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Full story page 5

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Editorial: Danny Nolan Past Memories

I'm often on Facebook. The pages I follow are populated and used mainly by members of the Boomer & X Generations. It has become a great place to think back or talk about happy and pleasant times from the past, arrange catch-ups with those long forgotten, as well as a fantastic resource for local history and stories.

Being a member of one of these generations and an active member of the audience, I've noticed a strong theme on many of these pages when it comes to the comments. Where a photo, image, or story has been posted, there is always the inevitable **"It was so much better back then"** or **"I wish it was like that now"**.

I'm not one of those commentators. I'll think something was maybe innovative at the time, or something special to me back then, but very rarely is anything I see better or makes me want to be transported back to my younger years and relive them. Geoffrey Blainey, the noted historian, has a great phrase that sums up how I feel. "Memories that are improved with amnesia".

I see a lot of that on Facebook.

Of course, I keep my opinions to myself, but I'll often let it slip in some of my posts that the best time to be alive is right now. I firmly believe this. I live in a world, unlike my parents and grandparents, free of World War. A world with amazing medical and technological advancements that make me live longer and be able to scroll through countless pages of memories that people many miles away together can collate, recall, reflect and reminisce about. We all must remember the past. We just don't have to relive our past as we once did. These days, there is so much to improve it with.

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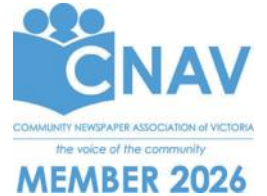
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This community newspaper is run totally by volunteers. We aim to provide the people of Boronia and The Basin with an effective medium of communication, information and expression and to promote community identity, cooperation and pride. We welcome 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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insert brain here



by woodsy

Page 3 "Bird"

Des Palmer

Egrets and how to identify them

I keep telling everyone, this birdwatching caper is all about learn, learn, learn and then, learn some more. And the more you know, the more you realise how much you don't know. Pandora's box, sky's the limit, you get the picture. This month I thought we would look at Egrets, and how to tell the three main species apart.

First point to raise is the problem all birdwatchers face, judging the size of a bird from a distance. There are three species of Egret which look similar, Great Egret (*Ardea alba*, related to Jessica), Plumed Egret (*Ardea plumifera*) and the Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*). You thought you were going to miss out on the scientific names, didn't you? You're not getting off the hook that easy.

Line these three up in a row and blind Freddy could pick 'em apart. Sort them out from a long way off and you can have difficulty. So, let's try and unravel the conundrum. And I'll be honest, it's only since going to the Western treatment Plant so much in the last 18 months I've finally, nearly, put this to bed. All three differ in bill and leg colour and have plumes in breeding plumage which throws complexity into the ring.

Great Egret. Normally much larger than the Plumed Egret, and much larger than the Little Egret. A great birdwatcher I met many years ago, Steve Davidson, told me 'the Great Egret will always have a kink in his neck' and this will suffice, most of the time! Non breeding birds have a yellow bill which turns black when breeding, legs remain black. Gape below the eye extends just past the eye. Plumed Egret gape does not extend beyond the eye. In breeding, plumage does not have plumes on the breast. Feeds in water with slow, graceful movements then spears prey with sharp pointed bill.

Plumed Egret. In breeding plumage has exquisite plumes, especially on the breast (diagnostic). Non-breeding bill colour is normally yellow (sometimes reddish). Breeding

colour bill turns red with green around the eye. Feeds in water but often in wet grass and vegetation.

Little Egret. Much smaller bird with bill and legs always black. Has distinctive hunting style, pauses, stirs mud up then runs at fleeing prey quickly. I have found this to be the easiest method to nail it, even from a long way off. Has yellow soles on its feet which it flashes to disturb its quarry. You would be surprised, if you look closely you can sometimes see the yellow on the soles of its feet, this too is diagnostic.

Hope this hasn't done your head in, I reckon it's done mine in just writing it! Phew, cup of tea and a lie down I think! Recommend you push through the pain barrier with this, just keep practicing and you'll get there. It ain't easy but. (Bad English I know, at this stage I don't care).



Image Credit:

Great Egret. Alf Forbes

The HN15 bird flu has now reached the shores of the antipodes (that's us!) and whilst I may live to rue this statement, I don't think it will be as bad as everyone thinks. Let's all hope so! Melbourne

Water has closed the Western Treatment Plant in response to the bird flu, where I do most of my tours, but so far, all my clients have taken other tours as a substitute. Wish me luck in the future!

Free birdwatching tour: I recently ran a free birdwatching for beginners at Wicks reserve in The Basin, which was a roaring success. To that end I will be running another one on Saturday, September 12. Meet at Wicks at 9.00 -11 am. Bring your binoculars if you have any, I will have a couple of spare pairs to lend out. Young children must be accompanied by someone more responsible than me. That reminds me of Groucho Marx, "I wouldn't like to be a member of a club who would allow someone like me to be a member."

Email: birdtoursbydes@gmail.com

Website: AustralianBirdTours.com.au

Image Credit: Little Egret. Rae Nunan



CAN YOU HELP PLEASE?

Since the August edition of BBCN, we have had 3 long-term walkers 'retire' due to ill health – which means WE NEED HELP!

We are currently looking for 2 permanent volunteer 'walkers' to deliver papers in the areas bordered by:

a) Devenish / Duncan / Browning (Boronia) 250 papers

b) Waratah Ave / Carnarvon (The Basin) 175 papers

WE ALSO NEED HELP TO COVER HOLIDAYS / ILLNESSES! As we are all volunteers, we are ALLOWED to sometimes go on holiday; we occasionally fall ill or, for some other reason, cannot deliver the papers in a particular month - it would be great to have a few 'emergency walkers' we could call on occasionally.

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

You may not always get a copy of the BBCN in your mailbox for some reason or other.... BUT did you know that there are copies of the paper in the local Library, IGA stores, Farmer Joes, The Mall and at Millers Homestead?

If your paper doesn't land in your mailbox – you don't have to miss out!

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

**"Volunteers
don't get paid,**

**not because
they're
worthless,**

**but because
they're
priceless."** Sherry Anderson



Thank you to our long-term walkers.

We would like to say a big thank you to some of our long-term walkers who have recently retired. Christine Chalmers, as well as Sam and Sari Cuce.

Christine Chalmers said, "It has been a privilege to deliver the BBCN for more than 30 years. I have genuinely enjoyed contributing to the paper and being able to provide this service to the community. Thank you for the opportunity to have been involved with the BBCN for so many years. I wish you every success for the future and hope the paper continues to serve the community for many years to come."

Sam Cuce said, "During the past decades, my wife and I have enjoyed the many walks around the blocks delivering the newspaper. Unfortunately, age and health have caught up with us, and we need to make the decision to stop delivering the newspaper. We wish you all well and trust that you can fill the void that we have created" When we asked Sam how many decades it had been, he replied "It's been a long time, Sari and I have had a discussion and our best guess is at least 25 years and possibly more, it has been integrated into our life and we stopped counting a long time ago."

We wish them all well.

Recycling bin lids are changing

Keep putting your recycling bin out every fortnight on your usual recycling day until you get your new lid.



Make a difference for our senior residents

Help inform Council services for residents aged 55+ by joining the Knox Active Ageing Advisory Committee. Expressions of interest close 30 October.

Find out more: knox.vic.gov.au/aaac



Free community training

Register for upcoming workshops to build new skills, strengthen your organisation or club, and connect with others.

Register now:

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Help make Knox more age-friendly

Have your say in Council's Age-Friendly City Survey for residents aged 55+ and carers. Survey open from 1 September – 18 October.

Take the survey:

knox.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay

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COVER STORY: ANDA Money Expo in Boronia Mall*Danny Nolan*

Sunday 23rd August saw a major event, and crowds returned to Boronia Mall for the holding of the Australian Numismatic Dealers Association (ANDA) Money Expo 2026. The Mall has staged some popular events since COVID, such as the 50th Anniversary, the Aussie Vet's Biggest Morning Tea, that featured the Alice in Wonderland theme, and the annual Christmas markets. But this was on a whole new scale.

The show has been organized by local trader Matt Thompson of Thompson Coins, and though he has been running ANDA shows across Australia since 2019, this was his first opportunity to present his own shop as an exhibitor.

The empty, wide-open spaces of the unused Mall where Thompson Coins has its premises were a no-brainer for Matt when it came to finding a comfortable, easy-to-secure venue with good parking.

Important things to take into consideration, as there was over one million dollars in bullion, coins & precious metals on display. The Expo



also featured the prestigious Australian Mint, which flew in from Canberra for the day, especially for this event.

Also in attendance to open the Expo was the ANDA President Andrew Crellin, who flew in from WA, and both local serving councillors Peter Lockwood and the popular Mayor Paige Kennett.

I talked to Todd, who helps organize the Australian Mints program, and he said he was expecting a good day, and he wasn't wrong as long lines continued to form just to view the latest offering from the country's literal money-making department.

The crowd had built up around 9.30 for a 10 AM opening, and by 11 AM the line was still snaking around the corner. By this time the whole bottom floor of the Mall was crowded with the curious and the expectant. I caught up with Matt, who was busy making sure everything was running smoothly, and mentioned it was hard to get from one end to the other; it was even harder to get into his own shop, as it was so busy with customers. He was glad he had great staff to take it on.

The Expo proved a huge success and highlighted the Mall as an event venue.

The Expo had a wide range of vendors for every taste; you could check out

some rare metals and bullion and all types of collectables ranging from current popular coins such as Bluey and other franchises like Harry Potter, Star Wars & Stranger Things to the more unique rare older coins for the serious investor. There were tables that showed the design process of banknotes and currency from all parts of the globe. Rare coins and antiquities that spanned millennia, as well as all the accessories needed to display your

valued collection. Mall regular security guard Andrew was impressed with the well-behaved crowd. Other locals said they haven't seen the Mall this packed since the time Jason & Kylie from Neighbours came; others said: not since Humphrey B Bear.

Congratulations to Matt and the ANDA team for bringing an interesting, exciting, and well-produced showcase of their industry, and here's hoping it's the start of more to come in the future.



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What's on around Boronia and The Basin this month?**Local Theatres**

CPP Theatre: Shrek The Musical!

Rowville Performing Arts Centre,
Rowville Secondary College
25 September - 3rd October

The Basin Theatre: You're Only
Young Twice by Ron Aldridge

Doongalla Road,
The Basin
1st-11 October

Biodiversity Month

**Join a Friends
working bee**

**Boronia Friends
of Old Joes Creek**

Meet at the corner of Army Road
and Market Street, Boronia

9 am - 11 am, Sunday 6th, and
Thursday 17th September

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Maker's Day

Saturday, September 5, 10:30 am to
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Meet Your New Local Physiotherapist Bambus Physiotherapy

Bambus Physiotherapy is proud to be one of Boronia's newest allied health clinics, conveniently located within the Melbourne Eastern Healthcare complex on Scoresby Road.

For founder and physiotherapist Stefan Cecavac, opening a clinic in Boronia is about much more than starting a business. After spending most of his life living closer to the city, Stefan and his wife were searching for a tree change and a stronger sense of community. They found that here in Boronia.

"We wanted to be part of the community we live in," Stefan says. "Community is really important to me. Life can feel quite disconnected these days, not only from each other, but often from ourselves as well. I wanted to create a place where I could genuinely give back to the people around me."

Stefan's passion for health and movement began long before becoming a physiotherapist. Growing up, he played sport from an early age, and in his mid-twenties became fascinated by human movement, spending years learning and teaching bodyweight strength, handstands and mobility, while also exploring

meditation and the importance of mental wellbeing.

"That journey changed how I viewed health. It stopped being about how the body looks and became about what it's capable of. We all deserve to have a body that allows us to enjoy life, stay active and remain independent as we get older."

Physiotherapy became a natural path, allowing Stefan to better understand the body, help people recover from injury, reduce pain and build long-term resilience.

Today, Bambus Physiotherapy provides personalised care for lower back pain, neck pain and headaches, sporting injuries, and post-operative rehabilitation. Treatment is tailored to each individual, combining hands-on therapy, exercise prescription, education and dry needling where appropriate, with the goal of helping people move better, recover well and stay active for the long term.

Stefan looks forward to building lasting relationships within the Boronia and Knox community, helping local people move better, feel stronger and continue doing the things they love.

2025 BBCN Yearbook

Danny Nolan

Boronia Library Team Leader Sherelle Furneaux was on hand to receive the 2025 BBCN yearbook. This was the first after last year's "Covid catch-up" when this paper presented five years' worth of back issues for the library's archives. YourLibrary Boronia is now the only place in the world where you can access every copy ever printed of your local newspaper, including the five "Online Only" pandemic issues from 2020. We cannot thank Sharelle & the team at YourLibrary Boronia enough for being, not just a great resource but also, a great supporter of the BBCN.



**Your
Library
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Yearbook
for the
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Pet's Piece

Dr Gianne Ficatas, Veterinarian Boronia Vet Clinic

Hershey and His Sore Eye

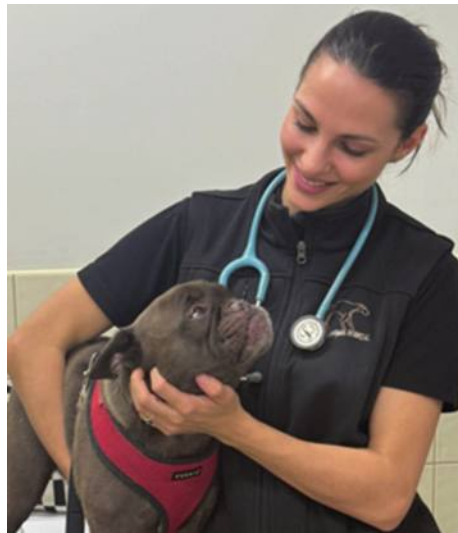
It almost marks two years since I started writing a monthly article for this newsletter, and almost six years since I first started working at Boronia Veterinary Clinic and Hospital.

That means I have written almost 24 articles for this newsletter, and one of my favourite parts of doing so has always been seeing clients in the clinic and being greeted with a smile when they tell me they have read one of my stories. It has been such a wonderful way to connect with the Boronia and The Basin community outside of the consult room.

I wanted to introduce you to Hershey. Hershey is an eight-year-old French Bulldog who recently presented to me because he had a very sore eye.

There are a few tell-tale signs that can indicate an eye is painful. Hershey was very sensitive to light, known as photophobia, was holding his eye tightly shut and was producing excessive tears. These signs told us that something was definitely bothering him, so we performed a thorough examination of his eye.

The first things we assessed were his vision and the function of some of the nerves supplying the eye. We shone a light into his eye to check his pupillary light reflex, or PLR, which causes the pupil to constrict in response to light. We also performed a menace response, where a hand is moved quickly towards the eye to see whether the patient blinks appropriately. Thankfully, Hershey had normal responses to both tests.



We then placed a local anaesthetic into his eye so that we could examine it more comfortably. We carefully checked underneath his third eyelid for any foreign material. The third eyelid is an additional protective eyelid that dogs have, and things such as grass seeds or other pieces of debris can

sometimes become trapped underneath it.

Next, we measured the pressure inside Hershey's eye using a tonometer. This is a small instrument that gently measures the pressure within the eye. Normal intraocular pressure in dogs is generally around 12–25 mmHg, and Hershey's was 15 mmHg. This was reassuring and made glaucoma, which can be a very painful eye condition, unlikely.

Finally, we performed a fluorescein stain. This is a bright yellow-green dye that is placed onto the surface of the eye. If there is a defect or ulcer in the cornea, the clear outer surface of the eye, the dye will stick to the damaged area and make it visible.

Unfortunately, Hershey's eye took up the stain right in the centre of his cornea, confirming that he had a corneal ulcer.

A corneal ulcer means that there has been damage to the surface of the eye. There are many possible causes, including trauma from playing with another dog, a foreign object such as a grass seed, or a condition called dry eye, where insufficient tear production can leave the surface of the eye vulnerable to damage.

In cats, corneal ulcers can also be associated with viral infections such as feline herpesvirus, which is one of the viruses involved in cat flu.

In Hershey's case, we knew that he had been playing with another dog at the park shortly before he started rubbing his eye, making trauma a likely culprit.

Once his ulcer has healed, we can also perform another simple test called a Schirmer tear test. This involves placing a small strip of paper inside the lower eyelid for 60 seconds to measure how much tear fluid the eye produces. Healthy dogs generally produce around 15–25 mm of tears per minute. We generally avoid relying on this measurement while an eye is acutely inflamed, as inflammation and pain can affect the result.

For now, Hershey has been receiving topical

antibiotic medication and pain relief, and he needs to wear a cone if he is rubbing at his eye to prevent him from causing further damage.

Thankfully, he has been slowly improving each day.

Most uncomplicated corneal ulcers heal with appropriate treatment, but sometimes they can be stubborn or become deeper. If Hershey's ulcer doesn't heal as expected, we may need to perform a procedure to temporarily close his eyelids together, giving the cornea the best possible environment to heal. In more complicated cases, referral to a veterinary ophthalmologist may be required for specialised treatment or surgery.

We were incredibly lucky that Hershey was so well behaved throughout all of his testing. As you can imagine, examining a painful eye can be quite intimidating for a dog, and some of the tests require us to work very closely around an already uncomfortable area.

Hershey was an absolute star. He was patient, trusting and incredibly brave throughout the entire process.

We wish this beautiful boy all the very best with his recovery. He truly is a gold-star patient.

A final note from me

Today sadly marks my final article as a veterinarian at Boronia Veterinary Clinic and Hospital.

After almost six years at the clinic and almost two years of writing these monthly articles, this is a bittersweet moment for me. Leaving has been a very difficult decision because I have genuinely loved my time here and have been incredibly lucky to meet so many wonderful pets and their families along the way.

I have decided to pursue another opportunity that I am very excited about. I will still be working as a clinical veterinarian, so that part of my life isn't changing, but my time at Boronia Vet and in this part of Melbourne has now come to an end.

I want to say a very heartfelt thank you to the Boronia and The Basin community for welcoming me, supporting me and taking the time to read my stories each month.

Thank you to everyone who has followed along, shared my articles, followed me on social media, listened to me on 3AW, or simply stopped me in the clinic to tell me that you enjoyed reading one of my articles. Those little moments have meant more to me than you probably realise.

It has been such a privilege to care for your beloved pets in this area, and an even greater privilege to share some of their stories with you. I hope you have each learnt something special.

Thank you for almost six wonderful years.

Gianne

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Why Do I Keep Getting Cavities, Even Though I Brush My Teeth?

Boronia Dental Team

It can be frustrating to hear that you have another cavity when you brush your teeth every day. While brushing is one of the most important ways to protect your teeth, unfortunately, it doesn't always guarantee a cavity-free smile.

Cavities develop when bacteria in the mouth feed on sugars and carbohydrates from the foods and drinks we consume. These bacteria produce acids that attack the enamel, gradually weakening the tooth and eventually creating a cavity.

One of the biggest factors is how often your teeth are exposed to sugar and acid. Frequently sipping soft drinks, energy drinks, juice or sweetened coffee throughout the day can repeatedly expose your teeth to acid attacks. Even small amounts consumed regularly can increase your risk.

Brushing technique also matters. Brushing twice a day is recommended, but areas between the

teeth can't be properly cleaned with a toothbrush alone. Floss or interdental brushes help remove plaque and food from these difficult-to-reach spaces.

Some people are naturally more susceptible to decay due to the shape and position of their teeth, while dry mouth can also significantly increase cavity risk. Saliva helps neutralise acids and wash away food particles, so reduced saliva can leave teeth more vulnerable.

Regular dental examinations are important because early decay often causes no pain or obvious symptoms. Detecting problems early may allow for simpler treatment and can help prevent a small cavity from becoming a much bigger problem.

So, if you're brushing every day but still getting cavities, don't assume brushing isn't working. A few small changes to your routine, diet and preventive care can make a big difference to your long-term dental health.



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Applying for Australian Government My Age Care Support At Home Services

The Support at Home program is a new version of the Home Care Packages program. It offers a greater variety of choices to people living at home. The program offers people over 65, and living at home, or in retirement villages, support and services aimed at supporting wellbeing and health, to keep people at home safer, fitter and for longer.

The Support at Home program offers eight tiers of funding for the delivery of support and services across a range of activities and needs.

These include (but not limited to):

- Cleaning, vacuuming, ironing,
- Gardening, transport,
- Meal delivery,
- Nursing care, and
- Allied health treatments.

Martin Luther Homes has been delivering retirement living and residential aged care services to residents of The Basin and Boronia areas since 1969. Located at 67 Mount View Rd, The Basin, Martin Luther Homes is a not-for-profit organisation with historical connections within the Lutheran and German communities. In late 2025, the team at Martin Luther Homes recognised a gap in its suite of services, and with the introduction of the new "Support at Home" program on 1 November, 2025, the team commenced the delivery of services at home in January this year.



To be eligible to access Support at Home funding, you will need to be over 65, hold a current Medicare card and undertake an aged care assessment with an assessor. Your financial status will not affect your eligibility although it may influence the amount the government will require you to contribute to the cost of services. All clinical services are exempt from client contributions.

The first step is to request an assessment. This can be done online at Make a referral/My Aged Care (<https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/make-a-referral>) or by calling 1800 200 422. This is

where you will need your Medicare card.

Referrals can be made by yourself, a family member or a health professional.

Once the referral has been completed, a wait time of about 6 weeks will apply and then you will participate in a home-based assessment with an accredited assessor. After the assessment has been completed, you will be notified of the outcome, the funding you will receive and a referral code. The referral code is a twelve-digit number beginning with a '2' which you will need to give to your chosen service provider prior to the commencement of service. The wait time for allocation of funding can take several months so get in early!



Strummers Story by Rob Fairbairn

I haven't stood before a class for nearly twenty years, so I am unaware of what would be acceptable content for today's children. But I am pretty sure that in 2026 songs about prostitutes and drug fiends, the rear ends of elephants and the bum-sniffing habits of canines wouldn't make it past the censors. Well, once they did, almost.

In 1979, fresh out of a year's retraining at teachers' college I returned to the classroom, a qualified music teacher full of confidence, enthusiasm and with a clear view of the future. In 1972, nothing could have been further from the truth. I was struggling in a position for which I was unsuited and ill-prepared; too mired in the present to give even the slightest thought to the future.

When Tom Carse, the district inspector, came to watch me in action at my first school, we sent the kids out to play so we could eat our lunches and talk. Tom was short and stocky, with the physique of a ruck rover. He spoke softly but with obvious authority. "Of course you want to

be a principal one day?" he asked rhetorically as his strong hands twisted his apple into two perfect halves. It was a question to which I had no answer. Being the headmaster of a one-teacher school was a huge responsibility for a shy young man, barely twenty-one and living alone. As an antidote to my incompetence and isolation, I found activities to fill my weekends and holidays; travelling far and often to play sport, see a band or be with family. But these distractions inevitably ended with a return to the empty farmhouse on the Yarragon Road with my guitar, my songbooks and tape collection. While it felt like my teaching career was going nowhere, at least my guitar playing was improving. Two years later I became the accidental headmaster at a two-teacher school.

The drive from Hallston to Ellinbank via the Grand Ridge Road is only 25 kilometers, but once you emerge from beneath the brooding gums of the Mount Worth State Forest you are among the rolling hills on the sunnier side of the Strzelecki's. And with a new position, new living arrangements, closer to home and civilisation,



in 1973 life too became much brighter. After the debacle of my previous year at Hallston, at Ellinbank I felt unburdened and liberated. With no cleaning to do, no books to balance and no school council meetings to attend, I began to think that perhaps I could make a go of this teaching caper. Being an assistant with responsibility for only a small class of infants not only made my job easier, but having another teacher for company made it less lonely.

'73 began memorably with me attending the second Sunbury Music Festival, and throughout the year I continued my pilgrimages down the highway to Melbourne to see the shows of artists whose LPs I treasured: Yes, Frank Zappa and José Feliciano, and local bands, Carson and Captain Matchbox. My stereo reel-to-reel tape deck got plenty of use as I recorded the songs I was trying to write, and on sunny weekends, if I didn't go home to Mooroolbark, I would set it up on the verandah of the shack and stroll around the paddocks with the sweet sounds of Neil Young and James Taylor wafting down the gentle slope towards Hazeldean Road. I was still single, but I had my guitar, two housemates to share a laugh with and I was getting to know some of the other young teachers in the district. But there were big changes on the way.

To be continued...

Stories Behind the Stories

Everard Himmelreich

Meryll Williams likes reading books but likes matching books to people even more.

She has run the Rainy Day Books bookshop at The Basin for more than 20 years and often keeps books under the counter that she knows regular customers will like. She jokes that "if customers do not like a book she has recommended, they can bring it back and throw it at me."

The bookshop on Mountain Highway stocks more than 17,000 second-hand books and she says she has "a little bit of everything." The books range from non-fiction to vintage to poetry.

Meryll knows her stock well and says people come to the shop because of the good personal service. Her knowledge of books and book collecting has meant she is often consulted by radio station 3AW about book matters. She gets many of her books from deceased estates and is often asked to provide valuations on prized books that customers bring in.

Her life-long love of reading began even before she started school. That interest grew further during her career as a school library technician at Billanook College at Mooroolbark where she delighted in getting slow readers interested in books.

She reads every day and during the occasional breaks in serving customers can be seen on a sunny day out the front of her shop with a book



in hand. "I always have the next book waiting," Meryll said. She likes to read new authors with Australian crime writers as one of her current interests. She says customers keep her busy most of the time and is not worried that online books will reduce her trade. "My customers like the physical form of books," she said. "About one third of my customers are locals, one third are tourists going up the Mountain Highway and one third are people who have come a long way."

Meryll grew up in Kilsyth and has lived in The Basin for 35 years. She has a good knowledge of local history and is a strong advocate for keeping the semi-rural character of The Basin.

Meryll has been a member of a few Knox City Council committees that have sought feedback from the community about proposed developments.

Her bookshop has been the venue for many robust discussions with customers about proposed changes to the area.

She said she loved being part of a caring local community and displays the work of local artists in the shop as part of her promotion of the area.

The Basin Primary School

MARVELLOUS MACHINES SCHOOL FETE

WE WANT YOU!

We're looking for a range of vendors, community groups, stall holders and of course Marvellous Machines to create a great experience for our visitors and we'd love for you to be part of our event.

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Host an activity, game, or interactive experience for attendees.

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Help feed hungry visitors, we're seeking a variety of food and beverage vendors.

MARKET STALL HOLDERS

Showcasing local businesses, makers, artisans & community stallholders.

MARVELLOUS MACHINES

Show off your unique, interesting and impressive car, bike, boat or truck.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

SUNDAY 22ND NOVEMBER

10AM - 3PM

MOUNTAIN HWY, THE BASIN VICTORIA

A fun filled day bringing families and the wider community together.

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Fill in our expression of interest form [here](#)

Contact us at marvellousmachinesfete@gmail.com

KIDS
ZONESubmit YWI
entries here:Free Entry
\$50 Prize

BBCN Young Writers Initiative

This month we have one Young Writers Initiative Award contribution from Boronia Heights Primary School and one from The Basin Primary School.

Enjoy!

Spring

by Hazel Year 5, (Boronia resident)

Goodbye winter, hello spring

Thank you for the smile you bring.

I'll never forget winter's cold nights,

Sledding down hills and snowball fights.

Starting the morning with a warming bath,

Then drying all day in front of the hearth.

No more staying inside and playing cards

It's time to get out and play in our yards.

The sun returns with a large warm smile

First time to put sunscreen on in a while.

It sizzles my skin to a golden tan

I'd better cool down the room with a fan.

As I watch the birds sing along with the breeze

While leaves swish and rustle and trees bend
their knees

Flowers bloom and unfurl, wondering why

They are creeping up to the immense blue sky.

The bugs return buzzing loud and proud

Bees hanging around like a swarming crowd.

Collecting pollen and going back home

Busy at work making honeycomb.

Colourful flowers dance just for fun

They party all day until they are done.

Goodbye winter, hello spring

Thank you for the smile you bring.



Sadie and Eleanor (Year One and Prep at The Basin Primary School) accepting their award for their enchanting story ***The Magical Forest*** published in June. We hope they enjoy investing their \$50 prize voucher.



William (Year Two at The Basin Primary School) accepting his award for his account of the Penguins at Melbourne Zoo.



Two students from class 2M
accepted the award.

All students from The Basin Primary School Class 2M submitted their stories about their excursion to the Melbourne Zoo. BBCN decided to present the whole class with a certificate.

BBCN YWI are pleased to see our young local writers flourishing and sharing their creative works.

Congratulations 2M!

The activity on the right is a great example of how to start a conversation. Questions help us think about what we are going to talk about and to get a range of options as input to a conversation. Conversation is an essential part of society because it allows people to share ideas, express feelings, and understand each other better. Meaningful conversations allow people to build relationships and trust with family, friends, colleagues, and members of their community. Open and inclusive conversations help prevent misunderstandings and conflicts by allowing individuals to explain their thoughts and listen to different perspectives. By talking with others, we gain new knowledge, hear different opinions, and become more open-minded. Discussions about social issues can encourage people to think critically and work together to solve problems.

Importantly, conversation can provide emotional support when others need to be heard. Sharing problems with someone who listens can reduce feelings of loneliness and help people feel valued and understood. In workplaces and schools, effective communication promotes cooperation, teamwork, and respect.

Writing is a form of conversation in which we are sharing our ideas with others and this is why BBCN is passionate about the YWI - it allows our youth to open share their thoughts. So go ahead... **Write and submit!**

KIDS
ZONE

Clothes swaps: A social occasion with economic and environmental benefits

Joy Shelley

Why not have your own baby clothes swap party?

Our youngest daughter has always been very keen on recycling, to the point where her family Kris Kringle list included \$100 worth of clothes from the Charity Shops. One year I asked her what she wanted for her birthday. She suggested a nice jumper and gave me some examples. When I showed her one that I had in mind she said "Yes, like that one, but it has to be from an Op shop."

Once or twice a year she would hold a clothes swap party where she invited a few friends to bring along some clothes that they no longer wear. It was a great way to get a change to your wardrobe whilst spending time with your friends. Not to mention at no cost.

When she became pregnant with her first child, I bought a few things for the baby as grandmothers do. "Mum" she said "I'm happy for you to buy things for the baby because I know you want to, but I have been given so much already." In other words, please don't buy too much!! She then showed me that she had



multiple jumpsuits in every size from 00000 to 1 along with a range of other baby clothes for all seasons.

Now with a 6 month old baby, she thought that for her next clothes swap she would ask her friends to bring any baby clothes that they no longer needed. Many of them have small children of varying ages up to five years old. Then she thought that she would invite all the women from the Maternal health 1st parents

group who could then benefit from larger sizes.

The thirteen mothers who attended brought an enormous amount of clothes. New parents often get given lots of clothes but babies don't always fit the size given in the right season. Hence the clothes were still in very good condition. Most of them happily took home a few clothes with some taking several bags worth. The rest of the clothes, of which there were many, were offered for free on a local market place group.

Charity shops and saver stores are a great way to save money on baby clothes but parents with small children have limited time and energy to go looking in these shops. Facebook Market place often have bags of clothes very cheaply or for free but you have to go and get them and what you get can be pot luck.

A clothes swap party with your friends and family can be a great way to get together and have fun and go home with some additions to you and your children's wardrobe.

Activity from Alicia Geddes

Would You Rather...

Ask a friend or family member to choose between these crazy options!

Have a spider on your head or in your bed?



Brush your teeth with chilli paste or curry paste?



Eat a pizza with no cheese, or a jam tart with no jam?



Eat chips out your dirty sock, or drink a milkshake out of your friend's hat?



Sleep with the world's brightest light on, or read in the dark?



Build a house out of lollies or a house out of chocolate?



School Holiday Activities

VR Beat Saber Sessions: "Slice the Beat" gaming at Bayswater Library on 21 September (Ages 8-16).

Picture Book Workshop: Join author Amani Uduman at Knox Library - Ngarrgoo on 22 September at 10:30 AM (Ages 5-8).

Mr Snotbottom Show: Stinky silly comedy show at Ferntree Gully Library on 22 September at 10:30 AM (Ages 4+).

Free Youth activities

Youth Hive at Knox Library Level 3 of Westfield Knox (above Rebel Sport)

email youth@knox.vic.gov.au or call 9298 8000.

Anime Drawing workshop Ages 10 - 16

Tuesday, September 22, 2026 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Climate conversations Ages 12-18

Tuesday, September 29, 2026 02:00 PM - 04:00 PM

Mahjong Mania All Ages

Wednesday, September 30, 2026 02:00 PM - 04:00 PM

Dungeons and Dragons One-shot

Ages 12- 25

Thursday, September 24, 2026 12:30 PM - 04:30 PM

Boronia Library 7 Park Cres, Boronia

Young sporting Leaders

Ages 14 - 18.

Thursday, September 24, 2026 11:00 AM - 03:00 PM

Knox Regional Netball Centre, 9 Dempster St, Ferntree Gully

KIDS
ZONE

KIDS
ZONE

Boronia K-12 College Celebrating 100 Days of School

What an exciting milestone for our Foundation students! After eagerly counting down the days, our students proudly celebrated their 100 Days of School on Wednesday, 29 July.

The celebrations began in true VIP style, with students dressed to impress as they walked the red carpet and stopped for photos in front of our glamorous photo wall. The excitement and smiles were contagious!

Students then headed to the Performing Arts Centre, where they proudly presented their special 100 Days of School speeches to their families, Grade 5 Buddies and kindergarten visitors. We were incredibly proud to see the confidence and enthusiasm our Foundation students displayed as they shared their learning and reflected on their first 100 days of school.

After the presentations, students enjoyed delicious cupcakes before taking part in a variety of fun 100 Days of School activities. There was plenty of counting, creating, playing, and celebrating as students enjoyed this special day with their classmates.

It was a wonderful celebration of 100 days of learning, friendship, growth and achievement.



Congratulations to our amazing Foundation students on reaching this fantastic milestone.

We can't wait to see all they continue to achieve throughout the rest of the year!



Message from Cr. Paige Kennett

Hey Neighbours! There's been a lot happening this month, a few items of interest here!

Among several advocacy meetings over the past months, I had a positive meeting with the Environment Minister to talk about pausing the glass bin rollout, recycling and product stewardship. I was able to share directly what Knox residents thought of the glass bin and our use of the Container Deposit Scheme. More news to come!

A sad ending for our local community is that of the Library operating out of Millers Homestead. The Your Library agreement for the Homestead is coming to its 5-year end at the end of the year, with Your Library advising they would not be applying for another term. Thanks to the library and staff, for delivering a wonderful service. Council is now looking for the next community organisation to step into Millers. Looking forward to seeing what's in Miller's future.

The Knox Repair Café had their first session at Boronia Library. A free local service, fixing, sharpening and helping locals with their household items. The clever volunteers fixed a few vacuums, a shaver, a mattock, a holey



jumper, a blender and sharpened some knives. They'll be back at Boronia Library Saturday 19th September 10-12pm. Check them out on Facebook.

I also attended the Rotary Club of Boronia's changeover luncheon, met with Boronia Police and Department of Housing to talk about improvements in how we support housing in The Basin and Boronia, and attended a multi-advisory committee meeting to discuss five important big projects (which will be out soon for your feedback).

The Basin Football Club celebrated their 80th birthday, Gardens for Wildlife celebrated 20 years growing from 2 dedicated locals to now over 1,000 Knox households, and the Lions Club celebrated 50 years. Congrats to our local clubs celebrating big birthdays, and for everything they give to our local communities.

Please contact me anytime with your questions or feedback.

Paige





Cubs Activity Update

Nicole Klep, District Leader of Cub Scouts.

On Saturday the 1st of August we celebrated World Scout Day to commemorate the anniversary of the very first Scout camp held on Brownsea Island in England in 1907.

On this day, Knox District Scout Groups held a 'Scout Fest' at Arcadia Reserve Playground in Rowville. The weather was absolutely brilliant!

It brought together Scouting groups from The Basin, Ferntree Gully and Heany Park, among others.



The day showcased many of the fun activities on offer through Scouting, such as ten-pin bowling, giant chess, archery, axe throwing, rock climbing, stilt walking to different types of craft activities.

It was a great source of free entertainment for families of all ages, and the day was well attended. It was an opportunity for families to engage with their local Scout Group and perhaps take the next step of finding out where they can 'try three nights for free.'



On this day, Scouts Australia adult recognition awards were also announced. We would like to congratulate the 35 adults from Knox who were recognised. A list can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/CityOfKnoxDistrictScouts>

If you would like to try Scouting, go to: <https://scoutsvictoria.com.au/locations/all-groups/>

Outer Eastern Trefoil Guild

Our long-awaited tour of The Australian Jazz Museum in Wantirna exceeded all our expectations and can be added to our list of most enjoyable activities. Knowledgeable and informative Jazz buff volunteers led us enthusiastically through the various rooms housing records, posters and instruments from days gone by. Old shellac records, deteriorating from age, were on display along with a machine once used to make the surface grooves in records.

In early August we went to Rosebud to catch up with a past member of our group. We all met at the Rosebud RSL for our meeting, prior to enjoying a sumptuous lunch. The weather was fair and before going home, one of our ladies took it upon herself to brave the elements and have a quick paddle while the rest of us stayed in the warmth of the car.

WATTLE AWARD presented to Kaye Lasa

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

(WAGGGS) flourishes in 153 member countries around the World – and we are still growing!

WAGGGS is the largest voluntary movement in the world dedicated to empowering girls and young women. Girl Guides relies on its volunteers giving many hours of unpaid contributions. In return the volunteers receive



personal satisfaction knowing that they have made a difference for another young person to realise their full potential.

Recently, Guiding friends and family gathered in Croydon to celebrate the Guiding contribution made by Kaye Lasa as a volunteer over a 45 years period. Kaye was awarded a Wattle Award for her tireless contribution to her local areas of The Basin and Ferntree Gully where she was leader with the Girl Guides. Later Kaye contributed to her state organization by being a leader of Adults in Guiding. To carry out these roles Kaye volunteered as Region and District leader in her local areas.

Bravo Kaye you are very deserving of this award.

Envious of our adventures?

You too can join us for friendship and fun. Phone Margaret: 0427 549 468 or Irene: 0415 247 631

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- Medicare
- Australian Taxation Office (ATO)
- Immigration, citizenship and customs
- Passports
- Pensions, and My Aged Care
- Child support
- Veterans' Affairs

Mary Doyle MP
Federal Member for Aston

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keep up
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Get in touch

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Authorised by M.Doyle, ALP, Suite 4, Level 1, 420 Burwood Highway, Wantirna South VIC 3152

Elevating Business Performance through Inclusive Employment

Do you have tasks in your workplace that no one seems to have time to complete? Are incomplete tasks holding up other parts of your business, or are senior staff performing tasks that distract them from their area of expertise?

The Community Employment Partnership uses an initiative approach to help businesses address their unique business needs by matching them with a job seeker with intellectual disability who has the skills needed for the job.

In general, businesses find that employees with intellectual disabilities are hardworking, dedicated, require less support than anticipated, create a positive work culture and increase customer and staff loyalty (Graffan, J., Smith, K., Shinkfield, A., Polzin, U, 2002).

The Community Employment Partnership helped to identify an operational gap at Keysborough Golf Club: their staff were too busy to regularly clean the golf carts. The Community Employment Partnership supported the golf club to design a customised role and knew that Mike had the practical skills to match this business need. Mike has been successfully employed for over three years and maintains their fleet of golf carts to a standard that customers frequently praise!

There is no cost to businesses who would like to explore this initiative; the only investment is your time.

Image right: Mike working at Keysborough Golf Club

The Community Employment Partnership can:

- Visit your workplace and assist with identifying operational needs
- Help design a customised role to address unique business needs
- Identify a jobseeker who has the skills needed for the job
- Provide mentoring and advice to both employer and employee



If you are a local business looking to build a stronger team while addressing unmet operational needs, please reach out to explore how a customised role can benefit your business. The process starts with a simple, obligation-free conversation at a pace that suits you.

To hear more about Mike's job and stories about other people with intellectual disability who have found employment, you can watch Hiring people with disability: Good for business!

<https://youtu.be/5GfOnQJJZTY>

Phone: 0432189323

Email: cep@belongingmatters.org

Website:

www.communityemploymentpartnership.org

The Community Employment Partnership is an initiative of Belonging Matters, which is a grass roots not-for-profit organization located in Boronia.

The Boronia "Super" Market Part 1

Danny Nolan

Modernity comes to Boronia.

Did you know that before the mall, way back in 1954, Boronia had a Market? In fact, it was called a super-mart. Not like we have these days, but the precursor to them. The market was designed on the relatively new American concept, the idea of a place where all normal household necessities can be bought under one roof.

It was an open-plan building that had twenty-plus stalls, which were in effect self-contained shops. Included in the main hall, which was described as the shopping centre, were shops ranging from a florist and garden supplies to a cosmetic bar.

There was a self-service grocery, footwear, fruit and vegetables, toys and electrical goods, hardware, men's and women's clothing, and a chemist.

It was intended so that nearly all the normal household shopping could be done there.

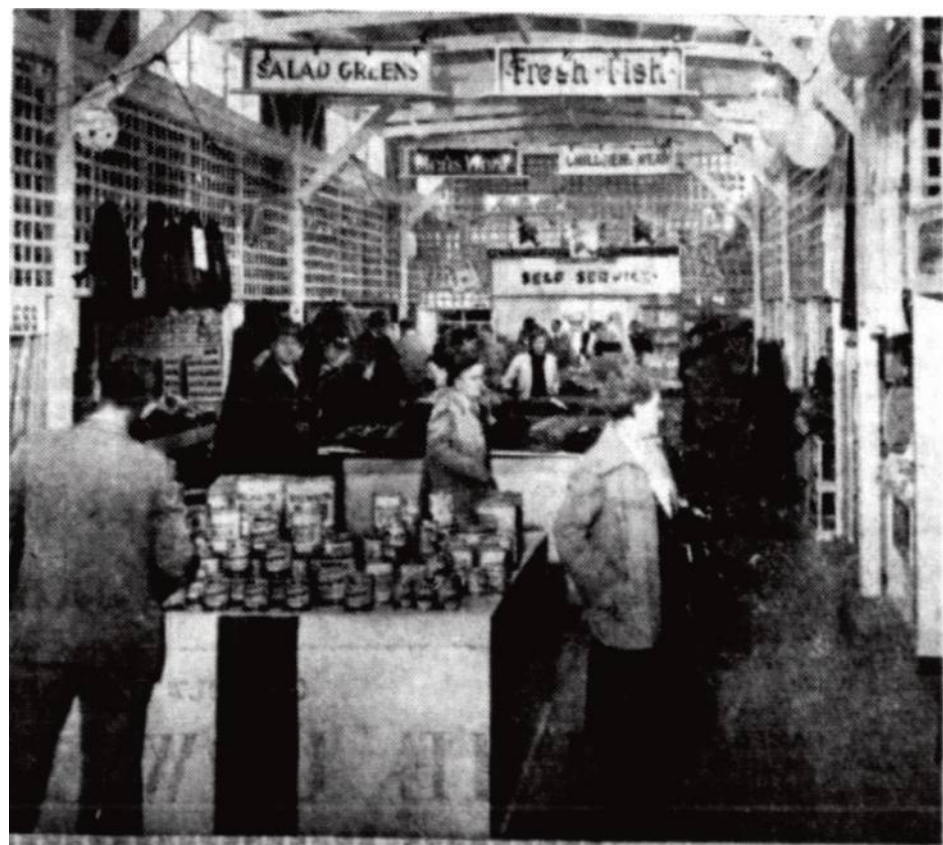
A pets' food store was situated at the rear of the hall, away from the rest of the stalls, as well as pens for the sale of live poultry which could be washed down without affecting the traders inside.

Another feature of the market was an auction room fronting the street and adjoining the main hall. It included the usual list of auction room goods such as second-hand furniture, floor coverings, cycles, and cars, and was to be a feature on Wednesdays & Fridays. The rest of the week it was a kitchen showroom and the markets administration.

These two buildings were separated by the arcade that led straight to the railway station, which was immediately behind the premises.

Other innovative ideas for the market hall included a specifically designed entry that could open its five-metre-wide frontage to allow trucks in for deliveries for the merchants. The middle stalls were all on wheels so they could be pushed to the side to accommodate the vehicles and there were specially designed louvre skylights, to help with ventilation, and rows of refrigeration equipment, including deep freezers.

Early reports had the market set to open in October 1953, with an article in the August 27th, 1953, edition of the Mountain District Free Press giving a rather comprehensive and detailed description of the market and its many features.



A rare image of The Mart's interior

The market was the brainchild of George Saville, who proudly declared that he and his parents were Boronia-born and that the suburb desperately needed something like his market. It took owner Saville four years to bring the project to fruition, and he had great plans for the premises. One local paper reported the delays with a humorous observation that the signwriter hired to paint a sign for a stationery stall outside the front of the market painted it as "STATIONARY".

Even though reports predicted a late Spring opening, the Market did not open until nearly a year later on June 10th, 1954.

Saville tried many ways to promote his venue after opening; recorded items include a visit by American wrestler Chief Little Wolf. Another was to have professional models display the latest fashions and help at the stalls. Saville was also community-minded and instructed all shopkeepers to give a 10-15% discount on all goods sold to pensioners. He also ran two taxi trucks to ferry people to the store, as well as buying land on the corner of Boronia Road and Station Street for parking purposes.

Saving pennies for pensioners

By SHEILA McFARLANE, staff reporter

A group of shopkeepers are sacrificing profits to help old-age pensioners in Boronia, at the foot of Victoria's Dandenong Ranges.

THE shopkeepers allow pensioners a 10 to 15 per cent. discount on all goods.

The scheme operates, in the Boronia supermarket, as a kind of club—in which the word "pensioner" is hallowed. Members are referred to, instead, as pioneers.

"And many of them are real pioneers," said George Saville, owner of the market, who instigated the scheme.

More than two hundred pensioners joined the Pioneer Club within two weeks of its beginning.

Applications came from as far away as Albury and Sorrento.

Pensioners, who receive only £4 a week, need only show their pension card to be accepted for membership.

However, the club has grown so quickly that Mr. Saville has ordered hundreds of similar medallions for members.

Whether they spend the whole of their £4 or just a few pence, pensioners are welcome all round the market. Shopkeepers frequently put "extras" in their parcels.

Soon, the pensioners will be the guests at parties and musical evenings, which will be held in the market hall for them regularly.

In butcher Stan Bourke's shop I watched his assistant, Jim Kirkpatrick, serve a pound of rump steak to "pioneer" Mrs. Tom Murray, of Upper Fentree Gully.

The steak was marked 3/6, and Mrs. Murray got it for 3/5. "My husband is a great meat eater, so I spend the little extra the discounts give me on more meat," she said.

Mr. Bourke serves about 30 "pioneers" a day, and up to 100 at weekends.

"It doesn't mean a loss for us, but a bit of a cut in the profits that we shouldn't begrudge," he said.

A horse-drawn jinker brought along his next pensioner customers, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Sutton, of Boronia.

Mr. Bourke remembered their standing order, and took



BORONIA BUTCHER Mr. Stan Bourke hands the weekly order, sold at a discount, to pensioners Mr. and Mrs. Edward Sutton, in their jinker outside the supermarket.

old folks make snap with them, and get about a pound of meat off the bone, too."

Another marketeer, barber Ron MacDonald, reduces the price of haircuts, charging pensioners 3/5, instead of 4/6, on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.

At the pastrycook's counter, pastries are sold to pensioners for 8d. instead of 11d.

At the grocery counter I met Mr. Bill Eagles, of Boronia, who had just bought

13/8 worth of goods for 12/4. Mrs. M. E. Cross, of Boronia, said she was grateful for the shopkeepers' friendly attitude to old people who had not much to spend, but liked to look before buying.

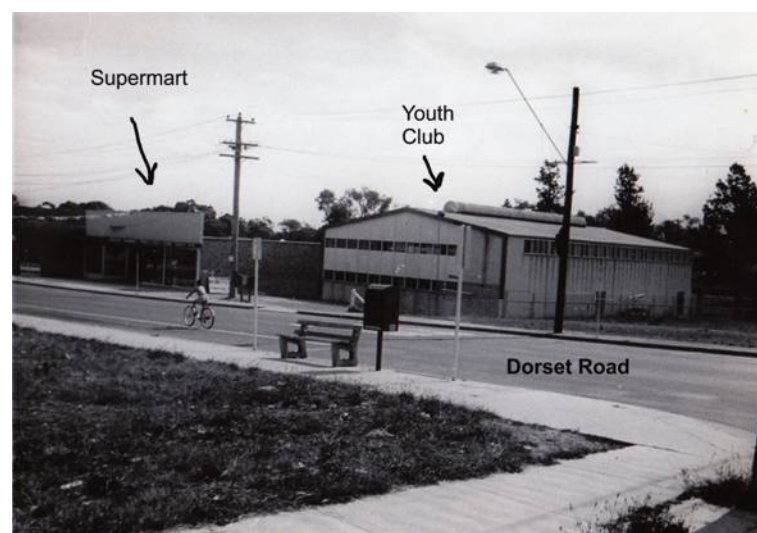
"That's half the enjoyment of spending the little allowance," she said.

This pensioners' "court of economy" is the only one of its kind in Victoria, but everyone connected with it hopes that others will follow.



It is a pity there are very few images of the market from outside or within. More importantly, what happened to it?

Part 2 next month.





Connecting the Dots

Our parks, reserves and remaining remnants in Knox are shrinking. And as these fragments become smaller in size, so the number of species and abundance of creatures that live in the fragments decrease. Loss of habitat is caused by climate change and by habitat destruction.

It's a great idea to connect these fragments with corridors of green to provide stepping stones for fauna to move safely between them. However, connectivity doesn't stop there.

There is still all the space between the fragments and the connecting corridors. This space is occupied by home owners. The Knox area is losing its green and leafy image and its plan for 30% native flora cover by 2030 is just a dream. Home owners can become the answer to this problem and now have the chance to join the dots.

There are many ways homeowners can help the re-greening. By removing areas of concrete, reducing the amount of lawn and removing invasive weed plants from the garden are just three examples.

One of the best ways to bring nature back to the garden is to plant local indigenous plants. Our plant choices help to determine how much life our properties can sustain.

The right plant choices bring the pollinators into the garden. Not just the European Honey Bee, which only pollinates 10% of plants and these are mostly exotics, but also native bees, beetles, flies and butterflies.

All these pollinators become a prey source for other invertebrates as well as birds and possums. So instead of an environmental desert in your garden, create habitat by planting native plants, especially indigenous natives, to bring in more invertebrates, which bring in more birds and animals.

Many invertebrates have host plant associations.

Examples include Sword-grass Brown butterfly on *Gahnia sieberiana*, Emperor Gum Moth on eucalypts and Common Brown butterfly which lay their eggs on Poas and other grass species.

It's easy to begin building a habitat garden for a wide range of native invertebrates. All you need is a sunny corner and some local native plants with a tree, some mid-storey choices and some lower growing and ground covering plants. And you will be ready for an attractive floral display as well as helping to green your environment.



For something to pretty up a boring fence or trellis or climb an old tree stump, the Purple Coral Pea *Hardenbergia violacea* is a great choice. Flowering throughout winter and spring, it prefers a sunny or semi shaded spot in your garden and well drained soils.

With masses of dark purple clusters of pea-like flowers, it is also attractive to local pollinators like the Common Grass-blue butterfly and the Blue-banded bee.

Come and see us at the Knox Environment Society nursery where there are many species of local indigenous plants and our helpful volunteers are always ready to offer supporting advice. We are just across the carpark from the Ferntree Gully Library, Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully, 10am-4pm on Thursdays, 10am-1pm on Saturdays and Sundays.



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SEPT 30TH
FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

SEPTEMBER 30TH
DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

1PM - 2:30PM
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EASTWOOD BOWLS CLUB

Treasure Island

The 1812 Theatre presented Ken Ludwig's *Treasure Island*. Possibly a show for children, as it was not the best production your reviewer has seen at The 1812 Theatre. The cast did a good job of playing out their roles.



Jim Hawkins, the main star of the show who also acted as narrator, was performed by Anastasia Swadling. Anastasia handled the role with professionalism, creating the correct feeling for the character.

Long John Silver was played by Felix Green. Another good performance from a man who has a likable spot for young Jim. But he was also rather ruthless in his attitude towards the captain and crew of his ship.

Dr Livesay was given a good performance by Hannah Sleeth, a good interpretation of the character. Squire Trelawney and Job O'Brien were played by Matthew Flint, a hard role to play with two parts. As Squire Trelawney he was quite funny. Captain Smollett and Black Dog were both played by Chris Isaac, another hard job with two roles. As the Captain he handled the role well. Ben Gunn and Blind Pew were played by James Banger. Another good portrayal of both roles and, as Ben Gunn, he did a fine interpretation of the character.

The opening night audience had several children attending as well as the normal opening night audience. Some did leave after the interval, not really impressed with the evening.

SWEET MEMORIES

Dayangani Silva

Flown away from the Island Pearl.

Came to see our grandkids small.

Liam and Sansa our Prince and Princess.

We landed their paradise over the seas.

They hugged and kissed us warmth and faith.

How I say that moment I faced.

Faces, eyes shone with love and happiness.

Smiles and tears both welcomed us.

Mum and Dad, they stood behind us.

It's a wonderful moment for us.

They took our hands with love and warmth.

It's the utmost Gift we have on the Earth.

GOD, give Blessings to my loving ones.

What a great pleasure for all of us.

Love. Sweet memories, kindness of smiles.

It's a rain like soft petals of flowers.

Life Activities Club Knox (LACK) was established in 1986 as a club for seniors in Knox to enjoy the company of others doing activities in which they have a common interest. We currently have 24 different activities in which our 230 members can participate.



Since 1986 was our foundation year, this means that 2026 is our 40th anniversary. As such, we have recently celebrated with a 40th anniversary party.

Seventy-eight of our members attended and enjoyed a spit roast with vegetables for lunch and pieces of the 40th birthday cake for dessert. We were entertained by Glenn Starr, who had many of us up and dancing for most of the afternoon.

The LACK 40th celebration was supported by a grant from the Knox Council Minor Grants



program. This covered the entertainer, decorations, cakes and special 40th anniversary pens (which were given to all attendees). We would like to thank Knox Council for their very generous contribution to this enjoyable celebration.

We would also like to thank Knox Council for the recent refurbishments to Wattle Hall (our club home). The works took about 2 months, and we were displaced for this time. The slight inconvenience of relocating some of our activities has been well worth it, with the

upgrades to the hall set to make our future use of the hall more comfortable and safer

In the past month, LACK has created and taken part in many events and activities. Some of these include a club Brunch, Club Trivia day, a trip to the MSO's Top 100 Concert, Neil Diamond Musical, Treasure Island (play) at 1812 theatre, Werribee Zoo, Tarrawarra art Museum and many restaurants for both our "Chinwaggers" (lunch) and "Dine Out With Friends" (dinner) groups

Upcoming events include a fashion parade and come-and-try ground golf day (both in October 2026 (Seniors month), a 3-day trip to Nagambie and a Christmas party in early December. Our regular activities will also be available to all who wish to attend.

For further information on these or any other events and activities, please feel free to contact our Membership Secretary (Lorraine) on 0438 068 334. She will answer any questions you may have.



WORSHIP WITH US on any Sunday morning at 10 am – we have a fairly traditional style of service with lots of singing, a children's segment... and fellowship over tea/coffee afterwards. Our Knox Uniting Church minister, Rev Russell Croxford, preaches at our church (209 Boronia Road, Boronia) on the first Sunday of each month.

Check out our website for ALL church activities <https://boroniaroad.ucavictas.org.au>.

EXCITING NEW PROGRAM - Kids' Church is starting on Sunday 11th October @ 5pm.

Contact Sue on 0402 079 432 for more information.

WE PROVIDE 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.

MUSICPLAY4KIDS – A FUN GROUP FOR UNDER-SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN 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.

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.

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
Website: <https://boroniaroad.ucavictas.org.au>



We will be meeting Friday 18 September at 11.30am at Eastwood Golf Club Liverpool rd, Kilsyth with a 2 course lunch costing \$30 followed by Carol speaking about The Royal Flying Doctor service. There will be a raffle, book stall and trading table with all monies raised going to the Smith Family children through the Learning for Life program. The club sponsors 10 children and this money goes towards their educational needs. The club is looking for new members so ladies of all ages and backgrounds come along and you will be warmly welcomed. There are small groups within the club and the occasional outing.



Enquiries to Judith on 9764-8602

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Local Community and Club News



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 22nd of September, 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 the NSW Riverina in October, which will include Griffith for their annual Springfest.

This year we held a "Christmas in July" luncheon at the Chirnside Park Country Club (a highly-recommended venue) and had a wonderful time. The food was excellent. Besides the Christmas-themed decorations, we had a Christmas-themed Trivia Quiz which was a great hit with all who attended. We have included a couple of photos for your enjoyment.



During August we attended the Mulgrave Country Club for Morning Melodies with Nat Allison and stayed on for lunch in their great restaurant.

Upcoming events include a September visit to the Knox Italian Community Club in Rowville, which includes a 3-course meal and entertainment. Definitely something we are looking forward to.

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) or, for further information, see our Facebook page, Knox & District Over50s Inc.

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

Advertise here - annual cost \$240 small, \$480 large (Inc. GST) - full details on our website at the "Place an AD" link.

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The Orchard Church of Christ

The Orchard Church of Christ is a thriving church community with a clear vision for worship, discipleship, and growth into the future.
Contact: connect@orchardchurch.org.au

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

- Sunday 9.45 am, Traditional service
- Sunday 10:30 am, Relaxed and informal service
- Sunday, September 27th – Combined Service, 10:30am

Play Group (Bayswater campus - 643 Mountain Hwy, Bayswater)

- Wednesdays in school terms: 10 am – 12 noon.

Open to parents/grandparents/carers with infants or pre-school children

MumCo (Boronia campus – 59 Boronia Rd, Boronia)

- Fridays fortnightly, 10-11:45 am

Description: We are a community of mums with a heart to champion women in their motherhood journey. We are all about authentic conversations, encouragement, connection, morning tea and fun! All mums welcome.

Coffee Pot Play Cafe (643 Mountain Hwy, Bayswater)

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

Community Meal (Boronia campus – 59 Boronia Rd, Boronia)

We provide a free, 2-course sit-down meal every Friday, 5:30pm for people in our community who are struggling to make ends meet. This is a great place for connecting with others as well.

- **New!!! Community Worship time:** 6:15 pm – 7:30 pm (1st, 3rd & 4th Fridays)

The Orchard Op Shop (Shop 51, Mountain Gate Shopping Centre))

The Orchard Op Shop is open - come and grab some specials or bargains!

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o Monday to Friday: 10am – 4pm

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5 Tara Close, Rowville Sold \$1,360,000

Craig got us the results we had hoped for. His experience and knowledge of real estate was clear to see. We enjoyed our campaign from start to finish. We were kept informed every step of the way and wouldn't hesitate in recommending him and his team to sell your house.

21 Harewood Close, Boronia Sold \$1,130,000

Craig was extremely helpful and knowledgeable. He was an authentic, down-to-earth person who was always easy to contact and ready to answer our questions. We were very happy with his service and would recommend his real estate agency.

Monique



7 Brompton Court, Kilsyth Sold \$795,500

Well, I was with the Real estate Institute of Victoria for 17 years, and I also worked at Ontario Housing Corporation, Toronto Canada, met countless wonderful estate agents, however the best and No 1 is Craig Kelly.

His professionalism, integrity, skills at communication, and negotiating truly awesome, and he makes one feel your his family. Cool, calm impeccable, reminds one of Wyatt Earp.

Craig is so marvellous with advertising, photography, he is a complete package a million thanks Craig Ron