

Puffing Billy gets the highest honour at the 2022 International Architecture Awards in Chicago



Page 6 has more

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Father's Day

There are about 1.5 billion fathers world-wide, plus a large number of father figures. So, with a few billion members they make up a formidable portion of our population. In recognition of this significant group and to remedy the slow pace of shopping trade in the period before Christmas trade began, Fathers' Day was started in the USA in 1908.

The date set was the third Sunday in June. This date was chosen as the opposite of the Christmas trading period. Australia followed the USA date originally, changing later to the first Sunday in September. In essence, the date of Father's Day does change every year. This is because it is celebrated on a set month and day. Of purchases to commemorate the event the most common gift is a greeting card.

Approximately half of all Father's Day cards are purchased by sons and daughters. Nearly a fifth are bought by wives and partners for their husbands with remaining third bought for grandfathers, sons, brothers, uncles and 'someone special.

Father's Day – my Journey

There was a time when I was completely ignorant of parenthood. Oh, I knew the mechanics of the process but little of the true meaning and emotional impact. This came to a head in the 1960s when fatherhood loomed large in the dark days of excluding fathers from being present at the birth. So, when I got the phone call from St George's Hospital in the very early hours of the day; the event was over.

However, the emotional journey had just begun! Driving home with baby Geoffrey in the car was like a nightmare. He was so small, helpless and vulnerable that the whole world seemed to threaten him, but I loved him already – and now I was a father! Over several decades I learned how resilient a child can be – and then on a hot summer day and a mate's motor bike my second son taught me that vulnerability was ever present.

Add to the mix a daughter and another son and soon the grandchildren began to arrive.

I never quite got used to being a grandfather – then up pops baby Daniel and I am a great grandfather.

Great? Yes it is!

John Mortimore



Cambodian father and son - Sasin Tipchai, Pixabay

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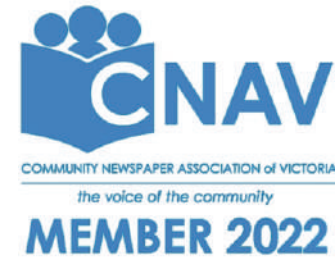
This community newspaper is run totally by volunteers. We aim to provide the people of Boronia and The Basin with an effective medium of communication, information and expression and to promote community identity, cooperation and pride. We welcome your response to published articles, and request that such responses be courteous and objective.

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

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Our Special New Feature

Page 3 Bird

Satin Bowerbird

(Ptilonorhynchus violaceus)

We all face dilemmas in our lives, ethical and moral and whatever other types there are, my biggest dilemma is choosing what bird to write about each month. But sometimes something comes along that forces my hand to write about a particular species. I love it when that happens, alleviates brain pain in my head. So when Simon sent me an extraordinary email about Satin Bowerbirds, we both agreed, this would be this month's bird.

While I didn't actually find out exactly where Simon lives, I would have to presume he would live somewhere near the National Park, as these birds always live near forested areas. His query was that he had been living in his house for twenty years but had only just noticed them this year, could they have been displaced from another area? I replied that my assumption would be they would have dispersed by loss of habitat due to the catastrophic fires of 2020.



Simon's thief with raspberry

That's only a theory though, but as good a one as I could come up with. Many species are struggling after that terrible

event, none more so than our beloved Gang-Gang Cockatoo, I can relate anecdotally that their numbers are well down after those fires.

I see, or mainly hear Satin Bowerbirds (another species which can be very cryptic unless your familiar with their calls) on my yearly holiday to Warburton, and thought I was across most if not all of their calls, as Simon noted he is also now. He then went on to include mimicry in his description which had me intrigued and sure enough, one of my field guides mentioned this, fascinating!

And in case you're wondering, their calls are all very odd sounds, I'll let Michael Morcombe describe them. "Loud, harsh grinding churring and wheezy buzzing, rapid, rollicking 'tzzarr-tzzaar-tzzaar-tzzaartz-tzzaar-tzzaar', also a whistled 'whichiew' and some mimicry." Give a round of applause for that effort ladies and gentlemen, that has a Shakespearean command of both the English language and ornithological language!

All birds are complex, some more complex than others. I'd put these guys right up there on the complex scale. The males do not acquire that gorgeous bluey-black glossy plumage until the 6th or 7th year, young males superficially looking similar to females. This accounts for most sightings being of 'green' birds, which the females and immatures are, greenish backs with buff



Male Bowerbird, David O'Brien

upperparts with fine brown scalloped markings on the breast. Check out my cousin Dave's amazing photos he took on a recent field trip to Lois' place. Stunning!

And now for the part you've all been waiting for... the bower! One of the girls in our group, Karen, whose mum Lois lives near Wicks reserve in the Basin, has a resident group of Satin Bowerbirds on her property, which includes an active bower. The male, true to form, decorates it with blue and yellow objects, flowers, berries, milk container tops anything he can find of these colours. And what a work of art it is, carefully woven into an archway where he impresses the lady Bowerbirds to chose him as a mate and then ... you know the other bit.

After mating with the female that's it, end of story, you raise the kids on your own misses, nothing to do with me! I might start up a class action for all female Satin Bowerbirds to gain rightful restitution for past wrongs! Join me and sign my petition.

That's enough from me for this month, don't you get sick of my musings and rantings? I suppose you can just not read these articles, that's your prerogative, I can't force you to become a birdo you know, just try and gently persuade you!

Des Palmer

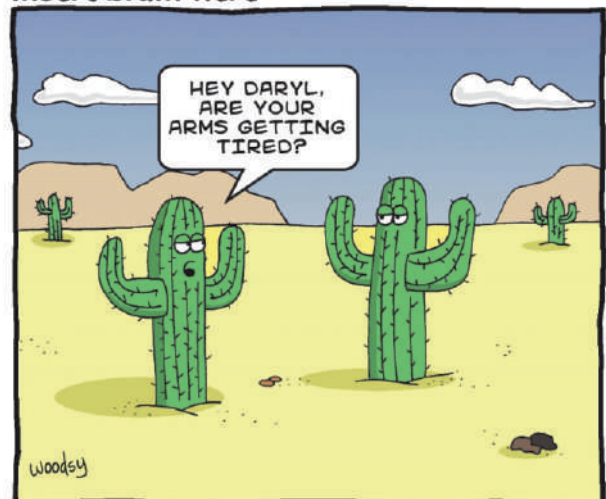
Have got some good field trips coming up, join us if you want.

arc_up_welding@live.com.au



Female Bowerbird, Ian Davies (eBird)

insert brain here



by woodsy

We were delighted to receive a great offer from Paul Woods, to supply us and our readers with a regular cartoon. In presenting this first cartoon, we also share a little of Paul's personal story. He writes,

"I grew up in Port Macquarie, NSW, however travelled extensively overseas and worked in Television in the UK and Europe. I met my wife in London, who was from Melbourne, and we relocated here to Mooroolbark about 12 years ago. I now work as a Police Officer and find that creating cartoons is a great way to step back and not take the world too seriously. I still live in Mooroolbark with my wife, three boys and Staffordshire Terrier, Winston.

"Insert Brain Here is a single panel cartoon that places fish, birds, dogs, chickens, zombies, vampires and other mythical creatures in bizarre, everyday situations. My aim is to make a short, funny cartoon that gives the reader a quick chuckle – the cartoon that I would like to read."

We'd be pleased to hear your feedback about this new feature from Paul.

The unseen way through the green woods

Hidden decades in the green woods
No one sees, I was alone
Visit and enjoy with scenes,
Rabbits playing on the green planes.

Sunrays kiss the little buds,
Wing friends whisper the secrets of love,
Fresh winds touch the soft leaves,
It's a heaven for you and me.

BUT

I love to see the kids playing in the woods,
Visitors watching the beauty of the woods
Kids and figures, huts and sheds
Change the loneliness of the day,

To visit the woods, Build a way,
Green woods dream for a new WAY .
It's a bridge for you and me.

Dayangani Silva



Monday 19 September is
"TALK LIKE A PIRATE"
DAY
me hearties !

BORONIA CFA

These 5 senior members have given over 217 years of service in the Boronia Fire Brigade



Brian Jones



Neil Parby



Bill Ireland

They've done their bit.
Now can you do yours?



Graeme Elliott



Richard Smith

Boronia CFA is now recruiting new members .

We especially need members who can turn out to fires on week days.

For information on joining please refer to

Boronia Fire Brigade Face Book Page:

facebook.com/BoroniaFireBrigade/

Knox leading towards net zero

Knox City Council has joined forces with 23 other Victorian councils to push for greater sustainability requirements for new development.

Council has lodged a planning scheme amendment with the Victorian Government, seeking to elevate sustainability requirements for new buildings and encourage a move towards net zero carbon development.

The amendment seeks to build on the current Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) requirements for new developments and in doing so, better protect the natural environment, reduce resource and energy consumption, and support the health and wellbeing of future occupants.

Along with the amendment, Knox City Council has written to the new Minister for Planning, Lizzie Blandthorn asking her to support the amendment and to acknowledge that the

current planning requirements do not reflect the urgency needed to tackle climate change.

The amendment is the next step in improving ESD requirements with detailed, measurable targets that will deliver meaningful outcomes in practice. Under the proposed changes, new developments would:

- Produce net zero carbon emissions
- Reduce household bills by making buildings more energy efficient
- Provide a healthier and more comfortable environment for building occupants
- Better manage water quality, use and collection
- Protect and enhance greening and biodiversity
- Be more resilient to changing climate impacts

The 24 councils represent approximately half the Victorian population and planning activity.



We need a DRIVER to deliver bundles of papers once a month (except for January) to six addresses in the Laurel Avenue area.

Papers are collected from The Progress Hall in The Basin, after 8am, usually on the last Thursday of the month, and delivered that day if possible.

If you can help us with this regular task, please email us at

contact@bbcn.org.au

Thank you

DAFFODILS ARE FOREVER

- Danny Nolan

I like to go for walks, and I like to explore the various tracks, parks and reserves that are nearby. One that I hadn't walked through, even though I have friends living on its border, is not very far from my house and it's been the subject of much controversy lately. I refer to the Koolunga Native Reserve.

So off I went to see what all the fuss was about. My first impression was how thick the bush was from my entry point, which was the car park off Forest Road, but when you move along the many trails, also how wonderfully mysterious it could be. I was surprised when I stumbled across a waterway that winds beside the path that snakes through the heavy bush. I was unaware this was a drain, it looked so much like a creek the way it follows its own path, though I did find out later it leads directly to Blind Creek.

The bush eventually opens up and reveals some nice open lawned areas bordered by huge pine trees. All along the way noticing benches for sitting and enjoying the scenery. I was surprised by how compact it was but also how much it was being enjoyed, not just by the number of people strolling through it, but also by the little tree houses made out of fallen branches by local kids and the water bowls beside trees. Whether they were for dogs or local fauna, I wasn't sure. I had a quick peek at the sign indicating future works regarding the implanting of a wetland area. So when I got home I decided to look into it a bit more.

Being a local history buff, I immediately got hooked on the fact the park was part of the original Chandler daffodil farm. Roughly over 50 Hectares in its prime and to be able to see it now when the crops were in full bloom on a sunny day with the Dandenongs in the background would be a sight to behold.



Owned originally by Alfred Chandler, part of the Chandler dynasty that is responsible for much of the progress and development of this corner of what is now Knox Council, can never be lauded enough. It was Alfred's son Gilbert who probably had the most influence on the area. As a horticulturist, his tenure as a local and State politician culminated as Minister for

Agriculture.

During this time under his leadership, he led a remarkable advancement in research in many areas of farming disease control and primary industry. Gilbert was also a conservationist of the first order, with a passion for preserving the beauty of the Dandenongs. He was instrumental in the buyback of the Western face of the Dandenongs to incorporate it into the National park, thus stopping future development in that area. He was also responsible for selling the land that is now Koolunga Reserve to the council, on the proviso it remains a natural bush setting. In the 1950s, other members of the Chandler family sold adjoining land and helped establish and develop the Boronia Bowls Club.

This led to the beginning of housing development in the area, and in 1972 the daffodil farm ceased operations. This led to further development to the point where the only part of the original property remaining in one form or another is the Koolunga Native Reserve. This, of course, is a very abridged version of the history, and I encourage everyone to look into the fascinating lives and history of the area and the Chandlers themselves. There is currently a movement to stop a section from being turned into wetlands by the council. The section takes up about an eighth of the existing park. This is where I decided I had an opinion on what was happening.

Wetlands are a good thing, they provide an important resource in the stability of the local environment for both fauna and flora. I, however, find them aesthetically unappealing. Since arriving in the area I have seen three areas developed into wetlands. Wicks Reserve, the area below the library on Dorset rd. and the redevelopment of the lake at the Arboretum.

Though all provide important functions, I never felt they added to the original vista. To me, they made the original messier and less attractive. To

me, the proposed Koolunga wetlands is not so much how it will affect the area it is in, but the area around it. This brings us back to the Daffodil farm.

Below where the wetlands are proposed lies the open area I mentioned earlier, flanked by pine trees, originals from the early days of the daffodil farm that were used as windbreaks. This open area is part of the fields where daffodils grew, and it didn't occur until it was pointed out to me, it still has the rise and fall of the flower beds. Something you can see more clearly when the lawn is mowed. From another point of view, on Google Maps the rows can be seen clearly when viewed from above.



Basically, this is the last remaining area that exists as part of the original farm, and from what I can ascertain is in the path of heavy machinery to construct the earthworks to build the wetlands. I'd like very much to see this part preserved and perhaps a historical marker or board proclaiming what this particular area was a small part of.

I sincerely hope that a compromise can be made. We are in an enviable position where our local history is treasured and incorporation of the old with the future is always an option.

That, and the fact that I really hate those wetland boardwalks.

GOOD READS - *The Apollo Murders* by Chris Hadfield

The Author, Chris Hadfield, is a Canadian Astronaut and an experienced US Navy fighter pilot. He has flown three times into space and has also commanded a spaceship, so this book is written with the accuracy of someone who has real space travel experiences.

It's set in the time of Russian and United States space race era. Chris weaves real life characters and fictional characters cleverly into this pacy cold war thriller.

The book is littered with technical details which space buffs will appreciate; it also answers questions for me about trivial but important details about how you go about living in a confined spaceship when you are quarter of a million miles from earth. For example, what happens if you vomit when wearing a space helmet? Or more seriously what would you do with a dead body? Apparently there is a protocol for this, fortunately it has not been needed as yet.

This book will appeal to both lovers of thrillers and to space enthusiasts. I found it hard to put down, a great read.

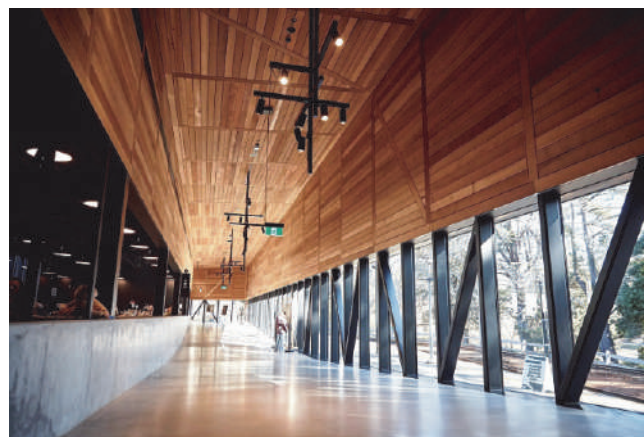
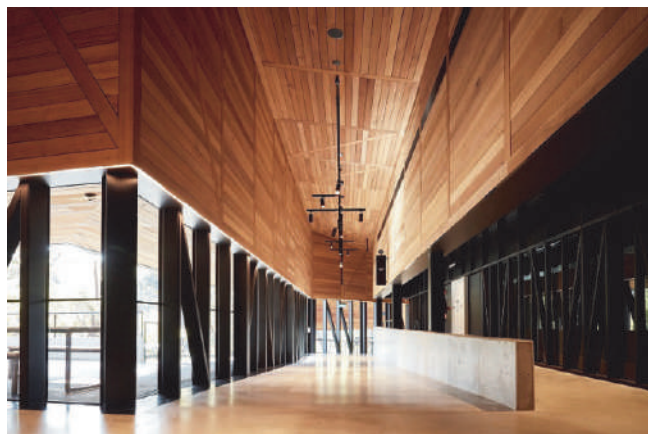
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PUFFING BILLY INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE AWARD, CHICAGO



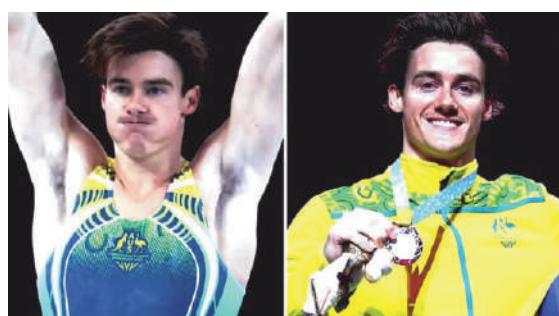
Puffing Billy Railway's state-of-the-art all-weather Lakeside Visitor Centre has been awarded the highest honour at the 2022 International Architecture Awards in Chicago.

The centre has taken out the prestigious global award for Best New International Architecture for 2022 – announced by the Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies.



"We are honoured to receive this prestigious award, which has been a labour of love for so many of us, including the teams at TERROIR Architects and Kane Constructions. This accolade not only celebrates the creation of our world-class visitor centre, but also helps put Puffing Billy on the global stage," says Peter Abbott, CEO of Puffing Billy Railway.

TYSON BULL GAINS THE HIGH BAR SILVER Medal AT THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES IN BIRMINGHAM, UK



Tyson grew up in The Basin. In our September issue last year, we had the pleasure of reporting on his great achievement at the Tokyo Olympics.

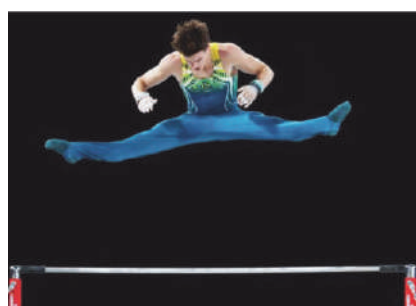
This September it's the Commonwealth Games. After failing to initially make the final in his pet event, the high bar, due to withdraws and injuries, Tyson was given an opportunity to compete. He fought through pain and claimed the silver medal while thanking his teammate for giving up his final's spot to him.

"Clay Stephens having the biggest heart in the world, (it was) just such a selfless act for him to offer that spot to give me a chance on my pet event," Bull told reporters.

"I was never going to ask for the spot because I knew he deserved it and how much hard work he put into earning that as well.

"It speaks to that decision he had to make and the kind of guy he is."

Congratulations again to Tyson from all of us at Boronia and The Basin Community News.



KNOX COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS SUPPORT "SHARING THE JOY" PROJECT

The Knox Community Christmas Support (KCCS) program is designed to assist Knox households at Christmas time. To date we have supported 5,523 people since the program's induction in 2010. Christmas can be a difficult time for families. Especially those that have lost their jobs or people who are on a low income struggling with the increasing cost of living.

Last year was no exception. The challenge was set for our Working Group for KCCS which is made up of 7 Community Organisations: Coonara Community House, Knox Infolink, Rotary Club of Boronia, Restore Community Care, Raft Anglican Church, Volunteer for Knox and the Wantirna Seventh Day Adventist Church.

We worked together to deliver another successful "Sharing the Joy" project for 2021 with 540 festive food hampers given out to support 885 Knox residents in the community. 1,094 gifts were given out as well as \$3810 gift vouchers. \$5690 meat vouchers were given out to individuals and families also.



The KCCS acknowledges the valuable support of Knox City Council through their support and participation on the Knox Community Welfare Fund Governance group who fund the operational side of the project. This important project would not be possible without this crucial funding support. We would like to thank the many businesses in our community that supported the project last year.

In the coming months we will be advertising for volunteers to join our "Sharing the Joy" team as well as reaching out to our community for donations of food for our Christmas hampers and toys/gifts for the families.

Client Feedback 2021:

"Thank you so very much for the kindness you have all shown me".

"You have given families in times of need the best Christmas and I am so very thankful".

"This is an amazing gesture. There are so many families that appreciate this, and I know that this has helped us out more than you know".

Lori Dudley, KCCS Project Coordinator

Julie Hanman, KCCS Partnership Development Coordinator

Knox Infolink, Monday-Thursday 10am-3pm

136 Boronia Road, BORONIA

Ph: 9761 1325 E: kccs@knoxinfolink.org.au

INTERNATIONAL DRAUGHTS MEANS DRAUGHTS WITH A DIFFERENCE - NEW CLUB JUST STARTED

- GEERT VERCRUYSSSE

When I was 12, we lived in Belgium and like all families we had a draughts board. I wasn't good at any sport, so I tend to like things where you can use your mind. It didn't take me long to beat everyone in the family and then only my mother would play with me, so it wasn't much fun. Mom found a newspaper article about a place 10km from my hometown that was running a draughts club specifically for youth.

I took the bus there on a Saturday afternoon and Rik (the organizer) explained to me that I got all rules pretty much wrong. International draughts is played on a 10x10 board and not on a chess board (8x8), and the game is more complex than the checkers game that people might know. So, from being "good at home", I then got beaten badly. Once I got the rules right, we did some exercises to learn how to play combinations. Rik allowed me to take an exercise book back home after he trusted I would come back next week, and 308 exercises later I finished the first book in the first week. Although I still lost playing real games, I was now determined to become youth club champion after only 4 weeks of training.



Freddy, the president of the club at that time (who had played for over 10 years), played a game against me but he saw no talent, and made it clear that I would never be able to play properly. Since that moment I

thought "we'll see about that mister president". I began watching the adult players and one of them showed an interest in me and helped me understand the combinations and strategies.

I became youth club champion, but Freddy still did not believe it. When I turned 17, I was recruited to play "National Competition" in the Netherlands,

which is regarded as the best competition in the world. They paid for my transport on the train, every second Saturday, 150km each way to play one game that took 3-5 hours. It was quite daunting as a young Belgian, especially because of the cultural differences.

I started winning the local club competition for adults (and Freddy had to endure it too). I won the Belgian national championship for Under 21 and went on to play in World championships in Ukraine and the Netherlands.

So now Freddy had to believe it! He told me later that he knew I could hear what he had said and claimed it was to encourage me. I never believed him until years later, when I guiltily thought to do the same when training young ones. I decided that it was not a good idea. I can certainly see how that can "make" or "break" people depending on how mentally strong they are. Draughts changed my life and kept me off the street, knowing that patience and decision making is very important and you should never give up!

After school I moved to the Netherlands where I played in a local club and national competitions. These were golden years! My wife and I moved to Australia 2005 and after the kids were born, draughts disappeared from my life.

During Covid I started playing again online (something I never really liked) and re-found my love for the game. I decided to start a club which began on 15th July 2022, with a few players and am currently in a second wave of advertising for more players, and am providing training.

The group meets every week from 7-8 pm, with a small fee for the players, because I have to pay for the hall hire.



VALE ROBYN CROOK

We acknowledge with sadness the death of Robyn Crook, one of our regular Walkers, who died a few weeks ago after a long battle with cancer. She was only 61.

Robyn was very proud of her commitment to this paper and delivered until she could no longer manage. She was very much a community person also being a Life Member of The Basin Community House and contributed to the Knox community for over 30 years.

She is survived by her partner Kevin and Son Jordan.



FERNTREE GULLY ART SOCIETY AT THE HUT GALLERY

157 UNDERWOOD RD, FERNTREE GULLY.

SEPTEMBER EXHIBITION

"WORKSHOPS WONDERS"

A mixed collection of Artworks created during our many workshops:

Still Life, Life Drawing, Creative Circle, Polymer Clay and our Monday and Thursday nights open workshops.

Open weekends Sat. 10 to Sun. 25 Sept.

Friday's 1-4pm.

We are closed Father's Day.

ALL WELCOME, FREE ENTRY

SEPTEMBER NOTABLES

- 1 Sept: Indigenous Literacy Day
- 1-7 Sept: National Week of Deaf People
- 8 Sept: RU OK Day
- 19 Sept: National Thank a Cop Day



Boronia Bowls Club

5 Marie St., Boronia

COME AND TRY DAYS

Never tried Lawn Bowls before?

Think you're too young? Not any more! Bowls is now a sport for any age and you will all be made most welcome. Come on down to Boronia Bowls Club on either Sunday 25th September or Sunday 2nd October, 2 - 4pm to try it out. All equipment is provided. We now use the latest Henselite coloured modern bowls and there will be friendly club members on hand to help you learn the basics of the game.

Already bowled before?

Then come and see what our Club has to offer. A fabulous outside deck area overlooking 2 immaculate grass greens and beer at great prices!

What's not to like?

We have 3 Saturday, 3 Tuesday and 2 Thursday Pennant sides this season and we're always looking for new members to join our friendly Club.

For further information, contact Val Gage on 0490 841 065

MAJOR SPONSORS

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- Noel Jones Real Estate Wantirna
- Chemist Discount Centre Boronia
- Palandri Insurances Boronia
- The Spectacle Site Boronia
- Mackinnon Jacobs Lawyers Boronia
- Hearing Professionals Boronia
- Glengollan Village Ferntree Gully



CLUB SUPPORTERS

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

New bowlers ALWAYS welcome – no fees for the first year – call Patrick on 0459 999 261

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Your waste service is changing

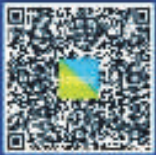
Next year we'll be making some changes to our services and how often we pick up your bins.

Find out more

Look out for our brochure in your rates notice
Visit knox.vic.gov.au/bins or call us on **9298 8000**



HAVE YOUR SAY



We want to know how you use waste services and what's important to you

To provide feedback visit knox.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay
Call **9298 8000** to get a survey mailed to you,
or email talkingrubbish@knox.vic.gov.au

What's on

Stringybark Festival

Family friendly event celebrating home grown creativity and sustainability.

Sunday 16 October
10am - 4pm
Rowville Community Centre
knox.vic.gov.au/stringybark

Stringybark at Stud Park

Free nature arts play for kids
Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 October
10am - 4pm
Stud Park Shopping Centre

FREE



Community training

Safe food handling workshop

Thursday 8 September
6:30pm - 9pm
Knox Civic Centre

Marketing for community groups

Thursday 6 October
6:30pm - 9pm
Online

Register at knox.vic.gov.au/communitytraining
or call **0447 462 856**

FREE

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PLAYING FOR PAUL

- Rob Fairbairn

For a large part of my adult life I've been involved with music, whether it be listening to it, playing it, teaching or creating it. And I've learned much from the people I've been associated with along the way. There's an expression I learned for example, from a dear departed friend Ian Tritt, a fine musician and always fun to play alongside. At the end of every gig, no matter how well we played or were received, he would say, **"Well, we got away with it again"**.

Looking back on my career as an entertainer, you could say I was 'getting away with it' for decades but never was it more true than the time I played for a future prime minister.

Most of the time the audiences I stood before were ordinary folk, but occasionally a famous face would appear in the crowd, such as legendary Kiwi humourist John Clarke's, in the front row of the Melbourne Concert Hall. At the time I was playing in "The Travelling Wallabies" and our band was opening for the famous Irish group, "The Fureys". I vividly remember one typically smoky, sweaty Thursday night with The Wallabies at Irish Pub "Molly Bloom's" in Port Melbourne, when Tim Finn, founder member of Split Enz and brother of Crowded House's Neil, flung himself flamboyantly around the dance floor.

A few years earlier in the late 1980s as a soloist at a popular Yarra Valley winery, I once serenaded popular TV personality Denise Drysdale and another time, renowned restaurateur and TV

talent show judge Geoff Brookes. And it was there that I had the daunting task of singing for not one but three political luminaries.

Prior to becoming the resident entertainer at Yarra Burn I had been in bands with the safety net of other playing partners, a sound engineer and a well-rehearsed routine. Now it was just me, my guitar, my voice and my wits. Fortunately my 'band years' had given me confidence, a repertoire and a degree of stage craft and I soon developed a format which worked well and kept me employed.

My first spot was between soup and the main course, when David the owner would give his usual 'humorous' introduction, "I'd like to introduce your entertainer for this afternoon, he's played in front of The Prince of Wales, The Duke of Wellington and many other pubs around Melbourne. Ladies and Gentlemen, Rob Freebairn!" (He seldom got it right).

I would open with "G'day, G'day", my signature tune, followed by a singalong such as "Botany Bay" and then I would introduce "The Yarra Burn Bush Band". This meant inviting, cajoling and occasionally imploring members of the audience to accompany me on washboard, lagerphone, T chest bass and other exotic instruments as together we belted out such Aussie classics as: "Tie Me Kangaroo Down Sport" and "Click Go the Shears". Then it was "A big round of applause for the band", followed by "A Home Among The Gumtrees" (with actions) then main course. The format was a winner. But on one particular sunny Sunday in spring I was thrown a curve ball.

Judging by the packed car park I could tell we had a full house. In fact it was overflowing, with tables and chairs set up outside in the shade. David

greeted me at the kitchen door, "Err, Rob, Paul Keating's out in the garden. Could you go and sing a few songs for him?"

The irony was not lost on me. Both David Fyffe and his wife were staunch Liberals; Christine later becoming a councillor, a local member of State parliament and eventually Speaker of the House. And here was I, a life-long labor voter, about to serenade the Federal Treasurer and eventual Prime Minister. So it was with a combination of awe and trepidation that I strapped on my guitar and ventured out into the garden.

It was indeed Paul Keating and alongside him sat ACTU secretary Bill Kelty and Jan Marsh, another prominent unionist. What do I sing? I offered a timid hello, introduced myself and I honestly can't remember what I sang for the smallest, most influential and illustrious audience of my career. But I do remember nervously asking for requests.

There was a short silence, I gulped and my throat went so dry I feared I might lose my voice. I was aware Paul Keating was a passionate lover of classical music and opera and had even managed a rock band. The breadth of my repertoire was about to be tested.

The pause was probably only a second or two, but seemed like an eternity. Then the future Prime Minister of Australia spoke up, "Do you know 'The Times They Are A Changing' by Bob Dylan?" Luckily I did. I played them the song, accepted their polite applause, turned and with much relief walked back towards the restaurant, the words of my old mate Ian Tritt ringing in my ears.

"Well, we got away with it again".

Saving food scraps from landfill

Knox residents will be able to dispose of food in their garden waste bins from mid next year and maximise the amount of waste that can be composted.

Food scraps make up 43% of what is in our rubbish bins. Turning food waste into compost is much less damaging to our environment and reduces harmful greenhouse gases produced by food rotting in landfill.

The food and garden bin will be picked up weekly and the rubbish bin will be picked up fortnightly.

Knox Mayor, Cr Susan Laukens said there is clear evidence that weekly collection of the food and garden bin together with fortnightly collection of the rubbish bin is most successful in diverting food waste from going to landfill.

"We know this will be a big change for our community and we will offer additional support and service options where needed," she said.

"Collecting the food and garden bins weekly means most of the stinky things in our bins will continue to be picked up weekly.

"We will consult the community to understand



what some of the challenges of this change will be and what special exemptions and arrangements can be put in place for households that have specific needs like children in nappies and people using incontinence aids, larger households or households with high volumes of medical waste," Cr Laukens said.

Knox currently diverts 45% of all kerbside waste from landfill. Some Victorian councils have diverted up to 76% of waste from landfill by switching to weekly food and garden bin and fortnightly rubbish bin collection.

A recent audit of rubbish bins found that food scraps make up 43% of waste in Knox. About 2% is garden waste and 12% is recyclable material. The introduction of a food and garden bin service and education about recycling correctly could halve the amount of waste sent to landfill.

In 2020, the Victorian Government released new waste management and recycling reforms, which are compulsory for all Victorian councils. The community will be consulted on a new waste strategy for Knox to implement the changes mandated by the Victorian Government.

SEPTEMBER NOTABLES

26 Sept -2 Oct: National Op Shop Week

26 Sept -5 Oct: Navaratri Festival (Hindu)

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**Ten punny things you can say
to make your dad smile
on Father's Day.**

- You did a grape job raisin me dad.
- You are like a whiteboard dad, because you're remarkable.
- I really love spending koala-tea time with you dad.
- You are one in a melon, dad!
- Yoda best dad in the whole universe!
- We love you a latte dad, more than we can espresso.
- Honestly, our family would really be muffin without you.
- Hey dad, you are really punny.
- Dad, I don't say this everyday, but I love you from my head tomatoes.
- I love you, dad, even when you are giraffe-ing me crazy.

A bonus one (just in case he is lapping it all up and looking for an encore)

- I'm very happy to be y-orchid.

Let's do something together on Father's day.

Most dads see themselves as action men. They love to DO things. Think about all the things your dad likes to do and suggest that you join him in a fun time together. If you can't think of something, here are ten free suggestions that may be fun. Some of these can be combined, like a walk, a picnic and animal spotting:

- Have an indoor picnic
- Make and fly a kite together
- Go for a walk or bike ride in your local park
- See how many native animals you can find (wherever you are)
- Spoil him with breakfast in bed
- Complete a home improvement project together
- Cook up a BBQ for lunch or dinner and share some stories
- Visit an interesting place like a historical site or the Zoo
- Do a puzzle or play a game together
- Create an in home/yard treasure hunt

The most important thing for your dad is to spend some fun time with him on fathers' day (and any day really).

IT'S TOUGH BEING A NEW DAD



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

Hey kids, let's hit dad with some Dad Jokes

Q. Which bear is the most condescending?

A. A pan-duh!

Q. What kind of noise does a witch's vehicle make?

A. Brrrrrooom, brrrrrooom!

Q. How do you get a country girl's attention?

A. A tractor.

Q. Why are elevator jokes so classic and good?

A. They work on many levels.

Q. What do you call a pudgy psychic?

A. A four-chin teller.

Maybe give him a rest for now and hit him again later with the second half. Just to show him you too have Dad Joke stamina.

Q. What did the police officer say to his belly-button?

A. You're under a vest.

Q. What kind of drink can be bitter and sweet?

A. Reali-tea.

Q. What do you call a naughty lamb dressed up like a skeleton?

A. Ba-a-ad to the bone.

Q. Want to know why nurses like red crayons?

A. Sometimes they have to draw blood.

Q. What would the Terminator be called in his retirement?

A. The Exterminator.

And a bonus one just in case he starts to retaliate.

Q. Why do bees have sticky hair?

A. Because they use honeycombs.

The Happy Song – Designed by scientists to make babies happy.

I first experienced the effect of The Happy song when my daughter put her baby in her car seat, and he started crying. “I’ll play the happy song” she said, “it works every time. It’s made by scientists”.

The Happy Song by Imogen Heap is the first composition designed and tested by scientists to make babies happy. It was commissioned by baby and toddler milk brand Cow & Gate (C&G) for their Baby Club online community.

Caspar Addyman, an expert in child development, and Lauren Stewart, a musical psychologist, analysed existing science about infant preferences, in order to come up with the ideal parameters for a baby-friendly pop hit. They concluded the song should be in a major key, be simple and repetitive and have a broad range of dynamics to keep the baby surprised and tuned in. The song also had to be up-tempo, mirroring a baby’s heartbeat, which is faster than an adult’s. They asked more than 1,000 parents to name the noises that made their babies happy. The most popular were the word “boo”, a sneeze, kissing sounds and animal noises.

They commissioned Grammy award-winner Imogen Heap, to put together a song that includes these sounds, set to an upbeat major key melody. She composed four tracks with different tempos, chord patterns, pitches, rhythms and musical devices, include as many of the happy sounds as she could.

Addyman and Stewart played the tunes to more than 50 babies aged six months to two years old at the university’s InfantLab. With help from music consultancy Felt Music, they monitored reactions including movements, facial expressions, heart rate and vocalizations to find out which elements of the songs made the babies happiest. After 8 months of testing, the final song emerged.

The Happy Song contains all the elements that research suggests will put a smile on little ones’ faces. So far it has had a great success rate with parents I have spoken to.

KIDS
ZONE

We would love to hear your experiences with this song and other emerging songs specifically designed for babies.

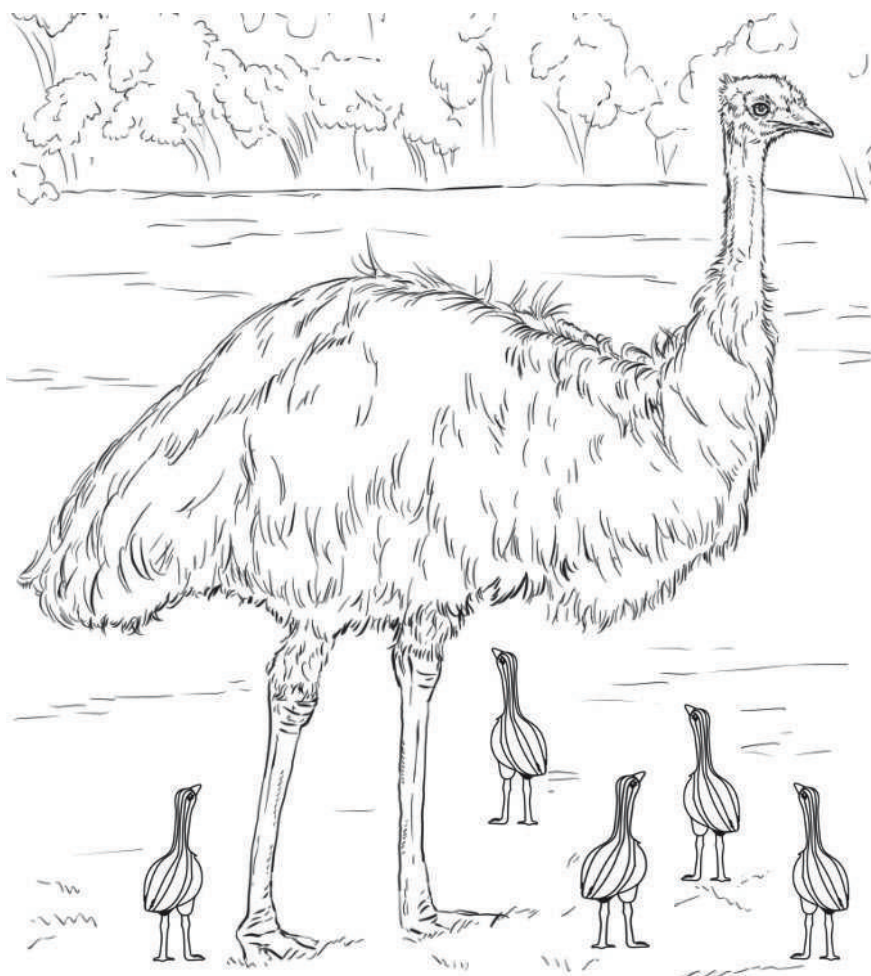
Read more:

<http://imogenheap.com/thehappysong/>

Ask Kate will be back in coming months. She is about to have her second baby, and we wish her all the best.

Joy Shelley

Colour in father Emu and his chicks



Hey dad, what do you know about Emus?

(Don’t let him cheat by looking at the answers)

1. Why are Emus considered fantastic fathers?

A. Because the father emu incubates the eggs for 55 days without leaving the nest. They then raise the chicks alone and are very protective of them.

2. Are Emus the largest bird in the world?

A. No, they are the second largest after the ostrich. Emus grow up to 2 metres tall and weigh up to 55 Kg (fully grown females are usually about 10% heavier than males).

3. How long does an Emu live in the wild?

A. Usually 10-20 years. They are common across Australia and are only naturally found in Australia.

4. How big is an emu egg?

A. Emu eggs vary in size, on average being about 13 cm long x 9 cm wide. They weigh between 400 to 700 grams, which is the weight of one dozen large chicken eggs! The female lays 5-20 eggs for a single dad emu to care for.

5. Do Emus have eyelids?

A. Emus have two sets of eyelids, one for blinking and the other for keeping the dust out.

KIDS
ZONE

Nick WAKELING MP

STATE MEMBER FOR FERNTREE GULLY



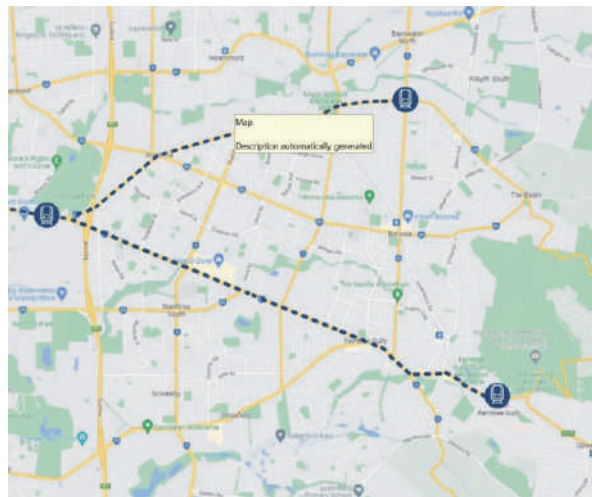
Unit 4, 91 Dorset Road, Ferntree Gully 3156
 03 9758 6011
 nick.wakeling@parliament.vic.gov.au
 nickwakeling.com.au
 /NickWakeling

Extending Tram Route 75 to Knox

You may have recently heard about my plan to undertake a study to extend the Route 75 Tram to Knox. This study would examine extending the tram from Vermont South along Burwood Highway to Upper Ferntree Gully. Furthermore, it would also examine extending the tram along Mountain Highway to Dorset Road in Bayswater.

In 1916 the original Burwood Highway tram, Route 75, went as far as Warrigal Road. On 19 July 1978, the route was extended from Warrigal Road to Middleborough Road, Burwood East and on 8 July 1993 it was further extended to Blackburn Road. Its current terminus is at Vermont South Shopping Centre which was completed on 25 July 2005.

Knox residents have always been faced with heavy traffic conditions whether commuting to work, education or other interests. Over time, our major roads and freeways have become congested and many residents, depending on



where they live, have not had the option of being able to use public transport. Most Knox residents have been forced to use their cars rather than find alternate ways of travelling.

This extension would allow more Knox commuters to travel by public transport to places such as the Burwood Highway

Employment Cluster, Swinburne and Deakin Universities, Westfield Shopping Centre, and Bayswater business precinct. It will also increase access to health care facilities and Knox Private Hospital.

This extension would be the catalyst for connecting commuters to areas such as the Knox Central Activity Centre, the Wantirna Health Precinct and boost continued investment in the Bayswater precinct.

It will also offer economic benefits, lower the road traffic allowing freight traffic to move more freely and will increase land prices along the route.

For more information:

www.nickwakeling.com.au/survey/extending-the-knox-tram-route-75

Nick Wakeling MP, Liberal State Member for Ferntree Gully

READER'S LETTER

I have just read your August BBCN edition and noted the Boronia Railway Crossing article by Sari Cuce.

I am originally from country Victoria and never expected to live in this area so close to the crossing and it was wonderful to watch it change to what it is now.

I have always had an interest in that crossing as family lore told of my grandmother's brother being killed tragically there in 1926. Many years ago I inherited from a family member the newspaper clippings from that time. Further research uncovered the complete story and I acquired the inquest details eventually.

It seems that this tragedy is the forgotten one as it doesn't get a mention in most articles about the crossing. Ten people died and 15 were injured (the details vary in each article).

[Information can be sourced through trove/nla.gov.au. Trove is a collaboration between the National Library of Australia and hundreds of partner organisations around Australia.]

In 1991 there was an article in our local (Boronia) paper about the crossing and a local resident, Mrs Ashton, was interviewed regarding the 1926 accident. In that accident she lost 3 or 4 members of her husband's family. I was able to meet her and she graciously gave me some details of that day from her perspective and the effects it had on all the families who lost loved ones. They were on a church picnic up to Ferntree Gully to celebrate ANZAC Day and all from either Clifton Hill or Northcote, many from the same street which made it more devastating.

Charles Reginald Barr was my relative and he was a twin. His twin brother decided at the last minute not to attend the trip and the story goes that he knew exactly when Charlie was killed as he had this terrible pain in his neck. Charlie's father identified his body in the morgue and told that his son had been decapitated. He was only 21.

It was indeed a blessing when the rail line went under Boronia Road. It beggars belief that for so long it was not declared a dangerous crossing. A win to common sense at last.

Cheers,

Maree Hahn Ferntree Gully.

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See Well

Weisz Family Optical

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HOW FATHERHOOD HAS CHANGED

Fatherhood and its expectations have changed significantly in just a few generations. Today's father can be single or married; externally employed or stay-at home; gay or straight; an adoptive or stepparent and is much more a part of his child's life than ever before.

My father grew up in the depression of the 1930's. During this time men and women found work wherever they could. His father worked for the railways in alternate weeks as there were not enough jobs to go around, and his mother took on cleaning jobs to make ends meet. During World War 2, women took on jobs that traditionally men had done, but when the soldiers came back, they were expected to give up their jobs. In 1955, my mother had to resign from her job as a qualified primary teacher, as married women were not allowed in any public service position.

I grew up in the 60's when equal pay was still a decade away, there was no maternity (or paternity) leave, paid or unpaid, and no childcare centres. The majority of childrearing was done by mothers whilst fathers were expected to be the bread winner and disciplinarian. "Wait 'til your father gets home!" was a common phrase in this era. Compare this to my children in the 1990's greeting their father excitedly when he came home from work or collecting them from childcare, which we were fortunate enough to have access to.

Mothers in the 1950's were provided with informative publications such as the 1955 Housekeeping Monthly article entitled, "The Good Wife's Guide." It detailed all the ways that a wife should act and how best she can be a partner to her husband and a mother to her children. This included such gems as "Prepare yourself. Take 15 minutes to rest so you'll be refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your makeup, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh-looking. He has just been with a lot of work-weary people." and "Don't complain if he's late home for dinner or even if he stays out all night. Count this as minor compared to what he might have gone through that day". My mother never believed in these ideas and my father never stayed out all night.

In the past, the 'rules' of society discouraged men from having much involvement with their children in the early formative years. Men were not even allowed to be present in the labour ward until the 1960's and it was not until the 70's and 80's that they were allowed to stay for the birth. Today most fathers are present for those first precious moments. Being able to be involved from birth gradually led to fathers being involved in all stages of their children's development.

Nowadays the single breadwinner family is a rarity as income from both parents is needed to make ends meet. Society has therefore moved to shared responsibility for children.

Historically, research on child development has focused more on the sensitivity of mothers to fulfilling their children's needs. However, in the last 20 to 30 years, research has increasingly focused on fathers. Research on the role of fathers suggests that the influence of fathers' love on children's development is as great as the influence of a mother's love. Fatherly love helps children develop a sense of their place in the world, which helps their social, emotional and cognitive development and functioning. Moreover, children who receive more love from their fathers are less likely to struggle with behavioural or substance abuse problems.

This recognition of the need for both parent's emotional support is not new. In the late 1800's one of the reasons given in the fight for the 8-hour day, was that men could become better husbands, fathers and citizens if they were granted more leisure time. Unfortunately, in recent times the 8-hour day has been eroded with Australians now working some of the longest hours in the world.

The COVID-19 pandemic has now changed the way we live and work, with people spending more time working from home. Hopefully more flexible working arrangements will make it easier for all parents to manage their busy family lives and invest more time with their children.

Joy Shelley

LOCAL SUPPORT FOR HOMELESSNESS

On any given night, more than 380 Knox community members are sleeping rough. A staggering figure most won't be aware of.

The figure, however, is not unfamiliar to Knox Infolink - Knox's leading resource centre for those experiencing homelessness.

Led by Denise Budge, Knox Infolink provides advocacy and referral services that are free, confidential and impartial. They also provide essential parcels available on a walk-in basis, including food, toiletries, and more.

"Our mission is to empower individuals to make informed decisions, create a sense of belonging in our community and above all, enhance their quality of life," says Denise.

Knox Infolink relies heavily on volunteers. We encourage residents who are able, to support the incredible work Denise and her team do each day and make a difference that counts within our community.

Local support is always available and is often the first step toward safe and secure housing.

To learn more about Knox Infolink and volunteering, visit their website or contact Denise on manager@knoxinfolink.org.au or 9761 1325.

For information on Council programs and other local services available for those who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or escaping family violence, please visit our webpage or contact the Short Term Support Team on 9298 8874 or support@knox.vic.gov.au.

To learn more about National Homelessness Week, visit Homelessness Australia.

Looks like a car

Sounds like a car

...but acts like a house for many people homeless tonight

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.



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PLANT A TREE FOR THE JUBILEE!

This year marked a momentous achievement for her Majesty the Queen, celebrating her Platinum Jubilee. She is the first Monarch ever to reach such a milestone.

To celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and her 70 years of service to the Commonwealth, the Coalition government launched a nationwide tree planting program in her honour to mark the special occasion.

I was pleased to secure \$100,000 for this project in our local community. You may have seen one of the projects at some of our local schools and community organisations.

As part of the project thousands of native trees and grasses have been planted across the country, to create a legacy of tree planting for all Australians to enjoy now and into the future.



It will also serve as a legacy to honour the memory of the Queen and her 70 years of service to the Commonwealth.

Boronia Heights Primary School was one of the schools in the electorate which was successful in the program. I was pleased to be able to officially open the park with the school captains as part of a recent school assembly.

They have planted over 100 trees as part of the newly created Jubilee Park in the school grounds, and it features a beautiful wooden bench with a commemorative plaque to allow the school community to sit under the future tree canopy for years to come.

Well done to the all involved and congratulations on this tree-mendous effort.

READER'S LETTER

I am writing to you as an attendee at the Foothills Community Care dinners @5pm on every Wednesday, at the Ferntree Gully Girl Guides Hall.

The reason I am writing is that the carpark entrance to the Hall is in a deteriorating state of disrepair, with numerous potholes surrounding the entrance.

My friend who is over 80yrs, tripped up recently carrying his fresh produce to his vehicle from the Hall.

I am also wondering how many others may have also been in this situation.

I hope that it doesn't take a serious fall or accident in the future to fix this issue near the Hall.

At this time of year, it consistently rains; the holes are filled with rainwater; the vehicles navigating this area makes the holes larger, more dangerous and messier.

Up to a hundred people can attend these dinners, with quite a few of them having various disabilities.

Some are with mobility scooters, assisted walkers,

some even with personal carers and the elderly.

There is one man who recently turned 100yrs, who attends dinners regularly from its inception 17yrs ago.

Enquiries have been made to who is responsible for this land area and it is the Railways or PTV.

The Knox Council had a lease on this piece of land in the past but say that it expired in 2019, three years ago.


I know that with a little cooperation those responsible for the land, a good outcome can be made for those that use the hall during the week.

This will also impact the general community for good as they also can walk, jog or traverse through this area whether by day or night, 24/7.

I hope that you might be able to assist us in some way for a great outcome, as we have exhausted some avenues already and made a little headway.

Hoping this is of interest to you and look forward to your response.

Take care, *Peter Pieklo*



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RU OK? Day is our national day of action (Thurs 8 Sept) when we remind Australians that every day is the day to ask, 'are you OK?' and start a meaningful conversation whenever they spot the signs that someone they care about might be struggling with life.

Got a feeling that someone you know or care about it isn't behaving as they normally would? Perhaps they seem out of sorts? More agitated or withdrawn? Or they're just not themselves. Trust that gut instinct and act on it. Learn more about the signs and when it's time to ask R U OK?

By starting a conversation and commenting on the changes you've noticed, you could help that family member, friend or workmate open up. If they say they are not OK, you can follow our conversation steps to show them they're supported and help them find strategies to better manage the load. If they are OK, that person will know you're someone who cares enough to ask.



THURS 8 SEPT



GETTING READY TO ASK

Before you can look out for others, you need to look out for yourself. And that's OK. If you're not in the right headspace or you don't think you're the right person to have the conversation, try to think of someone else in their support network who could talk to them.

To help you decide whether you're ready to start a meaningful conversation, ask yourself:

AM I READY?

- Am I in a good headspace?
- Am I willing to genuinely listen?
- Can I give as much time as needed

AM I PREPARED?

- Do I understand that if I ask how someone's going, the answer could be: "No, I'm not"?
- Do I understand that I can't 'fix' someone's problems?

Do I accept that they might not be ready to talk? Or they might not want to talk to me?

PICKED MY MOMENT?

Have I chosen somewhere relatively private and comfy?

Have I figured out a time that will be good for them to chat?

Have I made sure I have enough time to chat properly?

LEARN THE SIGNS, TRUST YOUR GUT AND ASK RU OK?

We can all make a difference in the lives of those who might be struggling by having regular, meaningful conversations about life's ups and downs.

If you feel like something's not quite the same with someone you know – there's something going on in their life or you notice a change in what they're doing or saying - trust that gut instinct and take the time to ask them "Are you OK?"

By acting as 'eyes and ears' and reaching out to anyone who's going through a tough time we can show them they're supported and encourage them to access help sooner.

Visit: www.ruok.org.au for information and resources.

I'M WALKING FROM THE MCG TO THE SCG A CHALLENGE FOR A NOBLE CAUSE RAISING FUNDS FOR THE McGRATH FOUNDATION

**Good Morning, Good Afternoon,
Hari Om and Namaskar.**

Hi! My name is Prabodh Malhotra and I live in Boronia. In November, I plan to walk over a 1000 km from the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) to Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) to raise funds for the McGrath Foundation which helps thousands of families across Australia affected by breast cancer.

Walking from the MCG to SCG is a monumental challenge that requires a great deal of inspiration, encouragement, and what Swami Niranjana calls "selfless devotion".

Among others, my inspiration comes from the French author Stephen Grellet who said, "I expect to pass through this world but once; any good thing therefore I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow-creature, let me do it now, let me not defer or neglect it". As a 70-year-old retiree, this may be my last chance to make a small contribution for a good cause.

Our target is to raise \$1,000,000 for the McGrath Foundation. My humble request to you is to please give generously and encourage others to donate directly to the foundation by clicking on the link provided.

Every breast cancer experience is different; the McGrath Foundation aims to make life that little bit easier for individuals and families.

My fundraising is to help place specialist McGrath Breast Care Nurses, wherever they're needed, and I'd love your support. I'd really appreciate it if you would you consider making a donation. Thanks!

<https://fundraise.mcgrathfoundation.com.au/fundraisers/prabodhmalhotra/walk-from-mcg-to-scg>

Donations are tax deductible, and go directly to the McGrath Foundation.



Morning Tea Chat Group at Boronia Library every Friday morning.

Time: 11am to 12midday

Cost: 50 Cents for tea, coffee & biscuits.

Small friendly group. Come & have a cuppa and chat.

Love to see you there. You do not have to book in, just turn up at Boronia Library.

The Internet

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Jackson Taylor, Local State MP for Bayswater

Angliss and Healthcare

Our healthcare workers are truly heroes. Each day they continue to turn up and give people the care they need when they need it. So, it was a privilege to visit our much-loved Angliss Hospital with Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas MP recently to say, 'Thank you'. The Angliss is a great hospital that has served this part of the world for well over 80 years. But it needs a bit more work to ensure the staff and patients have the very best facilities. So,

I'm excited that the State Government is providing over \$100 million for a major expansion and renewal



of this loved local which will deliver more beds, more elective surgery suites and better facilities. The project will create around 330 construction jobs, providing a major boost to the local economy.

The expansion builds on previous upgrades in 2018 which included a new 14-bed Intensive Care Unit and refurbishment to the adult short stay unit and paediatric emergency area. Thank you again to the team there and across our State who, during unprecedented demand in the healthcare system, continue to work hard every day. This is on top of the \$12 billion boost to healthcare to back in our healthcare heroes and provide for better hospitals, more paramedics (with an extra 400 on the road this year alone) and better care, that we announced recently. It'll also deliver 5,000 more nurses, more elective surgery and nearly 400 more triple zero call takers.

Premier comes to Fairhills

The Premier, Dan Andrews, got a huge reception down at ripper local school Fairhills High School where we came down to say g'day and check progress on the huge \$8.1 million upgrade about to start. Backing in education is one of my single biggest priorities. The new facilities aren't far off starting and they'll ensure every single student can dream big and achieve those dreams.

Update on Local Projects

- I was recently briefed by Major Roads project Victoria who are delivering lights and an upgrade to Burwood Hwy / McMahons Road. I provided feedback from locals and planning is well underway. I'll continue to bring updates on this critical project.

- Architect appointed to deliver the \$11.2 million upgrade at Wantirna College.

- More than 115,000 people benefitting from over 60 Free TAFE courses.

- And we're getting on with the Suburban Rail Loop with construction now underway.

- 65th level crossing removed.

- St Bernadette's Primary School in The Basin new learning hub underway.

Rewarding Drivers

The State Government is making L and P licences free and rewarding safe drivers with a 25% discount on your next licence renewal. New learner drivers will save up to \$51.40 in learner licencing and online testing fees. While probationary drivers will save up to \$133.30 in probationary licence and online hazard perception testing fees. And if you have not incurred any demerit points or committed a road safety offence in the three years' prior to your next licence renewal, you'll get a 25% discount on your that renewal.

Victoria's Economy #1 in Nation

Victoria has the best performing economy in the nation leading the way with massive investment into construction, investment in healthcare and supporting jobs. This is something all Victorians can be incredibly proud of. Source: Commsec 'State of the States' report.

And in a win for local families - it's back! The Melbourne Royal Show. And this year, kids 14 and under, go free. Thursday 22 September - Sunday 2 October 2022. Enjoy.

And a big shout-out to mental healthcare workers across the board and in our government (and low-fee non govt. schools) where we're well on the way to rolling them out.

State Basketball Centre Takes Shape

Scheduled for completion in late 2023, the centre will deliver new high-performance training and administration facilities for basketball, including WNBL and NBL teams, along with 12 new indoor community courts for local basketball competitions bringing the total to 18. The project is backed by the State Government with a \$105 million investment along with a Knox City Council contribution of \$27 million.

New administration facilities supporting a broad range of sports, and a new gymnastics centre are being built.



Construction hoarding around the site is being transformed into storytelling of the land on which the State Basketball Centre is being built – proud Palawa woman and artist of the Mullum Mullum community Amanda Wright and Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place youth group, have created rich artworks that recognise their culture.

The project is supporting more than 500 jobs during construction and creating more than 100 new jobs once the centre is operational.

Through the Victorian Government's Local Jobs First policy and Major Projects Skills Guarantee, small and medium sized businesses in Victoria are given more opportunities to compete for both large and small government contracts.

This project is being built with a minimum of 90 per cent local materials, and 10 per cent of total estimated work hours being delivered by apprentices, trainees and cadets.

"We're supporting the next generation of sporting champions and the communities behind them, ensuring Victorians have access to first-class sporting facilities across the state."

"Basketball is huge in Victoria, and we're investing so more people can enjoy taking part in the sport they love, our top teams can train and be their best, and local sports have top class facilities."

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos

"I'm proud that we're building the home of basketball right here in Knox! The amazing facilities will support thousands of locals to dream big and get involved and the state-of-the-art centre will welcome nearly two million visitors annually, who'll also be able to enjoy a new town square space."

Member for Bayswater Jackson Taylor



At Knox Over 50s 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 27th of September, at Club Kilsyth, 1-15 Canterbury Road, Bayswater North, followed by lunch in the bistro for those who wish to stay on. If you are looking to enhance your social life, come along and join us.

With the weather beginning to show signs of improvement, our members are looking forward to their Werribee Bus Zoo trip in the middle of this month. Also on the agenda during October is a trip on Puffing Billy from Belgrave to Emerald Lake. Bookings for this trip are moving fast.

Later in the year, we have our annual holiday. This year we are off to Merimbula, NSW, from 7th – 11th of November. Our Social Committee always comes up with the best destinations!!

Currently, the Social Committee is looking at plans for our Christmas Party in December.

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 Phyl Bradley on 9762 3148 for further information.

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

**THE BASIN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
FIVE TEAMS, FIVE GRAND FINALS, FIVE CUPS, FIVE FLAGS
SUNDAY 14 AUGUST 2022, LONG TO BE REMEMBERED**



The Reserves and the Seniors made it to the elimination finals.

The under 19 team play in their Grand Final on 11 September.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL IN THE CLUB ON SUCH A MEMORABLE YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENTS.

KNOX COUNCIL COMMUNITY TRAINING

We offer free workshops throughout the year for individuals, community groups, clubs and not-for-profit organisations who provide activities, programs and services in Knox. Brief details are listed below, full information is available on our website, link at end of article.

Workshops will take place either at Knox Civic Centre or online.

*** Safe Food Handling**

Thursday 8 September, 6.30-9pm

*** Marketing for Community Groups**

Thursday 6 October, 6.30-9pm

*** How to Attract Volunteers**

Wednesday 19 October, 6.30-9pm

*** Cultural Sensitivity Training**

Wednesday 3 November, 6.30-9pm

*** Building Aboriginal Cultural Competency**

Wednesday 16 November, 6.30-9pm

Visit knox.vic.gov.au for more info.

KNOX COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

Comedy, live theatre and children's performances coming up!

Exciting shows include:

It Might As Well be Spring – the Songs of Rodgers and Hammerstein, Tue 6 Sept

The Alphabet of Awesome Science – School holiday feature show, Thu 22 Sept

Hard to Reach Places by Anna Lumb, Friday 7 Oct

See the Events Calendar: knox.vic.gov.au.

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Boronia Uniting Church cnr. Boronia Rd, Zeising Ct

A **SPECIAL WELCOME** to those who are single, married, divorced, gay, filthy rich or dirt poor. We extend a special welcome to those who are crying newborns, or skinny as a rake, or could afford to loose a few pounds...

We welcome you if you can sing like Pavarotti, or are like this writer (who can't carry a note in a bucket). You're welcome here if you're 'just browsing', just woke up, or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Pope, or haven't been in church since little Jack's christening.

WORSHIP WITH US EVERY SUNDAY MORNING AT 10AM...

We have a user-friendly worship servic... kids activities, lots of singing – all followed by morning tea and fellowship.

OUR CHURCH...

Is open each Tuesday and Friday morning from 10am till 12 noon where **EMERGENCY FOOD RELIEF** is available. We can help with food parcels (as long as you live in the Knox area).

Also operating on these days is our 'nearly-new' **CLOTHING SHOP**.

EVERYONE can be assured of a warm, friendly welcome.

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.

POP-UP-SHOP selling boxes of YUMMY TREATS will resume on FRIDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER – at the front door of the church from 10.30am – 1pm.

\$10 per box with at least 8 separate items of home baking in each box - you won't be disappointed!

Special orders (including GF) and pre-orders can be made by calling 0421 769 067.

OUR NEXT MAKERS AND GROWERS MARKET...

will be held on Saturday, 5th November. To book a stall or make enquiries contact irenesmith2@bigpond.com

For more information about us -

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

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Boronia View Club will be meeting on Friday 16 Sept. at 11.30am at Eastwood Golf Club, Liverpool Rd., Kilsyth with a 2 course lunch at a cost of \$27. The speaker will be James Nicolas speaking about

The Mystery of Fairyland, a house in Kew. There will also be a book stall, trading table and raffle and all monies raised go to The Smith Family Learning for Life program. VIEW (Voice, interests and Education of Women) is a national women's organization and support network, bringing together women to enjoy social activities, develop skills and make connections-all while supporting Australian children experiencing disadvantage.

So, ladies of all ages and backgrounds, come along and join us. You will be warmly welcomed.

Enquiries to Judith on 9764-8602

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Are you a mum of preschoolers who is interested in learning how the Bible relates to life today?

We have recently commenced a Bible study for young mums at 10am on Mondays. We meet at Ferntree Gully Baptist Church at 19 Hunter Street Ferntree Gully (off Forest road).

It's an opportunity to share friendship and learn about Christian faith over morning tea together. Child care for preschoolers is provided on site. For more information contact Jeanette on 0425 727 119

Life Activities Club

History, back to August, 20 Seniors travelled by train into Melbourne Arts Centre for the performance of Dolly Parton's show 9 to 5. Yes, we enjoyed the show, it was lively, with dancing, singing and so entertaining.

Our 35th. birthday was celebrated with a Christmas in July Party. Outside caterers provided a delicious 2 course meal and let's have them feed us again!

Music was provided by 2 lovely ladies playing keyboard and guitar, keeping us entertained with various songs from "back then".

The Tram Museum is having a public Open Day on Saturday, September 24th. Free!!!

And we can see the Toast Rack Tram, V Class from 1906, Z Class which ran until 1975. Will we recognise any??? Probably. Then on Wednesday 28th, you'll find some of us at Knox Ozone, for a Bavarian style dinner. Our crafty ladies are still either knitting, crocheting, creating something for someone.

All activities are listed in our quarterly newsletter, and if you would like to add a new

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



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