, dark clouds also loom.

Be compassionate and kind
 Be honest, of open mind

Sometime is the one time we have to be free.
 This one, precious moment, to just be.

KNOX REGIONAL NETBALL CENTRE UPDATE

The expansion and refurbishment of the Knox Regional Netball Centre is well underway and expected to be completed in September 2022. This \$15.6M project in partnership with both the Australian Government (\$4M) and Victorian Government (\$5M) include the following features:

- two new indoor netball courts including change rooms, function rooms and new observation stadium
- Upgrades to existing indoor stadium
- Additional 180 car spaces
- Landscaping & public art pieces
- four star energy initiatives including solar power, recycled materials, natural light and water retention system

Recently, a site tour for key stakeholders from the

Australian government, Victorian government, Mayor Cr Susan Laukens, Cr Nicole Seymour, representatives from the Knox Netball Association and the Netball Centre was held to see the progress on the new stadium. The new indoor court floor and steel structure is complete and framing for the roof has begun.

**FERNTREE GULLY ARTS SOCIETY at THE HUT GALLERY, 157 Underwood Rd FTG MAY EXHIBITIONS - "FAR HORIZONS"**

Weekends 14th- 29th May, 11- 4 pm

Closed Mothers Day

Also collections of works by the members of FTGAS,

plus Artworks by Heather King.

Free Entry, All Welcome

JUNE EXHIBITION**"YOUNG AT ART"**

Open to everyone aged between 12 – 19yrs.

A great opportunity for young people to exhibit their artwork in a gallery. For entry forms and details, www.thehutgallery.com.au

**Boronia VIEW Club**

VIEW (Voice, Interests and Education of Women) is a network of close to 300 clubs and over 14,000 women throughout Australia. It provides a place for women to connect in the community, enjoy social activities, and develop lasting friendships – all while supporting the work of children's education charity **The Smith Family**.

VIEW is the largest community sponsor of students on **The Smith Family's Learning for Life** program, supporting young people in need for over 60 years. **The Smith Family** celebrates 100 years this year.

Boronia View Club will be meeting on Friday 20 May at 11.30am at Eastwood Golf Club, Liverpool Rd., Kilsyth with a two course lunch at a cost of \$27. The speaker will be Rajiv Thacker, Regional

Officer for Consumer Affairs Victoria. He will be talking about scams etc. There will be a raffle and stalls. All monies raised to Learning for Life students through The Smith Family.

We enjoy the company of ladies of all ages and backgrounds so come along and you will be warmly welcomed.

Enquiries to Judith on 9764-8602

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Best KNITTED Beanie

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Best BEANIE ENSEMBLE

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EXHIBITION & JUDGING

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Devonshire Teas & Lunches available.

Enquiries 0421 769 067

www.facebook.com/BoroniaRdUnitingChurch

Church Office: 9762 6732.



SUNDAY WALKERS always walk on the 3rd. Sunday each month and this month they will take advantage of the 901 Bus to Frankston to explore this changing area. I am planning to join them.

Both "Picnics in the Park" were well attended, and the weather was kind. Rhonda organises a weekly game of Badminton at the Mitcham Badminton Centre. \$5:00pw to play every Thursday at 2:00pm, AND during school holidays! No trophies, just fun.

Like to dine in company? Montania's Restaurant in Mountain Gate will welcome the Dine-out Group. Not to be mistaken, the Mens Coffee morning will meet at Montano's Café in Bayswater, as will the Girls coffee morning on the first Tuesday in May. We're also meeting for lunch to thank our Conveners and also to welcome new members.

The three Card Groups are now meeting in FTG, at the Wattle Senior Citizens Clubrooms. And now that we have more space, let me introduce the new Games Activity Day, at the Wattle Club. Play Scrabble, Upwords, Rummicub, Carpet Bowls, Cards, Bolivia, Canasta, '500'. Or join us with your lunch just to have a chat. Coffee \$1:00 and the starting time is 11:00am on the first Friday of every month.

CHANGE! The Quarterly Meeting will now be held on a Monday Afternoon at 2:00pm. And this

too, will be held at the Wattle Club, with a cuppa and light snack, while learning more about this friendly club. The date for this is May 23rd. Come along, get to know us.

NEXT, 43 members spent a fantastic day, taking the Ferry to Portarlington, then onto the Golf Club where we were served a delicious lunch. After visiting a few shops, it was time for the return journey. So good, thanks Sandra.

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

Carol, 0419 870 639



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.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday the 24th May at Club Kilsyth.

On 21st April, 15 of our members enjoyed a tour of the historic homestead and chapel at Mont de Lancey in Wandin North. This was followed by lunch at the café on the property. A most interesting and enjoyable day out!

Earlier this month, members of Knox Over50s took a trip to the Bendigo Art Gallery to see "Graceland - The Home of Elvis Presley". Very nostalgic and a wonderful time was had by all!

Members are looking forward to June for a performance of "Mama Mia" at the Karralyka Theatre in Ringwood. Plans for later in the year include "Gems of Jazz" in August and "Some Enchanted Evening" in October.

Weather permitting, we are now able to continue with walks around Lewis Park on the third Monday of each month.

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.

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 be 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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