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### Editorial: Patrick Kelly

Our community in Knox is one that embraces. It welcomes people. It celebrates diversity and folks of all backgrounds. It's a big part of the reason why my partner and I have chosen to call this corner of the world home - and I wouldn't have it any other way.

That's why late in July our whole community was shocked and saddened to hear that local businesses in Boronia, including Kingsland Chinese Restaurant, as well as the Shree Swaminarayan Temple, also in Boronia, and the Boorndawan Willam Aboriginal Healing Service, in Bayswater, were defaced with targeted, hateful and racist graffiti.

But - that's not what this editorial is about. Giving those actions any more airtime or column inches isn't helpful, productive or, indeed, a reflection of what our community is really about.

It's about families like the Tran's – Graham and his family have been running Kingsland Chinese Restaurant for over 30 years. They're a Boronia icon - an institution. I got the chance to catch up with Graham after a delicious (and yes, succulent) Chinese meal with my partner recently. He said, following the graffiti, their restaurant has been booked out - both with locals who've been coming for years and new people just finding out how great their food is, thanks to the media exposure.

It's about people like Atul, the Vice-Chairman at the Temple in Boronia, and their community of devotees. I also got the chance to visit the temple and chat with Atul and his team. He spoke about well-wishes and messages of support coming from right across Knox and beyond. Indeed, things like this are simply above politics - with the local Federal MP, local State MP, State Minister for Multicultural Affairs and the State Opposition Leader all visiting to show their support.

It's also about people like Adam and the whole crew at Boorndawan Willam – people who work tirelessly to support the health and wellbeing of our local First Nations people. I also got the chance to sit down and chat with Adam, the CEO at Boorndawan Willam, who shared a thread of a familiar theme: they've also been shown support from people far and wide.

If people like the Tran's, Atul and the devotees at the Temple and Adam and his team at Boorndawan Willam aren't our community, then I don't know who is.

Because not only are they the very best of our community - a senseless act of racism, sought to divide, has done the exact opposite and proven the very best of us will always shine through - and always rise to the occasion.

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

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

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



**Young Writers Initiative:** Scan the QR code, or visit bbcn.org.au/young-writers/





**BBCN Instagram**: @BoroniaBasin CommunityNews

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# Page 3 "Bird"

Des Palmer

#### Mould and Slime Bracket **Fungi**

Bear with me this month, dear readers, I'm going out on a limb, undertaking a quantum leap, I'm talking about something I don't know a lot about, but believe me, it's extremely interesting, and fascinating, the sort of thing that once you go down that rabbit hole, there's no coming back.

Slime mould.

OK, let's start at the beginning. What the hell is a slime mould? I'll let this fungi expert, Bruce Fuhrer tell you.

"Slime moulds are a distinctive group of organisms sharing some of the characteristics of amoeba and fungi. The mature fruit body, called the sporangium, produce spores that eventually develop into a creeping, slime like mass called a plasmodium. The plasmodium behaves like a giant amoeba feeding on bacteria, fungi and decaying organic matter."

Alright, I'm hearin' ya, big deal. Uh-uh, wrong, not big deal, yes, huge deal. They come in all sizes, shapes and colours you can imagine, they are a crazy concept. Check out the one I found a couple of years ago up at Doongalla. This one's called a Red Raspberry slime mould (Dictdiathalium plumbeum).



These are an organism which are little understood, with many not even classified, maybe there is a budding young person out there who might study them at university one day and make a name for themselves in becoming an expert on these amazing ummm, can't call it an animal, can't call it a plant, or a fungus, ok then, let's just call it an organism.

Bracket Fungi.

Have you ever been walking in the bush and noticed stuff growing on trees, mainly eucalyptus species? You have, great, then you're just as crazy as I am. Check out this one I found



up on the Stony Rises walking track in the National park behind FTG. This is a 'White Punk' bracket fungi (Laetiporos portentosus). These were used by the Aboriginal people for transporting fire, a smouldering coal was carried in the body of it and used to start the fire again at the next camp.

Earth Stars.

These organisms are simply a form of fungus, but look so cool, I reckon. This one is called Earth Star (Geastrum triplex), but there are several other species of Earth Stars, closely related to Puffballs. We saw one on a recent field trip to Glenfern Valley bushlands, but I took this photo last summer up at Warburton. They look sort of like a creature from outer space to me.

If this doesn't make you want to race out and buy a field guide on Fungi and stuff, then nothing will. I've got one by the abovementioned author, Bruce Fuhrer called 'A field guide to Australian fungi' which is what you would call it isn't it? What else are you gonna call it?

How to lay house bricks? Don't be ridiculous, and I'll see you out in the forest looking for all this crazy stuff.

My website is now complete. Thank you to my good friend Nikki for creating it for me. Check it out, come along on a tour with me, more tours will be available soon.

https://australianbirdtours.com.au/



# Boronia and The Basin Community News

**Annual General Meeting** 

Tuesday, 14 October 7:00 - 8.30 pm

The Basin Community House

Everyone welcome! Come and share our ideas on how BBCN can continue to enjoy success, representing and informing our community.

We have a guest speaker and supper after meeting formalities to socialise and catch up with friends and perhaps meet new ones.

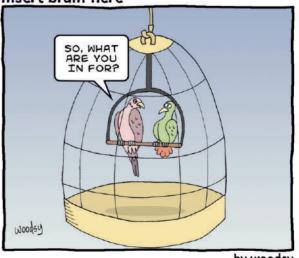


### CAN YOU HELP?

You are reading this column because there is a team of volunteers who ensure a high quality free local community newspaper is delivered to your door each month and is available electronically to download. Thank you to all volunteers in this significant logistics exercise, from content creation to editing, compiling, and two stage distribution through drivers and then individual walkers. In our chaotic hectoic world, our volunteers give their time to be part of something bigger then themselves and feel the benefits of contributing to our shared sommunity.

We welcome all new volunteers to contribute where they can, and that you will contact us to be part of our evolving team.

insert brain here



by woodsy

# **Enrolment time for Early Learning**

After six years at Albert Avenue, the dedicated team at Goodstart Early Learning has relocated to Iris Crescent, offering better facilities and expanded services to both existing and new families.

The centre has been a trusted presence in the Boronia community for many years, originally operating

as ABC Learning before transitioning to Mission Australia in 2008 and becoming part of Goodstart Early Learning in 2019. With a team of highly qualified educators, the centre is known for its strong relationships with families and deep ties to the local community.

Led by Centre Director Kelly Mills (pictured), the experienced team has moved into a fresh, purpose-built, modern space in Iris Avenue, continuing to deliver high standards of early childhood education in an enhanced environment.



The centre provides all-inclusive care, including meals, nappies, wipes, and sunscreen at no extra cost. A qualified onsite cook prepares nutritious meals, catering to all dietary needs.

At its new location, the centre offers facilities for children from nursery to kindergarten, providing a seamless early learning experience. Weekly activities, excursions, and incursions help develop young minds and create

meaningful learning experiences.

Families are invited to book a tour to discover why the community has trusted this beloved team for so long. With the same amazing educators and a brand-new state-of-the-art space, they continue to provide the best in early learning and care for local children, just at a new location, where bigger and better opportunities await.

Limited spaces are still available: To book a tour, contact 1800 222 543



THE FERNTREE GULLY ARTS SOCIETY

The Hut 157 UNDERWOOD RD FERNTREE GULLY

GALLERY

#### SEPTEMBER EXHIBITIONS

IN THE GALLERY 6th September - 28th

"EPHEMERA"

Our Artist's interpretation, "Lasting only 1 day, short lived, Fleeting," Once again stretching their imaginations'

#### IN THE FOYER

ART WORKS BY OUR FRIDAY GROUP,

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### **MAXINE WADE DEMONSTRATING**

2pm Sunday 14th September. Members \$5, non-members \$10 entry



### Local Finalist in Legacy Australia Pagent

My name is Tahlea Flecken-Cassidy and I am currently your Victorian National Finalist 2025 for Australia's latest pageant system, 'Legacy Australia Pageants'.

'Legacy Australia Pageants' holds the 'Miss Face Of Humanity Australia' title & 'Miss Globe Australia' title.

I chose to be apart of this pageant because they stand for women using

their voice to embody one's passions & take a stand for what we each believe in. They inspire us to find purpose & grow as women, because this pageant isn't about beauty, it's about expressing one's mind & soul. To make an impact and "To create a legacy beyond the stage", unique to each of us!

I think that all these qualities and the ethos that 'Legacy Australia pageants' stands for is so special, I felt connected & a pull to be apart of this system.

As a successful delegate we are required to choose a charity of our choice & advocate for them how we choose. Searching for my charity, I wanted to find a non-profit charity that doesn't just mean something to me. I wanted a charity that goes beyond me, my passions & values. But what is going to help my friends, my family, my community & my country in the long run?

Something that is important to our world?

I found just that 'Save The Bees Australia' was the perfect choice & I'm so grateful that they welcomed me with open arms to advocate for, raise funds for & truly support them in any way I can

As an advocate for 'SaveTheBeesAustralia' I created a GoFundMe to raise funds & spread awareness on the importance of protecting our irreplaceable Bees.

At the end of November 2025, I will distribute all funds into the charity.

On the 25th July I hosted a movie night Fundraiser where we raised \$700 from tickets & raffles. In the upcoming months I will be hosting 2 more events and I'm currently working on a few side projects that I can't wait to share.

I'm a proud Australian excited to represent my state this November for one of the titles of 'Miss Australia' and I'd love your support.

Follow my journey via Instagram @tahlea.pageantlife

And if you'd like to donate today in support of protecting our bees for the coming generations, you can find the link in my bio

Signing off, your Victorian National Finalist Tahlea x





### Where Our Community Can Grow

Rod Felton

This is part three of our 35 years of KCGS membership.

Our fondest memories of the last 35 years are of the people we have met along the way. A year or so after we joined, Ray and Chris moved into plot 78 next door. Ever since then, each summer we have been trying to outdo each other, with Ray winning on most occasions. We have also met many other members while helping out at various events such as Knox and Stringybark festivals and Bunnings barbeques. Recently I have joined the committee and become involved with the Tuesday morning work group, both of which I enjoy immensely.

Covid-19 put a dampener on things for a couple of years but KCGS has bounced back since then. We now have a number of community groups as members, namely Knoxbrooke, VMCH and several Rotary clubs. We partner EACH in



Patrick and Steph enjoying the **Community Gardens** 

delivering a healthy eating program for primaryaged school children and occasionally run a similar program for senior students. From time to time, gardening talks are delivered to community groups like U3A and at local libraries. Knox Infolink have sponsored us for two 400 litre Aerobins for composting excess organic material from their operations and we have regular deliveries of used coffee grounds from Reground. Knox City Council has recently provided funds to develop a sensory garden within our gardens. The aim is to provide therapeutic, educational, and recreational benefits, particularly individuals with sensory sensitivities, disabilities, attending dementia day-care centres, or with mental health challenges.

What a great time to be a KCGS member. I can't see us leaving anytime soon!

If you would like to drop in

for a visit, have a look around or stop for a cuppa and a chat, the gardens are open on Wednesday mornings from 10 am to 12 noon.

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

### **Free Food Safety Training Knox City Council**

As one of our valued volunteer-involving organisations, we want to let you know of a fantastic opportunity for training!

Knox City Council are hosting a free workshop for community groups, sporting clubs, and notfor-profit organisations on the importance of safe food handling. So whether you're turning sausages or making jams for sale consumption, this knowledge is essential!

Learning outcomes:

Identify best practices for food handling in a community setting

Understand the different requirements depending on the setting and food type.

Come along and learn more about safe food preparation and your legal obligations.

Facilitator: Knox City Council, Safety and Health Services Team

Date and time: Thursday 4 September, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Venue: Knox City Council, Civic Centre, 511 Burwood Hwy, Wantirna South VIC 3152

### The Cubs making a positive impact on our local community!

Jo Furlong, Cub Scout Leader - 1st The Basin Cub Unit

1st The Basin Cub Scouts have been rolling up their sleeves and giving back to nature, learning first-hand how to preserve the environment while working towards their Landcare badges.

In March, the Cubs grabbed their gloves and took to Mountain Highway for a community clean-up. Along the way, they were surprised by the amount of rubbish thrown away — and delighted to discover some hidden little spots to explore. This hands-on work was a reminder that even small actions can make a big difference to the health of our local environment.

Building on this momentum, the Cubs visited the Knox Environment Society, where members shared their expertise in collecting seeds from local native plants and propagating them into seedlings. The Cubs learnt how these tiny plants help keep the natural environment of the Dandenongs alive and thriving, and how they could play a part in protecting the region's unique biodiversity.

On a beautiful August day, they joined the Friends of Koolunga Reserve for a special planting event. They worked to plant understory shrubs beneath graceful acacia trees, creating much-needed shelter for the endangered Sugar Gliders that call the reserve home. The Friends group meets monthly to preserve the parklands,



ensuring wildlife continues to flourish in the area.

Experiences like this are at the heart of our youth-led program, where Cubs take the lead in shaping their adventures. Many have chosen to spend more time outdoors, discover the unique animals in our area, and learn why protecting their habitats is so important. Partnering with local environmental groups makes it possible to provide these hands-on learning opportunities while encouraging our young people to explore new places and ideas.

We are grateful for the generosity and knowledge shared by these community groups, which has enriched our Cubs' experiences and inspired them to be active environmental stewards.

If you would like to see what other amazing activities our Cubs get up to and come visit us, go to: https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/location/ 1ST-THE-BASIN/



Have your say in September

We've got some big plans for improving ways to travel safely, efficiently and comfortably around Knox, encouraging responsible pet ownership to enhance community spaces for everyone and enhancing our stormwater network to help manage rainfall in our city. Share your feedback about Knox Council projects, including our



- Plans for managing our roads, drains and stormwater
- Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan to make Knox better for dogs, cats and people
- Draft Mobility and Access Action Plan to improve footpaths, shared paths and accessible parking



# knox.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay



Knox @ HOME program Access free sustainable living workshops, resources and a like-minded community.

Sign up now: knox.vic.gov.au/KnoxAtHome



Register for a range of events, including a 'come and try' launch day, performance by the U3A Knox band, an outdoor sketch class and

Knox Seniors Festival - October

Register now: knox.vic.gov.au/SeniorsFestival

Mystery Bus tours.



Upgrade to all-electric and save Solar Savers can help you upgrade your home or business with solar panels, batteries, EV chargers, heat pump hot water, efficient heating and cooling, induction cooktops, insulation and more.

Learn more: SolarSavers.org.au





### My Gardening Journey Start with Soil

Shannon Boyke

If you've been inspired by gardening shows and want to start your own garden, it's absolutely worth the time and effort. When I began, I started small, focusing on one section at a time. As one part of the garden came together, I moved on to the next. Before long, the garden was thriving, with flowers blooming, shrubs filling out, and trees taking shape. Two years later, I had a seasonal garden filled with flowers, fruits, veggies and most importantly, trees providing shade and a micro-climate for the garden beds. Small honeyeater birds I hadn't seen before began to visit too.

This year, I encourage you to start your dream garden. It could be a flower border, a foraging garden or a wild meadow. To start a garden or to improve a tired space, you need a good foundation. That means creating good soil. Good soil becomes great soil over time. My neighbour mulched his clay soil with wood chips every year for over 20 years, gradually creating rich garden soil as the mulch broke down over time. I'll admit, I had gardener's envy, but all good things take time. Soil is what feeds your plants. It helps your plants survive summer, and it harbors beneficial critters that help plants find nutrients when you stop fertilising.

There are plenty of online tutorials on making great organic soil, but what works for me is using lots of composted manure (horse, cow, and sheep), grass clippings, vegetable scraps, autumn leaves, and soft woody trimmings. Pile it all up and cover it with mulch. Then, just wait for the soil to start activating. Every year, I repeat the process in various areas of the garden, and it has truly been a game-changer. Begin with your soil.

Your Companion Gardener

### **Gardening Companion Services**

If kneeling and digging is a challenge, I am here to lend a hand with your gardening needs. I offer assistance with tasks such as weeding, pruning, planting, trimming shrubs, and more...

Don't abandon your love for gardening; maintain your garden with support. Arrange a gardening companion session. I can work alongside you, or take care of things independently.



Call Shannon 0490 052 223

Your Reliable and Qualified Local Gardener

Free Onsite Quote & Advice

### Within The Ravine

Cathryn E Day

As a local living within The Basin Ravine, I am always delighted by the variety of species that I may encounter as I take a walk around my neighbourhood. This little patch in The Basin so named The Ravine, is due to the small tributary creek that runs along Golden Grove and the slopes of Mt Dandenong. The area is directly adjacent to the Dandenong Ranges National Park which contributes to the biodiversity of the area.

A large amount of work has been undertaken by Knox Council and Melbourne Water within The Ravine to protect the tributary creek from stormwater runoff from housing and the road way. The dividends are obviously paying off, as a stroll along Golden Grove towards the corner of Inverness Avenue, affords the most wonderful sounds of frogs enjoying the water being caught between the planted indigenous grasses. In the creek itself apparently there are platypus, however I haven't as yet been lucky enough to see one of these timid marsupials, but I can say my daughter met with an arthropods,

aka yabbies, when putting her hand into the water some years back. Dobson's Creek, which this tributary creek runs into, is as an important ecological water way for the life it sustains, and I am really pleased to see Knox Council taking steps to preserve this native habitat.

Further along Golden Grove, affords good views of the tributary creek below where tree ferns



reach for the light amid the myriad of gums: Mountain Ash, Messmate, Peppermint, Stringy Bark, along with a variety of acacias. There is such a contrast, one side of the street, the creek and bushland, the other, a local neighbourhood of houses with gardens. This is all part of the charm, where locals love where they live, and respect the gift of nature near their front doors.

Birds such as the Sulphur-crested Cockatoo are

in abundance here, which are not always so welcome, especially for those with weatherboard houses. Perched within the trees and power lines, Kookaburras cackle, happy to steal a large worm if someone is doing a bit of gardening. A more recent arrival to the area, Satin Bowerbirds, with their puffy speckled belly, present a challenge when trying to grow veggies, but this is all part of the hazards of living so close to natural areas. Brightly coloured Rosellas and King Parrots are also frequent visitors to the trees and grasses, but seemingly also present when my washing is on the line.

All the action isn't just during daylight hours, possums both brush tail and ring tail are very common, filling the air with high-pitched screams if a powerful owl decides to have one for a midnight snack. Tawny Frogmouth owls are also common, although quite difficult to spot, with their ability to camouflage so well.

Once aware of the biodiversity within this area, more and more surprises become apparent. The local fauna and flora is so rich, which gives us a glimpse into why

the Wurundjeri people came to Corhanwarrabul (Mt Dandenong) looking for a cool retreat. It is easy to become humbled by what nature offers, and that we too are merely just another part of this rich tapestry of life. The Ravine is more than just a place to live, a suburb within Knox, it is a place, like so many other wonderful areas, where humans can watch, be part of, and do our best not to hinder the ever-evolving ecology of planet earth.

### Silent Champions: Michael Migliaccio

### A Driving Force Behind Inclusive Bocce

Frank Funari | President | BOCCE AUSTRALIA

Behind every successful tournament, every thriving bocce club, and every growing community lies the quiet dedication of volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes. One such individual is Michael Migliaccio, a passionate advocate for inclusivity and one of the sport's most dedicated silent champions.

For years, Michael has been a driving force in promoting Special Olympics Bocce and lobbying Bocce Australia. His unwavering commitment and advocacy played a pivotal role in getting the discipline recognised and included in the Australian National Championships—a dream that became reality three years ago. He actively promotes mainstreaming of inclusive bocce at club level, encouraging more bocce clubs to open their doors and courts to players of all abilities. His message is clear: bocce is a sport for everyone. He represents the countless volunteers who give their time, energy, and passion not for recognition, but for the love of



the sport and the people it brings together. As we celebrate competition and

competition and camaraderie at this year's Nationals, held on the 4th to 9th June 2025, we also take a moment to thank Michael—and all

volunteers like him—for making bocce more inclusive, accessible, and stronger than ever before.

32 Special Olympics athletes from Victoria, NSW and QLD joined Bocce Australia all States players for this Bocce Carnival event held at Casa D'Abruzzo Club in Epping and at Knox Italian Community Club in Rowville.

For more information for Special Needs athletes wanting to join Bocce (a non-strenuous sport), as well as for all other people of all ages wanting to learn, and enjoy playing Bocce, please contact Michael Migliaccio as per the details below.

Always in Bocce, Frank Funari: MelbourneEasternRanges.Bocce1@specialolym pics.com.au



### A SPECIAL WELCOME

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

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

We worship every Sunday at 10 am. Meet our minister, Rev Russell Croxford, who will be preaching on the 1st Sunday of each month – as well as at other times. We have a user-friendly worship service... with children's activities and lots of singing! All followed by morning tea and fellowship.

Come along! You will be made very welcome.

**EMERGENCY FOOD RELIEF** is available each Tuesday and Friday morning from 10 am 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.

### COME ALONG TO OUR CRAFT GROUP...

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

MUSIC GROUP FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS AND THEIR CARERS is held each Friday from 9.30 am 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.

*MAKERS AND GROWERS MARKET* is on Saturday, 8th November from 10am – 2pm. All stalls will be indoors or under cover. Enquiries or to book a stall - contact 0421 769 067 or irenesmith2@bigpond.com or the church office on 9762 6732,

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

*PLEASE NOTE*: All leaders, employees, and volunteers have completed the required Safe Church Training and have current Working With Children Checks.



**At Knox & District Over 50's**, 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, the 23rd of September, 2025, at Club Kilsyth, 1-15 Canterbury Road, Bayswater North, followed by lunch 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.

Later this month, members will be taking a tour of the Ferntree Gully Cemetery, followed by a tour of Ambleside, which will include morning tea. We will then proceed to lunch at the Rapture Café in Ferntree Gully.

Early October will see us on a Community Bus trip to the Alowyn Gardens in Yarra Glen, followed by lunch at the Grand Hotel, Yarra Glen.

Other events for the coming months include a visit to the Round Theatre in Nunawading to see a musical comedy, "Cruising with the Grandparents' Club". We are also looking forward to seeing Music of Broadway with Claire Lyon (Formerly Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber) at the same venue during October.

Our planned 6-day trip to the West Coast of Tasmania during November 2025 has some very lucky members filled with much anticipation.

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 Kerry (on 0419 995 084) for further information.

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



BOOK
WEEK
FUN
AT
MILLERS
HOME
STEAD

### Pet's Piece

Dr Gianne Ficatas, Veterinarian Boronia Vet Clinic

### "I don't want to put my dog through chemo"

#### Let's Rethink That Conversation

Meet Ollie, a six-vear-old Border Collie who came to our clinic after his family noticed he was lethargic, losing weight, and just not himself. Things took a strange turn when he suddenly

developed blood in one of his prompting eyes, his concerned owners to seek immediate care.

On examination, Ollie was running a mild fever, and had noticeably enlarged lymph nodes behind his knees, under his jaw, and in front of his shoulders.

We quickly made the decision to sample these lymph nodes. We took fine needle aspirates and sent the cells to the lab for a specialist pathologist to analyse. Unfortunately, the results confirmed our suspicion: Ollie was diagnosed with lymphoma.

Lymphoma is a cancer of the lymphatic system, lymphocytes begin to multiply uncontrollably. Without treatment, the average life expectancy after diagnosis is just 4 to 6 weeks. However, thanks to the advancements in veterinary oncology, chemotherapy can extend survival to an average of 10 to 12 months and 25% of dogs can live beyond 2 years.

Further testing revealed Ollie had B-cell lymphoma, which typically has a better prognosis than T-cell lymphoma. This meant we could proceed with a tailored chemotherapy plan to give Ollie his best chance. He was referred to a veterinary oncologist at Advanced Vet Care, where he is now in the process of his strict 19-week chemotherapy treatment cycle involving regular vet visits. Each session involves him heading to the clinic, for a onehour intravenous infusion, followed by a short stay at the clinic before heading home with his tail wagging as always. He also has some rest weeks and some weeks with chemotherapy tablets in the comfort of his own home.

Many people are understandably hesitant about chemotherapy for their pets. It's a common misconception that animals will suffer through treatment the way humans often do. But in veterinary medicine, the goal is different: we prioritize quality of life over aggressive treatment. Most dogs tolerate chemotherapy remarkably well. While side effects such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, or bone marrow

suppression can occur, they are typically mild and manageable.

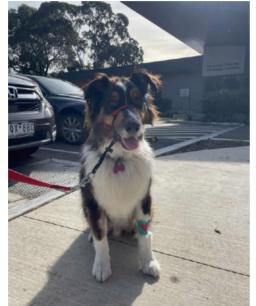
As a vet, I often hear owners say, "I don't want to put my dog through chemo," believing it to be unfair. But in many cases, especially with the right cancer type and a well-managed plan, dogs

can thrive. That's why I wanted to share Ollie's story. Chemotherapy isn't the right path for every pet, and considerations like cost or family health status play a big role in that decision. But for some, it can be life-changing. Fun fact: dogs don't usually lose their hair during chemo, and many continue to enjoy their daily walks, cuddles, and playtime.

SEPTEMBER

If Ollie's family hadn't chosen this route, he wouldn't be with us today. But now, 6 weeks post-

diagnosis, he's doing incredibly well- a happy, active dog with a devoted family by his side, helping him live life to the fullest. We will update you on Ollie's story in one of the future write ups, because as we are, I know you will all be cheering him on from the other side of this newsletter.



Florescence (noun) refers to the state or period of flowering blooming, or flourishing, both literally for plants and figuratively for other things like art, culture, or a civilization.

MILLER'S HOMESTEAD PRESENTS



# **FLORESCENCE**

# A spring exhibition by **Ringwood Art Society**





by talented local artists from the Ringwood Art Society. 8 September to

Join us for an inspiring

showcase of art celebrating

Florescence, featuring works

28 November 2025

(during opening hours)

Miller's Homestead Dorrigo Drive & Melrose Court, Boronia





Bookings required to attend launch: Scan QR code call 0438 284 989 or visit events.yourlibrary.vic.gov.au







# **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 roundthe-clock care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Our existing clients enjoy a 24 hour service.



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www.greaterknoxdental.com.au GENTLE, MODERN, TRUSTED.



**NEW PATIENTS WELCOME** 



Submit YWI entries here:
Free Entry
\$50 Prize





### **BBCN Young Writers Initiative**

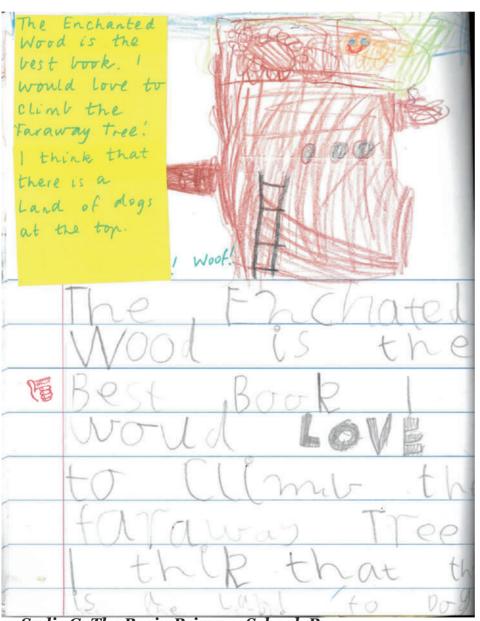
This month we have two Young Writers Initiative Award contributions, both Preppies from The Basin Primary School. *Enjoy!* 

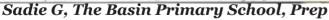
NOTE: YWI contributions are printed as entered (without editing) to reflect their original content. Teachers notes help decipher the young enthusiastic handwriting (with lots of character!)

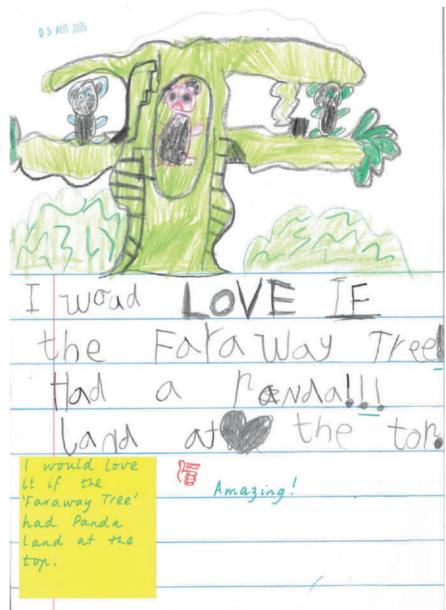


**Above:** *Larni H* (Year 4) receiving her August Young Writers Award at The Basin Primary School assembly for her story Mysterious Land.

YWI awards include a certificate and \$50.







Audrey M, The Basin Primary School, Prep

The Basin Primary School Prep teacher, Kate Mitchell, explains the context of these delightful articles:

We have just started reading 'The Enchanted Wood' by Enid Blyton. We are up to the part in the story where the characters (Frannie, Joe, and Beth) are about to climb the 'Faraway Tree'. The Preppies have been so engaged and excited about this book and what might be in the tree. So we stopped reading to discuss if we would climb the 'Faraway Tree', and what land we might see at the top of the tree! I always ensure each Writing Workshop session involves thinking, sharing, drawing, and writing! When you see the writing, I think you will agree that they are all doing an amazing job at being independent and brave writers!



# Meg Doyle Physiotherapist

### Healing and Recovery After A Caesarean Birth

A caesarean section is major abdominal surgery, with recovery calling for as much rest, self-compassion and support from others as possible. Here you'll find recovery tips, but please know they're succinct. Ensure you get proper advice from your care team.

### **Supports**

- Medical team: Talk to your team for help with pain medication, movement, toileting, catheter or drain tubes if you have them, your surgical site, and caring for your baby or multiples
- Other supports: If possible, organise to have others around to help you in those first few weeks

### Post-surgery

- Belly breathing: After surgery, take five deep breaths every hour
- Wound recovery: Monitor your wound for signs of infection. Once it has fully healed, you can begin scar massage to keep it soft and mobile.
- Supportive coughs: Place your hand/s or a folded towel over the incision site when you cough or sneeze in the first week or two
- Stomach compression: Once drainage tubes have been removed, wearing a compression garment around your stomach can help with healing and pain



### **Toileting**

- Avoiding constipation: Stay hydrated, eat plenty of fibre and do short walks when you're able. Speak to your doctor about medications and fibre supplements if necessary.
- Toileting: Avoid straining by keeping the tummy relaxed, elevating the feet on something to have the knees higher than the hips, and belly breathing. Take your time. You can let out a "hiss" or a "moo" on a breath out as a way to "softly strain" if absolutely necessary.

#### Movement

• Resting: Rest is a high priority in the first few weeks after birth, so try to get as much of it as you can. Choose to sit or lie down whenever possible.

• Getting out of bed: You'll need to "log roll" onto your side and use your arms to push up out of bed to avoid using your stomach muscles in those first few weeks.

KIDS

- Lifting: It's best to avoid lifting anything heavier than your baby in those first few weeks. Have help if you can, and if you have older children, try to sit down and have them come to you
- Walking: You can start doing short walks in the days after surgery, then over the coming weeks, gradually increase how long you walk for, initially avoiding pushing a pram if possible.
- Pelvic floor and core: You can begin very gentle core and pelvic floor exercises from the first week. It is highly recommended to see a Pelvic Floor Physiotherapist at 6 weeks postpartum.
- Returning to exercise: In the first 6 weeks, you can do gentle stretches and restorative exercises. Once you've been cleared to exercise, at around 6 weeks postpartum, you can begin light weight training or pilates

Recovering from a caesarean is no small thing, so it may feel overwhelming when you're in it. Planning ahead for postpartum in general can be greatly beneficial, as well as taking things one day at a time once you're on the other side of birth. Patience and self-compassion go a long way, and professional help is there as you need it.



### Dad Jokes For Kids

A dad joke is a joke, typically a pun, often presented as a one-liner or a question and answer. Dad jokes are known for their cheesy humor and are ideal for all ages. They are usually told by Dads to deliberately provoke a negative "groaning" reaction to their overly simplistic humor. These tongue-in-cheek puns bring laughter, outdoors and at home, and create memorable moments for families to share.

Laughter is believed to reduce stress, releases

endorphins, controls blood pressure, improves circulation, and enhances cognitive function. A good laugh can leave your muscles relaxed for up to 45 minutes

Here are some of the best/worst of them.

1. What did the policeman say to his belly button?

You're under a vest!

- 2. What's your computer's favorite snack? Microchips
- 3. What do you call a bear with no teeth? A gummy bear.
- 4. What did the left eye say to the right eye? Something smells between us, ew!
- 5. Why do vampires always look sick?Because they are always coffin.
- 6. What is faster, hot or cold?

Hot, because you can catch a cold.



7. Why can't a leopard hide anywhere?

Because he's always spotted.

8. A dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary is called?

Thesaurus

- 9. Why do crabs never share their things?
- They are shellfish.
- 10. What do cows love to read?

Cattlelogs





### **Readers Letter**

The Weirdest Night of my Life in Boronia, which showed the goodness and indifference in people.

Rosalie Elizabeth Austin.

(This letter has been edited due to space restrictions.)

A very weird night that I wanted to chronicle for your wonderful community newspaper, so here goes.

On the evening of June 19, 2025, after stopping at the Boronia Commonwealth Bank, I returned to the car and discovered my car battery was dead flat. I tried in vain to ring the RACV's Roadside Assistance, but couldn't get an answer, and left a message for them to ring me back. I then went to the nearby McDonald's to get something to eat (as I figured it'd be a wait), and while I was there, they must have rung me back, and I didn't hear them! At the time, I figured it didn't matter, as a very nice man said that he had jumper leads and that he would meet me at my car with his ute. What transpired was anything other than helpful. Not only did they not show up at my car, but his teenage son stole my soft drink.

Luckily, I came across a very nice lady who was working at the Boronia Railway Station, who went to look in her car to see if she had jumper leads to help me, but to no avail. Then Felix, a Woolworths staff member, and Katie, a helpful passerby, offered assistance. First, Felix rang their dad to see if he had some jumper leads, then Katie told me that she had jumper leads in her car, so I led her to my car. She parked next to my car to link up the cables from her battery to mine but it still didn't start. I kept going up to random strangers and asking them if they had a portable battery charger box. Eventually, a very nice man emerged from the darkness and said that he did indeed have one and that he could help. I told him that his blood was worth bottling. He connected the cables from his portable charger box to my battery, I turned my ignition key a few times, and it finally worked. What a drama!

I was finally able to drive to the Laundrette in Ferntree Gully and get all of my laundry done. I was also able to follow up with the RACV's roadside assistance, and they checked my battery out for me. They recommend I get a different battery from the calcium battery that I've got now. Something I must make a priority.

It was here I noticed my missing soft drink, so I rang Boronia McDonald's and spoke with the lovely manager Zoe,who recommended that I come by on the way home to get some more Coke and chips, which is what I ended up doing. The lovely Zoe and her colleague Emily supplied them free of charge. I had them at home with some leftover chicken, and they were delicious (as it was such an eventful night that I ended up hungry again).

But that was not all in the human kindness stakes that night either. When I was at the Laundrette, I unfortunately lost two laundry tokens, and another very nice man gave me two of his tokens, so I was able to go ahead and do my drying and buy a soft drink from the vending machine. So, thanks to everybody involved, especially Katie and the mystery man. Katie was an English teacher with a six-month-old daughter and she still stopped to help me, which shows enormous character. Furthermore, she even offered to get me a taxi or Uber or to drive me to the laundry too. I later sent Katie a thankyou card to her school, and rang the Boronia Railway Station lady to thank her and to get her to thank the lovely public transport security guards too. I also later caught up with Felix at Woolworths and thanked him as well.

Sometimes there is comfort in the company of strangers.

### **Obsession Gaming**

Danny Nolan

OBSESSION GAMING is a new business catering to people interested in playing, trading, or buying the more popular of card-based games.

Dylan MacIsacc first enjoyed collecting such cards as Pokémon, Dragon Ball Z, and

Magic: The Gathering as a young man growing up in Boronia with his friends. He has taken that hobby passion and taken it to the next level, and opened up a new Shop in Boronia at 2/88 Boronia Road at the intersection of Hastings Road. Obsession Gaming has grown from Dylan's online store, which he registered in

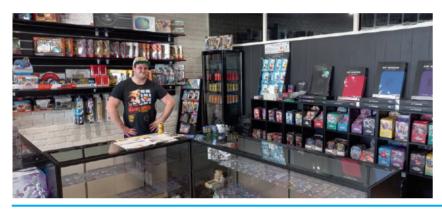


2023. He and his wife, Sara, have both grown up and were schooled in Boronia and recently moved back to The Basin from Monbulk with their two young children.

The shop had its grand opening on Saturday, the 26th July, and was a great success. Highlighting one of the reasons Dylan wanted to open a bricks & mortar shop

in Boronia. Growing up, he and local enthusiasts had to travel miles towards the city to play or source cards. By becoming a more central hub for not just experienced players and collectors, Dylan hopes to have school holiday programs to teach new card gamers how to play and feel more comfortable by introducing them

slowly in a friendly atmosphere. This has a twofold effect, giving new players a gathering place but also introducing new people to card games, ensuring its longevity and keeping it alive. Obsession Gaming is open Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 3 pm till 6 pm for the time being. Pop in.



# Five (more!) Minutes with Councillor Kennett

Following on from last month's BBCN, we wanted to provide Councillor Paige Kennett a further opportunity to answer a few more questions...

# Having worked at Knox Council previously, did you find it easier than most to transition to being a Councillor?

Working at Knox Council as an officer certainly provided some helpful insight into the internal operations of the council and how local government operate, but being a Councillor is a very different role. As a staff member, you

are focused on delivering specific services/projects, and not so much decision-making because that's generally made for you. As a Councillor, responsibilities shift to more strategic, setting direction based on listening to residents, and making decisions in the best interests of residents across the whole municipality. From a macro viewpoint and from my perspective, yes, I do think it has helped me. In saying that, there are challenges in the changes of role that I am acutely aware of and continuing to learn from.

# What's been the biggest surprise you've had in your role as a new Councillor?

Being in the role of a decision maker, one of nine, the role has a lot of responsibility. From an



outside perspective, this may seem easy, but making decisions that affect people and how they live in our city is a real and big responsibility.

Councils are an organisation like no other, delivering a huge array of services to a large number of people. The work and time that's involved in making a well-considered decision is enormous, if you

do it well. Also, listening to the residents who elected me, but also taking into account the impact of a decision for the entire municipality, is something that is unexpectedly challenging because our city is quite diverse.

### At the last Council election, 7 of the 9 Wards elected a new Councillor - in your view, has this been a positive or otherwise for the Council?

Having 7 new Councillors is a significant change, and yes, I do see it as a real benefit. It brings fresh perspectives and a renewed, genuine drive to represent our community well. At the same time, having returning Councillors is also good as they provide some continuity, and they can share previous experiences and

### **Browning Road Incident**

Danny Nolan

There was an incident that occurred at approximately 8:15am on Thursday, 14 August, when a car lost control and smashed into my property on Browning Road, Boronia.

The full contingent of our local emergency services were in attendance at the scene (Fire, Ambulance, SES & Police).

The driver, local to Boronia, a lady in her 70s, was pinned in her car, but was later freed by emergency services and taken to hospital with shock & minor injuries.

After the car struck multiple items, including two other neighbouring fences, a large brick letterbox, it resulted in a power outage for over 36 hours, and significant damage to the property. The car was later towed away, and cleanup works began.

Luckily, no one was seriously injured in the incident. The cause of the accident at the time of writing was still under investigation. Thanks to Kristy Harris for the photo.



understandings. The blend allows us to challenge old decisions, test if they are still relevant to our community, and think differently, while still having some guidance on what's worked in the past. I think the community benefits when there's a good mix of returning and new Councillors, but also having a blend of representation.

Don't forget – you can get in touch with Cr. Kennett on 0498 880 807 via email on Cr.Paige.Kennett@knox.vic.gov.au or search "Paige Kennett - Chandler Ward Councillor - Knox" on Facebook.

### Strummers Story by Rob Fairbairn



# Festival Fun Part 5 The Ballad of CresFest '25

The day that Paradiddle went to CresFest We hadn't played together for some time

Not in public, anyway so I'd really have to say.

There was doubt and apprehension in my mind.

It started with a random invitation,

"There's a bush dance and a concert, if you wish"

So I texted all the gang, to find who could come along

And the list of starters ended up like this

Mark and Kevin both said yes, and I didn't hear from Greg

And Atho thought she wouldn't hack the pace

So, I gave Dave a call, admitting, "There's no fee at all"

But he said he'd come along and play the bass.

Before we'd even started our rehearsals,

Mark and I, we had a real run in

There was anger in his eyes but, when I apologised

Preparation for the gig could then begin

In February, me and Mark and Kevin

Got together so that we could plan the shows

We'd been mates since '78 so the music sounded great,

And most thankfully we didn't come to blows

In preparation for the gig at CresFest,

We practised til our fingers were all raw

Then Judy came along and before we'd sung a song she said

"Don't you know that you're all dinosaurs?"

Well, we knew that we weren't young, but before we'd even sung?

We thought her comment cruel and unkind

So, we told her what we'd do and we played a tune or two

And I think that kind of satisfied her mind.

The day that Paradiddle came to CresFest,

The town was gussied up to look a treat.

There was music in the air, there were people everywhere,

They were singing, they were dancing in the street.

And all at once my doubt and apprehension,

Were bundled up and bustled out the door

There were parents with their kids, just like us younger 'Dids

At folk festivals back in the days of yore

And the punters, they were dressed up wild and crazy,

With hats and tatts both colourful and strange

Shaggy beards and flowing hair but nobody seemed to care

Fashions alter but old folkies never change

Come Saturday, we assembled back of Leavers

Tuned our instruments and we were set to go.

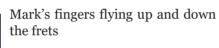
And when we hit the stage, the years melted away

And we treated all the people to a show

Kevin, he was singing like an angel,

ROOTS MUSIC FESTIVAL

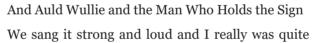
NOW!



And Dave was on the bass, man he really set the pace

And we showed the folks that we weren't done with yet

We said "G'day", and sang a song for Heather,



proud

How the songs I wrote had stood the test of time.

Trow the songs I wrote had stood the test of time

We led the families gathered for the dance.

And later in a hall around the corner.

It was frivolous and fun, there were smiles on

As like ponies they all galloped 'round and pranced Then the kids got up and joined us in a bush band,

An experience they never will forget

At the finish of the show, when the time had come to go

Judy said, "That was the best one we've had yet"

So, if you're ever asked to play at CresFest,

Take it up and grab it with both hands

It never is too late, 'specially when you play with

The members of the Paradiddle Band\*.

\*In memory of Greg Rough, April 12 1951-July 26 2025.

Paradiddle founder member, a fine musician and a great mate.

### SAILOR'S SONG

Dayangani Silva

Being a sailor, sailing on the sea.

Sea is my home, world is the sea.

White and blue frills roll on the sea.

My land is far, I sail along the sea.

You see the big ship, like a tiny toy.

Though I feel lonely, for me it's a joy.

Big whales jump up over the waves.

Air machines disturb the holy skies.

I see the sunrise, brings another day.

Darkness vanishing, appears a bright day.

Freshness heal me, loneliness, run away,

Thinking of the loving ones, who are far away.

Blazing sun rays whisper, "Goodbye, everyone."

Gloomy skies embrace the setting sun.

Leisure and pleasure gently entwine.

Stars align, I'm spellbound by nature's enchanting design.

I knew I would always come back to the hills area one day, although it took me 33 years to return, the reasons being summed up in the following poem I wrote. I hope you like it too.

### Olivia MacQueen The Basin.

#### **PEACE**

I am at peace within these hills when I but sit and contemplate.

For oh, what joy awaits those who see, and feel, and breathe nature, in all her glory.

For are not these hills the true essence of nature's handiwork in itself?

A haven for birds, animals, insects and humans alike.

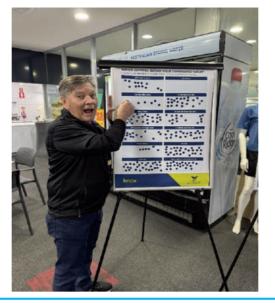
A true wonder and beauty to nurture, enjoy and have soul refreshed. I am at peace within these hills.

### Cr. Peter Lockwood Baird Ward Councillor

Spring is on the way! Recently, we went to Knox Leisureworks to look for feedback on next year's Council Plan. We presented charts of council services for people to give their proprieties. We had a great reception- 90 people took time out, mostly after swimming, and gave great feedback!

One of my pet projects is fighting depression and suicide. I support the Black Dog Institute and any other suicide prevention organisation.

As a motorbike rider, I go on the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride, which is coordinated



internationally and on the Black Dog Rides, which happen around Australia. They are fundraisers and work hard to improve men's health. Next time I put out an appeal, please be sympathetic.

Council decided not to support Christmas decorations in our shopping centres at a cost of \$15,000. Maybe next year if there are enough voices.

September is finals time. Get out there and cheer your team. Netball finals have happened-congratulations to Fair Park Netball Premiers Division 12 for 2025. A great effort!! Cricket season follows.

cr.peter.lockwood@knox.vic.gov.au; 0499 111 639.

# Collectors Call Danny Nolan

### Lorraine and her Sewing Machines.

When you have a passion for sewing and patchwork quilting, there is also a good chance that you'll have a keen interest in sewing machines. Such is the case with Lorraine. Her collection has grown over the years from complete antique sewing tables and miniatures to modern machines for everyday use. Pictured is a sample of her smaller models, many of which are gifts. "They just keep building up. It wasn't any conscious effort to start a collection," She said.

As well as the working machines, both ancient

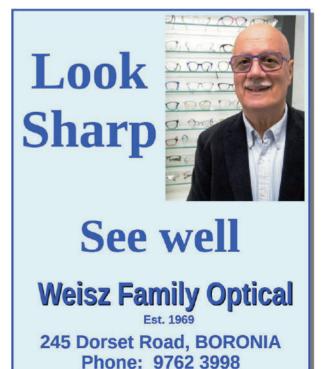


and new, there are a few broken models found during visits to market fairs that adorn the garden, along with old farming implements. Besides the working Singer treadle machine, Lorraine's other pride and joy is a pristine Wertheim sewing machine that was made in Bendigo Street, Richmond. Mainly because it leads to a good story in the telling. The Wertheim company made sewing machines and pianos there up until 1935, then became a Heinz tin food manufacturer, and then, in the mid-1950s, was converted to the GTV studios, the home of Channel 9 up till 2010. It is now high-end apartments. Her Wertheim outlasted them all.

One thing the collection reminds Lorraine constantly is that there are quilts that still need to be finished.







### Cover Story: Battle of the Bands at Boronia K-12 College

On Monday 11th of August, the Boronia K-12 College Performing Arts Centre came alive for this year's Battle of the Bands between Boronia K-12 College, Scoresby Secondary College, Lilydale High School and Timbarra P-9 College as they joined together for an afternoon of music, talent, and school spirit. Students, staff, and proud parents filled the seats, ready to cheer on the eight competing bands.

The theme for 2025 was Rock 'n' Roll, and the performers didn't hold back - turning up in everything from leather jackets to goth vibes. The stage lit up with a mix of rock, pop, indie, funk, and even a few original compositions. Covers of classics and favourites by Nirvana,

Maroon 5, Foo Fighters, Amy Winehouse, and Radiohead had the audience tapping along.

Awards were presented for Best Solo, Tight Teamwork, Best Stage Presence, Best Dressed, and Best Overall. Between sets, our VCE/ VM students kept everyone fed with a classic sausage sizzle, while visitors grabbed hot drinks from the College's Foot of the Hills Café.

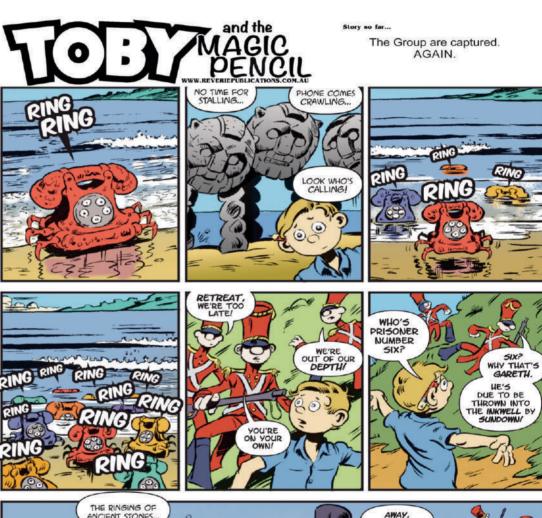
It was an afternoon to remember-celebrating not only musical skill but the energy and creativity of our students. Judging by the crowd's enthusiasm, we're already excited to make it bigger and better next year!













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

TO BE CONTINUED.

# BORONIA SET TO BOOM WITH STATION UPGRADE

Crews are laying the groundwork for a revitalised Boronia Station precinct, with geotechnical works underway this week for the station upgrade, which will enhance safety, accessibility, and connectivity for the local community.

As part of the works, boreholes will be drilled along Lupton Way, with traffic controllers in place to make sure locals can get around the area safely during works.

These investigations will pave the way for station upgrade construction to start later this year. The project also includes a new landscaped plaza with seating and lighting, connecting to a new pedestrian crossing for safe and convenient access to the Dorset Road shopping precinct.

New canopies over the station's entrances will be added, and an improved pick-up and drop-off area along Lupton Way will be built. Increased lighting and CCTV around the precinct will improve safety.

The station's ticket office and Protective Services office will be relocated to upgrade the station entries and allow the station concourse to be widened, improving access over the rail line.

There will be improvements to the platform, including upgrades to station furniture, shelters, and toilets, as well as updates to the passenger waiting



roon

The contract for the project has been awarded to an alliance comprising Acciona, WSP, and Metro Trains Melbourne, in partnership with the Level Crossing Removal Project, with works set to start later this year and construction completed in 2026.

The station upgrade follows works completed in Melbourne's outer east last year to make the Lilydale Line level crossing free, and the Belgrave Line boom gate free between Ferntree Gully and the city.

We thank the community for providing their feedback and sharing what's important to them. Feedback will help inform aspects of the final designs for the project, due for release later this year.

Member for Bayswater Jackson Taylor said, "It's great to have these site investigations underway, paving the way for major works starting later this year for

this important upgrade to Boronia's railway station. I know the community is looking forward to seeing the project complete, as it will completely transform the heart of Boronia and improve safety and accessibility for people using the station."

### **Readers Letter**

I think it is so sad to think that the personal touch of a hand written letter is non-existent in these modern days and social media has dramatically changed our attitudes towards this. We need to encourage our children to write letters from an early age and this will develop both their communication, cognitive and hand writing skills.

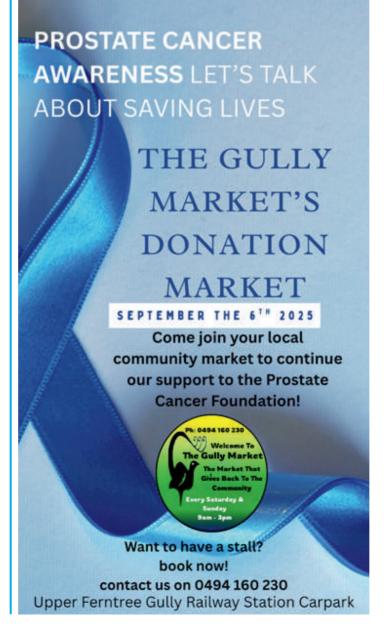
A simple letter to families is written in a casual style and we can write to our different family members like mothers, fathers, siblings, grandparents and extended family members.

Posting hand written letters and special occasion cards shows how much the sender cares about the person they are sending the letter to, especially to the elderly and grandparents from their grandchildren. A penned personal letter or hand drawn pictures can brighten and bring happiness to their day.

The letter will be a surprise and they will treasure it, especially if the letter or card reads at the end; I love you.

When I was at school, a very long time ago, as part of our curriculum, we learnt how to write letters with the professional letter head on the top of the page and to this day I still write letters and send cards for each birthday and Christmas as I believe that this is a personal gesture which shows that you have that person in your thoughts.

Sincerely, Nancy Johnson



The Gully Market operates from the Upper Ferntree Gully Station carpark on Saturday and Sundays.

September is prostate cancer awareness month. Once again, the Gully Market is donating \$3000 to Prostate Cancer Foundation Australia, to be directed towards their prostate cancer specialist nurses program.

They are a vital cog in the care of patients with advanced prostate cancer. I urge everyone to visit the PCFA website, and donate, even if it's only one dollar. Every dollar counts. I also urge all men over 50 to be tested, as the odds of getting prostate cancer is 1 in 7 and increases through your 60s - 80s. Early diagnosis results in 90+% survival.

I invite the local community to support this little community market, so that we can continue to support organisations such as this. Since September 2023, we have donated a total of \$31,500 to organisations such as Foothills Community Care organization, Ferntree Gully Salvation Army, Otis foundation, Upper Gully CFA, and PCFA.

Ian Rice President Gully Market,Tracy Pate Secretary/Treasurer,Rachael O'Connor Social media.

### Boronia and The Basin Local Services Directory - Support your local businesses



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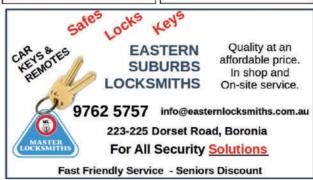
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### Local Community and Club News



### HONOURED ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AWARD PRESENTED TO EVELYN **SPIERS**

Evelyn is a Charter (foundation) member of the Inner Wheel Club of Boronia and was presented with an Honoured Active Membership Award (Life) on 17th July 2025 for

service to the Inner Wheel Club of Boronia having served the club in various capacities since 1984, always with dignity and honour while upholding the traditions and Objects of Inner

Wheel. To promote true friendship, to encourage the ideals of personal service and to foster international understanding. This award is in recognition of her service rendered to both Inner Wheel and her local community.

Evelyn has lived and worked for 56 years in Boronia together with her late



husband Robert (Rob) bringing up their family of two children now both adults with their own families, always finding spare time to be involved with many community not-for-profit organisations - Inner Wheel, CWA, Glengollan Village (former Board Member), Friends of Glengollan, St. Paul's Church groups just to name a few. Congratulations Evelyn, this award is well deserved, our community is so much richer for your involvement.

Inner Wheel is a women's friendship and service club whose members work together to have influence, improving lives with emphasis on "Women and Children". The Club offers friendship and service to the

community whilst raising funds for Local, National and International charities through various fundraising and social events. The Club meets on 3rd Thursday in the month at the Wantirna Club at 6.00 for dinner followed by meeting at 7.00pm. Contact: Nola 0438 320 442

Inner Wheel Club of Boronia iiw.au.boronia@gmail.com

### **Ferntree Gully Combined Probus Club**

Reinvent vour Retirement and come learn all about Probus

A new Probus Club is coming to the Ferntree Gully area and we're inviting you to join us for a special morning tea to learn more about the world of Probus. This is a wonderful opportunity for all retirees and semi-retirees to find your new social network and explore new hobbies with your fellow Probus friends!

We welcome you to join us:

• Thursday 18th September 2025, Arrive 9.45am for a 10.00am start

• Coonara Community House - 22 Willow Road, Upper Ferntree Gully VIC 3156

What to Expect:

- · Monthly meetings with inspiring guest speakers
- Exciting group outings and activities
- Opportunities to connect with like-minded individuals

RSVP https://www.probussouthpacific.org/c88294c5/ Ferntree Gully Combined Probus Club Or call Community Engagement Officer Isabella on 1300 630 488 Advertise here - annual cost \$225 small, \$450 large (Inc. GST) - full details on our website at the "Place an AD" link.









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# Boronia VIEW; Voice,

Interests, Education of Women



Next meeting will be held on Friday 19

September at 11.30am at Eastwood Golf Club Liverpool Rd Kilsyth with a 2 course lunch costing \$30 followed by Elida Brereton, speaking about her travels in Antarctica and beyond.

There will be a raffle, trading table and book stall with all monies raised going to the 9 students the club sponsors through The Smith Family learning for Life program. This is helping needy children with their educational expenses. The club is looking for new members so ladies of all backgrounds and ages come along and you will be warmly welcomed. there are small groups within the club eg. book club and coffee mornings etc with the occasional outing.





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During July, we had a lunch at Wattle Hall for new members and Convenors. This is an event held periodically to allow new members to meet others as well as speak with Convenors about the activities they are interested in.

During July, Chinwaggers lunched at The Coach in Ringwood and on 20th August will be meeting at the Boronia Hotel at 12 noon. The Dine out with Friends will be at Stamford Homestead commencing at 6.30 pm on Wednesday, 27th August. Trivia night is currently held at the Knox Club on the second Thursday of each month. The list goes on and on. There is something for everybody.

We have just started a Monthly Movie Day at Wattle Hall. Commencing at 1.00 pm. It is to be on the second Monday of each month, I.E. 13th October, 10th November and 8th December. Come along with friends or on your own. Our Convenor, Rose (0425 754 419) would be only too happy to hear from you, and she will be able to advise you of the film for 8th September and those which will be shown to the end of the year. Tea and coffee will be available.

On Sunday, 21st September, we will be visiting the Victoria Market and will be catching the train from Bayswater at 10.30 am. If our Club and activities are of interest, please phone Lorraine on 0438 068 334 and she will guide your first steps to find out if we are right for you!



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