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COMMUNITY NEWS



Est. 1994

Delivering to Boronia, The Basin and surrounding areas

PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST NATIONS LAND OF THE WURUNDJERI PEOPLE

MAGIC, FANTASY AND ADVENTURE INSIDE

TOBY and the MAGIC PENCIL

SEE FULL STORY ON PAGE 11

COMPETITION PRIZE WINNERS



**ADULT WINNER:
RICHARD HAMILTON**



**JUNIOR WINNER:
SAMMY LAWRENCE**

Artwork: Nicole Zhang

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page 4**

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**Backyard Bird
Count, page 14**

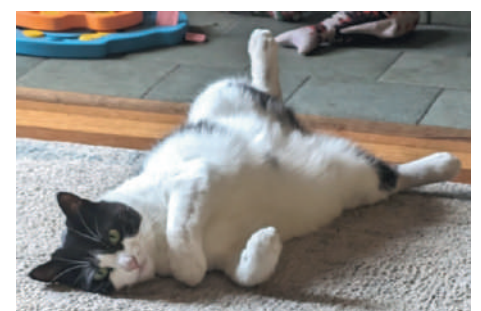
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Council elections

Look out for your ballot pack in the mail from 7 October



**birdlife
AUSTRALIA**



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

**BEING PRESENT
IN THE MOMENT**

Life often has a habit of giving us a reality check exactly when we need it, because we've lost sight of the simple and magical things life has to offer. The Princess of Wales expressed in her worldwide message recently, as she recovers from her life challenges, that we should be reminded to be grateful for the simple, yet important things in life that we all have a habit of taking for granted.

In this instance I think that the princess is not referring to items of material worth, but rather the things that no-one can really put a price on. Family and human connection for one, as well as the simplicity of enjoying the moment; of taking a breath of fresh air, allowing the sun's rays to warm our faces, and hearing the sounds of nature buzz around us.

When life throws a curveball, for most of us it can be a bit of a reality check, and when we finally emerge from the chaos, we suddenly see the light and have a new perspective.

Two questions come to mind. Firstly, why do we require a sudden, unexpected, less than desirable jolt to shake us out of the oblivious bubble of safety we've created for ourselves? Second, what is it about modern life that results in us never really being present in the moment and not realising how beautiful life can be? All we need to do is just open our eyes wide and let it all in. I think I know the answer to the second question, but it saddens me to the core that we have to experience something awful before we realise just how fragile human life can be. More to the point, why do we forget to consistently remind the people most important to us how much we love and appreciate them? I feel like somewhere along the line we missed the memo of life and how significant human connection can be to our overall well-being.

The lesson from life this week is to remember to hug the people who mean the most to us and remind them just how much they are loved.

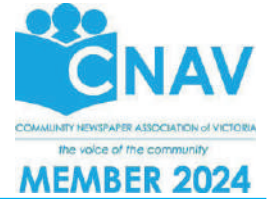


I challenge everyone (including myself) to just stop, take a deep breath and be present. Learn to tune out the noise of life, turn off all our electronic devices and take a step back in time, when life was just a little bit calmer and we had the time to just BE.

Ella Szlegier

Boronia & The Basin Community News

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We welcome all contributions from our community but can not guarantee publication. Articles published elsewhere should be acknowledged. 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 400 to 600 words, Georgia font, single spacing preferred. All photos should be submitted as separate jpg, png or pdf files.

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, please get in touch, we use many skills.

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localhistory.yourlibrary.com.au/local
Bound editions at Boronia Library

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Page 3 Bird

HOODED ROBIN

(*Melaodryas cucullata*)

I know many birdwatchers who have a special place in their hearts for the robins, the small dignified quiet achievers of the bird world. The stunning Red breasted robins, the Scarlet, Flame and Red-capped, the Rose and Pink Robins and the common Eastern-yellow Robin. Another species which often flies under the radar though is the Hooded Robin, a dry country specialist, found throughout the arid interior excepting the driest desert areas of northern WA.



Bird Eye's

A very sad recurring theme is the loss and decline of many species, particularly in the south east of the continent, and this little bird is no exception. While it has never been present in the Melbourne area, their presence at Chiltern-Mt. Pilot and other areas of the Box-Ironbark country in Northern Victoria is on a serious downward spiral, a disturbing trend.

These birds, in typical robin fashion, hunt from a still perch, a branch or a top of a post, scanning the ground for insects, before diving down and pouncing on their prey, a similar style to our iconic Laughing Kookaburra.

Male Hooded Robins have a bold black hood and back in stark contrast to the snow-white remainder of their bodies. The female on the other hand is a drab grey, still very cute and appealing though.

People often ask me why it is that the male is normally the brightly coloured of the two sexes, and the simple answer is that if you are sitting on a nest incubating eggs, it is nearly always the females role, you need to be as inconspicuous as possible. For some birds, eg. the Painted Snipe, the opposite occurs, as it is the male who incubates the eggs.

Sexism does not occur in the bird world though. While the female may do most of the nest duties,



Pinterest

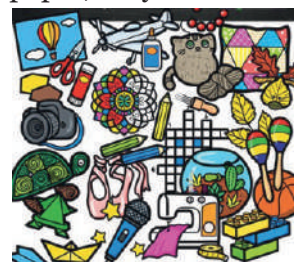
some species share the egg sitting role, but at the very least the male will feed the female while she sits there bored to tears, (I don't think boredom is a thing either). Many birds' family groups help in raising and feeding hungry chicks, and the Hooded Robin is one of these.

The nest of the Hooded Robin is a beautiful "small, neat cup of bark and grass bonded and reinforced with webs, in a tree fork or crevice, with exterior cleverly covered with bark from the tree it is built in." Pizzey and Knight.

Des Palmer: arc_up_welding@live.com.au

CALLING ALL COLLECTORS AND OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

We are always looking for new contributors. Stories of interest, histories, or achievements. One thing that I would like to see more of and I ask you the great people who frequent this paper, do you collect? Do you want to share it with others via the paper?



It doesn't have to be huge, it doesn't have to be expensive. It just has to be something you have a passion for. People collect all kinds of things; books, records, stamps, cars, bottles, pens, garden ornaments, photos, postcards, tea kettles, posters, guns, swords, business cards,

trading cards, cups, saucers, and plates. Whatever.

If you would like to share, contact us at the paper at contact@bbc.org.au or via a direct message (DM) via our Facebook page. You don't need to write an essay (though you can), you can send in a photo, or several, with or without a few words. We would love to share your interests and passions and make it a regular feature of the paper.

What do you think? Why not give it a go.

Danny Nolan,

from the BBCN Committee of Management

Our 30th Year AGM is on Wed 16 October at 7pm. The meeting is followed by our Special Guest Speaker and Entertainer Rob Fairbairn (Strummer's Stories)



There will be supper, and an Anniversary Cake. YOU ARE INVITED



This month we say a very sincere thank you and farewell for the many years of reliable services to our walking team from Maureen and Frank, and to Martina and Herman. We send all of them our very best wishes for the next chapter of their lives.

We have the following Walking Round vacancies that we are hoping for new Walkers to come forward and fill:

- Dixon Court area Boronia 110 papers
- Kanooka Road area Boronia 103 papers
- Army Rd area Boronia 100 papers
- Mitchell Ave area Boronia 100 papers

All you have to do is contact (contact@bbc.org.au), and we will send you all the information that you would need to know.

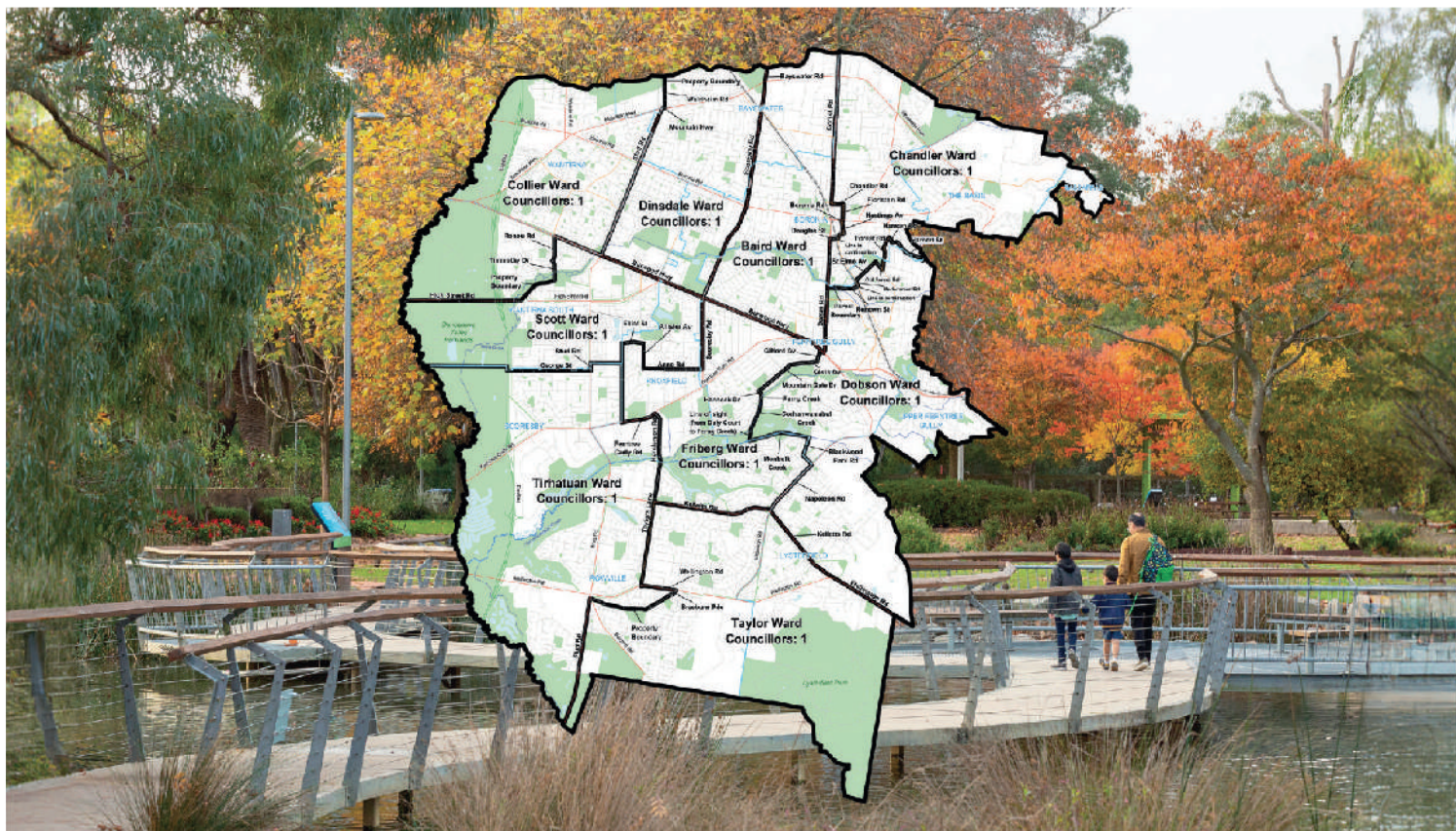
insert brain here



by woodsy

Council elections

Look out for your ballot pack in the mail from 7 October



- Voting is compulsory
- Post your ballot before 6pm, Friday 25 October

For more information visit vec.vic.gov.au or call **13 18 32**

COMMUNITY UPDATE: A BUSY SEASON AT BEN'S PLACE



Ben's Place has been bustling with activity over the past few months, as we continue our mission to support local families in need. One of our recent highlights was the "Coats for the Community" weekend, where we distributed coats, scarves, and beanies to help keep everyone warm during the cold winter months. It was heartwarming to see so many members of our community benefiting from this initiative.

In addition to keeping people warm, we've also been focusing on nourishing our community with cooking classes designed to teach essential skills in turning fresh produce into healthy, delicious meals. These classes wouldn't have been possible without the generous support of Bupa and The Basin Community House. We're grateful for their commitment to helping us empower individuals with the knowledge to create nutritious meals.

Our volunteers have also been busy enhancing their skills. Recently, they completed Food Safety training, ensuring that everything we do is up to the highest standards. A big thank you to MSA Training and Professional Development for providing this vital training.

Collaboration has been key to our success, and we've been working closely with other fantastic organisations, including Food is Free Tecoma, Foothills Community Care, and St Vincent's. By sharing resources and collaborating, we're able to extend our reach and make an even bigger impact on the lives of those in our community.

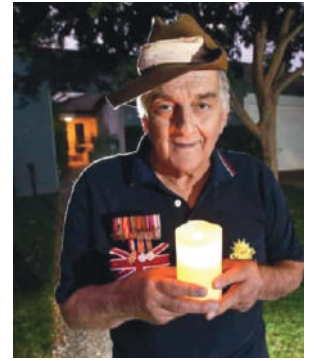
We look forward to continuing our work together and making a difference in the lives of those around us. Thank you to everyone who has supported us during this busy and fulfilling time at Ben's Place!

If you are in need of support, or would like to volunteer, please contact us at group.eskysr@gmail.com

VALE David Doughty

It is with sadness that we acknowledge the death of a long-time BBCN committee member and Ex-Vice President David Doughty.

David was a highly valued member and prolific contributor of articles that were very close to his heart - Army memorabilia, history, and travels.



He would occasionally write a heartfelt memoir of his childhood and the people he met. David joined the paper's committee in September 2006 and retired in September 2014 but still contributed articles when he was able.

We send our heartfelt condolences to David's family. Rest In Peace.

BBCN Committee

(Pic: David at the front of his home during COVID when he couldn't attend the dawn service due to lockdown)

VETERANS WAR MEMORIAL

Kristy Harris

Nestled within the Carpark of The Veterans Advocacy Centre in Boronia, a striking tribute to the Australian Military has been created by the Veterans from The Aussie Veterans Association (aka local Boronia trader The Aussie Veterans Op-shop).

This amazing work of art represents the three services - Navy, Army, and Airforce, with bold representations, including a naval ship, airforce fighter jet and army tank.

Look closely and you will also see the figure of a dog in the distance, depicting working dogs used regularly in Defence - Security, Explosives, Drug detection, and offensive manoeuvres, to name a few.

Three different colours of poppies are depicted within the mural:

Red - remembers our fallen.



Orange - bringing important awareness to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), suffered by many Veterans.

Purple - our animals in Defence: pigeons, horses, camels, dogs and more.

Starting with The First World War, and serving right through to today.

This mural is a touching tribute dedicated to all who have served and those we have lost.

We will remember them.

Huge thanks goes to:

Aussie Veterans Op-shop for funding this amazing project.

The creative genius of Sheldon from www.stateoftheheartmurals.com.au

Follow Aussie Veterans Opportunity Shop on Facebook for Op Shop Sales, Events & more.

Website: www.aussieveteransopshop.com.au

Twilight Bowls
Boronia Bowls Club - Marie St, Boronia
MUSIC ON THE GREEN
Fridays 6pm-9pm OCT-APR
During Daylight Savings
\$12 PER HEAD
CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE
ALL WELCOME

Boronia Bowls Club
5 Marie St., Boronia

TWILIGHT BOWLS IS BACK AGAIN FOR 2024/25
Bring the family and friends down to one of our Twilight Bowls sessions.
Held every Friday night from 6-9pm from October 2024 to April 2025.
All equipment and coaching supplied - full bar, sausage sizzle and dim sims available.
Just turn up or phone the Club on 9761 1996 to make a booking.

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Glengollan Village Ferntree Gully

CLUB SUPPORTERS
Jackson Taylor MP Bayswater
Mary Doyle Federal MP Aston
Cr. Jude Dwight Chandler Ward

No fees for new bowlers for the first year - Call Wayne for Membership on 0430 451 250

Letters:

Cr Jude Dwight

who is not contesting the October election

At the August meeting of Council, I announced that I wouldn't be standing in the October 2024 Knox Council election. It was not an easy decision to make!



My candidate statement in 2020 began with a commitment to the people of Chandler: "Give me 1 minute and I'll give you 4 years..." I was given that 'one minute' in the election, and have since honoured that promise with a very committed four years.

Throughout the term I've sought to be available and proactive, to provide opportunities within my power towards economic welfare, social cohesion and environmental resilience. I have worked hard for sustainable and appropriate development. I've fought for increased opportunities, access and dignity for those among us living with less. And I've tried to be a voice for those our decisions will impact the most – the next and future generations.

There is a future generation at home though who I miss and for whom I am – out of 8 billion people on the planet - the number one person in their lives! It's time for me to give a little bit back to myself and my family, after they've given so much to enable me to do this.

I want to thank the people of Chandler for putting your faith in me. For allowing me the privilege of representing you as ward Councillor, and then more broadly to the people of Knox as Deputy Mayor and this year as Mayor of the City. I've experienced first-hand the challenge of making decisions under competing policy objectives, within a framework of diminishing funds and resources, in the public eye, with little to no experience or qualification!

That's not to put anyone off though! It is to offer my sincere respect to the work of elected representatives who bring their best selves to the table week in week out, year after year to keep democracy alive in our country. When you stop and think about that, it's incredible!

But what's been even more incredible is the many, many stories of service, connectedness, compassion and support that I've been witness to on a daily basis. It's easy to see the worst of society in our social media feeds, mainstream news, just about everywhere! But there is so much good. Let's continue to support and celebrate these things at every opportunity with compassion and respect. We walk this path for such a short time. Let's always aim to be remembered well.

ALL DRIVERS PLEASE TAKE NOTE CHILDREN'S CROSSINGS

I am privileged to operate the school crossing outside The Basin Primary School on Mountain Highway each weekday morning and afternoon.

There will be those who have gained their driving licence recently or those, like myself, who gained theirs 50 years ago. A reminder of the road rules, particularly with reference to school crossings, is always pertinent however long you have been driving.

The three instances of bad behaviour that I face every day are speed, stopping on the crossing and drive throughs. All are often related and a reduction for one can have a flow-on effect for others.

I am authorised to report bad behaviour to the council, who then pass my reports on to Victoria Police. However, if I was to do that for every incident, I would be filing 50+ reports per 46 minute shift and would scarcely be left with enough time to cross the students which is, after all, my primary concern. Hence this letter in the hope that at least one person will read it, modify their behaviour and reduce the risk to students.

Kids are unpredictable and impulsive. The 40km/h speed limit is so you have time to stop should a child run onto the road. Please ask yourself if it's worth saving 30 seconds to put children's lives at risk and make sure you stick to 40 km/h.

It is illegal for any part of your vehicle to remain stationary anywhere between the school crossing flags. The penalty is 3 demerit points. It usually happens when the traffic is banked up due to the Miller Rd / Liverpool Rd roundabout and is pointless because no-one is going to push in front of you anyway!! For me, it greatly reduces my field of vision and, in these days of SUVs, makes it very difficult to see the traffic approaching from the other direction. Many of them are drive-throughs, as they see my stop sign at the last moment.

However, if they see me sooner and are travelling at 40 km/h or below, they have a chance to stop.

The Golden rules are ALWAYS slow down to 40km/h or below EVERY TIME you see orange school crossing flags. NEVER stop anywhere between the flags. ALWAYS stop as soon as you see the STOP sign.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Gary Francis

ALL CYCLISTS AND WALKERS PLEASE TAKE NOTE

BLIND CREEK TRAIL SAFETY

Public Safety is a public concern; by looking out for each other we all benefit.

Recently, coming from under the bridge that leads to the track beside Ferntree Gully railway line, a group of motorised bikers passed by at speed. Had I appeared earlier, they might have had to brake in a hurry causing possible collisions. There was nothing wrong in what they were doing provided the track was clear; as it was they were approaching a blind corner without due caution.

Again, someone on a motorised vehicle was turning from Rankins Rd onto the track without due care and attention. Fortunately my bike has good brakes.

At a recent meeting of Bright Ideas at the Knox Library, someone commented on the groups of "Olympic" cyclists who travelled fast in a group and without audible warning.

It takes little effort to look out for others using the trail, just the awareness that others are aware of your safety can create a sense of well-being and encourage people to enjoy the benefits of the park.

SAFETY TIPS THAT MIGHT BENEFIT TRAIL USERS

Cyclists should have audible warning that can be used in good time to alert pedestrians.

Cyclists should slow down and pass people at a reasonable speed.

Pedestrians who are hard of hearing, or use headphones, should not make sudden changes of direction without looking to see if the coast is clear.

Everyone should take notice of signs on the track.

Everyone should take notice of blind corners.

Cyclists should always be on the lookout for sudden movement such as pets and young children.

Cyclists should never alarm people with a sudden approach.

Cyclists beware of people wearing headphones they may not hear your approach.

Relax and enjoy the benefits of a space you share with others.

Dave Smith

PRABODH TO EMBARK ON HIS THIRD AND FINAL MCG TO SCG "McGRATH FOUNDATION" BREAST CARE NURSES FUND RAISING WALK

“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart.” *Elizabeth Andrew*

Prabodh Malhotra lives in Boronia. At 73 this will be his final walk; 1300km via Gippsland, the NSW south coast and Canberra. Departing the MCG on 3 November, he arrives at the SCG on 3 January, the opening day of the Pink Test.

His fundraising target for the 3 walks is \$120,000. So far he has raised over \$100,000 and hopes that readers and their friends will give generously towards Breast Care Specialist Nurses being available throughout Australia. All donations go directly to the McGrath Foundation, and may be tax deductible.

Prabodh's inspiration comes from, “Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on

earth.” Muhammad Ali, and, “We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibres connect us with our fellow person.” Herman Melville. *“This country has given me a beautiful life, and now it is my turn to give something back. No one lives forever, and I would like to leave this world a better place than when I came into,”* Prabodh.

Editorial note: over his three MCG to SCG walks, Prabodh has not enjoyed any sponsorship. The considerable costs of support vehicle hire, fuel, accommodation, etc. have all come at great personal cost. We hope that our readers, and their contacts, will click the code or visit the link, to help him reach his \$120,000 McGrath Foundation fundraising goal.

www.pinkisthecolour.com.au/fundraisers/PrabodhMalhotra



A DAY AT THE RACES

Ray Peace, Knox Historical Society

AND THEY'RE RACING...at Bayswater? As the area is now mostly built up, we no longer associate Bayswater, Boronia, or The Basin with any form of racing, be it horse, pigeon, running, bicycles, or motor vehicles.

It was a different story in earlier days. James John Miller, the first president of Ferntree Gully Shire, made his money from racing guides. He used the funds to build 'Melrose,' now known as Miller's Homestead, in 1888.



A Bayswater Racing Club was formed early in 1891, but only seems to have staged one race meeting. JJ Miller lost his money when racing sweepstakes were banned in the 1890s. He sold the property to Michael Cronin, who, appropriately, was his horse trainer, in about 1894.

Miller was not the only one interested in racehorses. The Barry family, relatives of the Supreme Court judge, Sir Redmond Barry, who sentenced Ned Kelly to death in 1880, built brick stables for racehorses on Scoresby Road that lasted until the early 1950s.

James John Miller died in 1922, but Miller's Racing Guide survived into the age of the internet, closing after 145 years in 2016.

Bayswater also had a state school in the 1880s, where foot races for children were undoubtedly held. But in March 1908, the races were on a grand scale when 2,500 children and adults caught special trains to Bayswater for the annual State

Schools' picnic. The Great War of 1914-19 restricted these, but the picnics resumed in the 1920s.

As the 20th century progressed, racing bicycles, motor-cycles and motor cars became popular as well. Motor-cycles incurred the wrath of Cr. Wicks at Ferntree Gully Shire in July 1921, when it was proposed to hold a time trial through The Basin to Sassafras. A stern letter went to the governing body, stating that if the motor-cycles exceeded 14 miles per hour (26 km/h) the riders would be prosecuted for speeding!

Professional and amateur cycling clubs staged regular events around the hills in the 1920s and '30s, many of which passed through The Basin and Boronia. These were usually on weekends when motor traffic was reduced.

The Basin via Bayswater, as it was then known, did not host race meetings in the 1920s. The Basin was, however, noted in 1926 as a good location for one Harry Connolly, training horses for hurdle races, at 'Silvan Dell' at The Basin. Presumably the varied terrain and numerous fallen trees facilitated this.


Another figure familiar in the racing world in the 1950s was Ted Sutton of Boronia, who worked as a stud groom at Stamford Park in Rowville, and also Blackwood Park in Ferntree Gully. The Sutton family first settled in Scoresby in the 1860s.

Perhaps the barmiest race of all was proposed for Boronia on the King's Birthday holiday in June 1939. Competitors would have thundered down the Boronia Road hill from Floriston Road to the rail crossing on... billycarts? This event doesn't appear to have happened, but would have made an interesting sight if it did!



IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR 188 Family Medical Centre Patients.
The surgery has ceased operations and will be closing permanently on **27 November 2024**
In the interim if you wish to transfer your medical records to your new practice please email LMedicalCentre@outlook.com providing each of the following details:
New practice name including doctor's name
Address of practice
Phone and fax number of practice
Email of practice
On going primary care is available nearby at *Doctors Care Clinic*, 157 Scoresby Rd Boronia 3155, ph: 98393333 or email: reception@drcareclinic.com.au

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Mental Health Week 5 - 12 October 2024

Empowering communities, thriving workforces: a journey towards investing in our mental health



Mental Health Week brings awareness to mental health and wellbeing nationally, and scheduled around World Mental Health Day in October.

Mental Health Week is a national celebration encouraging social connection. This is an opportunity to highlight the important connection between social determinants of health and our mental health and to promote effective prevention strategies to keep people and our communities mentally healthy.

This week aims to increase mental wellbeing in communities by:

- Encouraging each of us to support and look out for one another.
- Promoting mental health literacy – learning the 'language' of expressing feelings, good and bad; and
- Continuing to raise awareness of mental health issues and reduce the stigma that can be associated with seeking help.

Visit: mentalhealthweek.org.au

Living Our Best Life

An inspiring small community initiative that's making a significant impact on the lives of seniors.

The Living Our Best Life Project, supported by trained Community Connectors, uses social prescribing and drop-in café groups to help lonely and socially isolated seniors reconnect with their community.

Social prescribing is a non-medical referral option for a range of professionals, including GPs and allied medical staff, as well as non-medical professionals working in the social care and charity sectors.

The project aims to reduce feelings of loneliness and social isolation in people aged 60 and over. It

plays a vital role in improving health and wellbeing in our community.

A Community Connector can help you to find a social group, activity or service in our area. Contact them directly on 0457 646 384 or email livingourbestlife@gmail.com. You can browse the social groups, activities or services available on the website livingourbestlife.org.au

Living Our Best Life hosts a Talking Cafe every Monday from 2 pm to 3 pm at Crave Restaurant, 238 Dorset Rd, Boronia.

What Happens at a Talking Café?

Talking Cafés provide an opportunity for individuals to gather in local cafés for weekly drop-in sessions. These casual meetings offer a chance to socialise, learn about community events, and

engage with the Living Our Best Life project. Hosted by a welcoming Talking Café host, participants are encouraged to attend, connect with others, and hear from guest speakers. Participants can buy themselves a coffee to enjoy along with a good chat. These one-hour gatherings, open to everyone, require no prior booking, and welcome newcomers at any time.



The Basin
Community House

We are so excited to launch our new look program with lots of exciting activities and opportunities. For the very young, we will be commencing Basin Bookworms, a story time and song session for preschoolers. Grandparents and caregivers are most welcome to come along and join in with parents. This free event will start on Wednesday 9 October at 9.15am. You are welcome to come in from 8.45am.

Kids Creative Studio will be starting on Tuesday afternoons from 15 October. This will offer a combination of art, craft, cooking and outdoor activities and perfect for the 8-12 age group. Children will need to be signed in and out by an adult.

We will be introducing some fantastic new workshops including Shoe, Paint and Sip, which is a fun way to repurpose and customise your old

shoes. Cheese Making Workshops, Intro to Making Costumes and Headpieces and learn about how to look after your car at our Mechanics for Women Workshop. To get you moving in a fun and safe environment we are introducing some workshops to bring out your inner diva with a variety of dance styles.

For those wanting a peaceful and invigorating start to the weekend, Spyros will be offering a new yoga class on Saturday mornings, along with his popular Wednesday night class. Yoga with Wendy is offered on Tuesday nights and Friday mornings, and with over 30 years experience, Wendy will guide you through a range of stretches, poses, breathing and relaxation exercises to suit your level of ability.

Like to forget you are exercising but feel better for coming along? Join our Thursday Exercise Right for Active Ageing to keep everything moving! Our new instructor is Phil from My Exercise Physiology and the class is adapted to suit differing levels of ability and held in a fun and friendly setting. If you

love spending time outdoors come and join our keen gardeners to help maintain our lovely produce and bush tucker gardens and other outdoor areas.

Can't see anything of interest? This is only a small description of the activities, community events and social groups on offer. See our program information and follow the QR code or go to our website www.thebasincommunityhouse.org.au. We understand that for some people taking the step to come into the House or take part in an activity can be hard. We encourage you to give us a call and make a time with one of our friendly team, where we can show you around and help you discover or rediscover new ways to connect, learn, laugh and find your joy.

We hope to see you soon at your Community House.

thebasincommunityhouse.org.au

Maureen and the team at
The Basin Community House

The Basin Community House - Term 4 Summary

for details visit: thebasincommunityhouse.org.au or ring 9761 0209 Mon – Fri 9.15am to 3pm

NEW CLASSES	Sunshine & Savoury Lunch	Mosaics
Kids - Basin Bookworms	Active Ageing Exercise	Craft
Kids – Creative Studio	Tai Chi	Craft & Chat
Cheese Making Workshops	Yoga with Wendy	Digital Photography
Cooking Classes	Yoga with Spyros	Patchworking & Sewing
Dancing	Digital Skills level 1	Woodwork for Women
Shoe Paint and Sip	Digital Skills level 2	Charity Group
Paint and Sip	Beginners Art, Drawing	Conversation & Friendship
Intro to making costumes & Headpieces	Card Making Monthly	Discovering Destinations
Mechanics for Women	Card Making Classes	Unconditional Love Program
Water Colour	Colour & Chat	Photography Exhibition

“SPRING IS NATURE’S WAY OF SAYING ‘LET’S PARTY’” – Robin Williams

And nothing is more true at this time of year as many plants, particularly the wattles, celebrate Spring by covering themselves in flowers.

The party started a little while ago with the flowering of the Silver Wattle, soon followed by the Golden Wattle, Blackwood and, when in flower, the glorious Hedge Wattle. And that’s just a sample of the many indigenous flowering plants seen in parks and reserves now.

Myrtle Wattle *Acacia myrtifolia*

In the garden the Myrtle Wattle soon covered itself in its profuse yellow flowers. This is a useful as well as colourful plant, flowering between July and October and happy to grow in most soils, in full sun to full shade. Growing from 1 to 3 metres, it will provide a fast-growing low screen. Pruning is beneficial.

Gold Dust Wattle *Acacia acinacea*

Also covering itself in bright yellow balls is the Gold Dust Wattle. This is an open spreading shrub, blooming prolifically between July and November. Adaptable to well drained soils, in full sun to semi-shade, it is a good low screening plant which will often self-seed in the



Gold dust wattle

garden. Annual pruning will keep it in shape.

Purple Coral Pea *Hardenbergia violacea*

For a change of colour, you can’t go past the beautiful Purple Coral Pea. This is a showy, scrambling, climber that can be useful for covering embankments or as a light screen. It is another adaptable plant, comfortable in well drained soils, either in full sun or semi-shade, although sunnier positions will usually result in better flowering.



**Hibbertia with
*Hardenbergia***

Erect Guinea-flower *Hibbertia riparia*

The Erect Guinea-flower is a showy plant with bright yellow flowers. It is attractive to butterflies as a food plant for their caterpillars. The Erect Guinea-flower is a small shrub growing up to 60 cm high which prefers moist well-drained soil, in full sun or semi-shade. It responds well to summer watering.

Spring is well and truly in the air and it’s time to party. The Knox Environment Society wants to celebrate with you.

We are excited to extend an invitation to our

Spring Garden Party Festival, Saturday 12 October, 10am-4pm at our Nursery where a broad range of indigenous plants will be on offer, including groundcovers, grasses, shrubs, trees and ferns.

Take the opportunity to enjoy Garden “know-how” Workshops, Presentations, Displays and Activities and learn more about the groups featured.

Knox Friends Groups – caring for our wild places

Treefern Potters – ceramic artists and pottery sales

Repair Café – sharpening and maintenance advice of garden hand tools

Knox Community Gardens – vegetable seedlings

Grow what where – indigenous planting advice

Pruning Native/Indigenous shrubs and grasses – when and how

Presentations – landscaping your nature strip, home energy efficiency

Knox Woodworkers

More details will become available closer to the date so keep abreast of information at www.kes.org.au.

So come along on 12th October, between 10am and 4pm and enjoy the party.

The Knox Environment Society Nursery is located at 1010 Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully.

KNOX COMMUNITY GARDENS SOCIETY

WHERE OUR COMMUNITY CAN GROW

We are celebrating our 40th Birthday on Saturday 5th October 2024 from 10am to 4pm at 51 Kleinert Rd Boronia – free event all welcome!

In July 1984, a Commonwealth Employment Program was established to create a vineyard, orchard and community garden and to provide horticultural employment and training. In October 1984, Knox Community Garden was established as a co-operative and 62 plots were allocated to members of the local community. So here we are, 40 years later, still going strong. We now have over 150 plots of various sizes, so we have grown significantly since our establishment.

To mark this momentous occasion, we are having an open day at the gardens on Saturday 5th October 2024. There will be plenty of activities for the whole family. The official presentation and cake cutting will be at 12.30pm. You can view our historical displays and participate in garden tours.

There will be a plant stall, selling different varieties of tomatoes, other vegetable and flower seedlings as well as herbs. Other stalls sell cakes, second hand books and more. A number of local community groups will be in attendance, including Knox Environment Society, ShareSpace and a

Citrus and Fruit Fly Information stall. You will also find a number of local retail stalls, including face painting, honey sales and others. Local musicians will be performing throughout the day.

Plenty of food and drinks available for purchase throughout the day. Egg and bacon rolls will be available all morning, plus sausages, hamburgers and vegetarian okonomiyaki. There will be a coffee van, Devonshire tea, as well as cold drinks.

Presentations will be held throughout the day. The planned program is ‘Beekeeping with Neil Whiteside’ at 10.00am, ‘Espaliering with Michael from Swinburne’ at 11.00am, ‘Gardening the Spanish Way with Fidel and Vince’ at 12 noon (question and answer style presentation), ‘Saving Seeds with Jodie Pearce’ at 12.30pm, ‘Queensland Fruit Fly and Citrus Pests’ by Bronwen Koll and Dr Jessica Lye at 1.00pm and ‘Composting’ with Geoff Ofield at 2.00pm. These presentations are not to be missed!

If you are driving to this event, you can park in surrounding streets, Genesis Gym or Fairpark Reserve (use the underpass to access the gardens via the laneway off Scoresby Road). Please note there is no onsite parking. This event is zero waste so

please bring some bags to carry your purchases home. Cash and EFTPOS available. We hope to see you all there!

If you would like to drop in for a visit and have a look around, the gardens are usually open on Tuesday morning from 9am to 12noon. We are located at 51 Kleinert Road Boronia.

Further information about KCGS is available on our website knoxcommunitygardens.org.au, facebook @knoxcommunitygardens or email knoxcommunitygardens@gmail.com

Rod Felton

Boronia K-12 College

Year 11 Business Management Students Shark Tank Presentations

Recently our Year 11 Business Management students took a bold step into the world of entrepreneurship with their very own Shark Tank presentations. After weeks of studying business theories, marketing strategies, and product development, students were given the chance to pitch their innovative ideas to a panel of "Sharks"—the Sharks weren't just any group of investors. The panel featured some of our own teachers, Assistant Principals, and the College Principal, Mr. Broecker, all ready to hear, and potentially "invest" in the student pitches.

Each group of students developed a business idea from the ground up, using their knowledge of market research, target audiences, pricing strategies, and marketing to create a compelling pitch. The challenge? Convince the Sharks to



buy into their business or product idea.

Despite the added pressure of presenting to the sharks, the students were well-prepared. Many were understandably nervous, but their hard work and dedication shone through as they confidently presented their business plans. From tech innovations to white boarder markers, the ideas were both diverse and reflective of the entrepreneurial ideas discussed in the class.

The Sharks, were impressed by the creativity and thoughtfulness behind each pitch. They asked probing questions about profit margins, scalability, and marketability, and the Year 11s

responded with well-reasoned answers, demonstrating their grasp of real-world business challenges. The Sharks also offered valuable feedback, helping students refine their ideas further.

This Shark Tank experience was more than just a classroom activity; it was a chance for students to apply their business knowledge in a real-world setting. The skills they demonstrated—public speaking, critical thinking, teamwork, and adaptability—were on full display.

A big congratulations to our Year 11 Business Management students for their hard work and impressive presentations! We also extend our thanks to the Sharks—our teachers, Assistant Principals, and Principal Mr. Broecker—for taking the time to support and challenge our young entrepreneurs.

Year 11 Business Management
Catherine Holleran
Boronia K-12 College

School holiday activities for young people

The Knox Youth Services team will be running a range of activities these school holidays. These free events are for young people who live, work, study or have a connection to Knox.

The program of activities will be run at the Knox Youth Hive located within the Knox Library at Westfield Knox (level 3), 425 Burwood Highway, Wantirna South (above Rebel Sports).

For any questions or further information on the September holiday activities contact the Youth Services team on 9298 8000 or email youth@knox.vic.gov.au



Just Dance Afternoon – (ages 10 to 25 years)

When: Thursday 26 September, 1pm – 3pm

Details: Get ready to groove at our Just Dance Afternoon at Youth Hive. Join us for an afternoon of fun, music, and dancing as we bring the popular game to life on the big screen. Whether you're a seasoned dancer or just want to have a good time, this event is perfect for all young people 10-25 years! No bookings required.

Special Effects Makeup Workshop (ages 12 to 25 years)

When: Tuesday 1 October, 1pm – 3:30pm

Details: Unleash Your Creativity. Join our Special Effects Makeup Workshop facilitated by The Face paint Shop and learn SFX for Halloween or just for fun. All materials will be provided, so just bring your creativity and enthusiasm! Limited spaces. Register your attendance by contacting Knox Youth Services on youth@knox.vic.gov.au or 9298 8000, a completed permission form will be required for all young people 12-25 years to attend this workshop.

Craft workshop (ages 12 to 25 years)

When: Friday 4 October, 2pm-4pm

Details: Candle making and bath bombs. Get your creative juices flowing at our Crafternoon. Relax, socialise, and create something awesome that you get to take home. All skill levels are welcome, and materials will be provided. No bookings required.

Cartoonist - Get your portrait drawn (ages 10 to 25 years)

When: Tuesday 24 September, 2pm – 4pm

Details: Join us for a fun-filled experience with Victor, a talented caricature artist known for his quick and humorous drawings. Victor will capture your character in a lively and entertaining way, creating a keepsake that's sure to bring a smile to your face! No bookings required.

Beyond the Frame – Youth Photography and Digital Art Competition Exhibition Launch (ages 10 to 25 years, families and friends)

When: Tuesday 24 September, 4pm – 5:30pm

Details: Come celebrate the incredible talents of young photographers in Knox. The event will feature an awards presentation, and you'll have the chance to vote for the People's Choice Awards. Bring your family and friends to enjoy the amazing works on display. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Knox Youth Services at 9298 8000 or email youth@knox.vic.gov.au.

TOBY & THE MAGIC PENCIL PRIZE WINNERS

Danny Nolan

To celebrate the first anniversary of Toby & the Magic Pencil in this paper a competition was held where anyone who sent in a reaction of any kind good, bad, or indifferent would be in the running for some great prizes. There were two groups, an under 13 and an adult section. Each pack contained a signed copy by the two creators Gary Dellar and Ben Sullivan of Toby Number One and Two. The adult pack also contained over \$300 of Australian comics from publishers such as Reverie, ComX, Decay, Shidot, and SCAR. Many are also signed by their creators.

The contest ran for six months in an attempt to garner as many opinions and entries as possible.

In August the paper chose two winners, one for each category,

It was decided that the prizes would be presented at the newspaper's monthly committee meeting in September. The winners after being notified were happy to attend and have their photos taken during the presentation. What they weren't aware of was that after Gary Dellar was notified of the results, he revealed that the current edition of Toby, being number 3, was to be reprinted, this time with this article and pictures of

the winners in the fanzine section. They would also receive a copy with them in it to go with their new exclusive and growing Toby collection when it was released.

The recipient of the Junior prize pack was Sammy Lawrence, a budding writer who has a pair of very supportive parents who encourage her to read, write, and draw. Sammy is already making her mark in her creative journey by winning one of the monthly prizes in the newspaper's Young Writers Initiative and appearing in the Knox Council Comic Creation Anthology.

The Adult prize went to Richard Hamilton, who like any good father enjoys comics with his children, two boys who are already future comic enthusiasts like Dad.

We were so happy to present these prizes because I believe the two most deserving entries won. And when they were informed of our little secret extra prize, it was the icing on the cake and they were excited for the concept and their inclusion.

We asked both Sammy and Richard when they had read through their winnings to let us know how they enjoyed reading Aussie comics. I didn't have to wait long for Sammy's reply. After they had left Sammy's mum Jenny texted me. And I could picture Sammy floating above the seat in excitement.

"We got to the car and Sammy said, "I can't believe I'm going to be in a comic."

Richard said, "I've been a lifelong comic reader but have only been in Australia for 10 years and haven't sampled a lot of the local publishers yet. I'm already really enjoying the variety of the books by Reverie and Dark Oz and am very much looking forward to sitting down this weekend and really absorbing them!"

Congratulations to our deserving winners and we can't wait to report on the upcoming publication.

TOBY and the **MAGIC PENCIL**
WWW.REVERIEPUBLICATIONS.COM.AU

A quick escape just as the Dragon reappears

HELLO ANYONE ELSE WANT TO POP ME!

TOBY!

SO, IS THAT YOUR DRAGON?

OH NO, THE HOUSE IS CATCHING FIRE!

HEY EMILE, GET BACK HERE!

DON'T YOU THINK WE SHOULD SAVE YOUR FRIEND IN THE HOUSE?!

HE ISN'T IN THE HOUSE, HE IS THE HOUSE!

EMILE, YOU'RE FIRED!

IS THAT DRAGON GOING TO GET THROUGH THE DOOR?!

OH, I DOUBT IT, TOBY!

TO BE CONTINUED...

TOBY AND THE MAGIC PENCIL CREATED BY GARY DELLAR. ART BY BEN SULLIVAN. LETTERS BY DARREN CLOSE

I love writing!

BBCN Young Writers Initiative Award Winners

All published submissions receive a \$50 voucher and a certificate.

Please submit your entries here:

AUGUST: Joshua de Lima
Year 3, Boronia Heights PS.

AUGUST: Hannah Knowles
Year 4, Boronia Heights PS.

SEPTEMBER: Isla Boencke
Year 5, Boronia K-12.

SEPTEMBER: Matthew Payne
Year 8, Boronia K-12.

BBCN Young Writers Award October Winners

I love
writing!



The Whispering Shadows

Lucas Aratangi Year 5, Boronia K12

In the small, isolated village of Ravenswood, nestled deep within a dense forest, there was an old mansion that had been abandoned for decades. The villagers spoke of it in hushed tones, calling it the Whispering Shadows. They said that anyone who entered the mansion never returned the same.

One stormy night, a young woman named Eliza, driven by curiosity and a desire to uncover the truth, decided to explore the mansion. Armed with only a flashlight and her courage, she made her way through the overgrown path leading to the mansion's entrance. The wind howled through the trees, and the rain pounded against the windows as she pushed open the creaking door.

Inside, the air was thick with dust and the scent of decay. Eliza's flashlight flickered, casting eerie shadows on the walls. She could hear faint whispers, like the murmurs of a thousand voices, but she couldn't make out any words. Determined, she ventured deeper into the mansion.

As she climbed the grand staircase, the whispers grew louder, more insistent. She reached the top floor and found herself in a long hallway lined with portraits of the mansion's former inhabitants. Their eyes seemed to follow her, and she felt a chill run down her spine.

At the end of the hallway, she discovered a

locked door. The whispers were now a cacophony, urging her to turn back, but she pressed on. Using a hairpin, she managed to pick the lock and push the door open. Inside, she found a small, dimly lit room with a single, ornate mirror hanging on the wall. Eliza approached the mirror, and as she looked into it, she saw not her reflection, but the faces of the mansion's former inhabitants. They were trapped, their eyes filled with despair. Suddenly, the whispers became clear: "Free us."

Terrified, Eliza tried to step back, but her feet were rooted to the spot. The faces in the mirror began to scream, their voices merging into a deafening roar. The room grew colder, and shadows began to swirl around her, pulling her towards the mirror.

With a final, desperate effort, Eliza reached out and shattered the mirror. The glass exploded into a thousand shards, and the shadows dissipated. The whispers ceased, and the room fell silent.

Exhausted and shaken, Eliza stumbled out of the mansion and back to the village. She never spoke of what she had seen, but the villagers noticed a change in her. Her once bright eyes were now haunted, and she avoided mirrors at all costs.

The mansion still stands in Ravenswood, its secrets buried within its walls. And on stormy nights, if you listen closely, you can still hear the faint whispers of the shadows, waiting for their next victim.

1. What is galaxy?

- A. A chocolate bar held together with gravity
- B. A system of planets and moons held together with gravity
- C. A system of billions of stars held together with gravity

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

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

3. What is gravity measured in?

- A. Metres
- B. Newtons
- C. Kilograms

4. What would happen to the moon if the Earth lost its gravitational pull?

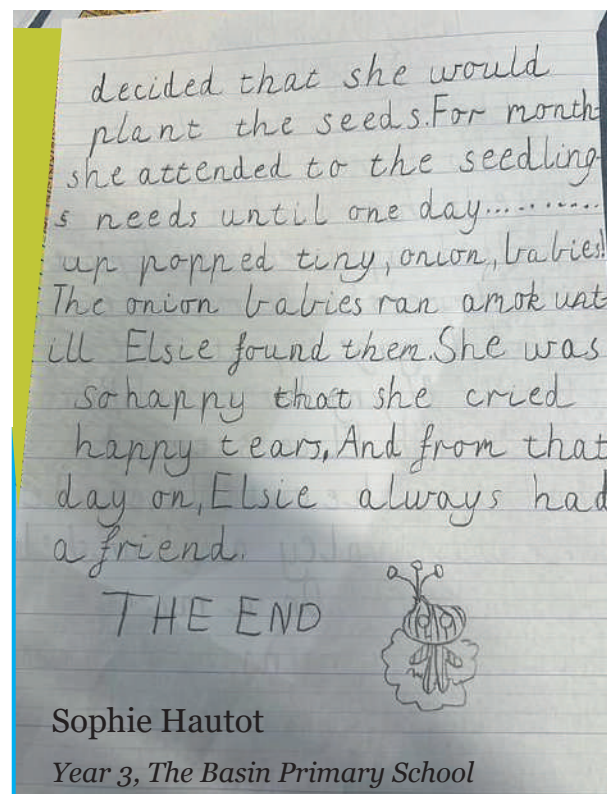
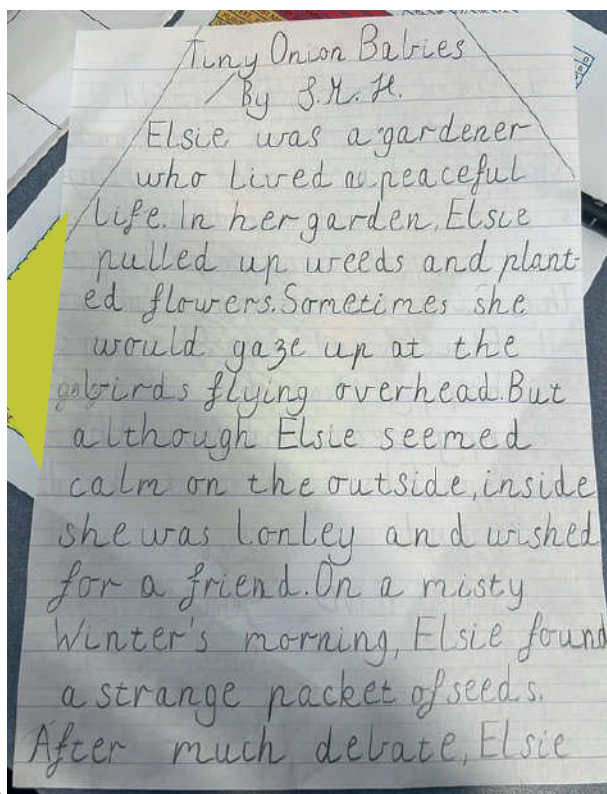
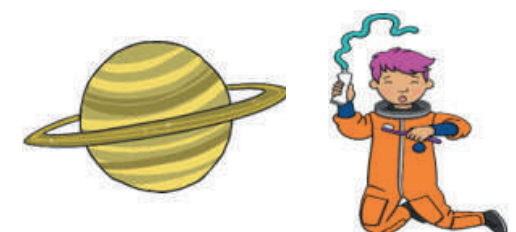
- A. It would crash into the earth
- B. It would explode
- C. It would fly off into space

5. What is a solar eclipse?

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

Answers:

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





We were looking for somewhere to take our lively 2.5-year-old grandchild on a cold wet day in Boronia. Our daughter, his mother, suggested we go to Sprouts Play Centre which is close by in Kilsyth. We were interested to find that the same play centre (previously Awesome Fun) we took our own children to was still running and were keen to see what might have changed and how play centres were run these days. Sprouts still had lots of similar things, catering for a range of kids from toddlers to older primary school kids. It still has the Thomas the Tank Engine and a large ball pit but now has more climbing frames and tunnels with some super-fast slides at the end of them, as well as high

Sprouts Play Centre

Fun for all kids and autistic friendly, by Joy Shelley

long and spiral slides. Our grandchild had a great time and had no trouble with any of the equipment. A bit harder for Grandma to follow him down the tunnels and slides, as she lacks his dexterity and fearlessness.

It is now run by Jen who has two autistic children. She has created a safe space which is welcoming, friendly and supportive for autistic children and fun for children in general. I had a long chat with Jen about how hard it is to be a parent of autistic children. She said that what she most needs from other parents is acceptance and understanding.

Children with autism are loving children with a different way of communicating and interacting. They still like Thomas the Tank, Bluey and Paw Patrol like all other kids. Parents still like to chat, like any other parents. All children have similarities and differences. It is best to just treat the child as a child. Kids are kids and enjoy interactive play, they all have likes and dislikes. Some like noisy busy environments and others like quiet play. Autism is not a disease, just a different way of engaging in their world. A good way to interact is to talk with the parents about what their children like and don't like to do, just as you would with any

other parent.

Our society benefits from seeing the diversity of people as a strength and being open to a range of ideas and ways of being. Don't back away from people just because they seem a little different. Talk with them, and who knows, you may even learn something yourself. The best outcome for everyone is understanding, inclusion and respect.

Pictures courtesy of: <https://www.mammaknowseast.com.au/places-to-go/sprouts-playcentre-kilsyth>



World Space Week is held each year in October to celebrate human endeavours, contributions, science and technology and successes in space science. Educating people about space science, its importance, and the impacts it has had on humanity, helps raise awareness, gain public support for space programs, and encourages the use of space for sustainable economic development. World Space Week is coordinated by the United Nations with the assistance of the World Space Week Association.

The theme of World Space Week 2024 is 'Space and Climate Change.' This theme aims

to start a conversation and raise awareness about the connection between space and climate change. It aims to spark worldwide educational and public outreach initiatives, showcasing the crucial and integral part that space plays in understanding our global environment. Learn more at: <https://www.worldspaceweek.org/>

Scientific discoveries made for space have provided benefits here on Earth across a wide range of industries like medicine, engineering and transport. For example, the memory foam in your pillow, mattress, couch and bike helmet, was invented to cushion astronauts in test flights! GPS would not exist if we did not have

satellites. The list goes on and on. A great place to explore over 2000 Earth benefits from space exploration is NASA's Spinoff site: <https://spinoff.nasa.gov/>

Did you know that Australia is involved in Space Science?

Australia has been involved in space science since the 1950's in collaboration with other space agencies. We launched our own satellites early in the space race from Woomera Space Range in South Australia. The Australian Space Agency's website is full of resources about Australia's role in space science, which includes a range of careers you can strive for right here in Australia: <https://www.space.gov.au/>

The Australian space industry is expected to increase by 20,000 employees by 2030 and will contribute 12 billion dollars to the Australian GDP, making it a key contributor to the growth and diversification of our economy. The government is investing heavily to accelerate the development of our space industry and increase its commercial implications.

NASA has several wonderful free space resource sites that have lots of fun activities for all ages to explore.

There is even an interactive one for kids: <https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/>



In August about 60 Cubs from 7 Cub Units in the City of Knox had a fun noisy time at 10 pin bowlings. We have a Round Robin Tournament event each year, the activity decided upon by the Cubs to see which unit will take home the new 'Round Robin Trophy.' Last year it was roller skating and this year the competition was hot in the bowling lanes.

We congratulate all the Cubs on their fantastic bowling efforts and the winning Cub Unit was 2nd Wantirna! When we last held a 'Round Robin Bowling Tournament' in 2019, 2nd Wantirna were the winners as well!

In September, 55 Cubs from 9 Cub Units, siblings, parents, grandparents, other Scout youth members and many leaders from the City of Knox descended on Hill Lake and Sutton Lake, Rowville for a morning of fishing fun! The weather was just perfect, not too cold and certainly not too hot! We were all very glad that

CUBS BOWL UP A STORM, AND GO FISHING!

we weren't fishing the day before in the arctic wet weather.

The Victorian Fisheries Authority had kindly brought forward the release date of the fish into the two lakes. The Cubs eagerly tried to catch one of the 550 rainbow fish. Alas, only weeds and other lines were caught. It did not dampen the enthusiasm of the Cubs though. They had a great time.

For those that needed a break from fishing for a while, we had set up suction cup archery, ten pin bowling and giant jenga. These activities provided a short break and refuelled the enthusiasm to once again try to catch those allusive fish.

Interested in trying Scouting? Visit: <https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/locations/all-groups/>

1st The Basin and 8th Knox are the local Scout Groups. You can try three nights for free! So come along and join in the fun. Scouting is for youth from age 5 to 26 years and after 26 lots of fun is to be had by becoming a leader!

Nicole Klep, District Leader of Cub Scouts

**1st Basin Scout Group
Trivia Night - Saturday
5 October 7pm**



**1ST The Basin Scout Group
Trivia Night
Saturday 5th of October
from 7PM Sharp**

\$20 per person
Tables of 8-10

BYO snacks and drinks, tea/coffee provided

BOOK HERE 

<https://www.trybooking.com/CTMJH>

A fun night of Trivia, games, door prizes!
Online Silent Auction heaps of great items
<https://airauctioneer.com/1st-the-basin-jamboree-trivia-night-silent-auction>

EFT & Cash available on the night

**Help our Scouts
get to Jamboree
2025**




AUSSIE BACKYARD BIRD COUNT 14-20 October



Part of the fun of the Aussie Bird Count is getting to know the birds that live in your area. You can probably identify a lot of them already, but there's always one or two elusive species to learn more about!

There's a whole heap of resources to help you get to know your local birds and more about birding – visit aussiebirdcount.org.au/resources/ to get started.

How to bring back the little ones...

Australia-wide, populations of many of our small bird species are declining. Once common birds such as finches, fairy-wrens, silvereyes and small honeyeaters, are becoming rare or, in some places are no longer being seen at all. There are many reasons for this, but the biggest is the loss of places for them to live (habitat) and successfully raise their families.

This situation exists in both rural farmlands and in built up urban areas; from big cities to rural

townships. That means that we can all contribute towards saving our small birds irrespective of where we live or how big our gardens are. We just need to do things a little differently.

Small changes for a big difference...

Garden design and structure:

Simple open gardens provide little shelter or food for birds. We need to plant:

- * dense shrubs close together so they form protective thickets.
- * shrubs that provide a range of foods: nectar, seeds, fruit and habitat for insects.
- * local plants that provide what the birds in our local areas need.
- * below trees, creating a dense protective understory.
- * less grass for mowing, but rather use native grasses that can seed and only need cutting occasionally.

We should:

- * avoid using chemical sprays or applying chemical fertilizers.
- * use lawn clippings and leaf litter on garden beds as mulch.

Birds in Your Garden Providing water:

Birds need fresh water but they are vulnerable when they are drinking or bathing and need to feel safe.

We should:

- * place birdbaths beyond the reach of cats, and in dappled shade.
- * grow plants close to birdbaths so birds can perch and observe the area first.

* replace the water and clean the water container regularly.

* ask a neighbour to add water when we're away, so the birds don't lose their water supply.

Provision of supplementary food:

It is much healthier for birds to glean natural food from our gardens than to be fed directly by people. However, many people really enjoy the contact they have with birds that they provide food for. If you want to provide extra food for birds make sure that:

- * the feeding area is kept really clean.
- * you don't feed meat-eating birds – encourage the small birds that are declining, not their predators.
- * only provide good quality natural foods, e.g. finch seed rather than bread.

Be a responsible pet owner:

Keep your cat inside or within an outside enclosure. This is safer for the cat as well as other wildlife

- * De-sexing prevents unwanted kittens.
- * Deter other cats from entering your yard by spraying them with water.

Source: birdlife Australia, aussiebirdcount.org.au

PET'S PIECE

We would like to introduce our three-legged patient, Indi who was in and out of our hospital multiple times over a three month period.



Indi

Indi is usually an inside only cat but had managed to escape the cat enclosure that was made for her outside and jumped over her neighbour's fence. Unfortunately, Indi was confronted by two large dogs and was severely attacked. She presented to us with increased respiratory effort and was limping, with significant swelling on her left hind leg. When an animal is involved in a traumatic incident, we want to check for fractures, a ruptured diaphragm, damaged lungs or a ruptured bladder. Indi was admitted into hospital and stabilised with intravenous fluids, pain relief and antibiotics. In these trauma causes, it is important to stabilise them before any overhandling to perform diagnostic tests, which can cause them to decompensate and arrest.

The next morning after Indi was stabilised, she was assessed under general anaesthetic where her wounds were explored and flushed. She also had X rays of her chest and legs to further assess the injuries.

She had a significant amount of bruising and multiple puncture wounds on her left hind leg.

On X-ray, there were no obvious fractures of her pelvis or limbs and her chest appeared clear.

Our biggest concern for Indi was the significant swelling on her left hind limb, which had lost its pain sensation secondary to the significant swelling as well as its blood flow. She was also unable to use this leg when we assessed her mobility. Additionally, She also developed a fever so our concerns for sepsis (significant blood infection) was high.

We continued to support Indi through her attack, however unfortunately there was no sign of improvement of her hind leg over 3 days and it began to feel cold to touch. This indicated necrosis and lack of blood supply to this area. Unfortunately, the only option was to amputate this leg, if we were going to give Indi the best chance.

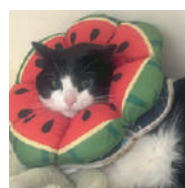
Due to her significant injuries and pain, she was also not eating. As a result, we had to put in an oesophageal feeding tube that entered via her neck and directly into the oesophagus.

To make things worse for Indi, the significant swelling and inflammation around the amputated leg meant the blood supply to this area was still compromised. As a result, Indi's wound after amputation did not heal well and the skin broke apart. This made Indi's journey even more challenging as this became an "open

wound." This meant regular weekly operations to help debride the wound and bandage it to encourage healing. After one month of these bandage changes, we then decided to take Indi to surgery again, to create a flap on her skin to try and close over her skin.



Indi then became a resident with us as she stayed here to have strict cage rest and confinement for 10 days. She was too energetic to be kept at home as she was determined to continue moving, which meant her wound was not given the best chance to heal.



Over time, she gradually started to heal and this long journey for her was finally completed.

Despite her having three legs, it is an absolute miracle that she survived this traumatic event.

We are so thankful to her owner, Tracy, for trusting us with Indi's care every step of the way. It was a huge ride!

This journey would not have been possible without incredible teamwork, persistence and communication. We know Indi is a very strong lady and will overcome any hurdle that comes her way. She is very well known at our clinic and has a special place in our hearts.



Dr Gianne Ficatas, Veterinarian, Boronia Vet Clinic

Boronia Veterinary Clinic & Animal Hospital

181 Boronia Road, Boronia
(cnr Langwith Ave)

Phone: 9762 3177

www.boroniavets.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.

Miller's Homestead

Some of many free events in October

For the full list, visit yourlibrary.com.au

Knox Genies

Enthusiastic family historians swapping research tips and sharing stories and advice. People starting out on their family history journey are most welcome.

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Tuesday 8 October 2024

Aged Care at Home - Drop-in Info Session

Wednesday 9 October 2024 at 10:30AM

Are you caring for an aged loved one or planning for their (or your own) future care and want to know what options you have for accessing support?

Miller's Matinee

Friday 11 October 2024 at 1:30PM

Miller's Homestead

Enjoy an afternoon movie in the cozy Parlour at the beautiful Miller's Homestead.

We'll be showing everything from classics to the latest flicks!

Community-Led Funerals - What's Possible - Tender Funerals

Tuesday 15 October, 1-3pm (free)

Did you know you can be buried in a shroud or a cardboard coffin, or that family or friends can help care for your body after you have died? That your funeral can be held at home, in nature or a community space, or that anyone from your community can lead your funeral ceremony?

Come to this free information session to learn about what's possible when planning a funeral and the wide range of choices available to you at end-of-life.

Tender Funerals is a not-for-profit funeral service that ensures everyone, particularly people experiencing financial hardship, can access personalised, meaningful and affordable funerals. We believe that every person and situation is unique, and that an informed and empowered community knows what to do when one of their own dies.

Northern Indian Kathak Dance Performance

Friday 18 October 2024 at 4-5pm

Kathak is a classical dance style from Northern India that incorporates elements of both Hindu and Islamic culture.

Characterised by percussive footwork, spins, and fluid gestures, this performance by emerging Kathak dancer Aparna Ananthuni will showcase a range of pieces within the Kathak repertoire, from pure rhythmic dance to storytelling.



Mary Doyle MP
Federal Member for Aston

I'M HERE TO HELP!

My Aston Electorate Office can assist you with information about Federal Government services, including:

- Services Australia
- National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)
- Medicare
- Australian Taxation Office (ATO)
- Immigration, citizenship and customs
- Passports
- Pensions, and My Aged Care
- Child support
- Veterans' Affairs



Scan to keep up to date



Get in touch

- ✉ mary.doyle.mp@aph.gov.au
- 📍 Suite 4, Level 1, 420 Burwood Hwy, Wantirna South, VIC 3152
- ☎ (03) 9887 3890
- 🌐 www.marydoyle.com.au
- 📷 @marydoylemp

In Aston we are delivering:

- ✓ A Medicare Urgent Care Clinic in Bayswater
- ✓ Increased funding to Knox City Council for local roads and services
- ✓ Fee-Free TAFE
- ✓ Giving every Aston household a \$300 energy rebate
- ✓ A tax cut for every taxpayer
- ✓ Extra funding for the State Government to build more homes
- ✓ Wiping \$3 billion in student debt and fixing indexation
- ✓ Paid Parental Leave

I've already delivered:

- ➔ \$66,000 in the 2023/24 Volunteer grants
- ➔ \$150,000 in Stronger Communities Programme grants
- ➔ \$35,000 in local sponsorships and community donations
- ➔ \$5,000,000 for Tormore Reserve Pavilion upgrade
- ✓ Cheaper child care
- ✓ The biggest investment ever in expanding bulk-billing
- ✓ A freeze on the cost of PBS medicines for every Australian
- ✓ A pay rise for minimum wage workers, aged care workers & child care workers

The Albanese Labor Government is helping all Australians with the cost of living.



"I'm working with our community each and every single day to get things done delivering for Knox and to build a better future for all constituents of Aston."

☎ (03) 9887 3890

🌐 www.marydoyle.com.au

📷 @marydoylemp



Mary Doyle MP

Federal Member for Aston



SCAN ME!
GO TO MY WEBSITE

DELIVERING FOR ASTON *Mary Doyle MP – Your Federal Member*

As your local Federal MP, I would like to share some important updates and initiatives happening around the electorate of Aston. I am here to help with Federal Government matters, so if you require any assistance, please get in contact with my office by calling us on (03) 9887 3890 or by emailing me on mary.doyle.mp@aph.gov.au

The Federal Government is Making it Easier to See a Doctor

I had the opportunity recently to join the Minister for Health and Aged Care - The Hon. Mark Butler MP, in opening the 7 additional Medicare Urgent Care Clinics across Victoria.

The Federal Government is making Medicare stronger for all Australians. (Refer to the article above).

Funding For Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Priorities

The Federal Government continues to boost the liveability of communities across Aston, with road and community infrastructure projects progressing, and increased funding to support a pipeline of future local priority projects.

Working in partnership with Knox City Council,



With Minister for Health and Aged Care - The Hon. Mark Butler MP

various projects are improving the safety of local road networks, supporting local jobs, and unlocking new social and economic opportunities.

Over \$6,449,559 in Roads to Recovery (RTR) funding will flow to Knox City Council over the next five years, a boost of \$2,785,050 - thanks.

Through Phase 4 of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) program, Knox City Council is also receiving \$732,902 for local priority projects. This includes the Bayswater Oval Cricket Nets Renewal at Marie Wallace Bayswater Park, and the Knox BMX

Track Renewal in Knoxfield. This will support enhanced experiences for teams when training, and improve accessibility and use of facilities across all weather conditions.

The Roads to Recovery program is progressively increasing from \$500 million to \$1 billion per year, the Road Black Spot Program is increasing to \$150 million per year, and \$50 million has been added to the new \$200 million per year Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program.

Coffee and Catch Up

Lastly, a quick reminder. If Sunday morning sleep-ins are more of your thing, then fear not because Thursday the 17th of October at 10:30am I'll be out and about at Wellington Village for one of the regular mobile offices that I hold.

I especially encourage you to come and have a chat if you need support with information about Federal Government services such as Services Australia, NDIS, Medicare or immigration as my team and I have a wealth of knowledge and support that we would love to share with you.

So, if you've got a spare 15 minutes, pop past the Wellington Village shops, grab a coffee and say hello, I'd love to catch up!

NEW MEDICARE URGENT CARE CLINIC FOR BAYSWATER - Mary Doyle, MP

The Federal Government is delivering for the Bayswater community with a Medicare Urgent Care Clinic (Medicare UCC) to give better access to high quality and free health care.

From 1 September, the Medicare UCC service began operating from the M3 Health Bayswater Medical Clinic, located at the Mountain High Shopping Centre.

In the 2024-25 Budget, the Federal Government provided \$227 million to expand the Medicare Urgent Care Clinic program.

Seven existing state-funded Priority Primary Care Centres will transition to the Government's Medicare Urgent Care Clinic network, following a request from the Victorian Government.

The clinic will help reduce the number of people attending the local emergency department for urgent, but non-life threatening, conditions like sprains, infections, rashes or cuts. This is good news for Maroondah Hospital, where a third of presentations to the emergency room are for non-urgent and semi-urgent issues.

Over 40% of Medicare Urgent Care Clinic presentations in the state have been outside standard business hours, which means the clinics are filling an important gap in services across extended hours and over the weekend.

And with one in four visits treating a young person under 15, the Victorian clinics are giving families timely health care and peace of mind.

Located at Mountain High Shopping Centre, 7-13 High Street, the Maroondah Medicare Urgent Care Clinic is open 8am-10pm every day.

Mark Butler, Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care stated, "Medicare Urgent Care Clinics are delivering for hundreds of thousands of Australians. Now the Government is delivering a clinic in the heart of Bayswater to give residents easy access to urgent care.

Mary Doyle Federal MP for Aston, added "Health care is top of mind for so many people I talk to in the electorate. I'm heartened that the Government is listening and acting by opening a local Medicare Urgent Care Clinic".

**PUGOWEEN 2024
Monster Ball
of Cuteness and Charity!
Pugoween PugRescue**

12 October, 5-8pm,

Bark Park Indoor Play Centre, Moorabbin

Pug Rescue and Adoption Victoria (Pug Rescue) has been running in Melbourne since 2012.

Pugs (and other brachycephalic breeds) are taken in that breeders, owners and other pounds do not want or cannot help regardless of age or health condition – we have a no kill policy (unless advised by our Veterinary Specialists otherwise) and we ensure that they are as healthy as they can be prior to being advertised



for adoption.

PUGCITY is wholly staffed by volunteers and all of the money needed to support our Pugs is donated by the community or raised through fundraising events such as the PUGOWEEN Ball.

The 'PUG-MONSTER BALL' (yep, we're combining dancing and playing this year) has our fundraising goal of \$3,000 – a target we have had for the last couple of years and hope to achieve or surpass, noting that we're still receiving surrender requests most weeks, and there is no sign of that slowing anytime soon unfortunately.

Ball tickets from;

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/melbourne-pugoween-2024-pug-monster-ball-tickets-1011819548507>

The local weekly Pug Playgroup is PUGCITY (Knox) – for details, please visit:

www.facebook.com/share/gqdoN6NWFJ7ufXM6/

Information from Donna Kean.



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

The artist's impressions (pictured) are now out for the new Tormore Reserve pavilion which is funded by the State and Federal Government and will be delivered by Knox Council. This is something that has been long talked about and I was proud to work alongside clubs to help make their dream a reality. Can't wait to see this open in 2026!

School Saving Bonus

The School Saving Bonus will provide \$400 in support for Victorian school-aged students in Term 4, 2024 for use on 2025 school costs. The Bonus for Government school students can be accessed via the School Saving Bonus online system in November 2024. Families can choose how they spend the School Saving Bonus. It can be used towards 2025 school costs including uniform, textbooks and more. For eligible non-gov school students - talk to your school about how this cost-of-living support will apply to you. For more go here - <https://www.vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus>

More Health Funding

The State Government will always be on the side of our hospitals. That includes recruiting a

record number of doctors and nurses, record funding for our hospitals and health infrastructure – and of course, our record pay deal for Victorian nurses. Now, we will invest a further \$1.5 billion for our hospitals – building on the more than \$8.8 billion we invested in the Budget. All this will mean better services, more often, so people can get the health care they need when they need it most.



Boronia Heights Primary

The brand-new playground at Boronia Heights Primary School is open and the kids are loving it! I was stoked to have secured funding to get this one done - because every one of our local kids deserve the very best facilities in our patch. Thanks to principal Mat Anderton and the student leaders for inviting me along to help cut the ribbon.

In Other News

- Kent Park Primary will receive over \$170,000

as part of the most recent allocation of Planned Maintenance Program funding.

- Don't forget there's over 80 Free TAFE courses to choose from to get the skills you want.

- New lights at Chandler Park in Boronia are officially open. This is another great outcome that was majority funded by the State Gov and delivered in partnership with Knox Council who also chipped in.

- Blind Creek pedestrian bridge back open.

- Tunnelling on the North East Link twin tunnels linking the Eastern and the M80 Ring Road has begun! Due for completion in 2028.

Shout-Out

To the energy compare tool. Countless Victorians have saved hundreds of dollars on their power bill by doing this simple check. There are always new offers out that may be cheaper than what you're on. So consider this your reminder to head to compare.energy.vic.gov.au.

Jackson Taylor, State Member for Bayswater

Honey Haloumia

Ingredients

- 225-250g halloumi block,
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 1/2 tbsp Basin Backyard honey (or other natural honey)
- 1/2 tsp fresh thyme leaves and tiny sprigs
- 2 – 3 pinches chilli flakes (red pepper flakes), optional

Method

- Cut halloumi into 1-1.25 cm thick slices. Place the slices on a paper towel and pat the surface dry.
- Heat the oil in a non-stick pan over medium high heat.
- Fry – Carefully place the halloumi in the pan. Cook for 2 to 3 minutes or until the underside is golden. Move around the pan if needed so they cook evenly.
- Turn gently and cook the other side for 2 to 3 minutes until golden.
- Transfer onto the serving plate.
- Working quickly, drizzle with honey, sprinkle with thyme and chilli flakes. I do full honey coverage for some slices, and for others just a drizzle.



KNOX STREET ORIENTEERING WALKERS

The KnoxSOW group will celebrate the Knox Seniors Festival in October with two walks from Tormore Reserve in Boronia. You are encouraged to give this challenging type of walk a try.

You will be given a map of the area around the Reserve containing some strange symbols. Each symbol represents a clue. There are 20 clues and you have to find the answers to as many as you can in one hour. (The red triangle is at the Start/Finish location.) You walk in teams of 2 – 5 people. The group always goes to a local café for a coffee and chat after each walk.

Volunteers David & Glenys have been running the group every month for over 10 years. The group's first walk was in the Rowville Lakes area in December 2013. They meet twice a month at different locations in and around Knox. They also occasionally run it as a special activity for local schools, seniors groups and community

- OCTOBER SENIORS FESTIVAL EVENT

organisations. Dogs and grandkids welcome!

Friday, 4 & 18 October.
 Registration & training
 10:10am, Walk 10.30am - 11.30am



Tormore Reserve, Tormore Road, Boronia
 COST: \$2 BOOKINGS: Text David on 0419 337 311 or email david.knoxow@gmail.com

**REMEMBRANCE DAY
 COMMEMORATION
 SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER
 at 10am
 The Knox War Memorial**

Michael & Meredith Johnson

\$400 SCHOOL SAVING BONUS WILL HELP BUSY KNOX FAMILIES

Knox families will be able to spend the School Saving Bonus on more items when the Victorian Government's one-off \$400 bonus becomes available later this year to all students at government schools and eligible non-government school students.

Local Member for Bayswater, Jackson Taylor MP today welcomed the Victorian Government's announcement that the School Saving Bonus – which had sought to cover the costs of uniforms, camps, excursions, and other extracurricular activities through the year – can also be spent on textbooks.



At Templeton Primary School with Kasey & Mackenzie

From this week, schools and families will also get more information about how the \$400 School Saving Bonus can be accessed later this year, so

families have time to plan and budget for the 2025 school year.

The one-off bonus will be available in November 2024. It will be applied for each child, so a family with three school children will receive \$1,200 in support to spend on school costs.

The Government has worked to make the process of getting and spending the \$400 School Saving Bonus as easy and as flexible as possible for busy families and schools.

No family of a child in a government school will need to apply for their bonus: it is free, automatic and universal.

In Term 4, families will receive a code granting them access to the bonus. They will get to choose how much of the funds they want allocated to a uniform and textbook voucher, and how much they want to use on school activities – like camps, sports, excursions, graduations, and other eligible programs.

The voucher for uniforms and books will be redeemable at a school-approved uniform or textbook supplier, while funds that families allocate to school activities will be managed through the school.

The voucher can be combined if families have children at different schools but use the same supplier for uniforms and textbooks. Families can also use the voucher to buy second-hand uniforms and textbooks directly from schools.

For families of students at a non-government school, the \$400 will be provided directly to each school – to be managed in consultation with the student's family and in line with the intent of the program.

Non-government school families who are eligible for the means-tested Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (including healthcare and concession card holders) are eligible for the School Saving Bonus. Their application process will be the same as that for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund.

The School Saving Bonus was announced as part of a \$287 million package in the Victorian Budget 2024/25, and it will help up to 700,000 students – including around 44,000 non-government students. The Government is also tripling the Glasses for Kids program, and providing free, nutritious breakfasts at every government school. For more information on the \$400 School Saving Bonus, visit vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus

Premier Jacinta Allan said, "We know how tough it



With the Principal at Regency Park Primary School, Carolyn Drinkwater, with the 2024 school leaders

is for a lot of families right now. We're giving busy families one less thing to worry about with \$400 for school costs like uniforms, excursions and textbooks."

Minister for Education Ben Carroll added, "Getting a world-class public education in Victoria will always be free – but supplies and extracurricular activities can really add up for families."

Jackson Taylor, State Member for Bayswater

MURKY MELBOURNE
New Writer's Group



Fans of horror, crime, and thriller fiction have a new place to call home in the Eastern suburbs. Mark, a local from Boronia, recently created a new writer's group, inviting local creatives to explore their darker sides through 'Murky Melbourne.' Operating out of the historic Miller's Homestead in Boronia and in partnership with Your Library, Murky Melbourne already has built into a strong group.

Aimed at filling a need with those seeking a place where they can discuss and share their creative efforts. The meetings are attended by a small, yet loyal, group of local members, each with a like-minded love for all things murky.

'We have members still building their writing confidence through to people who have published several books,' says Mark, founder of the local writers group. 'There's always something to learn from a group this varied, no matter your current skill level as a writer.'

'Murky Melbourne' invites writers of all skills to a night of insightful discussion and creative exercises surrounding 'dark' fiction. The group also sees frequent guest speakers, members with expertise as murky as their taste in fiction. October's meeting will feature live anecdotes from the owner of the local cemetery and their challenges running such an institution. Meetings run 6 to 8pm every first Wednesday of the month, so if you're in the mood to see the darker side of everything, **feel encouraged to email Mark Glazebrook himself at murkymelbourne@gmail.com in order to book your place.**

Eastern Burbs Walking Group (EBWG)

A Growing Community of Hikers & Friends

Founded in 2021 by Michael Peters, EBWG has grown to an impressive 1,100+ members, with up to 20 hikers participating in each weekend adventure. Based predominantly in Melbourne's Eastern suburbs, the group draws members from the likes of Boronia, Rowville, Wantirna, Ferntree Gully, and The Basin, offering walks that range from 6km to 15km, suitable for all fitness levels.



What makes EBWG special is its diverse membership, spanning ages 16 to 75. It has become more than just a walking group – it's a social lifeline for many, helping members build lasting friendships and tackle isolation, especially during the pandemic.

"Feedback shows the group has been a godsend, providing connection, fitness, and positive energy," says Peters. It's tradition to grab a drink or a bite to eat after each hike, supporting local businesses while planning the next adventure.

Most hikes take place on Saturday or Sunday afternoons, and joining is free. Scan the QR and Connect with EBWG via their Facebook group to explore the trails and make new friends! Your guides Michael, Brendan, Chris and Darren will ensure you fit in and have a great time.

Sometimes all it takes is that first step...



A Strummer's Story by Rob Fairbairn

BOYS IN THE BUSH Part 2. Rat Castle and The Derro's Ditty



Looking over old lyrics, I'd be first to admit that my early efforts at songwriting were clumsy and derivative. While I was trying to be the next James Taylor, Neil Young or

Muddy Waters, the new Rob Fairbairn had neither the skills nor the life experience to create anything memorable or original. At the age of nineteen I was yet to 'find my voice' but in 1973, somewhat older and wiser, I believe I succeeded and the following verses truly reflect who and where I was at that stage of my life.

There's a place in West Gippsland, 'round Warragul way

Where some unsav'ry people are rumoured to stay

There's stains on the carpet it's run down and old

But the tenants don't mind, as long as there's another

Cold beer in the frig, beer in the frig,

As long as there's another cold beer in the frig.

Did I say wiser? At twenty two I was house sharing for the first time and outside of teaching, my life revolved around listening to music, playing guitar and...drinking.

The paint it is peeling, the walls they are thin

And there's holes in the roof where the water gets in

But there's no need to worry, there's no need to fret

Just come on around, you can usually bet

That there's beer in the frig, ...

The run-down shack I shared was christened "Rat Castle" by Big Al's parents and the consumption and appreciation of beer and other beverages soon became a pastime which I came to enjoy both frequently and enthusiastically.

The farmers milk cows and the farmers make hay

But The Derros just sit on their arses all day

They're all lazy bastards, the word's got around

But The Derros don't worry, as long as it's found that there's

Beer in the frig, ...

Of course that's not entirely true. By day we were well respected, conscientious, highly professional educators but in the evenings, after dinner (which invariably consisted of grilled chops and vegetables) Big Al would come in from his caravan and the three of us would settle down to drink, argue and talk bullshit. It must have been during one of these sessions that

Mick and I decided to paint our outdoor dunny. So we bought brushes and cans of paint and every day after school we slapped on layers of Dulux Weathershield till our humble grey outhouse was transformed into a bright orange edifice, resplendent among the rotting grey sheds and rusting farm machinery behind Rat Castle.

There's a quaint little building we hold very dear

In moments of strain you will find we are here

To unburden the worries of life from our minds

And when we are finished, we hope we will find

That there's beer in the frig, ...

Once the painting was completed we decided that the dunny should have an official 'opening' so we invited some of our new teacher acquaintances and friends from Melbourne to a Dunny Dedication Party. And Mick and I wrote a song for the occasion. Mick, being a year or two older, was the more experienced drinker but he was no musician so his contribution was purely as lyricist and cultural consultant. As the inspiration behind this masterpiece was largely alcoholic we decided that the model for it's form and feel would be Slim Dusty's famous, "Pub With No Beer." We were, after all, in the country and Mick, a Yackandandah boy, was no stranger to the works of the Bard from the Bush.

So fill up your glasses and let's have a round

To our place in the bush and the bliss we have found

You may think we're boozers, we don't give a stuff

All that we know is we can't get enough of that

Beer in the frig, beer in the frig,

As long as there's another cold

Beer in the frig, beer in the frig, ...

The party was a great success and despite the occasional misstep, my first year as assistant at Ellinbank P.S. had me believing that I had a future in my chosen profession. Did I leave an indelible impression on my young students? I left the district in 1975 so I will never know. But one thing is true. For many years after, while the shack had fallen down, the orange dunny was still intact and visible from the road, a fitting monument to the memory of the three "Derros" who'd occupied the humpy on Hazeldean Road half a century before...Cheers!

**REMEMBRANCE DAY
COMMEMORATION
SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER
at 10am
The Knox War Memorial**

Knox Seniors Festival

This year's theme, Explore. Engage,

Evolve, invites you to step out, meet new friends, and redefine what ageing means to you. With 31% of our community over 55, it's a fantastic chance to celebrate the vibrant role seniors play in Knox.



With 31% of our community over 55, it's a fantastic chance to celebrate the vibrant role seniors play in Knox.

The Royal Australian Navy Band

When: Wednesday 2 October, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Rowville Community Leisure Centre Tickets: \$10

Age awareness workshop – free event

Wednesday, 2 October, 10am – 12.30pm

Knox Library - Ngarrgoo (Program Room)
Westfield Knox, 425 Burwood Hwy Wantirna South

Age awareness presentation – free event

Thursday 10 October, 11am - 1pm

Fairpark Reserve Multipurpose Complex,
Manuka Dr, Ferntree Gully

Line Dancing – free event

Friday 11 October, 10am - 12pm

Rowville Leisure Centre, 40 Fulham Rd,
Rowville

Fitness & fun session – free event

Tuesday 15 October, 10am - 12.30pm

Carrington Park Leisure Centre, 20 O'Connor Rd, Knoxfield

Movie screening- Quartet – free event

Wednesday 23 October, 11am - 12.45pm

Knox Community Arts Centre, Cnr Mountain Hwy & Scoresby Rd, Bayswater

Healthy brains session with Professor Cassandra Szoeké – free event

Wednesday 23 October, 1.30pm - 3pm

Knox Community Arts Centre, Cnr Mountain Hwy & Scoresby Rd, Bayswater

Knox Seniors Festival Dance

Friday 25 October, 1.30pm - 4pm. Tickets: \$10

Rowville Community Centre, 40 Fulham Road,
Rowville

Mystery bus trip. Tickets: \$10

Tuesday 29 October, 9am - 4pm

Pick up Carrington Park Leisure Centre carpark,
20 O'Connor Rd, Knoxfield

To read about other activities for over 55's read the Zest4Life Spring edition

Matt Harris**Local Knox Council candidate for Chandler Ward**

Our community is a special place, I grew up here and we are now raising my family here. I've seen firsthand the strength of our community, and that's why I'm running for Council – to ensure we have a say in what happens here, and that our needs are truly reflected in Council decisions.

One of the key things I'll be fighting for is the protection of our green spaces. We enjoy some incredible natural beauty, and it's so important we preserve it, not just for ourselves but for future generations. Whether it's local reserves, walking trails, or parks, these spaces are at the heart of our community. They offer a place for relaxation, connection, and play, and they need to be protected.

But protecting our green spaces is just one part of the picture. I believe the Council must be more responsive to local needs. Whether it's infrastructure, community services, or support for small businesses, it's essential that our Council listens to the people who live here. That's why I want to hear from you about what



you think our priorities should be. The best ideas come from those who experience the community firsthand, and I want to work together to bring those ideas to life.

Another key part of building a vibrant, connected community is supporting local events. Whether it's the CFA carols or The Basin Music Festival, these gatherings play a huge role in bringing us together. They foster a sense of belonging and offer a chance to celebrate the diversity and creativity that make our area

unique. I'll work hard to ensure these events continue to thrive and receive the support they need.

At the end of the day, my goal as your councillor will be simple: to reflect the needs of the community. I want everyone to feel like they have a voice, and I'm eager to get to work, listening to your concerns and working on solutions that will make a real difference. Together, we can create a stronger, more connected community where everyone feels at home.

I'd love to hear your thoughts on what's important to you and our area. Please don't hesitate to get in touch – your feedback will help shape a better Knox for all of us.

About me: Matt Harris grew up in Knox and has lived here most of his life. His work experience spans the not-for-profit, government and private sectors in health, finance and public policy. He volunteers some of his time as a junior coach at the The Basin Football Club where his two children play. You might spot him out walking the family dog, CJ, or when he's slow jogging around the streets of Boronia and The Basin. He can be contacted on 0479 135 464 or matt.harris.for.chandler@gmail.com

Plan for Victoria misses the target

Knox City Council has called for more transparent decision making on planning decisions that impact local communities in its submission to the Victorian Government's new Plan for Victoria.

The Victorian Government is developing a new plan for Victoria to replace Plan Melbourne, with a focus on delivering more homes near transport, jobs and services in our neighbourhoods. Separately, the Government has released draft housing targets that have been developed without consultation with local councils.

Knox City Council Mayor, Cr Jude Dwight said housing targets for Knox are unrealistic and the Plan for Victoria falls short of considering critical factors needed to manage the risks of such ambitious population growth.

"The draft housing target for Knox is an extra 47,000 dwellings by 2051. This is an almost 75% increase in housing and nearly three times the projected demand under the Victorian Government's own population and dwelling projections," said Cr Dwight.

"We believe the target is unrealistic for Knox based on historical rates of new dwellings and current housing supply constraints in Victoria.

"If we are going to support a vastly bigger population there is an urgent need to reform funding arrangements for the infrastructure needed in already established areas like Knox.

"There is also a desperate need to address transport challenges arising from a lack of fixed

rail and inadequate bus services in Knox if we are going to accommodate significant additional housing and employment opportunities.

"Our best opportunity to deliver more housing and employment in Knox is developing Council owned land between Burwood Highway and Blind Creek adjacent to Westfield Knox.

"Yet the State Government recently introduced a new tax, the Windfall Gains Tax, which is a disincentive to providing housing at this location, completely at odds with its own Plan for Victoria.

"There is a missed opportunity also for the Government to increase the supply of social and affordable housing by introducing better controls and contributions opportunities in the Victorian planning system.

"The Government's Plan for Victoria must also reconcile the need for more housing with predicted climate change impacts.

"It should take into account local policies and initiatives including increasing tree canopy coverage and speed up its own work on flood mapping and environmentally sustainable development planning provisions to manage the impacts of urban development on liveability and environmental risk.

"Council also wants the Victorian Government to deliver on commitments to support the development of the Bayswater Business Precinct and the Wantirna Health Precinct to leverage our strengths in health care and innovation and facilitate workforce skills development," Cr Dwight said.

LET US THANK THE GOD !!!

Humans we, stand on the EARTH.

It's our land green and smooth.

Fresh air blows from hills and valleys.

Fragrance give from fresh flowers.

Fruits and nuts, hang on trees Ripe, juicy fruits grown for the birds.

Feathered friends, sing joyous notes.

Tall trees sway to the rhythmic songs.

Sun rays kiss the cheeks of Mum Lovely morn, create fantasy scenes Gods in the Heaven, peep through clouds.

They give Blessings, raising hands.

Soft waves lull, in the lakes and ponds.

Tiny fish jump, over the waves.

Hills and mountains cast their shadows Birds and beasts play in green kingdoms.

Day and Night and Sun and the Moon.

Stars, Clouds, Rainbows and the Rain.

Trees, Bushes, Plants, Forests and the thickets.

GOD's Gifts given to all living beings.

Grateful Humans protect them.....All.

GOD'S Creation value you.....All.

Helpful, Peaceful save them.....All.

THANK and PRAY the GOD you.....All.



PROBUS SOCIAL CLUB BORONIA

Meets at 10am on the second Thursday monthly at the CWA Hall, 4 Sundew Ave, Boronia.

If you are retired and looking for things to do or want to meet new people then please consider trying out the Probus Social Club in Boronia.

We are a great, friendly social club and we hold a variety of activities and outings as well as having interesting guest speakers every month. The speaker for October is Resi Schwarzbauer who wrote a book about the life of artist Ludvig Hirschfield-Mack who left Germany, then the UK and was interred in the Camp at Tatura near Shepparton Victoria.

If you enjoy outings, dining out, movies, live shows, walks, coffee meets and so much more and would like to make new friends, then please check us out. We welcome new members (Keiran 0404 079 636)



At Knox & District Over 50s we are a very friendly and sociable group who normally meet on the 4th Tuesday of each

month from January to November.

Our next General Meeting will be held at 10.30 am on Tuesday 22 October, 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, many day trips and an annual trip, visits to Boronia Cinema, coffee mornings, regular lunches at different locations around Knox and morning melodies. For this year's annual trip we will be visiting Adelaide and surrounds during October.

During September our visit to the National Gallery of Victoria to see the "Pharaoh" Exhibition was a resounding success. In October some of our members will be attending "Dear Doris" at The Round Theatre in Nunawading – a sentimental journey through Doris Day's most iconic and treasured songs. November takes us on a visit to Robyn's Soap House at Knoxfield.

December of course will bring a few Christmas celebrations, including the "Buble Christmas Special" (featuring Glenn Starr) at the Knox Arts Centre in Bayswater. Members are also looking forward to our Annual Christmas Dinner. The Social Committee has never let us down with this one. Always a wonderful event!

If you are looking to enhance your social life, come along and join us.

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 (9801 4363) for further information.

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



Welcome to October and do we have plans! To Irene, thank you for the many years of organising Ladies Morning Coffee, so now another 2 of our members have volunteered as conveners and the "Girls" will still have coffee together with Tricia and Pam at the helm. That's the way this club works; if you need a break or have a new Idea for an activity, our members are there to fill the gap.

We hope to see you at the Fashion Show on Friday 4 Oct. The \$5 entry fee includes afternoon tea. Time 1:30pm at the Wattle Hall, 160 Underwood Road, Ferntree Gully.



AGM

So many activities are organised for Seniors this month.

As part of "Seniors week" Rowville Community Centre has organised a Senior's Dance Afternoon starting at 1:30pm. Last year this included a 7-piece band with 2 hours of music. This is going to be fun; LET'S GO!!!

Then on 30 Oct, we're boarding the train to Geelong South, where we'll meet up with Geelong Club members who have organised various activities for us to enjoy. And thank you Geelong, they are providing lunch, wonderful!

Lorraine, our Membership Secretary is standing by ready to post a copy of our current newsletter and to answer any questions. (Lorraine 0438 068 334)



Boronia Road Uniting Church

209 Boronia Road

EVERY SUNDAY MORNING at 10am we hold a 'user-friendly' service at our church – including kids' activities, lots of singing – all followed by morning tea and fellowship.

The message may be challenging, affirming or JUST what you need to hear at that time.

Come along! You will be made very welcome.

OUR NEXT MAKERS AND GROWERS MARKET is on Saturday 9th November from 10am – 2pm. All stalls will be indoors or under-cover. Cost to have a stall is \$30 (or \$35 if you also want to hire one of our trestle tables).

Enquiries or to book a stall - contact 0421 769 067 or irenesmith2@bigpond.com

EMERGENCY FOOD RELIEF is available each Tuesday and Friday morning from 10am till 12 noon when non-perishable foods are given to those who need help at this time.

EVERYONE can be assured of non-judgmental and friendly support. We are a member of the Knox Emergency Relief Network.



THE FERNTREE GULLY ARTS SOCIETY

157 Underwood Rd, FTG

OCTOBER EXHIBITIONS

'ANNUAL MEMBERS EXHIBITION'

Our members exhibit what they considered to be their best works created within the past 24 months.

In this vibrant exhibition, you'll experience a diversity of themes, mediums and styles across the highly decorative artworks of our talented painters and sculptors.

Exhibition opening and awards presentation
Sunday 13 October.

In the foyer we have a wide variety of beautiful gifts and cards for sale, created by our members.

Open Fri 1-4 pm and weekends 11-4 pm

5 - 27 October

FREE ENTRY, ALL WELCOME



Boronia VIEW Club will be meeting Friday 18 October at 11.30am at Eastwood Golf Club, Liverpool Rd, Kilsyth with a 2 - course lunch costing \$30. This will be followed by a talk from Irene Kelly who is a volunteer at Knox Environmental Society (KES) speaking about her role there. There will be a trading table, raffle and book stall with all monies raised going to The Smith Family learning for life program. The Club sponsors 8 needy Australian children through this program which helps them with their educational needs. The club is looking for new members so ladies of all ages and backgrounds come along and you will be warmly welcomed. There are small groups within the club e.g. coffee and film mornings, book club etc. and occasional outings. Enquiries 9764 8602.

COME ALONG TO OUR CRAFT GROUP...

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.

MUSIC GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS AND THEIR CARERS...

Is held each Friday from 9.30am 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. Please call Sue on 0402 079 432 for more information.

For more information about us check out our Facebook page and Website or phone the church office on 9762 6732,

www.facebook.com/BoroniaRdUnitingChurch
Website: <https://boroniaroad.ucavictas.org.au>

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

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