



Visit our Website

COMMUNITY NEWS



Centre Pages

Est. 1994

Delivering to Boronia, The Basin and surrounding areas

PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST NATIONS LAND OF THE WURUNDJERI PEOPLE

KNOX COMMUNITY



Fifty-one local Volunteers received a Victoria Day Award this year, in recognition of their outstanding services to the community.

We feature many of the organisations represented through articles and stories in this newspaper.

"It's great to be a Victorian. Victoria Day provides an opportunity to celebrate our state's birthday, culture and our heritage, and allows us to celebrate those who help make our state great."

Kim Wells MP (Member for Rowville) and Nick McGowan MP (Member for North Eastern Metropolitan Region)

Pictured is Award recipient Margaret Penford.

Margaret has been delivering this newspaper since our beginning in 1994, almost 30 years.



Margaret is typical of dozens of our Volunteers who serve in the background. Their commitments have enabled us to provide a great community service for almost thirty years.

We applaud this quiet contribution from so many people. They prefer to stay behind the scenes, and continue to enrich our community with their care and warmth.

Margaret is representing so many others, past and present, and she would like to acknowledge that she receives this award on behalf of them all.

David Stewart

Biggin & Scott

dstewart@biggin-scott.com

Let's discuss Your Home

**Call
Anytime
0411 655 611**



Free printed circulation to 13,100 households and businesses in Boronia and The Basin, also online and on Facebook.

LOCALS SUPPORTING LOCALS!**A GREAT GOOD NEWS FOOD STORY**

In our last issue on page 14, we publicised the significant food distribution work being done by several organisations including that of "Ben's Place" (Community Support Knox), run by Liz Bullen.

Community Support Knox operates out of a private home, and recently, a local builder (Limitless Build, Kilsyth) put up a generous post wanting to pay it forward with some labour and materials for someone local that needs it.

Myself and another member voted for Liz and she won. Matthew came out last week and measured up and will be starting some works this week to make Liz's carport more able to accommodate the needs of the community and the "Ben's Place" pantry!

So we are temporarily operating out of The Basin Seniors Hall and The Basin Community House while the area at Liz's is cleared out. All out of goodwill of the committee there.

Bowens Croydon are on board with Limitless Build by donating the timber etc.. What a fantastic donation towards making Ben's Place so much better, more user friendly and accessible. And we couldn't be more grateful to these local businesses at this time!

Locals supporting locals!*Jodie Ridd***Boronia & The Basin Community News**

Published by Boronia and The Basin Community News Inc.

PO Box 141, Boronia 3155

www.bbcn.org.au contact@bbcn.org.au

**SEPTEMBER CASUAL AD PAYMENT DEADLINE: FRI 18 AUGUST**Submit casual ads at: [bbcn.org.au/place an ad/](http://bbcn.org.au/place-an-ad/)

where ad sizes and costs are displayed

SEPTEMBER COPY DEADLINE: SUNDAY 20 AUGUSTSubmit all copy through contact@bbcn.org.au

September issue distribution: from Thursday 31 August

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

AND TELL THEM WHERE YOU SAW THEIR AD.

THIS IS HOW WE PAY OUR PRINTING COSTS.

ADVERTISING IN THIS NEWSPAPER IS EASY.

Visit our website bbcn.org.au and open the "Place an Ad" link.

You will find size and cost details, and Ad submission forms.

We value the support we receive from:

**Boronia & Ferntree Gully
Branches**

"HISTORY OF THE BASIN"

New book release by Rick Coxhill, first published in 1992 as "The Basin. 1868-1992 125 Years", this book is a 2023 revised and enhanced new publication. Available at Rainy Day Books, in The Basin, \$30

LOVE IS SACRED

Shaded clouds decor the sea line.
Tired Sun rays spread o'er the horizon.
Rough, milky waves kiss the sea shore,
White foam buds sprinkle high up.

Sun has sunken, the daylight gone.
Dim light of the boats far away seen.
Darkness falls, birds fly to nests.
Cool wind blows and soften though

Evening star brighten the sky.
Tiny, gold, stars, hidden and wink.
Twinkle stars shine and smile.
Starry heaven show us the way.

Twigs wave us and say "goodbye"
Lonely sea waves roll and cry.
Crabs make holes and crept inside
Through night veils, seagulls cry

Walked along the beach and sat on the bench.
Paddled the waves and enjoyed much.
Take my hand darling, to stroll to our nest
"Life is a dream, dear Love is Sacred"

Dayangani Silva

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 500 to 800 words.

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.

Advertisements and articles are not endorsed by and do not necessarily reflect the views of the committee of Boronia & The Basin Community News Inc. and the Association has no knowledge of and makes no representation as to the accuracy or truthfulness of any advertisement or article published and expressly disclaims any liability as far as it is able.

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



Like us.
Follow us.

Read and/or download our current
and previous issues at bbcn.org.au
or scan the QR code.



Visit our Website

Association Office Bearers

President	John Pernu
Vice President	John Edgley
Treasurer	Doan Vo
Assoc. Secretary	Ben Furlong

Indexer: Vicki Court

To view index to previous articles,
back to the 1990s, search
localhistory.yourlibrary.com.au/local
Bound editions at Boronia Library

Printing by Newsprinters, Wodonga

AUSTRALIAN KING-PARROT (*Alisterus scapularis*)

PAGE 3 BIRD



We live in a good neighbourhood with lovely neighbours (hope they all say the same about us), and our over the road neighbours, Bryan and Rose, requested I do an article on the King Parrot, Rose enthusiastically telling me some months ago that they are frequent visitors to their back deck. As we speak, they have builders installing a very nice gable roofed cover over their deck, which I assume Rose wanted, so her King Parrots can come and get out of the rain. I will have to ask her if that's why she had it built. You may also recall Bryan had an uncle who lost his life when the 'Montivideo Maru' was sunk by the US submarine the 'Sturgeon', alongside my uncle, Bill Gaul, during World War 2. (Refer to May 2020 BBCN).

For a splash of colour, you can't go past the King Parrot. Boasting a brilliant scarlet head and underparts, dazzlingly brilliant green upperparts, and a gorgeous splash of purple on its rump, it is probably the most beautiful of all our amazing Parrots. Found from about

Cooktown all the way down the east coast to the Otways in Victoria, they are a very common bird. Altitudinal migration occurs in this species from the high country, which is why you may notice more here in the wintertime than summer.

King Parrots are very tame around bird feeders, and can sometimes be tame enough to sit on your hand, if it contains seeds. Some years back now, when my children were little, we used to rent a property near the Howqua River, past Mansfield. The King Parrots there were particularly tame, and as long as you had some seeds to feed them, they would quite happily sit on my daughter's arms; this delighted them no end and kept them entertained for hours. However, one time they came racing in to me with a horrified expression on their faces saying that 'Dinah' (that was their favourite King Parrot) had an evil looking fly on it, which came out from under its feathers. I went out to investigate, and sure enough there it was sitting on the bird, on a place where it could easily have been removed if it was bothering her, and then it slipped back under the feathers again out of view. We witnessed it several more times over our stay; they would come out and sit on the bird's outer plumage then disappear again. If anyone by chance may have studied symbiotic relationships between king parrots and certain species of insects, let me know, I would be intrigued to find out. Drawing a long bow there I suggest.

In flight they can be mistaken for Crimson Rosellas especially if not calling, but they are a bigger bird and fly with strong deep wingbeats, and can travel at a fair clip, like most parrots, and also like all parrots nest in tree hollows.

Check out our local bird photographer Garry Fitzgerald's fantastic snaps on this page!



If King Parrot's aren't your favourite local bird, then let me know what is, drop me a line via this paper and I'll write on that species. I'm always on the lookout for a different bird to write about. You guys probably get sick of me making the choice every month, yeah, let someone else have a turn will ya, ya big bully!

I'm still not across this AI caper, they were saying on the telly last night it could be humankind's downfall. If anyone does get it, come over to my place one long winter evening and explain it please, though I suspect I may nod off after 20 minutes or so, I have the attention span of an ant when it comes to technology. If you can remember my advice from the end of last month's article, that's certainly what I'll be doing! You know you're just one field trip away from becoming a mad birdo. Email me if you're interested.

Deso: arc_up_welding@live.com.au

PUFFING BILLY RUNNING FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 9 and SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER

Day one of the Festival will feature a new 1.2km Kids Dash and a new 5km Family Fun Run/Walk on Saturday 9 September at Emerald Lake Park, with the echoing toots and puffs of Puffing Billy propelling all participants forward.

Then, on Sunday 10 September, prepare to witness a fierce showdown as up to 3,000 participants take on the challenge of a lifetime, racing against two colossal steam locomotives from Belgrave to Emerald in the heart-pounding 13.5 km 'Classic' Run, or for those hungry for even greater conquests, the all-new 21.1km road and trail Half Marathon; a true test of endurance set amidst the breathtaking views and unyielding hills of the Eastern Dandenong Ranges.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE FULL STORY
bbcن.org.au



This month we farewell one of our Walkers, Cheryl D. and welcome new Walkers Veronica B. and John C.. Please contact us if you can help us by taking on a round in the Darwin Avenue-Allanfield Road, Boronia area (70 papers). We also need a Driver in The Basin area. These roles are performed near the end of each month, except for December (contact@bbcن.org.au)

insert brain here



by woodsy

KNOX Historical Society has released a revised and updated version of ***Murders & Mysteries in Ferntree Gully Shire***, by local historian, Ray Peace.

The book, first published in 2021, details stories of people, children and adults alike, who vanished into the forest, never to be seen alive again, murders, attempted murders, even a ghost story. Two new chapters, and updates to others, are included in the new volume. The book costs \$20, from 'Ambleside' homestead & museum, 3 Olivebank Rd, Ferntree Gully, open Sundays, 1 - 4 pm. Details: ph. 9758 6722

Have your say on what matters to you



10
languages
available

To view our community engagements and provide feedback in your language, go to knox.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay

أعرب عن رأيك في المواضيع التي تهتمك. للاطلاع على مشاركاتنا في المجتمع المحلي ولتقديم الملاحظات والتعليقات بلغتك، يُرجى زيارة الموقع الإلكتروني knox.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay

在你所关心的事情上，发表你的意见。请访问 knox.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay，浏览我们的社区合作项目及以你的母语发表反馈。



New vaccines available

We are now offering vaccines for Meningococcal B, Meningococcal ACWY and Whooping cough.

For bookings and information, including costs, visit knox.vic.gov.au/immunisations



Honouring life and memories

Ferntree Gully Cemetery offers a scenic and peaceful resting place. New ashes positions are available.

Book an appointment to discuss options and your needs, call 9298 8000 or email ferntreegullycemetery@knox.vic.gov.au



Knox Youth Summit

Wednesday 23 August, ages 12-18

Saturday 9 September, ages 16-25

Youth are invited to come along and share what's important to you now and into the future. Both will be held at the Knox Civic Centre.

Register now at knox.vic.gov.au/youth

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BORONIA SHOPPING TOWN - TURNING 50 !

September 11th of this year commemorates the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Boronia Shopping Town. Primarily the Mall, but includes Kmart and Kmart Foods (later Coles).

Opened in 1973 to serve a growing suburb, the Mall's epic two-story interior with modern fixtures, mosaic-tiled feature walls, and suspended ceilings with a huge chandelier centrepiece wowed shoppers. The Mall was incredibly popular; ex proprietors Michael and Debbie Dover who ran the



Original sign

Chick Inn store on the lower level from 1992 till 2006 recall that leading up to Christmas the lines waiting for their holiday turkeys and poultry were out the side doors.

There are also memories of rotating stages, a fountain and a

constant stream of activities. Manny Ciavarella of Sight 'N' Sound, the Mall's longest serving tenant recalls Kylie Minogue appearing, as well as Mike Williamson of World of Sport fame hosting handball competitions with VFL champions.

Developer Ted Lustig was quoted, "I was interested in building a quality shopping centre that would not become outdated in ten years. And I think we've succeeded."

MOUNT VIEW ROAD

We have received another letter regarding the proposed Mount View Road development. This letter has a different perspective from those received previously. Please visit our website (bbc.org.au) to read this and all of the others.

LAKE KNOX

We have received a letter regarding the proposed development of Lake Knox. Please visit our website (bbc.org.au) to read this, and to read other information concerning this proposed development.

The construction of the Mall was one amazing feat in itself. In an age of chronic industrial action and green bans, the Mall was built within thirteen months after the first discussions with the Knox council and developers, T.H. Lustig & Co. on 1 August 1972. The last of the properties were purchased and finalized by November while permits were being arranged (the area had been zoned for Commercial use years earlier), and the first excavations began in December for a December 1973 planned opening. Things progressed so well that the grand opening, much to the joy of the locals, was three months ahead of schedule. The complete build was 6.5 Million dollars. (\$6.5M in 1973 is equivalent in purchasing power to just over \$73.5 million today.)



Construction 1973

Knox Shopping Centre was planned for development also in 1972 but didn't become a real retail threat until its massive expansion in 1990 and the addition of Village's 10-screen theatre complex which temporarily caused the closing of the cinema in Boronia, having it bounce back as an independent soon after.

When I moved to Boronia in late 2007, the mall was still open late Friday and on Sunday and you could access Kmart from the Chandler Road entrance via the nursery. The centre was still quite vibrant with a jeweler, butcher, book shop, fishmonger, variety shop, formal hire, newsagent and several cafes and clothes shops, as well as the post office and hairdressers. My wife, who has lived here since the early 1980s can remember two shoe shops, a Toyland, gift shops, Sydney's Furniture, Medicare, Venture, and a Pharmacy inside. Lots of stores to entice shoppers inside. Of course, this has all changed and it's not uncommon. Large shopping centres locally need to

constantly update or risk becoming redundant. Abandoned malls that were huge in the 1980s and 90s in the USA are commonplace and seem to be the way of this type of shopping experience. It wouldn't be long before Australia also experienced the death of Mall culture.

Many factors contributed to the Mall's appeal waning. Generational shopping preference shifts, the further


expansion of Knox in 2002, and to a lesser degree the removal of the railway crossing in 1998, which effectively joined the Boronia shopping districts, (The Village, the Junction, and Square) into one easy-to-access area. But the one thing that had the most effect on the decline of the Mall was that the property became strata title, meaning many landlords instead of one. This happened approximately ten years ago, and has had the most devastating effect on retail businesses from that point; empty shops have been the norm rather than the exception, and have been increasing in number. In the most simplistic terms, strata title makes it harder for a site to be redeveloped.

I still hold some hope for the Mall, with its limited expansion and interior remodelling, it still has the "1970s, stuck in time" appeal. This was evident when, in late April of this year, the Aussie Veterans Op Shop held their Vintage Fashion & Market, which drew crowds reminiscent of the Mall's glory days. Hopes are even higher when the Mall, with the help of shop tenants and local groups, comes together to celebrate 50 years on the 9 September.

Who knows? Maybe, with the Boronia Renewal Strategy Project currently being considered, this time capsule in Melbourne's Outer East may spring back to life.

Danny Nolan

Look Sharp



See well

Weisz Family Optical

Est. 1969

245 Dorset Road, BORONIA
Phone: 9762 3998

SQUARE DRIVE SCREWS

Heard They're Good? Try Them!



Wide range of sizes
INTRODUCTORY PACK
500, #8 and 10 Gauge
screws with driver
included
\$49.00 inc post

- High Quality
- Easier Driving
- Better Control
- Longer Life
- Heat Treated Steel
- Sharp Point
- Small Body Diameter






Tel: 1300 551 810



WWW.SCREWIT.COM.AU

FERDINAND VON MUELLER



RESIDENTS OF The Basin sometimes face an invidious choice. Do they tell friends and acquaintances not familiar with the area that they live at The Basin, or in The Basin? Most would probably tend towards the first, the second often raising a chuckle with its

alleged connotations with bathrooms.

How did the name come about? That traces back to an enterprising explorer named Ferdinand von Mueller, who it seems visited the district many times but did not actually live there, but still left an indelible mark with the unusual name.

Ferdinand Jakob Heinrich von Mueller was born in the north German coastal city of Rostock in 1825. Young Ferdinand Mueller lost both his parents at an early age. He first studied to be a pharmacist, but soon discovered a passion for botany. Ferdinand had two sisters whose health was considered fragile. It was thought they would have a better chance of life

in a warmer climate, so in 1847, the von Muellers set sail from the port of Bremen for the Antipodes.

Ferdinand at first disembarked at Adelaide, but in 1852 he went to Melbourne; the following year, 1853, Lieut. Governor Charles La Trobe offered him a post as government botanist. It was the starting point of a long and illustrious career.

Much of the colony was still virtually unexplored; the mountain ranges were full of species unknown to European scientists. Von Mueller set up camp at the base of the ranges in January 1853; a few earlier explorers had visited the area, but the Dandenongs were still a botanist's paradise. Stately tree ferns, massive eucalypts estimated at 200 feet (60m) tall, a profusion of beautiful birdlife: von Mueller was in his element, collecting, cataloguing, observing.

One observation that von Mueller made was that from the foot of the ranges, the valley between the peaks of Mt Corhanwarrabul to the north, and One Tree Hill to the south, appeared shaped somewhat like a wash basin. The appellation stuck; The Basin it remains to this day.

Ferdinand von Mueller explored much of Victoria, visiting locations as far afield as the

Grampians to the west, and the high country in the north-east. But he kept returning to the Dandenongs. In the 1870s, he set up another camp at the foot of the ranges, from which he could explore the forests in pursuit of species yet to be identified and classified.

These explorations were often difficult and dangerous, but with the publication of his researches came professional recognition. Von Mueller was appointed director of Melbourne's Royal Botanic Gardens in 1857. He received honours from both his adopted homeland and his country of birth: although naturalised as Australian shortly after arrival, he was appointed a hereditary baron by the King of Wurtemberg in 1871, and was knighted in 1879.

Ferdinand von Mueller died at the age of 71 years in 1896. Much of his botanical work has never been superseded to this day. Residents of The Basin may find the name a little odd. But as a memorial to the work of Ferdinand von Mueller, it has one of the most illustrious pedigrees of any district in the City of Knox.

*Ray Peace, Knox Historical Society
(khs@relics.com)*

See the article about Ray's newly released book, "Murders & Mysteries in Ferntree Gully Shire" on page 3.

A PERSONAL STORY FROM DAVID JOHN McDONALD

My wife and I have recently downsized and moved back to Boronia after more than 50 years of me being born at Ferntree Gully hospital and living as an infant in Boronia. For some reason I was inspired to write this short story about my very early years.

In the vibrant town of Boronia, nestled at the foot of the majestic Mount Dandenong, a young boy named David embarked on a captivating journey through life. Born in the year 1966 at Ferntree Gully Hospital, his story unfolded with a tapestry of vivid memories and transformative experiences, weaving together the threads of love, resilience, and self-discovery.

David's earliest recollection traced back to the presence of his beloved grandmother, Nana Whild, who would later be known as Nana Hanson—a name that resonated throughout most of his life. Imprinted in his mind was the tender image of Nana Hanson feeding him in a high chair, her nurturing voice uttering the playful words, "Gargar gobble up." Though the authenticity of this memory may be uncertain to others, it held an unwavering truth in David's heart, forever shaping his connection to his grandmother and the affectionate bond they shared.

As David's journey progressed, he encountered a significant milestone—the eagerly anticipated first day of school at Bayswater West Primary

School. Excitement filled the air as he bid farewell to his parents, venturing into a new world of discovery. Amidst the flurry of emotions, a piercing cry filled the corridors, emanating from another child who seemed overwhelmed by the transition. This poignant memory would serve as a lasting reminder of the vulnerability and challenges that often accompany new beginnings.

From his birthplace at Ferntree Gully Hospital to his first home in the idyllic embrace of Boronia's foothills, David's roots intertwined with the natural beauty of the landscape. Against this backdrop, his character blossomed, nurtured by the profound experiences and lessons that awaited him.

Nana Hanson, a central figure in David's story, possessed a captivating complexity. With a temperament that swung from loving and caring to explosively temperamental, she left an indelible mark on his journey. Within the depths of their relationship, David learned to navigate the ebbs and flows of emotions, embracing the multifaceted nature of their connection. The love and care she bestowed upon him kindled resilience, empathy, and an unwavering spirit that would guide him through life's twists and turns.

As David ventured along the meandering paths of existence, his experiences wove together the fabric of his identity. The cherished memories of Nana Hanson's nurturing presence, accompanied by the playful 'gargar gobble up,' intertwined with the echoes of a fellow

classmate's cries on his first day of school. Each fragment painted a vivid picture of his early years, forging the essence of his being.

David's tale stands as a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the transformative power of embracing life's intricacies. Against the backdrop of Boronia's natural splendour, he discovered that strength emerges not only from the triumphs but also from accepting the imperfections and complexities of those who shape our lives. Guided by the enduring love of Nana Hanson, he embarked on a remarkable journey, eager to embrace the tapestry of existence in all its hues and nuances.

SOME SIGNIFICANT SEPTEMBER OCCASIONS COMING UP

- 3 Father's Day
- 7 Threatened Species Day
- 8 RU OK Day
- 9 White Balloon Day
- 10 World Suicide Prevention Day
- 11 National Bilby Day
- 17 Australian Citizenship Day
- 19 National Thank A Cop Day
- 19 Talk like a Pirate Day
- 21 World Alzheimer's Day
- 22 World Car-Free Day
- 24 Save the Koala Day
- 28 John Pat Day - First Nations youth John Pat dies in police custody in 1983
- 26-2 Oct National Op Shop Week

TOBY and the MAGIC PENCIL
www.tobyandthemagicpencil.com.au

Sometimes bigger isn't better.



I don't know about you, but on these cold winter nights I can't help but think about those less fortunate than myself who are homeless.

So it's great to know that there is a local special group of people whose mission is to support the Church as it provides accommodation to people in need and journeys with each person, offering physical, social, emotional and spiritual care on these chilly winter nights.

Stable One was founded by Jenny Willetts who was working at a foodbank in Lilydale in 2016 while studying a Bachelor of Ministries. Jenny said she had the privilege of meeting and assisting people who were struggling to make ends meet. Before this, she had been completely oblivious to the issue of homelessness. These people that Jenny met were sleeping in their cars, on friend's couches, in sheds and on porches. Jenny offered a spare room to a lady who eventually moved out into a unit of her own with this helping hand.

This saw the birth of an idea to help those in need. Stable One was registered as a charity at the end of 2016 with express purpose of helping shelter those who were homeless in the local Churches. The first Winter Shelter opened on 1 June 2017 with 165 trained volunteers.

For those experiencing homelessness, stability is crucial to their well-being. Not just in terms of a place to live, but in terms of strong foundations on which to build.

"Since we began, I have met many more people



experiencing homelessness. Their stories, their courage, their resilience and their hearts inspire me", Jenny said, "Seeing the Church respond to their needs fills me with joy."

Jenny has just received an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the King's Birthday Honours. Well done Jenny! "There is still more work to be done!" Jenny said.

Volunteering for Stable One is easy, just contact them at www.stableone.org

Guest Contact: 9760 6400 (Mon-Fri) or 1800 431 244 (out of hours)

Stable One needs more volunteers if they're to be able to open every night of the week between 1 June and 31 August.

78 wonderful people have signed up so far, but there are 91 shifts a week to fill. They need more people to share the load.

You don't have to commit to a weekly shift. Its fine to go away on holidays. You'll be given training. Just sign up for what you can do.

Your gift of time this winter will make a significant and tangible difference to someone experiencing homelessness who would otherwise be out in the cold.

Debbie Ball

LOCAL RESIDENT KEITH MILES - WINNER OF MELBOURNE AIRPORT EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR SAFETY



The Melbourne Airport Excellence Awards recognise the achievements of those who work in all areas of the Melbourne Airport community. Keith, is an aviation rescue fire fighter employed by Airservices Australia, serves in the Aviation Rescue Fire Fighting Service (ARFFS) stationed at Melbourne Airport. The "Marc Storti Award for Safety" was presented to Keith in recognition of his dedication and passion

for fire safety and efforts in the pre-planning for safety compliance via networking with all stakeholders at Melbourne Airport.

He is very passionate about his work as a Sub-Station Officer and loves working at Melbourne Airport because they are invested in safety. He has been working there for 14 years and still finds the job interesting, and watching the big planes exhilarating.

Keith has lived in Boronia and the Basin for the best part of 40 years. After leaving school, he studied performing arts and then worked as a personal trainer but had always wanted to be a firefighter. While raising a young family in The Basin, he spent time as a local volunteer firefighter at The Basin Fire Brigade and eventually applied to the ARFFS, completing its 12-week course to become a full-time fire fighter.

Keith is also part of the ARFFS fundraising team for the Royal Children's Hospital appeal and where possible likes to get involved in displays for the public about fire fighters and their work.

Although Melbourne airport is a long way from the Basin, he says he doesn't want to live anywhere else. He loves the beautiful surrounds and enjoys being part of the community.

Joy Shelley

William Matthews Funerals

45 Cave Hill Rd, Lilydale

24 HOUR SERVICE - ALL AREAS

Large Chapel - Pre Paid Funerals Available



Before you decide please call one of our friendly staff

9739 6868

www.williammatthewsfunerals.com.au

KIDS
ZONE

National Science Week is Australia's annual celebration of science and technology. Running each year in August, it features more than 1000 events around Australia, including those delivered by universities, schools, research institutions, libraries, museums and science centres. These events attract a wide audience from children to adults, and science amateurs to professionals. Over one million people participate in science events across the nation.

Established in 1997, National Science Week provides an opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of Australian scientists to the world of knowledge. It also aims to encourage an interest in science pursuits among the general public, and to encourage younger people to be fascinated by the world we live in.

Science Week Quiz**Q1. What is a Solstice?**

- A. When the sun is not visible in a year.
B. When the sun reaches its highest and lowest point in a year.
C. When the moon passes between the sun and earth.

Q2. Which is the correct order of planets from the Sun?

- A. MVEMJSUN
B. VMEJUSNM
C. MJENSVUM

Q3. Our galaxy contains how many stars (visible and not visible)?

- A. 1 million.
B. Over 100 billion.
C. 100 million.

Q4. What is a solar eclipse?

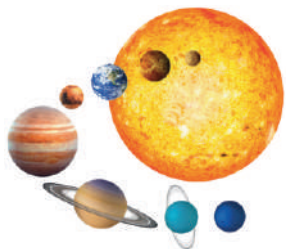
- A. When the moon passes between the earth and the sun.
B. When the earth passes between the sun and moon.
C. When the sun passes between the earth and moon.

Q5. Which of these is in the correct size order, starting with the smallest first?

- A. Universe, Galaxy, Sun.
B. Sun, Galaxy, Universe.
C. Galaxy, Sun, Universe.

Q6. What would happen to the moon if Earth lost its gravity?

- A. It would crash into the earth.
B. It would explode.
C. It would fly off into space.

**HOW TO MAKE
A LAVA LAMP**

<https://www.science-sparks.com/how-to-make-a-lava-lamp/>

DIY lava lamps are one of the favourite science experiments as they are super simple to make, can be used over and over again and you can be as creative as you like with them.

Lava lamps are also a safe, exciting and visual way to introduce chemical reactions and the often tricky concept of density to children (the oil floats beautifully on top of the water).

WHAT YOU NEED

- A clear plastic or glass bottle or jar.
- A bottle of vegetable oil.
- Water.
- Alka Seltzer.
- Food colouring (a bright colour is best!).

INSTRUCTIONS

Fill the bottle about a quarter full with water. Top up to the (near) top with vegetable oil.

The oil and water should separate into two layers, water at the bottom and oil on the top.

Once the oil and water have separated, add enough food colouring to get the colour you want. The colour will mix with the water at the bottom.

Pop in half an alka seltzer tablet and watch the bubbles form. Add more alka seltzer little by little to keep the bubbles rising and falling.

**TIPS**

Try using effervescent vitamin tablets instead of alka seltzer; these are usually a bit cheaper and have the same effect, although they might colour the water slightly.

Once the reaction has finished, try gently tipping the bottle on its side. What do you notice?

**WHY DO HOMEMADE LAVA LAMPS
WORK?**

Alka seltzer is made of citric acid and sodium bicarbonate which react with the water to form carbon dioxide gas and sodium citrate. It is the bubbles of carbon dioxide that carry the coloured water into the oil, giving a lava lamp effect.

NOTE – Please supervise the use of alka seltzer and effervescent vitamin tablets.

**WHY DO OIL AND WATER
SEPARATE?**

Water and oil do not mix. This is because water is a polar molecule – its structure means that it has a positive charge at one end and a negative charge at the other. Water molecules stick together because the positive end of one water molecule is attracted to the negative end of another. Oil molecule structure is different – it is non-polar, meaning that its charge is more evenly spread out, so the oil is not attracted to water. We call it hydrophobic (water-fearing), so it tries to get as far away from water as possible and will not mix. Oil rests on top of the water rather than underneath because it has a different density from water.

**Quiz Answers:**

1. B, 2. A, 3. B, 4. A, 5. B, 6. C.

It is a little crazy to be writing down parenting advice for others when I only gave birth 8 days ago, but I figure if all those bloggers can do it, (and let's face it, some of their advice is utter rubbish) then I can too. Actually, the reason I am putting all this down for others to read, despite not having completed medical, childcare or any relevant qualifications, is because it is recent. It is happening to me now. Instead of letting my memories change with the passage of time, here is what I have learnt so far.

1. While in hospital, there will be costs that you hadn't considered. Be that the charge for an anaesthetist after an emergency caesarean section or needing to pay for compression socks after you have lost the first, complimentary, pair. I had bought lots of supplies in the months leading up to giving birth but there were still things that we didn't know about and had to purchase in that first week.
2. Baby brain is more potent than pregnancy brain. My forgetfulness was bad during pregnancy, but it has reached a new level now that I am a Mum. I thought I would remember when I last fed or what time I took my medications. I was wrong. Those details just disappear. I have taken to using an app to track those details rather than remembering them on my own.
3. Baby will spew, wet or poop more than you thought. For the first few days Little One went through 3 outfits a day. We would change him,

Lessons from a one week-old Mum

feed him and then put him down for a sleep and he would bring up his milk all over his clean outfit and bedding. Now, sadder and wiser, we tuck towelling nappies as a cover over every surface where Little One's head is. They are easier to remove and replace when he makes a mess. We are also a little desensitised to dirty clothes. If it isn't too bad, he can stay in that outfit for a little longer, rather than changing him again, 5 minutes after the last time. Face washers are also saviours.

4. The first few days will be easier than you thought, and then you go home from hospital and real-life hits. Enjoy the bubble while it's there but don't be too hard on yourself when things change. You will adjust.

5. You won't have prepared to live your life one-handed. One of my friends suggested putting everything you need for breastfeeding in a caddy. That way you can carry everything in the caddy with one hand, while the other hand is carrying a hungry baby.

6. If you need to heat milk, breast or formula, you put it in a cup of boiling water for a few minutes. Instead of boiling the kettle every time, we are very grateful to friends who told us to keep hot water in a thermos. Then it is still hot when you need it and makes things a lot quicker.

7. Do your exercises. I knew about the

importance of pelvic exercises after the birth, but I didn't know about others. Pointing and wriggling my toes to keep swelling down and blood circulating around my legs, rolling my shoulders and stretching my back muscles to relieve the tension of bending over a bassinet and change table. There is also contracting and releasing my stomach muscles so they can strengthen after the demand of an expanding belly, and deep breathing. The physio explained that abdominal surgery can impact the lungs, so I needed to do this hourly to keep from having any problems.

8. Finally, and most importantly, it will get better and if it doesn't, there is help available.

Kimberley Hanson



BOOK WEEK IDEAS

Book Week 2023 runs from 19 – 25 August. This year asks your children to embrace the theme "Read, Grow, Inspire". This exciting invitation opens a world full of possibilities when it comes to kids Book Week theme ideas.

Here are some ideas to help your family get into the spirit of Book Week:

Visit the Library

The simple activity of visiting the library is very enriching for kids, so if you do nothing else during Book Week, make the effort to take your child to the local library, a street library or book exchange where they can choose their own books and get excited about reading.

These activities will help your child enjoy book week, but the best way to ensure kids grow up with a love reading is by encouraging them to read at home all year round.

Design a Costume Together

Schools often hold Book Week parades where children are asked to dress up as their favourite fictional characters. This is a lot of fun and helps bring kids most cherished books to life. To help your child appreciate the power of imagination and creativity, spend time together designing a costume and discussing books.

Create a Book Nook

A special chair or place in the house where kids can read will help them see this activity as a relaxing pastime. Make the area appealing with soft cushions, colourful artworks and a bookshelf full of enticing works of fiction and non-fiction. You want them to return here time and again to be challenged, stimulated and transported to other worlds.

Read and Write Fan Fiction

Fan fiction has sprung up in the digital age as a way for people to express their love for books and characters. It allows fans to connect with other enthusiasts and immerse themselves in fictional worlds. By introducing your child to quality fan fiction online, you will help them understand that reading is not a passive activity and they too can be creators.

YOUNG WRITERS INITIATIVE TAKE PART IN OUR WRITING COMPETITION

Gift voucher awards for student articles published from both primary and secondary students who attend schools in Boronia or in The Basin.

Submissions may be published in our monthly newspaper. A grand award at the end of the year for the best primary and secondary student articles.

The schools attended by the grand award winners will also receive a monetary award and display a perpetual trophy.



Scan the code for full details

A STRUMMER'S STORY VLADIVOSTOK PART 3: VODKA IN VLADIVOSTOK



My first impressions of Vladivostok were grey; grey skies, the grey warships of the Russian Pacific Fleet slowly rusting in the grey waters of the harbour and the dull grey boxes of apartment blocks in which most of the citizens of Vladivostok resided. Mike Murray, managing director of International Food Processing, and instigator and coordinator of this venture, had established a number of contacts and associates in Vladivostok and it was in the apartment of one of these associates that we had our first Russian meal.

Our host, was a former KGB agent and was acting as Mike's security advisor. Russia's Far East then was like the Wild West with the Russian Mafia being very active, and drive by shootings a common occurrence. Mike was taking no chances. Our expo with it's huge store of fresh, quality produce was considered a potential target so uniformed guards, armed with semi-automatic weapons were hired to watch the entrances to the venue.* The meal we shared with our host and hostess was sumptuous, delicious and generous as was the supply of vodka which accompanied the numerous speeches followed by toasts of "Za zdorovy" ("Good health"). It was a phrase with which I was to become very familiar.

Russia is known as a nation of drinkers, vodka being the national drink. In Vladivostok the evidence was everywhere, in the many drunks wandering the streets and sleeping it off on park benches, in the kiosks and vending machines and some places less obvious.

Our genial employer had decided that our group, while in Vladivostok would see some of the sights of the city, so with Mike's ex KGB security advisor as tour guide, we climbed aboard a minibus to be shown around. We stopped at monuments depicting significant historical figures and events, enjoyed views of the city from different vantage points and, curiously, paid a visit to a cemetery. We were led around the headstones and gravestones until we came upon two men perched on camping stools beside a grave. They were obviously inebriated and unashamedly passed a vodka bottle back and forth between them. This particular part of the cemetery, we were told, was reserved for the remains of KGB agents and these two men were there to remember and honour an old comrade. In Russia it seems, drinking to the dear departed can happen anywhere, airports and cemeteries included.

In addition to sight-seeing Mike organised a visit to a sailing ship, further evidence of the extent of his contacts. The day was grey and windy, the waters of the harbour dark and choppy and I was still feeling seedy from the activities of the night before, as the motor launch ferried us to the training vessel, "Nadezhda". Nadezhda is the Slavic

word for 'hope' and I was hoping not to disgrace myself as we bounced across the waves towards this beautiful three masted tall ship. Once aboard I soon felt much better, well enough to enjoy yet another delicious meal prepared for us this time by the ship's cooks.

After lunch, when the trainees had cleared everything away, bottles and shot glasses appeared and the captain stood to make a welcoming speech which Igor translated into English. Then came the inevitable and unavoidable "Za zdorovy" as we downed our drinks. Our glasses were refilled, Mike stood to give his reply which Igor translated into Russian, and we again wished each other "Good Health". When the brandy came out the speeches and the toasts continued. I lost count of the speeches and toasts that were made that afternoon, but I was relieved that I did not have to work that evening for by the time we were delivered back to our accommodation I was incapable of tuning, let alone strumming my guitar.

I have since learned that in Russia when partaking of the national beverage in company, it is impolite not to make a toast of which there are, depending on the company and the occasion, many different versions. After years of playing with Irishmen, "Slainte" is my preferred version of "Cheers" and I can't remember the last time I did vodka shots. I am obviously older and I'd like to think much wiser; I prefer my spirits in cocktails anyway. But should the Russian spirit be there and I am in company I will be sure to offer a heartfelt, "Za zdorovy".

* Ironically there was a 'security breach' and it was on the inside. Some local women, working as kitchen hands, were discovered stealing fresh fruit and vegetables. Their employment was terminated.

Rob Fairbairn

To be continued...

FIRE SAFETY ADVICE FROM THE FERNTREE GULLY CFA



CHARGING MOBILE PHONES UNDER A PILLOW WHILE ONE SLEEPS IS DANGEROUS

CLOTHES DRYERS: DON'T OVERLOAD AND ALWAYS CLEAN THE LINT FILTER



ELECTRIC BLANKETS CAN CAUSE HOUSE FIRES.

Don't leave them on for more than 30 minutes

Make sure that you are home

Turn them off when you go to bed

Don't leave them on for pets during the day

FIXED SCREEN SHOULD ALWAYS BE PLACED IN FRONT OF AN OPEN FIRE

Houses burn when logs roll out of the fire onto the floor



The Internet
Laundrette
7 Alpine Street, Ferntree Gully www.laundrette.com.au
(close to Foodworks)
7am to 9pm Every Day **24 hours with entry code**

60lb (27kg) wash from \$8*
20lb (9kg) wash from \$3*
* Night Rate using tokens
FREE soap and softener on some machines

☞ **Jumbo Machines ideal for Doonas & Blankets**
☞ **Dedicated Large Machine for Workwear & Petwear**
☞ **Drying Only is Welcomed**

Internet Kiosk & Wireless Hotspot
0419 367 267 0405 026 849

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.



**Knox
Community
Gardens Society Inc.**

KNOX COMMUNITY GARDENS SOCIETY – WHERE OUR COMMUNITY CAN GROW

Earlier this year, Knox Council provided funds for a number of enhancements to our clubrooms and the immediate area. We now have a small kitchenette, with hot and cold running water, in our clubrooms. There is also a new roof over our outdoor area, which is great because now when it rains we don't get wet! We also have a new barbeque which will be initiated at our upcoming AGM. Finally and most importantly, we now have lights in the toilets! The KCGS committee would like to thank Knox Council for providing funds for these improvements which are of great value to us.

Recently, two big groups of young school children visited the gardens as part of the EACH program, designed to encourage children to eat healthy foods, especially fruits and vegetables. The children were split into groups and rotated through five activities and without stating the obvious, the kids had an absolute ball. The five activities are (1) walking around the gardens to see how different veggies grow (above and below

ground); (2) visit the bees to see what they are doing (very little when the weather is cold); (3) have a look at the composting system ("there is no waste in nature" says Geoff our compost man); (4) make and eat okonomiyaki (Japanese pancake – the kids love them) and (5) plant a vegetable seedling to keep (lettuce or something similar).

I was helping with the vegetable seedling activity and the funniest thing is watching the kids trying to put their gloves on. They usually squeeze three fingers into where one is meant to go. But we got there in the end! At the end of this activity, we showed them the hothouse and invited them in so they could see how warm it is.

For the first time in many years the waiting list for a plot is quite short. If you are interested in joining, please make contact via one of the methods below. There are four plot sizes to choose from, large (approx. 40sq m), medium (approx. 30sq m), small (approx. 20sq m) and raised (approx. 5sq m). Membership is only \$20

per year, plus the annual cost of your plot which varies according to size. We have an enormous amount of equipment available for all our members to use, including battery and petrol powered whipper-snippers, barrows, forks, spades, mowers, the list is endless!

We now have two hot-houses available for members to use. We recently acquired a second one (thanks to sponsorship from Boronia Rotary) because last spring the only one we had was full to overflowing. We also have a shade house which is currently undergoing an upgrade.

So if you would like to grow your own veggies in a safe and secure environment but don't have room at home, now is the perfect time to join us.

Further information about KCGS is available on our website knoxcommunitygardens.org.au, facebook [@knoxcommunitygardens](https://www.facebook.com/knoxcommunitygardens) or email knoxcommunitygardens@gmail.com

Rod Felton

THE CHELSEA AUSTRALIAN GARDEN, OLINDA



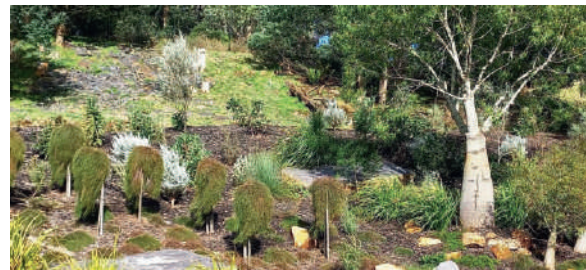
Chelsea Australian Garden Olinda at the Dandenong Ranges Botanical Garden (DRGB) on Wurundjeri land has finally opened, and for someone like me who needs no excuse to visit the old Rhododendron Garden no matter what season, this was a long-awaited event, having watched its construction from afar since the park had reopened post COVID.

Based on Phillip Johnson's Chelsea Flower Show Grand prize-winning garden from 2013, it is a beautifully designed showpiece.

Whilst many options were explored, the perfect outcome was to bring it back to where



the garden was originally designed and inspired - in Olinda where Johnson calls home. The new garden is 20 times larger than the original, and has been incorporated into the DRBG seamlessly on land that was unused from the bordering golf course. Another factor that makes the garden appealing, is the effort to introduce native plants as far-flung as



Western Australia & Queensland. All up 400 different native plants, shrubs, grasses and trees have been chosen, totalling 15,000 pieces of flora planted. Including the world's oldest and rarest tree the Wollemi Pine.

The centre piece is the Billabong with its waterfall and huge Waratah sculpture, but it is these introduced natives like the Boab or Bottle trees in another section, which I loved, where the Grass trees with their black spires shooting out the top, and together with Acacia waterfall trees, they looked like something straight out of Dr. Seuss' Whoville. The rich red volcanic soil of the area has made it possible to plant this type of flora, and as it is an experimental garden, hopefully to thrive. I cannot recommend the garden highly enough, and suggest everyone take the opportunity to see it. It's only up the hill, free to visit, and is going to be there forever.



24 The Georgian Road, Olinda (off Olinda-Monbulk Road)

Danny Nolan



PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE AN EXISTING MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION ON TOP OF THE BORONIA VILLAGE BUILDING SIGN AT 163 BORONIA ROAD, BORONIA VIC – 3155 INCLUDING 5G

1. The proposed facility consist of the addition of new **Vodafone** and **Optus** 5G equipment and associated works as follows:

- Replacement and reconfiguration of existing Three (3) **Vodafone** 4G antennas not more than 2.8m in length onto the proposed new **headframe**;
- Replacement and reconfiguration of existing Three (3) **Optus** 4G antennas not more than 2.8m in length onto the proposed new **headframe**;
- Installation of One (1) new **Optus** 4G antenna not more than 2.8m in length onto the proposed new **headframe**;
- Installation of Thirty Four (34) Remote Radio Units (RRUs) installed onto the proposed new mounts and **headframe**;
- Installation of ancillary equipment, cabling, GPS antennas, steel works and other items associated with the safety and operation of the facility; and
- Reconfiguration and installation of equipment within the existing equipment shelter.

2. **Vodafone** and **Optus** regard the proposed installation as **low impact** under *The Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 2018* based on the description above.

3. In accordance with Section 7 of C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Code, we invite you to provide feedback about the proposal. Should you require further information or wish to comment, please contact: **Abhishek Gampala** from Nokia Solutions & Networks on 0413 809 856 or at communityrelations.vha@groups.nokia.com, by **SPM Friday 11 August 2023**. Further information may also be obtained from www.rfnsa.com.au/3155001.



Jackson Taylor MP

Member for Bayswater

📍 Suite 2, Mountain High Centre, 7-13 High Street, Bayswater Vic 3153
 📞 9738 0577 📧 Jackson Taylor MP 📧 jackson.taylor@parliament.vic.gov.au

Delivers for Boronia & The Basin

New St B's Classrooms Open



The brand new senior learning building at St Bernadette's Primary School - The Basin is open. I was absolutely stoked to secure \$1.65 million from the State Government to see this one happen. The new learning hub has delivered bright, modern spaces, integrated outdoor areas, and fit for purpose classrooms. And I'll tell you what, from principal Peter, through to their whole school community, they're a ripper, supportive team. My thanks to our partners at Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) who helped deliver this project.

Boronia Revitalisation

A quick update to let you know works on the new Erica Ave streetscape works will commence in August as per the last update from Knox Council who are delivering the project with over \$1 million from the State Government to deliver this project. The new streetscape is going to make a huge difference to this precinct and will

link into the Station redevelopment. And on another note, I'm excited to say the State Government is providing another \$650,000 towards more localised projects across Boronia - I'll keep locals updated on what else we'll be delivering. Go here for more info <https://www.suburbandevelopment.vic.gov.au/suburban-revitalisation/boronia>

Shree Swaminarayan Temple

Multicultural Affairs Minister Colin Brooks and I checked out some of their renovations, which were funded by a \$243,000 grant from the State Government. They've got a new kitchen, new flooring, a new roof that'll last for decades - as well as solar panels. The Temple does a heap of great work supporting the whole community - including making meals for those that need it.

In Other News

We're delivering a women's health clinic at Maroondah Hospital. Women and girls make up more than half of our population - but their healthcare concerns have been ignored, dismissed or undiagnosed for too long. So, we're delivering 20 of these across Victoria.

I'm pleased to say the State Government has also provided \$100,000 to Knox InfoLink and \$50,000 to Foothills Community care who do incredible local work.

We also switched on the new lights at the Boronia Bowls Club with the State Government

chipping in \$60,000 and Council and the Clubs each putting in \$30,000.

And we've also provided a small grant to Boronia Buffaloes Basketball group for uniforms for junior girls teams.

Free Dental in Public Schools is BACK!

The smile squads (dental vans) which started in Knox in 2023 are delivering free oral health promotion, dental checkups and treatment to Victorian government school students at school. The landmark free dental care program is driving down big dental costs for families, with bills expected to be slashed by \$400 each year for each kid. It will also free up more than 100,000 places for adults in the public dental system each year, reducing wait times.

And don't forget to claim your \$250 Power Saving Bonus if you haven't already - call 1800 000 832 for more info. It closes 31 August.

Local Shout-Out

A shout out this edition goes to pet owners locally! Our pets are our best mates and I thought you'd like to know; Victoria is holding Australia's very first pet census to help shape the future of animal welfare in Victoria. To fill out the pet census go here - <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals/animal-welfare-victoria/animal-welfare/victorian-pet-census>.

FUNDING BOOST TO SUPPORT VICTORIAN SCHOOL CAMPS

The State Government is delivering better support for teachers across Victoria, making sure schools have the resources they need to deliver the great educational experiences students deserve, while supporting their hardworking staff.

Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins announced an investment of more than \$130 million over four years to help schools meet their time-in-lieu requirements under the Fair Work Act - with teachers and support staff to receive back pay from the start of this year.

School camps support students to develop important skills they can take with them into life

and their career - this latest investment ensures schools and teachers can continue delivering students the formative experiences they need.

The new agreement better recognises the hard work teachers do and fairly compensates for work out of school hours, while better supporting the attraction and retention of teachers across the state.

More than 200,000 students attend camps and participate in sporting events and excursions under the Fund each year, and this boost will make sure more kids across the state - no matter their background - can reap the benefits of education outside the classroom.

"Extra support for staff at school camps shows we

are serious about backing our teachers and their efforts to provide students with extra-curricular activities they will remember for a lifetime."

"This agreement means schools can plan camps and excursions this year and into the future with clarity and confidence." Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins

"Teachers and staff work particularly hard on school camps to manage students in their care, and this additional support will enable schools to continue running fun, inclusive and varied programs and educational experiences."

Member for Eastern Victoria

Harriet Shing

STRENGTHENING VICTORIA'S BILL-BUSTING VEU PROGRAM

The State Government will ban the telemarketing of products under the Victorian Energy Upgrades (VEU) program, in a suite of reforms that will protect consumers and strengthen compliance while helping Victorians cut their bills and reduce emissions at home.

Under the ban announced last month, accredited providers under the VEU program will no longer be allowed to use cold calling to spruik products and services included in the program.

Consumer groups and industry will be consulted on the design, timing and implementation of this ban – which simply strengthens the 2022 VEU Code of Conduct, already banning high-pressure tactics in market and sell products, following a similar ban in late 2021 for energy retailers.

Stronger requirements for accredited providers and scheme participants will also commence on 1 July, improving compliance through measures like penalties for misconduct of third parties participating in the program.

The Essential Services Commission (ESC) has completed its review of the program's refrigerated cabinet activity, following its removal from the VEU last year.

The State Government is proposing to reintroduce incentives for energy-efficient refrigerated cabinets and will be consulting with

stakeholders on further protections to complement their reintroduction.

The Government is also working to further enhance the ESC's powers to promote the independent, robust certification of eligible products and to ensure suppliers do not benefit from providing inaccurate information to the regulator.

Consultation papers on the telemarketing ban and reintroduction of refrigerated cabinets are now available for consumer and industry feedback submissions on the Engage Victoria website.

More than 2 million households and 150,000 business premises have participated in the VEU program since it commenced in 2009, reducing Victoria's greenhouse gas emissions by over 75 million tonnes to date with average annual bill savings of \$110 for participating households and \$3700 for participating businesses.

Even those who do not participate in the program will save on their bills – with households saving \$150 and business saving \$870 over the next 10 years.

The quickest and most effective way to drive down energy bills is to help people take up efficient electric alternatives – that's why the program has expanded to provide more electrification options and gas appliances will no longer be available after July 1.

To have your say visit, engage.vic.gov.au/marketing-under-the-victorian-energy-upgrades-program or engage.vic.gov.au/Victorian-energy-upgrades-updates-refridgerated-display-cabinets.

Quotes from the Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio

"Victorians need to be able to make informed decisions as they upgrade and make their homes more energy efficient. We've heard them on unwanted telemarketing calls and are taking action to stop this practice."

"We have helped two million households and businesses slash their power bills through our nation-leading Victorian Energy Upgrades program as we work towards net zero by 2045."

Quotes from the Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing

"We know that high-pressure sales tactics are unwanted and can be really annoying - and we want to make sure that Victorians are getting a good deal without the pressure of constant calls".

"The VEU program has helped countless people across eastern Victoria to save money and run a more energy efficient household, and these reforms will help people to find the plan that works for them."



Move local

The best is in the heart of
Wantirna South



Balmoral is a community within a community. Enjoy safety, security, low maintenance, landscaped gardens with beautifully appointed apartments and villa units.

03 9800 1333

Call us today to make the move to Balmoral.
Balmoral Village, Ridge Road Wantirna South 3152. www.balmoralvillage.com.au

Balmoral
OVER 55 LIFESTYLE VILLAGE



THE FERN TREE GULLY ARTS SOCIETY

157 Underwood Rd, Fern tree Gully

AUGUST EXHIBITION

Gallery – ‘Dreams & Fantasies’

Foyer – ‘Tribute to Margie’ by Geoff Eady

An exciting and thought-provoking exhibition

Exploring the many facets of this theme: dreams while you sleep, dreams of what you hope for, fantasies about a different life, pretending to be someone else.

Come and see our artists’ interpretations in this display of contemporary art.

Open Fridays 1-4pm & Weekends 11am-4pm, from August 5 – 27.

FREE ENTRY ALL WELCOME



What’s new? A new café in Boronia and this is now the destination for our Ladies coffee and chat morning. Always on the first Tuesday of the month from 11:00 until ? Please feel welcome to join this friendly group.

Come and enjoy live theatre in Upper Fern tree Gully, 2 August. Their production this season is “Picnic at Hanging Rock”. It’s Amateur theatre and they do it very well at the 1812.

Then on 7 August we’re off to the Races at Yarra Glen and lunch is included. From inside we can watch the horses race each other to the winning post. If you need a lift, organise with Carol. This trip is \$38, which covers entry, lunch and race book.

It’s all happening this month, with the Garden Group visiting the Burnley University Gardens.

More live theatre at the Knox community Arts Centre, and the name for this one is “Queen Rocks”. On 11 August at 8pm they’ll perform all of Queen’s iconic hits. I’m pretty sure they will deliver a high-energy live show.

If you’re wondering about the Men’s Coffee meeting, this month on the second Tuesday, you’ll find them at the Bees Knees Café in Fern tree Gully, (or is it Mountain Gate)?

Next on the 18 August we have a fashion parade - Cabella Mia. Lunch provided at \$5 per person, door prizes, bring your friends, this will be a fun Friday. Please book by 11 August.

May I remind you that we have our own hall, and a lot of our activities are held there, and one that I have yet to mention, The Annual General Meeting, on 28 August at 2pm. It’s time to vote,

Will we find ourselves with a new Committee? And a new President?

There will be a guest speaker and afternoon tea will be supplied.

Please ring our Membership Secretary Carol for more details or leave a message requesting a copy of our current newsletter. Carol 0419 870 639

Panda Rounds 5th Birthday Dance



Panda Rounds Round Dance Club held their 5th Birthday Dance on Friday 7th July at the Boronia Progress Hall. Over 40 dancers enjoyed the festivities. Despite the cold night, they soon warmed-up with Foxtrots, Rumbas, Cha Chas, Waltzes, Two-Steps and Tangos. As well as Club Teacher, Alison, guest Cuers, Ann and Coral, kept the dance party going.



During supper there was a special announcement. After 5 years, the Teachers decided to update the Club logo with ‘more mature’ pandas! David & Glenys, who helped establish the Club in 2018, entered the hall carrying the new red banners.



Alison, Phil & Pandas

Round Dancing is social ballroom dancing. Once you have been taught the dance moves, you just have to do what the Cues tell you – in time with the music. Simple and easy and fun! Panda

Rounds is named after the teachers: Panda = Phil and Alison. It is supported by the Knox Council’s ‘Over 55s Zest4Life’ social connections program. They dance most Friday nights from 6 – 9pm.



Boronia View Club will meet on Friday 18 August at 11.30am at Eastwood Golf Club, Liverpool Rd., Kilsyth with a 2 course lunch costing \$27 followed by an afternoon of ‘madness and mayhem’.

The usual bookstall, raffle and trading table will be available with all monies raised going to The Smith Family learning for life program.

The club sponsors 8 needy Australian children with their educational requirements through this program.

It is a warm, welcoming club looking for new members, so ladies of all ages and backgrounds come along.

There are also small groups within the club e.g. book club, outings, coffee club etc.

Enquiries to Judith on 9764 8602

FREE ART THERAPY SESSIONS AT ELM ST MISSION



All are welcome to join us for art therapy sessions at Elm Street Mission! Emily is a student of art therapy at La Trobe University and will be joining us on Mondays and Fridays, 10am - 2pm from Monday July 24th until the end of November. Sessions include a free light lunch

The sessions are designed to support participants to develop creative skills in a social, supportive and welcoming environment. Participants will be able to explore and experiment with a range of art materials including drawing, collage, basket-making and painting, with the possibility of creating a group mural in the backyard of the mission.

All are welcome and no previous creative skills are needed. Feel free to come to all of the sessions or drop in as it suits. We hope to see you there!

Elm St Mission is an outreach of the Bayswater Uniting Church and offers a safe gathering place especially for people living mental health issues or who are socially isolated.

We are at 654 Mountain Highway, Bayswater, 9729 2620, email: elmstmission@gmail.com



At Knox & District Over50s

we are a very friendly and sociable group who normally meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month from January to November.

Our next meeting will be held at 10.30 am on Tuesday 22 August, at Club Kilsyth, 1-15 Canterbury Road, Bayswater North, followed by lunch in the bistro for those who wish to stay on.

We provide guest speakers, day and overnight trips, visits to Boronia Cinema, coffee mornings, regular lunches at different locations around Knox and morning melodies. If you are looking to enhance your social life, come along and join us.

In addition to our normal monthly activities, during July we have had Morning Melodies “Night & Day” (showcasing the songs of Shirley Bassey & Doris Day) and a tour of the MCG.

In August, some of our members will be attending the Knox Community Arts centre to see “Elvis Forever”. And, during September, we are going to visit the Islamic Museum in Thornbury. And then, in October, “Those Were the Days” a tribute to the British female singers of the Beatles era.

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

If you are 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.

Advertise here - annual cost \$225 small, \$450 large (Inc. GST)

THE FAMILY LAWYER

- Fixed priced will & Estate Planning
- Fixed price Binding Financial Agreements
- Free Case Assessment
- Honest, Transparent Legal advice without the jargon

SUITE 6, 5-7 CHANDLER ROAD
MONDAY TO FRIDAY - 9AM TO 5PM

03 8657 3751
THEFAMILYLAWYER.COM.AU

THE BASIN AUTOMOTIVE
MECHANICAL REPAIRS & HANDBOOK SERVICING 9720 9518

Mechanical Repairs
Servicing & Maintenance
Stuart Metcalf
Fact. 7 / 15 Macquarie Place
BORONIA 3155

Email: tbauto@aapt.net.au
Fax: 9720 9525
Ph: 9720 9518

PALING FENCING
QUALITY TRADESMAN
RELIABLE
FREE QUOTES
CALL
CHRISTOPHER
0417 357 738

BAYLISS PLUMBING SERVICES

24 Hr Emergency Services
All General Plumbing & Gas Fitting, Hot & Cold Water, All Roof Repairs.

Blocked Drains Machine Cleaned
Ph: A/H 9762 1963
Mobile: 0418 388 902

DAWSONS TREE SERVICES

A family business with over 40 years experience

- * Large Tree Specialists
- * Hedge Trimming Experts
- * Stump Grinding
- * Mulch Available
- * FREE Quotes
- * Consulting Arborist

From \$100

- * No Fuss
- * No Mess
- * No Stress

\$20 million insurance

9720 5111 VISA Mastercard eftpos

ICUT TREE SERVICES

- TREE REMOVAL
- STUMP REMOVAL
- PRUNING
- CHIPPING
- FREE QUOTES

0409 906 301
ICUTTREESERVICES.COM.AU

B BORONIA Appliance Repairs

We can repair your:

- * Coffee Machine
- * Microwave
- * Vacuum Cleaner
- * Kitchen Mixer
- * All Small Appliances

We also sell spare parts!

www.barepairs.com.au
03 9762 1668

Stumpy the Stump Remover

- * Specialist Stump Removal

Any Size - Free Quotes

Call Ross
9762 5813
0427 101 929

D&L LANDSCAPING

- * Retaining walls
- * Concrete * Decking
- * Paving * Artificial grass

Quality Landscaping at Affordable prices.

Free quotes

David 0431 290 064
david@dl-landscaping.com.au

Computer Problems?

Retired gent, 50 years IT experience, available to help with your computer or Internet needs. Business or private

Les: **0411 722 234**

GUTTER-VAC
Clean, Safe...Easy

- * Vacuum Gutter Cleaning
- * Gutter-Flow Gutter Guard
- * Solar Panel Cleaning
- * Lichen & Moss Treatment
- * Pressure Washing

Contact: Bryan 0437 910 050

EASTERN SUBURBS LOCKSMITHS

Quality at an affordable price. In shop and On-site service.

9762 5757 info@easternlocksmiths.com.au
223-225 Dorset Road, Boronia
For All Security Solutions

Fast Friendly Service - Seniors Discount

Be Comfy at home

- ... in any weather
- > lower your energy bills
- > choose efficient appliances
- > reduce your home's emissions

Home Energy Advice you can trust
Accredited and insured assessor

0493 565 778
hello@becomfy.com.au
www.becomfy.com.au

ACADEMY Plumbing SERVICES

Licensed. Insured. Experienced

- General Plumbing
- Hot and Cold Water
- Gas Fitting
- Blockages and CCTV
- Drainage and Excavation
- Roofing

ADAM - 0438 310 452

Doongalla Plumbing

Mobile: **0410 644 098**
Phone: **9762 4242**

- * Gas
- * Maintenance
- * Repairs
- * Hot & Cold Water
- * Drainage
- * Sewers
- * Roofs & Gutters

Classic Gardens MAINTENANCE

Lawns, Edges and Garden Cleaning
Police Checked - Free Quotes

Call Janine:
0432 055 405

CROYDON GLASS

Window & Door Glass Repairs
Glass & Mirror Cut to Size
3 Chandra Ave
Kilsyth South 3137
Mob: **0483 857 664**

- * Pet Doors
- * Splashbacks
- * Mirrors
- * Table Tops

Superlative Home Cleaning
Min. 3 Hrs
ABN: 99322634069

Affordable, reliable and trustworthy
Weekly or fortnightly cleans. For an obligation-free quote Call Linda on 0421 596 494
"A better class of clean"

Hassle Free Gardening
The Garden Ninjas

- * Lawn Mowing
- * Property Maintenance
- * Gutter Cleaning
- * Pre Sale Clean Ups
- * Rubbish Removal
- * Slashing
- * Pruning

Julie: 0417 787 304
admin@gardenninja.com.au

Chris Cumming
Painting/Handyman

Mobile: **0403 415 244**

Email: chris@paintnow.com.au
Web: paintnow.com.au

BORONIA UNITING CHURCH
cnr. Boronia Road and Zeising Court

We have a user-friendly Sunday worship service at 10am with a message that might be JUST what you need to hear. Kids activities, lots of singing - all followed by morning tea and fellowship. Check out our website for ALL church activities boroniaroad.ucavictas.org.au.

A FASHION PARADE by Cliché Clothing. Saturday, 5 August from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Cost - \$20. A delicious afternoon tea will follow the parade. More details from Lorraine on 0408 361 225

THE EVANS FAMILY will entertain us with a wonderful afternoon of Christian songs and hymns. Sunday, 10 September at 1.30pm. Look at their website for a preview! www.theevansfamily.com.au. More details about the afternoon from irenesmith2@bigpond.com

COME ALONG TO OUR CRAFT. We meet 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.

EMERGENCY FOOD RELIEF is available each Tuesday and Friday morning from 10am till 12 noon. EVERYONE can be assured of non-judgmental and friendly support.

Jo's Ironing Services

\$30 per hour
Pick up and Delivery within 20 km of Boronia

Formal wear will incur extra charges

Phone Jo: **0425 858 687**

JG & S PAINTING AND HANDYMAN SOLUTIONS

John Giacomelli
0409 900 455

- * Painting Interior/Exterior
- * Gardening
- * Cleaning Gutters
- * Exterior Window Cleaning
- * Garden Rubbish Removal
- * End of Lease Clean Ups

VOLKSCARE
SPECIALISTS IN ALL VOLKSWAGENS

Audi, Seat & Skoda

- * Mechanical Repairs
- * Servicing & Maintenance
- * Licenced RWC Tester

U12/4 Macquarie Place Boronia 3155
Phone: **9729 9281**
(Melway: 65 A2)

MUSIC GROUP FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS AND THEIR CARERS each Friday from 9.20am during school terms. The 45 minute session is followed by a BYO morning tea when the carers get the opportunity to get to know each other. Leaders of this program are always on hand to offer support and encouragement. call Sue on 0402 079 432 for more information.

All our appointed leaders, employees and volunteers have completed the required Safe Church Training and have current Working With Children Checks.

facebook.com/BoroniaRdUnitingChurch Website: boroniaroad.ucavictas.org.au
church office: 9762 6732



Boronia 9762 0008

5/3 Floriston Road, Boronia



Thinking Of Selling?

Get the best price for your home.

With over 40 Years of local real estate Knowledge

Call Today for a free, no - obligation market appraisal.



15 Gilligans Court, Rowville

\$750,000 to \$795,000

Perfect First Starter , Down size or Investment

This 3 Bedroom home with BIRs, ensuite; family bathroom, 2 living areas, front verandah, rear pergola, window shutters to all windows, DLUG; as well as an additional 2 parking spots adjacent to the driveway has been thoughtfully updated and exudes a peace & tranquility in the flowing floorplan & choice of colour scheme.

Nestled in the bowl of the court it is an inviting home with low maintenance gardens & a large cemented area that give various options depending on who the new owner is.

Close to Stud Park Shopping Centre, The Stamford Hotel, great public transport options, and an abundance of major roadways to choose from.



40 Grosvenor Street, South Yarra

\$930 per week rent

Style & Finesse in Vibrant Chapel Precinct

Ideally Located just meters from Melbourne's premier shopping and lifestyle precinct, Chapel St district across the road from Grosvenor Park Reserve with easy access to Fawkner Park, Prahran Market, South-Yarra Station plus trams, exquisite shops, dining and entertainment.

This beautifully appointed property boasts 2 large bedrooms with built in robes, parquet hardwood floors throughout, a grand double bathroom with elevated bathtub, renovated kitchen to take advantage of the large rear entertainment area including an L shaped island bench and ducted heating.

Magnificent rear entertainment area delivers great privacy with its street to street access and parking through the rear, introducing sophisticated and pristinely presented interiors that define this wonderfully appointed single level domain.

