Boronia & The Basin COMMUNITY NEWS

MARCH 2026 Issue 352

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Delivering to Boronia, The Basin and surrounding areas

PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST NATIONS LAND OF THE WURUNDJERI PEOPLE

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Editorial: Kim Hanson

Saturday, 21st of March is Harmony Day for us in Australia. Actually, we have a whole Harmony Week from the 16th to the 22nd of March. This had me reflecting on that concept of 'harmony'. In music, harmony is playing/singing more than one note at the same time with a pleasing effect. The key being two or more and pleasing. It usually takes two people to create the two different notes. Yes, there are instruments like the piano and guitar where you can play two notes, but that doesn't help my illustration, so I'm conveniently ignoring that for the moment. And yes, you can use technology to harmonise with yourself, but in that case, you are taking on the role of a second instrument.

These two people/instruments must be listening to each other and working together to create that pleasing sound. It also helps if you understand a little of what the other instrument is capable of, so you can bring out the best in each other. So I will persist with my example.

I feel that our world could use a bit of both of these two things. It seems to me that we exist in a world of competition. Where one way/opinion/ culture, etc., must be right and the other must be wrong. Perhaps, if we listened and tried to understand a little of what the other 'instrument' is bringing to the table, we might be able to use something of what they are saying, work together and create something pleasing that brings out the best in each other.

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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 Articles or letters that have no contact details, are abusive in nature, or contain racial or other vilification will not be published.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, heic or pdf files and not be subject to copyright restrictions.**

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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Page 3 Bird

Des Palmer

Great Knot

(Calidris tenuirostris)

You have to be in it to win it. A cliché, but an accurate one. If you don't go in Tattslotto (do they still have Tattslotto?), you're not going to scoop the pool, are you? Not going to catch a big Snapper in your lounge room, either. Right place, right time, sometimes things fall into place. Ain't gunna see a rare bird in the kitchen, gotta get out there, get amongst it. A Great Knot on the beach on a flood tide at Stony Point near Hastings on Westernport Bay, now we're talkin'!

Image credit: Peter Saunders

Ok, slow down Deso, a lot of people reading this won't even know what a Great Knot is, let alone be excited you've seen one. Is it something to do with rope or something? Nah, it's a small wading bird which migrates from NE Siberia, and they're as rare as ... in our part of the world.

Many people I speak to lament the drudgery and boredom of international flights, personally my longest flight is to Perth, but yeah, I get it, it must be tough. But these migratory waders do it all under their own steam, imagine the energy to propel yourself from NE Siberia to southern Australia, and then six months later, fly back again. Beggars belief that it can possibly happen, but it does, ya gotta take your hat off to them, amazing!

Not everyone gets it, I mean some people, even birdwatchers, chuck their hands in the air, this is too hard, they all look the same, they're too hard to id, give me something a bit easier, a Rosella or a Kookaburra, something I can easily hang my hat on.

Push through the pain barrier, guys, the results are worth it! To add another species to your life list is a real accomplishment, I mean I already had Great Knot but had never had such close-up views as this. Shut the gate!

An almost identical bird called the Red Knot is much more common in Westernport, still not a common bird but more likely to be observed. Picking the difference in a line- up of these two takes an extremely sharp eye. I could not have picked the difference without an extensive search in my field guide, but a member of our group, Bett, nailed it straight away!

One day I'll be that good! Bett has been a birdwatcher in the Friends of French Island group since 1974 (she was just a very young girl) and is a wader expert.

Great Knots are simply great birds, a testament of all things to be admired, endurance, strength and persistence, something we all aspire to. A common bird in Northern Australia, where flocks of thousands congregate, but a rare species in Westernport, put simply, a super 'good get'.

Bookings for Australian Bird Tours are filling fast. Get in quick before you miss out! See you out in the bush somewhere, Des

Email: *birdtoursbydes@gmail.com*
Website: *AustralianBirdTours.com.au*

CAN YOU HELP PLEASE?

Following a few resignations from long-term 'walkers' due to ill-health and moving from the area, we are really pleased to welcome Michael and Stephen to our band of volunteers. Thank you sincerely for your willingness to serve your community by delivering the BBCN straight into letter boxes.

WE NEED HELP WITH:

We are currently looking for 3 permanent volunteer 'walkers' to deliver papers in the areas bordered by

- Rathmullen Rd and Dixon Crt / Gertonia Ave. 150 papers
- Stewart Street and Olive Grove. 200 papers
- Sundew Avenue / Orchid / Genista / Boronia Rd and Langwith Ave. 200 papers

The commitment isn't huge - round about an hour's walk once a month. Your papers will be delivered to your home on the last Thursday of each month.

If you are interested in joining our volunteer crew please contact us here at BBCN via contact@bbcn.org.au.

What's On in Boronia and The Basin this month?

- **Harmony Week:**
March 17 to 23
Celebration that recognises the diversity of Australian communities.
https://www.harmony.gov.au/

- **Neighbour Day:**
March 28–29
https://www.knox.vic.gov.au/whats-happening/news/take-part-neighbour-day-2026

- **Pets in the Park**:
March 29
Free entertainment and activities, displays and demonstrations, pet care advice etc. https://www.knox.vic.gov.au/whats-happening/pets-park

- **St Joseph's and St. Bernadette's schools' annual fete**
March 21 (Saturday)
Always a massive event open to the whole community.

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THE BASIN MUSIC FESTIVAL

MARCH 20/21/22 2026

Live Music Lives Here

When The Basin & The Community come alive!

The Acorn Bar & Restaurant has been actively involved with The Basin Music Festival from the very beginning, supporting the association as The Basin Music Festival brings live music to The Basin. We look forward to seeing you and your families across The Basin Music Festival, enjoying local talent and up-and-coming artists. It's an event that you do not want to miss. Live Music Lives Here! Eat, Drink & Dance at The Acorn Bar & Restaurant.

Proud Sponsors & Supporters of The Basin Music Festival for the past 9 years. Thank you, Community.

It's an event that you do not want to miss.

Tony - Publican. ***Anne-Marie - Venue Manager***

COVER STORY: The Basin Music Festival comes of age!

Daniel Barber

The Basin Music Festival is back and better than ever before. On March the 20th, 21st and 22nd, over 100 unique performances are happening for free across "The Basin Triangle." With free entry, an improved production value, and a vast array of performances to watch, this is your time to find your new favourite artist.

The event will be hosted across four venues in the heart of The Basin, they are; The Acorn Bar and Restaurant, The Oak Tree Tavern, "Festival Hall" (aka the Seniors Centre) and The Basin Pavilion. Boasting six stages, The Basin Music Festival is promising an exciting weekend of live musical entertainment.

The event comes at an important time for music fans. It seems every other week, we hear about another music venue or festival shutting down due to overwhelming costs, changes in how we consume live music, or pressure from large companies taking over the industry. Recently, we have seen this with the loss of "The Beast" out in Brunswick. The Basin Music Festival feels like a heartfelt opposition to this reality. It is an act of love that this festival exists, only made possible by a group of committed volunteers who love the art form and want to spread it to others.

Dan Goldfarb, a committee member for the festival, speaks to the importance of events like this, saying it "brings the community together, promotes arts and culture." The sense of community has always been a critical part of making and enjoying art, and the festival has given the local community an easily accessible way of meeting other music fans. Dan's favourite memory of the festival is an ode to this sentiment; he says he enjoyed "playing guitar in an impromptu jam session in one of the pubs with other committee members at the end of the festival weekend."

The Basin Music Festival was built from the ground up to be for the local community. "Many community festivals are run by municipal government," Dan says, "but The Basin Music Festival has always been organised by volunteers." The festival functions as a not-for-profit, fuelled by support from Knox City Council, company sponsors, volunteers, its members and the dedicated musicians, who are also volunteers.

Whatever your music preferences are, The Basin Music Festival is bound to have something you will enjoy, from folk and blues, to punk and metal, to country and Celtic, to so much more. If you, your friends or your family are looking for your festival fix, and you don't feel like travelling out to the bush or into the city, The Basin Music Festival is perfect for you.

Strummers Story by Rob Fairbairn

Back to Mallacoota

"To Mallacoota I must go, heave away, haul away, With my caravan in tow, bound for Mallacoota"

"Not another song about Mallacoota", I hear you cry. I make no apologies for again writing about the place where we've been holidaying for over thirty years; it holds so many fond memories. So, pull on your singing boots, your cable knit jumper and sou' wester, put your finger in your ear and sing along with me to the tune of that old sea shanty, "Bound for South Australia".

"Heave away your caravan, heave away, haul away Watch for the cop with the radar gun, bound for Mallacoota"

"Bound for Mallacoota" was not the first song I've written that was inspired by our family's favoured holiday location. That honour belongs to one I wrote in the late 1990s, "Mallacoota Time". It begins with....

"Lazy breeze at my window, I'm looking out on a picture".

Situated on the far east coast of Victoria, the small township of Mallacoota is surrounded by natural splendour, a tiny oasis of civilisation in the middle of a vast wilderness, Croajingalong National Park. It's a popular destination for adventurers, bush walkers and nature lovers where you can paddle on its tranquil waters, share a bush track with a lyrebird or stroll along pristine beaches while sea eagles soar above.

"Aah, and if you want to taste that salty air.

Ooh, and any road can take you there."

On arriving in the town you would think its short main street, with its two supermarkets, butchers, bank, post office, pub, chemist and cafes could be anywhere. But if you continue to the bottom of Maurice Avenue, turn left and venture just a few hundred metres further down to the wharf, you are greeted with a view of breathtaking beauty. A vast glistening lake extends to a tree fringed horizon while squadrons of seabirds gather on the nearby sandbars. It's so peaceful.

"It's the end of the day and I'm straying away from my mind. Mmm Mallacoota time"

Imagine falling asleep to the sound of the ocean and waking every morning to bird song. Clear night skies with stars so bright you don't need a light. Silent dawns where sea and sky merge into silver mist. Sun dappled forest glades so magical you think you've stepped into a scene from The Hobbit.

"Mallacoota Time" sat on the shelf until 2001 when it was used in a primary school music program I was writing with a couple of mates. Recorded with marimba, maracas and claves, Hawaiian guitar and bass plus ocean and seagull sound effects it reflected the laid back, relaxed feel of that little coastal town. Like "The Dock of the Bay" with ukuleles.

But it was never a part of my live repertoire. Until January this year, when I sang it in the town that inspired it, at the open mic session at Lucy's Restaurant. Apart from a drunken karaoke performance of "Brown Eyed Girl" at The Tides Restaurant I'd never performed in Mallacoota. My short set was well received and later in the afternoon I was enjoying a beer when a local musician approached me. Her name was Lisa and she told me that she had been the music teacher at the local P-12 school. "I just wanted to tell you how much my students enjoyed singing "Mallacoota Time" ", she said. "I also taught it with ukuleles during lock down. Thank you for writing it." And thank you Mallacoota for inspiring it.

Will I write another song about Mallacoota? As long as we keep returning, there's every chance.

MORE BUSH KINDER PLACES TO GROW LITTLE LEARNERS

Hundreds more Victorian children will soon be given the chance to learn, explore and play in nature, with the State Government expanding the highly popular Bush Kinder program.

The State Government is investing $3.6 million to expand Bush Kinder programs in up to 600 kindergarten services. Since the grants started, 300 services have already received funding to establish or improve their programs. Minister for Children Lizzie Blandthorn and Member for Monbulk Daniela De Martino announced that another 150 kindergartens will now run Bush Kinder, supported by more than $900,000 ($6000 per applicant) in funding to make outdoor early learning accessible right across Victoria.

The 2026 expansion will see new Bush Kinder programs established in 55 local government areas, including 30 regional communities – giving more children the chance to learn in nature close to home. This includes Gembrook Preschool and Kallista Kindergarten in the Monbulk District. Several Kindergartens in Boronia, The Basin, and surrounding areas have received funding for Bush kinders programs since 2023. These are: Little Charlie's Early Learning Centre Ferntree Gully, Goodstart Early Learning Boronia, Bayswater Childcare & Kinder, and Arrabri Kindergarten Inc, Bayswater North.

Bush Kinder programs are educational sessions that take learning beyond the classroom and into parks, bushland and beaches, where children can climb, explore and discover the natural world – building confidence, curiosity and a love of the outdoors. These natural spaces can include: metropolitan parks, regional parks, local bushland local beaches, visitor sites within national and state parks. Children get to learn through play with natural materials outside. It's like a fun classroom in nature.These supervised programs give children safe opportunities to learn through play, supporting their physical and cognitive development while encouraging independence and problem-solving.

Experts in children's learning say outdoor play is important for children's learning and wellbeing. It helps children grow physically and mentally and helps them learn how to handle risks. This approach lines up with the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF) and the National Quality Framework (NQF)

Member for Monbulk Daniela De Martino said "I am delighted that Gembrook Preschool and Kallista Kindergarten have secured Bush Kinder funding. These programs give children the opportunity to learn, explore, and build confidence through connection with the natural environment that is such a special part of our hills communities."

For a complete list and to read more about the program see: vic.gov.au/bush-kinder

FUNDING BOOST FOR INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

The State Government is ensuring every Victorian student has access to the best facilities by helping low-fee independent schools with funding to modernise classrooms and build new infrastructure.

State Member for Monbulk, Daniela De Martino, announced that Ghilgai School in Kilsyth is one of nine successful recipients of the latest round of funding for independent schools across regional and metropolitan Victoria. The nine independent schools will share $26.2 million to expand and modernise existing facilities or build new schools.

Ghilgai School will receive $1,150,000 to upgrade and refurbish the main entrance and reception area, staff facilities, learning enrichment areas, student amenities and outdoor multi-use spaces. This is just one of the projects being delivered through the Labor Government's $450 million Building Fund for Non-Government Schools, which helps schools upgrade and expand their facilities, ensuring families have the best learning environments for their children.

The State Government also opened the fourth and final round of the Building Fund for Non-Government Schools, Independent Schools, with applications closing in February 2026. The previous round of this funding provided $40 million for works at thirteen independent schools.

To date, thirty-one independent schools have received $84.4 million from the fund. Close to $18.5 billion has been invested to build new schools across all sectors and deliver more than 2,300 school upgrades, supporting more than 30,000 jobs in construction and associated industries.

Details of the grants program are at :

schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/building-fund-non-government-sch

Welcome back to the 2026 school year!

Paul Broecker, Principal, Boronia K-12 College

This year, we will continue building on our new school values, vision, and motto. Our values are:

Community – We are a close, supportive community and we look after each other.

Aspiration – All of us can aim high - set big goals, dream big, work hard, and don't give up.

Respect – the golden rule of respect is… Treat others the way you want to be treated.

Excellence – Always strive to do your best effort, your personal best. In the classroom, this means coming ready to learn and completing learning tasks to your best effort.

It's important to note that two of our Values… Aspiration and Excellence are not about being perfect or the best. They're about trying your personal best. There's a quote on the wall in our café – forget the mistake, remember the lesson by the famous author Roald Dahl. School is about learning from your mistakes and being proud of your growth as a learner and as a person.

I wish to congratulate our new College and House Captains. To lead others is a privilege that comes with great responsibility. Make the most of your opportunity to lead and make a real difference to our school.

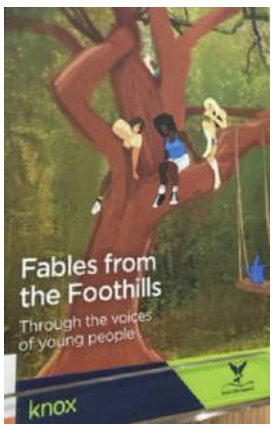
But to all our students… You don't need a badge to be a leader. All of you can lead others every day by doing the right things. Upholding and living our school values and being kind to others. That's also leadership.

I wish every student a great rest of the term. You are all capable of amazing things. Every day counts. Every lesson counts.

Let's make 2026 a fantastic year. Thank you.

Fables from the Foothills

Knox's first-ever youth-written book.



We've just celebrated the launch of Knox's first-ever youth-written book, Fables from the Foothills, created through the youth-led Knox Write Now program.

What began as an idea from the Knox Youth Literary Society has grown into a powerful platform for young people to share their creativity and connect through storytelling.

From magical trees and stopped time to the fear of talking in front of people and children causing uprising's, this collection of short stories from the young people of Knox will not disappoint. The Knox Youth Literary Society is a group of young people who meet to share stories, advice and ideas. Deciding we wanted to share the stories of young people with the world we created 'Knox Write Now!' writing competition! after reading the amazing entries from the brilliant young minds of Knox, it was so hard to judge the winners, each and every one of the entries was worthy.

The library was buzzing as families gathered to hear live readings from the young authors. Knox Write Now shows what's possible when we invest in youth-led projects:

Want to read their stories?

Pick up a copy at Knox Library today.

BORONIA K-12 COLLEGE

2026 OPEN NIGHT!

Future ELC, Primary & Secondary Families Welcome!

TUES 24 MARCH

WHAT'S NEW?

- Choose Year 7 electives inc. Dance, Art, Photography, Robotics, Music and Food
- Elite Basketball Program
- New Dance Studio & Fitness Centre
- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden
- Year 7 Scholarships on offer
- Auslan (Australian Sign Language) & Spanish
- Student led Cafe and Clubs
- Little Learners Love Literacy
- P-12 Instrumental Music, Bands Productions & Choir

DAY

9.30am	School Tour

EVENING

5.00pm	Welcome Sausage Sizzle
5.30pm	Information Session
5.45pm to 7.15pm	School tours Music performances Learning area exhibits Meet the teachers

BOOK A TOUR HERE

WIN A $100 STATIONERY VOUCHER!*

See how Boronia K-12 College has transformed!

A: 35/37 Albert Ave, Boronia VIC 3155 P: 03 9760 4900 ABN 85 688 979 031

Message from Jackson Taylor, Member for Bayswater

After nearly a decade in public life, including service on Council and since 2018 as the Member for Bayswater - I've made the deeply personal decision not to recontest at the 2026 state election. Representing this community has been the greatest privilege of my life, and I remain enormously grateful to everyone for the trust they placed in me.

While stepping back is never easy, the role has meant significant time away from my young family and now feels like the right moment to do so. Until election day, however, nothing changes, I will continue working every day to deliver for our community and to finish the job on the projects and investments we have fought hard to secure.

What matters most is the future of this community and I am genuinely excited about who is stepping forward to help lead it.

I'd like to introduce you to my friend Julie Buxton who is Labor's candidate for Bayswater and someone I know shares a deep commitment to our part of Knox. A lifelong eastern local, Julie grew up in Melbourne's east and is now raising her own family here. She understands firsthand what local families need: strong schools, accessible services, secure jobs and neighbourhoods where people feel connected and supported.

Julie brings real-world experience to the role. She has run a small business employing locals, supported other businesses through challenging times, and now works in the public sector helping communities recover after disasters. She knows how government works - but more importantly, she knows that good representation starts with listening.

Our community has achieved a great deal in recent years - from major upgrades to schools and health services, to safer roads, better sporting facilities and significant investment in Boronia. But there is always more to do.

Julie has the energy, local knowledge and commitment to build on this progress. I look forward to supporting her over the coming months and I hope you will take the opportunity to meet her, hear her vision, and join me in welcoming the next chapter for Bayswater.

Free PT

On January 1, 2026, under 18's with a new youth myki are now able to travel anywhere in Victoria every day for free and it is now free for all Senior Card holders on weekends anywhere in Victoria.

In Other News

• Angliss Hospital expansion only a few months from wrapping up.

• Major works at Boronia Station have begun and are due to wrap up before the end of 2026.

• Metro and Westgate Tunnel projects complete and open!

• Upgrades at Kent Park and St Joseph's Primary have completed.

• New Wally Tew Pavilion open and Tormore Reserve Pavilion is nearly finished.

Shout-out

To locals for your patience while we completed major resurfacing to sections of Scoresby Road, Forest Road, Dorset Road and Burwood Hwy.

And finally to the good folk of Knox Info Link who continue to run the incredible breakfast program 4 days a week - which I am proud the State Government continues to be the majority funding partner.

PICTURESQUE SCENERY

Dayangani Silva

Greeny mountains stand around us.
Each morning wrapped them in silver shawls.
When the sun rays spill,it's golden beams.
White robes dissolve like fading dreams.
Like a heavenly angel, soft and bright.
She peeps above the mountain height.
Gorgeous scenery lives for us.
When you stand, she sparkles thus.
Steps on rocks, throwing sparkling foams.
She wanders freely far from home.
She waves to the bushes plants, and shrubs.
Her veil adorns with breezing pearls.
Let's send a message ."Stop the fire"
Peace and love rose ever higher.
May God receive her gentle prayer.
Behold the beauty everywhere.

THE FERNTREE GULLY ARTS SOCIETY

AT THE HUT GALLERY - 157 UNDERWOOD RD FERNTREE GULLY

Thursday to Sunday 11-4pm or when the flags are flying

MARCH Exhibition 28th Feb -27th Mar

GALLERY: "NATURAL WORLD"

An exciting members exhibition, depicting all things natural.

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An outstanding Artist.

ALL WELCOME, FREE ENTRY

www.thehutgallery.com.au

All Workshops and classes resume in February

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Boronia Bowls Club

5 Marie St., Boronia

TWILIGHT BOWLS IS BACK AGAIN FOR 2025/26

Bring the family and friends down to one of our Twilight Bowls sessions

Held every Friday night from 6-9pm from October 2025 to April 2026

All equipment and coaching supplied - full bar, sausage sizzle and dim sims available

Just turn up or phone the Club on 9761 1996

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

KIDS ZONE

Submit YWI entries here:

Free Entry

$50 Prize

BBCN Young Writers Initiative

March Young Writers Initiative Award winnr is a returning winner. Mayer won anaward back in the first year of it operation as a primary school contributer. Now returning to receive Boronia and The Basin area, Mayer remains eligible because she sill resides in Boronia.|

NOTE: YWI Awardees receive a $50 voucher and a certificate.

I Wonder

Maya L, Year 9

I wonder what it's like to be a leaf. Yes, it's an odd statement, but stay with me here. Imagine glowing green in summer sunrays or maroon in late autumn. Having so little control, and so little stress. Being part of something bigger than yourself, something strong and beautiful. And then eventually letting go, simply going off with the wind. Maybe we are like leaves, just tiny parts of the bigger wider world around us. Sometimes it feels like that, doesn't it. Like we're just doing our part before eventually being blown away.

I wonder what it's like to be a politician. People who started their work so they could make a change. I wonder what it feels like to have that much power. Maybe in our societal tree, they're the branches. But wait, they can't be. They still need everyone's vote to pass a bill, still need people to help promote them, and can still lose their job if the public decides not to vote for them. So, I guess they are leaves too.

But there must be a flaw because then who are the branches and trunk? I wonder who really has the most power? Who's life and decisions matter the most? But the answer is simple. No one. Is this world you have as much power as everyone else.

I wonder, most of all, how you ended up where are now. In your job, in your house with the faulty tap but beautiful mountain view, your car with a podcast about finances playing and a too-hot-to-drink coffee in your cup holder along with crumbs that came from who-knows-where, at the pool watching your kids splash away with the best friend they just met but inevitably won't ever see again?

I wonder what little everyday decisions we made to get to this point. And if all of those seemingly insignificant choices lead to here, what small decisions can we make to get ourselves to the place we want to end up? Because, in the end, it's our life. And one day the wind is gonna be too strong. So I say make that little change. Play with your kids for an extra five minutes, use that spare time to start that crochet project instead of extra work, send in that resignation letter you've been worrying about. Because there won't ever be another today, there won't ever be another you. And when the time comes, I hope we can all say we have little regrets.

I wonder, if people start living for themselves, how beautiful our tree will become.

Above:

Sammy L from Boronia Heights Primary School excited to receive the February YWI award for her acroptic poem PoeTree.

Below:

Sebastian M accepting his December Young Writers Award at Boronia K-12 College School assembly for his moving piece "Soldiers of the Great War"

KIDS ZONE

Boronia K-12 YWI Trifecta

It was pleasing to present three awards to BK-12, highlighting that writing is alive and well in this school, undergoing great positive changes.

Sebastian for his December contribution, Matthew for the best Secondary contribution for 2025 and to Principal, Paul Breocker for the best performing secondary college school in 2025.

The annual school award attracts a $400 prize and Mathew receives $200 for his annual individual winner award. See articles on page 7 for more information about BK-12.

KIDS ZONE

Thanks to our Early Learning Educators

Kim Hanson

Last week, I was at home with my toddler when an alert came through on my phone from his childcare centre. When I checked, I found an announcement to all parents stating that the centre was being evacuated. The centre was Goodstart Early Learning Bayswater North, opposite Colchester Road Nursery, which had caught fire.

It has been amazing to see the community support the nursery following the fire that burnt down the building. This is one of the things I think Australia does well, the way the community rallies around people after a misfortune. The posts about the nursery fire on the BBCN Facebook page have had a lot of comments and interactions. Many people have promised (and been) down to the nursery to buy some plants and support the business. The emergency services have been thanked and praised for their hard work. The view of this experience for me was slightly different, coming through the connection with the childcare care.

I was so impressed that, amongst the huge task of evacuating babies, toddlers, 3 and 4-year-olds, and keeping them calm, they were still able to contact parents. Updates were sent about how children were coping. And there were instructions on how to collect your kids from the park where they were waiting and distracting the children.

It made me think about what I was trusting these educators to do. When we booked our little one into care, I was looking for a few things. People who would teach my child good life and social skills. Educators who were patient, kind and knowledgeable. I expected people to be up-to-date on first aid processes, child development and allergies. But I didn't think about the skills needed to keep my child feeling secure when life throws a curveball.

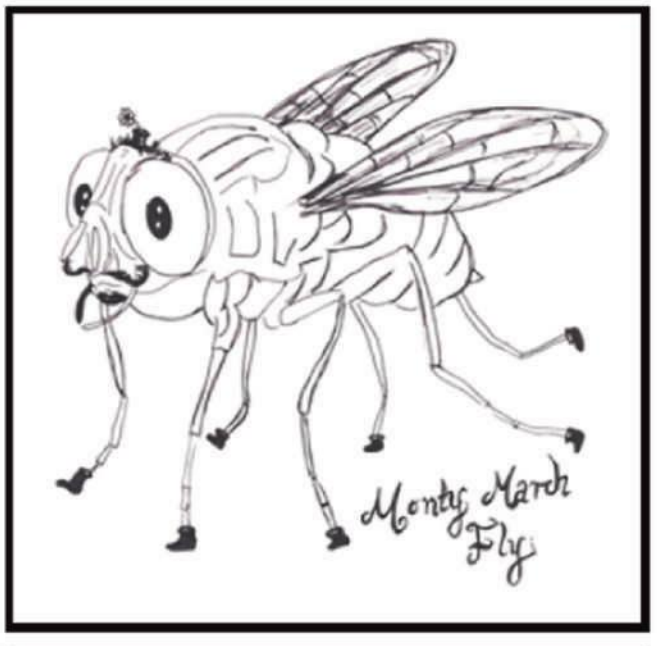
So thank you to the team at Goodstart Early Learning Bayswater North, for what

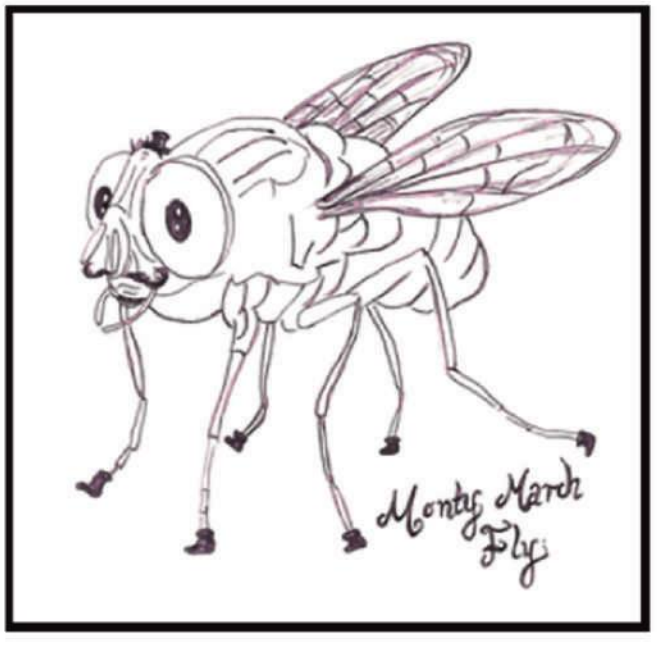
you did for the kids that day and everyday. And to childhood educators in general, I am, once again, in awe of all you do.

Celebrate Moomba 5th - 9th March.

Across five magic days Moomba is home to loads of fun events and activities – from epic skate park competitions and thrilling water sports to face painting, crafts, dance workshops, live music and entertainment, kids' yoga and plenty more that will keep the whole family entertained.

On March 9th, the annual parade arrives with vibrant energy. Since 1955, big and little kids have witnessed a flurry of Moomba magic as the parade sweeps through the city, bringing colour, dance, movement and music to each and every spectator. Catch dance troupes, gigantic floats and of course, the famed Moomba Monarchs, Caterina Mete, Red Wiggle, and Sammy J.





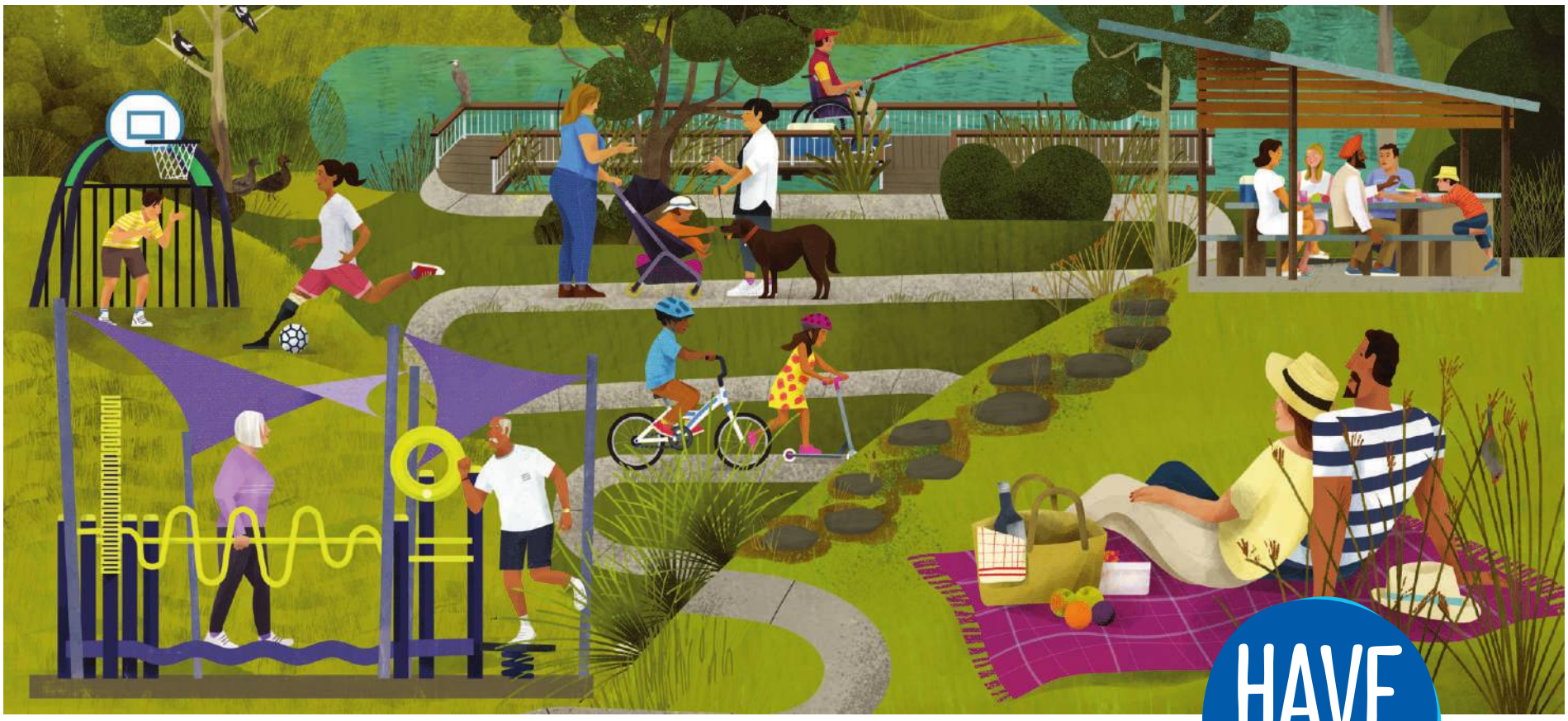
Luckily, Monty is a male march fly and the males don't bite.

Thanks

Alicia Geddes

Can you spot 8 differences between the pictures?

KIDS ZONE



HAVE YOUR SAY

Big parks, tiny parks... what's their future?

Get ready to share bold ideas for the parks, reserves, playgrounds and community spaces you love in Knox.

Sign up to be notified when the engagement opens.
knox.vic.gov.au/ShapeOurParks

Scan to be notified

Have Your Say in 10 languages

Knox Community Awards
Know a local hero? Recognise the amazing contribution volunteers make in Knox. Nominations close Sunday 15 March 2026.
Nominate today:
knox.vic.gov.au/CommunityAwards

Pets in the Park
Fun day for pets and families. Free event. Sunday 29 March, 10am–4pm, Knox Park, corner Bunjil Way and Ferntree Gully Road, Knoxfield.
Find out more:
knox.vic.gov.au/PetsInThePark

How should we manage $1.1 billion transport assets?
Share your commuting experience to help us prioritise transport assets eg roads, footpaths and car parks.
Have your say by 15 March 2026:
knox.vic.gov.au/HaveYourSay

0643

knox

Knox City Council

Mayor's Message March

Councillor Paige Kennett

Advocating for Knox

Hello neighbours! This month, I want to share an update for The Basin.

The Basin Parking Management Plan was supported by Council in January. The plan is based on two rounds of community consultation and an independent parking report, which have come together to make a plan for parking in The Basin. Thank you for all the feedback from locals.

What did you tell us? The main issues were bike parking is a problem, more car parking spaces are required, need for a safe U-turn space on Mountain Highway, safety on the roads around the shops, and time-limited parking.

A few points of interest for us:

Mountain Highway – this area has lots of use, bike riders, cars and pedestrians, surrounded by shops, homes and parkland. Mountain Highway is a Department of Transport Road, so Council will be speaking to the Department to have the road reviewed for safety improvements.

Bicycle Parking/Usage – as locals, we know the area is popular for bike riders. Council will be implementing more bicycle parking, with better placement.

Increased parking – our residents can see that creating additional parking in The Basin is challenging. The Plan recommends creating additional curbside parking along Church Street, checking in with street residents prior to any actions taken.

Accessible parking – coincidentally, the Knox Mobility Access Action Plan was also supported by Council in December. Community input from this plan showed that increased accessible parking was wanted, and well-located, so there will be an additional accessible car park will be added to The Basin shops.

Parking limits – feedback noted cars overstaying in key car parks, and longer-term car parks should be further away, so parking signage will be fixed up. There are also cars parking in unsafe/illegal locations, such as directly in front of the roundabout, so signage in these spots will be added.

The Basin Parking Management Plan will be implemented over the next 12 months.

Also, shout out to The Basin Music Festival Committee and the great amount of work that's happening to pull the festival together! Look forward to seeing you all over the weekend 20, 21 and 22 March!

Cr Peter Lockwood March Update

Cold one minute, baking the next. What could be better than being at home? My wife and I went to Inverloch for a short break. The winds averaged 50kph every day. A walk on the beach? OK, just get a bit sand whipped. If you choose the right direction, you can get a wind boost on the walk back!

The Bondi horror is still fresh. We mourn with those who suffered loss, and we think about what to do about it. Governments are taking action, and we all need to be measured and consider all faiths. It was Jews this time; it might be Hindus or Muslims next time. All faiths need to be united against hate.

We need to be measured in our words. Please be careful to avoid inflammatory or violent comments, especially on social media. It is easy to let anger speak - it is harder to be restrained and think more broadly.

Locally, our hills are tinder dry, and we need to be careful. Don't forget to have a plan. If fire comes, having a plan saves a lot of panic. Also, think about a go bag. What are you going to grab on the way out the door? Living in the suburbs doesn't protect us. It just means we need to be well prepared.

Have a great 2026. Peter

Cr.peter.lockwood@knox.vic.gov.au
0419111639.

Spike in reports of scammers impersonating Qantas to steal your personal information and money.

What's happening?

Scammers are impersonating Qantas in emails and text messages to steal your personal information and money. They create a sense of urgency to try and get you to act quickly without checking first. Scammers will use Qantas logos and branding to make the communication look real. The email or text message will urge you to click a link to either:

* claim a refund

* claim a gift

* redeem points that are about to expire.

If you click this link you will be directed to a scam website designed to steal any information you enter. Qantas has been warning of these sorts of scams, which were first identified in August 2025, and encourages customers to be alert to continued scam activity. The airline does not contact customers to ask for their PINs, passwords, or one-time passwords in text messages or email.

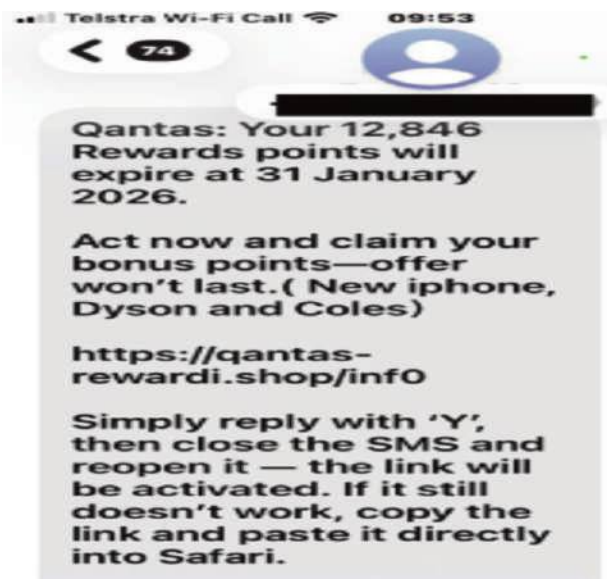
More information can be found on Qantas.com dedicated scams page. The NASC and Qantas work collaboratively to share scam intelligence and to disrupt scams.

Who's at risk

Anyone could be targeted by this scam. You do not need to be an existing Qantas customer or Qantas Frequent Flyer. However, people who know or suspect they have been involved in a data breach may be at greater risk of being targeted.

What does it looks like?

Examples of a Qantas impersonation scam text and email are illustrated.



Pet's Piece: Are corn cobs dangerous for your pet

Dr Gianne Ficatas, Veterinarian, Boronia Vet Clinic

When one of your own pets becomes your patient, the emotional weight is completely different. The clinical mind is still there, but the heart is louder.

Last weekend, one of my very own dogs became suddenly unwell. By midday, he was vomiting and brought up a piece of corn cob, something we hadn't seen before. We elected to monitor him closely over the next few hours, but he remained flat. The biggest red flag for him was that he didn't want his dinner.

Meet Hector, our almost 4-year-old Golden Retriever. He does have a history of eating unusual things, and because of that, we are usually very careful. As Hector deteriorated, I performed a thorough physical examination at home. On abdominal palpation, I could feel something abnormal. Normally, faeces in the large intestine are compressible and non-painful. This felt different; it felt firm, fixed, and uncomfortable.

An abdominal ultrasound confirmed my concern. I could see a structure casting a distinct acoustic shadow within the small intestine. While an ultrasound cannot tell us exactly what the object is, it gives important clues. The small intestine should primarily contain fluid and ingesta, not a solid object creating shadowing. Shadowing can be normal in the large intestine, where faeces form, but not in the small intestine. This made me quite worried, and was highly suspicious of a foreign body obstruction. The decision was made to take him to surgery.

Discovering that he would need surgery was incredibly stressful as I did not want to operate on my own dog. Within 10 minutes, an incredible team of support arrived at the clinic once I made some frantic phone calls to my colleagues. On one of the most stressful days of my career, I was reminded how lucky I am to be surrounded by such an amazing community. In surgery, the obstruction was found lodged firmly in the intestines. After making an incision over it and removing it, we found a CORN COB!

We were still not completely out of the woods. Post-operative complications, particularly leakage or breakdown of intestinal sutures, are most likely within the first 3–5 days. Thankfully, Hector is now 10 days post-surgery and tracking well.

Corn cobs are, surprisingly, one of the most common foreign body obstructions we see in dogs. They smell like food, dogs love them, and many people believe they are harmless to chew. Dogs retrieve them from parks, compost bins, rubbish bags, and picnic areas. They are incredibly dangerous. Corn cobs do not digest. They cause complete intestinal obstruction and can quickly become life-threatening emergencies requiring major abdominal surgery.

If sharing Hector's story prevents even one dog from going through this, it's worth it. If you're having a picnic, walking through a park, or see someone offering their dog a corn cob, please remember this story.

Experiences like this shift your perspective. Going from veterinarian to client is humbling. It deepens the empathy I feel for my own clients because now I truly understand the stress, the fear, and the waiting. This isn't the first time I have had to be a client with my own pets, but it is a true reminder that we can never take them for granted. After all of that, Hector has taught me something too.

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A Bird Tour with Des Palmer

Joy Shelley

Arthur and I have never been ones for bird watching, but we do love spending time in bush scenery. We thought, as bird watching is so popular, we would go on a morning bird tour with Des Palmer from Australian Bird Tours. We chose to go to Wicks' reserve in The Basin as it is close to home. However, Des does tours in many different locations. It was a pleasant morning out, and as we strolled along, Des began pointing out different birds. "Look - there, he would say that's a Spotted Pardalote," for example. There were common birds, which we recognised, such as the Crimson Rosella and the Noisy Minor, and many others which we did not. He was constantly pointing out birds that we had not even noticed. Some were in trees, others in the scrub or on logs and others we saw flying overhead. We asked him how he knew so quickly where to see the birds. He said that he hears their calls, and it depended on where the sound was coming from as to where they were most likely to be. He was full of information about all the birds we saw. Des was also able to name most of the trees we saw and was able to tell us which ones were native to the area and which ones had been introduced. All up, we saw 22 species of birds in only two hours. We thought that 22 birds were a lot, but Des did point out that if you want to see even more birds, you have to start a lot earlier than 10 am. Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed our first bird watching experience.

The list of birds we saw: Eastern Yellow Robin, Rainbow Lorikeet, Spotted Pardalote, Crimson Rosella, Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo, Kookaburra, Lewin's Honeyeater, Yellow-faced Honeyeater, Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike, Brown Thornbill, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Eastern Whipbird, Superb-fairy Wren, Noisy Miner, White-throated Treecreeper, Grey Fantail, King Parrot, Australian Magpie.

Arthur, Joy and Des at Wicks Reserve

Des Palmer has been writing BBCN's popular "Page 3 Bird" artiles for many years and is a committee member for BBCN. Recently retiring, he started Australian Bird Tours to share his passion for nature and knowledge with others.

Kids Dental Care

Signs You Might Be Grinding Your Teeth (and What to Do About It)

Boronia Dental Team

Ever wake up with a sore jaw or headache and wonder why? You might be grinding your teeth — also known as bruxism. Many people don't even realise they're doing it, especially since it often happens at night. Over time, though, grinding can cause serious problems for your teeth, jaw and overall oral health.

Common signs of teeth grinding

- Jaw pain or tightness, especially in the morning
- Headaches that start near the temples
- Worn, chipped, or flattened teeth
- Increased tooth sensitivity
- Clicking or popping sounds in the jaw
- Trouble sleeping (or complaints from a partner about grinding noises at night)

Why it happens

Teeth grinding is often linked to stress, anxiety, or sleep issues. It can also be related to bite alignment problems or lifestyle factors like too much caffeine or alcohol. Kids sometimes grind their teeth too, but usually many outgrow it.

Why it's a problem

Occasional grinding may not do much harm, but frequent grinding can wear down enamel, damage fillings or crowns, and even cause cracks in teeth. Over time, it can also lead to TMJ (temporomandibular joint) disorders, which affect how your jaw moves.

What you can do

- Reduce stress: Relaxation techniques, exercise, and good sleep habits can help.
- Limit triggers: Cut back on caffeine and alcohol, especially in the evening.
- Protect your teeth: we recommend wearing a custom night guard to prevent damage while you sleep.
- Check with your dentist: If you notice signs of grinding, book in for a dental consult.

Final Tip: Pay attention to the warning signs. Catching teeth grinding early can save your smile (and your jaw) from unnecessary damage. A quick chat with your dentist could make all the difference.

BBCN Vice President John Edgley Why I volunteer.

John Edgley, our Vice president, has lived in Boronia with his wife Anne for 48 years.

John and Anne were married in 1969 and moved to Boronia from Thornbury in 1975 with their young family. Their children grew up in Boronia and attended Boronia Heights Primary School. We recently sat down with him to find out why he started volunteering and what it means to him.

John ran a Warehouse and Distribution logistics business, Complete Transport Pty Ltd, based in Dandenong until he retired. During this time, he supported the Mental Illness Fellowship Foundation based in Heidelberg. Volunteers from the foundation would catch the train from Heidelberg to Dandenong. John would take them to and from the station to his workplace and provide them with work experience.

John was always community-minded and in the 1970-80's became involved with Steve Crabbs' Knox price action group. They went from supermarket to supermarket comparing prices to ensure a level playing field, sometimes being thrown out of the stores for their troubles.

In 2014, John answered a call from the BBCN paper for an advertising manager. Learning the ropes from Keith Cree, he quickly made the role his own. In 2018, Keith Cree retired as President, and John felt it was time for a change for direction. He persuaded John Pernu into the presidency and became the vice president. "Together we made a good team" he said. They spent many hours reconnecting to the local community and also the wider newspaper community of CNAV. He credits this reconnection as his greatest achievement with the paper and is glad that he has met so many wonderful community people over the years. After the passing of John Pernu he again set out to find a new president, asking Patrick Kelly, "Would you like to be President? Another great duo has begun.

We asked him if there were any funny stories from his time at the paper. He said yes, but none that he was able to share.

And his thoughts on the future of our paper? He said that the future is bright because we now have some younger people volunteering to help. People in the community are continuing to read the paper and their interest in local issues is growing.

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Pauline Brown Memorial

Danny Nolan

February 10th, I was honoured to be invited to be part of Pauline Brown's memorial at the Eastwood Golf Club.

Pauline passed just before Christmas, and it was decided that a memorial on her 102nd birthday would be fitting. The gathering was full of family and friends to acknowledge the special woman that Pauline was.

We heard how after losing her husband, she went back to school in her eighties to get her diploma, which was instrumental in starting this paper you are now reading, how she lost her musician son in a car crash when his band was just about to hit the heights and an overseas tour, and how after her 100th birthday, she was reunited with a granddaughter she never knew existed. A fraction of what amounted to an amazing life.

Many colleagues, past and present, from her days at this paper, were present. Pauline's daughter, Anne, summed up her amazing body of written works by saying Pauline didn't write fiction; she wrote about things she knew, things she loved, and things that fascinated her. All with a passion.

Pauline wrote her own epitaph, and I think it is owed to her to have the last word.

Last Poem for My Family, and Those Who Cared.

I love you all

And that love will remain the same

Wherever the rest of my being takes me

Let my love touch you,

Maybe intangibly,

In some words, I wrote

Some action I took

Or trinket I left.

Invoke me in your need.

Allow me to share your joy.

Forgive me if I ever hurt you,

It was never my intention

And I believed the same of you.

With love in my heart,

I'm going home.

Pauline.

Looking to volunteer in the future?

Join us for our FREE Volunteering Expo where you will have the opportunity to meet and talk with our 43 Not-for-profit organisation stallholders.

You will learn about the many wonderful causes, meet representatives and see what volunteer opportunities interest you!

Find out how contributing your time, skills and experience can help make a valuable difference in our community.

Following on from our successful 2025 Volunteering Expo where we had over 560 people through the door, we can't wait to showcase and share these inspiring and passionate organisations with you!

This year we will be hosting the 'Teddy Bear Community Project' an initiative that allows guests to experience first hand volunteering on Expo day. Local Coonara Community House Knitters have been busy all year making mini beanies, scarves, skirts and more! Our guests' job is to dress a bear and give it a creative name! All bears will be donated to local not-for-profit organisations and distributed to vulnerable children throughout the year, giving each child a little happiness and joy!

We will be welcoming Knox Mayor Paige Kennett to open the event, Eastern FM Radio will be live, Dekate Videos are filming, Knox Community Chess Enthusiasts Club and the Mahjong Connections club will be sharing games, raffle prizes and we will be providing tea / coffee and biscuits all afternoon.

One stop shop for all of your Volunteering questions! Volunteering has never looked so good!

Volunteers are happier, healthier and sleep better than those who don't volunteer. Just a few hours of volunteer work can make a difference to your happiness and mood!

Doctors are now even prescribing volunteering to some patients to combat mental health problems, reduce loneliness and give them a purpose.

Find a volunteering opportunity that's right for you at the Volunteer for Knox 2026 Volunteer Expo Friday May 15th from 1.00pm – 5.00pm at Knox Council Civic Centre, 511 Burwood Hwy, Wantirna South.

Volunteers contributed more than 91,000 hours to the City of Knox over the past year with the value of their volunteering worth more than $3.1 million.

Knox's volunteer resource centre, Volunteer for Knox (V4K), helps prospective volunteers find opportunities and local community groups to recruit volunteers.

Mandy Limb, Coordinator of Volunteer for Knox said "over the past year more than 1500 people have expressed interest in volunteering positions."

"We have referred more than 420 Knox volunteers to some of our 190 registered organisations last year," she said.

"64% of our volunteers are aged under 35, many of our volunteers have degrees, they were born in 58 unique countries."

Popular areas of volunteering include the environment, community services, disability services and education.

"28% are students. This has remained consistent over the last few years with volunteering being recognised as a pathway to employment."

For more information please contact Mandy Limb or Adriana Ferrarin on 0429968822.

Alternatively, head to the Volunteer for Knox website: www.volunteerforknox.com.au

Radio Eastern FM 98.1 Volunteering opportunities

Radio Eastern FM was formed in 1974. The station transmitted test broadcasts until a licence was granted in late 1990. Full-time broadcasts began on 23 February, 1991.

The studios are located at the Wyreena Community Arts Centre. They have three full-time on-air studios, a separate production studio and mobile communication equipment used for interviews at community events. The station has a library of music but mostly presenters bring in music from their own collections to share with the listeners. This gives enormous variety to the music and program formats each week.

Volunteers share the workload and are extremely important at Radio Eastern, particularly those with specialist skills. We welcome people from all walks of life, who can spare as little as a few hours a week to contribute to the running of Radio Eastern.

Most roles are for weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Perhaps one of these roles could be of interest:

Board or Management

Office/administration work

Reception, greeting guests, answering phones

Facebook co-ordinator

Website editor

Technical support and engineers – radio broadcasting, software, hardware

Production of sound stings, promos and sponsor messages

Community engagement

Marketing and promotions

On air presenters

Local news reporters

Sponsor liaison

Newsletter editor

Grant applications

Data recording

Archiving

Definitely stop by and speak to the broadcasting team and ask how you can get involved!

https://www.radioeasternfm.com.au/

Unique opportunity to gain new skills!

The Boronia Mall light sculpture.

Danny Nolan

You may have seen pictures of the Boronia Mall in its opening days; these photos featured almost exclusively a large eye-catching sculpture hanging from the ceiling above the stage in the foyer of the centre.

The sculpture doubled as a chandelier of sorts. It dropped a full six metres from the roof with three concentric rings at its peak, the widest having a three metre diameter. Suspended from these rings hung 9,000 125 mm. mauve, amber & pink plastic discs. The sculpture was not a light fixture but a means to diffuse the banks of twenty mercury vapour lights, which gave the centre its bright, airy atmosphere.

You can still see the area and the rails and fixtures from which it once hung.

The idea of the installation was conceived and designed by the centre architects Buchan, Laird & Buchan, while the builders T.H. Lustig and Mercator Lighting designed, constructed, and installed the piece. Mercator, back then, was an emerging entity specialising in budget light fittings like oyster lights and baton fixes, usually made of Perspex and pressed aluminium, that were in huge demand during the popularity of the building of apartments and flats in the 1960's & 70's.

The Managing Director of Mercator, Syd Kleerkoper, boasted it was the first and largest light sculpture of its kind in Australia. And who was to argue? It was an impressive piece that was a stylish drawcard for the centre.

Now things get a bit murky. In 1986, the centre went through a major refurbishment. Staircases were removed from the car park and the Chandler Road ends. The carpark entrance stairs were replaced with a single escalator, while the Chandler Road end stairs were removed, including the rockery underneath to create more floor space. The walkway leading to Kmart at the same end also had the bottom half of the tile work covered with plaster and railing (perhaps even removed, no one is sure)

But somewhere in these upgrades, the light structure "disappeared."

While no one I've talked to has a collaborative story to confirm the truth, the most accepted story is that a tip truck backed into the Mall one morning, and the whole sculpture was dropped, complete with all parts still connected into the truck's tray and driven away. The reason?

Once again, the most commonly accepted reason seems to be to escape from garish 1970's chic. Which, when looking at the old photos, it had in spades. The design and look of the installation had a very dated appearance, and being the mid-1980's, the times and fashions were changing fast. It also meant events that were held in the staging area could be seen unobstructed from the upper levels. Opening up the viewing area, thus capacity for special occasions.

Pictures are rare from anytime before or after the refurbishments, though there are plenty after the Mall was sold in 1988, showcasing the crowds watching events on the then-rotating stage.

Whether the sculpture would have stood the test of time is debatable. The colourful discs were Perspex and were subject to becoming brittle with age; they were also notorious for collecting dust. The maintenance would become a problem over time. It's ironic these days that the sculpture may have been removed to stop the centre from becoming dated, and it never seems to be a part of the Mall that people bring up when reminiscing about their past visits there. It is a shame that some of the coloured discs weren't saved for old times' sake, but progress is progress to some.

We also must remember it has been gone for nearly forty years. I look at old pictures from the centre from the 1970s and don't so much wonder if it would still be an iconic part of the Mall; I want to know if it made chiming or rustling sounds when a breeze or object hit it.

Right: Fixtures are all that remain of the chandelier today.

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

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Local Community and Club News

KNOX & DISTRICT OVER 50S INC.

At Knox & District Over50s we are a very friendly and sociable group who normally meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month from January to November.

Our next General Meeting will be held at 10.30 am on Tuesday the 24th of March, 2026, 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.

For our 2026 annual trip, we are planning a visit to Griffith in the Riverina for their annual Springfest during October.

During this month we will be visiting the Blue Lotus Gardens at Yarra Junction. A favourite of ours which we have visited in the past.

Our tour of the Coombes Estate in Coldstream during February was a resounding success. A former home of the fabulous Dame Nellie Melba, we were treated to a look at some of her memorabilia as well as a tour of the amazing gardens.

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.

The Orchard Church of Christ

love · connect · grow

The Orchard Church of Christ is a thriving church community with a clear vision for worship, discipleship, and growth into the future. This vision includes a strong gospel-centred, outreach-orientated mission, which has been the catalyst for growth, salvation, discipleship and baptisms. We believe that multi-generational congregations can better serve many people's worship and faith development needs.

Regular Services: (Bayswater campus - 643 Mountain Hwy., Bayswater)

Sunday 9.45am, Traditional service

Sunday 10:30am, Relaxed and informal service

Easter Services (Bayswater campus - 643 Mountain Hwy., Bayswater)

Good Friday, 3rd April – 9:30am

Easter Saturday, 4th April – Easter Egg Hunt – 2pm at Marie Wallace Bayswater Park (Train Park)

Easter Sunday, 5th April – 10:30am Combined Service

Coffee Pot Play Cafe (Bayswater campus - 643 Mountain Hwy., Bayswater)

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays: 9:30am – 1pm.

Contact: connect@orchardchurch.org.au

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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For further information write to
Yarra Valley Christadelphians
PO Box 516 YARRA GLEN 3775
Email: yvc.vic@gmail.com

Local Community and Club News

Knox Uniting Church
BORONIA ROAD

OUR KNOX UNITING CHURCH minister is REV RUSSELL CROXFORD and he preaches on the first Sunday of each month at our church, 209 Boronia Road; other Sundays our worship is led by either Rev Dr Ian Hickinbotham, Rev Neil Peters or Bruce Guy.

Come along and join us on any Sunday morning at 10am – we have a fairly traditional style of service with lots of singing, a children's segment.... and fellowship over tea/coffee afterwards.

A MUSIC GROUP FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS AND THEIR CARERS is held each Friday from 9.30am during school terms. The 45minute session is led by a trained Music Therapist followed by a BYO morning tea - when the carers have 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.

EMERGENCY FOOD RELIEF each Tuesday and Friday morning from 10am till 12 noon when non-perishable foods are given to those who need help at this time. No questions asked.

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

OUR CRAFT GROUP MEETS EACH FRIDAY... from 11.30am 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.

MAKERS AND GROWERS MARKET is on Saturday, 2nd May from 10am – 2pm. Enquiries or to book a stall - contact 0421 769 067 or irenesmith2@bigpond.com

For more information about us check out our Facebook page and Website or phone the church office on 0481 397 007 www.facebook.com/BoroniaRdUnitingChurch

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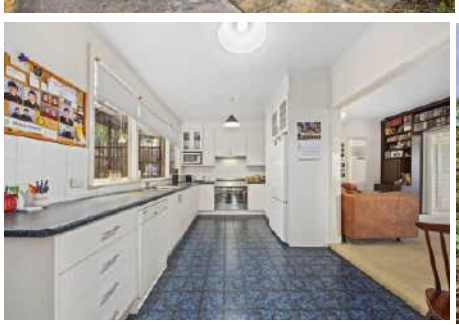
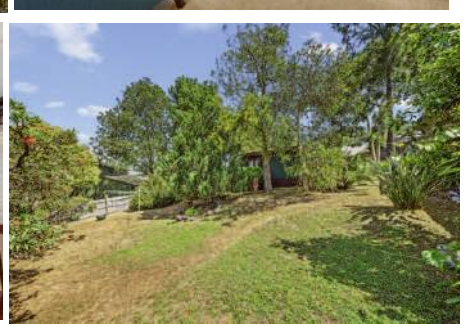
Low Maintenance Living in a Prime Location

Experience the perfect blend of functionality, comfort, and modern design in this contemporary residence that is sure to captivate even the most discerning tenant. Boasting luxurious features such as stainless steel appliances and sleek stone benchtops, the gourmet kitchen seamlessly integrates with a bright open-plan living area, designed for effortless entertaining. Step into the generous ground-level courtyard, an ideal space for hosting gatherings with family and friends.
The two well-appointed bedrooms both feature ample robes and are complemented by a stylish bathroom adorned with full-height tiling and high-quality tapware. This residence is equipped with split-system heating and cooling, secure parking, video intercom entry, and an 8-person lift, making it an outstanding investment opportunity, a comfortable permanent home, or an attractive down-sizing option.





11 Central Avenue, Mooroolbark $950,000 to $1,040,000

Spacious Family Home with Development Potential

Ideally suited for an astute first home buyer or growing family and also suitable for a developer seeking a second to none location (STCA), this large home just a short walk from Mooroolbark central and all the associated amenities, including train and bus station, comprises 3 bedrooms with ensuite to master, 3 living zones and the bonus of a bathroom equipped Studio in the rear yard. The house has evaporative cooling and a covered rear entertaining area equipped with a spa. Adding to the appeal there is a garage as well as carport and under house storage. All Set On a park like low maintenance 1231 sqm block.